

Our Ref: HM/ CENTRAL KAROO/BEAUFORT WEST / HOOGLAND 1
Case No.: 21060101SB0818E
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FINAL COMMENT:
In terms of Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) and the Western Cape Provincial Gazette 6061, Notice 298 of 2003

HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT: PROPOSED HOOGLAND 1 WIND FARM, BEAUFORT WEST SUBMITTED IN TERMS OF SECTION 38(8) OF THE NATIONAL HERITAGE RESOURCES ACT (ACT 25 OF 1999)
CASE NUMBER: 21060101SB0818E

The matter above has reference.

This matter was discussed at the Impact Assessment Committee (IACom) meeting held on 17 August 2022.

It was noted that the matter was tabled at Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Committee (APM) meeting held on the 3 August 2022 whereby the committee endorsed the report by ASHA consulting (July 2022) and the archaeological palaeontological recommendations on pg's 95-96

FINAL COMMENT:

APM comments endorsed. The Committee notes that the provisions of S.38(3) of the NHRA have been satisfied within the HIA. The Committee therefore endorse the HIA and the recommendations as follows:

- The archaeological site at waypoint 1703 that will be crossed by a proposed wind farm road must be excavated prior to construction. Excavation should at least cover the area to be disturbed;
- The archaeological site at waypoints 1978 and 1979 that will be overlapped by a turbine footing must be excavated prior to construction. Excavation must target the densest part(s) of the scatter within or close to the impact zone;
- The two graves at waypoint 1696 must be fenced with a regular farm-style fence with a pedestrian entrance gate so as to ensure that they are easily identifiable on site. The fence must be placed at least 5 m from the graves and the electrical cable must be placed a minimum of 5 m away from the fence, but preferably further if possible;
- Trenching within 30 m of waypoint 1696 must be monitored by relevant project staff and/or the ECO;
- Road construction work around the Slangfontein farm werf must be monitored by relevant project staff and/or the ECO to ensure that the walls remain unharmed;
- A pre-construction survey of the entire authorised footprint must be undertaken in order to determine whether any further archaeological sites may need mitigation or protection through micro-siting (if possible);
- The final layout must be evaluated by a palaeontologist to determine which areas, if any, need a pre-construction survey. These will be previously unsurveyed and potentially sensitive areas; If necessary, and subject to the agreement of Heritage Western Cape, a Workplan application should be submitted prior to the palaeontological survey to allow for sample collection during the survey;
- A palaeontological chance finds procedure must be incorporated into the EMPr;
- Landscape scarring must be minimised during construction;
- If road surfacing is required then low contrast materials such as concrete with brown exposed aggregate should be used, where possible;
- All areas not required during operation must be rehabilitated in accordance with the Rehabilitation and Revegetation Plan;
- A CAA-approved warning system which only requires the red lights to come on when an aircraft is in the vicinity must be used to reduce the night-time impacts to the sense of place;
- Visually sensitive skylines, rock outcrops and steep slopes must be avoided as per the recommendations of the visual impact assessment;
- Temporary laydown and areas and batching plants should be located in areas approved by the visual specialists;

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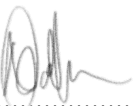
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- Substations and O&M Buildings to be located in unobtrusive low-lying areas away from provincial and district roads where possible;
- On-site signage to be discrete, and billboards prohibited. Signage to be fixed as low as possible, preferably against a backdrop to avoid intrusion on the skyline;
- Security and other outdoor lighting to be fitted with reflectors to conceal the light source;
- In the event of decommissioning, the site must be rehabilitated in accordance with the Rehabilitation and Revegetation Plan;
- If the wind farm is approved and the final layout does not need all approved turbine locations to ensure a maximum of 60 turbines, then where a choice exists between turbines to be dropped, and all other factors are equal, priority should be given to dropping turbines in the highest visual sensitivity areas and within 1 km of the R381, as well as turbines 72 and 75 due to their proximity to the Slangfontein homestead which is a IIIA cultural landscape;
- Replacement structures for the existing bridges on the local access roads must be designed to have a similar appearance to the current structures; and
- If any archaeological material or human burials are uncovered during the course of development then work in the immediate area should be halted. The find would need to be reported to the heritage authorities and may require inspection by an archaeologist. Such heritage is the property of the state and may require excavation and curation in an approved institution.

HWC reserves the right to request additional information as required.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the official above and quote the case number.


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Nuraan Vallie
Acting Deputy Director

