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Associated Research Institute of Rhodes University

www.ru.ac.za/albanymuseum/

10.04.2015

Ms C. Booth
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Tel: 046 622 2312 Fax: 046 622 2398

TO: MS SHEILA MUNIONGO (SAVANNAH ENVIRONMENTAL (PTY) LTD)

RE: ARCHAEOLOGICAL / HERITAGE COMPONENT FOR REVISED LAYOUT FOR ABERDEEN 200 MW WIND ENERGY FACILITY

I have had a look at the original proposed layout, the revised layout as well as the recommendations made in the report. The survey conducted for the project in 2013 was limited to the original layout, roads and infrastructure. Some of the revised turbine locations have moved quite substantially from the original area surveyed, ranging from a few metres to several hundred metres in areas. Therefore, the revised layout is not within the original findings as the revised areas have not been surveyed. I will suggest that the recommendations (points 1 and 2) made in the report (Booth & Sanker 2013) be followed (see extract of recommendations from the report).

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

The area is of a medium-high cultural sensitivity, the following recommendations must be considered:

- 1. Once the final layout (including the positions of the wind turbines; underground cabling; overhead power line; additional internal access roads, and the workshop area) of the proposed Aberdeen Eskom Wind Energy Facility has been finalised an archaeological ground-truthing should be conducted and further recommendations be made to protect the archaeological heritage within the area proposed for development.
- 2. A representative sample of stone artefacts should be collected during the archaeological walk-through for the final layout or before the construction activities begin to be housed at the Department of Archaeology's archaeological repository at the Albany Museum.
- 3. An alternative access route should be established to avoid negative impact to the stone walling complex (Ab HS1) during the construction and development phases.



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- 4. No development should occur within 50 m of stone walling features.
- 5. No development should occur within 100 m of the areas marked Ab SW1 and Ab H1.
- 6. A professional archaeologist must be appointed during all construction and development activities including vegetation clearing and the excavation activities to monitor and identify possible archaeological material remains and features that may occur below the surface and make further appropriate recommendations on removing and / or protecting the archaeological material remains and features.
- 7. If concentrations of archaeological heritage material and human remains are uncovered during construction, all work must cease immediately and be reported to the Albany Museum (046 622 2312) and/or the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) (021 642 4502) so that systematic and professional investigation/ excavation can be undertaken.
- 8. Construction managers/foremen should be informed before construction starts on the possible types of heritage sites and cultural material they may encounter and the procedures to follow when they find sites.

Yours faithfully

Ms Celeste Booth

Head of Department / Curator: Department of Archaeology

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