



Date: 14 June 2012

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Dear Natasha

AIA: PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF A 66KV/132KV LINE LINKING THE PROPOSED KENHARDT PHOTO-VOLTAIC SOLAR POWER PLANT WITH THE ARIES SUBSTATION, NORTHERN CAPE

With reference to your enquiry regarding an Archaeological Impact Assessment for the transmission line linking the proposed photo-voltaic solar power plant with the existing substation.

The development proposals considered three alternative layout options (A, B & C) connecting to the Aries substation via an overhead powerline (Figures 1, 2 & 3).

The matter of the 66 kV/132kV transmission line was considered during fieldwork conducted by Webley & Halkett on the 17 & 18 April 2012.

The line in Option A runs parallel to the existing line (see Fig. 1). We drove down this line during our survey. The line in Option B and Option C runs at an angle to the existing line (Figures 2 and 3). The land traversed by Options B and C crosses an open piece of the countryside *between* three (3) solar farms, namely: the Kenhardt Solar Farm (Webley & Halkett 2012), the farm De Hoek which is a Portion of the farm Klein Zwart Bast 188 assessed by Pelsler (2011) and the Olyven Kolk Solar Power Plant assessed by Halkett and Orton (2011). The surveys of all three adjoining properties confirm that they are all covered by a background scatter of Early and Middle Stone Age artefacts on gravel pavements.

We anticipate that the transmission lines will cross the same artefact scatters. We did not consider the artefacts to be of high significance in our report and we did not recommend mitigation. We are of the opinion that:

- That there is a background scatter of archaeological material across this general area which is of low significance and does not require mitigation;
- A relatively short distance is involved and one of the alternatives runs along an existing line;
- The impact of a 66 kV/132 kV line on background archaeological material is negligible.

Yours sincerely

L. E. Webley *D. Halkett*
 Lita Webley & David Halkett

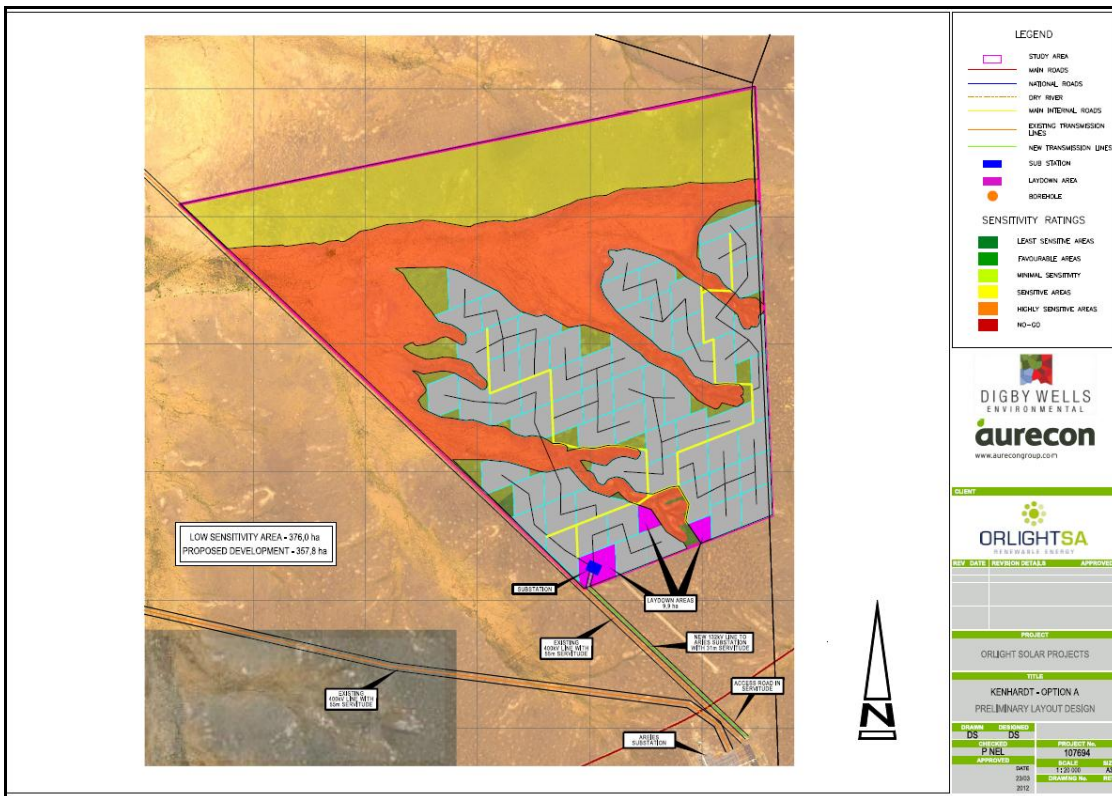


Figure 1: Map of Option A indicating the route of the transmission line connecting the proposed solar plant with the existing Aries substation. The proposed line runs in parallel to the existing line.

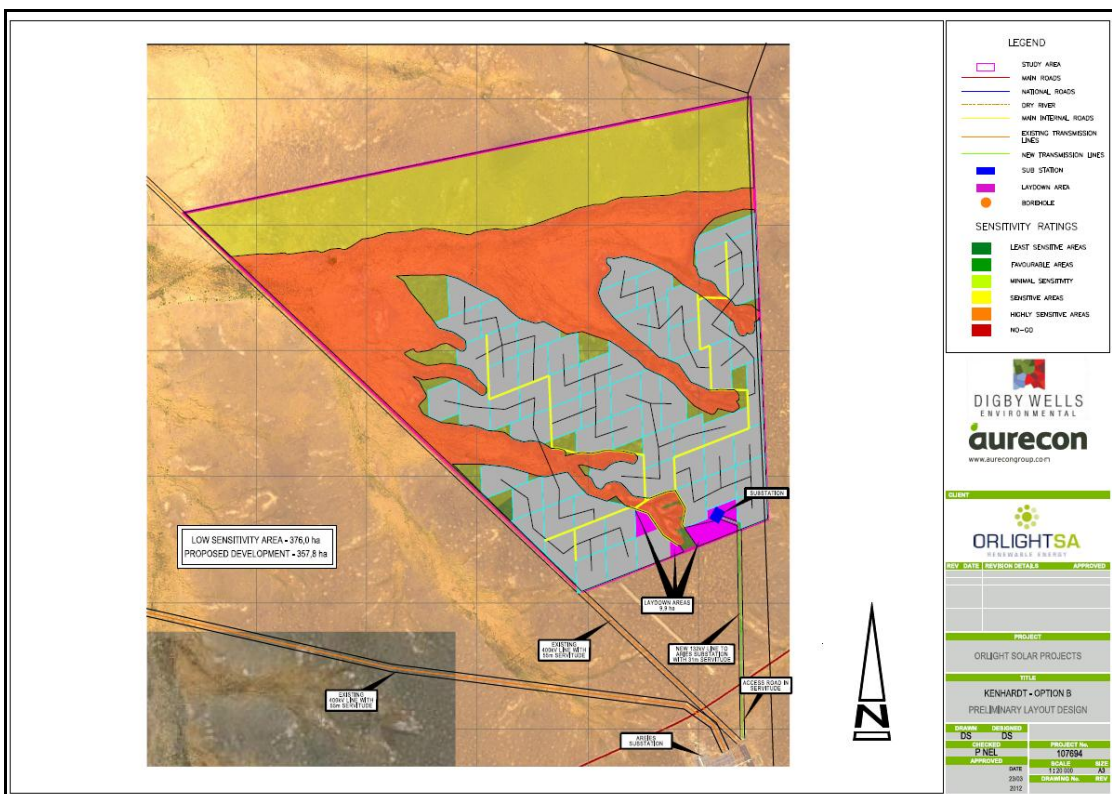


Figure 2: Map of Option B indicating the route of the transmission line connecting the proposed solar plant with the existing Aries substation.

with the existing Aries substation. The proposed line runs at an angle to the existing line.

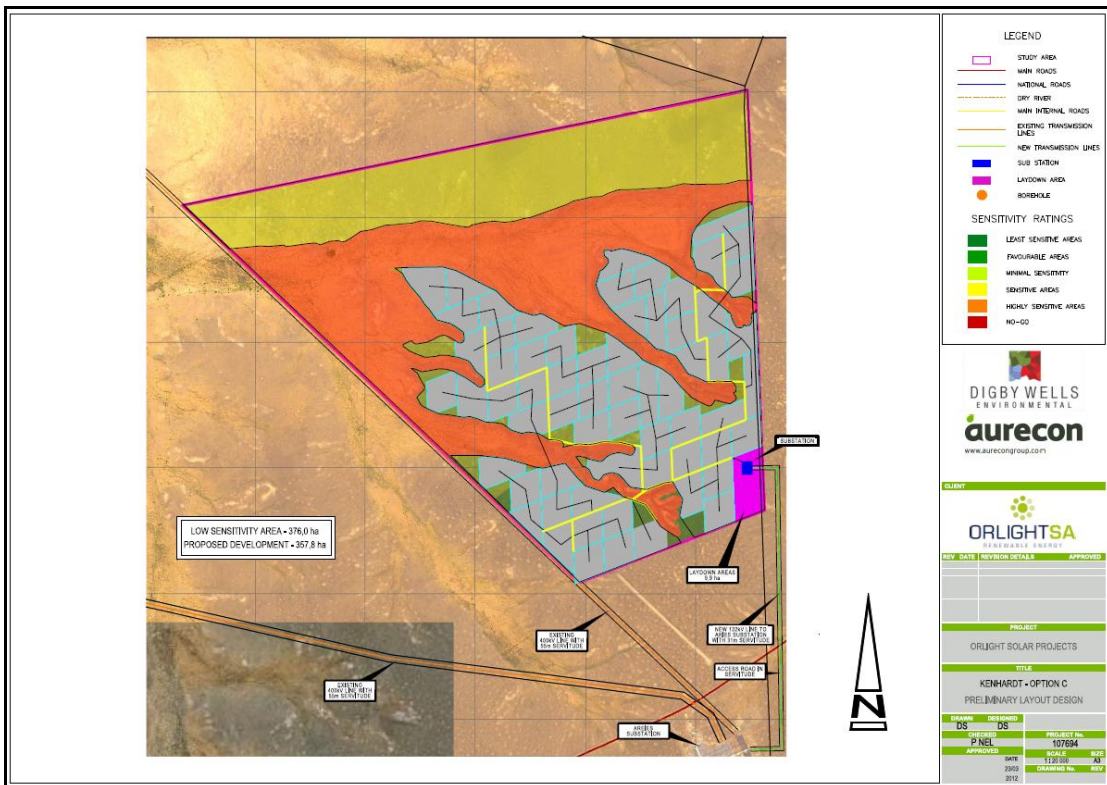


Figure 3: Map of Option C indicating the route of the transmission line connecting the proposed solar plant with the existing Aries substation. The proposed line runs at an angle to the existing line.

REFERENCES

Halkett, D. & Orton, J. 2011. Heritage Impact Assessment (Archaeology and Palaeontology): Proposed Olyven Kolk Solar Power Plant, Northern Cape. Unpublished report for AES Solar Energy Limited. ACO Associates.

Pelser, A.J. 2011 A report on an archaeological impact assessment (aia) for the proposed solar energy plant on Klein Zwart Bast 188, Kenhardt district, northern Cape. Unpublished report AE1104 prepared for Robert De Jong & Associates. Archaetnos.

Webley, L. & Halkett, D. 2012. Heritage Impact Assessment: Proposed Kenhardt Photo-Voltaic Solar Power Plant on Remainder of the Farm Klein Zwart Bast 188, Northern Cape Province. Unpublished report for Digby Wells Environmental. ACO Associates.