

South African Heritage Resource Agency
P.O Box 4637
CAPE TOWN
8001

Date:
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Enquiries: Marshall Felaar
Tel +27 21 980 3493
Fax +27 21 9803053
Felaarb@eskom.co.za

Dear Natasha Higgitt

KOMMAGAS SPEKTAKEL BUFFELSRIVIER INTEGRATION

This letter is in response to your letters, dated 27 & 31 May 2016 regarding Case ID 9392 that Eskom submitted an application for via SAHRIS.

Please note that the Distribution Environmental Screening Document (DESD) was submitted to you as was requested in your correspondence on 27 May 2016. It is important to note that the DESD is an internal procedure used by Eskom Distribution divisions and serves as a tool to determine the impact our proposed projects have on the receiving environment and also serves as guide to determine what permits and licenses is necessary for a particular project.

In your correspondence on 31 May 2016 you indicated that the local municipality in question gave an instruction that an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) should be conducted and that this EIA will address all necessary heritage requirements. I just want to bring it under attention that the local municipality does not have a mandate to give such an instruction. Furthermore Eskom have well equipped environmental practitioners that will be able to determine when proposed projects will trigger the National Environmental Management Act EIA regulations. However this does not mean that other permits or Record of Decisions (RoD's) is not required. The DESD that was conducted clearly indicates that consultation needs to take place with the relevant Heritage authority as well as the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) seeing that the proposed project will trigger certain statutory requirements that falls under the mandate of these particular authorities. So in a nutshell, this proposed activity will not trigger the EIA regulations but will require certain permits and RoD.

In our telephonic conversation you also indicated that you need more information regarding the proposed project. I attached a preliminary design document for your perusal and I hope this document will provide more clarity about the proposed project.

I also want to make use of this opportunity to appeal that the South African Heritage Resource Agency (SAHRA) stick to the time frame of 14 working days to respond to section 38 applications as stipulated in the National Heritage Resource Act, Act 25 of 1999.

It is against this background explained above, I request that SARHA to document a RoD regarding case id 9392 as soon as possible.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any additional queries.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Felaar', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Yours sincerely
Marshall Felaar
Land Development Department: Environmental Management