

Maritime & Underwater Cultural Heritage

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Date: 11-12-2015

To: Len van Schalkwyk – eTHEMBENI CULTURAL HERITAGE

Re: Umgeni Water Amanzi (Umgeni Water) proposed construction of a seawater desalination plant on the Lovu River near Kingsburgh / Mid-Illovo on the KwaZulu-Natal South Coast

We were contacted by Len van Schalkwyk at the beginning of November 2015 in order to comment on the potential for maritime underwater cultural heritage (MUCH) sites, below the high water mark at the proposed site.



A perusal of the existing databases (without performing an extensive desktop study) indicates that there are potentially nineteen historical wrecks in the general area. The nature of these wrecks, due to historical restraints in terms of accurate reporting, means that we are not always sure of their exact location.

The most accurate assessment method for determining whether or not there are MUCH sites at a given location is a magnetometer survey. We would strongly suggest, that when the exact coordinates of the proposed development are known, that such a survey is undertaken.

Any possible MUCH sites indicated by such a survey will be followed by diver searches in order to ascertain the nature of the magnetic anomalies.

Kind Regards,

Vanessa Maitland

Maritime Archaeologist