



HERITAGE

Contracts and Archaeological Consulting

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Ref: Booyesendal Platinum Mine

5 November, 2012

SAHRA HEAD OFFICE

P.O BOX 4637

Cape Town

8000

Attention: Ms. Colette Scheermeyer

Dear Madam:

Re: Update on the Schaapkraal 132 KV power line to the Booyesendal Platinum Mine, Steelpoort, Mpumalanga Province.

As per our meeting on the 26th of September where the background to the project and Heritage Contracts and Archaeological Consulting (HCAC) involvement was explained, this letter serves to outline the events up to now as well as the process being followed as part of the archaeological investigation of the site.

A new 132 KV Eskom Power Line traverses over a stone walled site from the Everest Platinum mine substation to Booyesendal Platinum Mine and the construction road and a new pylon impacted on the site. The site is located on the farm Schaapskraal 42 JT and consist of several stone walled enclosures and terraces located at the base of a small hill. Eskom's contractor Roshcon excavated a hole for a stay for structure nr 36 and filled it with concrete after several loose boulders collapsed into it to strengthen the hole. The Phakaneng Choma Community (PCC) claimed that skeletal remains were exposed and covered up by the concrete plug. Roshcon denied this in an affidavit.

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Community members threatened Roshcon employees and they were forced to withdraw from site. Subsequently a court order was obtained where all the parties agreed (Appendix A). In short, the court order prohibits the PCC to interfere with the construction of the power line in any way but also prohibits any impact on 29 points identified by the community; these points may however be traversed aerially by the power line. The following section will outline the actions taken so far.

1. A Meeting between the PCC and Northam's legal representatives were held on the 25 09 2012 and the provisions in the court order was explained (Appendix B) and the community agreed that the project may proceed.
2. The points in the court order was marked and demarcated with danger tape to demarcate them.
3. Eric Matoho was granted a Section 35 permit in order to excavate Iron Age stone walling on Farm Schaapkraal 42 JT and for the test excavation of possible graves. Three trenches were dug by Mr Matoho to investigate the concrete in the holes. None of these had any skeletal remains in them and apart from the hole with concrete in for the stay at structure 36 The other two seem to have been spillage of concrete mixing.
4. The entire stone walled site has been mapped by Mr Matoho.
5. A walk down of the rest of the line was conducted by Mr Matoho and the author to ensure no other sites are impacted on.
6. The community agreed in writing that construction of the southern loop in line can commence and that no other heritage issues are identified.

Would you be so kind as to acknowledge receipt of the letter and your approval or further suggestions on the process that was followed?

Any further queries can be forwarded to Jaco van der Walt on Cell: +27 82 373 8491 or to jaco.heritage@gmail.com



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Annexure A: Revised Court Order
Annexure B: Meeting with Legal representatives of Northam and PCC
Annexure C: Booysendal Platinum Mine AIA
Annexure D: PI letter