



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 11301

Date: Wednesday July 29, 2020
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Final Comment

In terms of Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: NGT Consulting (Pty) Ltd

No. 2 Windsor Place
Princesses Avenue
Randburg
2194

Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) for the proposed Sorata-Witsieshoek 132 Power Transmission Line, in Phutadithjaba, Free State Province

An amendment was submitted for the construction of a new 30km long 132kV distribution powerline from the existing Sorata Switching Station to Witsies Substation, located within Phuthaditjhaba in the Free State Province. The proposed amendment entails a deviation of the route of the powerline. An amendment notification from DEA was submitted stating that a) a Heritage Management Plan (HMP) must be developed; and b) a 30m buffer zone must be maintained around the identified graveyard.

A CMP and amended HIA including tracklogs were submitted.

MAGOMA, M. & NHUNDU, A. 2020. A CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR CULTURAL HERITAGE SITES IDENTIFIED ON AREA PROPOSED FOR CONSTRUCTION OF APPROXIMATELY 30KM 132KV POWERLINE FROM ESKOM SORATA SUBSTATION TO WITSIESHOEK SUBSTATION LOCATED WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF MALUTI A PHOFUNG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY IN THE THABO MOFUTSANYANA DISTRICT, FREE STATE PROVINCE.

The CMP states that the identified heritage resources are of low to medium significance and recommends the following conservation actions:

Historical water pump:

- *Some stability must be done to the historical water pump as part of preservation; this can entail putting some stones at the bottom of it so that it becomes more stable; care must be taken not to interfere with its fabric. No modifications must be done in the process.*



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- *A buffer zone must be erected so that no machine or the impacts of ground shaking could get to the pump.*

Historical stone panels:

- *Symbolise the time when these stones were used to settle boundary disputes;*
- *A buffer zone of about 20m must be maintained to ensure that the panels are not susceptible to shaking that could take place during the process of construction; and*
- *No piece of the stone must ever be taken from the site.*

Collapsed stone walling

- *These comprise of cattle kraal, sheep and goat kraal;*
- *A 20m buffer zone must be maintained;*
- *No stone should ever be taken from the sites, Eskom personnel need to be educated on that;*
- *Any change or modifications of the line, condition of the site should immediately be reported to SAHRA for guidance; and*
- *Access to the sites should be allowed to the descendants as some will feel spiritually connected to the place; however, they should adhere to Eskom's conditions regarding health and safety.*

Interim comment

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit has noted the amendment proposal and reviewed the CMP and recommendations therein.

In addition, SAHRA APM requests the CMP to be amended to include the following:

“Monitoring and reporting thereof must be done by the ECO during the construction and maintenance phases. Once the construction phase is completed monitoring should be done at least once per year. The monitoring reports must be submitted to SAHRA APM.”

The amended CMP must be resubmitted to SAHRA for approval before SAHRA issues a final comment.

Our Ref: 11301



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Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

Ragna Redelstorff
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Phillip Hine
Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/405420>
(DEA, Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/1/795)

Terms & Conditions:

1. This approval does not exonerate the applicant from obtaining local authority approval or any other necessary approval for proposed work.
2. If any heritage resources, including graves or human remains, are encountered they must be reported to SAHRA immediately.
3. SAHRA reserves the right to request additional information as required.