

PEC7505 - Assessment of New Site Option for the Iphiva Substation

Letter

IN TERMS OF SECTION 38(8) OF THE NATIONAL HERITAGE RESOURCES ACT (ACT 25 OF 1999) AND SECTION 41(8) OF THE KWAZULU-NATAL AMAFA AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE ACT (ACT 05 OF 2018)

Attention: Eskom

Private Bag X20051
Empangeni
3880

Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd (Eskom) initiated the “Northern KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) Strengthening Project” in 2017, aimed at alleviating existing and future network constraints in Northern KZN through “de-loading” the primary sub-transmission network and improving voltage regulation. Eskom intended to achieve this through the establishment and operation of two 400 kV powerlines, an additional 165 km of 135 kV distribution powerlines and a substation. Eskom appointed an independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to complete an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process in 2018 and thereafter received Environmental Authorisation (EA) to go ahead with the Project. Following subsequent investigations, the authorised footprint for the Iphiva Substation has been deemed not financially viable due to the terrain and the cost of making this site suitable for the construction of the substation. Eskom is therefore assessing an additional footprint, potentially more suitable for construction (the Project). The substation must be close to the load centre and existing 132 kV powerline network. One 400 kV powerline and seven 132 kV powerlines will enter and leave the station. These lines will route in different ways, depending on the final location of the substation.

The Heritage Officers Committee meeting considered your application on 08 March 2023. The committee noted that the Palaeosensitivity of the proposed project area is very high and it was stated on the submitted report that there is a possibility of graves in the area. The application Form J submitted is not signed by the land owner and public participation has not been undertaken.

Please be advised as follows:

- You are required to submit a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) and Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA).
- You are required to provide land the owner's consent.
- Public Participation Proof is also required to be submitted.

Written responses/requests for reconsideration of the application or consideration of new information must be loaded to the case on Sahrís (email khanyi.zondi@amafainstitute.org.za) within 30 days of the date of this letter or any requirements/decisions contained herein will be considered final. Extensions of this time frame can be requested upon receipt of motivation.

Required additional information or revised drawings must be submitted within six months from the date of this letter or the application will lapse, and a new application will be required.

THIS LETTER DOES NOT CONSTITUTE FORMAL APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSAL SUBMITTED TO THE INSTITUTE. UNAUTHORISED WORK CARRIED OUT ON THE ABOVE SITE WILL BE IN CONTRAVENTION OF THE KWAZULU-NATAL AMAFA AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE ACT (5 of 2018).

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

Yours faithfully



Sphephelo Dube
Heritage Officer
KwaZulu-Natal Amafa and Research Institute



Mxolisi Dlamuka
Head of Secretariat and Administration
KwaZulu-Natal Amafa and Research Institute

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahrís.sahra.org.za/node/614108>



HERITAGE IDENTIFICATION, MANAGEMENT & PROTECTION

Enquiries: Sphephelo Dube

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Tel: 033 394 6543

Date: Wednesday March 08, 2023

CaseID: 20791

Our Ref: SAH22/20791

(DFFE, Ref:)

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 the Institute immediately.
3. The Institute reserves the right to request additional information as required.