

**The proposed construction of the Harrismith - Munc 11kV powerline and the realignment of the existing Harrismith - Munc 42nd Hill 11 kV powerlines**  
Our Ref: 8627



Enquiries: Ragna Redelstorff  
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CaseID: 8627

Date: Wednesday November 11, 2015

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an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

## **Interim Comment**

### **In terms of Section of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)**

Attention: Mahlatse Moeng

Land Development and Environment Eskom Distribution-FSOU Eskom Centre First Floor Bloemfontein

**It is the intention of Eskom Distributions Free State Operating Unit to construct two (2) Harrismith Munc-Letsatsi 11kV powerlines, as well as the realignment of two (2) Harrismith-Munc - 42nd Hill 11kV powerlines.**

The proposed project entails the construction of two new powerlines and realignment of two existing Harrismith-Munc powerlines at the Harrismith-Munc substation on the remaining extent of the farm Harrismith 131, to the west of the town of Harrismith, Free State Province. A Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA) was submitted with the case.

*Almond, J.E. October 2015. Palaeontological Heritage Assessment: Combined Desktop and Field-based Study - Proposed Construction of 11kV Powerlines on the Outskirts of Harrismith, Free State.*

The proposed area is underlain by sedimentary rocks of the Upper Normandien Formation (Lower Beaufort Group, Karoo Supergroup), which are known for the frequent occurrence of fossils. The author concludes that no fossils were recorded during the study due to the poor exposure of the rocks in the study area, with the exception of sites along the Wilgerivier. Overlying these rocks are Late Caenozoic superficial sediments that rarely contain fossils. He suggests that, due to the scarcity of fossil occurrences and small-scale development area, there is no significant threat to fossil resources and it is the ECO's responsibility to monitor and report any fossil finds, in particular towards the northern end between the Wilgerivier and the railway line.

### **Interim comment**

In terms of palaeontology, the SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit has no objections against the proposed construction and realignment of the powerlines. As recommended by the author of the PIA, fossil bones and teeth observed within the calcretised (pale grey) alluvial deposits near the Wilgerivier should be reported to SAHRA and Dr James Brink of the National Museum, Bloemfontein ([jbrink@nasmus.co.za](mailto:jbrink@nasmus.co.za); Tel. +27 51 447 9609) for professional recording and sampling. These recommendations should be incorporated into the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for the development.

Regarding archaeology, a phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment is required to be submitted to SAHRA before any activities commence.

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



The South African Heritage Resources Agency

Street Address: 111 Harrington Street, Cape Town 8000 \* Postal Address: PO Box 4637, Cape Town 8000  
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above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

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Ragna Redelstorff  
Heritage Officer  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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Phillip Hine  
SAHRA Head Archaeologist (Acting)  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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**ADMIN:**

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/339701>  
(DWS, Ref: 16/2/7/C801/B/002)

**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.



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