



## Interim Comment

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

Attention: ESKOM Distribution Northwestern Region

### Draft Basic Assessment Report for the Bighorn Substation Extension

*Van Vollenhoven, A.C. January 2013. A report on a cultural heritage impact assessment for the proposed Eskom Bighorn substation expansion project, close to Marikana, North West Province.*

Eskom proposes to extend the existing Bighorn 400/132kV 2X500MVA substation in Rustenburg, North West Province. The proposed project will be situated on the following farm portions:

Middelkraal 466 JQ Portion 75  
Rooikoppies 297 JQ Portion 84  
Rooikoppies 297 JQ Portion 94  
Rooikoppies 297 JQ Portion 87  
Rooikoppies 297 JQ Portion 371

According to the archaeologist the area where the proposed development is to take place has been disturbed by recent human activities. It is noted that the area is covered by short grass making archaeological visibility good. It is also noted that the specialist undertook the survey over 4 hours. No archaeological resources were identified during the field assessment; however, two sites of heritage significance were identified during the heritage survey and one site during the Social Impact Assessment.

- Site 1: The remains of several historical buildings which are poorly preserved. The author indicates that the site is probably older than 60 years in age but is of low significance;
- Site 2: The location of the Marikana massacre site that took place in August 2012. The author recommended that no development is allowed within 50 meters of the Marikana site.
- During the Social Impact Assessment a cemetery was identified next to the road leading to the substation site. According to the report the site will fall outside the footprint of the development. However, the Social Impact Assessment specialist recommended that the family members of the graves should be contacted and that the graves should be safeguarded from impacts related to the upgrading of the main road leading up to the substation.

No Palaeontological Impact Assessment was undertaken for this project.

**Decision:**



## 12-429 Bighorn Substation Extension

Our Ref: 9/2/263/0018

Enquiries: Phillip Hine  
Tel: 021 462 4502  
Email: [phine@sahra.org.za](mailto:phine@sahra.org.za)  
CaseID: 1943

Date: Monday April 15, 2013

Page No: 2



- The recommendation that the Marikana massacre site not be encroached and a buffer zone of 50 meters implemented is supported.
- The poorly preserved structures are considered to be of low significance. Please note that decisions on Built Environment (e.g. structures over 60 years) and Cultural Landscapes and associated Living Heritage (e.g. sacred sites) must be made by with the Provincial Heritage Authority for North West Province (Mr Mosiane Mothlabane, email: [mosianem@nwpg.gov.za](mailto:mosianem@nwpg.gov.za), tel. 018 388 2826).
- The cemetery must be retained *in situ* and fenced off. A Conservation Management Plan must be developed for the ongoing management and conservation of this cemetery.
- If the recommendations made in the specialist report and in this comment are adhered to, the SAHRA. Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorite Unit has no objection to the development (in terms of the archaeological component of the heritage resources. If any new evidence of archaeological sites or artefacts, palaeontological fossils, graves or other heritage resources are found during development, construction or mining, SAHRA (Mr Phillip Hine/Mrs Colette Scheermeyer, tel. 021 462 4502) and a professional archaeologist/palaeontologist must be alerted immediately.

SAHRA will issue a Final Comment upon submission of the Palaeontological report.

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

Yours faithfully

Phillip Hine  
Heritage Officer

Colette Scheermeyer  
SAHRA Head Archaeologist  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

**ADMIN:**



The South African Heritage Resources Agency

Street Address: 111 Harrington Street, Cape Town 8000 \* Postal Address: PO Box 4637, Cape Town 8000  
\* Tel: +27 21 462 4502 \* Fax: +27 21 462 4509 \* Web: <http://www.sahra.org.za>

# 12-429 Bighorn Substation Extension

Our Ref: 9/2/263/0018

Enquiries: Phillip Hine  
Tel: 021 462 4502  
Email: [phine@sahra.org.za](mailto:phine@sahra.org.za)  
CaseID: 1943

Date: Monday April 15, 2013

Page No: 3



## 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.



The South African Heritage Resources Agency

Street Address: 111 Harrington Street, Cape Town 8000 \* Postal Address: PO Box 4637, Cape Town 8000  
\* Tel: +27 21 462 4502 \* Fax: +27 21 462 4509 \* Web: <http://www.sahra.org.za>