## Camcoll-Jericho 88 Kv Line

Our Ref: 9/2/222/0002

Enquiries: Phillip Hine Tel: 021 462 4502

Email: phine@sahra.org.za

CaseID: 164

Date: Thursday October 04, 2012

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## **Final Comment**

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

Attention: Ms Ria Pretorius Texture Environmental Consultants P.O. Box 36593 Menlo Park 0102

**Basic Assessment Report: Eskom Camcoll-Jericho 88kV line** 

Fourie, H. June 2012. Eskom Camcoll-Jericho 88kV line

SAHRA received a letter from a palaeontologist regarding the palaeontological sensiticity of the abovementioned project. Since this letter does not meet the minimum requirements for a Desktop study, SAHRA considers this to be a preliminary study which will need to be followed by further assessments.

The assessment was conducted for the proposed construction of the 45 km Camcoll-Jerico Power line. Alternatives 1 and 2 were considered. The project entails the following:

- Construct an 88 kV chickadee line from the existing Camcoll Substation to the existing Jericho Substation;
- establish 1 x 88Kv feeder bay at Camcoll Substation;
- establish 1 x 88kV feeder bay at Jericho Substation;
- construct an access/ construction road of 8 meters wide for the line;
- obtain a servitude area of 31metres wide for the line.

The project area is underlain by mainly sandstones, shale, coal belonging to the Vryheid Formation of the Ecca Group and dolerite. The specialist notes that the sensitivity of the Karoo Supergroup, of which the Ecca group is part, is rated as moderate to high.

The construction of an 8m wide road may lead to exposure, damage, disturbance, or destruction of valuable Ecca fossils, mainly plants and trace fossils and therefore the author indicated that it may be necessary to do a Phase 1 PIA to determine if if the planting of the pylons and the construction of the road will impact on palaeontological material. Considering this recommendations, it is unclear why a Phase 1 was not undertaken during this stage of the Environmental Impact Assessment process.

## Decision:

SAHRA recommends that a Phase 1 PIA is undertaken before the development may proceed. This must include a physical survey of the construction of roads and the positions of the pylons. SAHRA further supports the recommendation that Alternative 1 be chosen for the proposed project since this seems to have the least impact on palaeontological resources.



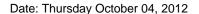
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Please note that the current report does not provide a good description of the proposed project or the palaeontological sequence of the project area. The report also contains no geological map which is a minimum requirement for palaeontological assessments.

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:** 

(DEA, Ref: 12/12/20/2650)

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.

