



Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt
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CaseID: 10089

Date: Friday October 07, 2016
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Final Comment

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

Attention: Enviroafrica CC
PO Box 5367
Heilderberg
7135

Project Description & Location (28° 54' 27.11"S 18° 09' 01.09"E) This project proposes the upgrading of the existing bulk water transfer pipelines from the existing Okiep Reservoir to the existing Concordia- and Carolusberg Reservoirs. The proposed project (expansion) evaluates a number of different route options (in order to minimise long term pump costs by using gravitation where possible). Depending on which option is the most suitable (the preferred option) the project can be regarded as expansion (replacing existing pipelines with larger pipelines within the same footprint) or a new development if the preferred pipeline route does not follow the existing route (e.g. towards Carolusberg). This project is regarded as a high priority infrastructure upgrade by Sedibeng Water, who is responsible for the management and maintenance of the whole of the Namaqualand regional water supply scheme.

EnviroAfrica was appointed by the Sedibeng Water Board to conduct a Basic Assessment Process for the proposed infrastructure upgrade of two water supply pipelines and associated infrastructure from Okiep to Concordia and Carolusberg, Northern Cape Province. A Basic Assessment Report (BAR) was completed in support of the Environmental Authorisation Application in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) in 2011. The proposed activities will include the replacement of the existing pipeline with a new and large pipeline constructed within the original footprint. The new pipeline will be approximately 8.2 km in length with a maximum diameter of 0.35 m. The new pipeline will be placed next to the old pipeline and will be constructed above ground with rocky section and below ground in sandy section.

EnviroAfrica appointed Agency for Cultural Resource Management to conduct a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) as part of the BAR.

Kaplan, J. 2016. Heritage Impact Assessment: Namaqualand Regional Water Supply Scheme – Upgrade of the Water Supply Pipeline from Okiep to Concordia and Carolusberg, Northern Cape.

It was noted that the proposed pipeline would be constructed directly adjacent to the existing pipeline and road servitude between Okiep, Concordia and Carolusberg. One route between Concordia and Okiep was examined and no heritage resources were identified in close proximity to the proposed route. A total of four

NAMAQUALAND REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY SCHEME (NRWSS) High priority infrastructure upgrade of: THE TWO WATER SUPPLY PIPELINES & ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE FROM OKIEP TO CONCORDIA AND CAROLUSBERG



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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alternative routes were examined for the route to Carolusberg. Four heritage resources were identified near the preferred route (A1), a total of six heritage resources were identified near route alternative A2, and four heritage resources were identified near alternative route A3. No heritage resources were identified near alternative route A4. It is noted that the proposed project area is located in an area of low to insignificant sensitivity in terms of paleontological resources.

Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- No mitigation measures are recommended for the pipeline route between Concorida and Okiep, Alternative Route A3 and Alternative Route A4;
- Alternative Route A1: Construction of the water pipeline must avoid the stone kraal (Site 339) which is located 15 m from the proposed route;
- Alternative Route A2: Construction of the water pipeline must avoid a possible Khoekhoen herder kraal site (Site 661) which is located about 15 m from the proposed route. The site has been graded as having a moderate-high (Grade IIIB) significance. A 15 m protective buffer is recommended;
- Should any human remains or buried ostrich eggshell caches for example be uncovered during excavations for the water pipeline, all work must cease and the remains and finds must be immediately reported to the South African Heritage Resources Agency (Ms Natasha Higgitt 021 462 4502), or Jonathan Kaplan (082 321 0172);
- The above recommendations must be included in the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for the proposed project.

Final Comment

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit accepts and promotes the recommendations in the HIA. The recommendations in the HIA and the following additional conditions must be included in the Final BAR and Environmental Management Programme (EMPr):

- A buffer of 15 m must be maintained around sites 339 and 661 should either alternative route be chosen for development;
- The final BAR and all appendices must be submitted to SAHRA and uploaded to the case file;
- If any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g. remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments, charcoal and ash concentrations), fossils or other categories of heritage resources are found during the proposed development, SAHRA APM Unit (Natasha Higgitt/John Gribble 021 462 5402) must be alerted. If unmarked human burials are uncovered, the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit (Itumeleng Masiteng/Mimi Seetelo 012

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320 8490), must be alerted immediately. A professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the findings. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required;

- Should the proposed development be granted an Environmental Authorisation, SAHRA must be informed and the decision letter must be uploaded to the case file.

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

Yours faithfully

Natasha Higgitt
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

John Gribble
Manager: Maritime and Underwater Cultural Heritage Unit / Acting Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/369326>
(DENC, Ref:)

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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.