

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
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CaseID: 10127

Date: Friday July 14, 2017
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Final Comment

In terms of Section 38(4) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd

PO Box 148
Sunninghill
2157

Eskom is proposing to establish a substation and power line which will be used to increase customers Notified Maximum Demand (NMD) from 2.5MVA to 10 MVA as a provision for future developments within the Olifantshoek region. This project is referred to as the Olifantshoek Substation and power line. The Olifantshoek Substation and power line will be comprised of the following: A new 10MVA on-site substation (100m X 100m) to be constructed adjacent to the existing 22/11kV Olifantshoek substation A new overhead 132 kV power line approximately 31 km long to connect directly to the Emil switching station via the new on site substation. The majority of the new power line route will follow the existing Ferrum/Nieuwehoop 400kV and Ferrum/Lewensaar 132kV power lines. The corridor of the new power line will be 300 m with a servitude of 31 m wide. The decommissioning of the existing 22/11kV Olifantshoek Substation

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by Eskom to conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process for a proposed powerline and sub-station in the Olifantshoek region, Northern Cape Province. An draft Basic Assessment Report has been submitted in support of an Environmental Authorisation Application in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA), NEMA 2017 EIA Regulations. The proposed development will include a 31 km 132kV powerline that will run along an existing gravel road, the N14 highway and existing 400kV powerline. Two alternatives for the 100 m x 100 m sub-station located within Olifantshoek will be considered.

Cedar Tower Services were appointed to provide Heritage input into the BAR.

Lavin, J and Bluff, K. 2016. Heritage Screener: Eskom Substation and Power Line Olifantshoek, Northern Cape Province.

The Heritage Screener noted that the proposed development footprint has been extensively disturbed due to the existing infrastructure such as the roads and the powerlines. The footprint of the proposed development has previously been assessed in 2007 and 2014. In both these previous assessments, only ephemeral

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scatters of Stone Age artefacts of low significance were identified.

Additionally the Screener noted that the proposed project area is located in areas of moderate, high and unknown palaeontological sensitivity, however, as no deep excavations are anticipated for the project, it is unlikely that palaeontological resources will be impacted.

Recommendations provided include the following:

- No further heritage specialists studies are required; and
- If any heritage resources are discovered during the construction phase of the proposed development, the SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit should be contacted immediately.

In an Interim Comment issued on the 10/10/2016, SAHRA requested that all environmental reports and appendices be submitted to the case so that an informed decision could be issued.

An addendum to the Heritage Screener has been submitted that notes the removal of Alternative 1 for the proposed substation location. The preferred alternative is Alternative 3, a less disturbed area. According to the Heritage Screener, it is unlikely that the development will impact significant heritage resources.

Final Comment

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit has no objection to the proposed development. Additional conditions must be included in the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr):

- A Walk-Down of the final route must be conducted by a qualified archaeologist and palaeontologist. Once completed, a report detailing the results of the walk-down and the assessment of any identified heritage must be submitted to SAHRA for comment. No construction may occur without comment from SAHRA;
- The Final BAR and appendices must be submitted to SAHRA for record purposes;
- 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 (Mimi Seetelo 012 320 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

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- may be required subject to permits issued by SAHRA; and
- If the development receives an Environmental Authorisation (EA), SAHRA must be informed and all documents pertaining to the EA must be uploaded to the SAHRIS 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/369650>
(DEA, 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 SAHRA immediately.
3. SAHRA reserves the right to request additional information as required.