REPORT ON A PHASE 1 HERITAGE ASSESSMENT FOR OVERHEAD POWERLINE AND SUBSTATION

Our Ref:



an agency of the Department of Arts and Culture

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Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt

Tel: 021 462 4502

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CaseID: 10918

Date: Monday May 15, 2017

Page No: 1

Interim Comment

In terms of Section 38(2) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Mr Anton Pelser

A Pelser Archaeological Consulting

P.O. Box 73703 Lynwood Ridge

0040

REPORT ON A PHASE 1 HERITAGE ASSESSMENT FOR THE OVERHEAD POWERLINE AND ZETA SUBSTATION, LOCATED ON ERF 1806 VAN DER HOFF PARK & PORTION 17 OF THE FARM VYFHOEK 424IQ POTCHEFSTROOM, NORTHWEST PROVINCE

AB Enviro Consult appointed APelser Archaeological Consulting to conduct a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) for the proposed overhead powerline and Zeta Substation located on Erf 1806 Van Der Hoff Park and Portion 17 of the farm Vyfhoek 424IQ, Potchefstroom, North West Province. The HIA forms part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the 132KV/11KV Network Expansion and strengthening Project for the Ventersdorp/Tlokwe Local Municipality. The EIA would be conducted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No 107 of 1998 (NEMA) and the NEMA 2014 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations.

Pelser, A. 2017. Report on a Phase 1 Heritage Assessment for the overhead powerline and Zeta substation, located on Erf 1806 Van Der Hoff Park & Portion 17 of the farm Vyfhoek 424IQ, Potchefstroom, North West Province.

No heritage resources were identified in the areas of the four proposed pylons for the overhead powerline. Scattered Middle Stone Age (MSA) lithics and three stone cairns were identified near the existing railway line. Stone cairns A and B are irregularly shaped, while stone cairn C is more rectangular in shape. This may indicate that stone cairn C is a grave and would be rated as a heritage resource of high significance. The three cairns are located on the periphery of the development area and are not likely to be directly impacted.

Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- No mitigation is recommended for the MSA lithics;
- Consult with locals/property owner to determine if stone cairn C could be a grave or not;
- If not a grave then it could be demolished;

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- If this is a grave then the recommendation would be not to disturb or impact on the grave in any way. It should be left in situ and fenced-in to avoid any accidental damage to it. A buffer zone of 20 m should be placed around the feature to avoid any possible indirect and/or accidental impact. It can however also be exhumed and relocated if the development cannot avoid impacting on it. This can be done after a detailed social consultation process have been undertaken to try and obtain consent for the exhumation and relocation from any possible family members/descendants;
- Should any previously unknown sites, features or material be uncovered during any development
 actions then an expert should be contacted to investigate and provide recommendations on the way
 forward.

Interim Comment

SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit requests that a Palaeontological Desktop Study be conducted for the proposed project. Additionally, the EIA and all appendices must be submitted to the case so that an informed comment can be issued, and the development must be mapped on the GIS layer of the SAHRIS Application.

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

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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/397414

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