

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
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CaseID: 12006

Date: Friday December 15, 2017
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Final Comment

In terms of Section 38(4), 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Eskom - Megawatt Park

PO Box 1091
Johannesburg
2001

DRAFT REPORT FOR THE APPLICATION FOR A SUBSTANTIVE AMENDMENT TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORIZATION ISSUED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE ESKOM KUDU INTEGRATION PROJECT 400KV TRANSMISSION LINE IN THE NORTHERN AND WESTERN CAPE PROVINCES

Nsovo Environmental Consulting was appointed by Eskom Holdings SOC Limited to conduct an application for a substantive amendment to the Environmental Authorisation (EA) issued for the construction of the Eskom Kudu Integration Project 400KV transmission line in the Northern and Western Cape Provinces (DEA Ref: 12/12/20/720 and 14/12/16/3/3/1/1679). As part of the conditions of the granted EA (12/12/20/720), condition 3.2.15 notes the need for an offset in the ration of 1 ha: 10-20 ha must be considered. The offset must be linked to the Orange River Mouth Ramsar site.

During the course of choosing no offset area, it became clear that it was impractical to purchase and conserve a suitable section of land to include the Orange River Mouth Ramsar site. An alternative site was investigated on the eastern part of Vyftienmyl se Berg (total area of 300 ha), which is linked to the Richtersveld National Park. As part of consultations with the Department of Environment and Nature Conservation (DENC) Northern Cape Province, DENC noted that the proposed offset site, east of Vyftienmyl se Berg/Oograbies, was supported.

As such, the EA requires an amendment to reflect the change in the offset site. As part of the amendment process, Vhubvo Archaeo Heritage Consultants CC provided input with regards to the heritage resources within the offset site.

Magoma, M. 2017. Re: Offset for the Eskom 400kV Transmission Powerline, Kudu Integration Project in the Richtersveld Local Municipality of Namakwa District in Northern Cape Province.

No development activities are proposed as part of the offset site, therefore there will be no direct impact to

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heritage resources. Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- There is no need for a Desktop Heritage Assessment or full Heritage Assessment study;
- The developer should not establish any construction site camp in the proposed area or use the area for any means related to road access;
- Should the need arise to utilise the site for whatsoever reason, a Heritage Assessment Study should be commissioned.

Final Comment

The SAHRA Archaeological, Palaeontological and Meteorites (APM) Unit has no objection to the location of the offset site for the authorised Kudu Integration Project and supports the recommendations of the specialists as referred to above. SAHRA must be notified regarding the EA Application decision and all relevant documents must be submitted to the case file.

SAHRA notes that should the offset area be incorporated into the Richtersveld National Park, and declared as a Protected Area in terms of the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act, Act 57 of 2003 (NEMPAA) as amended, section 42 and 42(3) of the NEMPAA may apply. This section requires that when a protected area is managed through a co-management agreement, the agreement must provide for the harmonisation and integrated of the management of cultural heritage resources in the protected area by the management authority. The NEMPAA Norms and standards for the management of protected areas in South Africa section 5.1 (c) will also apply, wherein an inventory of cultural heritage resources must be maintained. Sections 8.1 (b), 11.1 (e) of the NEMPA Norms and Standards will also apply.

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

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South African Heritage Resources Agency

Phillip Hine
Acting Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/486568>
(DEA, Ref: DEA REF: 12/12/20/720/AM3)

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.