

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt
Tel: 021 462 4502
Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za
CaseID: 13780

Date: Thursday May 30, 2019
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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 Holdings SOC Ltd

P.O. Box 8610
Johannesburg
200

Eskom has applied for the amendment of the EA for the rerouting of the 132 kV powerline from the Boichoko Substation to Kolomela Mine located near Postmasburg in the Northern Cape Province

EXM Advisory Services has been appointed by Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Amendment Application for the authorised Eskom Boichoko Substation and associated 132KV overhead powerline, near Postmasburg, Northern Cape Province.

This case has reference to a previous SAHRIS Case application Case ID 12525 (<https://sahris.sahra.org.za/cases/ea-amendment-powerline-kolomela-mine>).

A draft Amendment report has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, No 107 of 1998 (NEMA), NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The current amendment includes an amended route known as Alternative D1.

Dr van Schalkwyk and Palaeo Field Services have been appointed to provide heritage specialist input as per section 38(8) of the National heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

Van Schalkwyk, J. A. 2018. Amendment: EIA Amendment application for the Kolomela Eskom 132kV Powerline, Postmasburg, District Hay, Northern Cape.

The submitted letter concluded that the new route would not impact any heritage resources. A recommendation provided included that if during construction, archaeological site or graves are discovered, work must immediately be suspended, and a heritage specialist must be consulted to assess the finds.

Rossouw, L. 2019. Phase 1 Palaeontological Impact Assessment of a new 132kV powerline route across Kolomela Mine, Postmasburg, NC Province.

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The proposed amended route is underlain by late Neogene surface limestone, Kalahari sands and Vaalian rocks of the Asbestos Hills Subgroup (Transvaal Supergroup), capped mostly by Quaternary windblown sand. Potential stromatolite- and microfossil-bearing dolomite of the Cambellrand Subgroup occur at depth.

Final Comment

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit has no objection to the proposed amendment to the authorised development. The recommendations of the heritage specialists and the following additional conditions must be included in the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) and completed should the Amended EA be granted:

- The Final Amendment Report and EMPr must be uploaded to the SAHRIS application 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/Phillip Hine 021 462 5402) must be alerted as per section 35(3) of the NHRA. If unmarked human burials are uncovered, the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit (Thingahangwi Tshivhase/Mimi Seetelo 012 320 8490), must be alerted immediately as per section 36(6) of the NHRA. 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 subject to permits issued by SAHRA;
- The decision regarding the Amended EA Application must be communicated to SAHRA and uploaded to the SAHRIS Case application.

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

Yours faithfully

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Natasha Higgitt
Heritage Officer
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/523277>
(DEA, Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/1/1504/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.