

Proposed 800 meter Eskom Powerline on the farm Boekenhoutstrand 722JT on the Nkomazi Game Reserve, near Tjakastad, Mpumalanga Province

Our Ref: 15937



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 15937

Date: Friday February 26, 2021

Page No: 1

Final Decision

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

Attention: Nkomazi Game Reserve (Pty) Ltd

Granger Bay Court, Block B, 3rd Floor, Unit 301,
Beach Road
Cape Town

Nkomazi Game Reserve is proposing to construct a 800 meter, 22kV Eskom overhead power line to supply electricity to the tented camp.

Eskom SOC Ltd, Mpumalanga Operating Unit (MOU) is proposing to construct a new power line on behalf of their applicant, Nkomazi Game Reserve, located near the town of eManzana and Tjakastad. According to the documents submitted to the case, the proposed new power line will be 505m in length, starting at Moletsi/Koloni 22 kV feeder, on the remainder of the farm Boekenhoutstrand 722 JT, in the Albert Luthuli Local Municipality of Mpumalanga Province.

Nkomazi Game Reserve appointed Core Environmental (Pty) Ltd, who in turn appointed Adonsonia Heritage Consultants cc to undertake a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) in terms of section 38(1) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999, (NHRA).

Van Wyk Rowe, C. A Phase 1 Archaeological and Heritage Impact Assessment: Proposed 1km ESKOM POWERLINE on the farm Boekenhoutsrand 722JT on the Nkomazi Game Reserve, near Tjakastad, Mpumalanga Province.

The author undertook a field assessment of the proposed power line route within the Nkomazi Game Reserve and did not identify any heritage resources there. The study area is known to contain some significant heritage resources and a stone walled settlement is located within the reserve. However, it is not near the power line servitude.

Final Decision

SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit accepts the HIA submitted to this case.

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Page No: 2

SAHRA has no objections to this proposed development going ahead and this Final Decision applies to the provisions of the NHRA only.

The following conditions still apply and need to be added to Appendix C 1.22:

If there are any new heritage resources discovered during construction and operation phases of the proposed development, then a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the findings at the expense of the developer.

If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required at the expense of the developer. Mitigation will only be carried out after the archaeologist or palaeontologist obtains a permit in terms of section 35 of the NHRA (Act 25 of 1999). You may contact SAHRA APM Unit for further details: (Nokukhanya Khumalo/Phillip Hine 021 202 8654).

If any unmarked human burials are uncovered and the archaeologist called in to inspect the finds and/or the police find them to be heritage graves, then mitigation may be necessary and the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit must be contacted for processes to follow (Mimi Seetelo 072 802 1251).

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

Yours faithfully

Nokukhanya Khumalo
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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Page No: 3

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

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/551679>

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.