



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: 16445

Date: Tuesday July 13, 2021  
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## Final Comment

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

Attention: Eskom - MOU

**This environmental application is for the proposed construction of a ± 5km 132kV chickadee power line and two Substations. The proposed construction of the project has been triggered by the rapid expansion of the geographic extent of Tekwane North, hence a need for Eskom to increase the capacity of electricity towards this area.**

Eskom Holdings (SOC) Ltd have appointed Setala Environmental (Pty) Ltd to undertake a Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment application process in support for an Environmental Authorisation (EA) in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, Act no 107 of 1998 (NEMA) as amended, for activities that trigger the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) 2014 Regulations, as amended.

Eskom is proposing to construct a substation named Entokozweni and 5km 132 kV power line in order to upgrade the existing power supply between Pienaar and Karino substations in the Tekwane North area. Two substation alternatives and two powerline alternatives are being assessed. The power line will cross the following Farms Tekwane 573 JU, Porton 9; Nyamasaan 647 JU, R/E; Tekwane North, Erf 816 JU; Tekwane 573 JU, R/E; Tekwane 573 JU Portion 2; Tekwane 573 JU Portion 1, in the City of Mbombela Local Municipality in Mpumalanga Province.

A Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) by Heritage Contracts and Archaeological Consulting cc and Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA) reports has been submitted to SAHRA for commenting in terms of section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act, no. 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

*Van der Walt, J. May 2021. Heritage Impact Assessment for the Proposed Eskom Entokozweni and Tekwane North Substations and 132kV Power Line, City of Mbombela Municipality in the Mpumalanga Province.*

The author undertook a field assessment of the proposed substation and powerlines and identified 4 features and a findspot. Findspot consists of some Middle Stone Aged finds, and undecorated potsherds. The 4 features are 3 large cemeteries and a historical farmstead.

The author recommends



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Alternative 1 as the preferred alternative with the least impacts to heritage resources.

If alternative 1 is chosen then all the heritage features will not be impacted. However, a walkdown assessment of pylon positions must be undertaken before construction commences.

If heritage resources are identified during the walk down, it is recommended that the line should be micro sited to avoid these features and allow for a sufficient buffer around the identified features; • Implementation of a chance find procedure for the project.

## Final Comment

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) accepts the HIA report submitted to this case and SAHRA endorses the recommendations provided therein. Furthermore, as the palaeontological sensitivity of the area is insignificant/grey on the SAHRIS palaeomap, there is no requirements for an assessment of impacts to palaeontological resources. The SAHRA has no objection to the development going ahead on the following conditions:

The chance finds procedures in the HIA report are adhered to.

The walkdown survey report of the power line route must be submitted to the case once it is available.

In the unlikely event that fossils are uncovered during construction then construction must cease within the immediate vicinity, a buffer of 30 m must be established, and a palaeontologist called in to inspect the finds. The palaeontologist must obtain a section 35(4) permit in terms of NHRA and Chapter IV NHRA Regulations, before any fossils are collected.

If there are any new heritages resources are 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 (Thingahangwi Tshivase/Mimi Seetelo 072 802

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1251).

The Final BAR and its appendices must be submitted to the case and once a Record of Decision from the competent authority is issued, it must also be submitted to the case. This Final Comment must be forwarded to the competent authority.

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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Nokukhanya Khumalo  
Heritage Officer  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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

**ADMIN:**

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/573854>

**Terms & Conditions:**

1. This approval does not exonerate the applicant from obtaining local authority approval or any other necessary approval for proposed work.

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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.