



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 17975

Date: Friday March 18, 2022  
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## **Interim Comment**

**In terms of Section 38(3), 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)**

Attention: Umsobomvu Wind Power (Pty) Ltd

**Umsobomvu Wind Power (Pty) Ltd is proposing the development of infrastructure to supplement the development of the authorised Wind Energy Facilities (WEFs) in proximity to the infrastructure site. The proposed infrastructure is situated on Portion 8 of Uitzicht Farm 3, the Remaining Extent (RE) of Winterhoek Farm 118, and the RE of Elands Kloof Farm 135. These properties are situated within the Umsobomvu Local Municipality in the Northern Cape Province and the Inxuba Yethemba Local Municipality in the Eastern Cape Province.**

Coastal and Environmental Services (PTY) Ltd has been appointed by Umsobomvu Wind Power (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed development of substations, concrete tower manufacturing facilities and temporary laydown area, located near Middleburg, near the border of the Eastern Cape and Northern Cape Provinces (DFFE Reference Number: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2487).

It must be noted that the development footprint is completely located within the Northern Cape Province, and no proposed activities will be located within the Eastern Cape Province. It must be noted that this application is linked to SAHRIS Case ID 14224

(<https://sahris.sahra.org.za/cases/umsobomvu-infrastructure-development-dffe-ref-no-1412163312040>).

A draft Basic Assessment Report (DBAR) Report has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) and the 2017 NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The proposed development will include the construction of substations, operation and maintenance buildings, two overhead powerlines (500 m in length), one concrete tower manufacturing facility and temporary laydown area.

Natura Viva CC and Umlando: Archaeological Surveys and Heritage Management were appointed to provide heritage specialist input as required by section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

*Almond, J. E. 2021. Site Sensitivity Verification Report: Palaeontological Heritage: Umsobomvu Substations, Concrete Tower Manufacturing Facilities and Temporary Laydown Areas, situated in the Umsobomvu Local*

**UMSOBOMVU SUBSTATIONS, CONCRETE TOWER MANUFACTURING FACILITIES AND TEMPORARY LAYDOWN AREA, SITUATED IN THE UMSOBOMVU LOCAL MUNICIPALITY (NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE) AND THE INXUBA YETHEMBA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY (EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE).  
DFFE REFERENCE NUMBER:**



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*Municipality (Northern Cape Province) and the Inxuba Yethemba Local Municipality (Eastern Cape Province).*

The proposed development area is underlain by sediments of the Beaufort Group and the Katberg Formation, with overlying Late Caenozoic superficial deposits. One fossil bone of a small bodied-tetrapod was identified within the northern section of the project area and is noted to be of low heritage significance. No mitigation is recommended for the identified fossil. A Chance Fossil Finds Protocol is recommended to be followed and is provided in the report.

*Anderson, G. 2021. New Umsombomvu Substation.*

The report references a heritage survey in 2013 and notes the “changes will not affect the sensitive areas and/or heritage sites recorded during the original survey”. A walkdown was conducted in September (presumably 2021) and one newly recorded stone knapping site of low-medium significance was noted.

Recommendations provided in the report include that the site should be sampled and photographed if the access road affects it. A permit to damage this site will be required.

### **Interim Comment**

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit requests that the original HIA report conducted in 2013 be submitted for review. Additionally, please confirm if the walkdown conducted in September is in reference to the reports uploaded to SAHRIS Case ID 17905 (<https://sahris.sahra.org.za/cases/coleskop-windfarm-permits>). Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the above requested reports.

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

**UMSOBOMVU SUBSTATIONS, CONCRETE TOWER MANUFACTURING FACILITIES AND TEMPORARY LAYDOWN AREA, SITUATED IN THE UMSOBOMVU LOCAL MUNICIPALITY (NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE) AND THE DUKUBA YETHEMBA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY (EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE).  
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Heritage Officer  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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

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**ADMIN:**  
Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/592815>  
(DEA, Ref: DFFE Reference Number: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2487)