

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: 19751

Date: Friday November 04, 2022
Page No: 1

Final Comment

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

Attention: Ms Andrea van Gensen
Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd
Eskom Centre
120 Henry Street
P.O.Box 356
Bloemfontein

The applicant wishes to construct a new 22kV powerline from the existing Gamohaam substation along the R31 provincial road toward Kuruman where the powerline will turn north at the Bathlaros intersection for 1,1km towards the community of Mamoratwe at which point the powerline will turn east towards Seven Miles where it will cross the Kuruman watercourse. The proposed crossing of the Kuruman watercourse requires a GA registration. The section of the proposed powerline that runs parallel to the R31 and then turn north towards Mamoratwe will require the removal of indigenous vegetation which required an EA prior to commencement. The proposed powerline will be located on the Remaining Extent of the Farm Kuruman Reserve 690. The start, middle and end coordinates of the proposed powerline from the Gamohaam sub-station until the watercourse are: Start: 27°22'46.38"S, 23°21'39.29"E; Middle: 27°23'22.44"S, 23°22'53.62"E; and End: 27°22'49.50"S, 23°22'59.86"E.

Environmental Impact Management Services (EIMS) has been appointed by Eskom Holdings Soc. Ltd, Eskom Distribution – Northern Cape Operating Unit to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed construction of a 22kV powerline (86 wooden pylons), the removal of indigenous vegetation and crossing a water course, near Kuruman, Northern Cape Province.

A draft Basic Assessment Report (DBAR) has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) and the EIA Regulations. The proposed activities include the removal of indigenous vegetation, construction camp and drilling for pylons. Three alternative routes were assessed for the powerline.

Banzai Environmental (Pty) Ltd and PGS Heritage (Pty) Ltd have been appointed to provide heritage specialist input into the EA process as per section 24(4)b(iii) of the NEMA and section 38(3) and section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

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Page No: 2

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Butler, E. 2022. Palaeontological Desktop Assessment for the Proposed Kuruman Gamohaam Seven Miles 22kV Powerline on the Remaining Extent of the Farm Kuruman Reserve 690, in Kuruman, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed development footprint is underlain by Kalahari Group, the Kuruman Formation and the Kogelbeen Formation. It is expected that the project will have a low palaeontological significance and a Chance Finds Procedure is recommended to be implemented.

While sections of the project footprint are located in an area of very high sensitivity for palaeontological resources, as that specific area is located adjacent to existing roads and through a residential area, no field survey is required.

Sachse, M and Fourie, W. 2022. Heritage Impact Assessment report for the Eskom Gamohaam – Seven Miles 22kV Powerline

No heritage resources were identified along the proposed powerline routes. A Chance Finds Procedure is recommended.

Final Comment

The following comments are made as a requirement in terms of section 3(4) of the NEMA Regulations and section 38(8) of the NHRA in the format provided in section 38(4) of the NHRA and must be included in the Final BAR and EMPr:

- 38(4)a – The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit has no objections to the proposed development;
- 38(4)b – The recommendations of the specialists are supported and must be adhered to. No further additional specific conditions are provided for the development;
- 38(4)c(i) – 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. Non-compliance with section of the NHRA is an offense in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule;
- 38(4)c(ii) – If unmarked human burials are uncovered, the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG)

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Page No: 3

Unit (Thingahangwi Tshivhase/Ngqabutho Madida 012 320 8490), must be alerted immediately as per section 36(6) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with section of the NHRA is an offense in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule;

- 38(4)d – See section 51 of the NHRA regarding offences;
- 38(4)e – The following conditions apply with regards to the appointment of specialists:
- If heritage resources are uncovered during the course of the development, a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the heritage resource. 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 Final BAR and EMPr must be submitted to SAHRA for record purposes;
- The decision regarding the 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

Natasha Higgitt
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Phillip Hine
Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit

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Page No: 4

South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/606378>

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.