

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: 20046

Date: Thursday December 08, 2022
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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 - Megawatt Park

PO Box 1091
Johannesburg
2001

The proposed activities entails the construction of stormwater drainage and associated infrastructure at the overland conveyor and near the radial stacker at the Kusile Power Station. The following infrastructure is proposed, viz, stormwater collection channels, Overland Conveyor (OLC) 1&2 collection sump with a working capacity of 125m³, the East Settling Tanks (EST) comprising of two compartments and a pump sump with a total storage capacity of 5394.3m³, two 250NB interconnecting pipelines (Length = 45m each) from the OLC 1&2 sump to the EST, a 300mm diameter above ground steel pipeline to transfer clarified water from the east settling tank pump sump to the ash dump dirty water drain (Total Length - 688m), the West Settling Tanks (WST) comprising of two compartments and a pump sump with a total storage capacity of 1270.2m³, a 200mm diameter overland steel pipeline to transfer clarified water from the west settling tank pump sump to the ash dump dirty water drain (Total Length - 178m) and groundwater interception drains will also be installed underneath east and west settling tank foundations with groundwater drains draining to the wetland. A gravel access road (169m in length and 6m wide) will be constructed from the sump to the EST. Mpumalanga.

Zitholele Consulting (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed stormwater drainage and associated infrastructure at the Kusile Power Station, near Delmas, Mpumalanga Province.

A draft Basic Assessment Report (DBAR) 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 stormwater collection channels, overland conveyor 1&2 collection sump, the East and West Settling Tanks, various pipelines and groundwater interception drains, and an access road.

Banzai Environmental (Pty) Ltd and PGS Heritage (Pty) Ltd 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



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1999 (NHRA).

Butler, E. 2022. Palaeontological Impact Assessment_Kusile Stormwater and Associated Infrastructure

The proposed development is underlain by the Dwyka Group and Silverton Formation. No fossiliferous outcrops were identified as part of the field assessment. A Chance Find Protocol is recommended to be implemented.

Fourie, W. 2022. Exemption from a Heritage Impact Study: Proposed Stormwater and Associated Infrastructure for the Existing Overland Conveyor at the Kusile Power Station, near Delmas in Mpumalanga

The specialist notes that the development area is highly disturbed and no heritage resources were identified during the site visit. A Chance Finds Procedure is recommended to be implemented.

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 EMP:

- 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) 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;

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- 38(4)e – The following conditions apply with regards to the appointment of specialists:
- With reference to the mitigation work noted above, a qualified archaeologist must be appointed to undertake the work in terms of the permit applied for as noted above;
- 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
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Kusile Stormwater Drainage and Associated Infrastructure, near Delmas, Mpumalanga

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ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahrissahra.org.za/node/608679>
(SAHRA, Ref: Kusile Stormwater Drainage and Associated Infrastructure, near Delmas, Mpumalanga)

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.