Power Line from Gemsbok to Big Tree Substation

Our Ref: 9/2/280/0002

Enquiries: Jenna Lavin Tel: 021 462 4502

Email: jlavin@sahra.org.za

CaseID: 2063

Date: Friday April 26, 2013

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Interim Comment

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

Attention: Ms Enica Tshokolo Limpompo Water Initiative (PTY) Ltd Po Box 55594 POLOKWANE 0700

PROPOSED NEW 132kV POWER LINE FROM GEMSBOK SUBSTATION TO BIG TREE SUBSTATION VIA THE KWAMHLANGA SUBSTATION, THEMBISILE HANI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY IN MPUMALANGA PROVINCE.

Mathoho, N. (No date). Archaeological Impacts Assessment Process: Proposed New 132kv Power Line from Gemsbok Substation to Big Tree Substation via the Kwamhlanga Substation, Thembisile Hani Local Municipality in Mpumalnga Province

The above report was submitted for the proposed new 132kV power line from Gemsbok Substation to Big Tree Substation via a new proposed Kwa Mhlanga Substation, covering a length of 29km.

The report assessed the three proposed locations for the new Kwa Mhlangu Substation and determined that none of the proposed alternatives for development would impact on significant heritage resources.

The report identified two heritage resources that may be impacted by the development of the proposed 132kv power line. Site 0001 is a large formal cemetery situated approximately 250m north of the main gravel road from Moloto consisting of around 1000 graves. As this is a formal cemetery, it is protected under municipal by-laws and as such, the NHRA does not apply. Site 0002 is the remnants of a farmstead and an associated burial ground. The farmstead consists of a gravel road lined on either side by eucalyptus trees and approximately 10 abandoned structures. West of the structures is a fenced burial ground with approximately 53 graves.

The submitted HIA was lacking in that no indication was provided in the report as to the evidence of other heritage resources that may be impacted by the proposed development such as archaeological and palaeontological heritage. No track paths were provided indicating the specific areas surveyed. Also, no indication was given as to how exactly the proposed development will impact on the identified resources.

Comment

As such, the submitted heritage report does not provide SAHRA with sufficient information to make an informed comment.

Please submit an HIA that provides the following information before SAHRA can issue a final comment;

- An indication of the likelihood of the proposed development impacting on significant archaeological and



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palaeontological heritage resources

- Track paths indicating the area surveyed
- Details as to how the proposed development is likely to impact on the identified heritage resources.

We look forward to receiving the amended report before issuing a Final Comment.

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

Yours faithfully

Jenna Lavin

Heritage Officer

South African Heritage Resources Agency

Colette Scheermeyer

SAHRA Head Archaeologist

South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

