

## **Interim Comment**

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

Attention: ISS Global Mining (Pty) Ltd  
108 Elizabeth Avenue  
Parkmore  
Sandton

### **Proposed Imbani Power Plant and Associated Infrastructure Situated on a site near Kriel, Mpumalanga Province**

van der Walt, J. February 2014. *Archaeological Scoping Report for the Proposed Establishment of the Umbani Coal-Fired Power Plant near Kriel, Mpumalanga Province*

Millstead, B. February 2014. *Desktop Palaeontological Heritage Impact Assessment Report on the site of the proposed coal-fired plant to be known as the Umbani Power Plant on a site near Kriel, Mpumalanga Province*

Thank you for informing SAHRA of the proposed development of a 500MW coal-fired power plant to cover an area of approximately 945ha situated on a site near Kriel, Mpumalanga Province. Proposed infrastructure includes access roads, conveyor belts, coal-handling areas, powerplant production units, ash dumps, water infrastructure including pipelines, a substation as well as office and maintenance areas.

According to the submitted heritage scoping report, it is likely that the proposed development may impact on a range of heritage resources including Later Iron Age sites, as well as sites related to the South African War, cemeteries and structures of some significance. No field assessment has yet been completed.

According to the submitted palaeontological desktop assessment, the site is predominantly underlain by sediments of the Vryheid Formation of the Ecca Group. These sediments have very high palaeontological sensitivity. The site is also underlain in part by igneous rocks of the Rooiberg Group and the Lebowa Granite Suite. These sediments have no palaeontological sensitivity.

### **Interim Comment**

Based on the available information, it is likely that the proposed development may impact on significant archaeological and palaeontological heritage resources and as such, SAHRA is unable to make a Final Comment as more information is required.

SAHRA requires that;

- A field-based heritage impact assessment be conducted in order to identify the location of heritage resources that are likely to be impacted by the proposed development. This heritage impact assessment must assesses the impact of the proposed construction on archaeological heritage resources including rock art. Any other heritage resources that may be impacted such as built structures, sites of cultural significance associated with oral histories or living heritage, burial grounds and graves, graves of victims of conflict, and cultural landscapes



or viewscales must also be assessed.

- A field-based palaeontological assessment be conducted in order to identify any fossiliferous outcrops within the development area. This will inform SAHRA of likelihood of significant fossils being impacted in the construction phase, as well as the nature of these fossils. This report must include a protocol for finds to be included in the EMP. This protocol must include the process to be followed should fossil material be impacted as well as the contact details of the heritage authority and palaeontologist.

- Any impact to structures may require a permit from the Mpumalanga Provincial Heritage Authority

These assessments must satisfy SAHRA's minimum requirements for impact assessments and must comply with the requirements in Section 38(3) of the NHRA and as such, these assessments must provide recommendations regarding the mitigation of any identified direct and indirect impacts to heritage resources.

SAHRA looks forward to receiving these assessments before commenting further on this proposed development.

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:**

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/161997>



# Umbani Power Plant

Our Ref: 9/2/206/0007

Enquiries: Jenna Lavin  
Edit view Tel: 021 462 4502  
Edit view Email: [jlavin@sahra.org.za](mailto:jlavin@sahra.org.za)  
CaseID: 5373

Date: Thursday April 24, 2014

Page No: 3



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

---

Edit view (DEA, Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/3/108)



The South African Heritage Resources Agency

Street Address: 111 Harrington Street, Cape Town 8000 \* Postal Address: PO Box 4637, Cape Town 8000  
\* Tel: +27 21 462 4502 \* Fax: +27 21 462 4509 \* Web: <http://www.sahra.org.za>