PROPOSED NGWEDI-TURN INS NEAR PILANESBERG

Our Ref: 16/1/4 Ngwedi Powerline

Enquiries: Phillip Hine Tel: 021 462 4502

Email: phine@sahra.org.za

CaseID: 992

Date: Monday January 19, 2015

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Final Comment

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

Attention: BAAGI ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANCY

P O Box 72847 Lynwood Ridge

Pretoria

A REPORT ON A HERITAGE WALKDOWN AND IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED NGWEDI (MOGWASE) PROPOSED LINE CORRIDOR NEAR PILANESBERG, NORTHWEST PROVINCE REPORT: APAC012/04

Pelser, A. (September 2012). A Report on a Heritage Walkdown and Impact Assessment for the proposed Ngwedi (Mogwase) proposed line corridor near Pilanesberg, Northwest Province Peport: APAC012/04

SAHRA issued an Interim Comment (August 27, 2013) regarding the above development. SAHRA indicated that it would issue a Final Comment once the following information are provided:

- Motivation as to why the preferred corridors in terms of heritage impacts are not being pursued;
- Clarity on which of the corridors was assessed in the HIA dated September 2012 and why;

SAHRA further recommended that the "corridor be re-aligned so that the proposed development does not impact on the significance Grade 1 heritage resource of the structures associated with the Marathodi LIA settlement, identified as NG17, NG18, NG19, NG20, NG21, NG22, NG23, NG24, NG25 and NG26. Should this not be possible, please liaise with SAHRA regarding reasons for non-compliance".

SAHRA has since received feedback from the specialist who undertook the heritage study. It was indicated that the route was predetermined by EIA consultants and that the walkdown was conducted as part of a larger team of specialist from various disciplines. This is also the reason why no GPS track paths could be provided. The specialist also noted that the best of his knowledge the these corridors were chosen because they would have the least environmental impact and least technical difficulties for Eskom.

Considering the response received by the specialist, the following recommendations forms part of the Final Comment:

- 1. SAHRA does not support mitigation of the following sites *NG17*, *NG18*, *NG99*, *NG20*, *NG21*, *NG22*, *NG23*, *NG24*, *NG25* and *NG26* associated with the Late Iron Age settlement of Marathodi. Marathodi is a highly significant heritage resource which cannot be mitigated.
- 2. SAHRA therefore requires that the power line be re-aligned to prevent damage to these sites.
- 3. Eskom should inform SAHRA of the possibility of realignment within the servitude/corridor of the current preferred option without detrimental impacts to significant heritage resources.
- 4. If it is feasible for the power line to be realigned within the preferred corridor, this alignment must be assessed by a suitably qualified archaeologist to determine any possible impacts on heritage resources.



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an agency of the Department of Arts and Culture

Outcomes must be discussed and agreed to with SAHRA before commencing construction activities. 5. Should this option be agreed to all construction activities must be monitored by a suitably qualified archaeologist.

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

Yours faithfully

Phillip Hine

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/104777

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.

