



## Interim Comment

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

Attention: Eskom Distribution Northern Region  
P O Box 3499  
Polokwane  
0700

#### PROPOSED ESKOM BOYNTON PROJECT.

*Pistorius, JCC. April 2012. A Phase I Heritage Impact Assessment Study For Eskom's Proposed New 132kv Power Line Between The Lebowa Substation And The Proposed New Dwaalkop Substation In Lebowakgomo And Chuniespoort In The Limpopo Province.*

*Fourie, H. September 2012. Report for proposed 132 kV power lines between the Lebowakgomo and Dithabaneng; Dithabaneng and Dwaalkop substations; and proposed Boynton substation Limpopo Province*

Eskom proposes the construction of various 132kV power lines and a substation in the Lebowakgomo and Chuniespoort areas in the Limpopo Province of South Africa. The proposed development entails:

- A 13.29km 132kV kingbird power line between the existing Lebowakgomo substation to the new Dithabaneng substation;
- A 8.67km 132kV kingbird power line from the Dithabaneng substation to the new Dwaalkop substation;
- A 1.2km 132kV loop-in-loop-out (lilo) line from the Middelpunt-Dithabaneng 132kV line to the proposed Boynton substation;
- The construction of a 2X10MVA 132/22kV Boynton Substation with 4X 22kV feeder bays on a terrain of 200x200m;
- A corridor of 100 meters will be required for the establishment of a 31 meter servitude for the 132kV power lines and a corridor of 52 meters for the lilo power line;
- In addition, the project will require the development of an 8 meter road for construction and access purposes.

An Archaeological Impact Assessment and a Palaeontological Desktop Assessment have been undertaken for this particular project. The archaeologist investigated the two proposed route alternatives for the power line. No assessment was undertaken for the proposed substation site or very little information is provided in one of the captions of the site descriptions. The report indicated that the route alternatives had been surveyed by vehicle and selected areas on foot. A number of graves and graveyards were identified during the field assessment. The map contained in the report only indicates one graveyard located close to Alternative 1. However, the heritage sensitivity map contains the location of all the cemeteries identified. It also indicates the presence of possible Stone Age sites that are not discussed in the specialist report. The





following heritage resources were noted in the archaeological report:

- Eighty-seven single graves and cemeteries amounting to about 144 individual graves are situated at the demolished village of Maneeng. Alternative 2 will have a negative impact on the graves if this alignment is to be chosen;
- A single grave was identified between the section of Lebowa Substation and the Dithabaneng substation. The report indicates that it is situated at a safe distance from Alternative 1 and 2 alignments. The author suggested that a buffer zone of at least 20 meters must be maintained and the grave site be demarcated with danger tape.

The palaeontological desktop assessment that was undertaken by Dr. H. Fourie indicated the area to be underlain by the Bushveld Complex and the Transvaal Supergroup. SAHRA APM Unit notes the following:

- The specialist indicates that the Bushveld Complex contains no known fossils.
- The possibility of the presence of 'algal microfossils' in the Time Ball Hill shale formation of the Pretoria Supergroup.
- The palaeontological sensitivity of the area is considered to be low.

Decision:

- In terms of the archaeological report it is requested that the author submits a revised version of the report to include a description of the substation site and clarity regarding the possible presence of Stone Age sites which may be indicated on the heritage sensitivity map, since no discussion of this is provided in the specialist report;
- Clarity will also need to be provided regarding the age of the burials identified as this will inform SAHRA's decision regarding the graves. If the graves are younger than 60 years it is not the responsibility of the SAHRA. Since this information has not been provided, SAHRA cannot at this stage make any recommendations regarding the matter. The author is requested with immediate effect to submit the relevant information to SAHRA.
- The author should clearly indicate in the survey methodology the reason why certain areas were surveyed on foot. It is also advised that the author provides a GPS tracklog;
- Considering that the area is considered to have a low palaeontological sensitivity, no further assessment is required in terms of the palaeontological resources. However, it is recommended that if palaeontological resources are uncovered during construction a professional palaeontologist must inspect the findings at the cost of the developer;
- SAHRA APM Unit will make further recommendations in terms of the archaeological and burial component of



The South African Heritage Resources Agency

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the heritage resources as soon as the revised report is received.

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

Yours faithfully

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Phillip Hine  
Heritage Officer

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Colette Scheermeyer  
SAHRA Head Archaeologist  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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**ADMIN:**  
(DEA, Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/1/497)

**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.

