

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
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CaseID: 17636

Date: Tuesday February 15, 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: HUMBA ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANCY

1. the installation of a new 40MVA 88/33kV transformer at Eskom Bafokeng 7 substation; and 2. the splitting of the 2xSycamore 88kV lines that are entering the Bafokeng 7 88/33kV substation and the 2xSycamore 88kV lines that are also leaving the Eskom Ararat Main Transmission Substation on Farm Doornspruit 106 JQ and Fram Kookfontein 265 JQ, Northwaest Province

Humba Environmental Consultancy has been appointed by Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd-Gemma Cluster to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed construction of the Ararat-Bafokeng 88 kV Powerline within the Rustenburg Local Municipality, Bojanala District Municipality, North West Province.

A draft Basic Assessment Report (dBAR) has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, no 107 of 1998 (NEMA). The Scope of work for the Ararat-Bafokeng 88 kV Powerline entail installation of a new 40MVA/33kV transformer at Eskom Bafokeng 7 substation, and the splitting of the 2xSycamore 88kV lines that are entering the Bafokeng 7 88/33kV substation and the 2xSycamore 88kV lines that are also leaving the Eskom Ararat Main Transmission Substation (MTS).

Humba Environmental Consultancy, Vungandze Project (Pty) Ltd, and Prof. Marion Bamford have been appointed to provide heritage input into the EA process as per section 38(3) and 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA) as required by section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA.

Mngomezulu, M. August 2021. Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment for the Proposed Construction of the Bafokeng-Ararat 88kV Powerline. The Project Falls under Rustenburg Local Municipality in the North West Province.

The specialist undertook a field survey and did not identify heritage resources on the proposed site and powerline routes. Accordingly, the proposed site and powerline routes are all viable for the project in terms of heritage in line with the below mitigation:

- During the construction phase, the contractor should keep within the proposed parameters of the site,

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- The contractor should induct all employees on the importance of heritage sites and resources that they should not be impact in any way to avoid unwarranted destruction,
- Should any other heritage resources be found on site during excavation, be it archaeological artefacts such as remains of stone tools and pottery, the contractor should cease construction immediately and contact the client. A heritage expert should be called to assess the significance of the finds and impact of the proposed project.

Bamford, M. October 2021. Phase 1 Desktop Study: Palaeontological Impact Assessment for the Proposed Eskom Ararat-Bafokeng 88 kV Powerline, Distribution Gemma Cluster, North West Province.

The Palaeontological Sensitivity of the project area is rated to be negligible. There is a very small chance that fossils may be in the Bafokeng 7 site which is underlain Quaternary gravels, but this will not be visible until excavation commence (construction phase). It is recommended that the developer or ECO look for fossils during excavations. A Fossils Chance Finds Protocol is attached and recommended for implementation. The project may be allowed to continue.

In an Interim Comment issued on 14/02/2022 (<https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/592553>), the SAHRA APM Unit noted that a development footprint kml. and power line had not been submitted along as required and requested that the file be submitted in terms of section 38(3) of the NHRA (25 of 1999) for Palaeontological Sensitivity assessment on SAHRA's PalaeoSensitivity Maps. Since the issuing of the Interim Comment the Kml. Powerline route has been submitted.

Final Comment

The SAHRA's APM Unit has received the draft BAR as part of the Environmental Authorisation process, attached to the BAR are heritage specialist studies. SAHRA supports the recommendation made in the reports by respective specialists and has no objections to the project.

SAHRA inserts the following comments 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 EMPr:

- 38(4)a – The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit has no objections to the proposed expansion;
- 38(4)b – The recommendations of the specialists are supported and must be adhered to. Further

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additional specific conditions are provided for the development;

- A Fossil Chance Find Protocol is recommended for inclusion in the EMPr.
- 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 (Elijah Katsetse/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/Ngqalabutho 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(1) of the NHRA regarding offences;
- 38(4)e – The following conditions apply with regards to the appointment of specialists:
 - i) 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.

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

Yours faithfully

Elijah Dumisani Katsetse
Heritage Officer

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South African Heritage Resources Agency

Phillip Hine
Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/589726>
(DEA, Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2447)

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.