



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Andrew Salomon
Tel: 021 462 4502
Email: asalomon@sahra.org.za
CaseID: 14578

Date: Thursday February 13, 2020
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Final Comment

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

Attention: Eskom - LOU

Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd (the applicant) appointed Setala Environmental as the independent environmental assessment practitioner (EAP) to undertake the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the proposed power line and substation project. The EIA application is for the proposed strengthening of the electricity supply infrastructure for the Vergenoeg Mining project.

Van Schalkwyk, J. October 2019. A Report On An Archaeological And Built Environment Impact Assessment For The Proposed Vergenoeg Mine 132kv Power Line, Gauteng Province

The proposed development entails the Vergenoeg Mine 132kV power line. This includes a substation as well as a loop in and loop out line.

The assessment identified two alternative power line routes. During the survey one site of cultural heritage significance was identified close to (100 m) the development area - a small cemetery of approximately 15 unmarked graves packed with stone. From a heritage perspective, the author is of the opinion that there is no preference for any of the routes investigated, and recommends that the proposed development may therefore continue on any of these. However, as a mitigatory measure, the graves should be fenced in and a management plan be drafted to ensure the sustainable preservation thereof.

The SA Palaeontological Sensitivity Map indicates that the study area has Low fossil sensitivity.

Final Comment

In terms of archaeological and palaeontological heritage, the SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit has no objections to this proposed development, provided that the recommendations in the specialist reports and this comment are adhered to, and on the following conditions:

- No palaeontological studies are required however a protocol for finds is required.
- the graves should be fenced in and a management plan be drafted to ensure the sustainable preservation

**VERGENOEG MINING COMPANY 132KV POWER LINES AND 132/22KV
SUBSTATION PROJECT**

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thereof.

- If any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g., remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments and charcoal/ash concentrations) or palaeontological remains are found during the proposed activities, SAHRA must be alerted immediately, and a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, based on the nature of the finds, must be contacted as soon as possible to inspect the findings. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of significance a Phase 2 rescue operation might be necessary.

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

Yours faithfully

Andrew Salomon
Heritage Officer: Archaeology
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/531081>
(DEA, Ref:)

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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.