



Interim Comment

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

Attention: Eskom Holdings SOC Limited

The construction of a + 60km 88kV power line from Warden Rural substation to Vrede Municipal substation. The trigger for this project is that it takes long for the Standerton line (which supplies Vrede Munic.) to be fixed, repaired, or attended to and leaves customers at Vrede and surrounding consumers without electricity for extended times with its negative consequences in the event of breakdowns. The proposed line will therefore, only be used in emergency situations, i.e. if Vrede loses supply from the Standerton line then the new line will kick in while the main source is being attended to and therefore, will not be connected to the grid permanently. The project will be constructed with monopole power structures. The total servitude width of an 88kV line without any other line around it will be 22m (i.e. 11m on each side from the centre line) and the average span length between poles will be 250m at the most. When an 88kV runs parallel to an existing 22kV power line the distance between the 2 power lines must be 15m calculated from the centre line of each power line.

Van Vollenhoven, A. November 2013. A Report On A Basic Heritage Assessment For The Proposed Eskom Warden-Vrede 88kv Power Line, Free State Province.

The proposed development entails an ESKOM 88kV power line between two existing substations at Warden and Vrede in the Free State.

The fieldwork undertaken revealed six sites of cultural heritage significance. The author notes that during a basic assessment a detailed survey is not done and therefore these sites are only an indication of what is to be expected.

The author notes that, from a heritage perspective, it seems as if alternative 1 is preferred. This is due to only one site being identified here (as opposed to five on alternative 2) and the fact that the line seems to miss the identified heritage site. The author proposes that once a final decision has been made and the pylon positions are known, a full heritage impact assessment be done in order to determine the actual impact.

According to the SA Fossil Sensitivity Map, the proposed development traverses an area of alternating low and very high fossil sensitivity.

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In terms of archaeological heritage resources, the SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit supports the recommendations of the author that once a final decision has been made and the pylon positions are known, a full heritage impact assessment be done in order to determine the actual impact. Once this assessment has been submitted to SAHRA APM, we can provide final comments relating to the impact on





archaeological heritage resources for this proposed project.

According to the SA Fossil Sensitivity Map, the proposed development traverses an area of alternating low and very high fossil sensitivity, and as such, a palaeontological field assessment and protocol for finds is required. Once this assessment has been submitted to SAHRA APM, we can provide final comments relating to the impact on palaeontological heritage resources for this proposed project.

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

Colette Scheermeyer
SAHRA Head Archaeologist
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/174736>
(DEA, Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/1/1056)

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.

