

CTS HERITAGE

10 November 2021

Ashlea Strong
WSP

Dear Ms Strong,

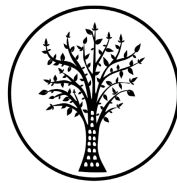
RE: PART TWO AMENDMENT FOR THE APPROVED RIETKLOOF WEF NEAR MATJIESFONTEIN IN THE WESTERN CAPE

Rietkloof Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd, a subsidiary of G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd, has received approval to develop a 140 megawatt (MW) Wind Energy Facility (WEF) near Matjiesfontein, in the Western Cape Province in South Africa. The authorised WEF is located in the Laingsburg Local Municipality, which falls within the Central Karoo District Municipality. It comprises up to 58 turbines, with a generating capacity of between 1.5MW and 4MW each.

The Rietkloof Wind Energy Facility (WEF) is proposed in the Western Cape at the border with the Northern Cape along the R354 road which connects Matjiesfontein to Sutherland. An inclusion zone of 10km was assessed around the proposed WEF in order to better characterise the heritage resources of the area. Several WEFs have previously been proposed within the 10km inclusion zone, including the Hidden Valley Phase 1 Karusa, the Hidden Valley Phase 2 Soetwater, the Hidden Valley Phase 3, Great Karoo, Roggeveld Wind Farm Phase 1 and Kareebosch Wind Project (Roggeveld Phase 2). The Brandvalley WEF (a phase of the Roggeveld Wind Farm) is proposed contemporaneously to the Rietkloof WEF on some overlapping properties. This WEF is also a part of Roggeveld Wind Energy Facility

The authorised Rietkloof Wind Energy Facility (WEF) falls entirely within the Western Cape and as such, falls under the jurisdiction of Heritage Western Cape (HWC).

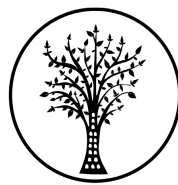
EA was granted for the Rietvalley WEF on 17 September 2019. In the EA, various requirements were stipulated in terms of impacts to Historical, Cultural and Palaeontological sites (Table 1 below). In their Final Comment, HWC, as well as the EA, required that the Final Layout of the proposed development be subject to a walkdown by an archaeologist. This walkdown was completed by CTS Heritage between 24 and 28 July 2021 with the Walkdown Report completed in September 2021. Subsequent to the completed walkdown assessment, the layout was amended in November 2021.



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Table 1: EA requirements for Heritage

<i>EA Requirements</i>	<i>Implementation</i>
All wind turbines must avoid all areas designated as "no-go" areas as well as their buffers	Addressed in Walkdown report September 2021
The final placement of turbines must follow a micro siting procedure involving a walk-through and identification of any sensitive areas by ecological, avifaunal, bat, surface water and heritage specialists	Addressed in Walkdown report September 2021
If archaeological heritage material, fossils and human remains are uncovered during construction, all work must cease immediately and be reported to the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) so that a systematic and professional investigation / excavation can be undertaken.	During construction
Exclusion of sensitive ecological, heritage and paleontological areas from construction activities must inform micro siting of all development activities.	At construction
A 60m buffer must be applied around all identified archaeological sites.	Addressed in Walkdown report September 2021
Pre-construction archaeological monitoring is required. The appointed archaeologist must keep a list documenting all identified farm infrastructure.	Addressed in Walkdown report September 2021
If concentrations of archaeological heritage material, fossils and human remains are uncovered during construction, all work must cease immediately and be reported to the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) so that a systematic and professional investigation / excavation can be undertaken.	During construction
Construction managers/foremen must be informed before construction starts of the possible types of heritage sites and cultural material that may be encountered and the procedures to follow when they find sites.	To be completed
All buffers and no-go areas stipulated in the EIAR must be adhered to for both the facilities and all roads and powerlines	Addressed in Walkdown report September 2021
Should any human remains be uncovered during development they must be immediately protected in situ and reported to the heritage authorities or to an archaeologist. The remains will need to be exhumed at the cost of the developer	During construction
All construction and maintenance crew and vehicles (except small vehicles which may use existing farm tracks) must be kept out of the buffer zones.	During construction
The final layout must be shown to the appointed archaeologist before implementation to confirm that all significant heritage resources have been adequately protected.	Addressed in Walkdown report September 2021
A conservation management plan must be drafted and submitted to SAHRA for review and comment	Completed October 2021



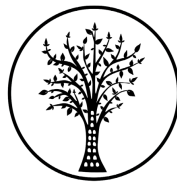
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The following amendments are proposed to the Authorised Rietkloof WEF as part of this Part 2 Amendment Process:

- Turbine positions: - 34 turbines per project so reduced substantially from the +/- 60 positions permitted in the EIA.
- Hardstands - The exact orientation, position and dimensions of the hardstands will be subject to minor change pending the final selection of the TSA. The footprint shown is less than the 3500 m2 per hardstand as per the EIA. The client has indicated that this should be achievable but is very tight - it would be preferable if an increase to 4500 m2 per hardstand can be substantiated due to the reduction in total number of positions (3500 m2 x 60 / 34 = 6000 m2 so total footprint would still be substantially less than assessed in EIA)
- Roads - the 9m and 12m widths stipulated in the respective EIAs - this is assumed to be the riding surface of the roads - additional width for cut / fill earthworks are not included
- Substation & O&M facility - No variation from size and position in EIA
- MV Collectors buried cables - All buried cables follow the road routes
- Site Camp & Laydown area & Batch Plant - Preferred site camp, laydown area and batch plant areas shown as indicated by the contractors. The total / cumulative area is within the limits prescribed in the EIA. The contractors have indicated that for logistic reasons they would prefer to have the batch plants more centrally located and slightly away from the site camp and laydown area. This is preferable but not essential - if, for environmental reasons, we need to relocate the batch plants adjacent to the site camp / laydown area then we can live with this.

Table 2: Proposed Turbine Specification Amendments

	NEW Specs for ALL WEFS	Approved for Rietkloof WEF
Turbine Generation Capacity	7 MW	Not specified (up to 183 MW - with 60 turbines)
Hub Height	125m	9 turbines - up to 120m 51 turbines - up to 125m
Rotor Diameter	180m	9 turbines - up to 140m 51 turbines - up to 160m
Blade Length	90m	9 turbines - up to 70m 51 turbines - up to 80m
Max upper tip height	215m	Not specified



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As with the previous layout, some of the heritage resources known from this area are located along the proposed road alignments. The road alignments have been slightly amended in the proposed amended layout, however it is not anticipated that these amended road alignments will negatively impact on significant archaeological heritage. Furthermore, it is not anticipated that the proposed change in turbine height and reduction in turbine numbers will negatively impact on heritage resources.

This letter is therefore drafted to confirm that the final amended layout dated November 2021 for the Rietkloof WEF does not impact any known heritage resources and adheres to the recommendations included in the CTS Heritage Walkdown report for this development (September 2021) which concludes that “The final layout for the Rietkloof WEF avoids impact to all known significant heritage resources present within the development area. The walkdown of the final layout revealed no new significant heritage resources that are likely to be impacted.”

However, please note that the proposed alignments for the 33kV Overhead Lines (OHL) were not assessed as part of the Walkdown process (Map 3). As such, there remains a risk that the construction of these overhead lines may negatively impact on significant archaeological or palaeontological heritage and as such, it is recommended that the proposed locations of the footings for the pylons for the OHL be inspected for such impacts during the construction phase of the development.

Although the EA did not make any specific conditions pertaining to the conservation of palaeontological heritage, the PIA completed for the Rietkloof WEF recommended that the area marked in Orange in Map 4 should be inspected for fossil wood occurrences by a professional palaeontologist prior to construction. It is recommended that this mitigation step be completed prior to the construction of the turbines in this area.

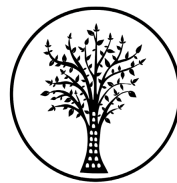
Please see the attached maps as confirmation.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any further questions or concerns in this regard.

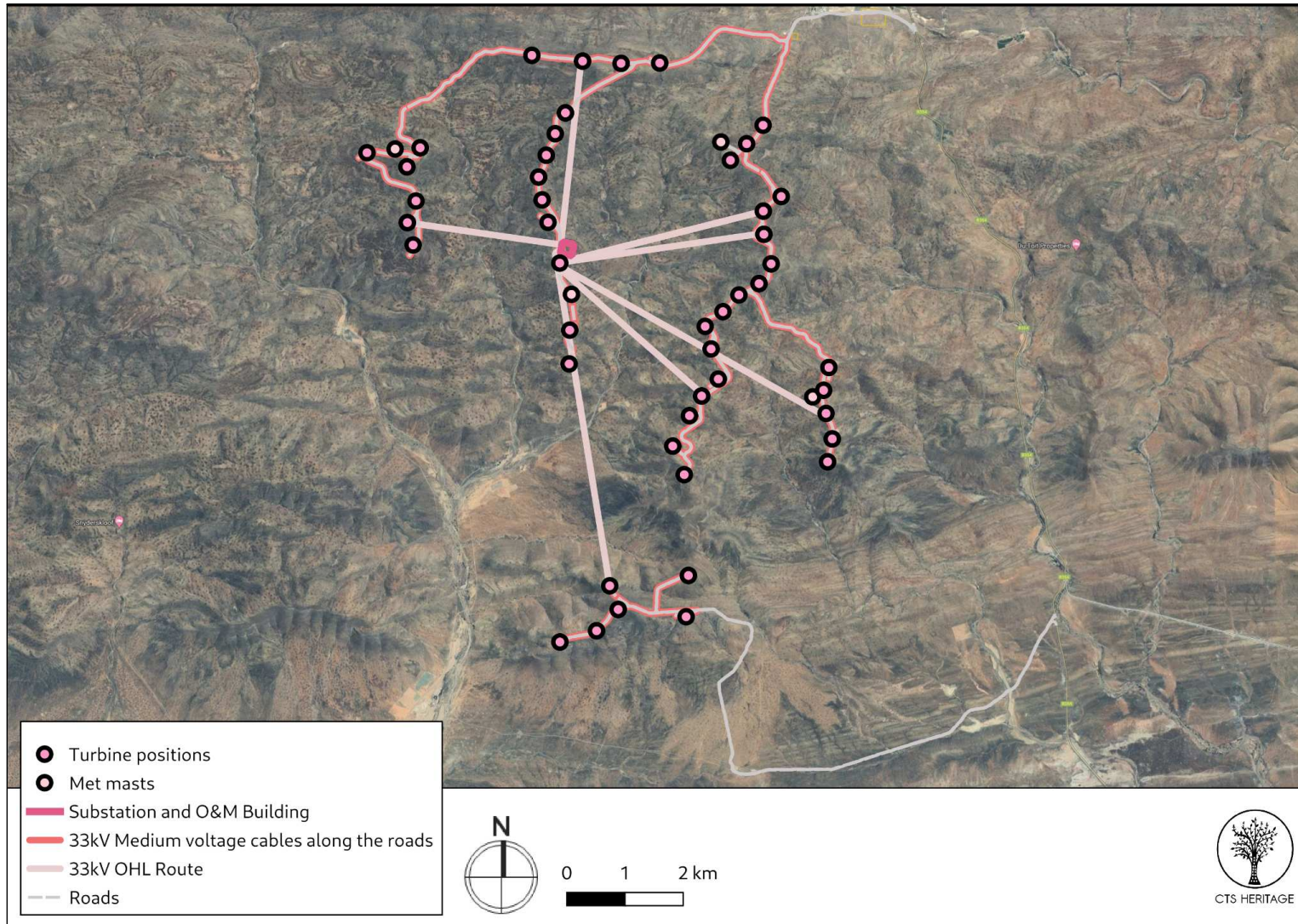
Yours sincerely

Jenna Lavin

Archaeologist, Heritage Assessment Practitioner

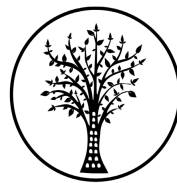


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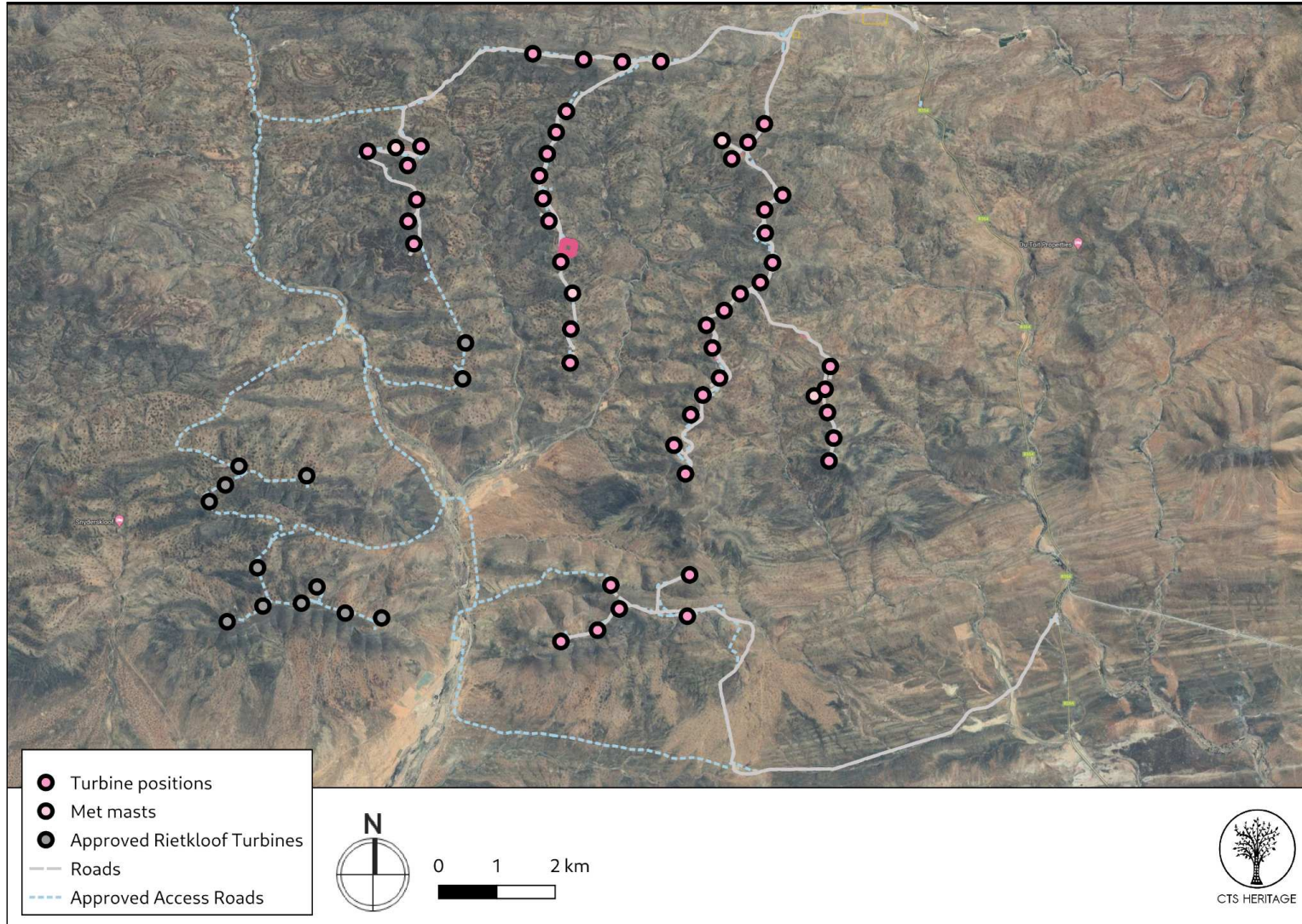


Map 1: Amended final layout of the Rietkloof WEF

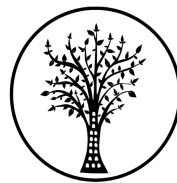
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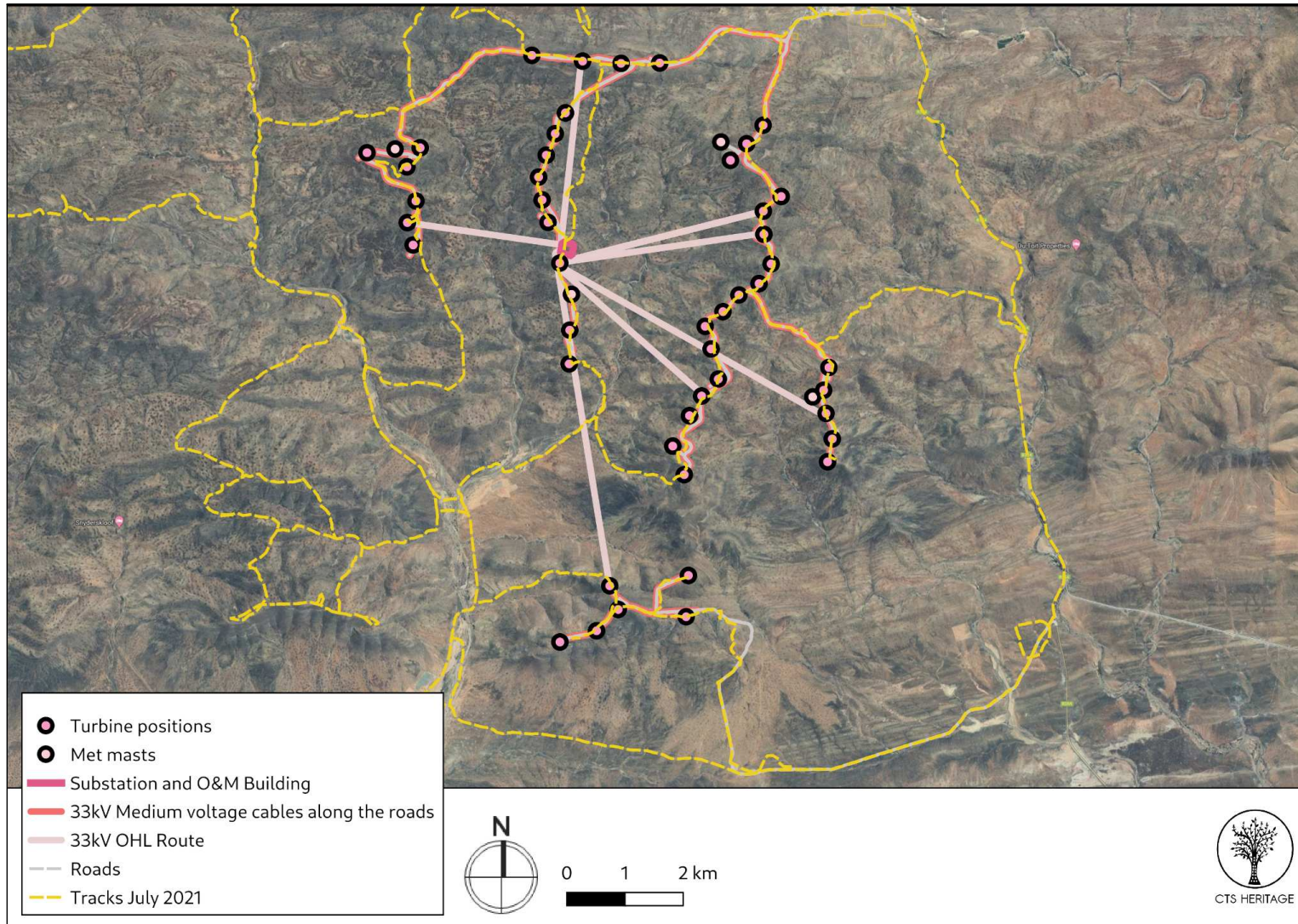
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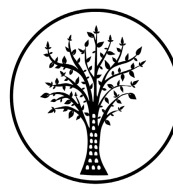
Map 2: Amended final layout of the Brandvalley WEF overlain with the Approved Rietkloof WEF Layout



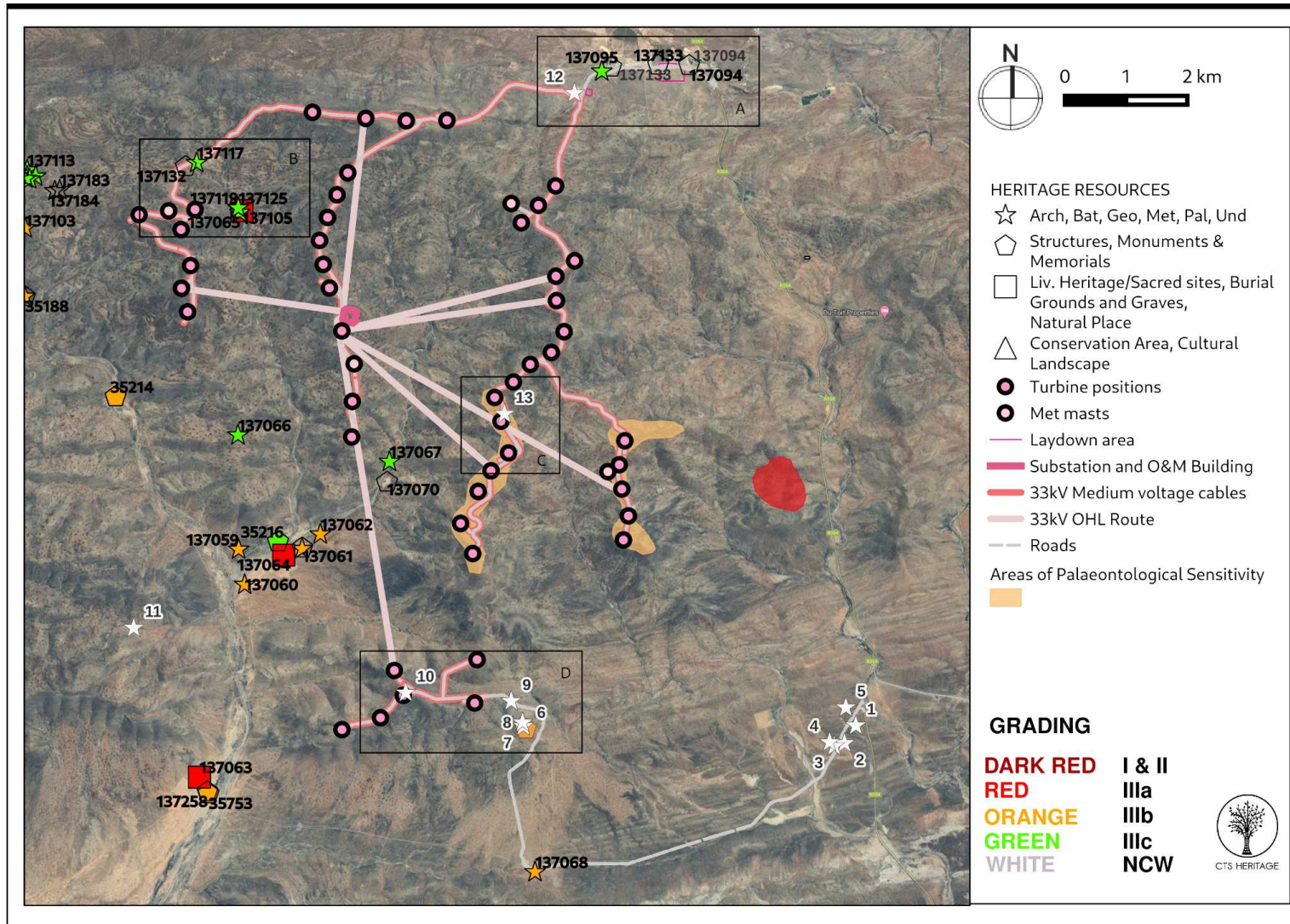
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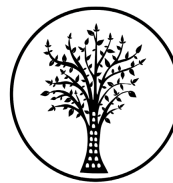
Map 3: Track paths followed for the walkdown of the Final Layout



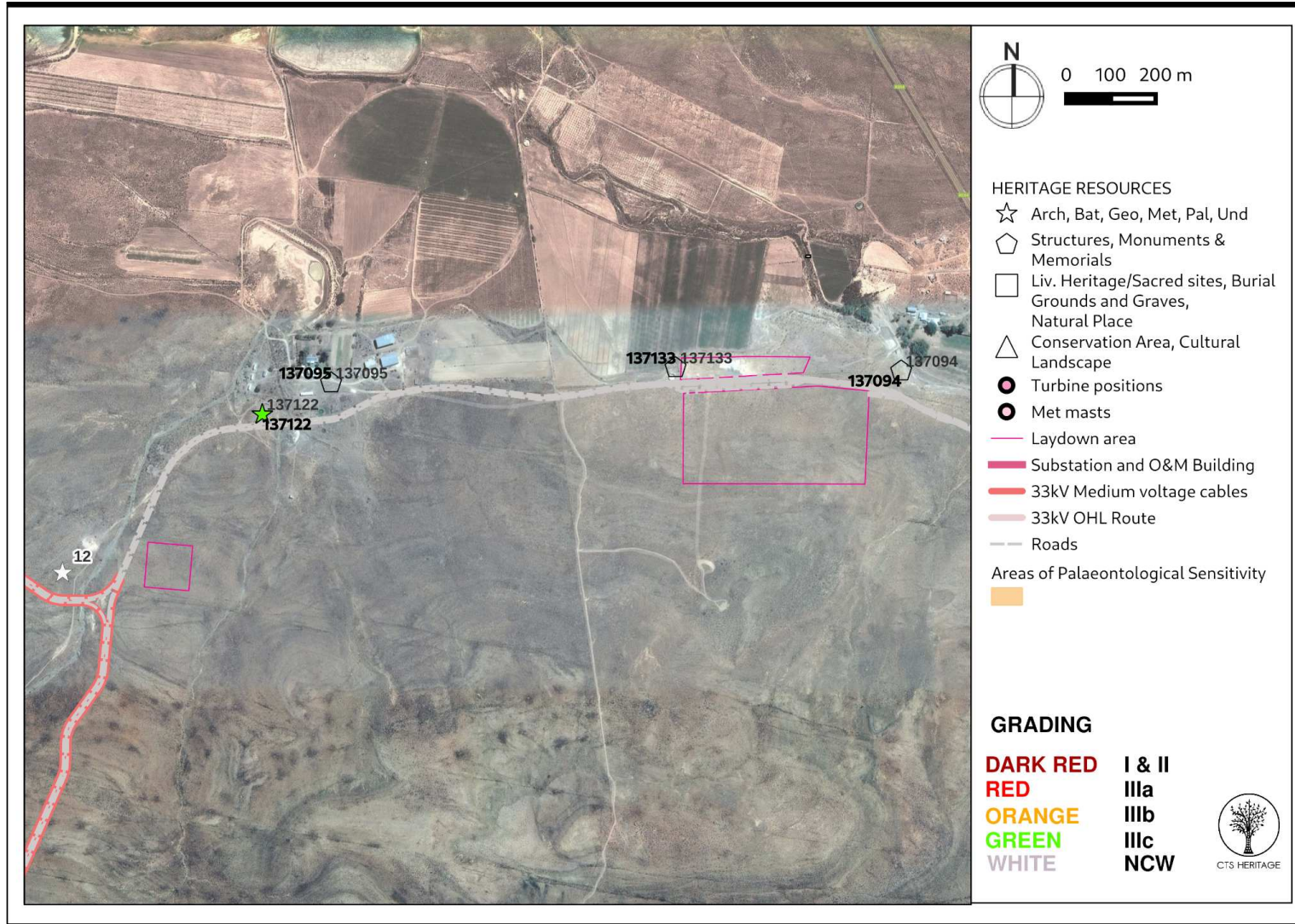
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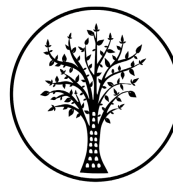
Map 4: Known heritage resources overlain with the proposed amended layout (refer to Walkdown Report September 2021 for the Site details)



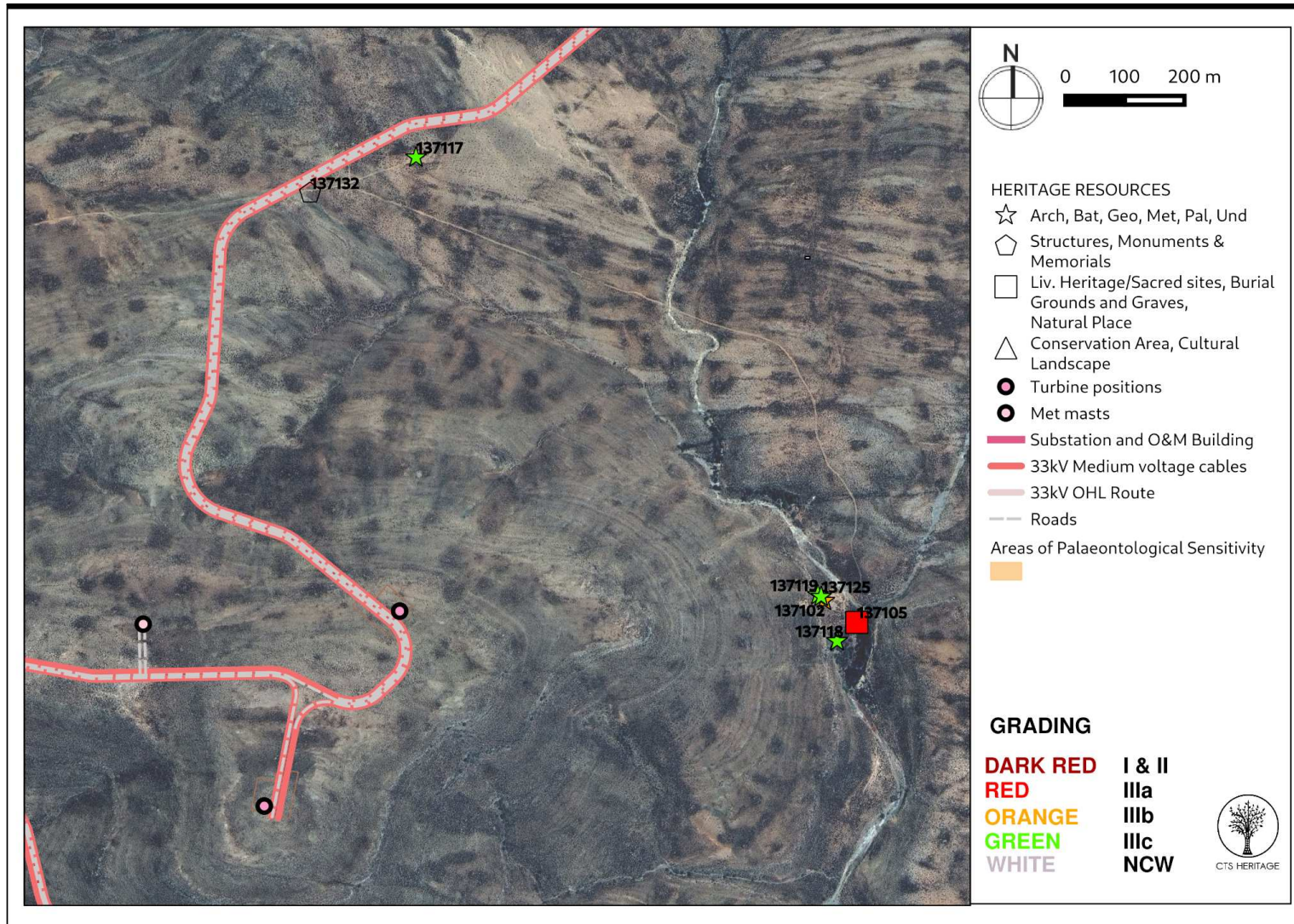
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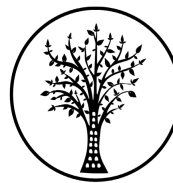
Map 4a: Known heritage resources overlain with the proposed amended layout - Inset A



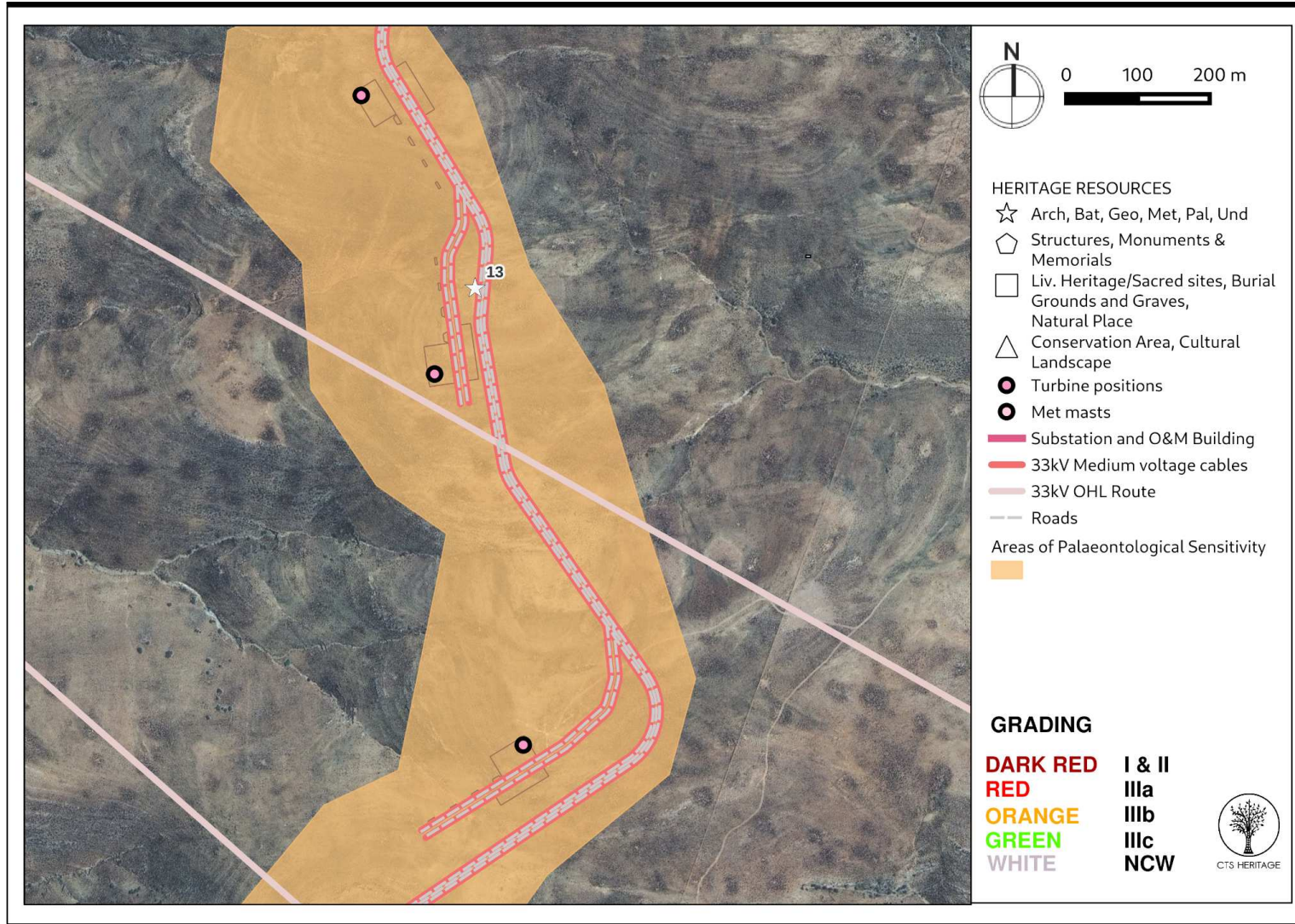
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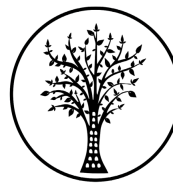
Map 4b: Known heritage resources overlain with the proposed amended layout - Inset B



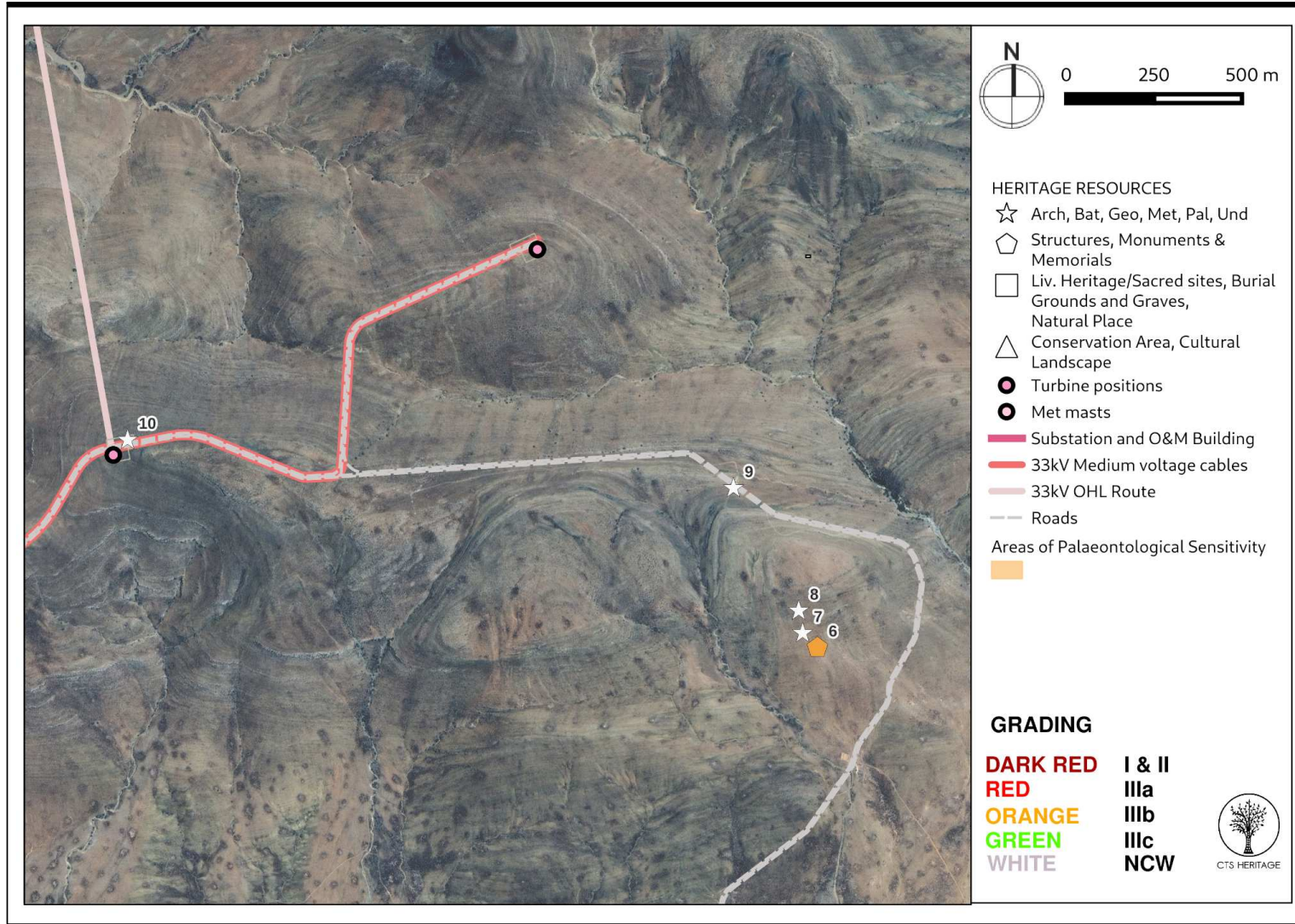
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Map 4c: Known heritage resources overlain with the proposed amended layout - Inset C



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Map 4d: Known heritage resources overlain with the proposed amended layout - Inset D