



## Interim Comment

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

Attention: Newshelf 1282 (Pty) Ltd  
PO Box 4778  
Rivonia  
2128

**The establishment of a coal-fired power station on a site near Lephalale in the Limpopo Province. The power station will have a capacity of up to 1200MW, to be developed in two phases of 600MW each. The proposed site (currently owned by Exxaro) is located ~17 km north-west of Lephalale. Location: The identified site for the proposed power station is located near the Grootegeluk Coal mine, Matimba Power Station and the Medupi Power Station - which is currently being constructed. The power station is proposed on the Farm Onbelyk 257 LQ.**

*van der Walt, J., 7 March 2014. Archaeological Impact Assessment For The Proposed Thabametsi Coal-Fired Power Station, Lephalale, Limpopo Province.*

Mr van der Walt undertook an archaeological impact assessment as specialist study for the Environmental Impact Report compiled for the establishment of a coal-fired power station and associated infrastructure over 1024ha of Farm Onbelyk. near Lephalale, in Limpopo Province. The generating capacity for the power station will be 1200MW.

The associated infrastructure required for the power plant and the coal fire power station include:

- access roads,
- a coal storage area and bunkers,
- a coal loading and offloading areas and conveyor belts,
- ash dumps,
- wastewater treatment facilities,
- a high voltage yard,
- a transmission line to connect the power plant to the Eskom grid,
- an office building,
- maintenance area,
- a water supply pipeline.

The archaeologist surveyed the area by foot and recorded that most of it had already been disturbed by previous mining activities and establishment of infrastructure, and to a lesser extent by game farming and cattle grazing.

During the site survey Mr van der Walt identified only two ruins and one grave. While the grave is dated by the tombstone at 1959, the ruins are currently undated. They may or not be younger than 60 years and as such they may or not been protected under the National Heritage Resources Act. These ruins and grave will be



directly affected by the construction of the power station since they are located on its footprint.

One site called Nelson's Kop was identified about 60m from the proposed transmission line alternative 3. The site includes engravings, stone walls and stone scatters inclusive of ceramic shards. The clear extent of the site has not been identified by the archaeologist because of poor soil visibility.

If the two ruins are proved to be older than 60 years, a permit for the impact of the power station on them must be issued by the Limpopo Provincial Heritage Resources Authority.

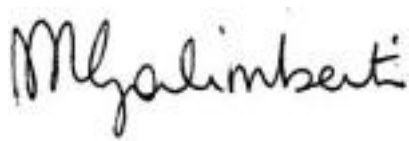
Any exhumation of graves must be regulated according to Ordinance 12 of 1980 (Exhumations Ordinance) and Ordinance 7 of 1925 (Graves and Dead Bodies Ordinance) and relevant provincial gazettes.

Alternative 3 is not the preferred option from a heritage perspective. If Alternative 3 is chosen as preferred option in the Environmental Authorization, then a buffer zone of a minimum of 30m must be established around the engraving, the artefact scatters and the stone walls. SAHRA recommends that danger tape is set up while working in the area so that no accidental damage to Nelson's Kop may occur.

Since the current specialist study is limited to an archaeological impact assessment and no palaeontological impact assessment was undertaken, SAHRA will only be able to issue a final comment on the project once the palaeontological impact assessment is received. Please note that the geology of the area is considered of high palaeontological sensitivity, as such a desktop study is required and based on the outcome of the desktop study, a field assessment is likely.

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

Yours faithfully



Mariagrazia Galimberti  
Heritage Officer: Archaeology  
South African Heritage Resources Agency



# IPP Thabametsi 1200MW Power Station

Our Ref: 9/2/221/0001

Enquiries: Mariagrazia Galimberti  
Tel: 021 462 4502  
Email: mgalimberti@sahra.org.za  
CaseID: 5091

Date: Monday May 12, 2014

Page No: 3



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

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Colette Scheermeyer  
SAHRA Head Archaeologist  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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## ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/159347>  
(DEA, Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/3/40)



The South African Heritage Resources Agency

Street Address: 111 Harrington Street, Cape Town 8000 \* Postal Address: PO Box 4637, Cape Town 8000  
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## Gabriele Wood

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**From:** Gabriele Wood <gabriele@savannahsa.com>  
**Sent:** 13 May 2014 01:27 PM  
**To:** 'Mariagrazia Galimberti'  
**Subject:** RE: Request for Comment - EIA Process for the proposed IPP Thabametsi Power Station (DEA Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/3/40) (SAHRIS Case ID: 5091)

Dear Mariagrazia

Thank you for the comment. A palaeontological impact assessment will be undertaken and sent to you for your final comment.

Kind regards

**Gabriele Wood**

Public Participation and Social Consultant | Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd  
Tel: +27 11 656 3237 | Fax: +27 86 684 0547 | Cell: +27 83 458 5570

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**From:** Mariagrazia Galimberti [mailto:[mgalimberti@sahra.org.za](mailto:mgalimberti@sahra.org.za)]  
**Sent:** 12 May 2014 03:42 PM  
**To:** Gabriele Wood  
**Cc:** [joanne@savannahsa.com](mailto:joanne@savannahsa.com)  
**Subject:** Re: Request for Comment - EIA Process for the proposed IPP Thabametsi Power Station (DEA Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/3/40) (SAHRIS Case ID: 5091)

Dear Gabriele,

Please find attached.  
Apologies for the delay.  
Kind regards  
Mariagrazia

Mariagrazia Galimberti (PhD)  
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Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit  
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**From:** "Gabriele Wood" <[gabriele@savannahsa.com](mailto:gabriele@savannahsa.com)>  
**To:** "Mariagrazia Galimberti" <[mgalimberti@sahra.org.za](mailto:mgalimberti@sahra.org.za)>  
**Cc:** [joanne@savannahsa.com](mailto:joanne@savannahsa.com)  
**Sent:** Thursday, 8 May, 2014 9:09:44 AM  
**Subject:** RE: Request for Comment - EIA Process for the proposed IPP Thabametsi Power Station (DEA Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/3/40) (SAHRIS Case ID: 5091)

Dear Mariagrazia

Thank you for your prompt response. Monday will be fine with us.

Kind regards

**Gabriele Wood**

Public Participation and Social Consultant | Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd

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**From:** Mariagrazia Galimberti [<mailto:mgalimberti@sahra.org.za>]

**Sent:** 08 May 2014 08:53 AM

**To:** Gabriele Wood

**Cc:** [joanne@savannahsa.com](mailto:joanne@savannahsa.com)

**Subject:** Re: Request for Comment - EIA Process for the proposed IPP Thabametsi Power Station (DEA Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/3/40) (SAHRIS Case ID: 5091)

Hi Gabriele,

Apologies for the delay. I will send you comments for this project by Monday. I'm sorry, but I cannot do it earlier, since I will be out of the office for most of today and tomorrow.

It will be as soon as possible on Monday

Kind regards

Mariagrazia

Mariagrazia Galimberti (PhD)  
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**From:** "Gabriele Wood" <[gabriele@savannahsa.com](mailto:gabriele@savannahsa.com)>

**To:** [mgalimberti@sahra.org.za](mailto:mgalimberti@sahra.org.za)

**Cc:** [joanne@savannahsa.com](mailto:joanne@savannahsa.com)

**Sent:** Thursday, 8 May, 2014 8:54:47 AM

**Subject:** Request for Comment - EIA Process for the proposed IPP Thabametsi Power Station (DEA Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/3/40) (SAHRIS Case ID: 5091)

Dear Mariagrazia Galimberti

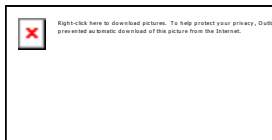
The EIA process for the proposed IPP Thabametsi Power Station (DEA Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/3/40) (SAHRIS Case ID: 5091) has reference. Savannah Environmental are finalizing the Environmental Impact Assessment report in order to submit it to the Department of Environmental Affairs. As such we would like to request SAHRA to please submit comments so that these can be captured in the final EIA report. Please could you revert back to me as soon as possible.

Thanking you in advance.

Kind regards

Gabriele Wood

**Gabriele Wood**  
Public Participation and Social Consultant  
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*Awarded Leading Environmental Consultant on Wind Projects in 2013 (SAWEA)*

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