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9/2/08/14

Agency for Cultural Resource Management

Specialists in Archaeological Studies and Heritage Resource Management

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**09 December 2004**

Ms Thandiwe Notshe  
Land Development  
Eskom  
PO Box 222  
Brackenfell  
7561

Dear Ms Notshe

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT: PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF THE  
132/66KV SUBSTATION AND TIE-IN POWERLINES IN ROMANSRIVIER,  
WITZENBERG MUNICIPALITY**

The site visit took place on Wednesday 08 December 2004.

Eskom proposes to construct a new 132/66 Kv substation at Romansrivier, approximately 1.3 km east of the Arterial Road 201 (Worcester-Ceres Road). A locality plan is illustrated in Figure 1.

The proposed substation will be located on Portion 18 of the Farm Romans River 320, approximately 5.3 km from Wolsley, at GPS co-ordinates S 33° 27 47'1 E 19° 13 16'. The substation will be connected to the existing powerlines by new tie-in lines. The size of the proposed substation is approximately 1.2 ha.

The affected environment is already severely degraded and altered. The proposed substation is located within the footprint of an old quarry used for constructing a nearby dam, and surrounded by old vineyards, fruit orchards, and undeveloped farmlands (Figures 2-4). Large diggings and gravel dumps are located about the site. An existing access road to the site will be upgraded.

Three Early Stone Age<sup>1</sup> (ESA) quartzite flakes and two large split quartzite cobbles were located during an assessment of the proposed site. One ESA flake/chunk was also noted in the access road leading to the proposed substation. The tools were found in a severely disturbed context and are not considered to be important. Wide (quarry) excavations trenches were also searched for old tools, but none were located.

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<sup>1</sup> A term referring to the period between 2 million and 200 000 years ago.

Similar archaeological remains have been located in the general study area during the course of previous studies. All the tools were located in a similar disturbed context<sup>2</sup>.

In general, the receiving environment for the proposed project is not considered to be archaeologically sensitive, vulnerable or threatened.

The impact of the proposed project on precolonial archaeological heritage remains is likely to be very low.

The probability of locating any significant precolonial archaeological sites/remains during implementation of the project is also likely to be very low.

With regard to the proposed Romansrivier 132/66kV substation near Wolsley, the following recommendations are made.

- No archaeological mitigation is required.
- The project should be allowed to proceed as planned.



Yours sincerely  
Jonathan Kaplan

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<sup>2</sup> Kaplan, J. 1996. Archaeological survey, Letodi Private Nature Reserve. Report prepared for R.C. Hack. Agency for Cultural Resource Management.  
Kaplan, J. 2002. Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment Portion 64 of the farm De Mond Van Hartbeesrivier 379 Worcester. Report prepared for EnviroAfrica. Agency for Cultural Resource Management



LOCALITY PLAN  
PTN 3319AC & CA SCALE 1:50 000

Fig. 1 \*

\* Submitted via e-mail on 19.01.2005, 11:42 hrs



Figure 2. The site facing north west.

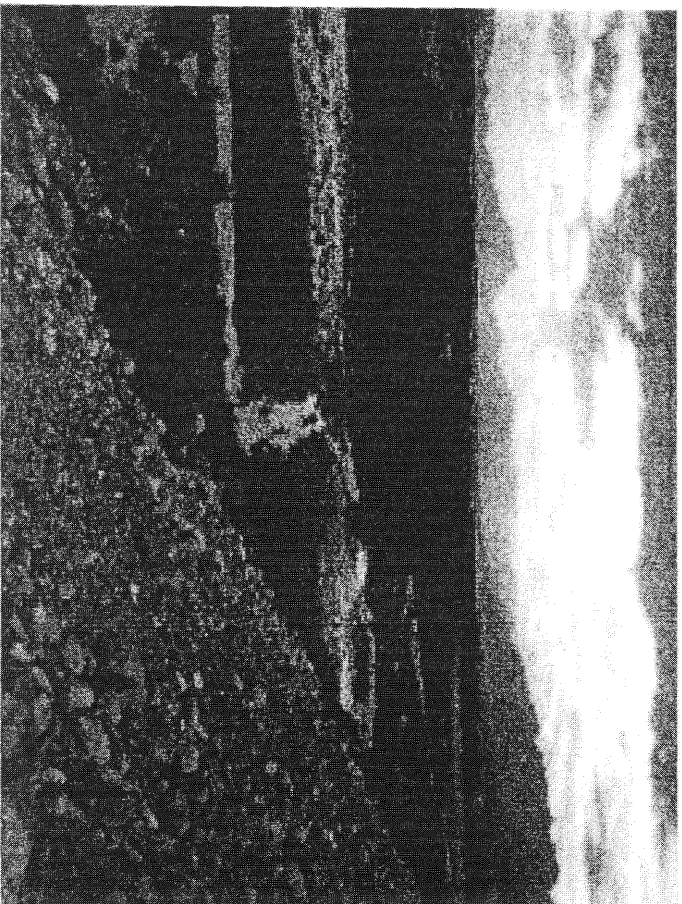


Figure 3. The site facing north east.

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16<sup>th</sup> February 2005

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**RECORD OF DECISION**  
**ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT: PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF THE**  
**132/66KV SUBSTATION AND TIE-IN POWERLINES IN ROMANSRIVIER,**  
**WITZENBERG MUNICIPALITY (HWC Ref. No. C13/316/21/11/1/C6)**

An Archaeological Assessment of the above property undertaken by the Agency for Cultural Resource Management was discussed by the Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Committee of the Western Cape provincial heritage resources authority, Heritage Western Cape (HWC), at a meeting on 08 February 2005.

It was noted that a very small number of Early Stone Age stone tools and no palaeontological remains were seen on the property. From the point of view of archaeological and palaeontological heritage resources, there were no objections to the development proceeding.

If any archaeological remains are discovered during the course of the construction phase of this project they must be reported to Heritage Western Cape (Dr Antonieta Jerardino; ph: 021-483 9687) immediately.

If any human remains are discovered, they must be treated with respect and SAHRA (Mrs Mary Leslie, ph: 021-462 4502) must be notified immediately. An archaeologist must be contracted to remove the remains at the expense of the developer.

  
Dr A. Jerardino  
SENIOR HERITAGE OFFICER: ARCHAEOLOGIST

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