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ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE INVESTIGATION OF THE PROPOSED WATER SUPPLY PIPELINE AT VILJOENSKROON, FREE STATE

INVESTIGATION

The proposed water pipeline at Viljoenskroon, Free State, was visited on 12 August 2005 in the company of Dr Johan du Preez of Cebo Environmental Consultants, Bloemfontein. At Viljoenskroon, Mr Gert Van Straaten from the local municipality took us on the route.

The area was examined for possible archaeological and historical remains and to establish the potential impact on any cultural material that might be found. The Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) is done in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA), (25 of 1999) and under the Environmental Conservation Act, (73 of 1989).

LOCALITY

The proposed route for the water supply line will approach the town from the northwest in the vicinity of the Rammulotsi Township to follow an approximate route along the existing floodwater channel towards the industrial area. The area was inspected and certain points were plotted by GPS and recorded on camera.

The following GPS coordinates (Cape scale) were taken (2726BB):

Rammulotsi Township 27°10'47"S 026°57'53"E Altitude 1393m (Fig.1).

R76 Kroonstad-Orkney 27°11'57"S 026°57'07"E Altitude 1324m (Fig.2).

Floodwater channel 27°12'10"S 026°56'49"E Altitude 1331m (Figs.3&4).

End of floodwater channel 27°12'29"S 026°56'23"E Altitude 1328m (Figs.5&6).

Eskom Substation 27°12'03"S 026°56'59"E Altitude 1326m (Fig.9).

Industrial area 27°12'45"S 026°55'58"E Altitude 1330m (Figs.11&12).

The water supply pipeline will also by-pass a housing scheme (Fig.8) and an overnight accommodation place (Fig.10) on its way.

FINDS

The water supply pipeline will follow a route through exiting developed town ship and the developed residential and industrial area. There is, therefore, no indication of any archaeological or historical material on the surface and neither were any stone tools or ceramic ware found.

RECOMMENDATIONS

There is no obvious reason to delay the commencement of further planning and development of the site.

After examination I recommend that the proposed developments may proceed.

MITIGATION

Concerning the area for the proposed development, no mitigation measures are needed.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Dr Johan du Preez of CEBO Environmental Consultants, Bloemfontein, took me to the site and supplied information on this investigation.

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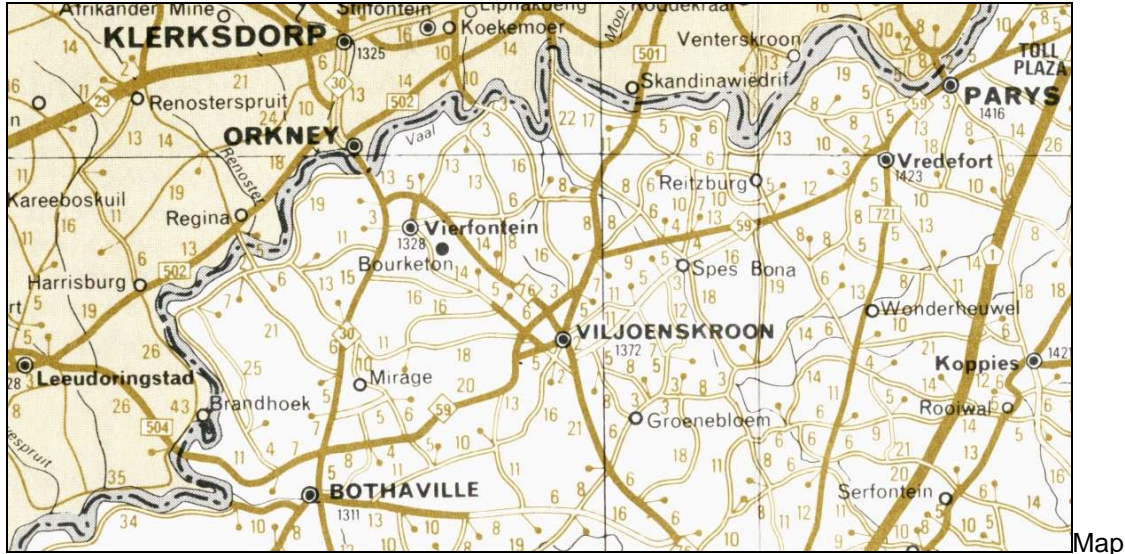
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LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS:



Map 1 Locality of Viljoenskroon in relation to Bothaville, Orkney & Parys.



Map 2 The water supply line will enter Viljoenskroon from Rammulotsi Township to the industrial area.



Fig.1 Pipeline entrance into the township of Rammulotsi at Viljoenskroon.



Fig.2 View from Rammulotsi towards Viljoenskroon indicating the direction the pipeline will follow. R76 road Kroonstad-Orkney in centre.



Fig.3 The pipeline route will run adjacent to the floodwater channel on the outskirts of Viljoenskroon.



Fig.4 A view along the pipeline route facing northeast.



Fig.5 The floodwater channel near its southern end facing north.



Fig.6 A wider perspective of the floodwater channel near its southern end.



Fig.7 The pipeline route facing north.



Fig.8 The water supply pipe will by-pass a housing scheme on its way.



Fig.9 Eskom substation along the proposed pipeline route.



Fig.10 Overnight accommodation along the proposed pipeline route.



Fig.11 At the intersection of the pipeline with the road through the industrial area facing north.



Fig.12 Road through the industrial area at Viljoenskroon facing east.