

# Agency for Cultural Resource Management

Specialists in Archaeological Studies and Heritage Resource Management

PO Box 159 Riebeeck West 7306 Phone/Fax 022-461 2755

E-mail: [acrm@wcaccess.co.za](mailto:acrm@wcaccess.co.za) Cellular: 082 321 0172

29 May, 2008

**Att:** Mr Bernard de Wit  
EnviroAfrica  
P. O. Box 5367  
Helderberg  
7135

Dear Mr de Wit

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROPOSED VODACOM BASE STATION AND CONNECTING POWERLINE BOEGOEBERG CLANWILLIAM**

### **1. Introduction and brief**

EnviroAfrica, on behalf of Vodacom requested that the Agency for Cultural Resource Management conduct an Archaeological Impact Assessment for the proposed construction of a 22 kV overhead powerline from an existing power source, to a cellular communication base station on the Boegoeberg, situated between Citrusdal and Clanwilliam, in the Western Cape Province (Figure 1).

The proposed powerline will run over three properties located southwest of Clanwilliam. These include Olyvenboschkraal: Farm 254/2, Wittelboschkloof: Farm 255/5 and Lambertshoek: Farm 546. Vodacom will make use of an existing Telkom radio mast station on top of the Boegoeberg for its proposed base station site (Figure 2).

The aim of the study is to locate and map archaeological heritage sites and remains that may be negatively impacted by the planning, construction and implementation of the proposed project, to assess the significance of the potential impacts and to propose measures to mitigate against the impacts.

A Notification of Intent to develop (NID) checklist has been completed by the archaeologist and submitted to Heritage Western Cape (Belcom) for comment.

### **2. Terms of reference**

The Terms of Reference for the archaeological assessment were to:

- Identify and map any heritage resources on the proposed site and in the proposed powerline route;
- Determine the importance of heritage resources on the proposed site and along the proposed powerline route;

DEPT VAN KULTUURSAKE EN SPORT
PRIVAATSAK/PRIVATE BAG X9067 ONTVANGS /RECEIVED
2008 -06- 0 4
KAAPSTAD/CAPE TOWN 8000
DEPT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND SPORT

HERITAGE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SERVICE
ONTVANG / RECEIVED
2008 -06- 0 4
ERFENISHPBRON BESTUURDIENS

- Determine and assess the potential impacts of the proposed project on the heritage resources, and
- Recommend mitigation measures to minimise impacts associated with the proposed project.

### **3. The study site**

Engelsmans se Berg is a high mountain peak (1078 m asl) overlooking the Olifants River Valley, about 15 kms south west of Clanwilliam. An existing 4 x 4 route (the Boegoeberg trail) will be used to access the site.

The proposed powerline route is about 3 km long and will run down the steep south western slopes of the Boegoeberg. The receiving environment comprises very steep, rocky mountain slopes and agricultural lands at the lower elevation (Figures 3-8).

### **4. Approach to the study**

The powerline route from the top of the Boegoeberg to the where it connects with an existing 22 Kv powerline was searched for archaeological remains.

The site visit and assessment took place on 22<sup>nd</sup> April, 2008.

### **5. Findings**

No archaeological remains were documented in the powerline route.

The proposed base station site is already occupied by a Telkom radio mast.


### **6. Impact statement**

The impact of the proposed project on important pre-colonial archaeological remains is likely to be **low**.

### **7. Recommendations**

The Archaeological Impact Assessment of the proposed Vodacom base station and connecting powerline on the Boegoeberg near Clanwilliam has identified no significant impacts to pre-colonial archaeological material that will need to be mitigated prior to proposed development activities.

Yours sincerely



Jonathan Kaplan

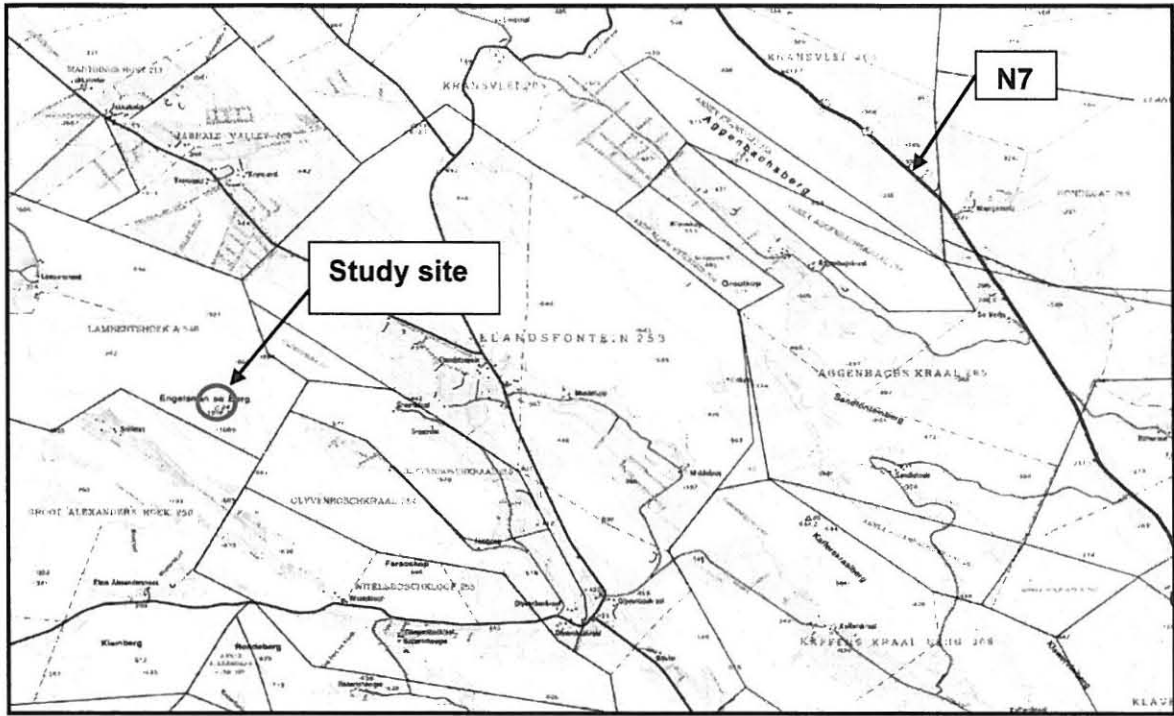
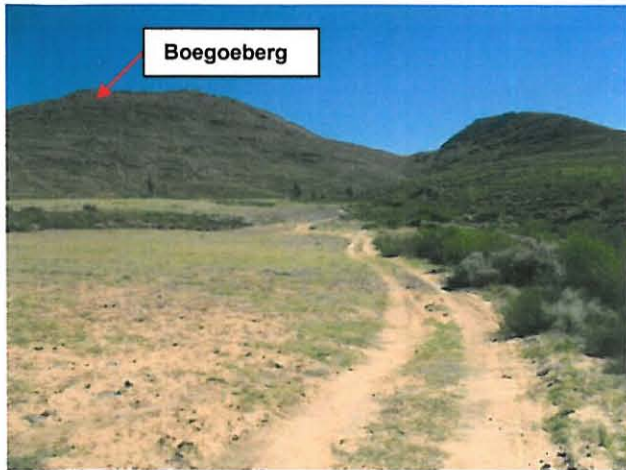


Figure 1. Locality Map 3218 BD (Oliewenboskraal)



**Figure 2. Aerial photograph of the study site**



**Figure 3. View of the access road and top of the Boegoeberg**



**Figure 6. View of the powerline route**



**Figure 4. View of the powerline route**



**Figure 7. View of the powerline route**



**Figure 5. View of the powerline route**



**Figure 8. View of the powerline route**