

Agency for Cultural Resource Management

Specialists in Archaeological Studies and Heritage Resource Management

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26 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 ON THE FARM KROMME VALLEY NO. 115 CLANWILLIAM

1. Introduction and brief

EnviroAfrica, on behalf of Vodacom requested that the Agency for Cultural Resource Management conduct an Archaeological Impact Assessment for a proposed cellular communication base station and connecting powerline on the farm De Hoek (Kromme Valley No. 115) near Clanwilliam, in the Western Cape Province (Figure 1).

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;
- 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

The proposed and proposed alternative, base station site - A and B - is located on a high mountain peak overlooking the Bulshoek Dam, about 20 kms north of Clanwilliam (Figure 2). An existing gravel road will be used to access the site. The footprint for the proposed base station site is very small, measuring about 25m² in extent (Figures 3 & 4).

The proposed powerline route is about 2 km long and will run down the very steep mountain slopes, before connecting with an existing 22 Kv powerline alongside the Bulshoek Dam road (Figure 5 and refer to Figure 2).

4. Approach to the study

The proposed base station sites (A and B) were searched for archaeological remains.

The very steep and rocky slopes below the mountain peak were not searched, but the proposed powerline route running alongside the Bulshoek Dam gravel road was searched for archaeological remains.

The site visit and assessment took place on 22nd April, 2008.

5. Findings

5.1 Alternative A (S 32° 00' 22.8" E 18° 47' 36.3" on map datum wgs 84)

One quartz flake and one retouched Middle Stone Age quartzite flake was documented in the surrounding area.

The archaeological remains have been rated as having low local significance.

5.1 Alternative B (S 32° 00' 22.4" E 18° 47' 34.5")

No archaeological remains were found.

5.3 Powerline route

No archaeological remains were found

Note: A cluster of painted human handprints, a human figure wearing a kaross and carrying a bow and arrow and a painting of a medicine man in a trance posture, bleeding from the nose were documented in a rock overhang about 1.5 kms south east of the proposed base station site, during an informal search of the surrounding area. Rock art sites, including rare paintings of a fish, elephants and a hunting scene also occur on the west bank of the Bulshoek Dam.

6. Impact statement

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

7. Recommendations

The archaeological assessment of the proposed Vodacom base station and connecting powerline on the Farm Kromme Valley 115, Clanwilliam has identified no significant impacts to pre-colonial archaeological material that will need to be mitigated prior to proposed development activities.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JK' followed by a flourish.

Jonathan Kaplan

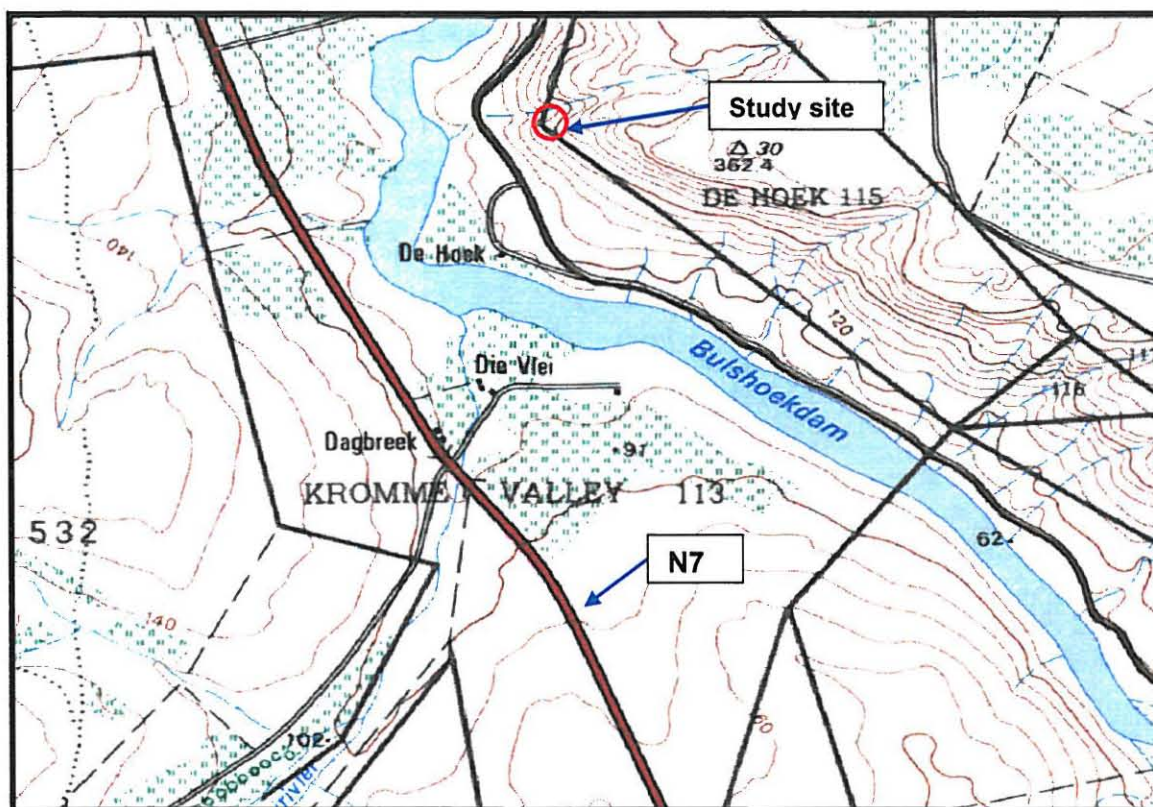


Figure 1. Locality map (3218 BB Clanwilliam)

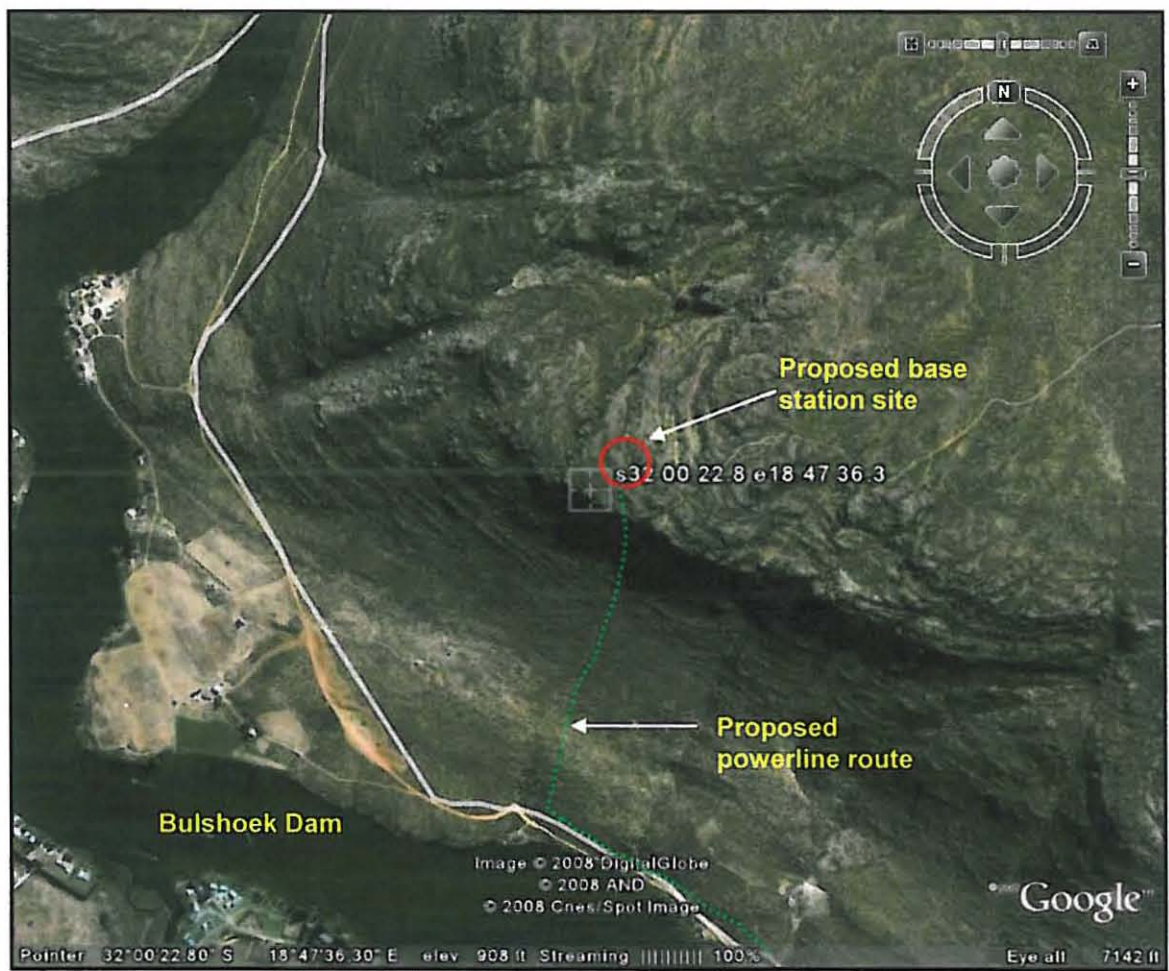


Figure 2. Aerial photograph of the study area



Figure 3. Proposed base station site A



Figure 4. Proposed base station site B



Figure 5. View of powerline route alongside gravel road