

# **AN ASSESSMENT OF IMPACTS ON ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE RESULTING FROM REPLACEMENT OF A SECTION OF THE EXISTING BULKWATER SUPPLY PIPELINE FROM PELLA TO POFADDER, NORTHERN CAPE**

**Magisterial district: Pofadder  
Local Municipality: Khâi-Ma Municipality**

Assessment conducted in terms of  
Section 38 (8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)  
for inclusion in the basic assessment report

Prepared for

**Van Zyl Environmental Consultants cc**

On behalf of

**Khâi-Ma Municipality**

September 2010



Report by

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# 1. INTRODUCTION

ACO Associates cc was requested to undertake an Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) of the upgrade of an existing (subterranean) water pipeline between Pella and Pofadder in the Northern Cape province. The location of the affected area is shown in Figure 1 in relation to key landmark features.

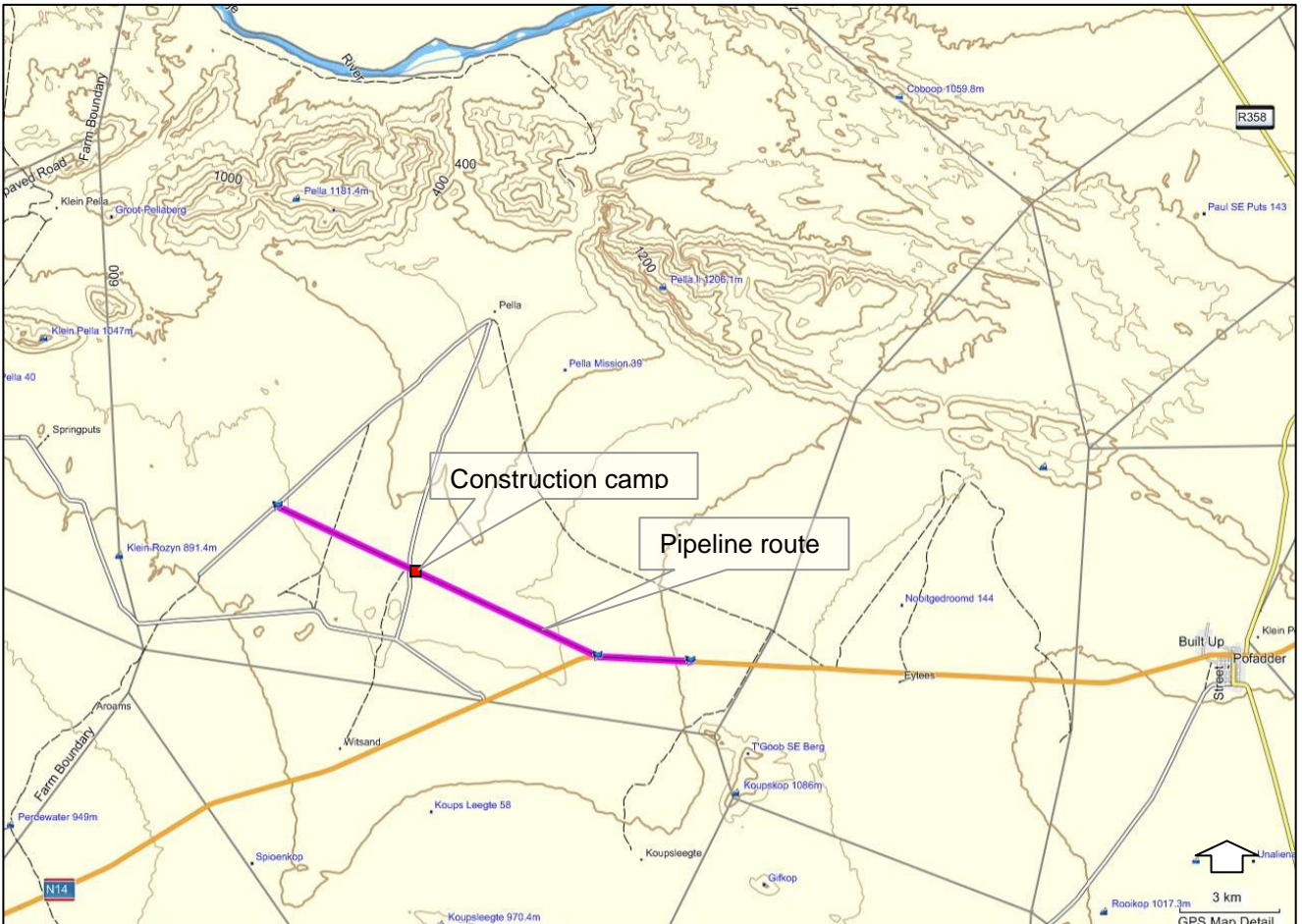


Figure 1: The location of the proposed upgrade to the pipeline

## 2. PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

To determine if any archaeological heritage would be disturbed by the proposed activities.

## 3. METHODOLOGY

Co-ordinates and maps of the proposed activities were provided by the Environmental Consultant. The route was loaded to a GPS unit and used to navigate while we were in the area. The site was examined on the 29<sup>th</sup> September 2010 using a 4x4 vehicle and conducting foot searches away from the vehicle in some instances. An area on either side of the existing pipe was examined to determine if any additional impacts would occur (over and above those that may have occurred when the pipe was initially installed). The entire pipeline route amounting to some 15 km as well as the site of the proposed construction camp was examined.

#### **4. LIMITATIONS IN PERFORMING THE SURVEY**

No limitations were experienced. Visibility in the arid landscape was excellent and an existing service track running the entire length of the route provided easy access.

#### **5. THE RECEIVING ENVIRONMENT**

Flat, gently sloping arid landscape with sparse vegetation bordered to the south by the N14 road. The tarred road to Pella runs n-s and crosses the pipeline route at one point. A prominent river bed (dry at present) known as T'Goob se Laagte splits and crosses the pipeline route in two places. The existing pipeline has resulted in some previous construction activity along the route and a pre-existing borrow pit for road material is found adjacent to the Pella road.

#### **6. OBSERVATIONS**

A water pipeline, pump station and inspection hatches are already in place along the pipe having been constructed some years ago.

The proposed site of the construction camp is located at an old borrow pit immediately adjacent to the Pella road. The area around the pit has been disturbed and no archaeological material was observed.

No archaeological material was observed along the pipeline corridor.

#### **7. CONCLUSIONS**

No impacts on archaeological material will occur as a result of the proposed activities

#### **8. RECOMMENDATIONS**

No mitigation is required.

## 9. PHOTOGRAPHS



- (l) The receiving environment close to the pump house showing the buried pipeline and service track  
(r) A section of the existing pipe has been opened for inspection



The existing borrow pit at the site of the proposed construction camp



Existing infrastructure at the eastern end of the pipeline



## 10. COMPANY PROFILE

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### ACO ASSOCIATES cc

<b>Registration number</b>	2008/234490/23
<b>Name</b>	ACO Associates
<b>Registration date</b>	06/11/2008
<b>Enterprise type</b>	Close corporation
<b>Principal business</b>	Archaeological/Heritage Impact Assessment
<b>Tax reference no</b>	989/8031/15/1
<b>Vat no</b>	Not registered
<b>Active members</b>	David John Halkett (5807235148080) Timothy James Graham Hart (6007295052087)
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ACO Associates was established in late 2008 as an allied operation to the Archaeology Contracts Office at the University of Cape Town, which is also directed by David Halkett and Tim Hart. The cc enables us to take on a wider range of projects and to provide cost effective pricing for smaller projects. We are assisted by Dr Lita Webley, Mr Jayson Orton and Ms Liesbet Schietecatte.

Our principal business remains Archaeological and Heritage Impact Assessments arising from the requirements of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999), frequently arising out of the requirements of Environmental Impact Assessments.

With 22 years of accumulated experience, and having completed over 800 projects, members of ACO Associates cc are equipped to handle assignments ranging from detailed, sensitive excavations, to large-scale field surveys and assessments of historic places. The team will work anywhere where their skills can be effectively used both in South Africa and abroad but most often working in the Northern Cape, Eastern Cape and Western Cape. We frequently function as part of multidisciplinary teams on EIA projects and understand the need to provide efficient service and meet deadlines.

Our areas of heritage expertise in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act are:

- Preparation of the NID (Notice of Intent to Develop) form for Heritage Western Cape;
- Assessment, excavation and/or management of pre-colonial sites such as shell middens, stone artefact scatters, rock art sites, cave deposits dating to the Early, Middle and Late Stone Ages as well as late Pleistocene fossil bone accumulations. We are also able to assess pre-colonial burials and assist with the recovery should it be necessary;
- Assessment, excavation and/or management of colonial sites, middens, exhumation of cemeteries, analysis of building sequences, industrial structures, historic landscapes and features;
- The analysis and curation of artefacts from both colonial and pre-colonial contexts. We can facilitate artefact conservation through outsourcing;
- The development of conservation and management plans for a variety of heritage sites.

**David Halkett** is a registered professional archaeologist (principal investigator level) with 22 years of working experience in heritage impact assessment, conservation and archaeological research. He has worked in a very wide variety of contexts having participated in over 800 heritage projects ranging from impact assessment to mitigation of archaeological sites in suburban, rural and industrial situations. David Halkett's experience has led to his participation as an advisor to the National Monuments Council before 2000, a member of Heritage Western Cape regulatory committees, SAQUA and recently a forensic consultant to the NPA. He regularly leads field projects on behalf of other research organisations. Having run the Archaeology Contracts Office at the University of Cape Town for 21 years, Dave Halkett is now also a director of the recently established ACO Associates cc. David is a long standing member of the Association of Professional Archaeologists (ASAPA) and an accredited Principal Investigator of its CRM (Cultural Resource Management) section.

### **Declaration**

David Halkett of ACO Associates cc is an independent specialist consultant who is in no way connected with the proponent, other than delivery of consulting services.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Halkett', with a horizontal line underneath.