The archaeological survey of the Tongaat-Ottowa Transmission ,Line and Associated Substations.

For Arcus Gibb

Date: 27 November 2005 By Gavin Anderson

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Introduction

Arcus Gibb contract Umlando to undertake the archaeological survey of the Tongaat-Ottowa transmission line and related substations. The development consists of expanding the Tongaat substation and adding a new transmission line to the Ottowa substation.

Much of the transmission line runs along existing servitudes or through sugar cane fields. Only one site was recorded during this survey

Results

The area near the Tongaat substation was heavily vegetated with sugar cane and this resulted in poor archaeological visibility. The substation will be extended. Several artefacts were recorded in this general area. These artefacts included MSA flakes, and Late Iron Age granary or hut floor daga. I could not make an appropriate assessment of the site due to the dense sugar cane.

Significance: The significance of the site could not be assessed due o dense sugar cane.

Mitigation: The area will need to be re-assessed after the cane has been cut. I do not believe that the area will produce a site of high significance that would require further excavation. I believe that a sample of the site would be adequate if required. This will be determined after the area has been resurveyed.

The rest of the transmission line occurs in areas of low archaeological sensitivity, and no sites were recorded.

Reassessment: The area was subsequently resurveyed on two occasions: September 2005 and November 2005, after the cane had been cut. No further artefacts were observed.

Significance: The site is of low significance and no further mitigation is required. The site does not require monitoring during the construction phase.

Conclusion

One archaeological site was recorded. The site was reassessed on two separate occasions. No further mitigation, nor monitoring during the construction phase, is required. The developer will need to apply for a destruction permit from KwaZulu-Natal Heritage prior to the construction of the substation.

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