



# AFRICAN HERITAGE CONSULTANTS CC

2001/077745/23

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6 February 2012

## **CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCES IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF PROPOSED NEW POWER LINE 132kV AT THE BOKFONTEIN SUBSTATION MADIBENG NORTH WEST PROVINCE**

### **1. DEFINITION**

The broad generic term *Cultural Heritage Resources* refers to any physical and spiritual property associated with past and present human use or occupation of the environment, cultural activities and history. The term includes sites, structures, places, natural features and material of palaeontological, archaeological, historical, aesthetic, scientific, architectural, religious, symbolic or traditional importance to specific individuals or groups, traditional systems of cultural practice, belief or social interaction.

### **2. PROTECTED SITES IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL HERITAGE ACT, Act. NO. 25 OF 1999**

The following are the most important sites and objects protected by the National Heritage Act:

- 1.1 Structures or parts of structures older than 60 years.
- 1.2 Archaeological sites and objects.
- 1.3 Palaeontological sites.
- 1.4 Meteorites.
- 1.5 Ship wrecks.
- 1.6 Burial grounds.
- 1.7 Graves of victims of conflict.
- 1.8 Public monuments and memorials.
- 1.9 Structures, places and objects protected through the publication of notices in the Gazette and Provincial Gazette.
- 1.10 Any other places or object, which is considered to be of interest or of historical or cultural significance.
- 1.11 Geological sites of scientific or cultural importance.
- 1.12 Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa.
- 1.13 Objects to which oral traditions are attached.
- 1.14 Sites of cultural significance or other value to a community or pattern of South African history.

### **3. METHODOLOGY**

The site was visited and inspected on foot. All appropriate documents on the area were studied.

### **4. RESULTS**

The proposed three alternatives for the route of the new power line will run through an area of intensive agricultural farming land which forms part of the Hartebeespoort Dam irrigation scheme. The dam wall was completed in 1923 and the canals in 1930. The dam and the canals were built by white labourers as part of a poverty relieve project. The eastern canal is 66 km and the western canal 58 km long. The proposed development area lies east of the western canal.

The surveys of the three alternative routs as indicated on Google Map 1 are as follows:

**Red Route:**

This route mainly follows an existing dirt road – see photograph.



Then it turns south between a mine dump and the canal – see photograph.



From here it runs west in a westerly direction through agricultural fields and next to mine dumps – see photograph.



All the canals in the area are older than sixty years and protected by the National Heritage Resources Act No 25 of 1999. At  $S25^{\circ} 40' 58.1''$  &  $E27^{\circ} 46' 9.7''$  a canal bridge was found on the first section of the route – see map page 12. This bridge is only about a meter broad and took water of the canal over a little stream. The bridge dates to the 1920's and it is not in use any more – see photograph.



**Green Route:**

This line runs mainly parallel to the N4 Highway. At S25° 41' 4.6" & E27° 46' 10.7" are the remains of a farm workers settlement and a cemetery. The farm workers settlement was bulldozed and only rubble remains on the site. The cemetery is large with some thirty graves. From the remains of utensils on the graves the graves most probably date to the 1960 – 80's – see photograph below and map on page 12.



Just west of the road bridge over the N4 Highway the line also runs parallel to the canal – see photograph.



At the intersection of the N4 it turns slightly northwest and then west through agricultural fields. Except for the cemetery and canal there are no heritage sites along the route.

**Purple Route:**

This route follows the dirt road through old agricultural fields and a mining area. No heritage sites are present along the route – see photograph.



## **5. EVALUATION AND RATING (FIELD RATING)**

### **5.1 Canal system of the Hartebeespoort irrigation scheme and canal bridge**

This irrigation scheme was one of the largest and most successful agricultural developments in South Africa. It also represents the poor white problem of the 1920/30's and job creation. As such it is given a field rating of at least a Grade II.

### **5.2 Cemetery**

The cemetery is still visited and given a field rating of IV C

## 6. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (HERITAGE VALUE)

The canal system and canal bridge is important in demonstrating the solving of poor white problem of the 1920/30's as well as the technical achievement during the 1920/30's in irrigation and agricultural development.

## 7. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the power line pylons should be placed in such a way as to avoid the canals, the canal bridge and the cemetery. The pylons should be at least ten meters away of the heritage sites.

## 8. SITE INFORMATION

<p>Owners contact details:</p> <p>Hernic Ferrochrome Ben Hefer R/E of Ptn 103 De Kroon 444 JQ, Brits, North West P.O. Box 4534, Brits 0250 (012) 381 1100 <a href="mailto:ben@hernic.co.za">ben@hernic.co.za</a></p>
<p>Developers contact details:</p> <p>Hernic Ferrochrome Ben Hefer R/E of Ptn 103 De Kroon 444 JQ, Brits, North West P.O. Box 4534, Brits 0250 (012) 381 1100 <a href="mailto:ben@hernic.co.za">ben@hernic.co.za</a></p>
<p>Consultants contact details:</p> <p>Ekoinfo CC Sean Hutcheons or Willem de Frey PO Box 72847, Lynnwood Ridge 0040 (012) 365-2546 X 1 <a href="mailto:info@ekoinfo.co.za">info@ekoinfo.co.za</a></p>

Type of development (e.g. low cost housing project, mining etc.)

New Hercul - Bokfontein 132kv power line and new Bokfontein substation

Whether rezoning and/or subdivision of land is involved:

Rezoning may be required or servitude will need to be registered.

Full location of Province, Magisterial District/Local Authority, property (e.g. farm, erf name and number:

Hercul Bokfontein 132-kV OHL Route list of property owners

Bokfontein 448JQ Portion 84 (A Portion of Portion 1)	Hercul F/C, P.O. Box 4534, Brits 0250 Tel: 012 3811100 Applicant
Bokfontein 448JQ Portion 85 (A Portion of Portion 1)	Hercul F/C Applicant
Bokfontein 448JQ Portion 104 (A Portion of Portion 143)	Hercul F/C Applicant
Bokfontein 448JQ Remainder of Portion 121 (A Portion of Portion 143)	Hercul F/C Applicant
Bokfontein 448JQ Portion 186 (Remainder 80) (A Portion of Portion 77)	Hercul F/C Applicant
Bokfontein 448JQ Portion 270 Remainder of Portion 166	Hercul F/C Applicant
Bokfontein 448JQ Portion 186/(185) Portion 185 (A Portion of Portion 166)	Hercul F/C Applicant
Bokfontein 448JQ Portion 187 (A Portion of Portion 25)	Mr. D. Barnard stays on the property Cell: 082 490 5552
Bokfontein 448 JQ Portion 328 (A Portion of Portion 3)	Hercul F/C Applicant
Bokfontein 448 JQ Portion 48 (A Portion of Portion 18)	Hercul F/C Applicant



Bokfontein 448 JQ Portions 123, 121, 162, 452 & 47	Mr. G v Rensburg, Van Rensburg Family Trust Cell: 082 577 6836 P.O. Box 205, Brits Owner and stays on property
Bokfontein 448 JQ Portions 40	Mr. H. Els Cell: 072 246 0499 Owner and stays on property
Bokfontein 448 JQ Remainder of Portion 18 (Portion of Portion 4)	Hernic F/C Applicant
Bokfontein 448 JQ Portion 23	Hernic F/C Applicant
Bokfontein 448 JQ Portion 18	Mr. J.M. Barnard Cell: 082 413 0640 Owner and stays on property
Krokodilgrift 446 JQ Portion 120 Portion 18	Hernic Ferrochrome Ben Hefer P.O. Box 4534, Brits, 0250 Tel: 012 381 1100 e-mail: <a href="mailto:ben@hemic.co.za">ben@hemic.co.za</a>

The site is located in the North West Province within the **Madibeng Local Municipality** (Brits).

Location map must have the polygon of the area to be surveyed on it and full geographical coordinates for all relevant points and where applicable indication of the area to be developed (footprint):

Attached

If possible an aerial photograph of the specific area showing the location of all site.

Attached

## 9. REFERENCES

- 1/50 000 Map 2527 DA
- Google maps
- Archaeological database of the National Cultural History Museum Pretoria

- Küsel U.S. 2008, Cultural Heritage Resources Impact Assessment of Hartebeesfontein 445JQ R/41.R51 & 48 (Ingwenys) Flower Farm (Pty) Ltd Brits North West Province
- Küsel U.S. 2009. Portion 239 (Portion of Portion 41) and Portions 29, 69, 78, 86, 89, 92, 93, 235, 77, 112 and 238 known as Ingwenys Flower Farm (Pty) Ltd. Madibeng North West Province



