

NGT ESHS Solutions

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DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

Nkosinathi Tomose for NGT has compiled this report. The views expressed in this report are entirely those of the author and no other interest was displayed during the decision-making process for the project.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

NGT was appointed by Mokgope to conduct a grave assessment on towers currently under construction for the Ariadne-Eros 400 kV/132kV Multi-Circuit (MC) transmission lines in KwaZulu-Natal Province, South Africa. The assessment focused on the area between Towers 146 and 155 under the Inkosi LD Mkhize authority. The assessment was conducted by Nkosinathi Tomose of NGT assisted with Nelisiwe Mtshali of Mokgope. The survey took place on the 25th of August 2018. The assessment identified three issues on the towers under construction. The following conclusions are made about the project.

Conclusions

- There has been accidental desecration of a grave during construction activities on Tower 152. The tower is constructed in an area with ruins both east and west of the tower's position. The contractor would not have known about the graves since they are not clearly marked. However, whenever there are ruins on a site, there is always high possibility that there will will be graves on site.
 - The detailed survey conducted on this site yielded a fractured os coxa (pelvis bone) of a human. Other grave indicators include stained clothes which could have been associated with the burial as well as plastic material that remains in the grave when a casket decomposes (Figures 7 to 9).
- On the road to Tower 153 a grave has been slightly scrapped by a grader. The disturbance is not that significant (Figure 10 and 11)
- A grave between Tower 154 and 155 was disturbed during the construction of an access road to Tower 155; however, construction activities ceased on this road as the contractor opted for a different route to access Tower 155.

Recommendations

• It is recommended that construction activities should be stopped in Tower 152 until NGT obtain a grave rescue permit from Amafa KwaZulu-Natali.



- The graves on the road to Tower 153 should be immediately fenced off to avoid them be disturbed by trucks/graders working on Tower 153. An instruction has also been issued to the family and they will commence with the fence from Monday 27 August 2018.
- The issue of the Mkhize grave should be attended to with immediate effect Induna Meyiwa has reported the issue to the contractor and the social team on site which was represented by Ms Snenhlanhla Mngadi. However, nothing has been done to date and this has posed social risks to the project the Ngcobo family whose graves are located near the ruins close to Tower 155 are concerned that the contractor might desecrate their family graves.
- All other graves are clear from construction activities, but it is proposed that extra measures should be undertaken to induct the contractor on site on how to spot and deal with issues of unmarked graves
- It is recommended that construction activities may proceed as planned in all other towers with the exception to Tower 152 which requires an urgent rescue permit.
- The issue of the Mkhize grave should also be attended to so that the Ngcobo family which have graves near Tower 155 may be at ease and allow construction activities to proceed on Tower 155.
- It is recommended that Mokgope includes an archaeologist as part of its Monitoring Programme for the construction of the all the towers in the project. The archaeologist needs to access each tower prior to the commencement of any construction activities. The archaeologists should be appointed at least a month prior to any planned construction activities. This will allow the archaeologist to conduct a detailed assessment and develop a grave and cemetery Cultural Management Plan (CMP) beforehand as a productive mitigation measure for the cultural graves situated along the proposed transmission lines.



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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ACRONYMS	DESCRIPTION	
AUTHORITIES		
Amafa	Amafa KwaZulu Natali	
ASAPA	Association of South African Professional Archaeologists	
NGT	Nurture, Grow, Treasure	
SADC	Southern African Developing Community	
DISCIPLINE		
AIA	Archaeological Impact Assessment	
СМР	Cultural Management Plan	
GCMP	Grave Conservation Management Plan	
ССМР	Cemetery Management Plan	
LSM	Living Stand Measure	
MC	Multi-Circuit	
SMP	Social Monitoring Programme	
LEGAL		
NHRA	National Heritage Resources Act	



TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

Archaeological resources

These include:

- Material remains resulting from human activities which are in a state of disuse and are in or on land and which are older than 100 years including artefacts, human and hominid remains and artificial features and structures;
- Rock art, being any form of painting, engraving or other graphic representation on a fixed rock surface or loose rock or stone, which was executed by human agency and which is older than 100 years, including any area within 10m of such representation;
- Wrecks, being any vessel or aircraft, or any part thereof which was wrecked in South Africa,
 whether on land, in the internal waters, the territorial waters or in the maritime culture zone of
 the republic as defined in the Maritimes Zones Act, and any cargo, debris or artefacts found or
 associated therewith, which is older than 60 years or which SAHRA considers to be worthy of
 conservation;
- Features, structures and artefacts associated with military history which are older than 75 years and the site on which they are found.

Palaeontological

This means any fossilised remains or fossil trace of animals or plants which lived in the geological past, other than fossil fuels or fossiliferous rock intended for industrial.

Cultural significance

This means aesthetic, architectural, historical, scientific, social, spiritual, linguistic or technological value or significance.

Development

This means any physical intervention, excavation, or action, other than those caused by natural forces, which may in the opinion of the heritage authority in any way result in the change to the nature, appearance or physical nature of a place or influence its stability and future well-being, including:

- Construction, alteration, demolition, removal or change in use of a place or a structure at a place;
- Carrying out any works on or over or under a place;



- Subdivision or consolidation of land comprising a place, including the structures or airspace of a place;
- Constructing or putting up for display signs or boards; any change to the natural or existing condition or topography of land;
- And any removal or destruction of trees, or removal of vegetation or topsoil.

Heritage resources: This means any place or object of cultural significance.



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background Information of Project

NGT was appointed by Mokgope to assess the presence of graves between Towers 146 and 155 as part of a Social Monitoring Programme (SMP) managed by Mokgope for the construction of the Ariadne-Eros 400 kV/132kV Multi-Circuit (MC) transmission lines in KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) Province, South Africa (*Figure 1*). The assessment focused on the towers that are under construction, some of whose construction had to be stopped due to suspicion that there might be graves located by the towers; for example, on Tower 152.

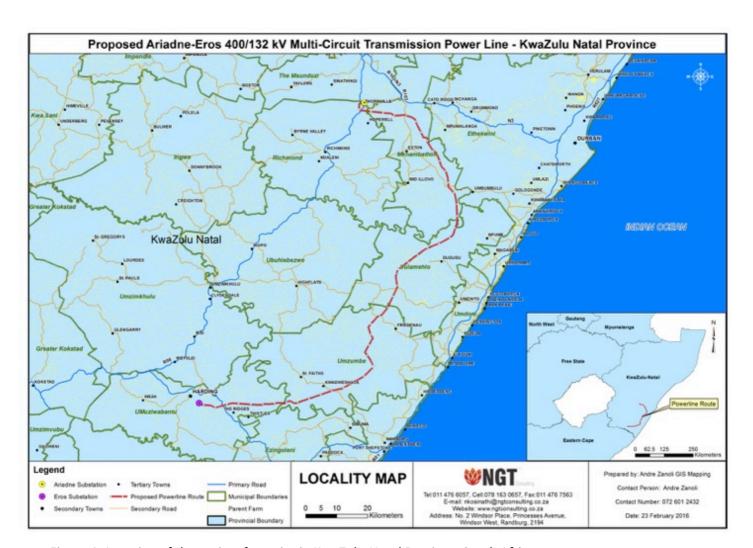


Figure 1- Location of the project footprint in KwaZulu-Natal Province, South Africa.



1.2. Terms of Reference and Legal Requirements for the Appointment of Archaeologist and Heritage Specialist

Following the identification of graves on Tower 152 and the concerns that other graves may be impacted by the construction activities of the proposed Ariadne-Eros 400 kV/132kV MC transmission lines in KZN; NGT was appointed to conduct a site-specific survey of the towers under construction. The towers assessed are on Section B of the MC transmission lines and located between Tower 146 and Tower 155. The appointment of NGT to conduct the grave assessment is in terms of the following legislations:

- Section 36 of the National Heritage Resources Act, No. 25 of 1999 Graves older than 60 years located outside a formal cemetery administered by a local authority
- The KwaZulu Natal Heritage Act (KZNHA), No. 10 of 1997 is developed to manage heritage resources at a provincial level.
 - KwaZulu-Natal Cemeteries and Crematoria Act 12 of 1996 Human Tissues Act 65 of 1983 Graves located within a formal cemetery administered by a local authority
 - KwaZulu-Natal Heritage Act No 4 of 2008 Human Tissues Act No 65 of 1983 Graves younger than 60 years located outside a formal cemetery administered by a local authority and the graves of victims of conflict.



Table 1-Summary of legislation relevant to traditional burial places in the KwaZulu-Natal Province

Grave type	Relevant legislation	Administrative	Administrative
		authority-disinterment	authority –reburial
Graves located within a	KwaZulu-Natal	National and / or	If relocated to another
formal cemetery	Cemeteries and	Provincial Departments	formal cemetery –
administered by a local	Crematoria Act 12 of	of Health	relevant local authority.
authority	1996 Human Tissues Act		
	65 of 1983		
Graves younger than 60	KwaZulu-Natal Heritage	Amafa KwaZulu-Natali,	If relocated to a private
years located outside a	Act No 4 of 2008 Human	the provincial heritage	or communal property –
formal cemetery	Tissues Act No 65 of	management	Amafa. If relocated to
administered by a local	1983	organisation	formal cemetery –
authority and the graves			Amafa and relevant
of victims of conflict			local authority
Graves older than 60	National Heritage	South African Heritage	If relocated to private or
years located outside a	Resources Act No 25 of	Resources Agency	communal property –
formal cemetery	1999 Human Tissues Act	(SAHRA), the national	SAHRA. If relocated to
administered by a local	of 1983	heritage management	formal cemetery –
authority		organisation	SAHRA and relevant
			local authority.



2. DESCRIPTION OF THE RECEIVING ENVIRONMENT

2.1. Description of the Receiving Environment

The study area is situated to the south of the town Pietermaritzburg within the Tribal Authority of Inkosi L.D. Mkhize. It is characterised by adulating valleys and hills. The graves in the area are predominantly unmarked, making it difficult for the contractor on site to identify them. The nature of the receiving environment makes it difficult for the next of kin to mark their family graves with stone or stone mound markers as the terrain is predominantly devoid of any stones. Those with some financial resources have marked their family graves by constructing grave dressing and headstones using bricks and those families who can be characterised as falling within the middle and upper LSM (Living Standard Measure) have granite headstone and dressings as grave markers.



3. METHODOLOGY

The method of study for the current grave assessment process involved:

- Site specific survey of the affected towers and assessing the 15 to 20m radius from the tower centre position;
- Interviewing people who are situated near the tower position to ascertain if they know of any families that once settled the area with the tower and if those people had graves;
- In the case that they know of graves we asked them to point us in the position of graves;
- In the case where they know of the family name, we would ask them where the family has relocated and the contact person that we should contact in search of the next of kin involved; Therefore, social consultation became an important and critical tool in the grave assessment process owing to the fact that most graves have no grave markers due to socio-economic and environmental conditions of the receiving environment.

4. RESULTS

TOWER 147 HERITAGE ISSUES:

Near Tower 147 there are 2 graves that belong to the parents of Inkosi LD Mkhize (Figure 2). The
graves will not be directly impacted by the tower construction. There are situated 20m away from
the tower's centre position. The tower near this cemetery site has been move to a new location
and away from the grave site.





Figure 2-Inkosi LD Mkhize family graves

TOWER 148 HERITAGE ISSUES:

• The tower has no graves. It is situated in an open area with no ruins or foundations of former homesteads. However, north and south of the tower there are households known to contain graves (Figure 3).



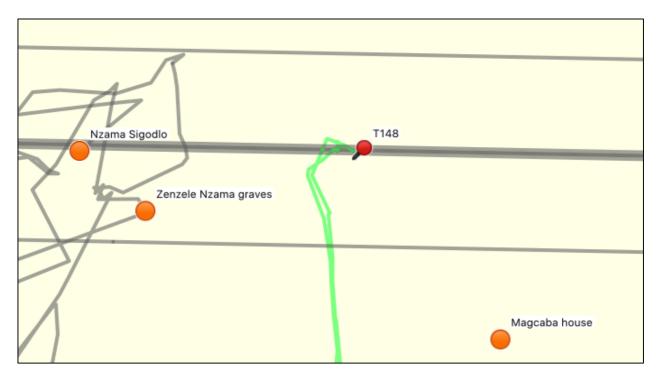


Figure 3-Tower 148 with no graves

TOWER 149 HERITAGE ISSUES:

• The tower is located in the Mthembu homestead and south of the Maphumulo homestead. There are approximately 9 graves in the homestead. They are situated approximately 12m from the current tower position and to the south of the tower (*Figure 5*). The tower has been moved to the area where the family built old three rondavels. The rondavels have since been demolished to make space for the tower (*Figure 4*)



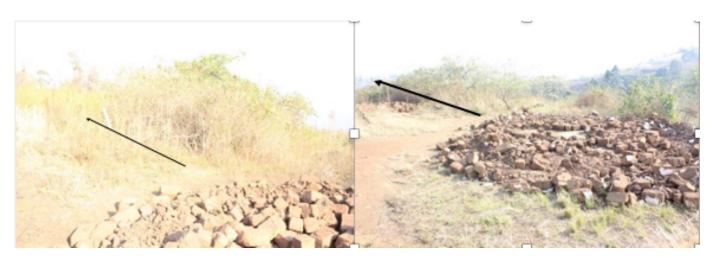


Figure 4-Mthembu family ruins. Here there we three rondavels that have since been demolished to make way for the tower. Arrows show position of graves

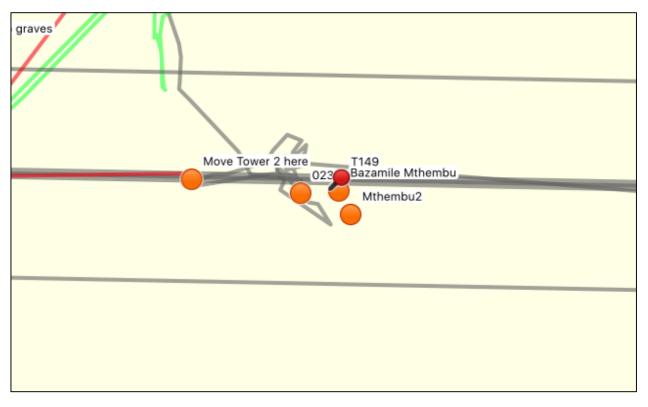


Figure 5-Mthembu family ruins. Here there we three rondavels that have since been demolished to make way for the tower



TOWER 150 HERITAGE ISSUES:

• The tower is situated in the former Koyama family homestead. Here construction activities are underway. The graves are situated south of the tower (Figure 6 and Figure 7).



Figure 6-Sifiso Koyama family graves situated south of tower 150 whose foundations are nearly complete.



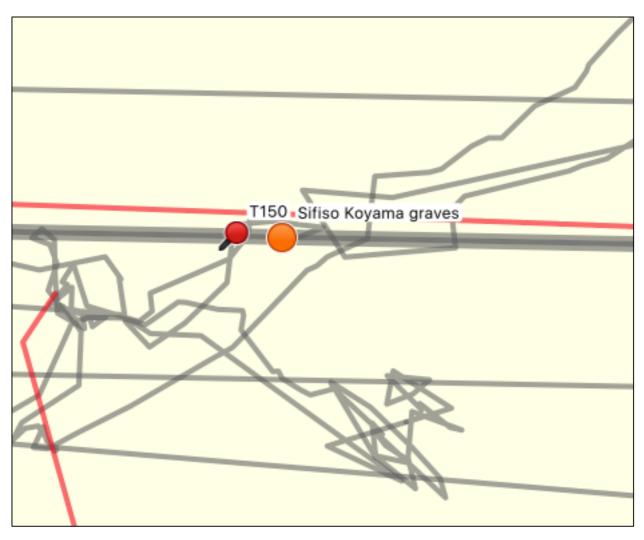


Figure 7-Sifiso Koyama family graves in relation to the tower position.

TOWER 151 AND 152 HERITAGE ISSUES:

There are no graves under tower 151. However, Tower **152** has issues. There are known graves located south, east and west of the tower. There are also ruins east and west of the tower. The tower foundations have already been dug up and cement poured. An assessment of the tower foundation yielded the following information:

- A human os coxa (Pelvis bone) was found (Figure 8)
- There were also stained clothes found in the soil –during the burial decomposition process clothes are often stained (*Figure 9*)
- A metal zinc was also found on the soil dump this is another indicator of grave disturbance since metal zincs are often place above the casket in burial processes (Figure 10)



• There is a layer in one of the tower foundations which show signs of casket plastic and clothes (Figure 10)



Figure 8-Part of human pelvis bone found in the excavated soil





Figure 9-Grave indicators

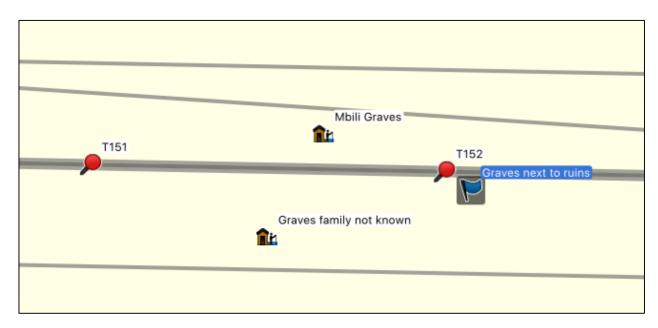


Figure 10-Location of grave sites in relation to Tower 152



TOWER 153 HERITAGE ISSUES:

• The tower has no graves. However, south-east of the tower and on the road that has been created to access the tower two graves have been found (*Figure 11 and Figure 12*). One of the graves is slightly scraped by the grader.



Figure 11- Two graves located next to a road used to access tower 153

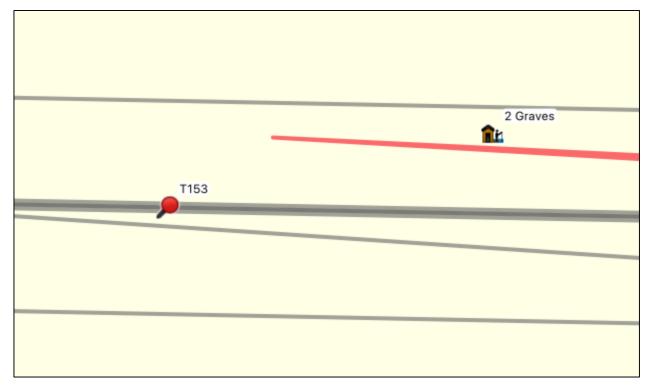


Figure 12-Location of the two graves in relation to tower 153



TOWER 154 AND 155 HERITAGE ISSUES:

• There are no issues in terms of Tower 154. There is, however, a challenge between Towers 154 and 155. When the road to access Tower 155 was initially constructed, it disturbed a grave belonging to the Mkhize family. The road has since been diverted to a new location, but the grave issue still stands as it has not yet been addressed. The figure below shows the location of the grave in relation to Tower 154 and Tower 155 (Figure 13).

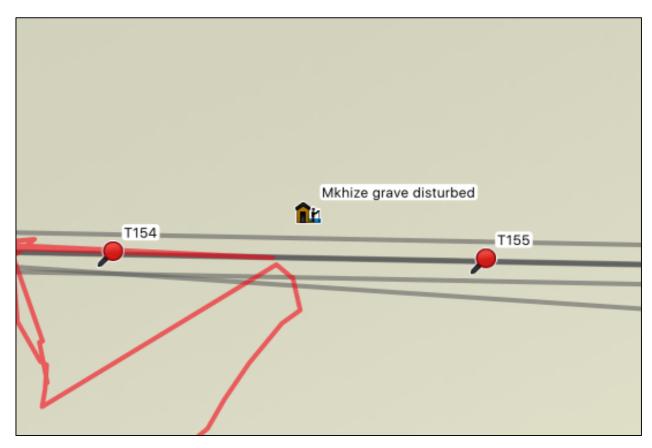


Figure 13-Location of the Mkhize family grave that was disturbed through road construction activity



5. CONCLUSIONS

- There has been accidental desecration of a grave during construction activities on Tower 152. The tower is constructed in an area with ruins both east and west of the tower's position. The contractor would not have known about the graves since they are not clearly marked. However, whenever there are ruins on a site, there is always high possibility that there will be graves on site.
 - The detailed survey conducted on this site yielded a fractured os coxa (pelvis bone) of a human. Other grave indicators include stained clothes which could have been associated with the burial as well as plastic material that remains in the grave when a casket decomposes (Figures 7 to 9).
- On the road to Tower 153 a grave has been slightly scrapped by a grader. The disturbance is not that significant (*Figure 10 and 11*)
- A grave between Tower 154 and 155 was disturbed during the construction of an access road to Tower 155; however, construction activities ceased on this road as the contractor opted for a different route to access Tower 155.

Recommendations

- It is recommended that construction activities should be stopped in Tower 152 until NGT obtain a grave rescue permit from Amafa KwaZulu-Natali.
- The graves on the road to Tower 153 should be immediately fenced off to avoid them be disturbed by trucks/graders working on Tower 153. An instruction has also been issued to the family and they will commence with the fence from Monday 27 August 2018.
- The issue of the Mkhize grave should be attended to with immediate effect Induna Meyiwa has reported the issue to the contractor and the social team on site which was represented by Ms Snenhlanhla Mngadi. However, nothing has been done to date and this has posed social risks to the project the Ngcobo family whose graves are located near the ruins close to Tower 155 are concerned that the contractor might desecrate their family graves.
- All other graves are clear from construction activities, but it is proposed that extra measures should be undertaken to induct the contractor on site on how to spot and deal with issues of unmarked graves



- It is recommended that construction activities may proceed as planned in all other towers with the exception to Tower 152 which requires an urgent rescue permit.
- The issue of the Mkhize grave should also be attended to so that the Ngcobo family which have graves near Tower 155 may be at ease and allow construction activities to proceed on Tower 155.
- It is recommended that Mokgope includes an archaeologist as part of its Monitoring Programme for the construction of the all the towers in the project. The archaeologist needs to access each tower prior to the commencement of any construction activities. The archaeologists should be appointed at least a month prior to any planned construction activities. This will allow the archaeologist to conduct a detailed assessment and develop a grave and cemetery Cultural Management Plan (CMP) beforehand as a productive mitigation measure for the cultural graves situated along the proposed transmission lines.



6. REFERENCE LIST

Tomose, N.G. 2016. Phase 2 Heritage Impact Assessment Study for the Proposed Ariadne-Eros 400/132 kV Multi-Circuit Transmission Powerlines from Ariadne Sub-Station to Eros Sub-Station and the Expansion and Upgrade of the Ariadne Sub-Station and the Eros Sub-Station, Kwazulu-Natal, Republic of South Africa. SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENTS, RESETTLEMENT PLANS AND PHASE 2 HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE ARIEDNE-EROS 400KV MULTI CIRCUIT LINES. KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE. Unpublished Report. Mokgope Consulting CC