



## CONTRACT MARITIME ARCHAEOLOGIST

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**Date:** 08-12-2020

**To:** Briege Williams – SAHRA MUCH Unit

**Re:** Proposed transmission line from Port of Ngqura to Eskom Dedisa Substation, Coega IDZ

Jonathan Kaplan of ACRM asked for my input re the MUCH component of the above project. As you stated in your Interim Comment on CaseID: 15783 (01-12-2020):

“Despite the discovery of a shipwreck during construction of the port, subsequent further development and dredging of the area means that the MUCH unit at SAHRA considers the possibility of any impact on maritime heritage resources to be low. However, the laydown area for the pipeline must be surveyed for heritage resources prior to the laying of the pipeline. Should the survey data reveal any resources of interest, input on mitigation of impacts to such resources must be sought from a suitably qualified specialist. The SAHRA reserves the right to impose no-go areas around any identified heritage resources and the potential for rerouting therefore exists. The applicant is therefore encouraged to undertake the survey during the early stages of the project to avoid unnecessary delays.”

The area for the pipelines is near to where the *County of Pembroke* was found (Figure 1). The original shoreline is marked. During the construction of the Port in the early 2000s, I was on site working on the *County of Pembroke*. Both areas indicated for the pipeline were extensively dredged far below the historic ground level (Figure 2). A magnetometer survey in this area will not work as it will pick up the ferrous metals in the port infrastructure. A diver survey will also not be viable as this area has been dredged.

The only possible area of concern may be the beach in the inshore pipeline. During the *County of Pembroke* wreck removal one anomalous shipwreck structure was found on the beach near the site. It had copper alloy nails embedded in it and was probably from a wooden shipwreck (Figure 3).

There is no visible wreck structure in this area. I would suggest that when this area is excavated for the pipeline, the on-site archaeologist monitors the excavation; as per the recommendations in the Archaeological Impact Assessment, Proposed Powership at the Port of Ngqura, Coega Industrial Development Zone (2020)



**Figure 1:** Port of Ngqura original shoreline, *County of Pembroke* position and proposed pipelines



**Figure 2:** Dredging in 2004



**Figure 3:** Possible wooden shipwreck structure

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