



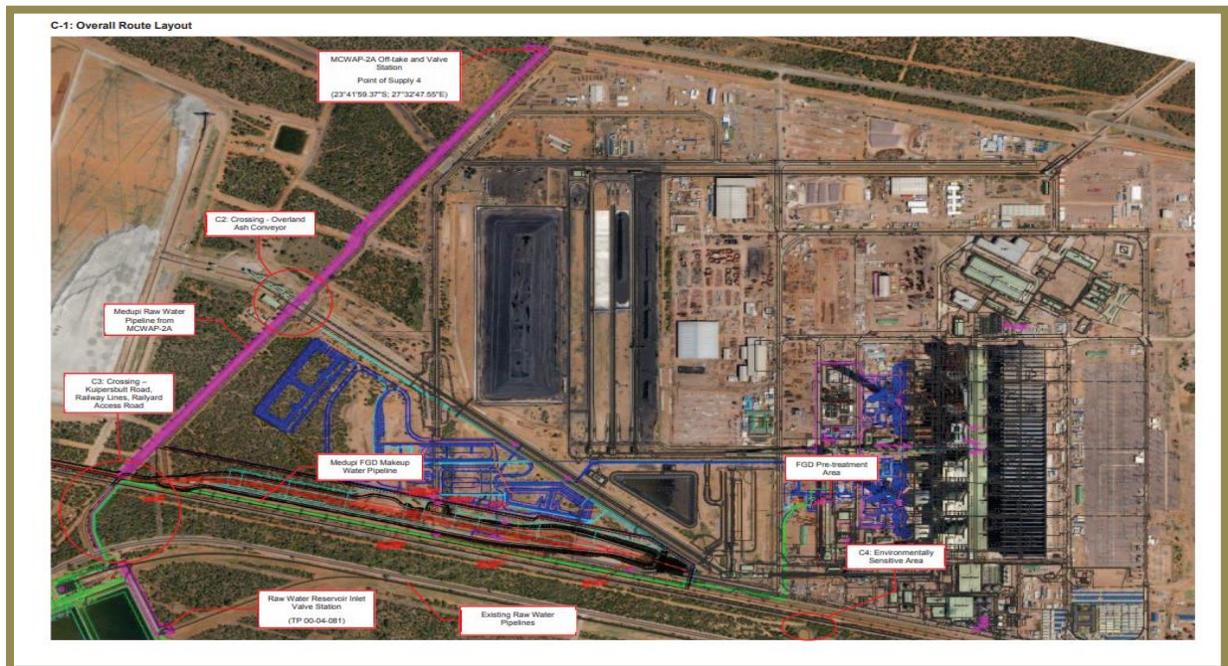
The Case Officer – Limpopo Province  
SAHRA  
PO Box 4637  
Cape Town 8000.

22 April 2019

**Application for Exemption from further Heritage Mitigation  
Raw Water Pipeline at Medupi Power Station  
Lephalale Municipality, Waterberg District, Limpopo Province**

**Project Description**

Medupi Power Station is currently supplied with raw water from the Mokolo Dam via the MCWAP-1 infrastructure. Raw water consumption will increase when Flue Gas Desulphurisation (FGD) technology is retrofitted to the station. The MCWAP-2A project will provide the ability to supply the additional water requirements to operate the FGD plant. Eskom require a WULA process for the proposed water supply pipelines from MCWAP 2A to Medupi's Raw Water Reservoir (RWR) and from the RWR to the Flue Gas Desulphurisation plant. This infrastructure is required for operating the FGD units. See Figures 1-3.<sup>1</sup>



**Figure 1. Overall Route Layout**

<sup>1</sup> Higher resolution images loaded to SAHRIS Case File.

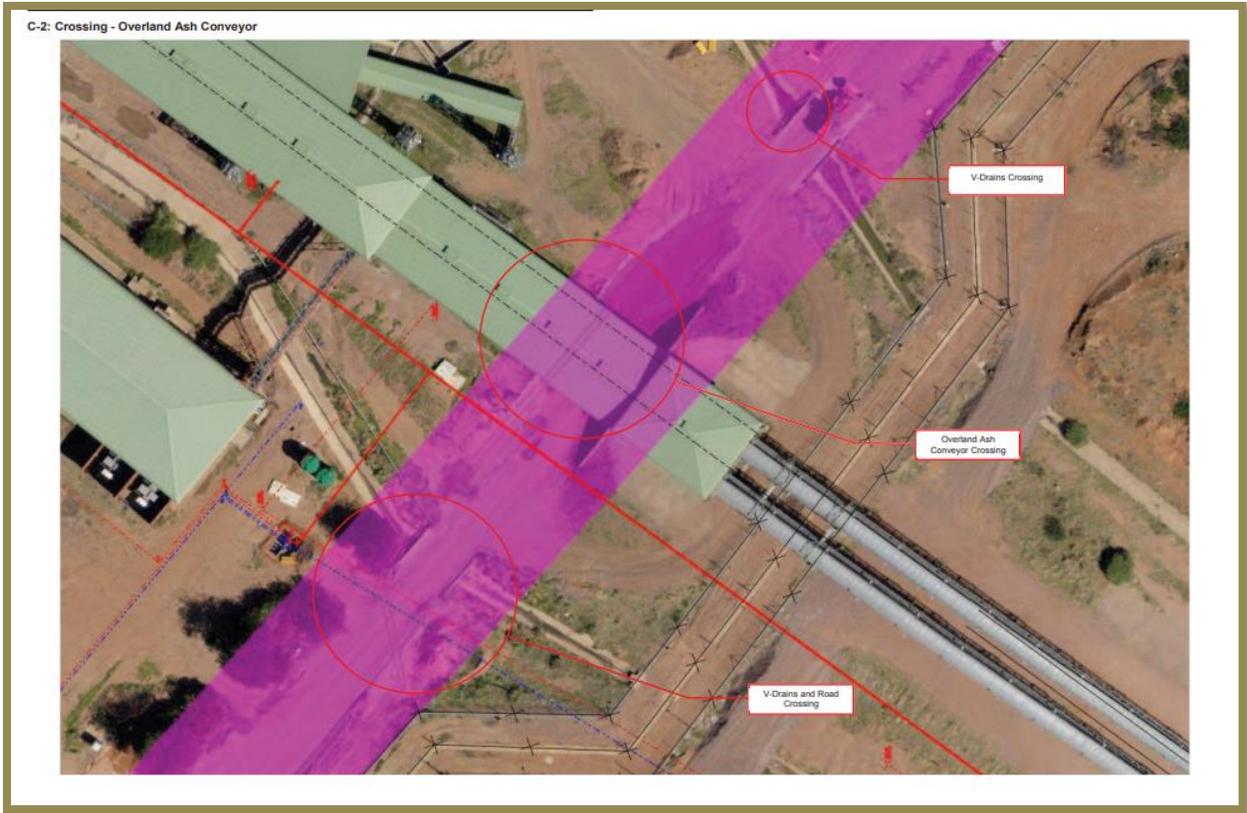


Figure 2. Crossing – Overland Ash Conveyor

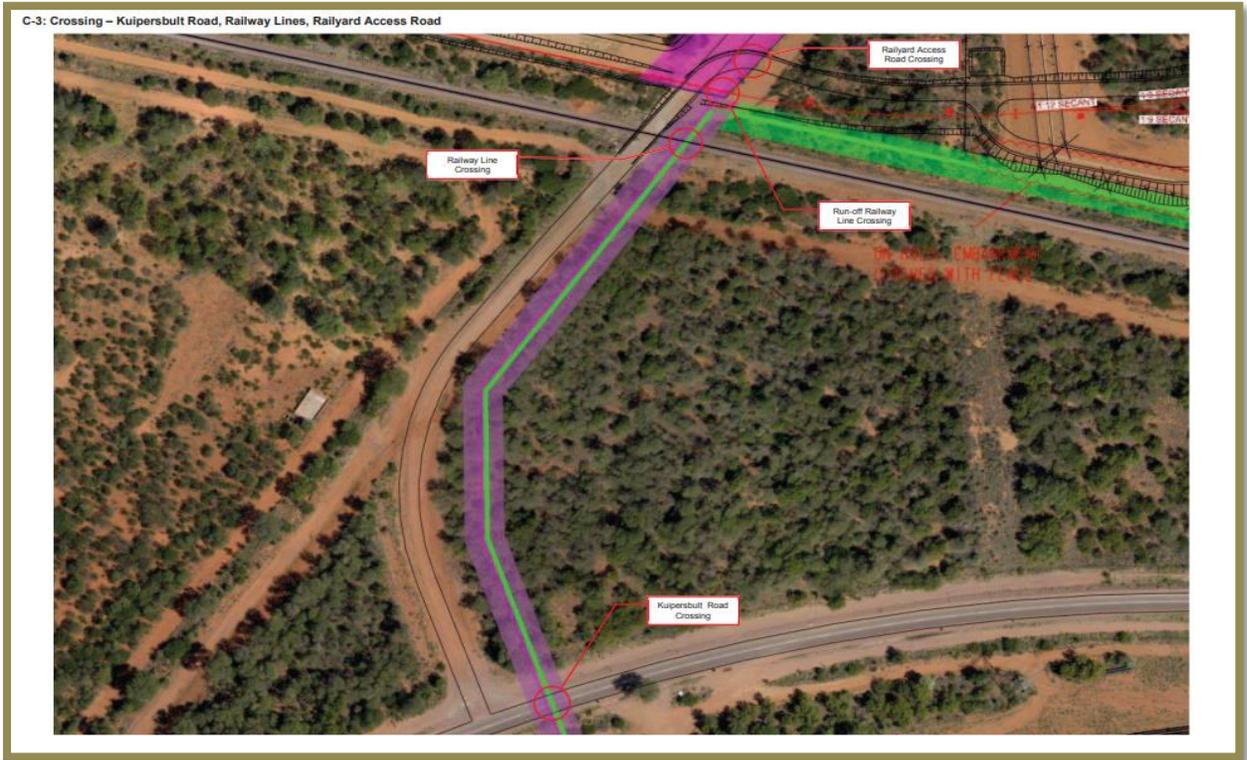


Figure 3. Crossing – Railway Lines and Railway Access Road

The images provided illustrate the disturbed, industrial nature of the receiving environment and hence the low likelihood of *in situ*, primary context archaeological remains. Further, HIA's conducted at Medupi over the last two decades have yielded little more than scattered MSA miscellaneous flakes.<sup>2</sup> Regarding the issue of graves, this has been extensively dealt with in previous HIA assessments in the immediate vicinity of the current activities.<sup>3</sup>

## Recommendations

Application is therefore made to exempt the proposed raw water pipeline and its ancillary activities from any further heritage assessment or mitigation. The client has been advised that in the event of any heritage resources being chanced upon that the Protocol detailed in Appendix 1 shall prevail.

Yours sincerely



Len van Schalkwyk  
Principle Investigator.

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<sup>2</sup> SAHRIS Case ID: 9/2/221/0001 – Roodt 2001.

SAHRIS Case ID: 10221 – 2004.

SAHRIS Ref: 9/2/221/0001 – AIA-Extended Medupi Landfill - Prins 2009.

Exxaro UGC SPP AIA Report. eThembeni CHM. 2016 for Ekolnfo.

SAHRIS Case ID: 12375 – Medupi Power Station FGD Retrofit Project - Tomose 2018.

<sup>3</sup> SAHRIS Case ID: 12375 - Medupi Power Station Development – Phase II Heritage Impact Assessment Main Report  
Public Participation for the Verification and Management of Graves found in the Development Area and a Remedial Plan for Graves  
which may have been accidentally destroyed or desecrated – Mbofhu Consulting 2015.

SAHRIS Case ID: 722 - Medupi graves assessment – van Vollenhoven 2012.

## Appendix 1

### Protocol for the Identification, Protection and Recovery of Heritage Resources during Construction and Operation

It is possible that sub-surface heritage resources could be encountered during the construction phase of this project. The Environmental Control Officer and all other persons responsible for site management and excavation should be aware that indicators of sub-surface sites could include:

- Ash deposits (unnaturally grey appearance of soil compared to the surrounding substrate);
- Bone concentrations, either animal or human;
- Ceramic fragments, including potsherds;
- Stone concentrations that appear to be formally arranged (may indicate the presence of an underlying burial, or represent building/structural remains); and
- Fossilised remains of fauna and flora, including trees.

In the event that such indicator(s) of heritage resources are identified, the following actions should be taken immediately:

- All construction within a radius of at least 20m of the indicator should cease. This distance should be increased at the discretion of supervisory staff if heavy machinery or explosives could cause further disturbance to the suspected heritage resource.
- This area must be marked using clearly visible means, such as barrier tape, and all personnel should be informed that it is a no-go area.
- A guard should be appointed to enforce this no-go area if there is any possibility that it could be violated, whether intentionally or inadvertently, by construction staff or members of the public.
- No measures should be taken to cover up the suspected heritage resource with soil, or to collect any remains such as bone or stone.
- If a heritage practitioner has been appointed to monitor the project, s/he should be contacted and a site inspection arranged as soon as possible.
- If no heritage practitioner has been appointed to monitor the project a SAHRA or PHRA Officer should be notified.
- The South African Police Services should be notified by a SAHRA or PHRA Officer or an independent heritage practitioner if human remains are identified. No SAPS official may disturb or exhume such remains, whether of recent origin or not.
- All parties concerned should respect the potentially sensitive and confidential nature of the heritage resources, particularly human remains, and refrain from making public statements until a mutually agreed time.
- Any extension of the project beyond its current footprint involving vegetation and/or earth clearance should be subject to prior assessment by a qualified heritage practitioner, taking into account all information gathered during this initial heritage impact assessment.