

BOOYSENDAL 132 KV LINE

**HERITAGE PROGRESS REPORT ON THE
BOOYSENDAL 132 KV POWER LINE**

Prepared For

Northam Platinum – Booysendal Mine

By



HERITAGE



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT

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SUMMARY

This report was compiled by Heritage Contracts and Archaeological Consulting CC (HCAC) for Northam Platinum, after the archaeological investigation of three contentious areas. The three areas were pointed out by the community as possible graves and included the concrete plug at structure 36. At the request of the community the three sites were investigated and no skeletal remains were identified. This report also includes the results of the heritage walk down of the proposed line as requested by Northam Platinum.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Heritage Contracts and Archaeological Consulting CC (HCAC) was requested by Northam Platinum to represent them with regards to the heritage issues encountered with the construction of the new 132 kV power line to Booysendal and to assist Eskom's heritage specialist for the project Mr. Eric Matoho with his heritage investigations. This report is a follow up on the report after the initial site investigation (van der Walt 2012a) and recommendations made during the course of the process (van der Walt 2012b). Construction of the line has started and the alleged graves were investigated prompting another report.

2. AIMS

The aim of this report is to:

- (a) report back on the archaeological investigation of three concrete dumping spots;
- (b) report back on the walk down of the power line alignment;
- (c) provide the heritage status quo.

3. DISCUSSION

3.1. Archaeological Excavations

Three points were shown to the team by the PCC (Pakaneng Choma Community) where concrete was dumped in holes. The first is located at S25 05 57.2 E30 09 45.3. The second at S25 05 58.1 E30 09 49.0 (this is the hole that was identified by the community as a possible grave site) and the last point at S25 05 56.4 E30 09 45.8. These features were excavated and documented adhering to standard archaeological practices. Each excavation was named Trench 1 -3 (Figure 1) and excavated to a yellowish sterile layer under supervision of the community representatives. They were all satisfied that no human remains are present.

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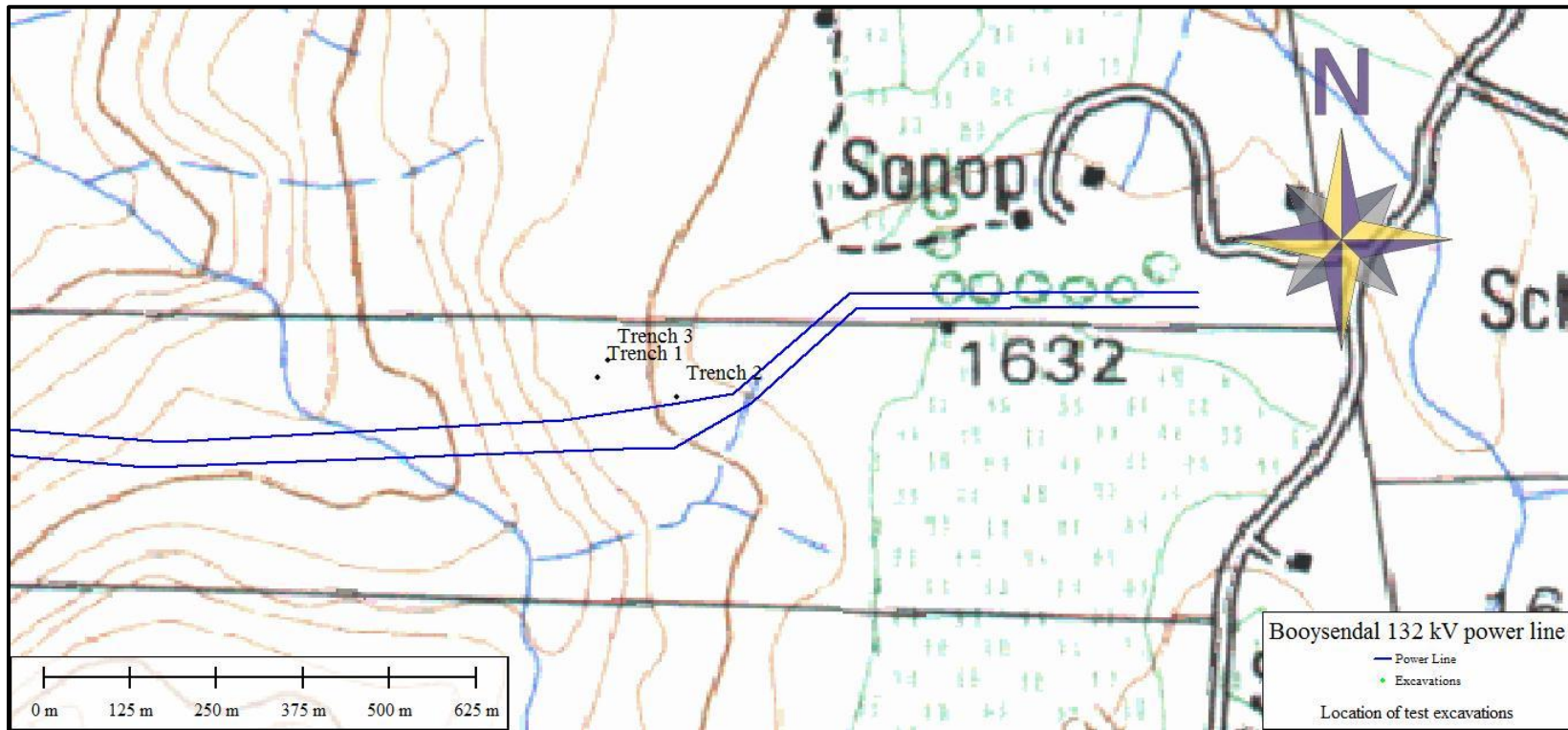


Figure 1. Location of the excavated trenches in relation to the power line.

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Mr. Matoho is compiling a full report on the excavations in order to comply with his permit conditions under the South African Heritage Resources Agency. This report will be handed in at a later stage.



Figure 2. Trench 1 with concrete block



Figure 3. Excavated trench up to sterile layer



Figure 4. Trench 2 after excavation



Figure 5. Excavated concrete block

3.2. Walk down of alignment

The walk down was conducted by two heritage specialists namely the author and Mr Eric Mathoho. Two community representatives escorted the heritage team; they were Mr. Lucas Mankge and Mr Lucky Moshimane. During the walk down of the alignment 4 Late Iron Age sites were identified (Figure 6). None of these sites have been disturbed by the excavated pole positions or stays.

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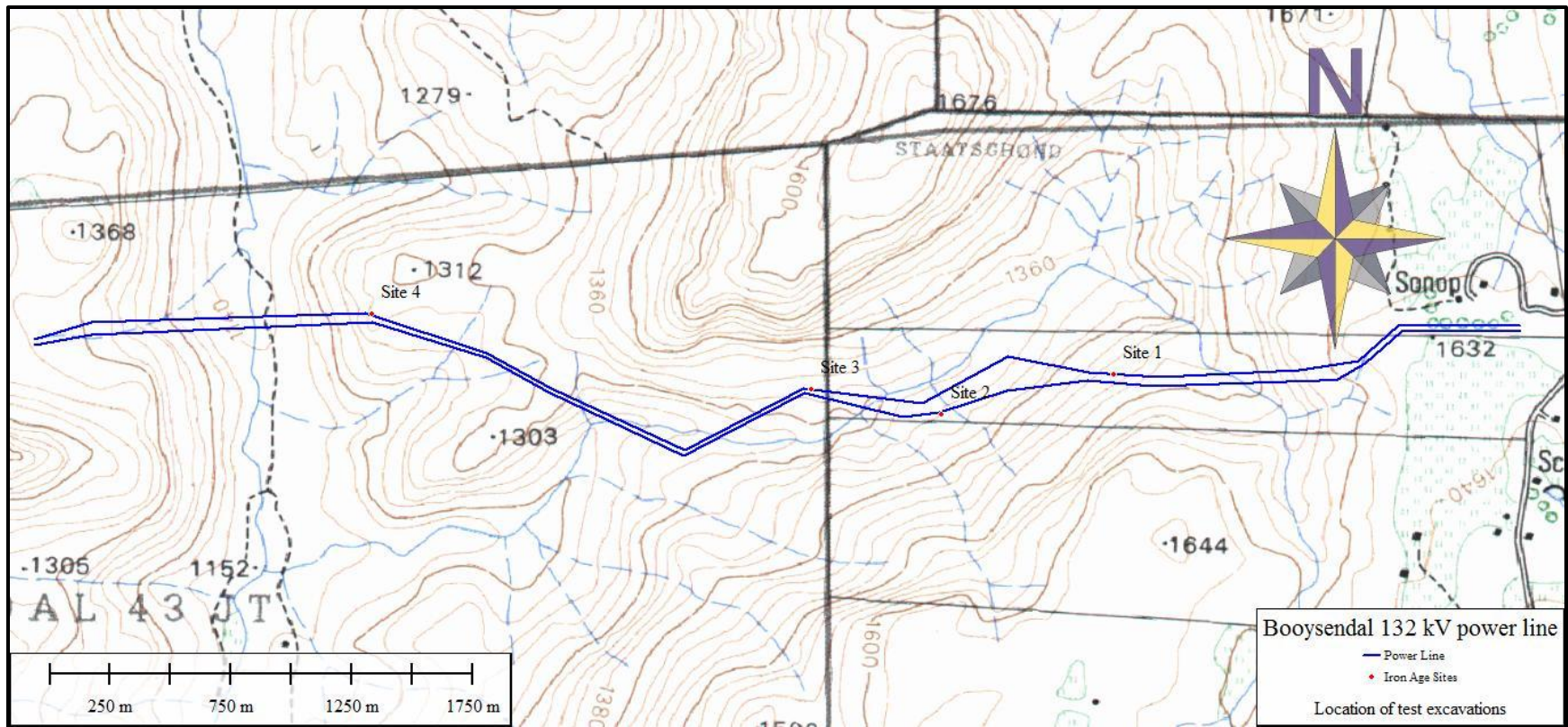


Figure 6. Site distribution map

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Most of the stays and pylon positions have been excavated on the proposed alignment; however structures 1BDL/DRB 8, 1BDL/DRB 9 and 1BDL/DRB 12 have not been excavated yet. There is from a heritage point no reason why these structures cannot be constructed. However excavations at structure 1BDL/DRB 8 will have to be done under the supervision of Eskom's heritage specialist as archaeological material (ceramics and a bored stone) was recorded in this area.



Figure 7. View to the mine from structure 1BDL/STB 4

Furthermore around structures 1BDL/STB 3 (Figure 8), 1BDL/STB 8 and 1BDL/STB 10 some archaeological deposit and stone walls were recorded, another site was located in the general area of 1BDL/STB 12 but is located approximately 100 meters away and no direct impact is foreseen on this site. Although these sites are all of low heritage significance due to the lack of preservation and archaeological deposit some management actions are required. Due to recent events involving the community and local heritage and to avoid a repeat of the current process construction activities in these areas should thus be monitored by Eskom's archaeologist.

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Figure 8. Stone walling at Site 4

The following site co-ordinates are available as well as their proximity to structures

Site Number	Type Site	Cultural Markers	Co ordinate
Site 1	Late Iron Age	Terrace wall	S25 05 59.8 E30 09 18.8
Site 2	Late Iron Age	Small stone enclosure	S25 06 05.2 E30 08 55.9
Site3	Late Iron Age	Small stone enclosure	S25 06 01.8 E30 08 38.4
Site 4	Late Iron Age	Small stone enclosure	S25 05 51.7 E30 07 39.6

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3.3. Heritage Status Quo

The following structures were marked as heritage sensitive (Rep 18 Oct 2012) Structure 35, 36, 37 and 38. These sites were visited with community representatives Mrs Salome (surname unknown) as well as Mrs Lucas Mankge and Mrs Lucky Moshimane (Figure 9).



Figure 9: Consultation with community members

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These structures were visited with them, the Roshcon site manager Mr Johan Pienaar, the Heritage team and Mr Karl Dalbock on the 25th of October. Apart from Structure 36 the others were cleared for construction by the community and both heritage specialists. A site instruction (copies are held by Mr Pienaar) was generated stating that work will commence on these structures and that there are no heritage issues. Mrs Salome (surname unknown) and Mrs Lucas Mankge and Mrs Lucky Moshimane all signed the site instruction. These structures are therefore cleared for construction from a heritage perspective.

Structure 36 located on the northern line is still an issue from a community perspective. From a heritage perspective the impact has already occurred on the site and it is clear that no archaeological deposit is present. We are of the opinion that no huge impact occurred and that the structure can be used as the foundations have already been dug. Mr William Masha and Mr Matoho are negotiating with the PCC to obtain approval from them. The results of this negotiation are not yet available. It is important to note that if approval is gained from the community this structure might have an impact on one of the recorded sites as per the court order and legal advice will have to be obtained on the way forward.

4. PLAN OF STUDY

The environmental control officer (ECO) for the project (Mr Divhani Mulaudzi from ShumaniSHE Specialists) has been briefed by me and Mr. Matoho regarding the heritage issues on site as well as the importance of the demarcated court order points. He indicated that he will be on site to monitor construction activities to prevent the dumping of concrete and accidental impact on the stone walls and demarcated points. Mr. Matoho is also on site to monitor the excavations of the structures that has not been dug yet.

At this point we are confident that most of the heritage issues have been resolved and that heritage legislation is adhered to.

Any further queries can be forwarded to Jaco van der Walt on Cell: +27 82 373 8491 or to jaco.heritage@gmail.com