



## **Interim Comment**

### **In terms of Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)**

Attention: Sivest - Gauteng  
PO BOX 2921  
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### **Ermelo-Richards Bay Coal Line Upgrade Project: Proposed Development Of The Sheepmoor Traction Station And Two New Associated 88 Kv Turn In Lines With 20mva Transformer Bays, Mpumalanga Province, South Africa**

Eskom SOC (Pty) Ltd is proposing to construct 88KV/25KV substation and two 20MVA transformer bays and two 88KV power lines, the substation will feed the existing 25kV traction network. The width of the proposed corridor will be 500m. One of the power lines are called the North Circuit and will run from sheepmoor to existing power line and South Circuit power lines.

Prins, F. And Hall, S. February 2014. Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment of the Proposed Sheepmoor, Coal-Link Project, Mpumalanga Province.

The author undertook a scoping field survey to identify any possible heritage resources within and surrounding the proposed project area. Three heritage resources were identified on the proposed development area, 2 sites consist of cemeteries and 1 site is a Later Iron Age site archaeological site.

The cemetery is the Sheepmore town cemetery and has 280 marked and unmarked graves. The current proposed location of the Substation will impact on the cemetery.

The cemetery has 100 marked and unmarked graves. The proposed power line will be located 120m away from the cemetery.

The LIA site consists 8 stone walled circles, the site is located around 30m north from the proposed power lines.

### **Interim Comment**

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit agree with the recommendations made in the Heritage Report submitted to the case.

The recommendations of the Heritage Report referenced above are:

A 30 m buffer zone around both the cemeteries must be strictly adhered to, no damage should occur to the cemeteries during construction of the development.

The location of the Substation should be moved to accommodate the buffer zone of the cemetery.





Our Ref: 7538

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an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

A 50 m buffer zone around the Later Iron Age Archaeological site should be maintained during construction, thus the location of the power line should be moved to accommodate the buffer zone.

If none of these recommendations can be followed then motivation for mitigation must be submitted and a permit to SAHRA should be applied for.

No Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA) was submitted to this case. The area lies in a Very High Sensitivity zone (<http://www.sahra.org.za/sahris/map/palaeo>). The SAHRA APM Unit requires a field based palaeontological survey to be conducted for this proposed development.

Please map the development area on the SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity map; we suggest to upload the KML file under the map in the EDIT tab of the case which will automatically map the file.

SAHRA will comment further on this case once the development has been mapped on the SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity map and a PIA has been submitted for comment.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

Nokukhanya Khumalo  
Heritage Officer  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

**ADMIN:**

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/265880>  
(DEA, Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/1102)



The South African Heritage Resources Agency

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