

**HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED
CONSTRUCTION OF TRANSMISSION LINES WITH RESPECT TO
THE RELOCATION OF THE THREE ACACIA PARK GAS TURBINES
AND ONE PORT REX GAS TURBINE TO ANKERLIG POWER
STATION, ATLANTIS INDUSTRIA, WESTERN CAPE**

(Assessment conducted under Section 38 (8) of the
National Heritage Resources Act as part of an EIA)

Prepared for

Savannah Environmental Pty (Ltd)
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Prepared by
Tim Hart

Archaeology Contracts Office
Department of Archaeology
University of Cape Town
Private Bag
Rondebosch
7701

Phone (021) 650 2357
Fax (021) 650 2352
timothy.hart@uct.ac.za

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Archaeology Contracts Office of the University of Cape Town was appointed by Savannah Environmental Pty Ltd to assess the heritage impact of 2 options for 132kV transmission lines that will link 4 aero-derived gas turbines (to be relocated from Acacia Park and Port Rex) and 132kV yard at Ankerlig, Atlantis Industrial area. The facility will be used to supply backup power for Koeberg Nuclear Power Station. The proposed transmission lines cross a portion of the Atlantis Industrial area before linking with an existing system. The general area which has been subject to prior assessments is not considered sensitive in heritage terms, therefore no significant impacts are expected with respect to either of the 2 options.

Glossary

Archaeological material *Remains resulting from human activity 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.*

Calcrete *A soft sandy calcium carbonate rock related to limestone which often forms in arid areas.*

Early Stone Age *A very early period of human development dating between 300 000 and 2.6 million years ago.*

Fossil *Mineralised bones of animals, shellfish, plants and marine animals. A trace fossil is the track or footprint of a fossil animal that is preserved in stone or consolidated sediment.*

Heritage *That which is inherited and forms part of the National Estate (Historical places, objects, fossils as defined by the National Heritage Resources Act of 2000).*

HWC (Heritage Western Cape) *The provincial compliance agency responsible for the conservation of heritage.*

Late Stone Age (LSA) *In South Africa this time period represents fully modern people who were the ancestors of southern African Khoekhoen and San groups (40 000 – 300 years ago).*

Middle Stone Age (MSA) *An early period in human history characterised by the development of early human forms into modern humans capable of abstract thought process and cognition 300 000 – 40 000 years ago.*

Midden *A pile of debris or dump (shellfish, stone artefacts and bone fragments) left by people after they have occupied a place.*

Palaeontological *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 use, and any site which contains such fossilised remains or trace.*

Pleistocene *A geological time period (of 3 million – 20 000 years ago).*

SAHRA *South African Heritage Resources Agency.*

Structure (historic) *Any building, works, device or other facility made by people and which is fixed to land, and includes any fixtures, fittings and equipment associated therewith. Protected structures are those which are over 60 years old.*

Silcrete *A surface rock formed by particles of silica forming a crust and compacting on the*

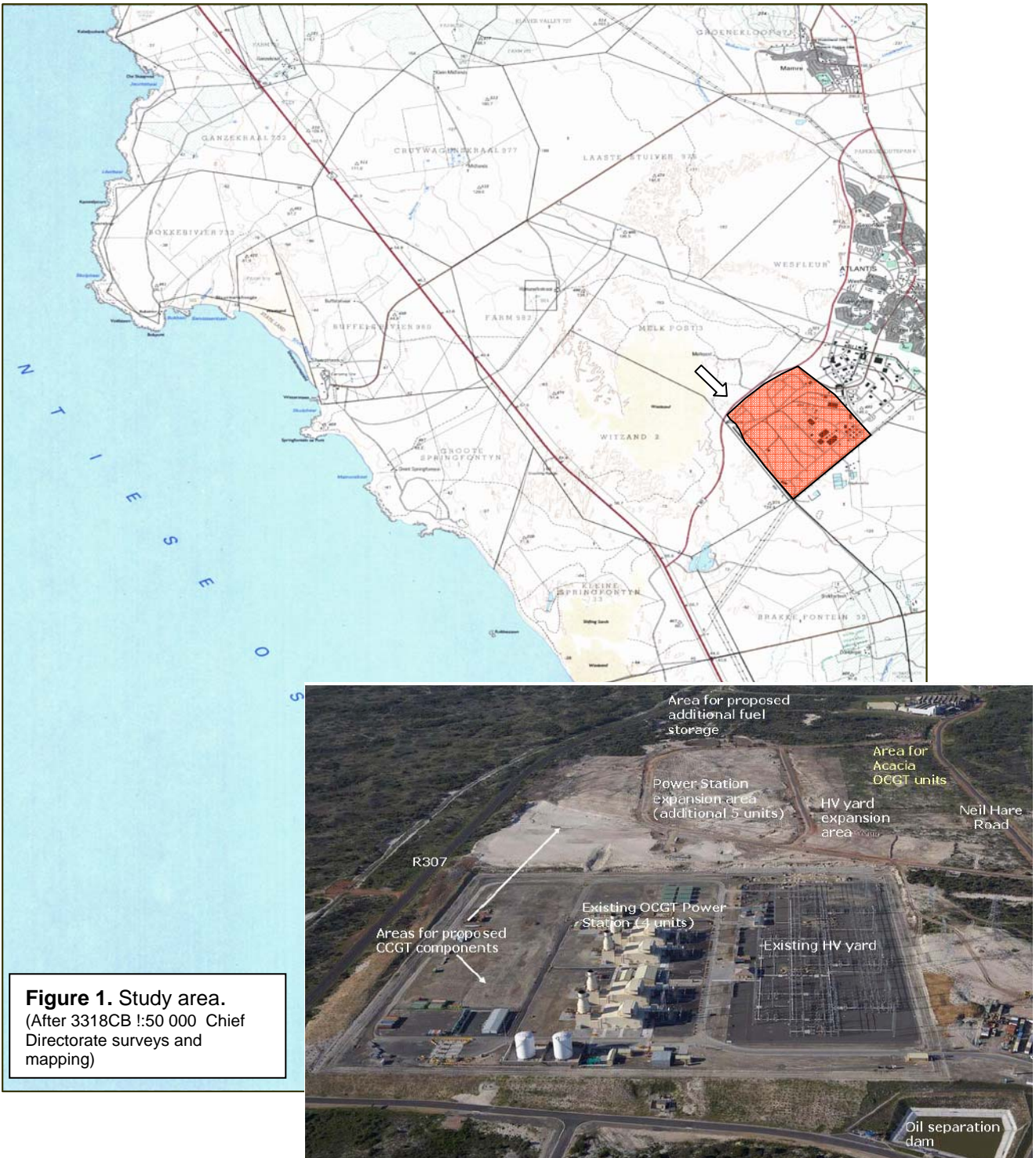
earths surface. Hence it often takes the form of large nodules or rafts. It was often collected by prehistoric people who used it to make stone artefacts on accounts of the rocks fine grain and predictable fracturing qualities.

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Archaeology Contracts Office of the University of Cape Town was appointed by Savannah Environmental to assess the potential impacts of the proposed relocation of the Acacia Park aero-derived gas turbines as well as one gas turbine from Port Rex (Eastern Cape) to the newly constructed Ankerlig Power Station at Atlantis Industria, South Western Cape Province. The relocation of the units will require an additional transmission line (132 kV) to facilitate linkage of the units to the backup power supply for Koeberg Nuclear Power Station. Two alternative routes have been subject to assessment.



2. TERMS OF REFERENCE

ACO was appointed by Savannah Environmental Pty Ltd to assess the comparative impacts of 2 alternative transmission line routes through Atlantis Industria in terms of heritage as defined by the National Heritage Resources Act.

3. HERITAGE LEGISLATION

The National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA) (No. 25 of 1999) protects a variety of heritage resources including all palaeontological or prehistoric material, historical artefacts and structures and human remains. Section 38 of the Act states that Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs) are required for certain kinds of development including:

- the construction of a road, wall, power line, pipeline, canal or other similar linear development or barrier exceeding 300 m in length;
- the construction of a bridge or similar structure greater than 50 m in length;
- any development or other activity which will change the character of a site –
 - exceeding 5 000 m² in extent;
 - involving three or more existing erven or subdivisions thereof;
 - involving three or more erven or divisions thereof which have been consolidated within the past five years; or
- the re-zoning of a site exceeding 10 000 m² in extent.

The current project involves the construction of a transmission line longer than 300 m.

Stand alone HIAs are not required where an EIA is carried out as long as the EIA contains an adequate HIA component that fulfils the provisions of Section 38. In such cases only those components not addressed by the EIA should be covered by the heritage component. The South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) is responsible for the protection of National Heritage Sites (grade 1 sites) as well as all historic graves and human remains. HWC is responsible for the management and protection of all Provincial Heritage Sites (grade 2 sites), generally protected heritage and structures (grade 3a – 3c sites) and prehistoric human remains. Disturbance or destruction of any protected heritage material will require a permit issued by the relevant authority.

In terms of the NHRA, the definitions of protected heritage material covered by the various sections are as follows:

- In Section 34, "**Structure**" means any building, works, device or other facility made by people and which is fixed to land, and includes any fixtures, fittings and equipment associated therewith. All such structures greater than 60 years of age are protected. Note that in terms of the legislation all renovations, alterations or changes to any protected structure will also require a permit.
- In Section 35, "**Archaeological**" refers to any material remains resulting from human activity which are older than 100 years of age, in a state of disuse and are in or on land. It includes artefacts, human and hominid remains and artificial features and structures. This means that an archaeological site is any area where there are artefacts (objects made by

human hand) and/or ruins that are over 100 years of age. In terms of rock art it includes all area within 10 m of the art.

- In Section 35, "**Palaeontological**" includes 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 use, and any site which contains such fossilised remains or trace. The term fossil means mineralised bones of animals, shellfish, plants or marine animals and a trace fossil is the track, footprint or cast of a fossil organism that is preserved in stone or consolidated sediment.
- In Section 36, "**Burial Grounds and Graves**" means any place of interment and includes the contents, headstone or other marker of such a place, and any other structure on or associated with such place. Note that although isolated **human remains** are not included here, they are protected by other legislation such as the Exhumations Ordinances (12 of 1980) and the Human Tissues Act (No. 65 of 1983).
- "*Cultural landscapes*" are also protected by the Act. Any "**Place**" (site, area, region, structure or group of structures or open space) with "**Cultural significance**" (aesthetic, architectural, historical, scientific, social, spiritual, linguistic or technological value or significance) can be regarded as a cultural landscape. The compliance authority is permitted to intervene and comment on the design and aesthetic qualities of any development that forms part of, or is within sight of, a heritage place or site.

4. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

4.1. The study area

The study area is in Atlantis Industria, a largely defunct collection of industrial erven serviced by a mainly abandoned railway network and neglected road system. The most recent major industrial development in the area is the Ankerlig Open Cycle Gas Turbine and its current expansion phases which are under construction. It is envisaged that the 4 aero-derived gas turbines will be removed from Acacia Park and Port Rex and re-commissioned at Ankerlig Power Station, Atlantis to serve as backup/emergency power for the Koeberg Nuclear Power Station. The two proposed 132KV transmission line alternative will link the new Ankerlig 132 KV yard with existing infrastructure that services Koeberg.

4.2. Activities that will affect the heritage environment

In terms of the proposed activity, there is a very slight possibility that tower bases may impact the generally protected heritage material (archaeology) that could lie on the ground surface within the required servitude. The footprint size of the tower bases are minimal, so areas of potential disturbance are very small.

4.3. The proposed activity

The activity that is assessed is the construction of a new 132kV transmission line. Three options were proposed by Eskom for investigation in the EIA process. The three options for the 132KV power line routes are indicated on Figure 2.

Option 1: From structure DA-KO9 almost due north-west with a dogleg to the north into the 132kV yard from the east. This route is the shortest at 2.6km and has the least bends and no HV line crossings.

Option 2: From structure DA-KO12 south of and parallel to the 400kV lines into Ankerlig. This route crosses the 400kV lines and heads north-east until it takes the same dog-leg as Option 1 into the 132kV yard from the east. This route is the most problematical as it has to cross below the four 400kV lines and also cross a railway servitude. It is about 3.8km long.

Option 3: From structure DA-KO13 also south of and parallel to the 400kV lines into Ankerlig. This route, however, goes the long way round to the west of the Ankerlig site and into the 132kV yard from the west. This route is the longest at nearly 5km with the most bends. It will probably have to cross and re-cross the main road from the West Coast Road into Atlantis. This option was excluded from further investigation within the Scoping Phase of the process.

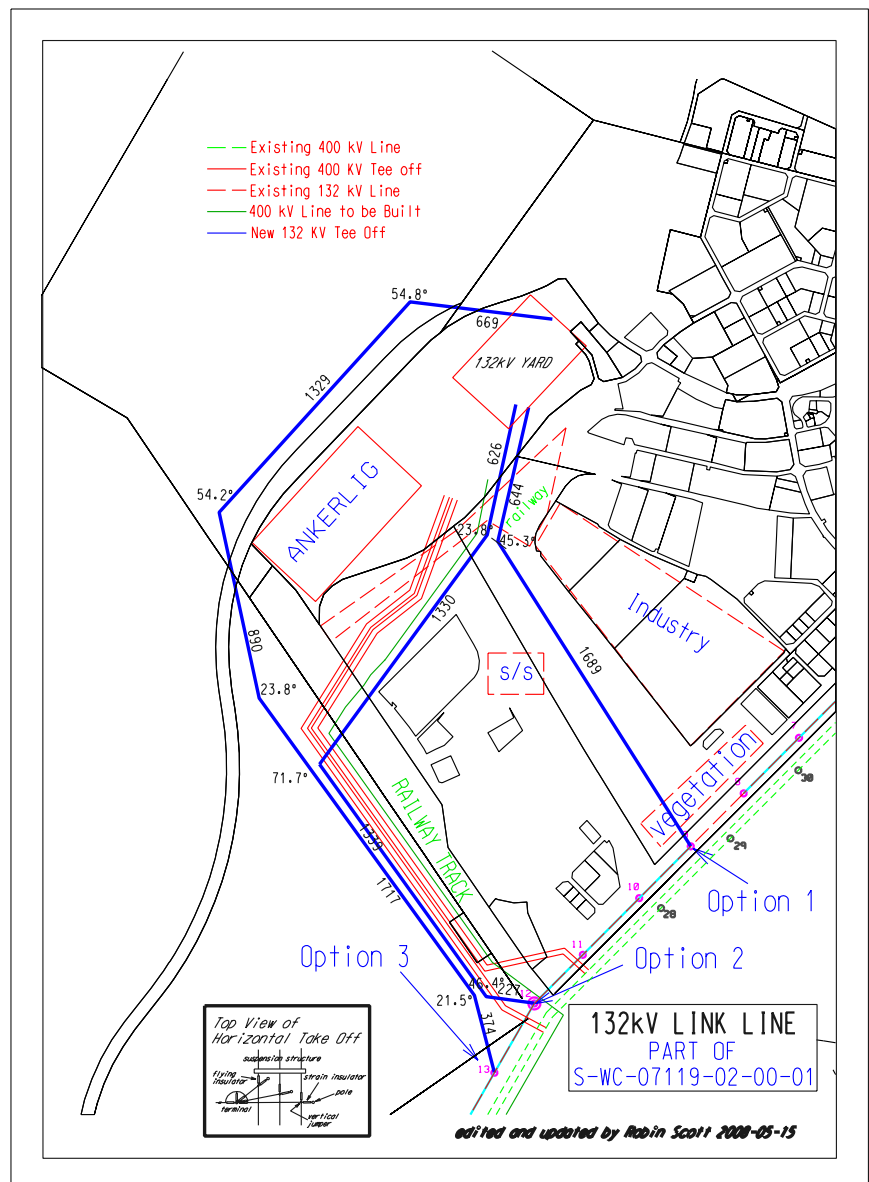


Figure 3: Location of transmission line options (map supplied by Savannah Environmental Pty Ltd)

5. METHOD

This study is based on information gained from what now amounts to numerous site visits in the area which have mainly taken place during transmission line assessments for Ankerlig and the Ankerlig site itself. During these studies all heritage sites observed were photographed, assigned

a co-ordinate/s using a hand held GPS and described.

5.1. Information base

The Ankerlig site, expansion site and transmission line linkages have been subject to previous heritage impact assessments completed as part of an EIA by Hart and Orton (2005-2007).

The farm Brakkekloof has been subject to a heritage impact assessment (as part of an EIA) by Hart and Halkett (2004) for expansion of aspects of the Western Province Shooting Range.

The farms Donkergat, Brakkefontein and Apollo brickfields sites were the subject of a heritage impact assessment as part of an EIA by Halkett and Orton (2005) for the establishment of a new landfill site.

A portion of the farm Vaatjie has been subject to an assessment by Halkett, Orton and Hart (2006) for the purpose of a proposed sand mine.

5.2. Limitations

No limitations were encountered.

6. BACKGROUND TO LOCAL HERITAGE

6.1. Palaeontology

The mineralised bones of ancient fauna are often found in this region of the Cape west coast. Fossils are regularly encountered between Woodstock beach, near Cape Town, and Saldanha Bay to the north of Yzerfontein. These include the material excavated from sites such as Elandsfontein (Singer & Wymer 1968), Duinefontein 2 (Klein *et al.* 1999) and Langebaanweg (Halkett & Hart 1999; Hendey 1969; Singer 1961). Fossil bones were also seen at Bakoond (Orton 2007) and Tygerfontein (Halkett & Hart 1995), both to the south of Yzerfontein, and a large collection has been made from an occurrence at Melkbosstrand (Hendey 1968). Material from the Milnerton beach area has also been recorded (Avery 1995; Broom 1909). Fossil material at Milnerton includes terrestrial and marine fauna, as well as shell deposits (Avery 1995). Many of these occurrences occur near the surface with the Melkbosstrand material having been exposed by wind deflation on an old marine terrace some 5 to 6 m above sea level (Hendey 1968). The Duinefontein 2 material occurs buried within red Pleistocene sands immediately north of the Koeberg power station within about 0.7 m of the surface (Klein *et al.* 1999), however it is not clear how far inland the fossiliferous deposits extend.

6.2. Archaeology

Due to the rapid urban expansion of greater Cape Town, little formal archaeological academic research work has been carried out in the general vicinity of the study area; however various impacts assessments have led to the accumulation of some knowledge. Although southern Africa has been occupied by hominids for more than one million years, little evidence of the earliest occupation is preserved within the local region. The fossil site of Duinefontein 2 in the Koeberg Private Nature Reserve contains Early Stone Age (ESA, >200 thousand years ago (kya)) artefacts and similar isolated items are routinely found in ploughed fields across the south-western Cape.

Middle Stone Age (MSA, 200kya – 20kya) artefacts were found in association with the Melkbosstrand fossils (Hendey 1968) indicating at least some MSA presence in the area. MSA artefacts of the Stillbay type have also been collected in the region of Maitland just south of the study area (Goodwin 1926, 1928) and at a site described as being between Milnerton and Maitland (Goodwin & Van Riet Lowe 1929). Artefacts thought to date to the MSA were observed at Groot Oliphantskop to the east of the Melkbosstrand WWTW (Orton & Hart 2004) and in the region of Vissershok (Kaplan 2002a).

In general, Later Stone Age (LSA, <20kya) sites are far more commonly encountered than earlier material. This may be largely due to burial of older sites beneath recent sand. The only formal excavations to have taken place at an LSA site are those in the near coastal dunes of the Atlantic Beach Golf Estate, just northwest of Blaauwberg Hill and at Melkbosstrand. At the Atlantic Beach sites late Holocene LSA occupation probably pertaining to the Khoekhoen people was found. The sites were located in the high sand dunes and consisted of shell middens and associated artefacts. The lowest shell layers were dated to about AD 700 to AD 750 at AB1 and about AD 1050 at AB3 (Sealy *et al.* 2005). Kaplan (2000a) and Gray (2000) conducted excavations in a shell midden with material probably dating back to the mid-Holocene but this has never been studied further. Hendey (1968) and Avery (1995) also mention the existence of LSA shell middens among the coastal dunes and photographs of Bloubergstrand from the early 1900s in Duminy (1979) show the kind of dunes that would undoubtedly have housed LSA middens. The Atlantic Beach sites are approximately 1.3 km from the sea so the chance of finding further sites within the study area does exist.

LSA artefacts have also been noted from the vicinity of Maitland (Goodwin & Van Riet Lowe 1929), the farm Groot Oliphantskop – site of the Omega sub-station (Kaplan 1996; Orton & Hart 2004) as well as other farms in the area (Kaplan 2004). Halkett (per comm.) reports the presence of Early Stone Age scatters on the farm Vaatjie as well as substantial Late Stone Age open sites on an adjoining property. Early Stone Age material has also be located on the farm Brakkefontein just south of Atlantis (Halkett 2005).

Two burials were reportedly excavated from the Groot Oliphantskop farm in the mid-20th century (Kaplan 1996). Morris (1992) has catalogued human burials from South Africa and records numerous burials from the Milnerton (13 listed), Blaauwberg (20 listed) and Melkbosstrand (22 listed) areas. Others have also been recorded in recent years (e.g. Avery 1995; Deacon & Goosen 1997; Kaplan 2000a, 2002b; Yates 2001) and continue to be found at new development sites.

6.3. History

During the early years of the Cape Colony the Dutch settlers made use of the area for grazing but they are unlikely to have left any trace of this use. Early land grants resulted in the construction of farm buildings but not many remain intact today. Those at Groot Oliphantskop are, however, excellent and well preserved examples (Orton & Hart 2004) and, although now modified, the farmstead immediately north of the Blaauwberg Hill also relates to historical occupation of the area. There are excellent examples of vernacular farm structures on the farm Brakkefontein as well as Vaatjie.

The most significant historical event to take place in the area was the Battle of Blaauwberg which occurred in early January 1806. This battle signalled the end of the Dutch occupation of the Cape when the British forces landed at Melkbosstrand, marched over the saddle at the north-eastern edge of Blouberg Hill and defeated the Dutch in a battle among the sand dunes to the east of Kleinberg. This event took place just south of the study area and will not be affected by the proposed activity.

7. FINDINGS OF SURVEY

7.1. Cultural landscape

Given the relatively short length of the proposed options, the pre-existing industrial landscape and transmission lines combined with the relatively small profile of the 132kV towers, the proposed activity is unlikely to constitute a landscape intrusion. The significance of impacts is expected to be very low.

7.2. Structures

No generally protected buildings were identified in or close to either of the 2 options

7.3. Palaeontology

No surface palaeontology was identified in or close to either of the 2 options.

7.4. Archaeology (pre-colonial)

Options 1 and 2 lie on land that has been subject to previous surveys. No significant archaeological material has been found on any of these alignments.

8. ASSESSMENT OF IMPACTS

8.1. Cultural landscape

| NATURE OF IMPACT: Impacts to cultural landscape (historical pattern of settlement) | | |
|---|---------------------------|------------------------|
| The possible impact would be visible physical disruption of the historical pattern of land- use. | | |
| | Without mitigation | With mitigation |
| EXTENT | Local (1) | N/a |
| DURATION | Long term (4) | N/a |
| MAGINITUDE | Small (1) | N/a |
| PROBABILITY | Unlikely (2) | N/a |
| SIGNIFICANCE | Low (12) | N/a |
| STATUS | Neutral – low negative | N/a |
| REVERSIBILITY | reversible | N/a |
| IRREPLACEABLE LOSS OF RESOURCES? | No | N/a |
| CAN IMPACTS BE MITIGATED? | Mitigation not required | |
| MITIGATION: No mitigation required | | |
| CUMULATIVE IMPACTS: N/a | | |
| RESIDUAL IMPACTS: N/a | | |

Table 1 Summary of impacts to cultural landscape

8.2. Archaeological sites

| | | |
|--|---------------------------|------------------------|
| NATURE OF IMPACT: Impacts to pre-colonial archaeology caused by destruction and displacement of archaeological material but excavation of bases for towers. | | |
| | Without mitigation | With mitigation |
| EXTENT | Local | N/a |
| DURATION | N/a | N/a |
| MAGINITUDE | N/a | N/a |
| PROBABILITY | Unlikely | N/a |
| SIGNIFICANCE | Not significant | N/a |
| STATUS | Neutral | N/a |
| REVERSIBILITY | N/a | N/a |
| IRREPLACEABLE LOSS OF RESOURCES? | No | N/a |
| CAN IMPACTS BE MITIGATED? | Mitigation not required | |
| MITIGATION: No mitigation required. Site environmental officer must report any unexpected finds of archaeological material, fossil bone or human remains to relevant authority. | | |
| CUMULATIVE IMPACTS: N/a | | |
| RESIDUAL IMPACTS: N/a | | |

Table 2 Summary of impacts to archaeological material

9. HERITAGE MANAGEMENT PLANNING

No specific mitigation measures are required prior to commencement of the proposed activity.

9.1. Action required during the proposed activity

Should any finds be unearthed during construction activity, an archaeologist and Heritage Western Cape should be informed immediately. The relevant contact person at Heritage Western Cape is the Province archaeologist (021 4839685). The person responsible for reporting any finds that evoke concern should be a senior person on site, or an environmental control officer who is on site during construction.

9.2. Human remains

Human remains can occur anywhere on the landscape. Most archaeologists retrieve several skeletons a year from various development projects around the province, so finds of this nature are not necessarily rare. Human remains are protected by several sets of legislation which means that certain protocols must be followed in the event of a find.

- 1) leave the remains in place, nothing should be moved
- 2) Cordon off the area
- 3) Call Ms Mary Leslie at SAHRA (021 4624509)
- 4) Contact an archaeologist
- 5) Once an archaeologist has examined the find, the archaeologist/SAHRA should contact SA Police services and the state pathologist to report human remains
- 6) If the human remains are found to be a legitimate burial or a pre-colonial burial, an emergency exhumation permit will be issued by SAHRA or HWC
- 7) If a crime is suspected, a police docket will need to be opened.

10. CONCLUSION

The proposed activity will take place on land that has been previously assessed and not found to be sensitive, or on land considered not to be sensitive.

In terms of the ranking of options, it is not expected that that any one of the options has significant merit over another, however in terms of the unlikely possibility of heritage impacts, a shorter route generally means less potential for negative impact. For this reason, option 1 is marginally preferred over Option 2.

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