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Dear Mr Hine

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION FOR EXEMPTION: PROPOSED MAINTENANCE OF A WATER PIPELINE AT DUVHA POWER STATION, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE.

The Department of Water and Sanitation need to undertake some maintenance on one of their water supply pipelines at the Duvha Power Station. During this time that line will be out of commission. They therefore need to construct an additional pipeline to transport the water needed to the power station during these maintenance activities. The proposed pipeline will follow an existing but old route. The pipeline is 1.2 km long and has a diameter of 0.45 m and therefore will require Environmental Authorisation by means of a Basic Assessment process.

In 2014 I was appointed by Iliso Consulting on behalf of Eskom to survey a section of land at the Duvha Power Station where it is proposed to develop a photovoltaic power plant. The electricity produced by the PV plant will be used internally, allowing Eskom to send more power to the grid. The result of this survey was presented in a report: Van Schalkwyk, J.A. 2014. *Cultural heritage assessment for the proposed construction of a photovoltaic power plant at Duvha Power Station, Mpumalanga Province*. Unpublished report 2014/JvS/062.

Eskom appointed ILISO and the team of specialists that undertook the EIA for the proposed PV plant at the Duvha Power Station because the area affected by the pipeline project overlaps with the PV plant study area.

As no sites, features or objects of cultural heritage significance were identified in the study area during the 2014 survey, there would be no impact as a result of the proposed pipeline development. As such I recommend that the proposed pipeline project be exempted from a heritage impact assessment.

Reasoned opinion as to whether the proposed activity should be authorised:

- From a heritage point of view it is recommended that the proposed development be allowed to continue.

Conditions for inclusion in the environmental authorisation:

- Should archaeological sites or graves be exposed during construction work, it must immediately be reported to a heritage practitioner so that an investigation and evaluation of the finds can be made.



J A van Schalkwyk  
Heritage Consultant  
May 2016