

## Gabriele Wood

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**From:** Karoo Hoogland Munisipaliteit Administrasie <karoadmin@telkomsa.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, 09 October 2015 9:29 AM  
**To:** t.hutcheon@buildingenergy.it; gabriele@savannahsa.com;  
appealsdirector@environment.gov.za  
**Subject:** Registering as Interested and Affected Party : Komsberg & Roggeveld

Please register Karoo Hoogland Municipality :  
Mr GW Von Mollendorf  
[karoadmin@telkomsa.net](mailto:karoadmin@telkomsa.net)  
t.053 3913 003  
f.086 516 2183

Christelle Viljoen

(Administratiewe Beampte: Korporatiewe Dienste)

**Karoo Hoogland Munisipaliteit**

Tel: 053 3913 003

Faks: 053 3913 294 / 086 516 2183

Epos: [karoadmin@telkomsa.net](mailto:karoadmin@telkomsa.net)



**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS**  
**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS**  
**PROPOSED EXPANSION OF THE KOMSBERG SUBSTATION, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE**  
**PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS REGISTRATION FORM AND REPLY FORM**

Return completed reply form to: **Gabriele Wood** of **Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd**  
 Fax: 086 699 5796 Phone: 011 656 3237  
 E-mail: [gabriele@savannahsa.com](mailto:gabriele@savannahsa.com)  
 Postal Address: P O Box 148 Sunninghill 2157

**Please provide your complete contact details:**

|                             |  |            |  |
|-----------------------------|--|------------|--|
| Name & Surname:             | Dr Ramotholo Sefako  |            |  |
| Organisation & Designation: | South African Astronomica Observatory, Head of Telescopes Operations |            |  |
| Postal Address:             | P.O. Box 9<br>Observatory, 7935                                      |            |  |
| Telephone:                  | 021 447 0025   | Cellphone: |  |
| Fax:                        | 021 447 3639   | E-mail:    | <a href="mailto:rrs@sao.ac.za">rrs@sao.ac.za</a> |

**Would you like to register as an interested and affected party (I&AP)?** YES  NO   
 (please tick the relevant box)

**Note:** Please register as an I&AP to receive further correspondence regarding the EIA process for the project. Once registered on the project database, your contact details MAY be included in public documentation.

**Please state your interest in the project** (add additional pages if necessary):

The South African Astronomy Observatory (SAAO) would like to register as an Interested & Affected Party given that the proposed Expansion of the Komsberg Substation falls within the Sutherland Central Astronomy Advantage Area (CAAA), which is declared under the Astronomy Geographic Advantage (AGA) Act of 2007.

**Please list your questions, views or concerns regarding the project** (add additional pages if necessary):

SAAO's main concerns are with regard to developments that can cause light and dust pollution in the vicinity of the Sutherland telescopes. Light and dust pollution affect the quality of the night sky, and therefore such developments will have a negative impact on optical astronomy at SAAO and Southern African Large Telescope (SALT).

**Please provide contact details of other persons who you regard as a potential interested or affected party:**

|                             |   |            |  |
|-----------------------------|---|------------|--|
| Name & Surname:             | Prof Ted Williams                               |            |  |
| Organisation & Designation: | South African Astronomica Observatory, Director |            |  |
| Postal Address:             | P.O. Box 9, Observatory, 7935                   |            |  |
| Telephone:                  | 0214470025                                      | Cellphone: |  |
| Fax:                        | 021 447 3639                                    | E-mail:    | <a href="mailto:williams@sao.ac.za">williams@sao.ac.za</a> |



(Sien keersy vir Afrikaans)

## Gabriele Wood

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**From:** Tebogo Mapinga <tebogo@savannahsa.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 22 October 2015 9:55 AM  
**To:** 'Gabriele Wood'  
**Subject:** FW: Good day

Hi Gabi

Please refer to comments below.

Regards

**Tebogo Mapinga**

Senior Environmental Manager | Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd  
Tel: +27 11 656 3237 | Fax: +27 86 684 0547 | Cell: +27 72 738 3836

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**From:** Jo-Anne Thomas [<mailto:joanne@savannahsa.com>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 22, 2015 8:16 AM  
**To:** [tebogo@savannahsa.com](mailto:tebogo@savannahsa.com)  
**Subject:** FW: Good day

Jo-Anne Thomas  
Director | Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd  
Tel: +27 11 656 3237 | Fax: +27 86 684 0547 | Cell: +27 82 775 5628

-----Original Message-----

**From:** LToolsBernado [<mailto:ltoolsbernado@ncpg.gov.za>]  
**Sent:** 22 October 2015 08:04  
**To:** [info@savannahsa.com](mailto:info@savannahsa.com)  
**Subject:** Good day

Good day

On the 19 of October 2015 the Dept of Environment and Nature Conservation received a BAR with the following Project Description:

Environmental Impact Assessment process public participation process expansion of the existing Komsberg main transmission substation (MTS), near Sutherland, Northern Cape Province.

Please do send the DEA Ref Number as we need to acknowledge the document.

Kind Regards  
Luzane Tools-Bernado  
EIA: Administration

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**Jo-Anne Thomas**

Director

Cell: 082 775 5628

Email: [joanne@savannahsa.com](mailto:joanne@savannahsa.com)

[www.savannahSA.com](http://www.savannahSA.com)



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1st Floor, Block 2, 5 Woodlands Drive Office Park, Woodlands Drive, Woodmead, 2191

*Awarded Leading Environmental Consultant on Wind Projects in 2013 (SAWEA)*

**Disclaimer**

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Version: 2015.0.6172 / Virus Database: 4450/10860 - Release Date: 10/20/15

**OMGEWINGSIMPAKEVALUERINGSPROSES**  
**VOORGESTELDE UITBREIDING VAN DIE KOMSBERG SUBSTASIE, NOORD-KAAPPROVINSIE**  
**OPENBARE DEELNAMEPROSES**  
**REGISTRASIE/KOMMENTAAR VORM**

Stuur voltooide registrasie/kommentaar vorm aan: **Gabriele Wood** van **Savannah Environmental (Edms.) Bpk**

Faks: 086 699 5796

Telefoon: 011 656 3237

E-pos: gabriele@savannahsa.com

Posadres: **Posbus 148 Sunninghill 2157**

**Verskaf aseblief u persoonlike kontak besonderhede:**

Naam & Van:

Organisasie & Rol:

Posadres:

Telefoon:

Faks:

FRANCOIS D CONRADIE

EIENAAR

Posbus 137

Sunninghill

023 5511817

Selfoon:

Vonkpos:

Edconradie@roggseld.co.za

**Stel u belang om te registreer as 'n belangstellende en/of geaffekteerde party (B&GP)?** (Merk met X) JA  NEE

**Nota:** Dit word van u vereis om te registreer as 'n B&GP om alle toekomstige inligting in verband met die Omgewingsimpakevalueringsproses te ontvang.

**Verduidelik u belangstelling in hierdie projek** (gebruik addisionele bladsye indien nodig):

EIENAAR v/d plaas Standvastigheid.

**Lys u vrae, opinies of besorghede in verband met hierdie projek** (gebruik addisionele bladsye indien nodig):

**Verskaf bykommende kontak besonderhede van addisionele persoon/e wie u beskou as potensiële belangstellende en/of geaffekteerde partye:**

Naam & Van:

Organisasie & Rol:

Posadres:

Telefoon:

Faks:

Selfoon:

E-pos:



## environmental affairs

Department:  
Environmental Affairs  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447 · PRETORIA · 0001 · Environment House · 473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia, · PRETORIA  
Tel (+ 27 12) 399 9372

**NEAS Reference:** DEA/EIA/0000139/2015

**DEA Reference:** 14/12/16/3/3/1/1482

**Enquiries:** Constance Musemburi

**Telephone:** 012-399-9416 **E-mail:** CMusemburi@henvironment.gov.za

Ms Karen Jodas  
Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd.  
P. O. Box 148  
**SUNNINGHILL**  
2191

Tel: (011) 656 3237  
Email: Karen@savannahsa.com

### PER EMAIL / MAIL

Dear Ms Jodas

### COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT (“DBAR”) FOR THE PROPOSED EXPANSION OF THE KOMSBERG MAIN TRANSMISSION SUBSTATION AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE WITHIN THE KAROO HOOGLAND LOCAL MUNICIPALITY IN THE NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE.

The Draft Basic Assessment Report (DBAR) dated October 2015, received by the Department on 16 October 2015 and the acknowledgement letter of the application form and the DBAR issued by the Department on 26 October 2015, refer.

The Department has the following comments:

#### Public Participation Process

Please note that you are reminded to comply with the requirements of the public participation process in terms of the EIA Regulations 2014. In this regard, among other things, comments from this Department's Biodiversity Section, other relevant organs of state and all the I&APs must be submitted in the final BAR.

#### Specialist Reports

The independence of Mr Gerhardus Botha of Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd. who compiled the Ecological Specialist Report dated October 2015 may be questioned as he is working for the same company (Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd.) who is commissioned as the environmental consultancy to conduct the basic assessment for the above mentioned application. An external review of this specialist report in this regard is strongly recommended by this Department. Please note that the external review must be brought to the attention of all the registered Interested and Affected Parties for their comments. This must be done prior to the submission of the FBAR to this Department.

#### General

You are required to comply with Regulation 19 (1) (a) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (2014), which state that:

*"Where basic assessment must be applied to an application, the applicant must, within 90 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, submit to the competent authority -  
(a) a basic assessment report, inclusive of specialist reports, an EMPr, and where applicable a closure plan, which have been subjected to a public participation process of at least 30 days and which reflects the incorporation of comments received, including any comments of the competent authority"*

Seeing that there are significant changes or new information that must be added to the DBAR (w.r.t. Ecological Specialist Report) or EMPr or information which was not contained in the reports consulted on during the initial public participation process, you are therefore required to comply with Regulation 19 (b) which state:

*"notification in writing that the basic assessment report, inclusive of specialist reports an EMPr, and where applicable, a closure plan, will be submitted within 140 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, as significant changes have been made or significant new information has been added to the basic assessment report or EMPr or, where applicable, a closure plan, which changes or information was not contained in the reports or plans consulted on during the initial public participation process contemplated in sub-regulation (1)(a) and that the revised reports or, EMPr or, where applicable, a closure plan will be subjected to another public participation process of at least 30 days".*

Further note that in terms of Regulation 45 of the EIA Regulations 2014, this application will lapse if the applicant fails to meet any of the timeframes prescribed in terms of the these Regulations, unless an extension has been granted in terms of Regulation 3(7).

You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No 107 of 1998, as amended, that no activity may commence prior to an environmental authorisation being granted by the Department.

Yours sincerely



**Mr Sabelo Malaza**  
**Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations**  
**Department of Environmental Affairs**  
**Letter signed by: Mr Wayne Hector**  
**Designation: Deputy Director: Strategic Infrastructure Developments**  
**Date: 20/11/15**

|     |                    |                            |                             |
|-----|--------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| CC: | John Geeringh      | Eskom Holdings SOC Limited | Email: GeerinJH@eskom.co.za |
|     | ayaphi@ncpg.gov.za | Northern Cape DENC         | Email: ayaphi@ncpg.gov.za   |



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

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South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town  
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[www.sahra.org.za](http://www.sahra.org.za)

Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt

Date: Friday January 08, 2016

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Email: [nhiggitt@sahra.org.za](mailto:nhiggitt@sahra.org.za)

CaseID: 8957

## Final Comment

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

Attention: Eskom Holdings SOC Limited  
Limpopo Operating Unit  
Land Development and Environment Section

#### **Proposed expansion of the Komsberg Main Transmission Substation & Associated Infrastructure near Sutherland, NC Province**

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd (Savannah) was contracted by Eskom Holdings SOC Limited (Eskom) to complete a Basic Assessment Report (BAR) and Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) for the proposed expansion of the Komsberg Main Transmission Substation (MTS) and associated infrastructure near Sutherland, Northern Cape. Savannah contracted Celeste Booth and John Almond to conduct the Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) and the Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA) for the project respectively.

*Booth, 2015. A Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) for the proposed extension of the existing Komsberg Substation (Two Alternatives areas) and widening of the access road, near Sutherland, Northern Cape.*

The author assessed the two alternatives for the location of the proposed substation extension and one alternative (preferred route) for the access road. Alternative 2 for the substation extension was the preferred alternative as it had been previously disturbed due to construction activities associated with the existing substation. No archaeological heritage resources were identified within the proposed project area and the impact significance to heritage resources was low. However, it was noted that heritage resources and informal burials may be present 50-80cm below the surface.

Recommendations in the AIA included the following:

Should the current layout of the proposed development be altered in anyway, an archaeological walk-through of these changes must be conducted and further mitigation measures be made if relevant;

Should heritage resources be uncovered during the construction phase of the project, all work in the area must cease immediately and be reported to SAHRA and/or the McGregor Museum, Kimberly. The find should be investigated by a professional archaeologist who will provide further recommendations. Should it be deemed





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Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt

Date: Friday January 08, 2016

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necessary, a Phase 2 Mitigation permit must be applied for in order to conduct any sampling, excavations or collections of heritage deposit before the development can continue.

A trained site monitor must be present during the construction phase of the development. This individual will report on any archaeological sites uncovered during the development. Construction managers/foreman and/or the Environmental Control Officer (ECO) should be trained to identify the typical heritage resources that would be expected within the project area and what procedures should be followed should these types of heritage be found.

*Almond, 2015. Palaeontological Heritage Assessment: Combined Desktop and Field-Based Study (Basic Assessment) for the Proposed Expansion of the existing Komsberg Main Transmission Substation on farm Standvastigheid 210 near Sutherland, Northern Cape.*

The author found that the fluvial Abrahamskraal Formation, known for its diverse fauna of Permian fossils vertebrates as well as fossil plants of the *Glossopteris* flora, underlies the Komsberg Substation study area. A well-exposed section of Abrahamskraal formation was examined to the north and west of the proposed project area, however no fossils resources were identified. One instance of vague trace fossils was identified approximately 1 km from the proposed project area. It was stated that the overall impact significance of the construction phase of the proposed project is assessed as low.

Recommendations included:

Should construction activities occur deeper than 1 m, the bedrock excavations must be monitored by the responsible ECO. Should any fossil remains be exposed during construction, the ECO must stabilise the find and report the incident to SAHRA APM Unit. The find must be investigated by a professional palaeontologist who will provide further recommendations. Should it be deemed necessary, a Phase 2 Mitigation permit must be applied for in order to conduct any sampling, excavations or collections of heritage deposit before the development can continue.

Regarding archaeological and palaeontological heritage resources, the SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit accepts the submitted AIA and PHA and their respective recommendations, and has no objections against the development. The following additional conditions must be adhered to and must form part of the final EMPr:

-A Chance Finds Procedure and Fossil Finds Procedure must be developed for the project to ensure that standard protocols and steps are followed should any heritage and/or fossil resources be uncovered during the construction phase of the project. These procedures should outline the steps and reporting structure to be



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followed in the instance that heritage resources are found.

-The EMPr discussed three alternatives for the access road, however the AIA and PHA only assessed the preferred alternative. As such, should the preferred option assessed as part of the AIA and PHA be changed to one of the other two alternatives, the alternative must be subjected to a final walk-down prior to construction taking place to ensure that no heritage resources will be impacted on. A walk-down report detailing the findings of the assessment must be submitted to SAHRA for comment before construction takes place. The above condition must apply for any changes in the layout of the proposed development.

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

Yours faithfully

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Natasha Higgitt  
Heritage Officer  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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Phillip Hine  
SAHRA Head Archaeologist (Acting)  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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**ADMIN:**

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/354085>



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Department of Arts and Culture

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Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt

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Email: [nhiggitt@sahra.org.za](mailto:nhiggitt@sahra.org.za)

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CaseID: 8957

**Terms & Conditions:**

1. This approval does not exonerate the applicant from obtaining local authority approval or any other necessary approval for proposed work.
2. If any heritage resources, including graves or human remains, are encountered they must be reported to SAHRA immediately.
3. SAHRA reserves the right to request additional information as required.