

CONFIRMATION OF DESKTOP PALAEOONTOLOGICAL HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT ON THE SITE OF SUBIFLEX (PTY) LTD'S PROPOSED COAL MINE ON THE FARM THE DUEL 186 MT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

Background

Subiflex (Pty) Ltd holds a Prospecting Right on the farms Lotsieus 176 MT, Kranspoort 180 MT, Nairobi 181 MT and The Duel 186 MT, 20 km southwest of Tshipise, Limpopo Province, South Africa. Since part of this Prospecting Right falls within the RED category SAHRA's Palaeontological Sensitivity Map, **BM Geological services** was contracted to prepare a Desktop Palaeontological Heritage Assessment Report. The study was carried out in August 2015. Due to the time which has elapsed since the submission of this report, it became necessary for a follow up confirmatory report be carried out on the farm The Duel 186 MT.

Present Study

The 1:250 000 geological map of Musina (sheet 2230) shows the area to be underlain by crystalline quartzites of the Palaeoproterozoic Soutpansberg Group and aeolian sandstones of the Clarens Formation (Upper Karoo Supergroup). The geology was confirmed by a field visit in April 2019.

The quartzites of the Soutpansberg are unfossiliferous and therefore have no palaeontological potential. The fossil potential of the Fripp Formation is low, but does contain *Dicroidium* leaf flora and also a diverse vertebrate fossil fauna.

Recommendations

The Desktop Palaeontological Heritage Assessment Report prepared by BD Millstead for BM Geological Services dated 20/08/2015 did not identify any palaeontological reason to prejudice the progression of the proposed mining operations subject to the recommended damage mitigation procedures being enacted. The present desktop study fully supports this view.



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