

Environmental Impact Management Services (Pty) Ltd
Registration Number: 1992/005927/07
Directors: T. Nkhahle, A. Smith, L. Whitlow



8 July, 2014

Our ref: 0974/BK/BK
GDARD ref: S24G/03/13-14/0268

South African Heritage Resources Agency

111 Harrington Street
Cape Town
South Africa

Tel: (021) 462 4502

Mr Mariagrazia Galimberti / Kathryn Smuts

Dear Mariagrazia / Kathryn

NOTICE OF S24G RECTIFICATION APPLICATION PROCESS

**UNLAWFUL CONSTRUCTION OF A DAM AND A ROAD WITHIN A WETLAND ON PORTION 1
OF THE FARM GROENFONTEIN 126, IN THE CITY OF TSHWANE METROPOLITAN
MUNICIPALITY, GAUTENG PROVINCE**

Environmental Impact Management Services (Pty) Ltd (EIMS) has been appointed by Dura Equipment Sales (Pty) Ltd (the Applicant) to apply for Rectification and Environmental Authorization (EA) from the Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (GDARD) for unauthorized construction of a dam and a road within a wetland. The dam and the road are located on the Portion 1 of the farm Groenfontein 126 (commonly known as Halali Wilderness), in the City of Tswane Metropolitan Municipality, Gauteng Province. The nature and extent of this activity is explored in more detail below.

OVERVIEW OF THE PROPOSED SITE

The site is located on Portion 1 of the farm Groenfontein 126 (see Appendix A). It falls within the City of Tswane Metropolitan Municipality. The geographical coordinates of the site are presented in Decimal Degrees: -25.433880°S 28.489375°E. The site is commonly known as Halali Wilderness and is currently being operated as a game lodge. The following numbers of animals are on the farm:

- ↘ 70 Impala/Rooibok
- ↘ 34 Blesbok
- ↘ 51 Kudu
- ↘ 37 Blouwildebees
- ↘ 10 Eland

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- ✓ 18 Gemsbok (Oryx)
- ✓ 10 Redhartebees
- ✓ 10 Zebra
- ✓ 8 Waterbuck
- ✓ 12 Giraffe
- ✓ 31 Njala
- ✓ 11 Mountain Reed Buck
- ✓ 16 Warthog
- ✓ 13 Ostrich
- ✓ 5 Bushpig
- ✓ 10 Steenbuck
- ✓ 10 Duiker

The site is located in an area that is comprised mostly of game farms. A number of game farms and lodges can be noted along De Wigendrift Road. Dinokeng Game Reserve is also located close to the site.

OVERVIEW OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

Dura Equipment Sales constructed an access road and dam within a wetland on Portion 1 of the farm Groenfontein 126 (Commonly known as Halali Wilderness), City of Tswane Metropolitan Municipality. For safety reasons the site has a firebreak along its boundary that also functions as an internal access road. This internal access road around the boundary of the site therefore exists except for the small section that formed part of the wetland and was therefore inaccessible during the wet seasons. For security reasons in order to avoid poaching and this area to be inspected daily, Dura Equipment Sales proceeded to build an internal access road across the wetland (Approximately 600 m long) unaware of the legal requirements pertaining to this activity.

In March 2013 when Dura Equipment Sales were constructing the said road they realised that the area was wet and water was accumulating in the excavations. Since Dura Equipment Sales operates a game farm they decided to increase the size of these excavations to serve as a watering hole for the game on site. This activity has therefore expanded to constitute the construction of a dam. Two separate dams were created in the process (see Appendix B). All construction activities were stopped as soon as Dura Equipment Sales received correspondence from GDARD with regard to this legal contravention.

NOTICE OF S24G RECTIFICATION APPLICATION PROCESS

This notice is given in terms of Section 24(G) read together with Section 24(F) of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No 107 of 1998 – NEMA, as amended). The applicant has applied for the following (NEMA) listed activities:

- ✎ **Activity No 11 under GN R. 544:** The construction of (ii) channels, (iv) dams, (xi) infrastructure or structures covering 50 square metres or more where such construction occurs within a watercourse or within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse, excluding where such construction will occur behind the development setback line.
- ✎ **Activity No 18 under GN R. 544:** The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 5 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock or more than 5 cubic metres from (i) a watercourse.

This project has been registered with the Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (GDARD) under application reference number **S24G/03/13-14/0268**.

This letter serves to notify SAHRA of the proposed project in terms of the requirements of Section 38(1) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act No 25 of 1999). Please provide us with a written comment and/or your recommendations on the proposed application.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the proposed project. Our team welcomes your participation and looks forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Yours Sincerely,

Bongani Khupe (EIMS)
(not signed sent electronically)

- Appended to this letter:
1. Locality Map
 2. Site photographs