



**SOUTH AFRICAN HERITAGE RESOURCES AGENCY**  
 111 HARRINGTON STREET, CAPE TOWN, 8001  
 PO BOX 4637, CAPE TOWN, 8000  
 TEL: 021 462 4502 FAX: 021 462 4509

FOR ATTENTION: **PHRA: Free State**

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SAHRA File No: **9/2/346/0011**  
 Date Received: **27 March 2012**.....  
 Date of Comment: **23 May 2012** .....  
 Sent to Peer Review: .....  
 Date to Peer Review: .....  
 SAHRA Contact Person: **Mr Andrew Salomon**

## REVIEW COMMENT ON ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND PALAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

BY ARCHAEOLOGY/ PALAEOLOGY UNIT OF THE HERITAGE RESOURCES AGENCY

*South Africa has a unique and non-renewable archaeological and palaeontological heritage. Archaeological and palaeontological sites are protected in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act No 25 of 1999) and may not be disturbed without a permit. Archaeological Impact Assessments (AIAs) and Palaeontological Impact Assessments (PIAs) identify and assess the significance of the sites, assess the potential impact of developments upon such sites, and make recommendations concerning mitigation and management of these sites. On the basis of satisfactory specialist reports SAHRA or the relevant heritage resources agency can assess whether or not it has objection to a development and indicate the conditions upon which such development might proceed and assess whether or not to issue permission to destroy such sites.*

*AIAs and PIAs often form part of the heritage component of an Environmental Impact Assessment or Environmental Management Plan. They may also form part of a Heritage Impact Assessment called for in terms of section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act No. 25, 1999. They may have other origins. In any event they should comply with basic minimum standards of reporting as indicated in SAHRA Regulations and Guidelines.*

*This form provides review comment from the Archaeologist of the relevant heritage resources authority for use by Heritage Managers, for example, when informing authorities that have applied to SAHRA for comment and for inclusion in documentation sent to environmental authorities. It may be used in conjunction with Form B, which provides relevant peer review comment.*

- A. PROVINCIAL HERITAGE RESOURCES AUTHORITY: **Free State** .....
- B. AUTHOR(S) OF REPORT: **AIA: G Anderson, PIA: G Groenewald**
- C. ARCHAEOLOGY CONTRACT GROUP: **Umlando**
- D. CONTACT DETAILS: **PO Box 102532, Meerensee, 3901**
- E. DATE OF REPORT: **AIA: 21 March 2012, PIA: 30 January 2012**
- F. TITLE OF REPORT: **AIA: Heritage Survey of the proposed Senekal Solid Waste Disposal Site, Free State. PIA: Palaeontological Impact Assessment Report: Proposed Senekal Solid Waste Facility.**
- G. Please circle as relevant: Archaeological component of EIA / EMP / HIA / CMP/ Other (Specify).....
- H. REPORT COMMISSIONED BY (CONSULTANT OR DEVELOPER): **Metsi Metseng Geological Services**
- I. CONTACT DETAILS: **Suite 91, P Bag X62, Bethlehem, 9700, tom@mmges.co.za**
- J. COMMENTS: .....
- Please see comment on next page*.....

## REVIEW COMMENT ON ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND PALAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

AIA: G Anderson, March 2012

PIA: G Groenewald, January 2012

### Heritage Survey of the proposed Senekal Solid Waste Disposal Site, Free State and Palaeontological Impact Assessment Report: Proposed Senekal Solid Waste Facility

The proposed development entails a solid waste disposal site of approximately 2.4ha, located next to the John du Plessis tar road linking the Senekal industrial area and the N5. Further infrastructure will include and new access road 5m wide, a 2m high security fence and gate, surface water drains, an evaporation pond and leachate drainage pipes.

The desktop archaeological assessment revealed that there is a significant probability of heritage sites occurring within the study area and the author recommends that the area needs to be subjected to a Phase 1 (and possibly a Phase 2) Archaeological Impact Assessment.

The palaeontological assessment notes that the outcrop areas of the Adelaide Subgroup of the development site have a high palaeontological sensitivity rating. The author recommends that:

- A permit for the collection and rescue of fossils from the Adelaide Subgroup must be obtained from SAHRA.
- All earth-moving activities within the underlying bedrock with potential impact are to be monitored by a palaeontologist and a monitoring report should be submitted to SAHRA after completion of the earth-moving activities.
- The resident ECO must be trained by a professional palaeontologist in the recognition of fossils and if fossil material is discovered it must be protected and reported.

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorite Unit supports the recommendations of the authors and requires that the study area be subjected to a Phase I Archaeological Impact Assessment to be submitted to SAHRA for comments prior to any development. If a Phase 2 Archaeological mitigation is required, this must be preceded by application for, and granting of, the appropriate permit/s from SAHRA.

Please note that decisions on Built Environment must be referred to the Free State Provincial Heritage Resources Agency (Mr Gabriel Tlhapi: tlhapig@sacr.fs.gov.za, Tel: 0514104830).

SIGNATURE OF ARCHAEOLOGIST PROCESSING REPORT:  .....

EMAIL: *asalomon@sahra.org.za* .....

SIGNATURE OF SAHRA HEAD ARCHAEOLOGIST:  .....

EMAIL: *cscheermeyer@sahra.org.za* .....

NAME OF HERITAGE RESOURCES AGENCY: *SAHRA* .....

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE COMMENT (ABOVE OR APPENDED) CONSTITUTES THE COMMENT OF THE HERITAGE RESOURCES AGENCY ARCHAEOLOGIST AND THAT ANY DEVELOPMENT THAT INVOLVES DESTRUCTION OF ANY ARCHAEOLOGICAL/PALAEOLOGICAL SITE IS STILL

SUBJECT TO A PERMIT/PERMISSION FOR DESTRUCTION OF SUCH SITE GIVEN TO THE DEVELOPER BY THE RELEVANT HERITAGE RESOURCES AGENCY ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND PALAEOLOGICAL PERMIT COMMITTEE (THIS WILL BE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OF THE PHASE 2 OR ARCHAEOLOGICAL/PALAEOLOGICAL MITIGATION AS NECESSARY). THIS REPORT MAY BE TAKEN ONLY AS APPROVAL, IN PRINCIPLE, IN TERMS OF SECTION 35 OF THE NATIONAL HERITAGE RESOURCES ACT. THE PROVINCIAL MANAGER OF THE HERITAGE RESOURCES AUTHORITY MUST ADVISE AS TO APPROVAL IN TERMS OF HERITAGE ISSUES ENCOMPASSED BY OTHER ASPECTS OF THE LEGISLATION, SUCH AS ISSUES OF THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT (STRUCTURES (E.G. FARM HOUSES), OVER 60 YEARS), INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS OR OF CULTURAL LANDSCAPES AS THIS IS NOT WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE ARCHAEOLOGIST.

PLEASE NOTE THAT SAHRA IS NOW RESPONSIBLE FOR GRADE I HERITAGE RESOURCES (AND EXPORT) AND THE PROVINCIAL HERITAGE RESOURCES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR GRADE II AND GRADE III HERITAGE RESOURCES, EXCEPT WHERE THERE IS AN AGENCY ARRANGEMENT WITH THE PROVINCIAL HERITAGE RESOURCES AUTHORITY.