

Private Bag 3, WITS 2050, Johannesburg, South Africa Brian F Kuhn, PhD Research 011 717 6658 15 July 2013

RE: Case ID 1740

To: Colette Scheermeyer, Jenna Lavin and whomever it may concern:

In reply to your letter of 5 July I request that it be reviewed prior to my having to choose a single deposit to work on. Considering the recent revelations that almost every single paleontologist, paleo-anthropologist and archaeologist in South Africa has sent geological samples overseas without permits combined with your June 20th statement of 'Please note that the apparent disregard for the significance of the material emanating from this site evidenced by the above actions will be taken into consideration by the APMHOB Permit Committee of SAHRA when assessing any applications received by you, be they for renewal or for new sites' I feel that having my permit renewal shortened to 12 months and restricted to a single deposit is unfairly treating me. As I stated previously I was acting on advice from the curator of collections at the university as well as on the spoken word of former SAHRA employees. Obviously had I realized that with a turnover of staff at SAHRA the way the Heritage Act was being interpreted and enforced would change I would have consulted your office.

The Taung World Heritage Site is unique in that the various fossil deposits span a broad time range in a restricted area, and our goal is to examine the entire record as holistically as possible. In addition, previous permit holders (including my previous permit) allowed for work at the various deposits located within the site. This is also true of other sites in the Cradle of Humankind such as Sterkfontein, Bolt's Farm and Kromdraai to name a few. As I am sure you noticed I am not working alone at Taung, unlike some of my colleagues in the Cradle of Humankind, but have put together a team consisting of paleo-anthropologists, geologists and archaeologists. A team I anticipate will grow over time.

I hope you will reconsider your decision and grant me my original request, for the traditional time frame of 3 years.

Kindest regards,

Brian F Kuhn, PhD