



SOUTH AFRICAN HERITAGE RESOURCES AGENCY
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FOR ATTENTION: PHRA: Gauteng and Free State

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SAHRA File No: 9/2/228/0001
Date Received: 23 February 2012.....
Date of Comment: 23 April 2012
Sent to Peer Review:
Date to Peer Review:
SAHRA Contact Person: Mr Andrew Salomon
DME Ref No:

**REVIEW COMMENT ON
ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
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: **GAUTENG, FREE STATE**
- B. AUTHOR(S) OF REPORT: **Mr Wouter Fourie**
- C. ARCHAEOLOGY CONTRACT GROUP: **Professional Grave Solutions (Pty) Ltd**
- D. CONTACT DETAILS: **P O Box 32542, Totiusdal, 0134, South Africa, Tel: +27 12 332 5305, Fax 0866580199, E-mail:**
- E. DATE OF REPORT: **22 November 2011**
- F. TITLE OF REPORT: **GL21009-RW-B19 Pipeline – Lethabo Pump Station in the Free State Province to Vereeniging Pump Station in the Gauteng Province**
- G. Please circle as relevant: Archaeological component of **EIA / EMP / HIA / CMP Other (Specify)**
- H. REPORT COMMISSIONED BY (CONSULTANT OR DEVELOPER): **Greenline Environmental**
- I. CONTACT DETAILS: **Tel: 011 4750210, dewet@green-line.co.za**
- J. COMMENTS:

Please see comment on next page.....

REVIEW COMMENT ON ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT**W Fourie**

November 2011, received February 2012

GL21009-RW-B19 Pipeline – Lethabo Pump Station in the Free State Province to Vereeniging Pump Station in the Gauteng Province

The proposed development entails 10km of pipeline alignment from the Lethabo Pump Station in the Free State, following the Vaal river flood line, crossing into Gauteng in the vicinity of the Maccauvlei Golf Course following the northern flood line of the Vaal River towards the Vereeniging Pump Station.

The assessment revealed two sites of heritage significance:

RW1: A stone bridge foundation at the entrance to the Maccauvlei Golf Course.

RW2: Unknown brick and concrete structure.

The author notes that both these sites are located outside of the servitude alignment, but that they could be damaged during construction, and recommends that the sites be demarcated during construction and a buffer be fenced, and that destruction or alteration of these sites will require a permit from the Gauteng Provincial Heritage Authority.

The author further recommends that:

- A monitoring plan be agreed upon by all stakeholders for the different project phases where earthmoving will occur.
- If any finds are made during construction, the operations must stop and a qualified archaeologist contacted for an assessment.
- A management plan be developed for managing heritage resources that may be impacted by the development, including basic training for construction staff on possible finds, action steps for mitigation measures, surface collections, excavations and communications in the case of discovery.

If the recommendations made in the specialist report and in this comment are adhered to, the SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit has no objection to the development (in terms of the archaeological component of the heritage resources) on condition that:

- If any new evidence of archaeological sites or artifacts, palaeontological fossils, graves or other heritage resources are found, SAHRA or an archaeologist must be alerted immediately.

Please note that decisions on Built Environment must be referred to the Gauteng Provincial Heritage Resources Authority (Ms Maphata Ramphela: Maphata.Ramphela@gauteng.gov.za, Mr Grant Botha: grantb@gpg.gov.za).

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/PALAEONTOLOGICAL 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 PALAEONTOLOGICAL PERMIT COMMITTEE (THIS WILL BE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OF THE PHASE 2 OR ARCHAEOLOGICAL/PALAEONTOLOGICAL 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.

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