

26 August 2016

Ragna Redelstorff
Heritage Officer
Archaeology, Palaeontology & Meteorites Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Request for Clarification of Request for Sampling Permit (CaseID 9849)

Dear Ragna,

I hope this letter finds you well. I apologise for the lack of clarity in the application and am happy to assist in clarifying the questions raised. Please let me know if you require further clarification.

- 1) All preparation will take place within the acetic acid processing facilities at the Ditsong National Museum of Natural History (DNMNH) in Pretoria, Republic of South Africa under the supervision of Mr. Lazarus Kgasi. As an experienced preparator in the employ of the Plio-Pleistocene Palaeontology Section at the DNMNH, Mr. Kgasi is more than qualified to supervise the preparation of the breccia block.
- 2) Acetic acid preparation can an idiosyncratic process, with the duration dependent on a multitude of factors (e.g., ambient temperature, clastic composition, and percentage of calcium carbonate in the matrix). Given our past experience with preparation of blocks we estimate complete dissolution of the block, recovery of any clastic remains, and sufficient documentation to determine this the Lagaga locality warrants further investigation, from 6 months after commencement of preparation.
- 3) We have lodged a request with the DNMNH to accession any fossil materials that might be recovered from processing. Currently, Dr. Heidi Fourie is serving as collections manager in the Plio-Pleistocene Palaeontology Section of the Department of Vertebrates at the DNMNH. I have appended a letter of support from Dr. Fourie as a separate document.

Sincerely,



Justin W. Adams
Senior Lecturer
Deputy Director, Centre for Human Anatomy Education
Dept. Anatomy and Developmental Biology