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## NICK HELME BOTANICAL SURVEYS

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Pri.Sci.Nat # 400045/08

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6 March 2015

Doug Jeffery Environmental Consultants

Klapmuts

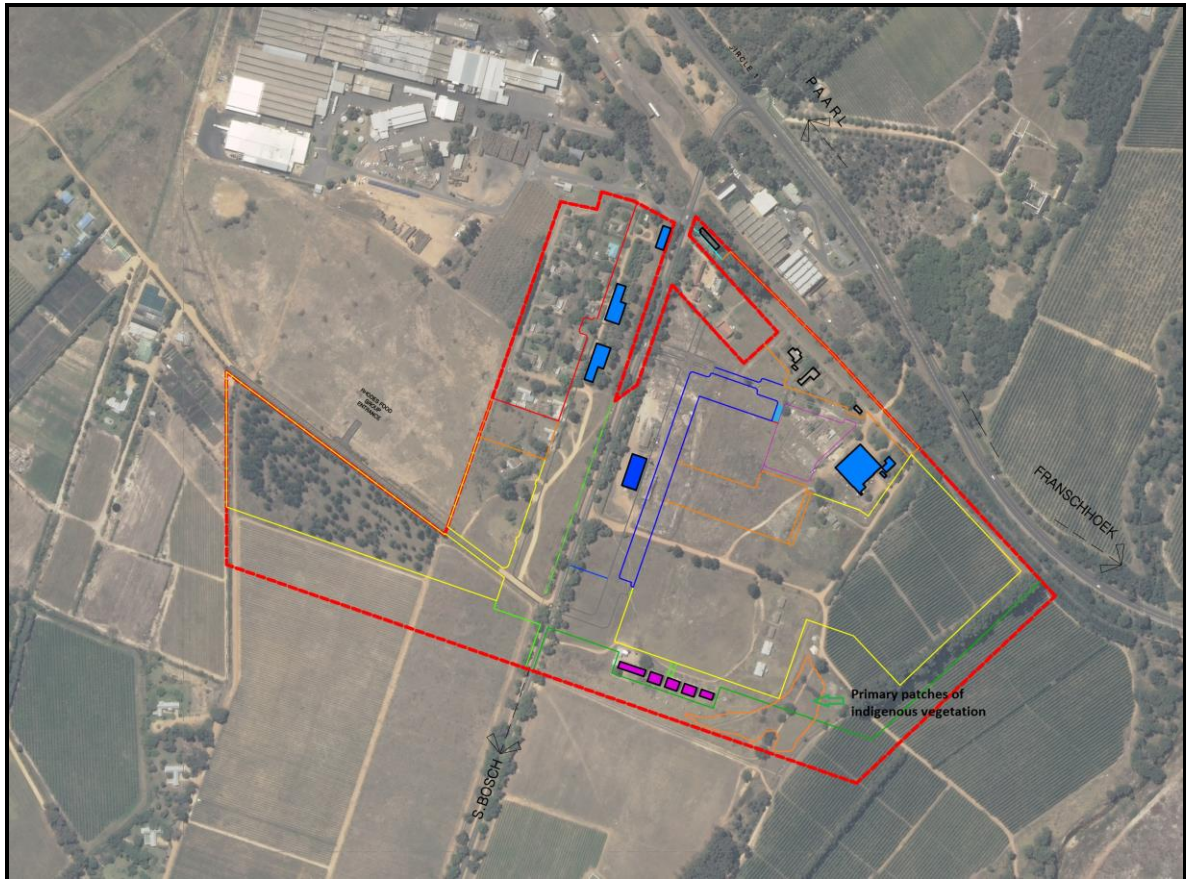
ATT: Lindsay Speirs

Dear Lindsay

**Comment on revised, proposed layout for Boschendal Village development.**

I have reviewed the proposed development area as per Figure 1, and groundtruthed this with a site visit on 5 March 2015, and can confirm that there are no botanical constraints to the proposed development. The entire area is either developed, cultivated or heavily disturbed, and any natural vegetation present is of very low diversity, and made up of resilient, widespread species of no botanical conservation concern.

The few small, seasonal wetlands are secondary in nature, and support no plant species of any conservation significance. Indigenous species recorded in these patches are mainly *Pennisetum macrourum* (fonteingras) and *Searsia angustifolia* (smalblaar). Indigenous species noted in the dryland areas include *Stoebe plumosa* (slangbos), *Anthospermum spathulatum*, *Passerina corymbosa* (gonna) and *Thesium* sp. No plant Species of Conservation Concern were recorded, and none are likely to occur here. The underlying vegetation type is Swartland Alluvium Fynbos (Mucina & Rutherford 2006), which is Critically Endangered on a national basis (DEA 2011).



**Figure 1:** Image showing study area, and primary patches of indigenous vegetation outlined in orange (with green arrow).

Yours sincerely

Nick Helme

### References

DEA. 2011. Threatened Terrestrial Ecosystems in South Africa. *Government Gazette* Vol. 1002: No. 34809. National Printer, Pretoria.

Mucina, L. and M. Rutherford. *Eds.* 2006. Vegetation map of South Africa, Lesotho, and Swaziland. *Strelitzia* 19. South African National Biodiversity Institute, Pretoria.



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25 May 2017

Doug Jeffery Environmental Consultants

ATT: Lindsay Speirs

Dear Lindsay

### **Boschendal water and sewer pipeline routes, Pniel**

I have examined the latest proposed pipeline routing for the new water and sewer pipelines, from Pniel reservoir to Boschendal, and have the following comments:

- 1) The route is unlikely to disturb any patches of intact, significant natural vegetation, and 98% of the route in fact passes through road reserve, dense alien vegetation or agricultural land of no conservation value. The remaining 2% of the route passes through heavily degraded Boland Granite Fynbos of Medium sensitivity.
- 2) Overall botanical impacts of the construction phase of this aspect of the project are likely to be Low negative, even prior to mitigation.
- 3) No specific mitigation is required, other than replacement of the topsoil as soon as possible after pipeline completion. Removal of all invasive alien vegetation within 5m either side of the line would also be recommended, but probably can't be made mandatory due to ownership issues and servitude width issues.

Yours sincerely

Nick Helme