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Cc Reg. No. 2011/028271/23

A LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION FOR EXEMPTION: THE PROPOSED UPGRADE OF THE DIAMANTHOOGTE COMBINED SCHOOL IN THE LETSEMENG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, XHARIEP DISTRICT, FREE STATE PROVINCE

Ref. No: BEC/217/BA

GI. NO. DECIZITIDA

South African Heritage Resource Agency

The Chief Executive Officer

P.O. Box 4637

Cape Town

8000

31 May 2013

Contact details:

Tel: 021 462 4502

Fax: 021 462 4509

Dear Mr A. Salomon,

Bophelo Environmental Consultants was appointed by Crane Registered Quantity Surveyors to investigate the heritage variability of the proposed project mentioned above.

To make a comprehensive and solid recommendation regarding the proposed project, the environmentalist provided a risk assessment report, photograph of the area, and also avail himself for an elementary oral interview of the area. In addition, aerial photographs were studied. Thus, the recommendation on this report is based on information which was provided, and they were assumed to be true. The proposed development consists of upgrading of a school, as such, the footprint on which the development is to take place is already disturbed by past activities related to educational purposes (i.e. school). The western section of the site has already been built-up with non-permanent and permanent structures, while the eastern section of the site is currently used for recreational purposes.

Acting on my independent capacity as an archaeologist, I commend that there is **no** archaeological sites, cultural heritage sites, historic structures, burial grounds or isolated artefacts likely to be present on the affected landscape, due to the disturbed nature of the site. As such, I recommend that the project be exempted from any archaeological assessment studies.

The developer should also be informed that archaeological material (e.g. pottery, remains of stone-walling, graves, etc) and fossils are often located underground. Thus, unavailability of archaeological material does not mean absentee, archaeological material might be hidden underground, and as such the client is reminded to take precautions during construction. In the event that archaeological materials are unearthed, all construction within a radius of at least 10m of such indicator should cease and the area be demarcated by a danger tape. Accordingly, a professional archaeologist or SAHRA officer should be contacted immediately. In the meantime, it is the responsibility of the Environmental officer

and the contractor to protect the site from publicity (i.e., media) until a mutual agreement is reached. It is mandatory to report any incident of human remains encountered to the South African Police Services, SAHRA staff member and professional archaeologist.

Noteworthy that any measures to cover up the suspected archaeological material or to collect any resources is illegal and punishable by law. In the same manner, no person may exhume or collect such remains, whether of recent origin or not, without the endorsement by SAHRA or a professional archaeologist.

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Munyadziwa Magoma,

Archaeologist

Association of Southern Africa Professional Archaeologist' CRM Member (No. 313)