

P.O. Box 156,
PORT ALFRED.
6170.

24TH June, 2013.

**NOTICE OF OBJECTION TO PROPOSED MINING ON THE FARMS
OF MR. P. KEETON AND MR. C. STIRK, NDLAMBE METRO**

Heritage Prospective:

The proposed mining activities are in the middle of the most densely populated area in Southwell. These activities would negatively reflect on the farming and cultural activities of the inhabitants. It would also affect the Southwell Sports complex, two churches, 2 cemeteries and a school. Buildings in this area date back to 1830. The mining would have a very negative effect on the historic legacy of the area.

Graves:

This area has been inhabited by Xhosa speaking people since the arrival of the Settlers in 1820. Traditionally bodies are buried near the location of the family hut. As recent as twenty years ago, there were more than 500 people living on Mr. Keeton's farm (mostly in the proposed mining area) and more than 150 on Mr. Stirk's farm. As is the custom with Xhosa people, bodies are buried and not cremated. This would leave an enormous amount of graves scattered around the proposed mining area. I suggest great care be taken before any mining commences as there are hundreds of relatives living in the surrounding towns who, if informed of the proposal, would be vehemently opposed. When graves were innocently interfered with a few years ago, we have a riot on hand as well as the Human Rights Commission threatening to take the matter to Court. It would be a very good idea to consult with these relatives before going any further.

Traffic control:

Our roads are rapidly deteriorating and with the extra heavy traffic, the area would become inaccessible. Hardly something I, as a community member, could live with.

B. GLANVILLE