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Ref: Chloorkop South Graves

27 October, 2014 SAHRA

**Attention: Itumeleng Masiteng** 

**RE: Chloorkop Relocation Permit** 

## Introduction

Heritage Contracts and Archaeological Consulting CC (HCAC) was contacted by Eco Assessments to assist with the investigation of a possible grave site and the relocation there off, located on on Portion 73, Remainder Portion 43 and Remainder Portion 53 of the Farm Klipfontein 12 IR, Gauteng. The request for the relocation of the grave is based on the following information:

The current cemetery, that includes graves of 4-6 people, is quite old and includes no headstones or other significant features or insignia that identifies neither the graves nor the site. The site thus offers no apparent value to previous descendants (i.e. is not visited for memorial purposes).

Currently a bulk municipal main water line is aligned to bisect the cemetery site that lies on the cadastral boundary of the two properties of the cemetery site. A re-alignment of this bulk water line is likely to significantly delay the project as well as add additional costs.

The re-alignment of the water line will also sterilize parts of the proposed township and this is likely to give rise to a significant loss of revenue for the project and increased costs to service the site.

Similarly, should the cemetery be retained, it is likely that this would result in the loss of significant revenue as it would sterilize land that could be converted into an industrial use. The cemetery site would likely be viewed as an eyesore and note be adequately maintained, may accumulate litter and not be used for a productive use or purpose.

For the reasons mentioned above, the applicant is of the view that the cemetery should be relocated to a proper facility and that the site where the current cemetery occurs be rehabilitated and used for the industrial park. This strategy is considered to be a more sustainable use of available resources and will greatly benefit the local community around the site.

## **Background to the project**

Earthworks on the periphery of the industrial park known as Chloorkop South exposed skeletal material and all activities were stopped in this area. The area was demarcated and the skeletal remains were covered again. Subsequently a site visit was commissioned the developer but during the site visit no evidence of graves was observed (i.e. headstones or skeletal material). According to a local informant (Mr. Dave Norman Tel: 081 338 9723) who resides on the site, he is aware of approximately 4 -6 unmarked graves in that area dating from the 1960's. According to him no one visited the site the last couple of years.

## Location of the grave

The proposed grave site is located at S26.05207 E28.17359. Site notices was places on site as well as advertisements in the Sowetan and the Daily Sun.

## Reburial of remains

As no family or interested and affected parties came forth the disinterred remains is proposed to be reburied at Waterfall Cemetery by Avbob funerals Johannesburg.

Please find herewith the application permit for the exhumation permit with supporting documentation. Anton Pelser will act as P.I. for the exhumation.

Would you be so kind as to acknowledge receipt of the permit application and provide an indication of the length of the permit process?

Any further queries can be forwarded to Jaco van der Walt on Cell: +27 82 373 8491 or to jaco.heritage@gmail.com

Jaco van der Walt

Archaeologist

Heritage Contracts and Archaeological Consulting CC