



BPI for Palaeontological Research

Private Bag 3, WITS 2050, South Africa • Telephone +27 11 717-6682 • Fax +27 11 717-6694

Email: bruce.rubidge@wits.ac.za

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Koot Raubenheimer
Maxim Planning Solutions
PO Box 6848
Flamwood
2572

E-Mail: koot@maxim.co.za

Dear Mr Raubenheimer,

Palaeontological Assessment – Groot Marico Extension 2 Development

As requested, I have undertaken a desktop EIA to assess the possible affect on palaeontological heritage which will result from the proposed township development of Extension 2, Groot Marico (Figure 1).

Following the 1:250 000 Geological Map (1981 Map Sheet 2526 Rustenburg) the proposed development area of 35 9288 hectares is underlain by Precambrian shale and quartzitic rocks of the Timeball Hill Formation of the Transvaal Supergroup.

There is a limited possibility that the Timeball Hill Formation could contain stromatolite fossils.

In my opinion this development will not negatively affect palaeontological heritage and suggest that, from a paleontological perspective, this development should proceed. If, in the extremely unlikely event that fossils are exposed in the process of development activities, it will create a unique opportunity to explore the area for fossils. It is thus recommended that, should fossils be exposed, a qualified palaeontologist be contacted to assess the exposure for fossils so that the necessary rescue operations are implemented. Depending on the nature of the fossils discovered, this could entail excavation and removal to a registered palaeontological museum collection. A list of professional palaeontologists is available from South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA).

Figure 1: Map showing the locality of the study area

Bibliography

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Yours sincerely

Professor Bruce Rubidge PhD, FGSSA, FRSSA, Pr Sci Nat