Dear Ragna,

**RE: FOSSILS HOORNBOSCH**

As the site is going to be closed and rehabilitated the discard dumps containing the fossils will be flattened and covered with vegetation to provide grazing. It would make sense to collect a representative sample of plant fossils.

Mitigation will therefore involve the judicial sampling of plant fossils before being covered and exposed to the elements, i.e. erosion and animal trampling. This will ultimately destroy the locality. “Permits for mitigation are given where localities are threatened by development”.

Locality information is in the Phase 1 Report, Dr H. Fourie will collect the fossils once the permit is issued. Fossils lie loose on the discard dump and can be collected by picking-up, no other techniques are required.

Excavation equipment if any: geological pick to cleave slabs.

Assistant: C. Devenish (BYU education student), she accompanies Dr Fourie on all her Phase 1 site visits.

The plant fossils are well preserved, the aim is to collect larger *Glossopteris* leaves with good veination. Plant fossils from the Ellisras region are not well documented and will help with the understanding of changes across the basin and through time. \*Bordy *et al.* only found vertebrate and trace fossils on the farm Lisbon in the Lisbon Formation. This presents us with a unique opportunity to study these plants.

There is no need for locality maintenance as it is a rehabilitation of a prospecting mine.

\*Bordy, E.M., Knoll, F. and Bumby, A. 2010. New data on the palaeontology and sedimentology of the Lower Jurassic Lisbon Formation (Karoo Supergroup), Ellisras Basin, South Africa. N. Jb. Geol. Paläont. Abh. **258/2:** 145-155.