Troy Phili - Manager Burial Grounds & Graves Unit SAHRA Satellite Office 237 Lynnwood Road Brooklyn Pretoria



BY HAND

By Email: tphili@sat.sahra.org.za

Dear Mr Phili

APPLICATION FOR RELOCATION: HUMAN REMAINS THAT ARE 60 YEARS OR OLDER FROM SIX CEMETERIES AT THE NEW LARGO MINE, NEAR OGIES, MPUMALANGA

The attached application form for the relocation of human remains from the graves located in six cemeteries on the property of the New Largo Mine, near Ogies Mpumalanga, refers.

Please note the following relevant information:

- 1. The six cemeteries contain approximately 82 graves in total; of which 34 graves are 60 years or older or of unknown age (definitely 60 years or older = 17; unknown age = 18).
- 2. Of the 34 graves that are either 60 years or older or unknown; only 7 have been claimed by family members so far (see application form). Three of the remaining 34 graves are 100 years or older and it is unlikely that the family for these graves will be located.
- 3. Social consultation is ongoing and, if anyone claiming to be family of the remaining 30 unclaimed graves contacts PGS, we will consult with them and endeavour to rebury the remains from their graves in the cemetery/ies requested by the families.
- 4. Anglo-American Inyosi Coal (Pty) Ltd (AAIC) has provided a letter of motivation which explains, *inter alia*, that even with the development alternatives investigated, "certain grave sites were still found to be at risk of being damaged or of being impacted on by the construction and operation of the overland conveyor or the opencast mine." (see attached Letter of Motivation from AAIC)
- 5. The affected grave sites are within 100m of the New Largo Project infrastructure and therefore, it will be better for them to be removed to a safer location.

Please note: it seems that the HIA report for the New Largo Phola-Kusile Conveyor project was not received by the SAHRA Archaeology Unit or Burial Grounds & Graves Unit after it had been completed. Therefore, both of these Units need to comment on the recommendations in the HIA report, specifically regarding the affected graves, before the current application for a relocation permit can be processed. Since PGS was not responsible for the HIA report or its submission to SAHRA, we request that every effort is made by the SAHRA BGG and Archaeology Units to finalise the review comment on an urgent basis so that the permit application is not delayed unduly.

Should you require additional clarification, please contact me at Tel: (011) 954-5896 or Cell: 076-560-4114 or Email: jennifer@gravesolutions.co.za

Yours sincerely

Jennifer Kitto Heritage Specialist