



SOUTH AFRICAN HERITAGE RESOURCES AGENCY  
111 HARRINGTON STREET, CAPE TOWN, 8000  
TEL: 021 4624502 FAX: 021 4624509

Ref : 9/2/701/16  
Enquiries: Shawn Berry  
Date: 28 February 2013

Dear Mr Uys,

**APPLICATION FOR EXCAVATION PERMIT: SS STRATHBLANE**

It is with regret that I must inform you that the South African Heritage Resources Agency's (SAHRA) Archaeology, Palaeontology, Meteorites, Heritage Objects and Burials Permit (APMHOB) Committee has not supported your application for a permit to salvage the SS Strathblane, wrecked off Port Elizabeth 23 January 1890.

The Committee raised a number of concerns regarding this application namely:

- It is a popular dive site attracting recreational divers to Port Elizabeth. In this regard, its destruction would negatively impact on the economy of Port Elizabeth and dive operators specifically
- An objection to the application was raised by individuals in Port Elizabeth specifically with regard to the above paragraph.
- The application does not include an archaeological excavation strategy. Although in terms of Regulations 6820 of the National Heritage Resources Act (25 of 1999), an archaeologist is not required for the excavation of a wreck site younger than 1850, it does not mean that archaeological principles should not be applied. An archaeological excavation strategy should include, amongst others, an account of the methodology to be employed to ensure that the contexts of all objects removed from the site are accurately recorded and an indication of the research questions that will be answered by the excavation of the site. The Committee indicated

that the applicant would need to conduct a detailed pre-disturbance survey to determine archaeological excavation strategy.

- The application does not include an adequate conservation strategy for either the site or the recovered objects. The application does not indicate the conservation qualifications or experience of the applicant or team members.

Should you wish to appeal the above decision of the APMHOB Permit Committee in terms of Section 49 of the National Heritage Resources Act (25 of 1999) you may do so.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'S' shape with a horizontal line extending to the right.

For: **ARCHAEOLOGY, PALAEOLOGY, METORITIES, HERITAGE  
OBJECTS AND BURIALS PERMIT COMMITTEE**