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29 June 2014

Attention Bernadet Pawandiwa

Dear Ms Pawandiwa

**Application for Exemption from a Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment
Proposed Eastbury Trunk Sewer Line, eThekwini Metropolitan Municipality,
KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa**

Project description

The eThekwini Economic Development Unit and Planning Department is proposing to upgrade the existing Eastbury Trunk Sewer Line as a portion of the trunk sewer along the alignment of Eastbury Drive in Phoenix, linking portions of Phoenix, Mt Edgecombe and Cornubia to the KwaMashu Wastewater Treatment Works (WWTW), has been found to be below the required capacity.

The proposed upgrade involves the installation of approximately 1.1 km of sewer line with a diameter of approximately 750 mm, adjacent to the existing pipeline alongside Eastbury Drive.

Alternatives relate to the method of upgrading the existing pipeline and would include:

- replacement of the existing pipeline piping;
- installing a larger diameter pipe and attaching this to the existing pipe within the larger pipe;
- placing a new pipe on top of the existing pipe; or
- placing a new pipe alongside the existing pipe.

Site and activity alternatives are not an option as this is enhancement and upgrading of existing bulk infrastructure in a built-up area, with no land-use or servitude control changes thus required. The upgrade and installation will occur within the existing road reserve of Eastbury Drive.

Site location

The proposed development site is located within eThekwini Metropolitan Municipality.
The coordinates of the project are as follows :

Start 29° 42' 46,76"S; 31° 00' 42,60"E
End 29° 43' 12,52"S; 31° 00' 22,57"E

Site assessment and recommendations

A site inspection on 13 June 2013 revealed that the proposed development extent is located wholly within a built up area and within an existing road reserve and has been subject to decades of various environmental disturbances. (Figures 3-6).

The SAHRIS Palaeosensitivity Map indicates that the area has low sensitivity, requiring no palaeontological studies. However, a protocol for finds is required (see Appendix).

Accordingly, we request that Amafa grant an exemption from an HIA for this activity, allowing the project to proceed with no further heritage resource mitigation.

Yours sincerely



Len van Schalkwyk and Elizabeth Wahl

Appendix

Protocol for the Identification, Protection and Recovery of Heritage Resources During Construction and Operation

It is possible that sub-surface heritage resources could be encountered during the construction phase of this project. The Environmental Control Officer and all other persons responsible for site management and excavation should be aware that indicators of sub-surface sites could include:

- Ash deposits (unnaturally grey appearance of soil compared to the surrounding substrate);
- Bone concentrations, either animal or human;
- Ceramic fragments, including potsherds;
- Stone concentrations that appear to be formally arranged (may indicate the presence of an underlying burial, or represent building/structural remains); and
- Fossilised remains of fauna and flora, including trees.

In the event that such indicator(s) of heritage resources are identified, the following actions should be taken immediately:

- All construction within a radius of at least 20m of the indicator should cease. This distance should be increased at the discretion of supervisory staff if heavy machinery or explosives could cause further disturbance to the suspected heritage resource.
- This area must be marked using clearly visible means, such as barrier tape, and all personnel should be informed that it is a no-go area.
- A guard should be appointed to enforce this no-go area if there is any possibility that it could be violated, whether intentionally or inadvertently, by construction staff or members of the public.
- No measures should be taken to cover up the suspected heritage resource with soil, or to collect any remains such as bone or stone.
- If a heritage practitioner has been appointed to monitor the project, s/he should be contacted and a site inspection arranged as soon as possible.
- If no heritage practitioner has been appointed to monitor the project, the head of archaeology at Amafa's Pietermaritzburg office should be contacted; telephone 033 3946 543.
- The South African Police Services should be notified by an Amafa staff member or an independent heritage practitioner if human remains are identified. No SAPS official may disturb or exhume such remains, whether of recent origin or not.
- All parties concerned should respect the potentially sensitive and confidential nature of the heritage resources, particularly human remains, and refrain from making public statements until a mutually agreed time.
- Any extension of the project beyond its current footprint involving vegetation and/or earth clearance should be subject to prior assessment by a qualified heritage practitioner, taking into account all information gathered during this initial HIA.