



SOUTH AFRICAN HERITAGE RESOURCES AGENCY

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DATE: 01 October 2010
ENQUIRIES: Ms Mariagrazia Galimberti
Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorite Unit
E-mail: mgalimberti@sahra.org.za
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OUR REF: 9/2/095/0001

Nenekazi Songxaba
TERRECO Environmental cc
PO Box 19829
Tecoma
East London
5214

Dear Ms Songxaba

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING 1: PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE KOEDOESKLOOF LANDFILL SITE NEAR UITENHAGE

Thank you for your indication that extension of a landfill is going to take place in this area.

In terms of the National Heritage Resources Act, no 25 of 1999, heritage resources, including archaeological or palaeontological sites over 100 years old, graves older than 60 years, structures older than 60 years are protected. They may not be disturbed without a permit from the relevant heritage resources authority. This means that before such sites are disturbed by development it is incumbent on the developer (or mine) to ensure that a **Heritage Impact Assessment** is done. This must include the archaeological component (Phase 1) and any other applicable heritage components. Appropriate (Phase 2) mitigation, which involves recording, sampling and dating sites that are to be destroyed, must be done as required.

In your application received by SAHRA there was no indication of an assessment of the archaeological resources. The quickest process to follow

for the archaeological component is to contract an accredited to provide a Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment Report. This must be done before development takes place.

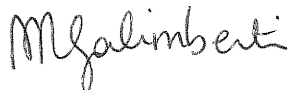
The Phase 1 Impact Assessment Report will identify the archaeological sites and assess their significance. It should also make recommendations (as indicated in section 38) about the process to be followed. For example, there may need to be a mitigation phase (Phase 2) where the specialist will collect or excavate material and date the site. At the end of the process the heritage authority may give permission for destruction of the sites.

Where bedrock is to be affected, or where there are coastal sediments, or marine or river terraces and in potentially fossiliferous superficial deposits, a Palaeontological Desk Top study must be undertaken to assess whether or not the development will impact upon palaeontological resources - or at least a letter of exemption from a Palaeontologist is needed to indicate that this is unnecessary. If the area is deemed sensitive, a full Phase 1 Palaeontological Impact Assessment will be required and if necessary a Phase 2 rescue operation might be necessary.

If the property is very small or disturbed and there is no significant site the specialist may choose to send a letter to the heritage authority to indicate that there is no necessity for any further assessment.

Any other heritage resources that may be impacted such as built structures over 60 years old, sites of cultural significance associated with oral histories, burial grounds and graves, graves of victims of conflict, and cultural landscapes or viewsapes must also be assessed.

Yours sincerely



PP Nonofho Ndobochani
SAHRA: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorite Unit
For: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Copy: PHRA **Eastern Cape** Office