



## University Curator of Fossil and Rock Collections

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25 July 2022

Prof Dominic Stratford  
School of Geography, Archaeology and Environmental Studies  
University of the Witwatersrand  
Johannesburg

Dear Prof Stratford,

### **Re: Approval for renewal of the Sterkfontein Site Permit (Prof Dominic Stratford, PI and Dr Matt Caruana, Co PI)**

In my capacity as University Curator of Fossil and Rock Collections, University of the Witwatersrand, I approve curation of fossil material recovered from the Sterkfontein locality, Gauteng, at the Evolutionary Studies Institute, for the next three year cycle, in accordance with the SAHRA regulations.

In addition, we require you and the co-permit holder to comply with the following:

- Recovered material must be accessioned/catalogued, and handed over to the ESI as soon as possible after excavation for storage in the collections at least annually.
- Financial provision, must be made for any archival materials that may be required for curation of recovered material.
- Updated electronic catalogues must be provided to the curator (at Wits) at least twice a year. These must include storage location information so that specimens may be located within the collections.
- The curatorial staff should be informed of any deviations from these procedures.
- A moratorium will be placed on unpublished material for three years after discovery, plus one year for publication to allow the primary investigators and collaborators to publish. A further three years may be applied for, through the curator and the Access Advisory should this be required. After this period, the material will be made available for study by other researchers.
- Any additional collaborators, who have been assigned to work on the material at the Wits laboratories or elsewhere, are required to submit a formal access application to the curator at least 30 days prior to the work being carried out.
- After expiry, the permit will be renewed, provided the above are complied with and approved.

I wish you much success with your excavations.

Sincerely

Dr Bernhard Zipfel  
*University Collections Curator*