

Export Permit Application for Destructive Sampling and Analysis of a New Stratigraphic Unit at Swartkrans Cave, South Africa

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
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Enquiries: Ragna Redelstorff, PhD

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CaseID: 16636

Date: Tuesday June 29, 2021

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Letter

In terms of Section 32(19) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Dr Matthew V. Caruana

University of Johannesburg-Palaeo-Research Institute (P-R I)

Palaeo-Research Institute

University of Johannesburg,

P.O. Box 524,

Auckland Park, 2006,

South Africa

We proposed to use previously collected samples (permit# 2598) of natural chert clasts (non-artefactual) to date the newly identified 'pre-Member 1' stratigraphic unit, which sits underneath the Member 1 Lower Bank infill at Swartkrans. These samples were collected in 2017 and 2018 during ongoing excavations at the site and we plan to use them for cosmogenic nuclide isochron dating. This 'pre-Member 1' stratigraphic unit is potentially the oldest sedimentary infill at Swartkrans and could predate the ~2.2 Ma age of the Member 1 Lower Bank.

Dear Dr M. Caruana

Thank you for your application to permanently export eight geological samples from pre-Member 1 Stratigraphic Unit, Swartkrans Cave National Heritage Site for destructive dating at the Laboratoire National des Nucléides Cosmogéniques, Centre Européen de Recherche et d'Enseignement des Géosciences de l'Environnement, France.

SAHRA has reviewed the application and has decided to approve it.

We wish you every success with this project.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

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Ragna Redelstorff, PhD

Heritage Officer

South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/576182>

Terms & Conditions:

1. This approval does not exonerate the applicant from obtaining local authority approval or any other necessary approval for proposed work.
2. If any heritage resources, including graves or human remains, are encountered they must be reported to SAHRA immediately.
3. SAHRA reserves the right to request additional information as required.