

Our Ref: 8099



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 8099

Date: Tuesday April 12, 2016  
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## Letter

### In terms of Section 48(2) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Dr Dominic Stratford  
University of the Witwatersrand - Institute for Human Evolution  
P.Bag 3 Wits 2050  
Johannesburg  
South Africa

**Soetwater Farm (25°59'46.73''S; 27°45'10.00''E), located on the north of the Blauubank River approximately 1.5km northeast of the site of Kromdraai, has recently been surveyed by Drs Bruxelles, Braga and Stratford. During this initial site visit several large fossiliferous mining dumps and some residual in situ fossiliferous breccia was found in a small valley north of the Soetwater Farm. This application seeks a permit for the first sampling of the breccias and mining dumps for fossils and stratigraphic analysis in order to provide the first assessment of the age and context of the fossils found on the property.**

Dear Dr Stratford,

Thank you for your permit application for sampling of fossil deposits in mining dumps and residual *in situ* breccia on the farm Soetwater, situated approximately 1.5 km northeast of the site Kromdraai within the Cradle of Humankind, Gauteng Province. Proposed activities include mapping, sampling and stratigraphic investigation, in collaboration with Drs Jose Braga and Laurent Bruxelles. Removed blocks will be kept at Sterkfontein for cleaning and preparation. Exposed fossil specimens will then be curated by the ESI. Analysis of sediment samples will be done by Dominic Stratford and students.

SAHRA has reviewed your application and decided to approve it. This permit is issued in collaboration with Drs J. Braga and L. Bruxelles. The permit is valid from April 2016 until 30 April 2019.

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  
Heritage Officer  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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Phillip Hine  
SAHRA Head Archaeologist (Acting)  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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**ADMIN:**

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/314960>

**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.