



Letter

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

Attention: Delta Built Environment Consultants

The proposed realignment, design and construction of the Free State/Lesotho Border Road and associated infrastructure, Free State Province

Thank you for submitting an application for the proposed realignment, design and construction of the Free State/Lesotho border road and associated infrastructure.. 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 prior to prospecting it is incumbent on the developer to ensure that a Heritage Impact Assessment is done. This must include the archaeological component (Phase 1) and any other applicable heritage components.

The quickest process to follow for the archaeological component is to contract an accredited specialist (see the web site of the Association of Southern African Professional Archaeologists www.asapa.org.za) to provide a Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment Report. This must be done before any large 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 or potentially fossiliferous superficial deposits are to be affected, the PalaeoSensitivity Map on SAHRIS (<http://www.sahra.org.za/sahris/map/palaeo>) may be consulted to see if the area is deemed sensitive. If the map indicates the proposed area as palaeontologically sensitive and based on the level of sensitivity, a desktop or field-based Palaeontological Impact Assessment 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 property is very small or disturbed and there is no significant site the heritage 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.





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CaseID: 8596

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an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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

Yours faithfully

Ragna Redelstorff
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/337733>

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.



The South African Heritage Resources Agency

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