



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
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CaseID: 10740

Date: Friday March 31, 2017

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Response to NID (Notification of Intent to Develop)

In terms of Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Gert Sibande District Municipality

Gert Sibande District Municipality intends to construct a new dam and abstraction facility in either the Gabosha River or the Thole River in order to improve the delivery of potable water to the Amsterdam and KwaThandeka communities.

Gert Sibande District Municipality has appointed AdiEnvironmental cc to compile a Background Information Document (BID) in support of an Environmental Authorisation application to the MDARDLA in terms of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) 2014 Regulations, of the National Environmental Management Act, no 107 of 1998 (NEMA). The District municipality is proposing to construct two dams and associated bulk water pipelines, storage reservoir, pumpstation to the existing Water Treatment facility, to improve water supply to the residents of the town Amsterdam and Kwathandeka on the farm Amsterdam 408 IT, Mkhondo Local Municipality of Mpumalanga Province.

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 to ensure that a Heritage Impact Assessment is done. This must include the archaeological component (Phase 1) 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.

Your application, received by SAHRA, provides no indication that an assessment of heritage resources including palaeontological resources was conducted. As such SAHRA requires a Heritage Impact assessment and a Palaeontological Impact Assessment for the proposed development to be conducted and submitted to SAHRA for comments. These specialists' studies can only be conducted by suitably qualified Archaeologist and Palaeontologist for the respective assessments. If you are unaware of any archaeologists and palaeontologists a list of them working within Heritage Resources Management field are provided in the following websites: (see www.asapa.org.za) and (see www.palaeontologicalsociety.co.za).

If the property is heavily disturbed from previous developments then a letter of exemption from further heritage study may be submitted. This letter should be written by either an archaeologist and/or palaeontologist depending on the specific specialist studies being exempted from further assessment that is being motivated for, and the letter must be submitted to SAHRA for commenting.

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SAHRA will comment further on this proposed development once the requested reports are submitted to the case.

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

Yours faithfully

Nokukhanya Khumalo
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

John Gribble
Manager: Maritime and Underwater Cultural Heritage Unit / Acting Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:
Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/388142>
(MDARDLA, Ref:)