

Our Ref:



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

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South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town  
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001  
www.sahra.org.za

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Tel: 021 462 4502  
Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za  
CaseID: 10791

Date: Thursday April 06, 2017  
Page No: 1

## Final Comment

**In terms of Section 38(4) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)**

Attention: Enviroafrica CC  
PO Box 5367  
Heilderberg  
7135

**Project Description & Location:** The influx of people, due to the steep increase in employment opportunities in the area, causes a direct increase in the need for goods, services and especially housing in the Upington area. The need and desirability for a housing development, as proposed, thus arises. The sites are located off Jooste Eiland Road, Olyvenhoutsdrift, Upington, Northern Cape. **Coordinates:** S 28°28'19.40", E 21°14'57.09" The Spatial Development Framework of the //Khara Hais Municipality supports the development of the proposed area for mixed use. Erf 544 and Erf 745 are to be consolidated and zoned Special (internal roads), Residential I (townhouses) and Residential II (apartments and guesthouse) for the proposed construction of a housing development. The proposed development will contribute positively to the land value of the involved property, as well as that of surrounding properties. The proposed utilisation of the involved properties will entail a very high quality partly temporary and partly permanent residential development that will greatly contribute to the south-eastern entrance of the town of Upington. **Civil & Electrical services for the proposed development:** Access to the site will be obtained from the existing Jooste Eiland road. Internal roads to be constructed shall be 6m in width for internal collector roads and 5.5m in width for access roads to residential units. Water provision to the property will be from the existing municipal water pipeline running adjacent to the eastern boundary of the erven, along the N10. No municipal sanitation infrastructure exists in the immediate vicinity. Sewage would be pumped to the nearest municipal sewerage infrastructure, which will be Rosepark pump station. Electrical distribution for both bulk supply and internal reticulation will be provided by the //Khara Hais Municipality

EnviroAfrica was appointed to conduct a Basic Assessment Process in support of an Environmental Authorisation Application for proposed housing development on Erf 745, Olyvenhoutsdrift, Upington, Northern Cape Province. A Final Basic Assessment Report has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations 2014. The proposed development will comprise 32 residential units including infrastructure such as roads, bulk water, sewerage, stormwater, and electricity. ACRM and Natura Viva CC were appointed to conduct the Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) and Palaeontological Study respectively for the project.

*Kaplan, J. 2017. Archaeological Scoping: Proposed housing development on Erf 745 Olyvenhoutsdrift, near*

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### *Upington, Northern Cape.*

A few Later Stone Age chunks and flakes were identified within the proposed development area, however these were not deemed to be significant. The development area is highly disturbed and no further heritage resources were identified. Recommendations provided in the report include that if any unmarked human burials/remains or ostrich eggshell water flask caches be uncovered or exposed during construction activities, these must immediately be reported to the archaeologist, or SAHRA. Burials, etc. must not be removed or disturbed until inspected by the archaeologist.

*Almond, J. E. 2016. Recommended Exemption from further Palaeontological Studies: Proposed Residential Development on Erf 745, Olyvenhoutsdrift, Upington, Siyanda District Municipality, Northern Cape.*

The proposed development area is underlain by the Namqua-Natal Province Precambrian basement rocks that comprise of the Jannelsepan Formation, which are entirely unfossiliferous. These in turn are overlain by downwasted rock rubble and surface gravels. Potentially fossil-bearing alluvial gravels of the Orange River noted on site are now highly disturbed and thus the overall palaeontological sensitivity of the study area is low.

Should any substantial fossil remains (e.g. mammalian bones and teeth) be encountered during excavation, however, these should be safeguarded, preferably in situ, and reported by the ECO to SAHRA, as soon as possible so that appropriate action can be taken by a professional palaeontologist, at the developer's expense. Mitigation would normally involve the scientific recording and judicious sampling or collection of fossil material as well as associated geological data (e.g. stratigraphy, sedimentology, and taphonomy) by a professional palaeontologist.

### **Final Comment**

SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit accepts and promotes the recommendations of the heritage specialists. The recommendations of the heritage specialists and the following conditions must be included in the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) for the project:

- If any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g. remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments, charcoal and ash concentrations), fossils or other categories of heritage resources are found during the proposed development, SAHRA APM Unit (Natasha Higgitt/John Gribble 021 462 5402) must be alerted. If unmarked human burials are uncovered, the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit (Mimi Seetelo 012 320 8490), must be alerted immediately. A professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the findings. If the newly discovered heritage

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Page No: 3

CaseID: 10791

resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required subject to permits issued by SAHRA;

- Proof of submission to the relevant competent authority and receipt of submission from the relevant competent authority must be provided to SAHRA via the SAHRIS Case application.
- If the development receives an Environmental Authorisation (EA), SAHRA must be informed and all documents pertaining to the EA must be uploaded to the SAHRIS Case application.

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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Natasha Higgitt  
Heritage Officer  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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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/389091>  
(DENC, Ref: )

Terms & Conditions:

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Page No: 4

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.