



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
www.sahra.org.za

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Tel: 021 462 4502
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CaseID: 13137

Date: Friday February 01, 2019
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Final Comment

In terms of Section 38(8), 38(4) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: VODACOM (PTY) LTD

VODACOM SITE /NO: 6 KWAMBUZI NONGOMA 3880

Vodacom intends to construct a 55m Lattice mast with antennae mounted onto the mast, and container housing associated equipment. The size of the base station (fenced area) in which the mast and associated equipment will be placed will measure 10m x 14m (140m²).

Vodacom (Pty) Ltd is proposing to construct a base station on the farm Boschfontein in the Polokwane Local Municipality of Limpopo Province. The base station will have a 55m lattice mast, container housing associated equipment, in a fenced area of 140m².

Tekplan Environmental (Pty) Ltd has submitted a consultation Basic Assessment report (BAR) on behalf of Vodacom (Pty) Ltd, in respect of listed activities in the EIA Regulations 2017, that require an application for Environmental Authorisation in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA).

SAHRA issued an interim comment on 23/11/2018 requesting a desktop Palaeontological Assessment to undertaken as part of the Basic Assessment process. The desktop study was conducted by Prof. M Baford and the short report has been submitted to the case for comment.

Bamford, M. January 2018. Palaeontological impact assessment for the proposed Vodacom lattice mast on Farm Boschfontein.

The development footprint is located in an area underlain Alma Formation (Nylstroom Subgroup, Waterberg Group) with some exposures of the Penge Formation (Chuniespoort Group, Transvaal Basin). Overlying these formations is Quaternary Kalahari sands. Trace fossils of microbial mats, biological crusts and oscillation cracks have been found in the Waterberg group, in sandstone ridges, cliffs and in exposures of ancient fluvial lacustrine and tidal sediments particularly in the Makgabeng Formation which is younger than the Alma Formation. These fossils have not been preserved in the Quaternary sands, which the development will only impact therefore, the Vodacom Base station will have a very low impact and the author recommends no further palaeontological assessments and mitigation measures.

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The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit accepts the desktop Palaeontological Assessment and the findings in the report. The following standard conditions must be included in the EMPr for implementation.

- In the unlikely event that fossils are uncovered during construction then construction must cease within the immediate vicinity, a buffer of 30 m must be established, and a palaeontologist called in to inspect the finds. The palaeontologist must obtain a section 35(4) permit in terms of NHRA and Chapter IV NHRA Regulations, before any fossils are collected.

- If any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g., remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments and charcoal/ash concentrations), fossils or other categories of heritage resources are found during the proposed activities, a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contacted as soon as possible to inspect the findings.

- If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance a Phase 2 rescue operation might be necessary, and a permit will be needed before mitigation. You may contact SAHRA APM Unit for further details: (Nokukhanya Khumalo/John Gribble 021 202 8652),

- and if any unmarked human burials are uncovered then please contact the SAHRA BGG Unit (Mimi Seetelo 012 320 8490).

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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Nokukhanya Khumalo
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Phillip Hine
Acting Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/514402>
(LDEDET, Ref:)

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.