

**Environmental and General Authorization Application for the proposed
Vulindlela Bridge, Maintenance and Rehabilitation Activities in Ogies,
Mpumalanga Province**

Our Ref: 13675



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

Enquiries: Nokukhanya Khumalo

Tel: 021 462 4502

Email: nkhumalo@sahra.org.za

CaseID: 13675

Date: Wednesday April 24, 2019

Page No: 1

Interim Comment

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

Attention: Emalahleni Local Municipality

P O Box 3
Emalahleni
1035

Emalahleni Local Municipality proposes to do maintenance work on the Vulindlela Bridge on erf 1058, Ogies, Mpumalanga Province. The activities include; vegetation clearance in the river along both bridge crossings, sediment clearance and structural upgrades.

eMalahleni Local Municipality is proposing to conduct maintenance and desilting of the Vulindlela Bridge, upstream and downstream of the bridge. The Bridge is located in the Phola Township in the town of Ogies, Mpumalanga Province. The proposed activities entail the maintenance of two bridges, dredging river and stabilising banks as well as a construction camp consisting of a parking, fence, laydown area and site office.

Siyandiza Consulting Engineers (Pty) Ltd been appointed to design the maintenance work and MDT Environmental (Pty) Ltd have been appointed to under the Basic Assessment application process in support of an Environmental Authorisation application, made on behalf of the applicant, eMalahleni Local Municipality.

The application process is in respect of listed activities in the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, that require an application for Environmental Authorisation in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA), and a Water Use License in terms of the Water Use Licence Regulations, March 2017 in terms of the National Water Act, 36 of 1998. A Background Information Document has been submitted to SAHRA in terms of section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, 25 of 1999 for commenting.

In terms of the National Heritage Resources Act, no 25 of 1999 (NHRA), heritage resources, including archaeological or palaeontological sites over 100 years old, graves older than 60 years, structures older than 60 years are generally protected. They may not be disturbed without a permit from the relevant heritage resources authority. In contexts of development applications, the developer must ensure that no heritage resources will be impacted by the proposed development, by lodging an application to SAHRA and submitting

**Environmental and General Authorization Application for the proposed
Vulindlela Bridge, Maintenance and Rehabilitation Activities in Ogies,
Mpumalanga Province**

Our Ref: 13675



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

Enquiries: Nokukhanya Khumalo

Tel: 021 462 4502

Email: nkhumalo@sahra.org.za

CaseID: 13675

Date: Wednesday April 24, 2019

Page No: 2

detailed development specifications as a notification of intent to develop. If the application is made in terms of s. 38 (8) of the NHRA then it is incumbent on the developer to ensure that a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) is undertaken, as s. 38(2)a does not apply. Such a study should follow the SAHRA 2007 Minimum Standards: Archaeological and Palaeontological Components of Impact Assessment Reports and section 38(3) of the NHRA.

Any earth moving activities pose a threat to palaeontological and heritage resources, particularly in relatively undisturbed areas. Koppies, Mountains and River valleys as well as coal mining areas are sensitive to these types of heritage and palaeontological resources, which should be assessed for potential impacts as part of the HIA in terms of section 38(3) of the NHRA.

Interim Comment

The South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit requires that a HIA and a PIA are undertaken by suitably qualified Archaeologist and Palaeontologist respectively. The subsequent reports must be submitted to SAHRA for commenting during the BAR application period.

SAHRA awaits the submission of the BAR and its appendices, a .kml file of the development area, as well as the PIA and HIA reports before making further comments.

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

**Environmental and General Authorization Application for the proposed
Vulindlela Bridge, Maintenance and Rehabilitation Activities in Ogies,
Mpumalanga Province**

Our Ref: 13675



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

Enquiries: Nokukhanya Khumalo

Tel: 021 462 4502

Email: nkhumalo@sahra.org.za

CaseID: 13675

Date: Wednesday April 24, 2019

Page No: 3

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/522400>