



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: 16859

Date: Wednesday October 13, 2021

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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: Tua Conserva Environmental

PO Box 960  
Fauna Park  
Polokwane  
0787

### Kabida Dam en Lande, Limpopo Province

Overvlakte Broedery cc has appointed Tua Conserva Environmental and Conservation Services (Pty) Ltd to undertake a Basic Assessment application process in support for an Environmental Authorisation (EA) in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, Act no 107 of 1998 (NEMA) as amended, for activities that trigger the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) 2014 Regulations, as amended.

Overvlakte Broedery cc is proposing to clear natural vegetation for citrus orchard (163 ha in extent), water pipeline (5.5 km in length but only 450m is new), and kabida dam (68 ha surface area when full) on Portion 5 of the farm Overvlakte 124 MS and the remainder of the farm Bergen Op Zoom 125 MS in the Musina Local Municipality of Limpopo Province.

A Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) report by Heritage Contracts and Archaeological Consulting (Pty) Ltd has been submitted to SAHRA for commenting in terms of section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act, no. 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

*Van der Walt, J. January 2021. Heritage Impact Assessment for the Kabida Agricultural Development, Limpopo Province.*

The development area was previously assessed for the Vele Colliery mine right area and the author focused the current field assessment to the agricultural development area. Some additional stone tools and LIA sites were identified during the current survey, sites that were identified in previous reports are named Vele and sites identified in the current field survey are named Kab. On site, the author found that sites Vele 14 and Vele 15 will be negatively impacted by the dam development, site Vele 11 is located 100m away from the proposed water pipeline development. Sites Kab 1-5 are isolated stone tools that are out of context and of low



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significance, sites Kab 6-8 are LIA sites. The author recommends the following:

It is recommended that the project adheres to all paleontological recommendations included in the PIA report (Millstead 2014);

Stone Age find spots (Sites Kab 1 to Kab 5) are made up of sparsely scattered Stone Age artefacts, the artefacts are out of context and of no significance apart from mentioning it in this report. No further action is recommended.

It is recommended that the Iron Age grain bin site Kab 6 should be retained in situ with a buffer zone of 30 meters. This is a feasible option as the site is located on the periphery of the proposed crop land and preservation can be easily facilitated;

The scatter of Iron Age ceramics in an agricultural field Site Kab 7 must be monitored during excavation of the pipeline;

The stone packed wall at Site Kab 8 must be documented and a destruction permit applied for from SAHRA. A destruction permit can be applied for the Iron Age sites Kab 8, after which the site should be monitored during initial cultivation;

Vele 11 is well outside (100 m to the west of the proposed pipeline) of the impact area and no further action is required;

Vele 14 was identified as of negligible significance (Pikirayi et al 2012) and a destruction permit can be applied for the site;

It is recommended that Vele 15 is test excavated to mitigate the complete loss of the resource after which a destruction permit can be applied for;

Implementation of a chance find procedure for the project.

*Durand, J.F. March 2009. Vele Colliery Project Palaeontology Desktop Study.*

The study area is covered by Quarternary aged superficial sediments that are of low significance, and underlain by sedimentary rock strata of the Tuli Basin. Mainly consisting of Madzaringwe, Tshidzi, and Mikambeni Formations, Ecca Group, Karoo Supergroup. Fossilised leaf imprints have been documented in the surrounding study area, however, the potential impact is low due to the proposed activities not impacting bedrock. The author recommends that no further mitigation measures are required.

### **Final Comment**

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) accepts the HIA and PIA reports and the recommendations contained in them. The SAHRA has no objection to the development going ahead on the



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following conditions:

An archaeologist must be appointed to undertake test excavations at site Vele 15 and to map and document site Kab 8, prior to commencing with mitigation work, the archaeologist must apply for and obtain a section 35(4) permit in terms of NHRA and Chapter IV NHRA Regulations.

The appointed archaeologist must monitor ground clearance and pipeline footings by site Kab 7

A bufferzone of 30 m must be adhered to around site Kab 6, the applicant can demarcate the 30m with sturdy wooden poles to prevent encroachment.

A suitably qualified palaeontologist must be appointed to undertake a preconstruction survey of the water pipeline footings, dam wall, dam catment area, and orchards.

The appointed palaeontologist must be on site during the construction of the dam wall and water pipelines, as well. SAHRA must be informed when the construction begins and the name of the palaeontologist that has been appointed for the monitoring. A report of the work must be submitted to SAHRA.

If fossil remains or trace fossils are discovered during any phase of construction, either on the surface or exposed by excavations the Environmental Officer (EO) in charge of these developments must be informed. These discoveries ought to be protected and the ECO must report to SAHRA.

A Chance Finds Fossil Procedures in the PIA report must be included in the EMPr.

In the 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 there are any new heritages resources are discovered during construction and operation phases of the proposed development, then a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the findings at the expense of the developer.

If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a

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Phase 2 rescue operation may be required at the expense of the developer. Mitigation will only be carried out after the archaeologist or palaeontologist obtains a permit in terms of section 35 of the NHRA (Act 25 of 1999). You may contact SAHRA APM Unit for further details: (Nokukhanya Khumalo/Phillip Hine 021 202 8654).

If any unmarked human burials are uncovered and the archaeologist called in to inspect the finds and/or the police find them to be heritage graves, then mitigation may be necessary and the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit must be contacted for processes to follow (Thingahangwi Tshivase/Mimi Seetelo 012 320 8490).

Once a Record of Decision from the competent authority is issued, it must also be 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

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Nokukhanya Khumalo  
Heritage Officer  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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

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**ADMIN:**



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Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/578820>

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.