



Letter

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

Attention: Mrs Mientjie Coetzee

Bokamoso Environmental
Lebombo Gardens Building
36 Lebombo Road
Ashlea Gardens
0081

EIA Application in terms of National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), 1998 (Act No 107 of 1998) for the proposed Sabie Site Expansion Project on a Portion of the Remainder of Portion 101 of the farm Grootfontein 196 JT and a Portion of the Remainder of the farm Olifantsgeraamte 198 IT

Thank you for your correspondence requesting amended comments dated 28 May 2013 and received on 20 June 2013.

Please refer to SAHRA's letter dated 27 October 2011 in which a Palaeontological Impact Assessment was requested. It is noted that no evidence of this Palaeontological Impact Assessment is provided. However, upon review of the submitted Draft EIA documentation, it is noted that the area proposed for development is underlain by geology dominated by dolomite and chert. It is therefore unlikely to contain fossil material of any significance.

In terms of the cemetery and the proposed buffer zone of 50m, the report provides no substantial reasoning behind the size of this buffer zone. It is then assumed that this proposed buffer zone is in place to mitigate any secondary impacts to the identified cemetery as well as to limit the likelihood of impacting unmarked burials in the vicinity of the marked burials.

Comment

As such, SAHRA recommends that no further heritage studies are required. SAHRA has no objection to the proposed development based on the submitted information provided that;

1. An amended buffer zone of 20m is put in place around the identified cemetery in order to mitigate any secondary impacts to the identified cemetery as well as to limit the likelihood of impacting unmarked burials in the vicinity of the marked burials.
2. Should any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g., remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments, marine shell and charcoal/ash concentrations), unmarked human burials, fossils or other categories of heritage resources are found during the proposed activities, SAHRA APM Unit (Jenna Lavin/Colette Scheermeyer 021 462 4502) must be alerted immediately, and a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must





Enquiries: Jenna Lavin
Tel: 021 462 4502
Email: jlavin@sahra.org.za
CaseID: 2706

Date: Thursday June 27, 2013

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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.

Should it not be possible to adhere to the above conditions, the applicant must consult with SAHRA regarding the reasons for non-compliance. In this instance, on SAHRA's advice, other mitigation strategies may have to be adopted which will require following a process for archaeological investigation in terms of Section 35 and for exhumation in terms of Section 36 of the NHRA (Act 25 of 1999).

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

Yours faithfully

Jenna Lavin
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Colette Scheermeyer
SAHRA Head Archaeologist
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/122681>

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.



The South African Heritage Resources Agency

Street Address: 111 Harrington Street, Cape Town 8000 * Postal Address: PO Box 4637, Cape Town 8000
* Tel: +27 21 462 4502 * Fax: +27 21 462 4509 * Web: <http://www.sahra.org.za>