

Letter

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

Attention: Transnet SOC Ltd
P.O. Box 72501
Parkview
South Africa
2122

Environmental Impact Assessment in terms of Section 24 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 for the proposed upgrades and construction related to the Swaziland Rail Link Project which is being dealt with as three separate applications as per the following sections of the railway line: 1. Upgrade to the existing Davel Yard and connections in Mpumalanga; 2. Upgrade to existing and construction of new line between Davel and Nerston [Swaziland border] Mpumalanga; 3. Upgrade to the existing line from Golela to Nsezi on Kwa-Zulu Natal

Groenewald, G. February 2014. *Paleontological desktop assessment for the proposed upgrade of the Davel to Nerston Rail Line in the Mpumalanga Province*

Thank you for submitting the above report to SAHRA for the proposed upgrades and associated construction related to the proposed Swaziland Rail Link Project. The proposed upgrade will include doubling of the line, new alignments that may fall outside of the rail reserve, realignment within the rail reserve as well as formation repairs.

In SAHRA's correspondence dated 14 April 2014 for this application for comment, SAHRA indicated that;

SAHRA is unable to issue a final comment on the likely impact of the proposed development on heritage resources as insufficient information has been provided. As such, SAHRA requires that;

- Due to the likely impact to significant palaeontological heritage, a field-based palaeontological impact assessment be conducted. This assessment must include a protocol for chance finds.

- The informal burial grounds identified in the heritage assessment may not be impacted by the proposed development and should be clearly demarcated throughout the construction phase. A Conservation Management Plan for the continued preservation of the burials must be drafted.

- Any impact to the identified structures requires a permit from the Mpumalanga Provincial Heritage Resources Authority.

It is noted that the Desktop Palaeontological Impact Assessment submitted to SAHRA on 22 May 2014 does not satisfy the above requirement as communicated by SAHRA.

SAHRA will await the requested information before commenting further.

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

EIA for Swaziland Rail Link Davel Yard, Davel to Nerston Mpumalanga and Golela to Nsezi Kwa-Zulu Natal
Our Ref: 9/2/222/0002



Enquiries: Jenna Lavin
Edit view Tel: 021 462 4502
Edit view Email: jlavin@sahra.org.za
CaseID: 3017

Date: Monday May 26, 2014

Page No: 2

an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

Yours faithfully

Jenna Lavin
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/125190>

Edit view (DEA, Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/551; 14/12/16/3/3/2/552; 14/12/16/3/3/2/553)



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>