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CaseID: 3830

Date: Tuesday November 12, 2013

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Final Comment

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

Attention: Enviroafrica CC
PO Box 5367
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South Africa
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REPAIR AND UPGRADE OF THE ONSEEPKANS WATER SUPPLY AND FLOOD PROTECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, ORANGE RIVER, NORTHERN CAPE DEA Ref No.: 14/12/16/3/3/1/977

Kaplan, J. August 2013. *ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROPOSED REPAIR AND UPGRADE OF THE ONSEEPKANS WATER SUPPLY AND FLOOD PROTECTION INFRASTRUCTURE NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE*

The above heritage report was submitted for the proposed repair and upgrading of an existing 16.4km open canal which runs the length of the Onseepkans settlement. It is proposed that the original earth and concrete canal be replaced by a closed concrete pipeline. According to the submitted Draft BAR, the canal has been repaired and upgraded on numerous previous occasions.

The pipeline will be placed within the existing footprint of the canal. Existing flood protection structures, as well as the intake and outlet works will also be repaired and upgraded. This part of the proposed work is unlikely to impact on significant heritage resources.

Seven borrow pits are proposed to provide fill and bedding material for the upgrade. Each proposed borrow pit measures less than 1ha in extent. The submitted archaeological assessment investigated each borrow pit and identified a variety of low significance, *ex situ* archaeological material in all seven borrow pits. Graves were identified in BP1 and BP2b.

The proposed development is unlikely to impact on significant palaeontological heritage as the geological formations to be impacted have low palaeontological significance.

Final Comment

SAHRA has no objection to the proposed development on condition that;

- The boundaries of BP1 and BP2b are amended to exclude the identified graves. The identified graves may not be impacted by the proposed upgrade. The graves must be fenced off for the entire life span of the borrow pit and a buffer zone of 15m from the perimeter of the fence is required.
- 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



UPGRADE OF THE ONSEEPKANS WATER SUPPLY AND FLOOD PROTECTION INFRASTRUCTURE

Our Ref: 9/2/032/0001



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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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 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/134622>
Edit view (DEA, Ref: DEA Ref No.: 14/12/16/3/3/1/977)

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

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