



Final Comment

In terms of Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) and the KwaZulu-Natal Heritage Act (Act 4 of 2008)

Attention: KwaZulu Natal department of Agriculture and Rural Development

The proposed development will include construction of Irrigation Schemes within the Ikhwehle and Nondabuya Local Areas within the Jozini Local Municipality. The total area to be covered by the proposed project is 1400ha. The Ikhwehle Scheme will cover 150ha while Nondabuya will cover 1250ha. The proposed development will include water abstraction works, pipelines, water storage reservoir, pumps and pump stations. Water will be abstracted from the Pongola River.

We acknowledge receipt of your invitation for comment with regards to the Heritage Impact Assessment Report by Gavin Anderson on the proposed development as outlined above. The field-based survey established that the Mbaliyeawe and Ikhwehle areas have been completely tilled for over thirty years and there were no visible structures or graves. The following sites of varying significance were noted in the Nondabuya area :

- NND1- a single grave marked by circular stone on an abandoned settlement with virtually no foundations left.
- NND2 - a recently abandoned (post 2003) fenced off settlement with house remains and one grave underneath an Acacia spp. tree.
- NND3- three barely visible house foundations and two oval shaped graves of discontinuous cement blocks surrounding a mound of sand .
- NND4 - a burial ground/ cemetery of 20+ graves .
- NND5 - burial site that consists of an area demarcated with poles and some aloes in one corner. Since some of the graves are not clearly demarcated the burial landscape should be extended to a buffer of 50m.
- NND6 - a recently (post 1970s) abandoned settlement that consists of a single grave , foundations of about 6 houses with rectangular or circular bases and a sisal outlined byre to the west of the houses.
- NND7 - a recently abandoned settlement with bricked and mud bricked buildings , a cemetery/burial ground of at least five graves and a large kraal to the southwest of the site.
- NND8 - a feature of 2.5m radius that , based on its large size, is likely a house floor made from pebbles.
- NND9 - two dilapidated rectangular and circular buildings and two graves behind the abandoned buildings.
- NND10 - a stone feature that is either a house foundation or three to four graves. This feature should be treated as possible graves until proven otherwise.





- NND11 -an abandoned house with a possible grave on the western side of the abandoned settlement.
- bNON3 - a large scatter of Middle Stone Age (MSA) and Late Stone Age (LSA) artefacts and two pottery sherds.
- G22- an animal dip, a series of small ruined buildings presumably for goats or calves, and two buildings/houses.
- G29- a recently abandoned settlement of three to five rectangular house foundations with two large Milkwood trees in the centre as well as three groups of graves to the west and southwest of the main house . There are trees growing on the graves. All the trees associated with the graves as well as the milkwood tree should not be removed or cut down.
- G30 is a recently abandoned settlement made from mud bricks and a kraal to the south of the main site as well as a plethora of Early, Middle and Late Stone Age tools.

In terms of the National Heritage Resources Act, no 25 of 1999, heritage resources, including archaeological sites over 100 years old and/ or paleontological sites, Traditional Burial places, graves of victims of conflict , informal graves, graves older than 60 years, battlefields, places to which oral history is attached, living heritage sites, structures older than 60 years ,cultural and natural landscapes and any objects of heritage significance are protected. They may not be altered, disturbed, damaged, demolished, destroyed, exhumed, relocated or collected without a permit from the relevant heritage resources authority.

All graves have a high heritage significance and should have a 25m buffer between the outer grave and any activity. All areas presumed to be graves should be treated as graves until proven otherwise. In the event that the developer considers exhumation and relocation of the graves, the developer should lodge an application with Amafa.

Considering that the development falls in a region of high paleontological sensitivity, a monitoring regime by a paleontologist should be implemented . The monitoring exercise should be done in all areas of trenching.

In line with findings outlined in the HIA Report by Gavin Anderson of Umlando that we received for the above proposed development, we have no objection to the proposed development within limits of the prescribed mitigation measures and recommendations as outlined in the report.

You are also required to adhere to the below-mentioned standard conditions:

Conditions:

1. Amafa should be contacted if any heritage objects are identified during earthmoving activities and all development should cease until further notice.
2. No structures older than sixty years or parts thereof are allowed to be demolished altered or extended without a permit from Amafa.
3. No activities are allowed within 50m of a site, which contains rock art.
4. Sources of all natural materials (including topsoil, sands, natural gravels, crushed stone, asphalt, etc.)



Our Ref: SAH15/7301

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CaseID: 7301

Date: Tuesday September 29, 2015

Page No: 3



must be obtained in a sustainable manner and in compliance with the heritage legislation.

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

Yours faithfully

Bernadet Pawandiwa
Senior Heritage Officer
Amafa/Heritage KwaZulu Natal

Annie van de Venter Radford
Deputy Director: Research, Professional Services and Compliance
Amafa/Heritage KwaZulu Natal

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/252610>
(EDTEA, Ref: DC27/0005/2015)

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 Amafa immediately.
3. Amafa reserves the right to request additional information as required.



**Amafa AkwaZulu-Natali
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