

THE PROPOSED REHABILITATION OF ORLANDO POWER STATION DAM, KLIPSPRUIT, CITY OF JOHANNESBURG, GAUTENG PROVINCE

Our Ref: 15113



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Andrew Salomon
Tel: 021 462 4502
Email: asalomon@sahra.org.za
CaseID: 15113

Date: Tuesday May 19, 2020
Page No: 1

Final Comment

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

Attention: Johannesburg Road Agency

Private Bag X 70
Braamfontein
2017

The Orlando Dam Power station located in Klipspruit, Johannesburg, Gauteng Province is over 80 years old. Therefore the structure is failing due to old age, erosion, vandalism, overgrown vegetation thus compromising the function of the infrastructure. The proposed rehabilitation works will essentially be rehabilitating of the existing structures. Reconstruction of the embankment crest might result in a nominal increase in height of the embankment. The existing spillway crest levels will remain as it is currently. The water level in the reservoir will therefore remain unchanged. The upgrades to the spillway will repair the damaged lining. The spillway capacity will unchanged The holding capacity of the Dam has been compromised due to siltation and overgrown vegetation within the Dam infrastructure. The dam is 21 hectares in size however only 3.85 hectares is being proposed for rehabilitation where the dam embankment and spillway have deteriorated or failed The aim of the project is to address erosion and flooding of the Dam, its basin and immediate surroundings by implementing stabilization and remedial works of the Orlando PS Dam. This will allow for the best positive change in the health of the stream and thereby increasing its Ecological Importance.

Van Schalkwyk, J. January 2020. Phase 1 Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment: The Repair And Upgrade Of Orlando Dam, Orlando Power Station, Larger Soweto Region, City Of Johannesburg Metropolitan Municipality, Gauteng Province

Fourie, H. February 2020. Palaeontological Desktop study: The Proposed Rehabilitation of the Orlando Power Station Dam in the City of Johannesburg, Gauteng Province City of Johannesburg Metropolitan Municipality, Gauteng Province Farm: Klipspruit 318 IQ

The proposed development entails the repair and upgrading of the Orlando Dam.

The archaeological assessment notes that the dam is an ordinary earthen embankment dam, and exhibits no exceptional qualities in its design or construction, and cannot be related to any significant individual or event.

THE PROPOSED REHABILITATION OF ORLANDO POWER STATION DAM, KLIPSPRUIT, CITY OF JOHANNESBURG, GAUTENG PROVINCE

Our Ref: 15113



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Andrew Salomon
Tel: 021 462 4502
Email: asalomon@sahra.org.za

Date: Tuesday May 19, 2020
Page No: 2

CaseID: 15113

However, it is older than 60 years and therefore enjoys general protection under the National Heritage Resources Act, No. 25 of 1999. It originally formed part of the industrial heritage of the area as well as the larger region. It has some significance to the local community, which is much involved in its maintenance and protection and is used by them for recreational purposes.

Accordingly, the Orlando Dam has been evaluated to have the following significance rating: Generally protected B: Medium significance. The implication of this is that the structure should be recorded before its destruction/rehabilitation. As the dam will be retained and the proposed activities is largely remedial in nature and intent, the recording done for this report is seen as sufficient for such purposes. The exception to this is the sprinkler system which should be recorded at least photographically if it is planned to remove it during the upgrade. A valid permit should be obtained from the Provincial Heritage Resources Authority prior to any work being carried out.

The palaeontological assessment observes that the development is only for the rehabilitation of the dam. The dam will not be made deeper or wider and should not encroach on younger formations, therefore a field study is not necessary. The author states that the potential impact of the development on fossil heritage is VERY LOW for the Turffontein Subgroup, therefore a field survey is not necessary for this development. A Phase 2 Palaeontological Mitigation will be required if a fossil is found during construction. The Environmental Control Officer must survey for dolomites before and or after blasting, drilling or excavating. If any palaeontological material is exposed during digging, excavating, drilling or blasting SAHRA must be notified. A chance find procedure as part of the Environmental Management Programme is recommended.

Final Comment

In terms of archaeological and palaeontological heritage, the SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit has no objections to this proposed development, provided that the recommendations in the specialist reports and this comment are adhered to, and on the following conditions:

If any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g., remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments and charcoal/ash concentrations) or palaeontological remains are found during the proposed activities, SAHRA must be alerted immediately, and a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, based on the nature of the finds, must be contacted as soon as possible to inspect the findings. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of significance a Phase 2 rescue operation might be necessary.

In terms of the Built Environment feature of the dam itself, the relevant comments and permissions must be obtained from the Gauteng Provincial Heritage Authority.

**THE PROPOSED REHABILITATION OF ORLANDO POWER STATION DAM,
KLIPSPRUIT, CITY OF JOHANNESBURG, GAUTENG PROVINCE**

Our Ref: 15113



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Andrew Salomon
Tel: 021 462 4502
Email: asalomon@sahra.org.za
CaseID: 15113

Date: Tuesday May 19, 2020
Page No: 3

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, mitigation may be necessary and the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit must be contacted for processes to follow.

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

Yours faithfully

Andrew Salomon
Heritage Officer: Archaeology
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/536949>
(, Ref:)

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.

**THE PROPOSED REHABILITATION OF ORLANDO POWER STATION DAM,
KLIPSPRUIT, CITY OF JOHANNESBURG, GAUTENG PROVINCE**

Our Ref: 15113



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Andrew Salomon
Tel: 021 462 4502
Email: asalomon@sahra.org.za
CaseID: 15113

Date: Tuesday May 19, 2020
Page No: 4

3. SAHRA reserves the right to request additional information as required.