



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
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Enquiries: Andrew Salomon
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CaseID: 20324

Date: Thursday February 16, 2023
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Final Comment

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

Attention: Bokamoso Landscape Architects and Environmental Consultants CC

Balwin proposes developing a Filling Station on Erf 489, Aspen Hills X6. A Phase 1 HIA has already been carried out for Aspen Hills X6 of which the filling station forms part.

Van Vollenhoven, A. May 2020. Motivation For Exemption From Full Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment – Proposed Thaba Eco Village Lifestyle Estate Filling Station Development On The Remainder Of Portion 2 Of The Farm Rietvlei 101IR, City Of Johannesburg, Gauteng

The proposed project entails a service station and supporting infrastructure.

The author motivates for exemption of a full heritage impact assessment by noting that the study area is surrounded by already established and on-going residential, industrial and other urban developments. The topography of the Filling Station study area is flat and open with no visible rocky ridges or outcrops, although there are some rocky outcrops, ridges and hills in the surrounding area. The area would have been utilized in the historical past for agricultural purposes, while recent developments would have impacted on any archaeological and/or historical sites, features or material that might have been present in the area. Aerial images of the area also shows the relative flat, open and disturbed nature of the area and the likelihood of any sites, features or material of cultural heritage significance being present, is slim.

No archaeological features or material were identified in the Thaba Eco Village proposed Filling Station area during the site assessment, and if there were any present here it would have been destroyed during the recent past.

The SA Palaeontological Sensitivity Map indicates that the study area has Low fossil sensitivity.

Final Comment

Considering the evidence provided, the SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit grants exemption to this project from having to undertake further heritage assessments, on condition that:

- No palaeontological studies are required however a protocol for finds is required.

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- A chance find procedure for archaeological materials is implemented.
- The recommendations in the letter of exemption and this comment are adhered to.
- 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), fossils or other categories of heritage resources are found during the proposed activities, SAHRA must be alerted immediately, and a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending 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 archaeological or palaeontological significance a Phase 2 rescue operation might be necessary.

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 the project be granted Environmental Authorisation, SAHRA must be notified and all relevant documents submitted to the case on SAHRIS.

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

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

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/610717>
(GDARD, Ref: GAUT 002/22-23/E3354)

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.