

Field Delivery/CC
Vaal River at Windsorton:
Temporary bridge & floodplain mining

Environmental Impact Assessment:
Scoping Report

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT

CONSTRUCTION OF TEMPORARY
BRIDGE ACROSS THE VAAL RIVER AT
WINDSORTON, ERF 1, FOR FLOODPLAIN
(ISLAND) DIAMOND RECLAMATION

March 2002

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EIA2001-02

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1. INTRODUCTION

On the morning of the 5th of March 2002 an extensive Freid Delivery claim area on The Island just downstream of Windsorton was briefly inspected in the company of C Benade of Eco-Impac and F Haasbroek of Freid Delivery.

2. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In that vicinity, but further upslope, sections usually show red Hulton sands overlying beige-grey silts and then basal Younger Gravels (Helgren, 1979), but on The Island only a thin (1-2m) layer of grey silts seems to cover a greater thickness of Younger Gravels. A few artefacts were noted on nearby gravel heaps, but further downstream a white sand layer, apparently overlying the Younger Gravels, was previously noted to contain a great abundance of artefacts belonging to a ca. 500 000 year old phase of the Fauresmith Industry. The gravels just downstream of The Island has produced (Cooke, 1949) a number of fossil mammals, including the remains of an extinct elephant (*Elephas recki recki*), that roamed the African sa-vannas up until about 600 000 years ago.

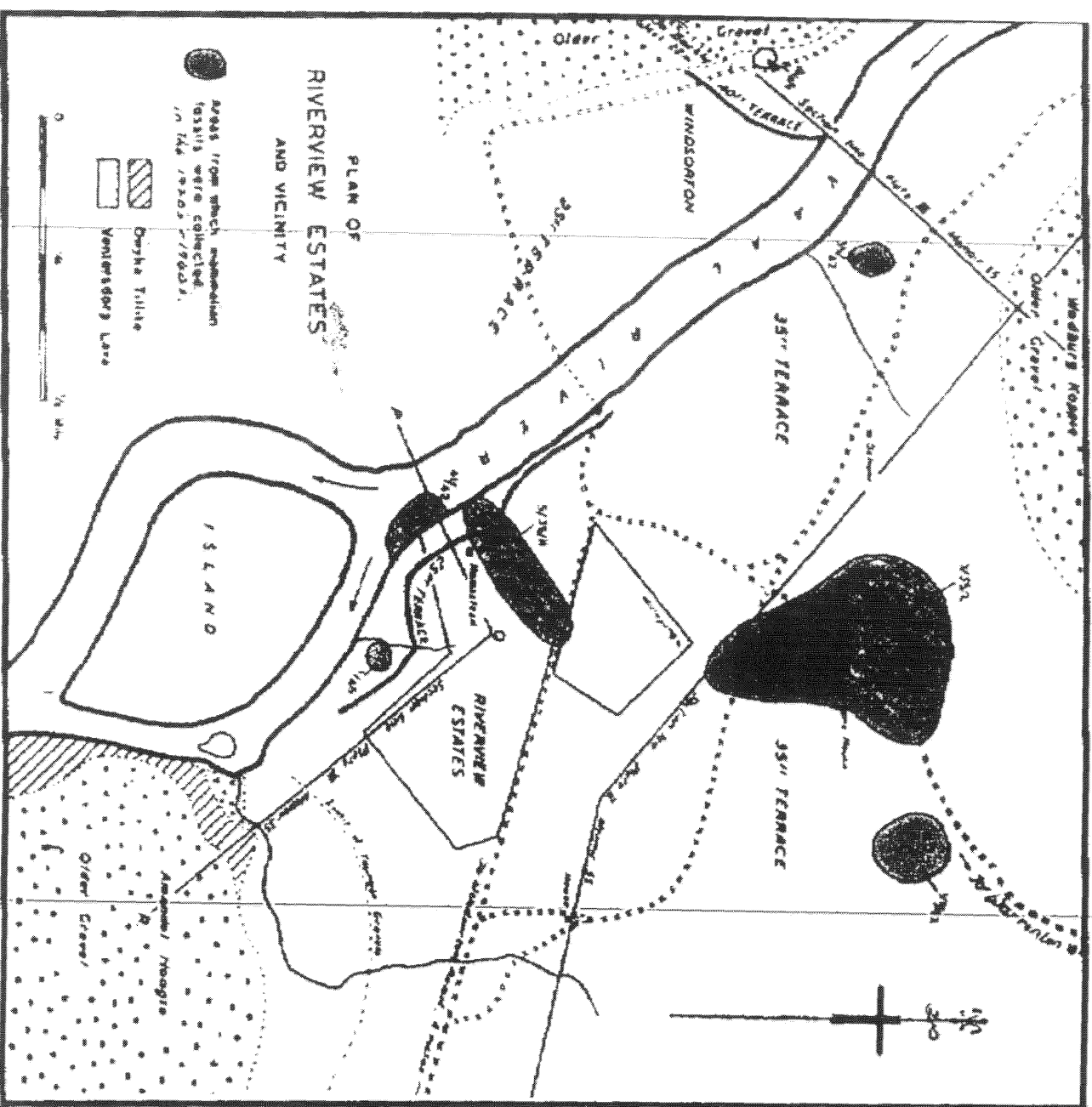
3. RECOMMENDATIONS

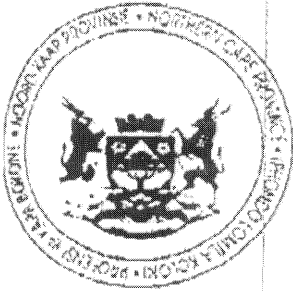
In view of the possibility that important stone artefacts and faunal finds could come to light once digging commences, it is recommended that unrestricted acces to the site by an archaeologist should be a mining permit requirement.

References

COOKE, H.B.S. 1949. Fossil mammals of the Vaal River deposits. *S. Afr. Geol. Survey Mem.* 35(3). 1-109
 HELGREN, D.M. 1979. Rivers of diamonds: an alluvial history of the lower Vaal basin, South Africa. *Univ. of Chicago, Dept. of Geography Res. Paper* 185: 1-369

and the advice shall be given to
 mineral diggers at the
 best if the water is dug out
 present.





**The Department of Agriculture,
Land Reform, Environment and
Conservation
Northern Cape Provincial
Administration**

RECORD OF DECISION

PROJECT REF.: BAR 2/02

PERMIT NO: 38/2002

Brief description of activity

TEMPORARY BRIDGE ACROSS THE VAAL RIVER AT WINSORTON ERF 1

Location

Province:	Northern Cape
Magisterial District:	Barkly -Wes
Farm /Plot Name & Number	Erf 1
Nearest City or Town:	Windsorton

Applicant

Freid Delwery Bk	Tel: 053 497 3436
P.O. Box 7	Fax: 053 497 5892
Warrenton	
8530	
Contact Person:	

Consultant

Eko Impak	Tel: 083 262 3683
8 Conrad Street	Fax: 053 832 7510
Kimberley	
8301	
Contact Person: C.Banade	

Site Visit

YES

Decision

After an application for authorisation was received from Eko Impak for the said development and after due consideration of the facts presented to the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform, Environment and Conservation (hereafter referred to as the Department), Authorisation is hereby granted in terms of section 22 of the Environment Conservation Act, 1989 (Act No. 73 of 1989).

Conditions

1. This authorization refers only to the project specified above and described in the record of decision
2. No development may take place on the area of concern without the necessary permits/approvals and/or service agreements, where it is relevant, from or between the following institutions:
 - A. Department of Agriculture, Nature Conservation . Land Reform and Environmental Affairs
 - B. Department of Water Affairs and Forestry
 - C. Department of Minerals and Energy
 - D. Department of Transport, Roads and Public Works
 - E. And any other relevant institution (National, Provincial and Local)
 - F. McGregor Museum
3. Authorization is only granted in terms of section 22 of the Environment Conservation Act, 1989 (Act No. 73 of 1989) and does not exempt the holder from compliance with any other relevant legislation.
4. This authorization is valid for 5(five) years from the date of issue and must be renewed 6(six) months in advance of the expiry date. The Department reserves the right to review and amend the conditions of exemption every three years.
5. The applicant shall within 5 days of receipt of this authorization, provide all interested and affected parties identified during the Motivational process, with copies of this authorization, including all the conditions attached thereto.
6. One weeks written notice must be given to the Department before commencement with construction activities. Such notice shall make clear reference to the reference number given above
7. Changes in the project resulting in significant environmental impacts are only permissible if approved in writing by this Department
8. All mitigation measures and recommendations as laid down in the Scoping Report are binding and must be adhered to as part of the environmental management plan
9. The applicant must notify the Department within 24 hours in the event of non-compliance with any of the conditions of the authorization
10. Non-compliance with, or any deviation from, the conditions set out in this authorization constitutes a failure in compliance with the authorization. Such failure in compliance is regarded as an offence and will be dealt with in terms of Sections 29, 30 and 31 of the Environment Conservation Act, 1989 (Act No 73 of 1989), as well as any other appropriate legal mechanisms
11. The Department must be notified of any change of address of the applicant

12. The conditions of the authorization should be brought to the attention of all persons (employees, sub-consultants, etc) associated with the undertaking of this activity and the applicant should take such measures necessary to bind such persons to these conditions
13. Records relating to the compliance / non-compliance with the conditions of the authorization must be kept in good order. Such records must be made available to the Department within 7 days of receipt of a written request by the Department for such records
14. Any complaints regarding the said development must be brought to the attention of the Department within 24 hours after receiving the complaint. A complaints register must be kept up to date for inspection by members of the Department
- 15 Where appropriate, chemical toilets must be supplied for the entire construction period and service on a regular basis
- 16 All waste including general litter must be removed from site and disposed off at an applicable licensed disposal site. No waste material shall be left on site
- 17 No fires are permitted on site
- 18 No plants must be removed other than required for the layout of the site. However, if the affected plant(s) is endangered or protected, permission must be sought from Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Nature conservation, Land Reform and Environmental Affairs for removal and conditions thereof.
- 19 All kind of pollution should be avoided all together, or where it cannot, should be minimised or remedied.
- 20 In the event that any archaeological materials are found that is likely to be disturbed by the project, an archaeologist should be alerted immediately.
- 21 The Department would like to have an approval from the landowner giving consent for the applicant to proceed with the project, before construction phase take place.

Key factors for the decision

1. The legal and procedural requirements have been complied with and the information contained in the Scoping Report is to the satisfaction of the Department.