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ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL INVESTIGATION OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENTS AT THE SEWERAGE DAMS, FRASERBURG, NORTHERN CAPE

INVESTIGATION

The site for the proposed developments of the sewerage dams at Vosburg, in the northern Cape, was visited and inspected on 1 March 2004.

The area was examined for possible archaeological and historical material and to establish the potential impact on any cultural material that might be found. The Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) is done in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA), (25 of 1999) and under the Environmental Conservation Act, (73 of 1989).

LOCALITY

The site was indicated by Mr Frannie Lotter of the local Municipality. The specific dimensions were not given, but the area for the proposed developments was pointed out.

The proposed development is planned to cover only one additional evaporation dam.

The following GPS coordinate was taken: 31°53'47"S. 021°31'10"E. Altitude 1244m).

The area consists of a heavy grass cover with prominent shrubs scattered around. The soil surface adjacent to the existing sewer dams had been disturbed previously.

FINDS

No indication of any archaeological or historical material was found in the inspected area, neither was any stone tools or ceramic ware found.

DISCUSSION

Together with the disturbances mentioned above it also seems unlikely that remains of any early human occupation could have survived in this area. The locality is likewise not close enough to the higher ground to be the obvious living site for people during prehistoric times.

RECOMMENDATIONS

No obvious reasons could be found to delay the commencement of further planning and development of the site.

After examination by the archaeologist, it is recommended that the proposed developments may proceed.

MITIGATION

Concerning the area for the proposed development, no mitigation measures are needed.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I thank Mr Frannie Lotter for taking us to the site.

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