



SOUTH AFRICAN HERITAGE RESOURCES AGENCY
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FOR ATTENTION: SAHRA Mr. J. Sinthumule
Northern Cape PHRA

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SAHRA File No: 9/2/023/0001
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SAHRA Contact Person: Ms. Mariagrazia Galimberti
DME Ref No:

**REVIEW COMMENT ON
ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
BY ARCHAEOLOGY/ PALAEOLOGY UNIT OF THE HERITAGE RESOURCES AGENCY**

South Africa has a unique and non-renewable archaeological and palaeontological heritage. Archaeological and palaeontological sites are protected in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act No 25 of 1999) and may not be disturbed without a permit. Archaeological Impact Assessments (AIAs) and Palaeontological Impact Assessments (PIAs) identify and assess the significance of the sites, assess the potential impact of developments upon such sites, and make recommendations concerning mitigation and management of these sites. On the basis of satisfactory specialist reports SAHRA or the relevant heritage resources agency can assess whether or not it has objection to a development and indicate the conditions upon which such development might proceed and assess whether or not to issue permission to destroy such sites.

AIAs and PIAs often form part of the heritage component of an Environmental Impact Assessment or Environmental Management Plan. They may also form part of a Heritage Impact Assessment called for in terms of section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act No. 25, 1999. They may have other origins. In any event they should comply with basic minimum standards of reporting as indicated in SAHRA Regulations and Guidelines.

This form provides review comment from the Archaeologist of the relevant heritage resources authority for use by Heritage Managers, for example, when informing authorities that have applied to SAHRA for comment and for inclusion in documentation sent to environmental authorities. It may be used in conjunction with Form B, which provides relevant peer review comment.

- A. PROVINCIAL HERITAGE RESOURCES AUTHORITY: **Northern Cape PHRA**
- B. SAHRA PROVINCIAL MANAGER NORTHERN CAPE : **Att: Ms Rose Rose Cwangae** .
- C. AUTHOR(S) OF REPORT: **Dr Jonathan Kaplan**
- D. ARCHAEOLOGY CONTRACT GROUP: **Agency for Cultural Resource Management**
- E. CONTACT DETAILS: **P.O. Box 159, Riebeeck West, 7306, acrm@waccess.co.za**
- F. DATE OF REPORT: **February 2009**
- G. TITLE OF REPORT: **ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION FOR THE PROPOSED REHABILITATION OF THE N9 FROM WOLWEFONTEIN TO COLESBERG AND THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF THE N1/N9 ACCESS INTERCHANGE AT COLESBERG, NORTHERN PROVINCE**
- H. Please circle as relevant: Archaeological component of EIA / EMP / **HIA** / CMP
- I. REPORT COMMISSIONED BY (CONSULTANT OR DEVELOPER): **CCA ENVIRONMENTAL (Pty) Ltd, Unit 35 Roeland Square, 30 Drury lane, Cape Town 8001**
- J. CONTACT DETAILS: **tel: 0214622228, eloise@ccaenvironmental.co.za**
- K. COMMENTS:
- Please see comment on next page*

REVIEW COMMENT ON ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Author: **Johanatan Kaplan**

Date received: **4 February 2010**, Commented: **9th February 2010** (received before but not recorded).

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION FOR THE PROPOSED REHABILITATION OF THE N9 FROM WOLWEFONTEIN TO COLESBERG AND THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF THE N1/N9 ACCESS INTERCHANGE AT COLESBERG, NORTHERN PROVINCE

INTRODUCTION

The development for which this Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) was carried out aims to rehabilitate and upgrade section 7 of the N9 between Colesberg and Wolwefontein (32 km) and upgrade of the N1/N9 intersection at Colesberg

Two alternatives were presented in the AIA for the N1/N9 interchange. The position of the second is preferred by the developer. At both sites few Stone Age artefacts were recovered. Most of them were flakes, few bladelets, some chunks and cores and mostly in dolerite. None of them was recovered *in-situ*. All the archaeological remains in the area have been rated as having low local significance. Conditions at site two are more degraded than at site one.

SAHRA RECOMMENDATIONS

According to this AIA the proposed upgrade and rehabilitation proposed by South African National Roads Agency Limited (SANRAL) will not impact the archaeological heritage of the area.

All the stone artefacts identified in the areas were thinly scattered and dispersed over the surface of the proposed borrowed pit, with a disturbed origin. Only material of low local significance was recorded and therefore SAHRA supports the recommendations of the author and requires that: the proposed development activity can be carried out with no further mitigation. It is though fundamental for the developer to remember that:

1. in the event that ancient campsites, shell middens, archaeological artefacts, unmarked human burials or other heritage resources are found during construction activities, SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology & Meteorites (APM) Unit (*Mary Leslie, tel: 021-4624502*) must be alerted immediately, and an accredited professional archaeologist must be contacted as soon as possible to inspect the findings. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological significance a Phase 2 rescue operation might be necessary at the cost of the developer.

2. Where bedrock or river gravels are to be affected by mining, it is the responsibility of the developer to ensure that a Palaeontological Desk Top study is undertaken to assess whether or not the development will impact upon palaeontological resources, or at least a letter of exemption from an accredited palaeontologist is needed to indicate that this is unnecessary. If the area is deemed sensitive, a full Phase 1 Palaeontological Impact Assessment will be required and if necessary a Phase 2 rescue operation might be necessary.

CONCLUSION

As there is apparently no evidence of any significant archaeological material in this area, the SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorite Unit has no objection to the development (in terms of the archaeological component of the heritage resources) on condition that, if any new evidence of archaeological sites or artefacts, palaeontological fossils, graves or other heritage resources are found during development, construction or mining, SAHRA or an archaeologist must be alerted immediately.

For any possible decisions in terms of section 34 of the NHRA on the Built Environment must be made by SAHRA Provincial Heritage office (*Ms Rose Cwangae – Secretary: rcwangae@nc.sahra.org.za* and the Provincial Heritage Resources Authority of the Northern Cape (*Mr. Joas Sinthumule: jsinthumule@bp.ncape.gov.za*).

SIGNATURE OF ARCHAEOLOGIST PROCESSING REPORT: *Mgalimberti*

EMAIL: *mgalimberty@sahra.org.za*

SIGNATURE OF SAHRA HEAD ARCHAEOLOGIST:

EMAIL: *mleslie@sahra.org.za*

NAME OF HERITAGE RESOURCES AGENCY: SAHRA *Northern Cape*

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE COMMENT (ABOVE OR APPENDED) CONSTITUTES THE COMMENT OF THE HERITAGE RESOURCES AGENCY ARCHAEOLOGIST AND THAT ANY DEVELOPMENT THAT INVOLVES DESTRUCTION OF ANY ARCHAEOLOGICAL/PALAEONTOLOGICAL SITE IS STILL SUBJECT TO A PERMIT/PERMISSION FOR DESTRUCTION OF SUCH SITE GIVEN TO THE DEVELOPER BY THE RELEVANT HERITAGE RESOURCES AGENCY ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND PALAEONTOLOGICAL PERMIT COMMITTEE (THIS WILL BE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OF THE PHASE 2 OR ARCHAEOLOGICAL/ PALAEONTOLOGICAL MITIGATION AS NECESSARY). THIS REPORT MAY BE TAKEN ONLY AS APPROVAL IN TERMS OF SECTION 35 OF THE NATIONAL HERITAGE RESOURCES ACT. THE PROVINCIAL MANAGER OF THE HERITAGE RESOURCES AUTHORITY MUST ADVISE AS TO APPROVAL IN TERMS OF HERITAGE ISSUES ENCOMPASSED BY OTHER ASPECTS OF THE LEGISLATION, SUCH AS ISSUES OF THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT (STRUCTURES (E.G. FARM HOUSES), OVER 60 YEARS), INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS OR OF CULTURAL LANDSCAPES AS THIS IS NOT WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE ARCHAEOLOGIST.

PLEASE NOTE THAT SAHRA IS NOW RESPONSIBLE FOR GRADE I HERITAGE RESOURCES (AND EXPORT) AND THE PROVINCIAL HERITAGE RESOURCES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR GRADE II AND GRADE III HERITAGE RESOURCES, EXCEPT WHERE THERE IS AN AGENCY ARRANGEMENT WITH THE PROVINCIAL HERITAGE RESOURCES AUTHORITY.

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION
THE PROPOSED REHABILITATION OF THE N9
FROM WOLWEFONTEIN TO COLESBERG
AND THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF THE
N1/N9 ACCESS INTERCHANGE AT COLESBERG
NORTHERN PROVINCE**

Prepared for

CCA ENVIRONMENTAL (Pty) Ltd

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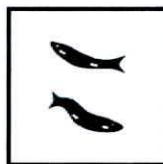
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By



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2009**