

9/2/066/0001

Agency for Cultural Resource Management

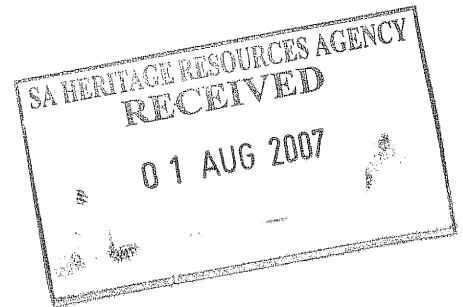
Specialists in Archaeological Studies and Heritage Resource Management

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30 July, 2007

Att : Dr A. Jerardino
Archaeological Heritage Impact Assessor
South African Heritage Resource Agency
PO Box 4637
Cape Town
8000



Dear Dr Jerardino,

REQUEST: EXEMPTION FROM HAVING TO UNDERTAKE A PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF THE PROPOSED UPGRADING OF THE VIOOLSDRIF BORDER POST NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

On behalf of environmental consultants EnviroAfrica, I have been requested to provide comment on the likely archaeological sensitivity of an existing (disused) quarry on the Farm Vioolsdrif East in the Springbok District in the Northern Cape Province (Figure 1). The quarry is located approximately 4 km from the Vioolsdrif border control post. The site is accessed from the N7. The registered owner of the property is the Nama Khoi Municipality.

The proposed project comprises the mining of gravel substrate on Erven 147 and 254 of the Farm Vioolsdrif East. Material will be utilised for the proposed new South Africa/Namibia Border Control Post as well as some supporting infrastructure.

The affected site is an old disused quarry (Figure 2). The proposed activity will form an extension of the existing quarry. It is not foreseen that the proposed operation will add a substantial detrimental impact to the natural environment, as the site has already been heavily impacted by quarrying activities. The environmental damage will therefore be limited to an existing impact. The environment surrounding the proposed quarry site is vacant land surrounded by barren mountainous landscape.

As can be seen from the aerial photograph, including Figures 3 and 4, the receiving environment is already severely disturbed and transformed. The intention is to extract gravel from beyond the edge of the existing quarry. The markers illustrated in the aerial photograph indicate the extent of the area to be quarried. As can be seen, this area is very small.

I am of the opinion that it is not in the client's best interest, to initiate a Phase 1 AIA, as I believe very little, if indeed any, important surface archaeological heritage remains will be located, mainly because of the already disturbed nature of the receiving environment which has been heavily quarried.

in situ material?

It is therefore very unlikely (improbable), that any important archaeological heritage remains will be uncovered or exposed during quarrying activities.

I therefore recommend the following:

- A Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment is not required.
- The project should be allowed to proceed as planned.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JK', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jonathan Kaplan

Cc Mr Bernard de Wit, EnviroAfrica, P.O. Box 5367, Helderberg, 7135



Figure 2. Aerial photograph of the proposed site and the surrounding area.

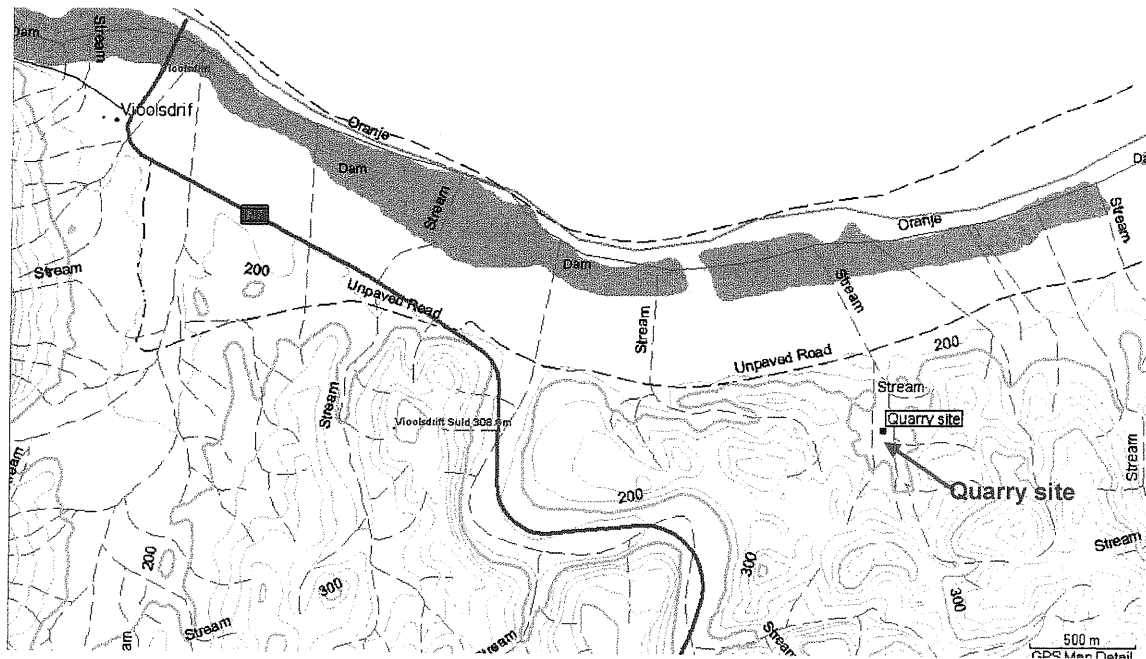


Figure 1. Locality Map (2817 DC Violsdrif)

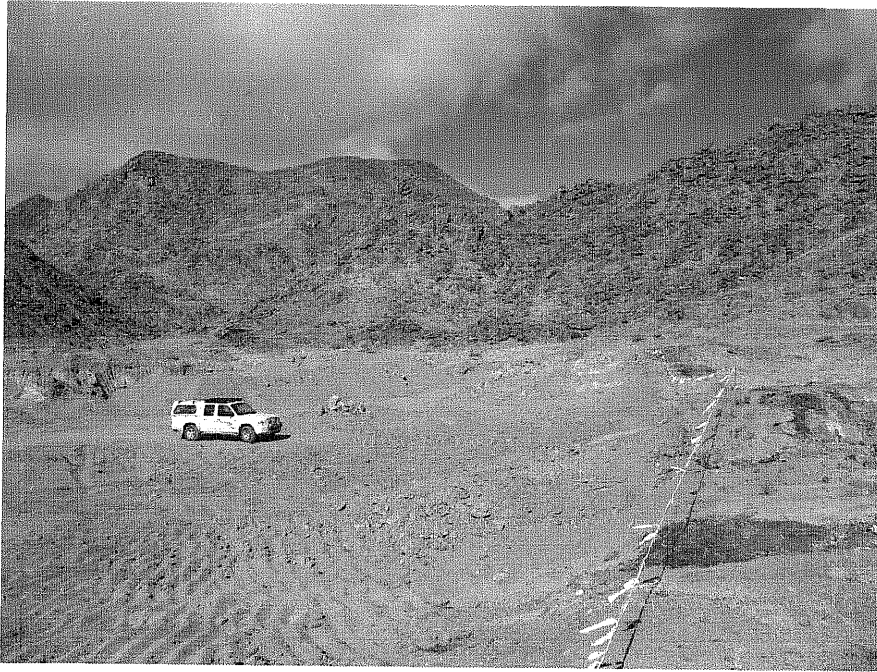


Figure 3. View of the existing quarry facing south east

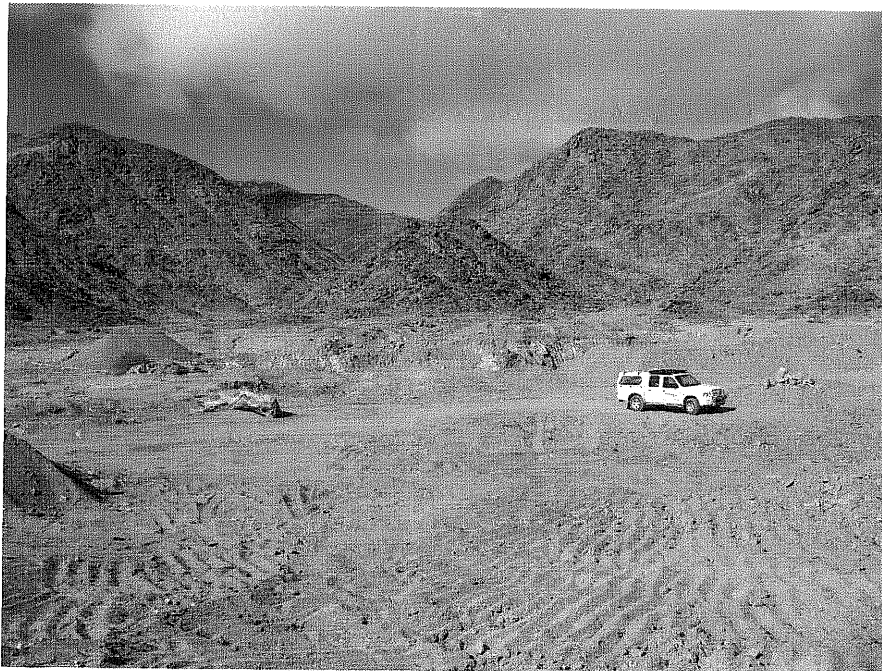


Figure 4. View of the existing quarry facing south east

From: ANTONIETA JERARDINO
To: Jonathan Kaplan
Date: 8/29/2007 11:41 AM
Subject: Vioolsdrif Border Post, Northern Cape

CC: LESLIE, MARY

Dear Jon,

I acknowledge receipt of your letter motivating for an exemption to undertake an AIA in a portion of Farm Vioolsdrif East, about 4 km from the Vioolsdrif border control post.

This report was received on 1st August 2007, but due to the heavy flow of other applications and correspondence, I was unable to acknowledge it much earlier. I apologize for any inconvenience resulting from this.

From the information provided in your letter, it is clear that (in your words):

- a) The intention is to extract gravel from beyond the edge of the existing quarry;
- b) The proposed activity will form an extension of the existing quarry;
- c) This material will be utilised for the proposed new South Africa/ Namibia Border Control Post.

It is not clear that the areas to be quarried on the edge of the existing (disused) quarry are already disturbed or not. Extension/ expansion of quarrying activities often involve moving into untouched areas. Also, it is important to have on record the surface area of the new areas to be quarried for gravel.

Figure 2 shows only points in connection of the proposed project, which is open to interpretation. Please submit the above information and the same aerial photograph indicating with lines (dashed or continuous) the edge of the existing quarry, and the edge (please use different color) of the new areas to be quarried.

Best wishes,

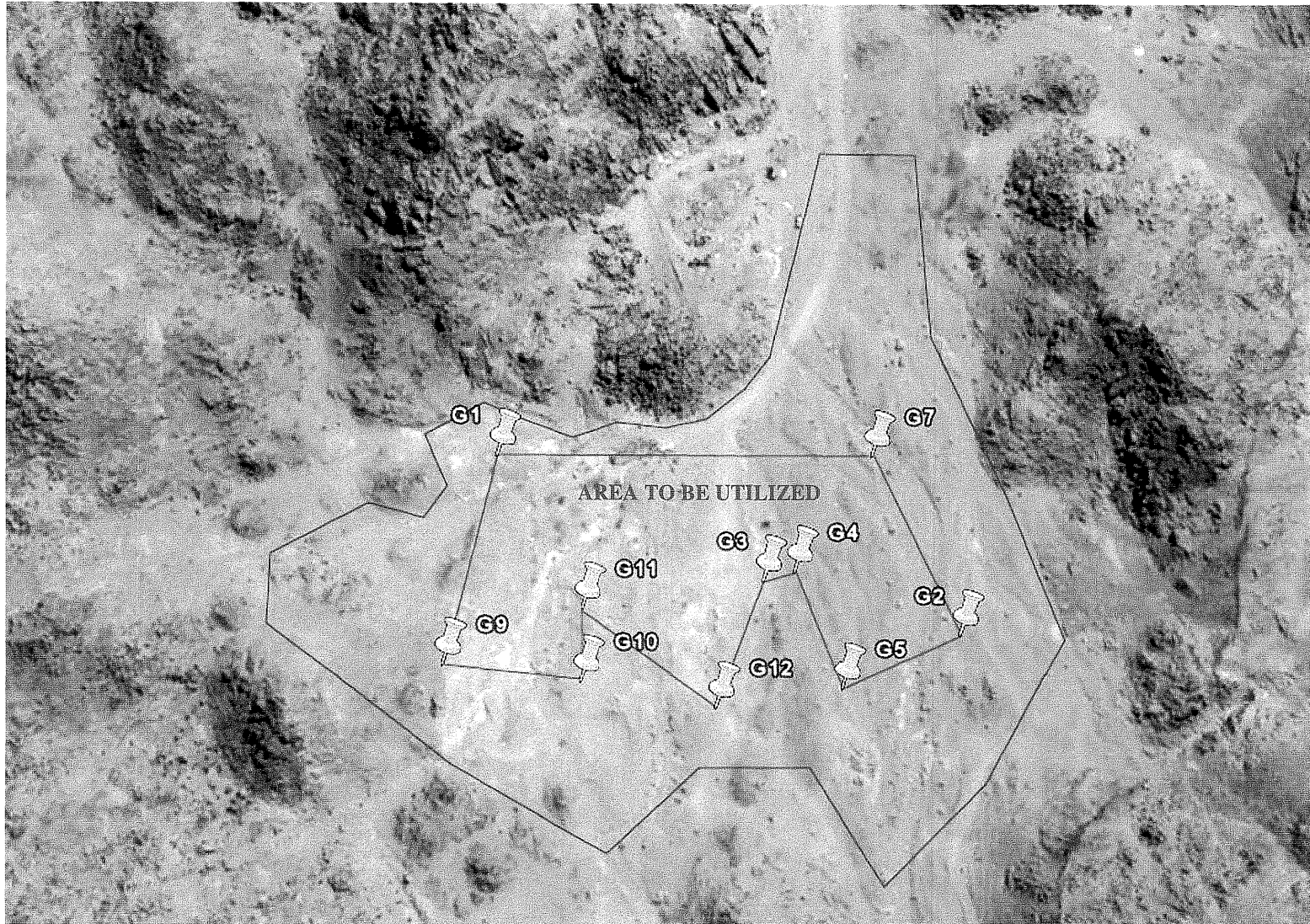
Antonieta Jerardino

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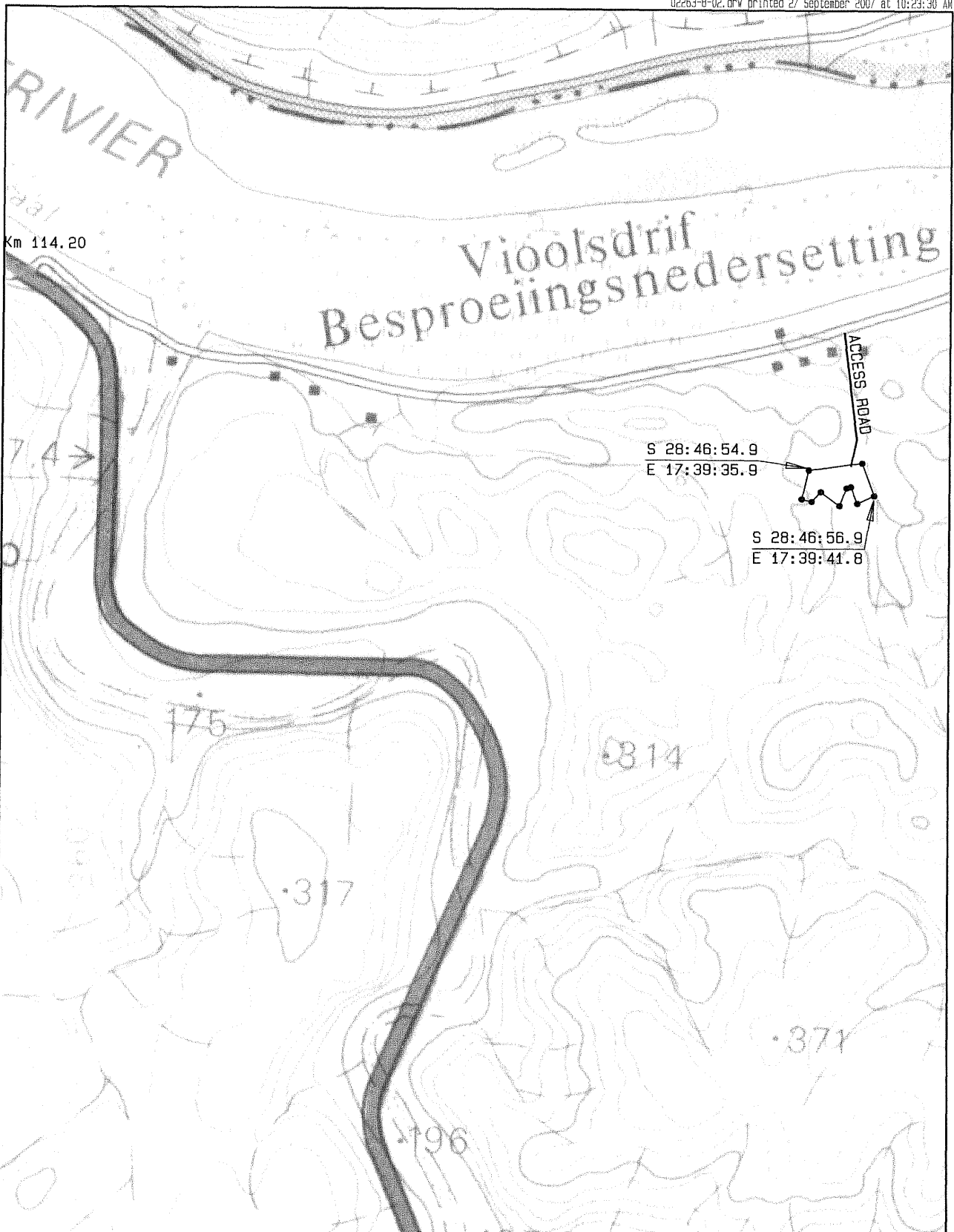
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VIOOLSDRIFT BORDER CONTROL POST
UPGRADING OF MOST ESSENTIAL INFRASTRUCTURE : BULK SERVICES

LAYOUT OF BORROW PIT NO.3 : AREA TO BE UTILIZED



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