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ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

PROPOSED HEAVY INDUSTRIAL AREA
ON PORTION 5 OF THE FARM
GROOTESTRYD 465-1Q, ELLISRAS

APRIL 2001

ES

INTRODUCTION

The **Project Proposal** constitutes an activity that is listed in terms of the Environmental Conservation Act (Act No. 71 of 1989), for which an Environmental Impact Assessment is required to satisfy the requirements of the regulations of Sections 21, 22 and 26. In terms of this Act, and the National Heritage Resources Act (Act No. 25 of 1999), a Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment (scoping) was undertaken.

This brief report forms an integral part of the environmental impact assessment of the proposed change of land use undertaken by Eko-fekton Environmental Planners. For this reason the Locality map as provided by Ekofekton, is included. Data pertaining to environmental and ecological features should be obtained from the main EIA Report.

AIM

The aim was to undertake a **Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment** of the proposed Heavy Industrial Township for Ellisras / Marapong on Portion 5 of the farm Grootestryd 465LQ, in order to assess the impact of the proposed project on archaeological sites and features; and to submit appropriate recommendations with regard to the cultural resources management measures that may be required at affected sites / features.

METHOD

A thorough survey of the terrain was undertaken on foot. Standard archaeological practises for observation were followed. As most archaeological material occur in single or multiple stratified layers beneath the soil surface, special attention was given to disturbances, both man-made such as roads and the burrow pit, as well as those made by natural agents such as burrowing animals. The deep sandy soil of the area creates a favourable habitat for burrowing animals such as the numerous aardvark and moles.

Locations of archaeological material were recorded by means of a GPS (Garmin 12).

DESCRIPTION OF TERRAIN

A large part of the northwestern section of the terrain consists of an un-rehabilitated burrow pit covering approximately one quarter of the terrain. Here the calcareous and sandstone layers are exposed. The remaining part consists mainly of deep sandy soil covered with dense, relatively undisturbed bushveld vegetation.

LOCATION

See general Locality Map.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDS

Archaeological remains were limited to a number of Middle Stone Age flakes discover in the calcareous deposits in and around the burrow pit. Due to the disturbed nature of the pit area no *in situ* material was found. Some GPS recordings of isolated stone flakes are:

S23°40'38.8" E27°35'38"
S23°40'36.1" E27°35'47.5"
S23°40'42.9" E27°35'44.3"

RECOMMENDATION

No further archaeological assessment is required.

Note must however be taken of Section 35 & 36 of the National Heritage Resources Act of which an extract is given below

Extracts from:

The National Heritage Resources Act (Act No. 25 of 1999).

Archaeology, palaeontology and meteorites

Subsection 35. (3) Any person who discovers archaeological or palaeontological objects or material or a meteorite in the course of development or agricultural activity must immediately report the find to the responsible heritage resources authority, or to the nearest local authority or museum, which must immediately notify such heritage resources authority.

Subsection 35. (4) No person may, without a permit issued by the responsible heritage resources authority-

(a) destroy, damage, excavate, alter, deface or otherwise disturb any archaeological or palaeontological site or any meteorite.

Burial grounds and graves

Subsection 36. (6) Subject to the provision of any law, any person who in the course of development or any other activity discovers the location of a grave, the existence of which was previously unknown, must immediately cease such activity and report the discovery to the responsible heritage resources authority which must, in co-operation with the South African Police Service and in accordance with regulations of the responsible heritage resources authority-

(a) carry out an investigation for the purpose of obtaining information on whether or not such grave is protected in terms of this Act or is of significance to any community; and

(b) if such grave is protected or is of significance, assist any person who or community which is a direct descendant to make arrangements for the exhumation and re-interment of the content of such grave or, in the absence of such person or community, make any such arrangement as it deems fit.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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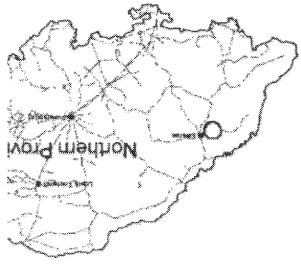


MAP

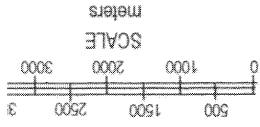
LOCALITY

PROPOSED HEAVY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT SITUATED ON PORTION 5 (A PORTION 3) OF THE GROOTESTRYD 461

ELLISRAS/MARAPONG LOCALITY



DEVELOPMENT



DATE: DECEMBER 2000

REF: 12/2/5/465-LD

CLIENT: ELLISRAS/MARAPONG LOCALITY

