

RECOMMENDATION OF EXEMPTION

Above ground SASOL fuel storage tanks located at grain silos in localities in the Eastern Freestate:

1. Farm Maree 4 & 5, Harrismith (SAS 01);
2. Farm Retreat, Bet Hehem (SAS 02);
3. Erf 774, Industrial Area, Ficksburg SAS 03);
4. Erf 7674, Industrial Area, Clocolan (SAS 04);
5. Farm Modderpoort 35, Clocolan (SAS 05);
6. Erf 1053, Industrial Area, Marseilles, Ladybrand (SAS 06);
7. Sub-division of Westminister 374, Ladybrand (SAS 07);
8. Erf 2, 3, 160, 218, Tweespruit, Ladybrand (SAS 08).

PREPARED BY:

- Archaic HPM, Department of Anthropology & Archaeology under auspices of:
- Business Enterprises at University of Pretoria (Pty) Ltd

PREPARED FOR:

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1. INTRODUCTION

Archaic HPM was contracted by SASOL Oil (Pty) Ltd to undertake desktop archaeological surveys and a Heritage Impact Assessment on several above ground fuel storage tank sites in the eastern Free State.

Archaic HPM acts as the Archaeological Contracts Office of the Department of Anthropology and Archaeology, University of Pretoria. The company specialises in the management of heritage projects. The field of expertise include the generation of desktop surveys, the undertaking of scoping surveys and Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessments and/or Specialist reports, Phase 2 Mitigation of archaeological and/or heritage sites, and Phase 3 Site Management Plans.

The parameters within which Archaic HPM operates are firstly the National Heritage Resources Act No. 25 of 1999 (NHRA) and minimum standards provided in terms of this act by the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA). Secondly, Archaic HPM endeavours to comply with the code of ethics and standards of the Association of Southern African Professional Archaeologists (ASAPA). Thirdly, complementary national and provincial legislation such as the National Environmental Management Act No. 107 of 1998 (NEMA), the Environment Conservation Act No. 73 of 1989 (ECA), and Environmental Management Plans (EMPs) required by the Department of Minerals and Energy form key components of every project.

Archaic HPM's position within the Department of Anthropology and Archaeology creates a unique environment within which heritage resources management may be undertaken. The contracts office has access to professional, qualified individuals who may assist with various projects.

2. PROJECT BACKGROUND

This report will act as letters of Recommendation for Exemption as per SAHRA requirements dated 20 February 2007.

SASOL Oil (Pty) Ltd installed eight above ground fuel storage tanks on grain silo properties in the eastern Free State Province during 2001 and 2002. According to SASOL, these installations took place without the necessary Environmental and Heritage Impact Assessments having been completed. SASOL initiated retrospective Impact Assessments for each site.

In compliance with this retrospective assessment process, SASOL sent a letter of inquiry to SAHRA on 23 January 2007 regarding the relevance and application of Section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act Number 25 of 1999 (NHRA) on the developments.

SAHRA responded in writing as follows:

Seven sites required desktop surveys and Recommendations of Exemption

- Farm Maree 4 & 5, Harrismith (SAS 01);
- Farm Retreat, Bethlehem (SAS 02);
- Erf 774, Industrial Area, Ficksburg (SAS 03);
- Erf 7674, Industrial Area, Clocolan (SAS 04);
- Farm Modderpoort 35, Clocolan (SAS 05);
- Erf 1053, Industrial Area, Marseilles, Ladybrand (SAS 06);
- Sub-division of Westminister 374, Ladybrand (SAS 07).

One site required a Heritage Impact Assessment:

- Erf 2, 3, 160, 218, Tweespruit, Ladybrand (SAS 08).

Site visits were undertaken at each site during 10 to 11 April 2007. Photographs and field notes were taken for documentation and recording purposes.

3. SAS 01 – Farm Maree 4 & 5

Site details

Site number	SAS 01
Site name	Afgri O perations Ltd Eeram Silo
Erf number / Fam name & number	Farm Maree 4 & 5
Closest Town	Harris mith
Magisterial district	Harris mith
Province	Freestate
Co-ordinates	S 28° 07' 29.9" E 29° 01' 55.5"
Recording method	Garmin E-Trex GPS
1: 50 000 map reference	2829 AA
Land owner	Afgri O perations Limited
Contact person	Stompie van der Merwe
Contact details	PO Box 1501 Harris mith 9880 Tel: 058 303 5757 Fax: 058 303 74 29

Location map: 2829 AA



Site description

The site is located within the Afgri Operations silo compound in a semi-industrial, agricultural environment. The general landscape is cultivated maize fields and grassland, with landscaped gardens in the immediate vicinity. Land use mainly includes agricultural structures, railways, and roads, the silos dating from to 1983.

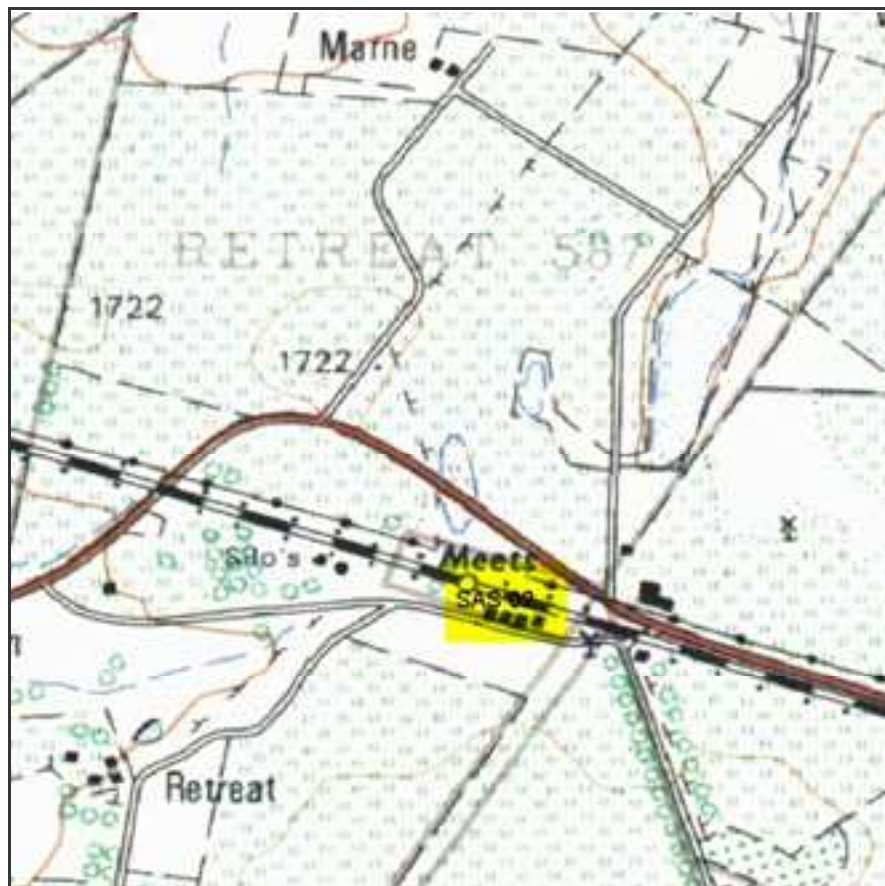
The fuel tank was erected within the silo compound on disturbed ground. The environmental footprint of the structure is less than 10m². No apparent damage or disturbance of any heritage resources is visible within the silo compound specifically, nor the general environment (including historical, palaeontological and archaeological resources).



AS 02 – Farm Retreat

Site number	SAS 02
Site name	Afgri O perations Ltd Meets Silo
Erf number / Fam name & number	Farm Retreat
Closest Town	Bethlehem
Magisterial district	Bethlehem
Province	Freestate
Co-ordinates	S 28° 11' 54.3" E 28° 12' 38.9"
Recording method	Garmin E-Trex GPS
1: 50 000 map reference	2828 AA
Land owner	Afgri O perations Limited
Contact person	Stompie van der Merwe
Contact details	PO Box 955 Bethlehem 9700 Tel: 058 303 5757 Fax: 058 303 74 29

Location map: 2828 AA



Site description

The site is located within the Afgri Operations silo compound in a semi-industrial, agricultural environment. The general landscape is cultivated maize fields and grassland, with landscaped gardens in the immediate vicinity. Land use mainly includes agricultural structures, railways, and roads, the silos dating from to 1981.

The fuel tank was erected within the silo compound on disturbed ground. The environmental footprint of the structure is less than 10m². No apparent damage or disturbance of any heritage resources is visible within the silo compound specifically, nor the general environment (including historical, palaeontological and archaeological resources).





5. SAS 03– Erf 774, Ficksburg

Site number	SAS 03
Site name	OVK Silo, Ficksburg
Erf number / Fam name & number	Erf 774, Industrial Area
Closest Town	Ficksburg
Magisterial district	Ficksburg
Province	Free State
Co-ordinates	S 28° 51' 42" E 27° 52' 45.3"
Recording method	Garmin E-Trex GPS
1: 50 000 map reference	2827 DD
Land owner	Oos-Vrystaat Kaap Bedryf Bpk
Contact person	Liesel Jonan
Contact details	PO Box 96 Ladybrand 9745 Tel: 051 923 4500 Fax: 051 923 4584

Location map: 2827 DD



Site description

The site is located within the OVK silo compound in an industrial environment. The general landscape is urban-industrial, with landscaped gardens in the immediate vicinity. Land use mainly includes residential, industrial and agricultural structures, railways, and roads. The silos date from approximately 1979 to 1980.

The fuel tank was erected within the silo compound on disturbed ground. The environmental footprint of the structure is less than 20m². No apparent damage or disturbance of any heritage resources is visible within the silo compound specifically, nor the general environment (including historical, palaeontological and archaeological resources).



6. SAS 04 – Erf 7674, Clocolan

Site number	SAS 04
Site name	OVK Silo, Clocolan
Erf number / Fam name & number	Erf 7674, Industrial Area
Closest Town	Clocolan
Magisterial district	Clocolan
Province	Free State
Co-ordinates	S 28° 55' 22.1" E 27° 35' 20.6"
Recording method	Garmin E-Trex GPS
1: 50 000 map reference	2827 DC
Land owner	Oos-Vrystaat Kaap Bedryf Bpk
Contact person	Liesel Jonan
Contact details	PO Box 96 Ladybrand 9745 Tel: 051 923 4500 Fax: 051 923 4584

Location map: 2827 DC



Site description

The site is located within the OVK silo compound in an industrial environment. The general landscape is semi-industrial, with landscaped gardens in the immediate vicinity. Land use mainly includes industrial and agricultural structures, railways, and roads. The silos date from approximately 1956, 1970 and 1979.

The fuel tank was erected within the silo compound on disturbed ground. The environmental footprint of the structure is less than 20m². No apparent damage or disturbance of any heritage resources is visible within the silo compound specifically, nor the general environment (including historical, palaeontological and archaeological resources). Two other fuel tanks are also located on the property.



7. SAS 05 – Farm Modderpoort 35

Site number	SAS 05
Site name	OVK Silo, Modderpoort
Erf number / Fam name & number	Farm Modderpoort 35
Closest Town	Modderpoort
Magisterial district	Clocolan
Province	Free State
Co-ordinates	S 29° 06' 35.1" E 27° 27' 14"
Recording method	Garmin E-Trex GPS
1: 50 000 map reference	2927 AB
Land owner	Oos-Vrystaat Kaap Bedryf Bpk
Contact person	Liesel Jonan
Contact details	PO Box 96 Ladybrand 9745 Tel: 051 923 4500 Fax: 051 923 4584

Location map: 2927 AB



Site description

The site is located within the OVK silo compound in a semi-industrial, agricultural environment. The general landscape is cultivated maize fields and grassland, with landscaped gardens in the immediate vicinity. Land use mainly includes agricultural structures, railways, and roads, the silos dating from to 1956-57.

The fuel tank was erected within the silo compound on disturbed ground. The environmental footprint of the structure is less than 20m². No apparent damage or disturbance of any heritage resources is visible within the silo compound specifically, nor the general environment (including historical, palaeontological and archaeological resources).



8. SAS 06 – Erf 1053, Marseilles

Site number	SAS 06
Site name	OVK Silo, Marseilles
Erf number / Fam name & number	Erf 1053, Industrial Area
Closest Town	Marseilles
Magisterial district	Ladybrand
Province	Freestate
Co-ordinates	S 29° 10' 57.4" E 27° 17' 28.4"
Recording method	Garmin E-Trex GPS
1: 50 000 map reference	2927 AB
Land owner	Oos-Vrystaat Kaap Bedryf Bpk
Contact person	Liezel Jonan
Contact details	PO Box 96 Ladybrand 9745 Tel: 051 923 4500 Fax: 051 923 4584

Location map: 2927 AB



Site description

The site is located within the OVK silo compound in a semi-industrial, agricultural environment. The general landscape is cultivated maize fields and grassland, with landscaped gardens in the immediate vicinity. Land use mainly includes agricultural structures, railways, and roads, the silos dating from to 1960 and 1973.

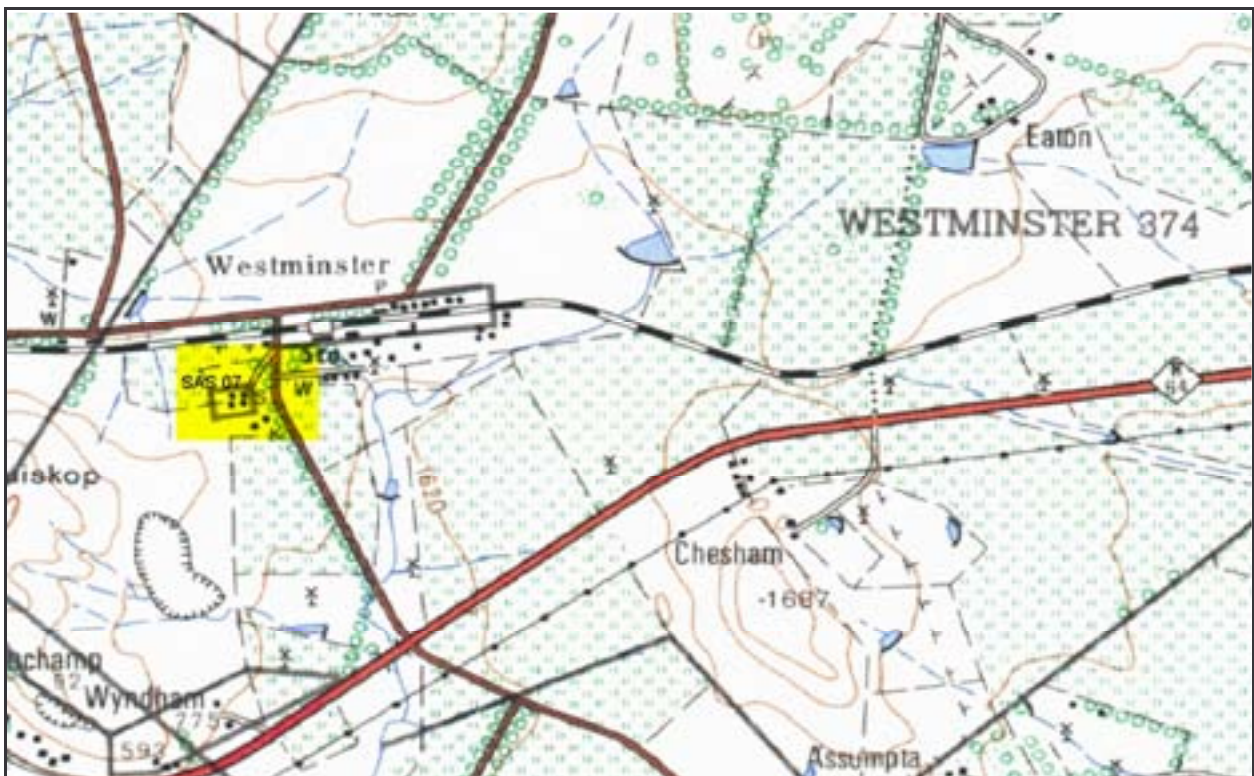
The fuel tank was erected within the silo compound on disturbed ground. The environmental footprint of the structure is less than 20m². No apparent damage or disturbance of any heritage resources is visible within the silo compound specifically, nor the general environment (including historical, palaeontological and archaeological resources).



9. SAS 07 – Sub-division of Westminister 374

Site number	SAS 07
Site name	OVK Silo, Westminister
Erf number / Fam name & number	Sub-division of farm Westminister 374
Closest Town	Westminister
Magisterial district	Ladybrand
Province	Freestate
Co-ordinates	S 29° 10' 34.8" E 27° 09' 00.4"
Recording method	Garmin E-Trex GPS
1: 50 000 map reference	2927 AA
Land owner	Oos-Vrystaat Kaap Bedryf Bpk
Contact person	Liezel Jonan
Contact details	PO Box 96 Ladybrand 9745 Tel: 051 923 4500 Fax: 051 923 4584

Location map



Site description

The site is located within the OVK silo compound in a semi-industrial, agricultural environment. The general landscape is cultivated maize fields and grassland, with landscaped gardens in the immediate vicinity. Land use mainly includes agricultural structures, railways, and roads, the silos dating from approximately 1970-1980.

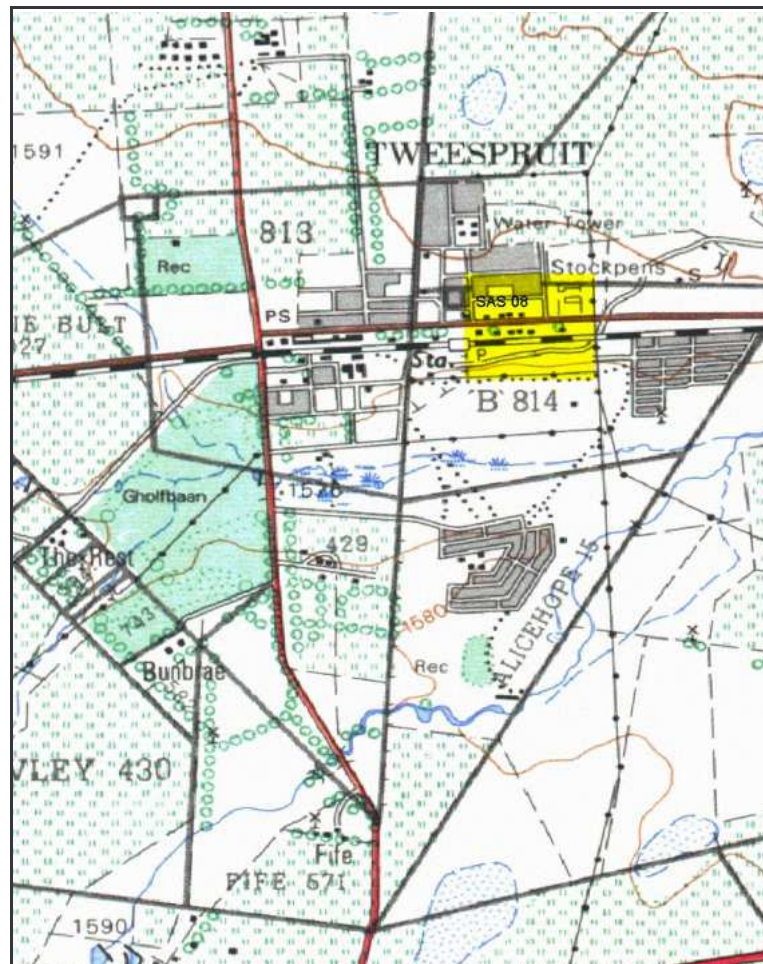
The fuel tank was erected within the silo compound on disturbed ground. The environmental footprint of the structure is less than 20m². No apparent damage or disturbance of any heritage resources is visible within the silo compound specifically, nor the general environment (including historical, palaeontological and archaeological resources).



10. SAS 08 – Erf 2, 3, 160, 218, Tweespruit

Site number	SAS 08
Site name	OVK Silo, Tweespruit
Erf number / Fam name & number	Erf 2, 3, 160, 218, Industrial Area
Closest Town	Tweespruit
Magisterial district	Ladybrand
Province	Freestate
Co-ordinates	S 29° 11' 13.2" E 27° 01' 32.1"
Recording method	Garmin E-Trex GPS
1: 50 000 map reference	2927 AA
Land owner	Oos-Vrystaat Kaap Bedryf Bpk
Contact person	Liesel Jonan
Contact details	PO Box 96 Ladybrand 9745 Tel: 051 923 4500 Fax: 051 923 4584

Location map: 2927 AA



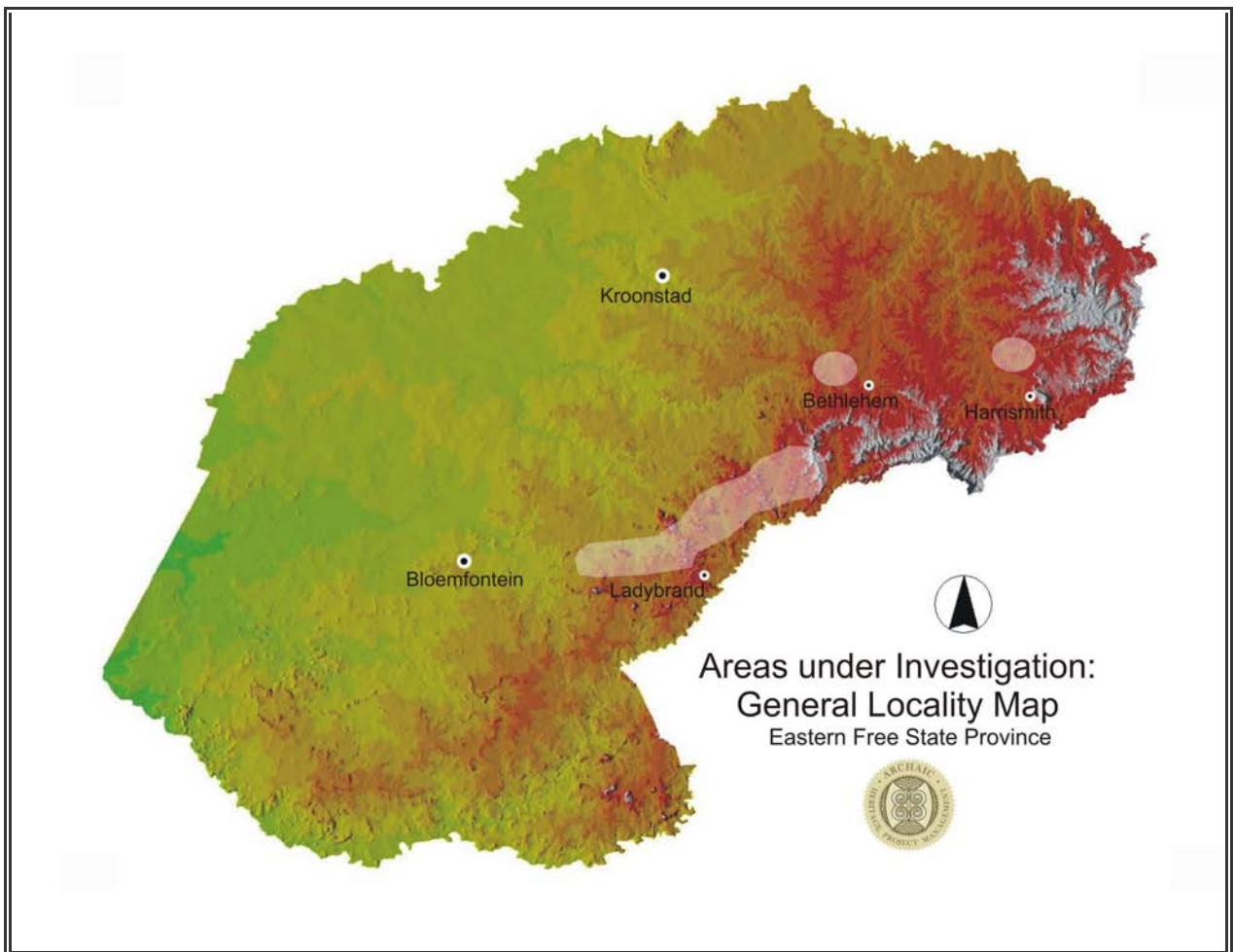
Site description

The site is located within the OVK silo compound in an industrial environment. The general landscape is urban-industrial, with landscaped gardens in the immediate vicinity. Land use mainly includes residential, industrial and agricultural structures, railways, and roads. The silos date from approximately 1960-1980.

The fuel tank was erected within the silo compound on disturbed ground. The environmental footprint of the structure is less than 20m². No apparent damage or disturbance of any heritage resources is visible within the silo compound specifically, nor the general environment (including historical, palaeontological and archaeological resources).



11. SITE LOCATIONS





11. RECOMMENDATION FOR EXEMPTION

The sites in question are all located within the boundaries of the silo complexes. The silos date from between 1950 and 1983. The silos are situated in semi-industrial-urban and/or agricultural-industrial locations. No visible heritage resources were noted at any site. This included such resources as palaeontological, archaeological and historical objects and features. Every fuel storage tank is built on previously disturbed areas. These areas are situated close to the silos on either tarmac, concrete paving or landscaped lawns.

A Recommendation for exemption from a full Heritage Resources Phase 1 Impact Assessment is made concerning all eight sites. This recommendation is made due to the following reasons:

1. Every site is located within disturbed areas;
2. Every site is located in a developed industrial-type setting;
3. No heritage resources were found in, around or near any of the sites;
4. No site poses an immediate or long term threat to any type of heritage resource;
5. Every site covers an area of less than 50 m²;
6. Every site is constructed above ground - other than shallow foundations, no extensive excavations or other disturbance of the areas have taken place due to the construction of each fuel tank.

This recommendation is subject to provisions and further recommendations made by the South African National Heritage Resources Agency.

Although each site has been documented and recorded, it must be noted that South Africa is rich in heritage resources. The lack of any such resources in and around the vicinity of the sites does not imply that heritage resources do not exist below ground or within the immediate environment. Care must therefore be taken should any expansion or extensive excavations take place within and around each site.