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FIRST PHASE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE INVESTIGATION OF THE PROPOSED NEW SOLID WASTE TREATMENT SYSTEM AT HOBHOUSE, FREE STATE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A new solid waste treatment system is planned at Hobhouse, Free State.

The new plant will be developed adjacent to the existing sewer oxidation dams. The area has already been damaged by earlier developments and did not produce any cultural or historical material.

I recommend that further planning and development of the site could continue.

INTRODUCTION AND DESCRIPTION

INVESTIGATION

The area for the proposed installation of the new solid waste treatment system at Hobhouse was visited on 9 June 2008. Cedric Nelson of NSVT Consultants, Bloemfontein, directed me to the site.

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 new solid waste treatment system at Hobhouse will be developed adjacent to the existing sewer treatment works along the S621 road outside Hobhouse (Map 1).

The following GPS coordinate (Cape scale) was taken.

Point A 29°31'23"S 027°09'37"E Altitude 1500m (Figs.1-5).

RESULTS

FINDS

The whole area proposed for the new solid waste treatment plant lies adjacent to the existing oxidation dams system (Figs.1-5).

No indication of any archaeological or historical material was found on the surface.

ASSESSMENT OF IMPACT

The area has already been disturbed by the installation of the existing sewer treatment system.

The proposed developments will have no impact on any cultural and historical remains of the area.

RECOMMENDATIONS

I recommend that the planning of the new solid waste treatment system at Hobhouse may proceed.

MITIGATION

Concerning the area for the proposed developments, no mitigation measures will be required.

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

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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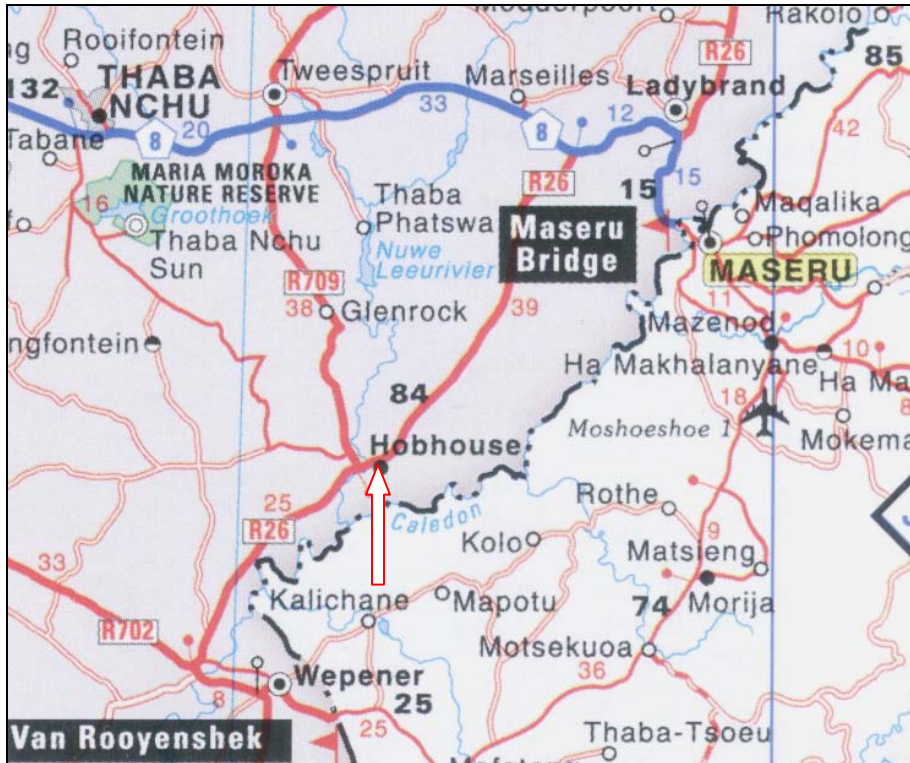
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LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS



Map 1 Locality of Hobhouse in relation to other towns along the Lesotho border.



Fig.1 Point A facing existing oxidation pond system at Hobhouse.



Fig.2 Existing sewer system at Hobhouse.



Fig.3 View across the proposed area of development adjacent to the existing oxidation pond system at Hobhouse.



Fig.4 Area proposed for the new solid waste treatment plant at Hobhouse.



Fig.5 Locality for the new solid waste treatment system at Hobhouse.