

**The archaeological survey of the Mbonambi Bulk Water Supply
Scheme**

For PD Naidoo & Associates

Date:

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Umlando was contracted by PD Naidoo & Associates to undertake the archaeological survey for the Mbonambi Bulk Water Supply Scheme¹. Construction for this portion of the scheme is planned to commence in mid – January. The project entails laying of a 315mm bulk water main along the haul road to the T-junction near RBM. The route of the main will then continue into the dunes to a reservoir to be constructed on the Dunes (after mining is complete). A second main will continue along the gravel road to Sokhulu and from there it will continue north towards, but not as far as Mapelane. Minor reticulation will spread out from these mains into the communities either side of the main.

The survey followed the main route and the reticulations. The route continues along very disturbed areas as a result of low cost housing, roads, afforestation and general servitudes. Some areas were heavily vegetated.

We did not observe any archaeological sites during the course of the survey. If any sites did occur in the area then afforestation, roads and servitudes would have damaged them. One area of the scheme is near previously recorded archaeological sites. However the Bulk Water Supply Scheme is at the base of the dune, while the archaeological site is at the top of the dune. This site was recorded in 1998, and will not be affected by the scheme.

The developers should be wary of artefacts that may occur during the course of construction, and these should be reported to Amafa KwaZulu-Natal, or to us. I suggest that a follow-up survey be undertaken along parts of the scheme.

¹ Drawing numbers 050512/10/20/01/0 and 050512/10/20/02/0 show the area to be serviced by the total scheme as approved by DWAF. Drawing no. 050512/10/03/00/01/00 shows wards 5 and 6 of Mbonambi that will be serviced by Phase 1 of the scheme.