

**The archaeological survey of various
developments in the Richards Bay - Empangeni areas**

For Environmental Business Strategies

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Amafa aKwaZulu-Natali

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INTRODUCTION

Umlando was contracted to undertake archaeological surveys of several areas in the Richards Bay and Empangeni by Environmental Business Strategies. We undertook the survey on 10 February 2005. No archaeological sites were recorded however; one site was regarded as having some sensitivity. We recommend that this area is resurveyed after vegetation clearance has occurred.

THE SITES

Kuleka stands

This area is situated besides the road reserve and other industrial activities. The affected area is of low archaeological significance and no sites were recorded.

Significance: The area has low archaeological significance

Mitigation and Management: No mitigation or management plan is required

Nseleni Taxi Rank Upgrade

This affected area is situated in an existing taxi rank, and other servitudes in Nseleni. Thus, the area has been heavily disturbed and has no archaeological potential.

No archaeological sites were recorded

Significance: The area has low archaeological significance

Mitigation and Management: No mitigation or management plan is required.

Dune Route pipe-jacking

Pipe-jacking refers to the process of placing a subsurface cable, or servitude, underneath an existing road without affecting the road itself. The servitude is excavated underneath the road from one side and "dragged" to the other side. The EIA report may discuss the full process. Three areas were to be affected along Dune Route road, Richards Bay: Knorhaan Baai, Pinkie Pool and Kolsterkring

Since the affected areas are currently below the surface of the road, it is not possible to assess the exact area of impact. However, since all three areas have been previously damaged by road, and cable servitudes it is unlikely that any archaeological sites will remain in the affected area.

No sites were recorded. We have been along this route over the last 10 years and have not noticed any sites previously.

Significance: The area has low archaeological significance

Mitigation and Management: No mitigation or management plan is required

Domestic and Garden Refuse Station, Richards Bay

The affected area was previously used as a bus terminus. There is an existing hardened surface (from tarring), and the rest of the affected area has been disturbed. No archaeological sites were recorded.

Significance: The area has low archaeological significance

Mitigation and Management: No mitigation or management plan is required

Bulk Water Supply Scheme, Esikhawini and Mkhwanazi area

Most of the servitude is located besides the existing road servitude, and is thus not sensitive. However, the three areas of concern relate to the reservoir sites. Two reservoirs will be expanded and one will be constructed.

The southern most reservoir consists of an existing single reservoir that will be upgraded. No archaeological sites were recorded.

The middle reservoir area needs to be constructed. The area appears to be in a previously afforested area. No sites were recorded in the affected area, or along the dirt road besides the affected area.

The northernmost reservoir consists of two existing water reservoirs. This will be demolished and a larger reservoir will replace these. The area is situated in the primal dune area and is archaeologically sensitive.

No artefacts were observed during this specific survey, however the dense vegetation resulted in poor archaeological visibility.

Significance: The area has archaeological significance

Mitigation and Management: The area should be resurveyed once it has been cleared of its current vegetation. This will need to be undertaken before any earthmoving occurs on the site. The resurvey will assess the full potential of the site and propose further management if necessary.

Vacant land adjacent to Ticor access road

This area is in a low-lying area and may have been part of a wetland in the past. Dense vegetation resulted in poor archaeological visibility; however, the area does not appear to be archaeologically sensitive. No sites were recorded.

Significance: The area has low archaeological significance

Mitigation and Management: No mitigation or management plan is required

Upgrading of pump station and sewer line near Vundlela

The pipeline runs across and through existing University of Zululand property and it has been disturbed by construction and landscaping. No archaeological sites were observed.

Significance: The area has low archaeological significance

Mitigation and Management: No mitigation or management plan is required

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