

Agency for Cultural Resource Management

Specialists in Archaeological Studies and Heritage Resource Management

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Att : Ms Jenna Theron
Doug Jeffery Environmental Consultants
PO Box 44
Klapmuts
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Dear Ms Theron,

ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF THE DRIFTSANDS SEWERAGE PIPELINE, CITY OF CAPE TOWN

1. Introduction

Consideration is being given to the construction of a sewer pipeline alongside Old Faure Road, City of Cape Town (Tygerberg Administration) (Figure 1). The proposed pipeline will be a gravity main about 2.95 kms long. The diameter of the pipeline will be 500 mm and the maximum spacing between manholes will be 100 m. The depth of the pipeline will vary between 1.5 and 5.5 m. The pipeline will be constructed by means of open trench excavation. The pipeline will cross two small rivers/streams along the route, at which the existing gabions in the river bed will be removed and replaced.

The proposed pipeline will run from the existing Driftsands Pump Station, and cross a portion of land (Erf 2092) used as Public Open Space. The pipeline then runs along the northern section of Old Faure Road (Stellenbosch Farm 1077), and the Driftsands Nature Reserve (comprising Portion 1 of Cape Farm 544 and Stellenbosch Farm 981), to finally connect with an existing manhole (the N2 Gateway bulk sewer) just before Ingilo Road, opposite the Ark Refuge Centre in Mfuleni (Figure 2).

2. Terms of reference

The Terms of Reference for the archaeological study were to:

- Identify and map any heritage resources in the proposed pipeline route;
- Determine the importance of heritage resources in the proposed pipeline route;
- Determine and assess the potential impacts of the proposed project on the heritage resources, and
- Recommend mitigation measures to minimise impacts associated with the proposed pipeline route.

A Notice of Intent to Develop (NID) checklist has been completed by the archaeologist and submitted to Heritage Western Cape (Belcom) for comment.

3. The study site

The Driftsands Pump Station (S 34° 00 21.1 E 18° 39 08.2 on map datum wgs 84) is located alongside a row of houses in Valangentambo Road in Driftsands. The N2 is situated to the south of the road. Access to Old Faure Road is via Mew Way. As indicated, the proposed pipeline will run adjacent to the Old Faure Road where it will connect with the N2 Gateway sewer in Ingilo Road, Mfuleni.

The receiving environment comprises a mix of wetland vegetation, Kikuyu grass and windblown sands. There are sections along the route, closer to Mfuleni, where the veld is relatively undisturbed veld. Dumping alongside the road is, however widespread and much of the surrounding area is already severely degraded. Surrounding land use comprises Driftsands and Mfuleni residential areas, informal housing and the Driftsands Nature Reserve.

4. Approach to the study

Selected sections along the Old Faure Road were searched for archaeological remains.

The site visit and assessment took place on 28th May, 2009.

5. Findings

No archaeological remains were found in the proposed pipeline route.

Several archaeological studies in the Driftsands/Mfuleni area have failed to document any archaeological remains¹.

6. Impact statement

The impact of the proposed project on important archaeological heritage remains is likely to be **low**.

7. Recommendations

The Archaeological Impact Assessment of the proposed Driftsands Sewerage Pipeline has identified no significant impacts to pre-colonial archaeological material that will need to mitigated, prior to proposed development activities.

Yours sincerely



Jonathan Kaplan

¹ Kaplan, J. 2005. Archaeological study Metropolitan Cemetery study Phase 2 – Metro South East. Report prepared for Settlement Planning Services. Agency for Cultural Resource Management

