



10 May 2019

**Natasha Higgett
SAHRA**

NORTHWEST GATEWAY PROJECT: CASEID: 12748

In reference to your latest interim comment related to this project, dated 7 May 2018, the following:

The reference to the aquaduct on the 1:50 000 map provided in the Revised HIA was a logical assumption that that was the line referred to by SAHRA since this line does occur on site and this has been assessed by ourselves. The definition of an aquaduct is ‘an artificial channel for conveying water’. This is exactly the description of the line that was assessed which furthermore seems to link up with the aquaduct now indicated by you. It thus is actually is the same feature as previously assessed this line does not have any heritage significant since it is an earth channel dug to convey stormwater from underneath the road from the mountain side to traverse the development site towards the east.

The aquaduct that SAHRA was then referring to according to the latest comment is on adjacent land (and not on the border as stated by you). A measurement on Google Earth Indicated it to be at least 30 m from the site boundary (Figure below). Although we usually do look at a wider area than the development boundary, this simply is not always possible. Access cannot always be granted to adjacent land, which in fact was the case here.

The aquaduct outside of the site boundary forms part of the Crocodile-West Water Supply Scheme which will not be affected by the proposed development at all. The section of the aquaduct within the proposed development will merely serve the same purpose as before. The Department of Water & Sanitation was a key stakeholder in the EIA process and they are satisfied with the final recommendations and township layout provided. In addition, a Water Use License Application has been submitted (in continuous consultation with the DWS) which addresses the watercourse that is actually affected by the proposed development.



The white lines are measurements taken between the site boundary of the development and the aqueduct to the outside thereof.

Thus, the further investigation of this aqueduct structure outside the boundaries of the township is not advised, since it will not be impacted upon by the township and the status quo will remain.

We trust this response is sufficient to enable final comment on this project.

Yours faithfully

Prof AC van Vollenhoven: Director