



PALAEONTOLOGICAL **DESKTOP** ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED PROSPECTING RIGHT COMBINED WITH A WASTE LICENCE APPLICATION TO PROSPECT FOR **DIAMONDS** ON PORTION 7 OF THE FARM ADEISESTAD 409, PORTION 1 OF THE FARM KALKPUNT 407, REMAINING EXTENT OF PORTION 21 AND PORTION 29 (PORTION OF PORTION 21) OF THE FARM UAP 418 & ON FARM 596 NEAR UPINGTON IN THE **NORTHERN CAPE**

NC30/5/1/1/2/112979PR

MAY 2022

COMPILED ON BEHALF OF:

MILNEX CC

Declaration of Independence

I, Elize Butler, declare that -

General declaration:

- I act as the independent palaeontological specialist in this application
- I will perform the work relating to the application in an objective manner, even if this results in views and findings that are not favorable to the applicant
- I declare that there are no circumstances that may compromise my objectivity in performing such work.
- I have expertise in conducting palaeontological impact assessments, including knowledge of the Act, Regulations and any guidelines that have relevance to the proposed activity.
- I will comply with the Act, Regulations, and all other applicable legislation.
- I will take into account, to the extent possible, the matters listed in section 38 of the NHRA when preparing the application and any report relating to the application.
- I have no, and will not engage in, conflicting interests in the undertaking of the activity.
- I undertake to disclose to the applicant and the competent authority all material
 information in my possession that reasonably has or may have the potential of
 influencing any decision to be taken with respect to the application by the
 competent authority; and the objectivity of any report, plan or document to be
 prepared by myself for submission to the competent authority.
- I will ensure that information containing all relevant facts in respect of the application is distributed or made available to interested and affected parties and the public and that participation by interested and affected parties is facilitated in such a manner that all interested and affected parties will be provided with a reasonable opportunity to participate and to provide comments on documents that are produced to support the application.
- I will provide the competent authority with access to all information at my disposal regarding the application, whether such information is favorable to the applicant or not
- All the particulars furnished by me in this form are true and correct.
- I will perform all other obligations as expected a palaeontological specialist in terms
 of the Act and the constitutions of my affiliated professional bodies; and
- I realize that a false declaration is an offense in terms of regulation 71 of the Regulations and is punishable in terms of section 24F of the NEMA.



Disclosure of Vested Interest

I do not have and will not have any vested interest (either business, financial, personal, or other) in the proposed activity proceeding other than remuneration for work performed in terms of the Regulations.

PALAEONTOLOGICAL CONSULTANT: Banzai Environmental (Pty) Ltd

CONTACT PERSON: Elize Butler

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SIGNATURE:



This Palaeontological Impact Assessment report has been compiled considering the National Environmental Management Act 1998 (NEMA) and Environmental Impact Regulations 2014 as amended, requirements for specialist reports, Appendix 6, as indicated in the table below.

Table 1: NEMA Table

Requirements of Appendix 6 – GN R326 EIA Regulations of 7 April 2017	Relevant section in report	Comment where not applicable
1.(1) (a) (i) Details of the specialist who prepared the report	Page ii and Section 2 of Report – Contact details and company and Appendix A	-
(ii) The expertise of that person to compile a specialist report including a curriculum vitae	Section 2 – refer to Appendix A	-
(b) A declaration that the person is independent in a form as may be specified by the competent authority	Page ii of the report	-
(c) An indication of the scope of, and the purpose for which, the report was prepared	Section 4 – Objective	-
(cA) An indication of the quality and age of base data used for the specialist report	Section 5 – Geological and Palaeontological history	-
(cB) a description of existing impacts on the site, cumulative impacts of the proposed development and levels of acceptable change;	Section 9	-
(d) The duration, date and season of the site investigation and the relevance of the season to the outcome of the assessment		Desktop Assessment
(e) a description of the methodology adopted in preparing the report or carrying out the specialised process inclusive of equipment and modelling used	Section 7 Approach and Methodology	-
(f) details of an assessment of the specific identified sensitivity of the site related to the proposed activity or activities and its associated structures and infrastructure, inclusive of a site plan identifying site alternative;	Section 1 and 10	

		Comment
Requirements of Appendix 6 – GN R326 EIA Regulations	Relevant section	where not
of 7 April 2017	in report	applicable
(g) An identification of any areas to be avoided, including buffers	Section 5	No buffers or areas of sensitivity identified
(h) A map superimposing the activity including the	Section 5 –	
associated structures and infrastructure on the environmental sensitivities of the site including areas to be avoided, including buffers;	Geological and Palaeontological history	
(i) A description of any assumptions made and any uncertainties or gaps in knowledge;	Section 7.1 – Assumptions and Limitation	-
 (j) A description of the findings and potential implications of such findings on the impact of the proposed activity, including identified alternatives, on the environment 	Section 1 and 10	
(k) Any mitigation measures for inclusion in the EMPr	Section 1 and 10	
(I) Any conditions for inclusion in the environmental authorisation	Section 1 and 10	
(m) Any monitoring requirements for inclusion in the EMPr or environmental authorisation	Section 1 and 10	
(n)(i) A reasoned opinion as to whether the proposed activity, activities or portions thereof should be authorised and (n)(iA) A reasoned opinion regarding the acceptability of the proposed activity or activities; and	Section 1 and 10	
(n)(ii) If the opinion is that the proposed activity, activities or portions thereof should be authorised, any avoidance, management and mitigation measures that should be included in the EMPr, and where applicable, the closure plan	Section 1 and 10	-
(o) A description of any consultation process that was undertaken during the course of carrying out the study	N/A	
(p) A summary and copies if any comments that were received during any consultation process	N/A	
(q) Any other information requested by the competent authority.	N/A	



		Comment
Requirements of Appendix 6 – GN R326 EIA Regulations	Relevant section	where not
of 7 April 2017	in report	applicable
(2) Where a government notice by the Minister provides for any	Section 3	
protocol or minimum information requirement to be applied to	compliance with	
a specialist report, the requirements as indicated in such	SAHRA	
notice will apply.	guidelines	



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Banzai Environmental was appointed by Milnex CC to conduct the Palaeontological Desktop Assessment (PDA) to assess the proposed Prospecting Right combined with a Waste Licence application to prospect for Diamond (Alluvial), Diamond (General), Diamonds and Diamonds (Kimberlite) on Portion 7 of the farm Adeisestad 409, Portion 1 of the farm Kalkpunt 407, Remaining Extent of Portion 21 and Portion 29 (portion of portion 21) of the farm UAP 418 & on Farm 596 near Upington, Registration Division: Gordonia, Northern Cape Province. To comply with the National Heritage Resources Act (No 25 of 1999, section 38) (NHRA), this PIA is necessary to verify if fossil material could potentially be present in the planned development area, to evaluate the potential impact of the proposed development on the Palaeontological Heritage and to mitigate possible damage to fossil resources.

The proposed development is underlain by sediments of the Gordonia Formation (Kalahari Group) as well as the Dagbreek Formation (Vaalkoppies Group, Namaqua-Natal Province). A Low Palaeontological Significance has been allocated to the proposed development and it is therefore considered that the proposed development will not lead to detrimental impacts on the palaeontological resources of the area. The construction and operation of the project may be authorised, as the whole extent of the development footprint is not considered sensitive in terms of palaeontological heritage.

If fossil remains or trace fossils are discovered during any phase of construction, either on the surface or exposed by excavations the Environmental Control Officer (ECO) in charge of these developments must report to SAHRA (Contact details: SAHRA, 111 Harrington Street, Cape Town. PO Box 4637, Cape Town 8000, South Africa. Tel: 021 462 4502. Fax: +27 (0)21 462 4509. Web: www.sahra.org.za) so that mitigation can be carry out by a palaeontologist.

It is consequently recommended that no further palaeontological heritage studies, ground truthing and/or specialist mitigation are required pending the discovery of newly discovered fossils.

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Appendix A:

Curriculum Vitae Elize Butler



1 INTRODUCTION

Milnex CC was commissioned by Mopane Tree SA (Pty) Ltd as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the Scoping and EIA process for the proposed Prospecting Right combined with a Waste Licence application to prospect for Diamond (Alluvial), Diamond (General), Diamonds and Diamonds (Kimberlite) on Portion 7 of the farm Adeisestad 409, Portion 1 of the farm Kalkpunt 407, Remaining Extent of Portion 21 and Portion 29 (portion of portion 21) of the farm UAP 418 & on Farm 596 near Upington, Registration Division: Gordonia, Northern Cape Province. Banzai Environment was in turn appointed to conduct the Palaeontological Desktop Assessment for this project.

The proposed area comprises of cultivated fields while some areas are low scrubland and open bushes.

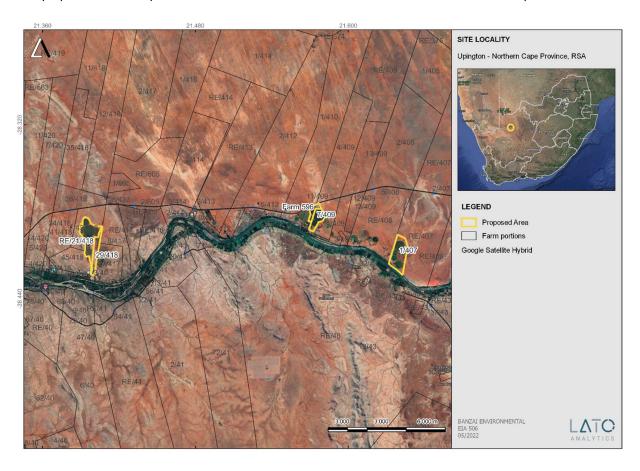


Figure 1: Location of the Prospecting Right combined with a Waste Licence application to prospect for Diamond (Alluvial), Diamond (General), Diamonds and Diamonds (Kimberlite) on Portion 7 of the farm Adeisestad 409, Portion 1 of the farm Kalkpunt 407, Remaining Extent of Portion 21 and Portion 29 (portion of portion 21) of the farm UAP 418 & on Farm 596 near Upington, Registration Division: Gordonia, Northern Cape Province.



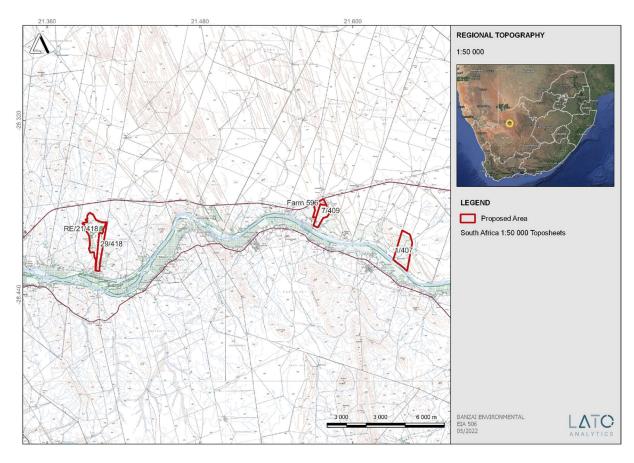


Figure 2: Regional Topography of the proposed development

The extensive diamondiferous gravels of the Lower Vaal, Harts, and Middle Orange River valleys are associated with remnants of outwash deposits formed during the retreat of the ancient Ghaap (Kaap) Valley glacial system and subsequent reworking and alluvial deposition by major rivers. These rivers included the proto- Vaal, - Orange, - Harts, and -Riet Rivers and their modem antecedents.

Past and present work has shown that the majority of the alluvial diamonds found in gravel deposits along all of the middle Orange River terraces are, typically, found in two distinct gravel horizons. These comprise an upper, deflation deposit (locally known as Rooikoppie gravels) overlying fluvial-alluvial units, often known as Primary gravels.

The older gravel sequence formed deposits of considerable thickness, often in excess of 15m and consisting of rapidly aggraded (or dumped) material. The sequence is compacted and frequently cemented with secondary calcrete. Basal gravels, typically, comprise the lower half to one third of the fluvial-alluvial sedimentary sequence and rest directly on the bedrock. The unit (around 5m thick) generally comprises a poorly sorted assemblage of large boulders (up to 45 cm in diameter at the base of the unit), cobbles and pebbles set in a sandy matrix that BANZAI ENVIRONMENTAL (PTY) LTD.

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is considered to have been deposited by a large, high-energy braided system that would be readily capable of transporting diamonds.

The overlying suspended gravels represent gravel bars that have migrated down the river system and have not incised into the bedrock. The units have also been shown to contain diamonds. Diamond grades are usually lower than for the basal deposits owing to their being diluted by finer-grained pebble, sand and silt lenses. The thickness of the suspended gravel unit varies from 3 – 7m and may represent large volumes of material.

2 QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE OF THE AUTHOR

This present study has been conducted by Mrs Elize Butler. She has conducted approximately 300 palaeontological impact assessments for developments in the Free State, KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern, Central, and Northern Cape, Northwest, Gauteng, Limpopo, and Mpumalanga. She has an MSc (*cum laude*) in Zoology (specializing in Palaeontology) from the University of the Free State, South Africa and has been working in Palaeontology for more than twenty-five years. She has experience in locating, collecting, and curating fossils. She has been a member of the Palaeontological Society of South Africa (PSSA) since 2006 and has been conducting PIAs since 2014.

3 LEGISLATION

3.1 National Heritage Resources Act (25 of 1999)

Cultural Heritage in South Africa, includes all heritage resources, is protected by the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) (NHRA). Heritage resources as defined in Section 3 of the Act include "all objects recovered from the soil or waters of South Africa, including archaeological and palaeontological objects and material, meteorites and rare geological specimens".

The identification, evaluation and assessment of any cultural heritage site, artefact or finds in the South African context is required and governed by the following legislation:

- National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) Act 107 of 1998
- National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA) Act 25 of 1999
- Minerals and Petroleum Resources Development Act (MPRDA) Act 28 of 2002
- Notice 648 of the Government Gazette 45421- general requirements for undertaking an initial site sensitivity verification where no specific assessment protocol has been identified.

6

The next section in each Act is directly applicable to the identification, assessment, and evaluation of cultural heritage resources.

GNR 982 (Government Gazette 38282, 14 December 2014) promulgated under the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) Act 107 of 1998

- Basic Assessment Report (BAR) Regulations 19 and 23
- Environmental Impacts Assessment (EIA) Regulation 23
- Environmental Scoping Report (ESR) Regulation 21
- Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) Regulations 19 and 23

National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA) Act 25 of 1999

- Protection of Heritage Resources Sections 34 to 36
- Heritage Resources Management Section 38

MPRDA Regulations of 2014

Environmental reports to be compiled for application of mining right – Regulation 48

- Contents of scoping report Regulation 49
- Contents of environmental impact assessment report Regulation 50
- Environmental management programme Regulation 51
- Environmental management plan Regulation 52

The NEMA (No 107 of 1998) states that an integrated EMP should (23:2 (b)) "...identify, predict, and evaluate the actual and potential impact on the environment, socio-economic conditions, and cultural heritage".

In agreement with legislative requirements, EIA rating standards as well as SAHRA policies the following comprehensive and legally compatible PIA report have been compiled.

Palaeontological heritage is exceptional and non-renewable and is protected by the NHRA. Palaeontological resources and may not be unearthed, broken moved, or destroyed by any development without prior assessment and without a permit from the relevant heritage resources authority as per section 35 of the NHRA.

This Palaeontological Impact assessment forms part of the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) and adhere to the conditions of the Act. According to Section 38 (1), an HIA is required to assess any potential impacts to palaeontological heritage within the development footprint where:

- the construction of a road, wall, power line, pipeline, canal or other similar form of linear development or barrier exceeding 300 m in length.
- the construction of a bridge or similar structure exceeding 50 m in length.
- any development or other activity which will change the character of a site—
- (Exceeding 5 000 m² in extent; or
- involving three or more existing erven or subdivisions thereof; or

Diamond Prospecting near Upington, Northern Cape

• involving three or more erven or divisions thereof which have been consolidated within the past five

years; or

the costs of which will exceed a sum set in terms of regulations by SAHRA or a provincial heritage

resources authority

the re-zoning of a site exceeding 10 000 m² in extent.

or any other category of development provided for in regulations by SAHRA or a Provincial heritage

resources authority.

4 OBJECTIVE

The aim of a Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA) is to decrease the effect of the development on potential

fossils at the development site.

According to the "SAHRA APM Guidelines: Minimum Standards for the Archaeological and Palaeontological

Components of Impact Assessment Reports" the purpose of the PIA is: 1) to identify the palaeontological

importance of the rock formations in the footprint; 2) to evaluate the palaeontological magnitude of the

formations; 3) to clarify the impact on fossil heritage; and 4) to suggest how the developer might protect and

lessen possible damage to fossil heritage.

The palaeontological status of each rock section is calculated as well as the possible impact of the development

on fossil heritage by a) the palaeontological importance of the rocks, b) the type of development and c) the

quantity of bedrock removed.

When the development footprint has a moderate to high palaeontological sensitivity a field-based assessment

is necessary. The desktop and the field survey of the exposed rock determine the impact significance of the

planned development and recommendations for further studies or mitigation are made. Destructive impacts on

palaeontological heritage usually only occur during the construction phase while the excavations will change

the current topography and destruct or permanently seal-in fossils at or below the ground surface. Fossil

Heritage will then no longer be accessible for scientific research.

Mitigation usually precede construction or may occur during construction when potentially fossiliferous bedrock

is exposed. Mitigation comprises the collection and recording of fossils. Preceding excavation of any fossils a

permit from SAHRA must be obtained and the material will have to be housed in a permitted institution. When

mitigation is applied correctly, a positive impact is possible because our knowledge of local palaeontological

heritage may be increased

The terms of reference of a PIA are as follows:

General Requirements:



- Adherence to the content requirements for specialist reports in accordance with Appendix 6 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.
- Adherence to all applicable best practice recommendations, appropriate legislation, and authority requirements.
- Submit a comprehensive overview of all appropriate legislation, guidelines.
- Description of the proposed project and provide information regarding the developer and consultant who commissioned the study.
- Description and location of the proposed development and provide geological and topographical maps.
- Provide Palaeontological and geological history of the affected area.
- Identification sensitive areas to be avoided (providing shapefiles/kml's) in the proposed development.
- Evaluation of the significance of the planned development during the Pre-construction, Construction, Operation, Decommissioning Phases and Cumulative impacts. Potential impacts should be rated in terms of the direct, indirect, and cumulative:
 - a. **Direct impacts** are impacts that are caused directly by the activity and generally occur at the same time and at the place of the activity.
 - Indirect impacts of an activity are indirect or induced changes that may occur as a result of the activity.
 - c. Cumulative impacts result from the incremental impact of the proposed activity on a common resource when added to the impacts of other past, present or reasonably foreseeable future activities.
- Fair assessment of alternatives (infrastructure alternatives have been provided):
- Recommend mitigation measures to minimise the impact of the proposed development; and
- Implications of specialist findings for the proposed development (such as permits, licenses etc).

5 GEOLOGICAL AND PALAEONTOLOGICAL HISTORY

The proposed diamond prospecting and waste licence application near Upington on Portion 7 of the farm Adeisestad 409, Portion 1 of the farm Kalkpunt 407, Remaining Extent of Portion 21 and Portion 29 (portion of portion 21) of the farm UAP 418 & on Farm 596 near Upington is depicted on the 1: 250 000 Upington 2820 Geological Map (1988) (Council of Geosciences, Pretoria) (**Figure 3; Table 2**). According to this map the proposed development is underlain by the following sediments: Gordonia Formation of the Kalahari Group (white with yellow dashes, Qg) as well as the Dagbreek Formation (blue-purple; Mda) (Vaalkoppies Group, Namaqua-Natal Province). Shape files (distributed by the Council of Geosciences, Pretoria) of the development is depicted in **Figure 4**.

The Cenozoic Kalahari Group is the most widespread body of terrestrial sediments in southern Africa. The Cenozoic sands and calcretes of the Kalahari Group range in thickness from a few metres to more than 180m (Partridge et al., 2006). The youngest formation of the Kalahari group is the Gordonia Formation (present in the development) which is generally termed Kalahari sand and comprises of red aeolian sands that covers most of

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the Kalahari Group sediments. The pan sediments of the area originated from the Gordonia Formation and contains white to brown fine-grained silts, sands, and clays. Some of the pans consist of clayey material mixed with evaporates that shows seasonal effects of shallow saline groundwaters. Quaternary alluvium, aolian sands, surface limestone, silcrete, and terrace gravels are also included in the Kalahari Group (Kent 1980). Partridge *et al.*, (2006) describes numerous types of superficial deposits of Late Caenozoic (Miocene to Pliocene to Recent) age throughout the Karoo Basin. Radiometric dating could thus far not establish a precise boundary between the Quaternary and Tertiary (Kent, 1980).

The Gordonia Formation (Kalahari Group) are dated as Late Pliocene/Early Pleistocene to Recent times by the Middle to Later Stone Age stone tools recovered from them (Dingle et al (1983).

These fossils represent terrestrial plants and animals with a close resemblance to living forms. Fossil assemblages include bivalves, diatoms, gastropod shells, ostracods, and trace fossils. Late Cenozoic calcrete may comprise of bones, horn corns as well as mammalian teeth. Tortoise remains have also been uncovered as well as trace fossils which includes termite and insect's burrows and mammalian trackways. Amphibian and crocodile remains have been uncovered where the depositional settings in the past were wetter.

Bedrock of the Namaqua-Natal Province underlays the Kalahari Group. The Namaqua-Natal Province comprise of igneous and metamorphic rocks (e.g. gneisses, schists, quartzites, amphibolites) plus major granitic and gabbroic (norite) intrusions), that was formed during the Namaqua Orogeny about 1200 to 1000 Ma (million years ago). These rocks forms outcrops in the Northern Cape as well as in KwaZulu Natal. Research has found that these rocks form part of an uninterrupted, 400-km wide and 1400-km-long arced orogenic belt that underlies the Phanerozoic Karoo Supergroup (Cornell et al, 2006). The Namaqua-Natal Metamorphic Province comprise of metasediments that are unfossiliferous. This bedrock is exposed in places where the sedimentary deposits of the Kalahari Group has been eroded away. Kalahari Group sedimentary deposits on the edge of the Kalahari Basin is thin. The basal pebbly sands (Eden Formation) that were deposited in braided streams (Haddon, 2000) may overly the bedrock. Calcretes present in the Mokalanen Formation have formed in several sediments e.g., colluvium, windblown sands as well as ephemeral streams and pans. Sometimes these calcretes may attain considerable thickness and represents polyphase development during the last 5Ma (late Miocene/Pliocene). The calcretes are overlain by red aeolian sands (Gordonia Formation) of the Kalahari. Calcrete deposits may accumulate in pans beneath the aeolian sands.



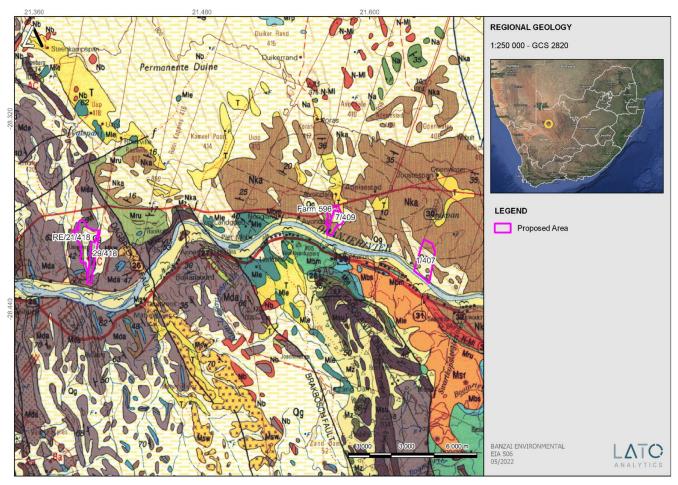
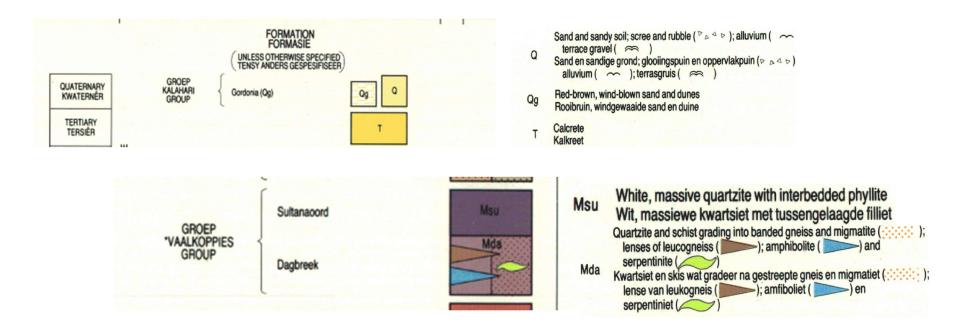


Figure 3: Extract of the 1: 250 000 Upington 2820 Geological Map (1988) (Council of Geosciences, Pretoria) indicating the geology of the proposed prospecting and waste licence application near Upington in the Northern Cape Province.

This map indicates that the development is underlain by the Gordonia Formation (white with yellow dashes; Qg) of the Kalahari Group as well as the Dagbreek Formation (blue-purple; Mda) (Vaalkoppies Group, Namaqua-Natal Province).



Table 2:Legend of the 1: 250 000 Upington 2820 Geological Map (1988) (Council of Geosciences, Pretoria)



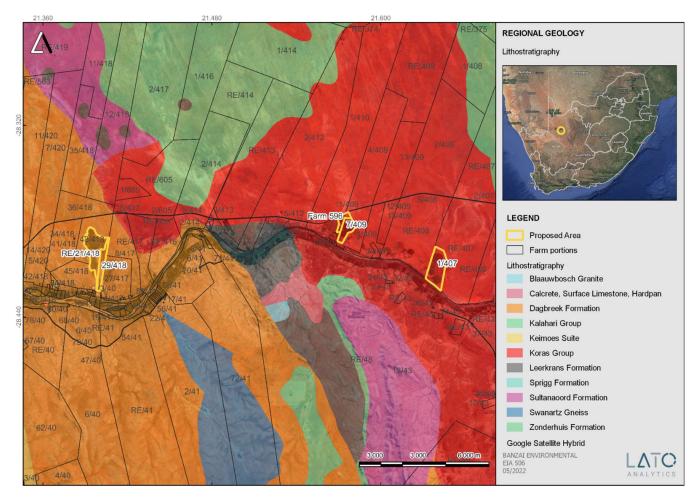


Figure 4: Geology indicated by Shape Files (Council for Geosciences, Pretoria). According to this map the development is underlain by the Dagbreek Formation of the Vaalkoppies Group as well as the Koras Group.

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6 GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF THE SITE

The proposed development is located about 49km East of Upington next to the N14 (Northern Cape Province).

The following information was obtained from Milnex CC.

Table 3: Locality of the proposed development

	1) Portion 7 of the farm Adeisestad 409
	Title deed: T581/2014
	Registration division: Gordonia RD
	Province: Northern Cape
	2) Portion 1 of the farm Kalkpunt 407
	Title Deed: T658/2013
	Registration Division: Gordonia Rd
	Province: Northern Cape
	Remaining extent of portion 21 of the farm UAP 418
	Title Deed: T726/2014
Farm Name:	Registration Division: Gordonia Rd
	Province: Northern Cape
	4) Portion 29 (portion of portion 21) of the farm UAP 418
	Title Deed: T462/1990
	Registration Division: Gordonia Rd
	Province: Northern Cape
	E) Form FOC
	5) Farm 596
	Title Deed: T581/2014
	Registration Division: Gordonia Rd
	Province: Northern Cape
Application area (Ha)	810.485 ha
Magisterial district:	Siyanda District Municipality
Local Municipality	Khara Hais Local Municipality
Registration Division	Gordonia
Distance and direction from	The property is located approximately 49km East of Upington adjacent the N14 in the
nearest town	Northern Cape Province.
	C0280000000059600000
21 digit Surveyor General Code for	C0280000000040900007
each farm portion	C0280000000040700001
	C0280000000041800000
	C0280000000041800029 DIAMONDS ALLUVIAL
	DIAMONDS ALLOVIAL DIAMONDS GENERAL
Minerals Applied for	DIAMONDS GENERAL DIAMONDS IN KIMBERLITE
	DIAMONDS IN KIMBERLITE DIAMONDS
	DIAMONDS



Table 4:Farm coordinates

Farms	Longitude	Latitude
1. Portion 7 of the farm Adeisestad 409	21° 24' 25.429" E	28° 23' 24.433" S
	21° 24' 22.995" E	28° 23' 24.472" S
2. Portion 1 of the farm Kalkpunt 407	21° 24' 13.277" E	28° 23' 24.396" S
	21° 24' 2.805" E	28° 23' 21.843" S
Remaining Extent of portion 21 of the farm UAP 418	21° 23' 53.616" E	28° 23' 17.977" S
ve velente velociones and velociones	21° 23' 48.130" E	28° 23' 8.614" S
4. Portion 29 (portion of portion 21) of the farm UAP 418	21° 23' 47.565" E	28° 23' 7.481" S



	21° 23° 47.240" E	28° 23' 6.930" S
5. Farm 596	21° 23° 46.862" E	28° 23' 6.412" S
	21° 23° 46.447" E	28° 23' 5.909" S
	21° 23° 46.025° E	28° 23' 5.412" S
	21° 23° 45.519" E	28° 23' 4.976" S
	21° 23° 45.007" E	28° 23' 4.574" S
	21° 23" 44.449" E	28° 23' 4.190" S
	21° 23" 43.869" E	28° 23' 3.844" S
	21° 23° 42.619" E	28° 23' 3.293" S
	21° 23° 41.319" E	28° 23' 2.874" S
	21° 23° 39.937" E	28° 23' 2.632" S
	21° 23° 38.462" E	28° 23' 0.872" S
	21° 23" 35.002" E	28° 23' 1.903" S
	21° 23" 32.397" E	28° 23' 3.032" S
	21° 23' 32.494" E	28° 23' 4.702" S
	21° 23' 31.970" E	28° 23' 5.115" S
	21° 23' 31.044" E	28° 23' 6.077" S
	21° 23° 30.318° E	28° 23' 7.084" S
	21° 23° 29.705° E	28° 23' 8.209" S
	21° 23' 29.344" E	28° 23' 9.401" S
	21° 23° 29.154° E	28° 23' 10.621" S
	21° 23° 29.137° E	28° 23' 11.855" S
	21° 23' 29.238" E	28° 23' 12.473" S
	21° 23° 29.523° E	28° 23' 13.649" S
	21° 23° 30.032" E	28° 23' 14.850" S
	21° 23" 30.709" E	28° 23' 15.896" S
	21° 23" 28.864" E	28° 23' 16.575" S
	21° 23" 25.000" E	28° 23' 16.828" S
	21° 23" 24.732" E	28° 23' 19.433" S
	21° 23° 29.039" E	28° 23' 19.280" S
	21° 23° 29.311° E	28° 23' 24.469" S
	21° 23" 24.211" E	28° 23' 24.867" S
	21° 23° 16.616" E	28° 23' 25.904" S
	21° 23° 15.936" E	28° 23' 28.558" S
	21° 23° 22.488" E	28° 23' 30.720° S
	21° 23° 20.291" E	28° 23' 38.926" S
	21° 23° 21.916" E	28° 23' 41.165" S
	21° 23° 25.975° E	28° 23' 46.209" S
	21° 23° 32.805° E	28° 23' 54.083" S
	21° 23" 34.000" E	28° 23' 57.509" S
	21° 23° 35.195° E	28° 24' 0.693" S
	21° 23' 36.673" E	28° 24' 11.747" S
	21° 23' 36.741" E	28° 24' 21.982" S
	21° 23' 35.501" E	28° 24' 25.703" S
	21° 23° 34.021° E	28° 24' 30.209" S
	21° 23° 38.371° E	28° 24' 40.004" S
	21° 23° 46.465" E	28° 24' 38.451" S
	21° 23' 48.530" E	28° 24' 38.813" S
	21° 23' 49.803" E	28° 24' 50.934" S
	21° 23' 53.599" E	28° 24' 58.286" S



21° 23' 52 468" E	28° 25' 24.248" S
21° 23' 52 942" E	28° 25' 24.301" S
21° 24' 3.786" E	28° 25' 25.527" S
21° 24' 5.464" E	28° 25' 5.156" S
21° 34' 28.051" E	28° 22' 38.953" S
21° 34' 8.679" E	28° 23' 32.586" S
21° 34' 21.023" E	28° 23' 37.412" S
21° 34' 30.904" E	28° 23' 21.918" S
21° 34' 32.610" E	28° 23' 19.552" S
21° 34' 36.087" E	28° 23' 13.725" S
21° 34' 47.509" E	28° 23' 10.613" S
21° 34' 49.997" E	28° 23' 7.496" S
21° 34' 53.064" E	28° 23' 3.363" S
21° 34' 54.078" E	28° 22' 59.964" S
21° 34' 54.313" E	28° 22' 56.167" S
21° 34' 53.538" E	28° 22' 53 890" S
21° 34' 51.915" E	28° 22' 51.181" S
21° 34' 50.725° E	28° 22' 48.880° S
21° 34' 48.671" E	28° 22' 46 482" S
21° 34' 46.549" E	28° 22' 45.054" S
21° 34' 44.504" E	28° 22' 41.053" S
21° 34' 33.153" E	28° 22' 41.039" S
21° 38' 19.356" E	28° 23' 44.700" S
21° 38° 40.884° E	28° 23' 54 456" S
21° 38' 47.904" E	28° 24' 15.012" S
21° 38' 33.225" E	28° 25' 25.435" S
21° 38' 23.965" E	28° 25' 17.655" S
21° 38' 19.771" E	28° 25' 14.616" S
21° 38" 15.505" E	28° 25' 11.524" S
21° 38° 11.224° E	28° 25' 8.655" S
21° 38' 7.411" E	28° 25' 6.355" S
21° 38' 2.266" E	28° 25' 2.989" S
21° 37' 57.979" E	28° 24' 59.871" S
21° 37' 54.159" E	28° 24' 57.139" S
21° 34' 37.432" E	28° 22' 27.215" S
21° 34' 9.326" E	28° 22' 38.300" S
21° 34' 13.143" E	28° 22' 54.301" S
21° 34' 13.143" E 21° 34' 6.889" E	28° 23' 12.474" S
21° 34′ 16.239″ E	28° 23' 12.474" S 28° 23' 11.660" S
21° 34 10.239 E	20-23 11.000-5

7 METHODS

The aim of a desktop study is to evaluate the risk to palaeontological heritage in the proposed development. This includes all trace fossils and fossils. All available information is consulted to compile a desktop study and includes Palaeontological impact assessment reports in the same area, aerial photos, and Google Earth images, topographical as well as geological maps. Scientific research articles of research conducted in the area is also sourced and included in the Impact Assessment.

7.1 Assumptions and Limitations

When conducting a PIA several factors can affect the accuracy of the assessment. The focal point of geological maps is the geology of the area, and the sheet explanations were not meant to focus on palaeontological

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heritage. Many inaccessible regions of South Africa have not been reviewed by palaeontologists and data is generally based on aerial photographs. Locality and geological information of museums and universities databases have not been kept up to date or data collected in the past have not always been accurately documented.

Comparable Assemblage Zones in other areas is used to provide information on the existence of fossils in an area which was not yet been documented. When similar Assemblage Zones and geological formations for Desktop studies is used it is generally **assumed** that exposed fossil heritage is present within the footprint.

8 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONSULTED

In compiling this report the following sources were consulted:

- Geological map 1:100 000, Geology of the Republic of South Africa (Visser 1984).
- A Google Earth map with polygons of the proposed development was obtained from Milnex cc.
- 1: 250 000 Upington 2824 Geological Map (1988) (Council of Geosciences, Pretoria)
- Shape files produced by the Council of Geosciences (Pretoria).

9 IMPACT ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

Impact assessment must take account of the nature, scale and duration of impacts on the environment whether such impacts are positive or negative. Each impact is also assessed according to the following project phases:

- · Construction.
- · Operation; and
- · Decommissioning.

Where necessary, the proposal for mitigation or optimisation of an impact should be detailed. A brief discussion of the impact and the rationale behind the assessment of its significance should also be included. The rating system is applied to the potential impacts on the receiving environment and includes an objective evaluation of the mitigation of the impact. In assessing the significance of each impact, the following criteria is used:

Table 5: The rating system

NATUR	NATURE		
The Nat	The Nature of the Impact is the possible destruction of fossil heritage		
GEOGR	GEOGRAPHICAL EXTENT		
This is o	This is defined as the area over which the impact will be experienced.		
1	Site	The impact will only affect the site.	
2	Local/district	Will affect the local area or district.	

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3	Province/region	Will affect the entire province or region.
4	International and National	Will affect the entire country.
PROBA	ABILITY	
This de	scribes the chance of occurrence	of an impact.
1	Unlikely	The chance of the impact occurring is extremely low (Less than a 25% chance of occurrence).
2	Possible	The impact may occur (Between a 25% to 50% chance of occurrence).
3	Probable	The impact will likely occur (Between a 50% to 75% chance of occurrence).
4	Definite	Impact will certainly occur (Greater than a 75% chance of occurrence).
DURAT	TION	
	scribes the duration of the impact posed activity.	s. Duration indicates the lifetime of the impact as a result of
1	Short term	The impact will either disappear with mitigation or will be mitigated through natural processes in a span shorter than the construction phase $(0-1 \text{ years})$, or the impact will last for the period of a relatively short construction period and a limited recovery time after construction, thereafter it will be entirely negated $(0-2 \text{ years})$.
2	Medium term	The impact will continue or last for some time after the construction phase but will be mitigated by direct human action or by natural processes thereafter (2 – 10 years).
3	Long term	The impact and its effects will continue or last for the entire operational life of the development, but will be mitigated by direct human action or by natural processes thereafter (10 – 30 years).
4	Permanent	The only class of impact that will be non-transitory. Mitigation either by man or natural process will not occur in such a way or such a time span that the impact can be considered indefinite.

INTENSITY/ MAGNITUDE		
Describes the severity of an impact.		
1	Low	Impact affects the quality, use and integrity of the system/component in a way that is barely perceptible.
2	Medium	Impact alters the quality, use and integrity of the system/component but system/component still continues to function in a moderately modified way and maintains general integrity (some impact on integrity).
3	High	Impact affects the continued viability of the system/ component and the quality, use, integrity and functionality of the system or component is severely impaired and may temporarily cease. High costs of rehabilitation and remediation.
4	Very high	Impact affects the continued viability of the system/component and the quality, use, integrity and functionality of the system or component permanently ceases and is irreversibly impaired. Rehabilitation and remediation often impossible. If possible rehabilitation and remediation often unfeasible due to extremely high costs of rehabilitation and remediation.
REVER	SIBILITY	
	scribes the degree to which an imed activity.	pact can be successfully reversed upon completion of the
1	Completely reversible	The impact is reversible with implementation of minor mitigation measures.
2	Partly reversible	The impact is partly reversible but more intense mitigation measures are required.
3	Barely reversible	The impact is unlikely to be reversed even with intense mitigation measures.
4	Irreversible	The impact is irreversible, and no mitigation measures exist.
IRREPLACEABLE LOSS OF RESOURCES		



This describes the degree to which resources will be irreplaceably lost as a result of a proposed activity.				
1	No loss of resource	The impact will not result in the loss of any resources.		
		·		
2	Marginal loss of resource	The impact will result in marginal loss of resources.		
3	Significant loss of resources	The impact will result in significant loss of resources.		
4	Complete loss of resources	The impact is result in a complete loss of all resources.		

CUMULATIVE EFFECT

This describes the cumulative effect of the impacts. A cumulative impact is an effect which in itself may not be significant but may become significant if added to other existing or potential impacts emanating from other similar or diverse activities as a result of the project activity in question.

1	Negligible cumulative impact	The impact would result in negligible to no cumulative
		effects.
2	Low cumulative impact	The impact would result in insignificant cumulative effects.
3	Medium cumulative impact	The impact would result in minor cumulative effects.
4	High cumulative impact	The impact would result in significant cumulative effects

SIGNIFICANCE

Significance is determined through a synthesis of impact characteristics. Significance is an indication of the importance of the impact in terms of both physical extent and time scale, and therefore indicates the level of mitigation required. The calculation of the significance of an impact uses the following formula:

(Extent + probability + reversibility + irreplaceability + duration + cumulative effect) x magnitude/intensity = X.

The summation of the different criteria will produce a non-weighted value. By multiplying this value with the magnitude/intensity, the resultant value acquires a weighted characteristic which can be measured and assigned a significance rating.

Points	Impact significance rating	Description
6 to 28	Negative low impact	The anticipated impact will have negligible negative effects and will require little to no mitigation.
6 to 28	Positive low impact	The anticipated impact will have minor positive effects.

29 to 50	Negative medium impact	The anticipated impact will have moderate negative effects and will require moderate mitigation measures.
29 to 50	Positive medium impact	The anticipated impact will have moderate positive effects.
51 to 73	Negative high impact	The anticipated impact will have significant effects and will require significant mitigation measures to achieve an acceptable level of impact.
51 to 73	Positive high impact	The anticipated impact will have significant positive effects.
74 to 96	Negative very high impact	The anticipated impact will have highly significant effects and are unlikely to be able to be mitigated adequately. These impacts could be considered "fatal flaws".
74 to 96	Positive very high impact	The anticipated impact will have highly significant positive

9.1 Summary of Impact Tables

Loss of fossil heritage will be a negative impact. Only the site will be affected by the proposed development. The expected duration of the impact is assessed as potentially permanent to long term. In the absence of mitigation procedures, the damage or destruction of any palaeontological materials will be permanent. Impacts on palaeontological heritage during the construction phase could potentially occur and are regarded as having a high probability. As fossil heritage will be destroyed the impact is irreversible. The significance of the impact occurring will be high pre-mitigation and low post-mitigation.

Table 6: Summary of Impact Tables

Site	Probability	Duration	Magnitude	Reversibility	Irreplicable Loss	Cumulative Effect	Significance
1	2	4	1	4	4	2	17

10 FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The proposed development is underlain by sediments of the Gordonia Formation (Kalahari Group) as well as the Dagbreek Formation (Vaalkoppies Group, Namaqua-Natal Province). A Low Palaeontological Significance BANZAI ENVIRONMENTAL (PTY) LTD.

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has been allocated to the proposed development and it is therefore considered that the proposed development will not lead to detrimental impacts on the palaeontological resources of the area. The construction and operation of the project may be authorised, as the whole extent of the development footprint is not considered sensitive in terms of palaeontological heritage.

If fossil remains or trace fossils are discovered during any phase of construction, either on the surface or exposed by excavations the Environmental Control Officer (ECO) in charge of these developments must report to SAHRA (Contact details: SAHRA, 111 Harrington Street, Cape Town. PO Box 4637, Cape Town 8000, South Africa. Tel: 021 462 4502. Fax: +27 (0)21 462 4509. Web: www.sahra.org.za) so that mitigation can be carry out by a palaeontologist.

It is consequently recommended that no further palaeontological heritage studies, ground truthing and/or specialist mitigation are required pending the discovery of newly discovered fossils.

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Appendix A

CURRICULUM VITAE

ELIZE BUTLER

PROFESSION: Palaeontologist

YEARS' EXPERIENCE: 26 years in Palaeontology

EDUCATION: B.Sc Botany and Zoology, 1988

University of the Orange Free State

B. Sc (Hons) Zoology, 1991

University of the Orange Free State

Management Course, 1991

University of the Orange Free State

M. Sc. Cum laude (Zoology), 2009

University of the Free State

Dissertation title: The postcranial skeleton of the Early Triassic non-mammalian Cynodont *Galesaurus* planiceps: implications for biology and lifestyle

MEMBERSHIP

Palaeontological Society of South Africa (PSSA) 2006-currently

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Part-time Laboratory assistant Department of Zoology & Entomology University of

the Free State Zoology 1989-1992

Part-time laboratory assistant Department of Virology

University of the Free State Zoology 1992

Research Assistant National Museum, Bloemfontein 1993 – 1997

Principal Research Assistant National Museum, Bloemfontein

and Collection Manager 1998–currently

TECHNICAL REPORTS

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