

**HIA LETTER OF EXEMPTION FOR JG ZUMA SCHOOL,
KWAMASHU, ETHEKWINI MUNICIPALITY
KWAZULU-NATAL**

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1. INTRODUCTION

The applicant, the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Public Works proposes to construct the JG Zuma Secondary School in KwaMashu in the eThekweni Metropolitan Municipality.

This letter serves as an application for exemption from undertaking a Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment for the proposed school.

2. LOCATION OF THE SITE

The site is situated on Erf 914 KwaMashu, 44-55 Jekamanzi Road at the following coordinates: S29°43'52.90"; E30°58'23.74". It is situated close to the Piesang River. See Figures 1 and 2 below.

The size of the development is approximately 2 hectares in extent.



Figure 1: Location of proposed JG Zuma School



Figure 2: Location of school within a section of KwaMashu

STATUS OF SITE

A site inspection was undertaken on 30 September 2015. The site is currently used as a soccer field. A resident who lives adjacent to the site, Ms Ngcamo, stated that there was a school at the proposed site but it was burnt down several years ago because of conflict between the principal and teachers.



Figure 3: Northern view of proposed site



Figure 4: Southern end of site



Figure 5: Mounds of rubble at entrance to site

MOTIVATION FOR EXEMPTION APPLICATION

The site is highly disturbed by previous and current uses. As mentioned above, the site was allegedly used as a school prior to the structure/s being burnt down because of a dispute. There are mounds of rubble and rubbish at the entrance to the project site which is currently used as a soccer field (see Figures 3 – 5 below).

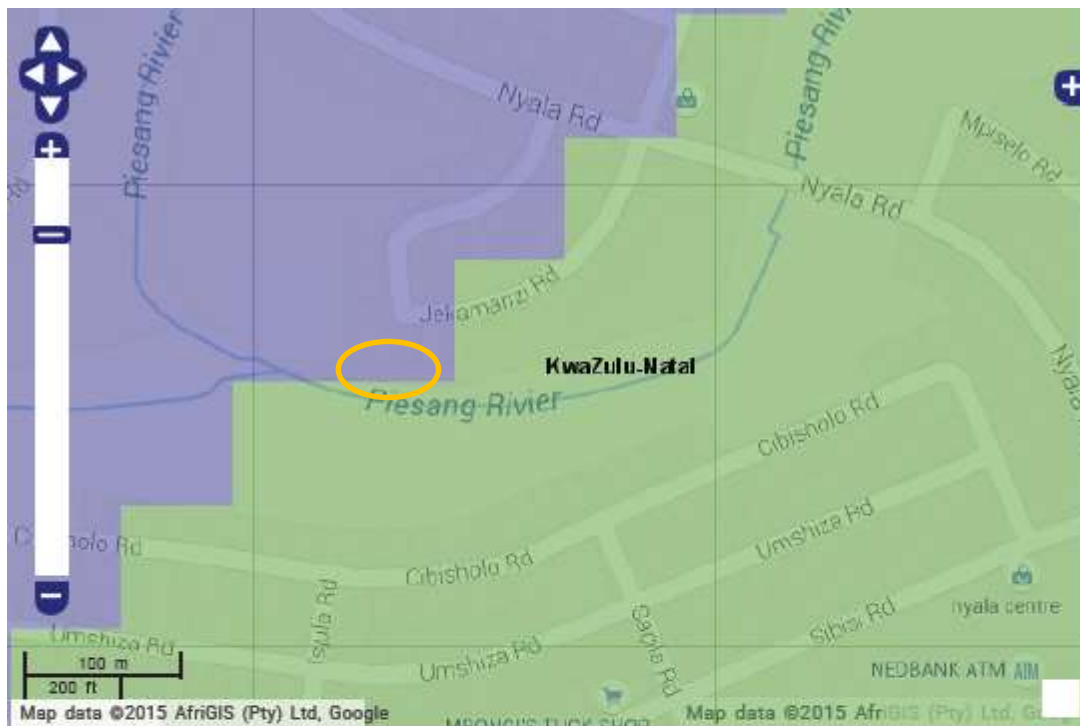
Discussions with local residents indicated that the site had no heritage value. No heritage resources were seen during the site inspection. It is highly unlikely that any archaeological remains of any value will be found *in situ* or of any contextual value.

In terms of the SAHRIS fossil sensitivity map, the area has a moderate to low fossil sensitivity (Fig. 6 below). The area where the proposed school is to be constructed is situated in an area where the fossil sensitivity goes from moderate to low and the proposed site appears to be situated mostly in the area of low fossil sensitivity. It is anticipated that due to the disturbed state of the area, there will be no intact fossils that will be impacted on. In addition, the proposed development is unlikely to affect any fossil bearing deposits unless the excavations go much deeper than 1.5m to 2m.

CONDITIONS

In the unlikely event of heritage material being uncovered during the construction of the proposed school, the following conditions apply. The onus on the applicant to ensure that the conditions are enforced:

- Construction activity in the area of the find must stop and the area cordoned off
- A heritage specialist must be called to site to assess the significance of the find.
- Amafa aKwaZulu-Natali must also be informed
- Only once the specialist gives the go-ahead can work in the area of the find re-commence
- Under no circumstances may any heritage material be destroyed or removed from site unless under direction of a heritage specialist.
- Should any remains be found on site that is potentially human remains, the South African Police Service should also be contacted.



1 in 250 000 geological formation layers are courtesy of the **Council for GeoScience** (<http://www.geoscience.org.za/>)

For more information, go to **How to Use the Palaeontological (fossil) Sensitivity Map** (<http://www.sahra.org.za/content/how-use-palaeontological-fossil-sensitivity-map/>)

Colour	Sensitivity	Required Action
RED	VERY HIGH	field assessment and protocol for finds is required
ORANGE/YELLOW	HIGH	desktop study is required and based on the outcome of the desktop study, a field assessment is likely
GREEN	MODERATE	desktop study is required
BLUE	LOW	no palaeontological studies are required however a protocol for finds is required
GREY	INSIGNIFICANT/ZERO	no palaeontological studies are required
WHITE/CLEAR	UNKNOWN	these areas will require a minimum of a desktop study. As more information comes to light, SAHRA will continue to populate the map.

Figure 6: Fossil sensitivity of site