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11 October 2020

**Attention Bernadet Pawandiwa**

### **Heritage Scoping Report**

#### **Upgrade of the Waste-Water Treatment Works and Sewage Reticulation in Eshowe Mlalazi Local Municipality, King Cetshwayo DM, KwaZulu-Natal**

#### **Project Area**

**Eshowe** is the oldest town of European settlement in Zululand and began as a Norwegian mission station in 1861 established by the Rev. Ommund Oftebro. The mission station was used as a fort during the Anglo-Zulu War of 1879. After the war in 1887, Eshowe was established as the capital of Zululand presided over by the British Resident in Zululand, Sir Melmoth Osborne. It was officially declared a township in 1891.

Eshowe served as the seat of the first Black Diocesan Bishops in South Africa, those of the Anglican and Roman Catholic Church. Eshowe is still the seat of the Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of Zululand.<sup>1</sup>

#### **Project description<sup>2</sup>**

The proposed Waste-Water Treatment Works and sewage reticulation upgrades are located within the historical townlands of Eshowe and its subsequent urban, industrial, and peri-urban expansion.

The sewage reticulation upgrades are phased but will all occur within existing servitudes, within the town precinct (See Figure 1). Exigent are the Environmental Assessment Practitioner appointed to assist with the environmental authorization process. A Basic Assessment Report is required in terms of NEMA.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> A city set on a hill: A history of Eshowe. 1970. G. Selwyn Moberly (self-published by Rotary Int).

<sup>2</sup> Information provided by the appointed EAP, Exigent

<sup>3</sup> The National Environmental Management Act, Act 107 of 1998, as amended.

The proposed development involves the construction and upgrading of existing sewage infrastructure and reticulation, extension thereof; and the establishment of a new WWTW. The proposed development will be implemented by the Mlalalzi LM.

### Observations

eThembeni staff inspected the site on 24 September 2020. All of the reticulation system lies within existing servitudes or traverses land currently under sugar cane production. Figure 1.

(see also Google Earth kml. and survey photographic images loaded to the SAHRIS Case File).



Figure 1 Layout of Sewer Reticulation and location of new WWTW



Figure 2 Sewer Reticulation route along Kangela Street



**Figure 3** Sewer Reticulation route along old railway servitude to industrial area



**Figure 4** Plan layout of new WWTW

No historical structures that could potentially be impacted by the proposed WW reticulation were observed during the survey and no archaeological remains were observed on the surface during the field inspection.

The underlying lithology is Natal Group Sandstone comprising generally reddish, feldspathic and micaceous sandstone with subordinate quartz arenite, mudrock, granulestone and conglomerate. It is not considered paleontologically sensitive.<sup>4 5 6</sup>

## Recommendations

In the absence of any heritage resources of significance, and that no further palaeontological mitigation is required, we accordingly request that Amafa allow the WWTW development to proceed with no further heritage resource mitigation; suffice that the protocols in Appendix 1 are made binding to any Environmental Authorisations issued.

**Please can you notify us timeously, via the loaded SAHRIS Case File, as to the decision of Amafa in this regard.**

Yours sincerely



Len van Schalkwyk  
Principle Investigator.

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<sup>4</sup> [http://www.geoscience.org.za/rsa\\_1m\\_shape\\_layer\\_font\\_tar.zip](http://www.geoscience.org.za/rsa_1m_shape_layer_font_tar.zip) RSA\_1M\_shape\_layer

<sup>5</sup> Groenewald, G. 2012. Palaeontological Technical Report for KwaZulu-Natal. Unpublished Report. Amafa aKwaZulu-Natali. Pietermaritzburg. [www.sahra.org.za/download-attachment/1641](http://www.sahra.org.za/download-attachment/1641).

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.sahra.org.za/sahris/map/palaeo>

## Appendix 1

### Protocol for the Identification, Protection and Recovery of Heritage Resources During Construction and Operation

It is possible that sub-surface heritage resources could be encountered during the construction phase of this project. The Environmental Control Officer and all other persons responsible for site management and excavation should be aware that indicators of sub-surface sites could include:

- Ash deposits (unnaturally grey appearance of soil compared to the surrounding substrate);
- Bone concentrations, either animal or human;
- Ceramic fragments, including potsherds;
- Stone concentrations that appear to be formally arranged (may indicate the presence of an underlying burial, or represent building/structural remains); and
- Fossilised remains of fauna and flora, including trees.

In the event that such indicator(s) of heritage resources are identified, the following actions should be taken immediately:

- All construction within a radius of at least 20m of the indicator should cease. This distance should be increased at the discretion of supervisory staff if heavy machinery or explosives could cause further disturbance to the suspected heritage resource.
- This area must be marked using clearly visible means, such as barrier tape, and all personnel should be informed that it is a no-go area.
- A guard should be appointed to enforce this no-go area if there is any possibility that it could be violated, whether intentionally or inadvertently, by construction staff or members of the public.
- No measures should be taken to cover up the suspected heritage resource with soil, or to collect any remains such as bone or stone.
- If a heritage practitioner has been appointed to monitor the project, s/he should be contacted, and a site inspection arranged as soon as possible.
- If no heritage practitioner has been appointed to monitor the project, the head of archaeology at Amafa's Pietermaritzburg office should be contacted; telephone 033 3946 543.
- The South African Police Services should be notified by an Amafa staff member or an independent heritage practitioner if human remains are identified. No SAPS official may disturb or exhume such remains, whether of recent origin or not.
- All parties concerned should respect the potentially sensitive and confidential nature of the heritage resources, particularly human remains, and refrain from making public statements until a mutually agreed time.
- Any extension of the project beyond its current footprint involving vegetation and/or earth clearance should be subject to prior assessment by a qualified heritage practitioner taking into account all information gathered during the initial assessment.