



# *eThekweni Cultural Heritage*

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27 June 2017

**Attention Bernadet Pawandiwa**

Dear Ms Pawandiwa

**Heritage Scoping Report  
LONZA Water Products and Wood Preservation Facility  
Cato Ridge, eThekweni Municipality, KwaZulu-Natal**

**Project Description <sup>1</sup>**

Lonza's Water Products and Wood Preservation Products division, Arch Wood Protection (Pty), are proposing to consolidate their manufacturing and warehousing facilities and establish a new distribution facility in Cato Ridge. The facility will be located at 1 Drakensberg Street, in Cato Ridge (Portion 370 of Rem of Portion 84 of the Farm Riet Vallei No 851), KwaZulu-Natal. See Google Image below and SG diagram loaded to SAHRIS Case File.

Kantey and Templer Consulting Engineers are appointed to oversee acquiring Environmental Authorisation from the competent authority (DEDTEA: eThekwini). The proposed new Lonza facility constitutes the following listed activities in terms of the amended EIA Regulations, 2014, for which a Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment process is applicable:

- GNR 983      27.      *The clearance of an area of 1 hectare or more, but less than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation, except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for –*
- (i)      *The undertaking of a linear activity; or*
  - (ii)      *Maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.*

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<sup>1</sup> Information provided by client: Kantey and Templer Consulting Engineers.

- GNR 984      4.      *The development and related operation of facilities or infrastructure, for the storage, or storage and handling of a dangerous good, where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity of more than 500 cubic metres.*
- GNR 984      6.      *The development of facilities or infrastructure for any process or activity which requires a permit or licence or an amended permit or licence in terms of national or provincial legislation governing the generation or release of emissions, pollution or effluent, excluding -*
- (i)      *Activities which are identified and included in Listing Notice 1 of 2014;*
- (ii)      *Activities which are included in the list of waste management activities published in terms of section 19 of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008) in which case the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 applies;*
- (iii)      *The development of facilities or infrastructure for the treatment of effluent, polluted water, wastewater or sewage where such facilities have a daily throughput capacity of 2 000 cubic metres or less;*

New infrastructure will include:

- Two new warehouses for raw materials.
- Two new manufacturing facilities, each optimised for the requirements of the product group. These will adjoin their respective warehouses.
- Provision of a distribution warehouse for the KZN distribution of their products
- Provision of new offices and reception area for the office staff associated with the management of each manufacturing facility, along with the sales, marketing and support staff for each product division.
- Provision of space for expansion of the Wood Products facility to allow for future manufacture of Tanalith E Wood Treatment: The wood products facility at inception will produce and package Arsenic Acid and Chromated Copper Arsenate (CCA) treated timber.

## **Observations**

eThembeni inspected the site on 24 April 2017. The 4.2045 ha site (Portion 370) is a subdivision of an adjacent property, Portion 28 of the Rem of Portion 84 of the Farm Riet Vallei No 851 (see SG diagram).

This has bearing on the fact that the Farm Riet Vallei had been subdivided into numerous smaller farm portions through the course of the 20<sup>th</sup> C. Over the last fifteen years, during its inception and development, the Cato Ridge Logistics Hub and Industrial Park has come to comprise further subdivisions of the respective parent farm portions. eThembeni have conducted 13 separate assessments in and around the logistics hub over the last decade. Table1 summarises our general findings of the various properties:

| Heritage resource type                                    | Observation   |
|---|---|
| Places, buildings, structures and equipment               | See below.  |
| Places associated with oral traditions or living heritage | None were identified within the proposed development areas. |
| Historically significant Landscapes                       | None were identified within the proposed development areas  |
| Natural features  | None were identified within the proposed development areas  |
| Traditional burial places                                 | None were identified within the proposed development areas  |
| Ecofacts  | None were identified within the proposed development areas  |
| Geological sites of scientific or cultural importance     | None were identified within the proposed development area.  |
| Archaeological sites                                      | None were identified within the proposed development areas. |
| Historical settlements and townscapes                     | None were identified within the proposed development areas  |
| Public monuments and memorials                            | None were identified within the proposed development areas  |
| Battlefields  | None were identified within the proposed development areas  |

**Table 1.**

### **Places, buildings, structures and equipment**

We have consistently observed that buildings and agricultural infrastructure on the various subdivisions, where present, were abandoned and subsequently vandalised, or had been left to “demolition by neglect”. No conservation worthy structures have been identified.

### **Landscapes**

Historically, the area would have served as seasonal Spring-time grazing. Today, the area is predominantly “Ngongoni” grassland, dominated more recently by encroaching *Aristida junciformis*, an unpalatable and indicator species of overgrazing. Much of the vacant land, prior to infrastructure development, has been utilised as “communal” grazing by cattle-keeping residents in the adjacent Ximba Traditional Authority and Fredville Informal Settlement in the Valley of a Thousand Hills.

### **Palaentology**

The underlying lithology is Natal Group Sandstone which is not considered fossil bearing <sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Groenewald. G. 2012. Unpublished Palaeotechnical Report for Amafa KwaZulu-Natali.. Pietermaritzburg.

Portion 370 is located in the middle of an actively developing industrial zone (Figure 1). Prior to subdivision, Portion 370 was used as a marshalling yard and dumping site by the adjacent ferro-cement factory. Some parts of the land were clear of debris and inspection revealed extensive previous earthworks on the property. The now fallow land is largely covered in *Aristida junciformis* grass, and thick stands of kakiebos (*Tagetes minuta*), umbongabonga / bugweed (*Solatum mauritianum*) and other weeds of disturbance (See Figures 2-3, below).

No heritage resources of any significance were observed on the site.



**Figure 1** Portion 370 - Located at S29° 41.968' E30° 38.323' within the Cato Ridge Logistic Hub.





**Figure 2** Industrial dump-debris



**Figure 3** Weed infested *Aristida* spp grasses.

## **Recommendations**

On the basis of this heritage scoping assessment, we request that Amafa grant an exemption from an HIA for the proposed project and enterprise, allowing the enterprise to proceed with no further heritage resource mitigation.

**In this regard, please can you notify us timeously via the loaded SAHRIS case file as to the decision of Amafa.**

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Len van Schalkwyk'.

Len van Schalkwyk  
Principle Investigator.