

**A LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION (WITH CONDITIONS) FOR THE EXEMPTION OF  
A FULL PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED  
MASAKHANE VILLAGE HOUSING PROJECT ON ERF 8531 AND ERF 52009,  
IBHAYI, PORT ELIZABETH, NELSON MANDELA BAY MUNICIPALITY, EASTERN  
CAPE PROVINCE.**

**Prepared for:** Coastal and Environmental Services (CES)  
13 Stanley Street  
Richmond Hill  
Port Elizabeth  
6070  
Tel: 041 585 1715  
Fax: 086 546 5466  
Email: j.jegels@cesnet.co.za  
Contact Person: Mr Jesse Jegels

**Prepared by:** Ms Celeste Booth  
(t/a Booth Heritage Consulting)  
5 Queens Terrace  
12 Chapel Street  
Grahamstown  
6139  
Tel: 082 062 4655  
Email: cbooth670@gmail.com  
Contact person: Ms Celeste Booth

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**A LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION (WITH CONDITIONS) FOR THE EXEMPTION OF A FULL PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED MASAKHANE VILLAGE HOUSING PROJECT ON ERF 8531 AND ERF 52009, IBHAYI, PORT ELIZABETH, NELSON MANDELA BAY MUNICIPALITY, EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE.**

**NOTE:** The phase 1 archaeological impact assessment survey was conducted as a requirement of the National Heritage Resources Act 1999, Section 38 (1)(c)(i):

38. (1) Subject to the provisions of subsections (7), (8) and (9), any person who intends to undertake a development categorized as –

(c) any development or other activity which will change the character of the site –

(i) exceeding 5000m<sup>2</sup> in extent

This report follows the minimum standard guidelines required by the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) and the Eastern Cape Provincial Heritage Resources Agency (ECPHRA) for compiling a Letter of Recommendation for the exemption of a Full Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA).

## **1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

### **1.1. The type of development:**

Proposed Masakhane Village Housing Project on erf 8531 and erf 52009:

The proposed development covers approximately 3.3 ha and will supply a total of 131 erven. The 131 erven will consist of 125 erven that will accommodate residential dwellings and 6 erven for Public Open Space.

The proposed residential sites will occupy an area of about 21 442.93 m<sup>2</sup> with an average erf size of 171.51 m<sup>2</sup>. The 6 erven proposed for Public Open Space will cover an area of approximately 3 787.21 m<sup>2</sup>. The planned roads will occupy an area of about 595 m in length.

Erf 8531, incorporating a total area of 3 787.21 m<sup>2</sup>, already has 10 houses on it that will either be rebuilt or upgraded in addition to the 5 new houses being built. Erf 52009, incorporating a total area of 32 851.33 m<sup>2</sup>, currently accommodates approximately 25 houses which will be rebuilt or upgraded, with an additional 131 houses being built as part of this project.

All construction materials will be sourced from commercial sources. The proposed services to be installed include roads, site water services, stormwater services, and sewage management systems for each erf that will contain a residential dwelling. The sewage system will be water-borne and link up to the existing municipal network. Other

waste management services will also be incorporated into the municipal system. The roads will be tarred and consist of mountable kerbs at all road edges with residential [properties, with the exceptions of bellmouths and at kerb inlets. The roads will all have new road signs and roadmarkings to conform to the South African Road Traffic Signs Manual (SARTSM) and the municipal standard details. The roads will have stormwater structures to handle surface runoff. The stormwater structures will link up to the exiting stormwater infrastructure.

### **1.2. Developer:**

Nelson Mandela Bay Metropolitan Municipality

### **1.3. Consultant:**

Coastal and Environmental Services (CES)

13 Stanley Street

Richmond Hill

Port Elizabeth

6070

Tel: 041 585 1715

Fax: 086 546 5466

Email: [j.jegels@cesnet.co.za](mailto:j.jegels@cesnet.co.za)

Contact Person: Mr Jesse Jegels

### **1.4. Terms of reference**

The original proposal was to conduct a phase 1 archaeological impact assessment for the proposed Masakhane Village Housing Project (Erf 8531 and Erf 52009), Ibhayi, Port Elizabeth, Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality, Eastern Cape Province. The phase 1 archaeological impact assessment was conducted to describe and evaluate the importance of possible archaeological heritage sites; the potential impact of the development and to make recommendations to minimize possible damage to these sites.

### **1.5. Brief Summary of Findings**

The areas have been heavily disturbed by the human activities and the construction of underground stormwater pipelines, buildings, and the establishment of current dwelling structures. In addition, the area is also being used for informal dumping purposes.

No archaeological heritage remains, features, or sites were documented within the proposed areas for the development.

## 2. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY

### 2.1. Location data

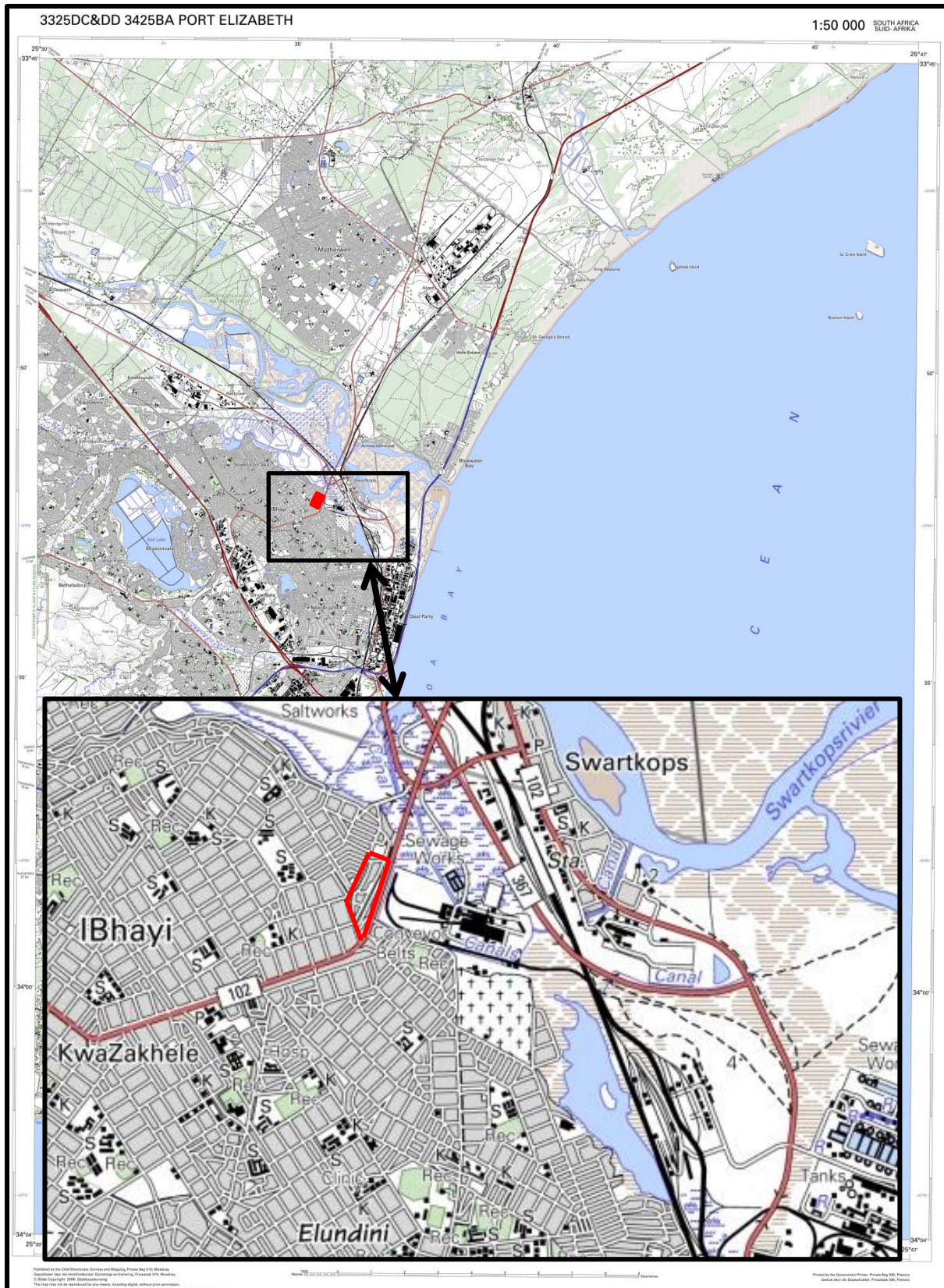
The proposed Masakhane Village Housing Project is located in Ward 24 of Ibhayi area, Port Elizabeth, commonly known as the township of Kwazakele. The development is situated adjacent to the Swartkops power station. The site is situated within 3 km of the coastline towards the east and 2.5 km from the banks of the Swartkops River towards the north. This area would generally be considered an archaeology sensitive zone; however, the area has been developed to the extent that it would be unlikely that *in situ* archaeological resources would still occur.

### 2.2. Map

1:50 000 Map: 3325 DC & DD 3425 BA PORT ELIZABETH (Figure 1).

**TABLE 1: GPS CO-ORDINATES AND DESCRIPTIONS FOR PROPOSED MASAKHANE VILLAGE HOUSING PROJECT.**

REFERENCE	DESCRIPTION	CO-ORDINATE	HERITAGE RATING
MK1	General GPS reading	33°52'10.70"S; 25°35'28.50"E	N/A
MKA	General GPS reading (additional area surveyed)	33°52'02.70"S; 25°35'31.00"E	N/A



**Figure 1. 1:50 000 topographic map 3325 DC & DD 3425 BA PORT ELIZABETH showing the location of the area for the proposed establishment of the Masakhane Village Housing Project.**

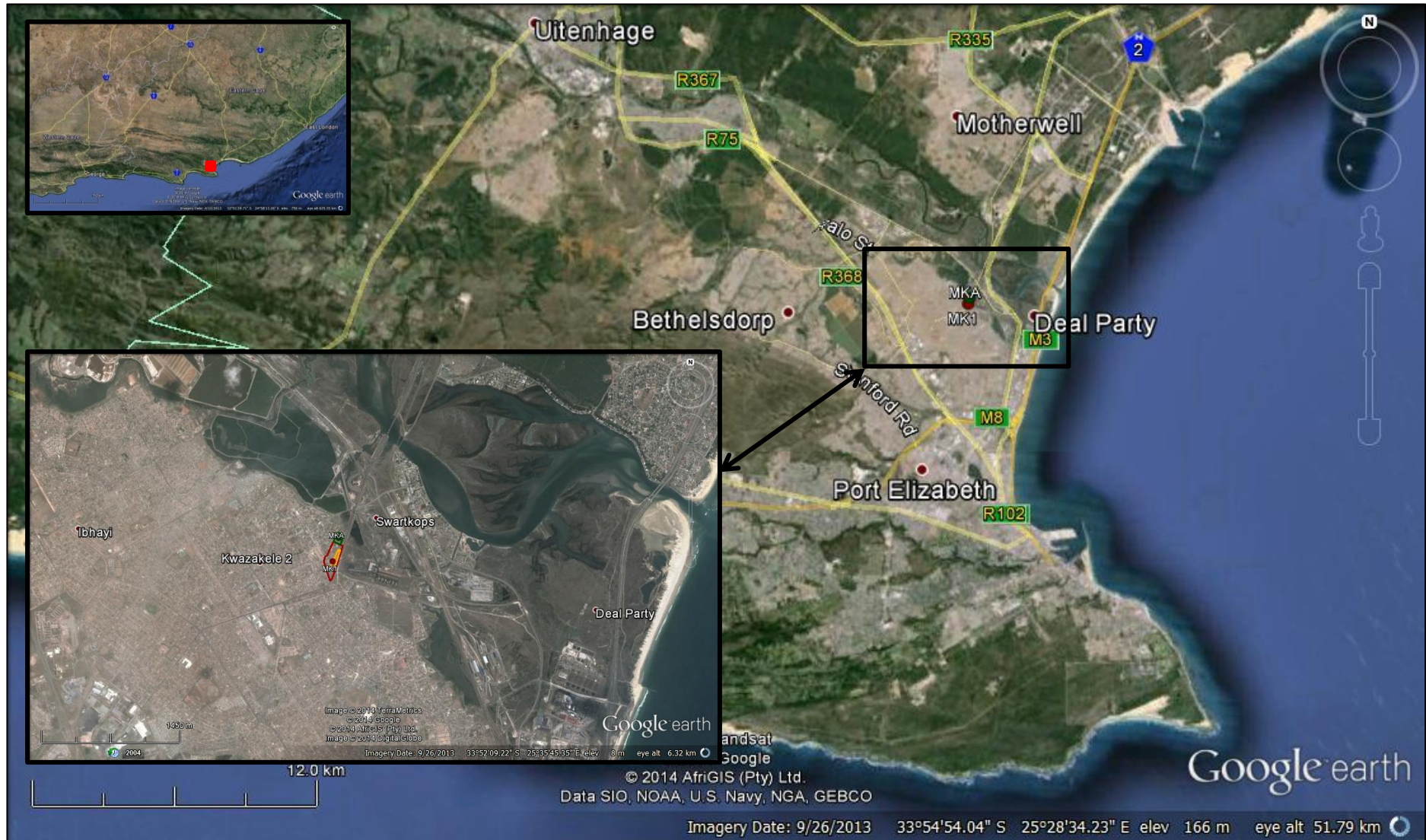


Figure 2. Aerial view of the location of the area for the proposed Masakhane Village Housing Project





**Figure 3: Close-up aerial view of the area proposed for the Masakhane Village Housing Project showing the general GPS points recorded, the additional area surveyed (green outline), and the occurrence of the remains of building foundations (orange outline).**

### 3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION

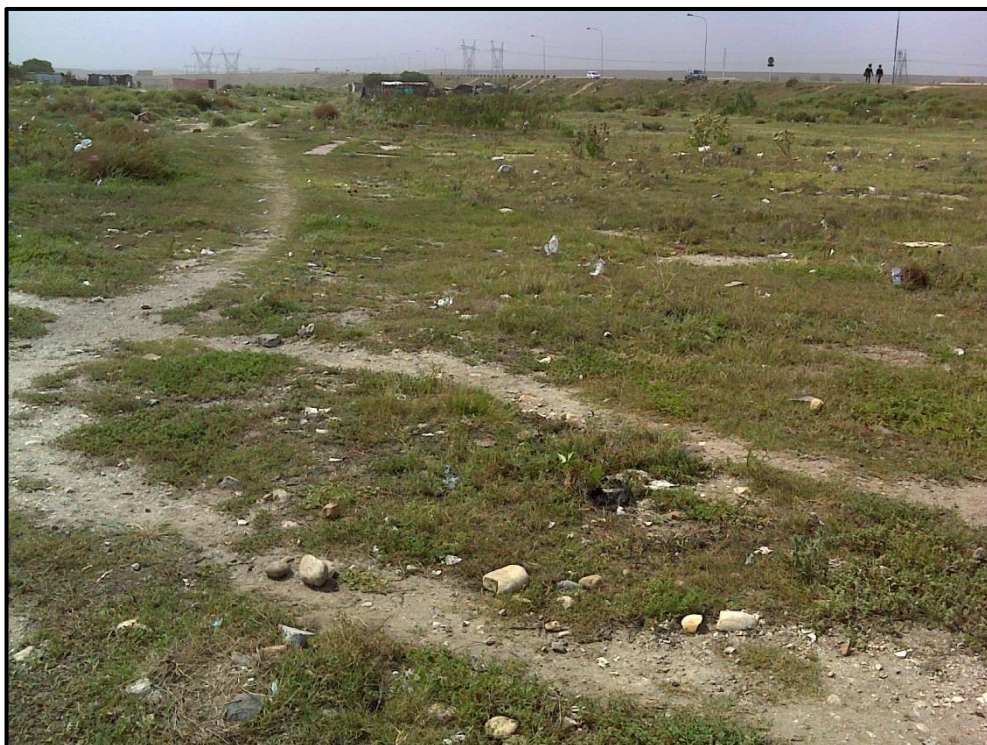
#### 3.1. Methodology

The survey was conducted on foot by surveying the area (Erf 8531 and Erf 52009) proposed for the development of the Masakhane Village Housing Project. An additional area situated immediately north of the proposed development site was investigated for possible archaeological heritage remains, features, and sites. Photographs and GPS readings were taken using a Garmin Oregon 550 (Table 1). The GPS readings have been plotted on Figures 2-3.

#### 3.2. Results of the Archaeological Survey

The proposed area comprised mostly grass vegetation, that somewhat obscured archaeological visibility, however, the exposed surface and disturbed areas were investigated for the possibility of encountering archaeological heritage remains. The proposed area for the development has been heavily impacted and disturbed by the construction underground stormwater systems, the construction of the roads surrounding the site, as well as built environment structures. Human activities such as the creation of footpaths and existing informal dwelling structures and informal dumping, as well as animal activities such as grazing also contributes to the impact on the area. The remains of foundations of built environment structures occur in the eastern section of the proposed development site, however, it is unlikely that these foundations are older than 60 years.

No archaeological material was found within the development area, however, it does not eliminate the possibility of archaeological artefacts in the area. No graves or historical buildings were observed within the proposed development.



**Figure 4. General view of the proposed development site.**



**Figure 5. General view of the proposed development site showing the remains of building rubble and the surface disturbance caused by the installation of the underground stormwater system (red arrow).**



**Figure 6. General view of the proposed development site and adjacent roads and grazing animals.**



**Figure 7. View of the additional area surveyed north of the proposed development site.**



**Figure 8. Close-up view of one of the remaining built environment foundations occurring within the proposed development site.**



**Figure 9. View of the extent of the occurrence of the remains of the built environment foundations (orange circle).**

#### **4. RELEVANT ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENTS**

Very little systematic archaeological research has been conducted within the immediate and surrounding areas proposed for the development of the Masakhane Village Housing Project, therefore, Cultural Resource Management (CRM) Reports, such as archaeological and heritage impact assessment, assist in attempting to predict the archaeological and heritage resources that may be found within the proposed development areas. The following reports occur within the surrounding area of the proposed area for the development.

Binneman, J. 2010. A Letter of Recommendation (with conditions) for the Exemption of a Full Phase 1 Archaeological Heritage Impact Assessment for the Proposed Rezoning of Portions of Erf 1 and Erf 6, and the Entire Erf 15831 in Uitenhage to Sub-Divisional Area for a Residential Development (Joe Slovo Housing Project), Uitenhage, Eastern Cape Province.

Binneman, J. & Booth, C. 2010. A Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) for the Proposed Motherwell NU 31 Housing Development, Portion 2 of 316, Uitenhage, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Municipality.

Binneman, J.N.F. & Booth, C. 2010. A Letter of Recommendation (with conditions) for the Exemption of a Full Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment for the Proposed Opencast Clay Mine, Erf's 20 and 21 (Erf 561) of Wells Estate, Port

Elizabeth, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Municipality, Eastern Cape Province.  
Prepared for Algoa Consulting Mining Engineers Cc (Acme).

Binneman, J.; Booth, C.; & Higgitt, N. 2010. A Phase 1 Archaeological Heritage Impact Assessment (AIA) for the proposed Coega Ridge Nu-Way Housing Development, Farms Welbedachtsfontein 300, Coega Kop 313, Coegas Kop 316, Coegas Kop 314, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Municipality.

Van Ryneveld, K. 2010. A Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment: Upgrading of the Brick Fields Pre-Treatment Works (Erf 1, Wells Estate), Motherwell, Port Elizabeth, Eastern Cape, South Africa.

## 5. LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

**It is recommended that the proposed development, the Masakhane Village Housing Project, Ibhayi, Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality, Eastern Cape Province, is exempted from a full Phase 1 Archaeological Heritage Impact Assessment. The proposed area for development is of low cultural sensitivity. It is believed that it is unlikely that any archaeological heritage remains will be found on the property. The development may proceed as planned.**

There were no archaeological artefacts located during the phase 1 archaeological impact assessment carried out. If any archaeological or heritage material were to be discovered it is very unlikely that it would be *in situ*. However, there is always a possibility that human remains or other archaeological and historical material may be uncovered during the development. Such material must be reported to the Eastern Cape Provincial Heritage Resources Agency (ECPHRA) or the Albany Museum if exposed.

**Note:** This letter of recommendation **only** exempts the proposed development from a full Phase 1 Archaeological Heritage Impact Assessment, but **not** for other heritage impact assessments.

It must also be clear that this letter of recommendation for exemption of a full Phase 1 archaeological heritage impact assessment will be assessed by the relevant heritage resources authority. The final decision rests with the heritage resources authority, which should give a permit or a formal letter of permission for the destruction of any cultural sites.

**The National Heritage Resources Act (Act No. 25 of 1999, section 35) requires a full Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) in order that all heritage resources, that is, all places or objects of aesthetics, architectural, historic, scientific, social, spiritual linguistic or technological value or significance are protected. Thus any assessment should make provision for the protection of all these heritage components, including archaeology, shipwrecks, battlefields, graves, and structures older than 60 years, living heritage, historical settlements, landscapes, geological sites, palaeontological sites and objects.**

## **6. GENERAL REMARKS AND CONDITIONS**

It must be emphasised that this letter of recommendation for exemption of a full Phase 1 archaeological heritage impact assessment is based on the visibility of archaeological sites/material and may not therefore, reflect the true state of affairs. Sites and material may be covered by soil and vegetation and will only be located once this has been removed. In the unlikely event of such finds being uncovered, (during any phase of construction work), archaeologists must be informed immediately so that they can investigate the importance of the sites and excavate or collect material before it is destroyed (see attached list of possible archaeological sites and material). The *onus* is on the developer to ensure that this agreement is honoured in accordance with the National Heritage Act No. 25 of 1999.

## **APPENDIX A: HERITAGE LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS**

Parts of sections 34(1), 35(4), 36(3) and 38(1) (8) of the National Heritage Resources Act 25 of 1999 apply:

### ***Structures***

34. (1) No person may alter or demolish any structure or part of a structure which is older than 60 years without a permit issued by the relevant provincial heritage resources authority.

### ***Archaeology, palaeontology and meteorites***

35 (4) No person may, without a permit issued by the responsible heritage resources authority—

- (a) destroy, damage, excavate, alter, deface or otherwise disturb any archaeological or palaeontological site or any meteorite;
- (b) destroy, damage, excavate, remove from its original position, collect or own any archaeological or palaeontological material or object or any meteorite;
- (d) bring onto or use at an archaeological or palaeontological site any excavation equipment or any equipment which assist in the detection or recovery of metals or archaeological and palaeontological material or objects, or use such equipment for the recovery of meteorites.

### ***Burial grounds and graves***

36. (3) (a) No person may, without a permit issued by SAHRA or a provincial heritage resources authority—

- (a) destroy, damage, alter, exhume or remove from its original position or otherwise disturb the grave of a victim of conflict, or any burial ground or part thereof which contains such graves;
- (b) destroy, damage, alter, exhume, remove from its original position or otherwise disturb any grave or burial ground older than 60 years which is situated outside a formal cemetery administered by a local authority; or
- (c) bring onto or use at a burial ground or grave referred to in paragraph (a) or (b) any excavation equipment, or any equipment which assists in the detection or recovery of metals.

### ***Heritage resources management***

38. (1) Subject to the provisions of subsections (7), (8) and (9), any person who intends to undertake a development categorized as –

- (a) the construction of a road, wall, power line, pipeline, canal or other similar form of



- linear development or barrier exceeding 300m in length;
- (b) the construction of a bridge or similar structure exceeding 50m in length;
- (c) any development or other activity which will change the character of the site –
  - (i) exceeding 5000 m<sup>2</sup> in extent, or
  - (ii) involving three or more erven or subdivisions thereof; or
  - (iii) involving three or more erven or divisions thereof which have been consolidated within the past five years; or
- (iv) the costs of which will exceed a sum set in terms of regulations by SAHRA, or a provincial resources authority;
- (d) the re-zoning of a site exceeding 10 000 m<sup>2</sup> in extent; or
- (e) any other category of development provided for in regulations by SAHRA or a provincial heritage resources authority, must as the very earliest stages of initiating such a development, notify the responsible heritage resources authority and furnish it with details regarding the location, nature and extent of the proposed development.

## **APPENDIX B: IDENTIFICATION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES AND MATERIAL FROM COASTAL AND INLAND AREAS: guidelines and procedures for developers**

### 1. Human Skeletal material

Human remains, whether the complete remains of an individual buried during the past, or scattered human remains resulting from disturbance of the grave, should be reported. In general the remains are buried in a flexed position on their sides, but are also found buried in a sitting position with a flat stone capping and developers are requested to be on the alert for this.

### 2. Shell middens

Shell middens can be defined as an accumulation of marine shell deposited by human agents rather than the result of marine activity. The shells are concentrated in a specific locality above the high-water mark and frequently contain stone tools, pottery, bone and occasionally also human remains. Shell middens may be of various sizes and depths, but an accumulation which exceeds 1 m<sup>2</sup> in extent, should be reported to an archaeologist.

### 3. Freshwater mussel middens

Freshwater mussels are found in the muddy banks of rivers and streams and were collected by people in the past as a food resource. Freshwater mussel shell middens are accumulations of mussel shell and are usually found close to rivers and streams. These shell middens frequently contain stone tools, pottery, bone, and occasionally human remains. Shell middens may be of various sizes and depths, but an accumulation which exceeds 1 m<sup>2</sup> in extent, should be reported to an archaeologist.

### 4. Stone artefacts

These are difficult for the layman to identify. However, large accumulations of flaked stones which do not appear to have been distributed naturally should be reported. If the stone tools are associated with bone remains, development should be halted immediately and archaeologists notified

### 5. Fossil bone

Fossil bones may be found embedded in geological deposits. Any concentrations of bones, whether fossilized or not, should be reported.

### 6. Large stone features

They come in different forms and sizes, but are easy to identify. The most common are roughly circular stone walls (mostly collapsed) and may represent stock enclosures, remains of wind breaks or cooking shelters. Others consist of large piles of stones of different sizes and heights and are known as *isisivane*. They are usually near river and

mountain crossings. Their purpose and meaning is not fully understood, however, some are thought to represent burial cairns while others may have symbolic value.

#### 7. Historical artefacts or features

These are easy to identified and include foundations of buildings or other construction features and items from domestic and military activities.