

**MONTHLY FEEDBACK REPORT FOR THE  
TRANSNET NMPPP**

**For TRANSNET**

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Umlando began its second phase of mitigation in August 2009. The second phase of the mitigation consisted of the following:

- Plotting the pipeline into a GIS program – Arcview in this case
- Plotting visible archaeological and historical features on aerial photographs, and obtaining their co-ordinates
- Plotting features in the field
- Downloading the co-ordinates into a CAD file and drawing in the various
- CAD file will be sent to NMPPP where finer route realignments may occur
- CAD file will be exported to Arcview with the aerial photographs as a backdrop

The mapping is summarised in Table 1: included the following sites:

Site	mapped on aerial	mapped in field	has been mapped	to be mapped
GLK062	X	X	X	
GLK063a-b	X	X	X	
GLK064a-b	X	X	X	
GLK065a-b	X		X	
GLK066	X	X	X	
GLK071	X			N/A
GLK072a	X			N/A
GLK073a-b	X			N/A
GLK075	X			N/A
GLK078a-e	X			X
GLK079	X			N/A
GLK080	X			X
GLK081	X			X
GLK088c	X			N/A
GLK090	X			N/A
GLK091	X			N/A
GLK092	X			X
GLK093	X			X
GLK094	X			X
GLK0120	X	X	X	
GLK0121	X	X	X	
GLK0122a-b	X	X	X	
GLK0123	X	X	X	
GLK0124	X	X	X	
GLK0125	X	X	X	

Some sites were only mapped in the office. These are known sites that we used to see how much was visible. The mapping exercise indicated that only part of the known sites were visible on aerial photographs. Features such as granary floors and graves were not visible on the aerial photographs. We were also not able to discern between large anthills and circular house floors, as both types looked very similar on aerial photographs.

With the above in mind, we mapped and printed all known features and possible features and then located these features in the field. We also then systematically surveyed the areas to map in other unknown features. It soon became apparent that many features did not show up on the aerial photographs. Of the 10 sites we managed to record in the first two weeks, we recorded 226 features: a significant higher number than what we expected.

When we started mapping in a site, we mapped the entire site regardless of its location in relation to the pipeline. That is if part of the site fell out of the 100m border it was also recorded, since the site information would be meaningless without all of the features. This has the added advantage that at least the entire site is now mapped in and we will not have to return later if the route is realigned, as all of the information is now recorded.

There are a very high number of graves within the 100m border of the pipeline, of which some date to the last 60 years.

We will complete the outstanding sites between 24<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> August. The surveyor had prior arrangements for the week of 17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> August.

Potential Problems:

When we were in the field, we used printed maps to indicate the location of the pipeline. We only realised afterwards that there was a discrepancy between the actual route and how it is mapped on the aerial photograph. We will now have to go back to the recorded sites and physically plot and demarcate the line route (with red-white pole

droppers). In this way, we can note how many graves will be directly affected, and we can also set up the line for the excavations.

Several graves (~10 graves) appear to be very near the route. Since these are not archaeological graves, they should be avoided. This is especially for the two sites GLK063a and GLK066. The pipeline may need to be moved ~20m to the northeast at GLK063 (or near KP274), or closer to the road, and thus missing all graves and features. GLK066 (near KP269) has several recent graves and potential graves. All of these graves are noted on the CAD field that will be submitted to NMPPP shortly. These graves will be demarcated with red and white fence droppers.

**Risks:**

The occurrence of the graves from the systematic survey of various sites is of concern. The initial survey noted these sites and made a general statement of the possibility of graves occurring. It was only by a systematic survey that the exact location of the graves could be recorded. Some of the graves are older than 60 years and would not have living relatives associated with the graves. However, some graves are within living memory of local inhabitants. These graves would require full social impact assessments, exhumations and reburials if affected. I suggest that the line is moved away from the graves, as it would be a cheaper option.

**Work for August and September 2009:**

Complete the last few sites noted for Phase 2.

Excavations are due to begin in September. We are still waiting for our excavation permit submitted to Amafa KZN in May 2009.