

**NATURA VIVA cc**  
***Palaeontological Impact Assessments & Heritage Management,***  
***Natural History Education, Tourism, Research***

**Attn: Ms I.B. Van Zyl**  
**Van Zyl Environmental Consultants**  
**P.O. Box 567**  
**Upington, 8800**  
**South Africa**

**Date: 20 February 2009**

**RECOMMENDED EXEMPTION FROM  
PALAEOLOGICAL IMPACT STUDY**

**Borrow pits for upgrading of DR 3322  
(Karakoel, Upington, Northern Cape)**

Borrowpit Karakoel BP1 (Erf 17574) situated to the north of Upington along the DR 3322 (southeast of Toekoms) is situated on aeolian sediments and calcretised surface deposits of the **Gordonia Formation (Kalahari Group)**. Red aeolian sands in the region are, at most, very sparsely fossiliferous. Possible fossils here include terrestrial snails, ostrich eggshell, and trace fossils including termitaria and root casts (Almond & Pether 2008). However, these fossils are of widespread and unpredictable occurrence. The palaeontological sensitivity of the Kalahari Group as a whole is considered to be low (Almond & Pether 2008).

The proposed borrow pit is not considered to pose a significant threat to palaeontological heritage and in my view no further palaeontological impact studies are required.

Should fossil remains be encountered during development, however, the responsible ECO should inform SAHRA at the earliest opportunity to consider possible mitigation measures.

**John E. Almond**  
**Palaeontologist**  
***Natura Viva cc***

**REFERENCES**

ALMOND, J.E. & PETHER, J. 2008. Palaeontological heritage of the Northern Cape (draft). Unpublished report for SAHRA, 124 pp.

MOEN, H.F.G. 2007. The geology of the Upington area. Explanation to 1: 250 000 geology sheet 2820 Upington, 160 pp. Council for geoscience, Pretoria.

**NATURA VIVA cc (Reg. No. 2000/019296/23)**  
**Members: Dr J.E. Almond (British)(Managing), M.L. Tusenius**  
**P.O. Box 12410 Mill Street, CAPE TOWN 8010, RSA**  
**Tel / Fax: +27 (21) 462 3622 E-mail: naturaviva@universe.co.za**