



BPI for Palaeontological Research

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Mr Leon du Bruto
Regal Food Industries
PO Box 13584
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info@zoningapply.co.za

Dear Mr du Bruto,

Palaeontological Impact – Raslow Agricultural Holding 127

As requested by you I have undertaken an EIA to assess the affect that the proposed building development on Raslow Agricultural Holding 127 will have on palaeontological heritage. My report is included herewith.

In my opinion this development will not negatively affect palaeontological heritage in the area affected.

Please come back to me if there is anything you do not understand or are unhappy with in the reports.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'B. I. Rubidge'.

Professor Bruce Rubidge

BUILDING DEVELOPMENT AT RASLOW AGRICULTURAL HOLDING 127, RASLOW, PRETORIA – PALAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Introduction

An impact assessment was undertaken on Raslow Agricultural Holding 127 on Voortrekker Road to determine the effect which the proposed dwelling unit development will have on palaeontological heritage.



Figure 1: View of Raslow Agricultural Holding 127

Generalised Geology of the route traversed

The area around Raslow Agricultural Holding 127 is mapped as being underlain by Precambrian syenite and carbonatite volcanics as well as rocks of the Malmani Subgroup of the Transvaal Supergroup, which are also Precambrian in age.

Specific geology of route

The property is situated on a gentle slope down toward the Riet River which is only a few 100m away and represents the lowest point in the immediate area and as such has been the site of accumulation of deep soil overburden. Despite an extensive search on the Raslow Agricultural Holding 127 property no rock outcrops are visible, and from holes which have been dug it is evident that the entire area is covered by a thick layer of soil overburden (Figure 2).



Figure 2: Hole showing thick soil cover

Palaeontological Heritage

The rocks of the Transvaal Supergroup, which are of Precambian age, are known to have extensive stromatolite fossils in the dolomite rich stratigraphic units. Of particular importance, in sinkholes and caves, within the dolomitic units of Transvaal Supergroup are Quaternary-aged sedimentary infill which are fossil bearing in places.

Particular care, during the course of this palaeontological environmental impact assessment, was paid to looking for possible Quaternary cave and sinkhole infill deposits, but no rocks are visible because of the thick soil cover.

Recommendation

As there are no rock outcrops on Raslow Agricultural Holding 127, and because most of the area is covered by thick soil, it is very unlikely that the proposed development will damage any palaeontological heritage. My opinion is that the proposed development will have no negative affect on palaeontological heritage and that no mitigation measures are necessary.

Professor Bruce Rubidge