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19 August 2015

**Attention      Bernadet Pawandiwa**

Dear Ms Pawandiwa

**Application for Exemption from a Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment**

**PROPOSED EXTENSION OF SCOTTBURGH QUARRY ON THE REMAINDER OF LOT 11  
NO 1842, UGU DISTRICT, KwaZulu-Natal**

**Project description**

Scottburgh Quarries (Pty) Ltd currently mine a Dwyka tillite quarry approximately 6 km west of Scottburgh on the KwaZulu-Natal South Coast (Fig.1). Scottburgh Quarries has applied for a 5.75 ha extension of the existing mining area to DMR and EDTEA-KZN.

The proposed extension of the quarry will allow the applicant to mine the remaining tillite resource. The tillite is mined by an open cast mining method comprising blasting of the hard rock followed by excavation of the loosened rock by excavators, loading of it onto tipper trucks for transport out of the quarry pit to the crushing plant; where it is then crushed into desirable sizes depending on orders or end-uses.

The mining of the extension will make use of existing facilities, plant and access road with haul roads being extended into the new area. The existing fence surrounding the mining area will be extended to enclose the proposed extension area according to DMR SHE requirements.



**FIGURE 1      EXISTING SCOTTBURGH DWYKA TILLITE QUARRY**

## Site assessment and recommendations



FIGURE 2 VIEW OF THE PROPOSED AREA EARMARKED FOR EXTENSION

The immediate area surrounding the quarry has been subjected to commercial agriculture since the mid 20<sup>th</sup> Century and subsequently recent peri-urban expansion has taken place over previous agricultural lands. Consequently any archaeological material present would have been moved out of primary context.

As seen in Fig.2 the proposed quarry extension is over lands previously ploughed for sugar cane planting.

The material being quarried is Dwyka tillite. This formation is considered moderately sensitive in terms of its palaeontology (Groenewald 2012)<sup>1</sup>. However, the formation being quarried is massive, undifferentiated material of low to no palaeontological significance and no desktop study is required (per.comm. Dr John Almond [Palaeontologist *Natura Viva* cc. [naturaviva@universe.co.za](mailto:naturaviva@universe.co.za)])

Accordingly, we request that Amafa grant an exemption from an HIA for this activity, allowing the project 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

Len van Schalkwyk  
Principle Investigator

<sup>1</sup> Groenewald, G. 2012. Paleontological Technical Report for KwaZulu-Natal. Metsi Metseng Geological and Environmental Services.