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17 August 2019

Mr Andrew Salomon
South African Heritage Resources Agency
P O Box 4637
Cape Town 8001

Dear Mr Salomon

**RE: Request for Exemption for Palaeontological Impact Assessment
for the proposed development of a Commercial Township at extensions 15, 16
and 17 Grand Central, Midrand, Gauteng (GAUT002/12-13/E0226)
SAHRIS Case ID:13950**

In my capacity as a professional palaeontologist (PhD Wits 1990) I am requesting exemption from any palaeontological assessment for the above project.

The site lies on ancient granitic (i.e. of volcanic origin) rocks of the Johannesburg Dome (Z in Figure 1). These were emplaced between 3400 and 3100 million years ago (Robb et al., 2006) and predate any body fossils. Microfossils had evolved by this time but do not occur in volcanic rocks. There is, therefore, no chance at all of fossils occurring in the project site. This is confirmed by the indication of very low to zero sensitivity (grey) in the SAHRIS Palaeosensitivity map (Figure 2).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Marion Bamford'.

Prof Marion Bamford, PhD
Director: ESI

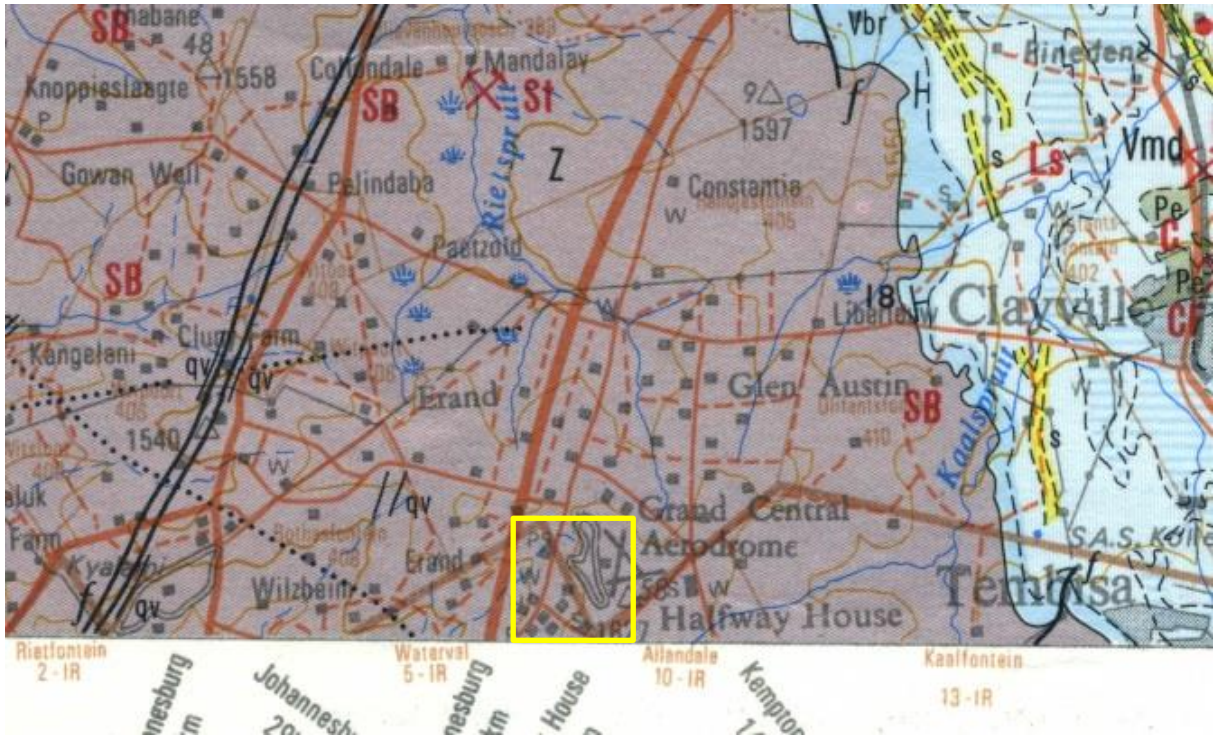


Figure 1: Geological map of the area around Grand central with the project site shown within the yellow rectangle. Map section taken from 1:250 000 Pretoria 2528 map, Council for Geosciences.



Figure 2: SAHRIS palaeosensitivity map for the project site (yellow rectangle). Colours indicate the following degrees of sensitivity: red = very highly sensitive; orange/yellow = high; green = moderate; blue = low; grey = insignificant/zero.

Reference cited:

Robb, L.J., Brandl, G., Anhaeusser, C.R., Poujol, M., 2006. Archaean Granitoid Intrusions. In: Johnson, M.R., Anhaeusser, C.R. and Thomas, R.J., (Eds). The Geology of South Africa. Geological Society of South Africa, Johannesburg / Council for Geoscience, Pretoria. Pp 57-94.