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Attention Bernadet Pawandiwa

Dear Ms Pawandiwa

Heritage Survey Report

Proposed sewage pipeline in Ward 20, Edendale, Pietermaritzburg, Msunduzi Municipal Area, KwaZulu-Natal

Project description

A new sewage line servicing Ward 20 Edendale, within the Msunduzi Municipality has been proposed for construction. A total of approximately 5km pipeline is envisaged.

The bulk of the reticulation runs within existing road servitudes through the planned layout of the Caluza residential area (see Figures below). However, approximately 1km of the total reticulation lies adjacent to the Mzubukazi River. It is this approximately 1km that has triggered a basic assessment in terms of NEMA. The project seeks to provide necessary sanitation to the resident community whilst protecting the water course and surrounds from damage.

Project location

The reticulation will start at the intersection of roads C13 and C16, (shown in the locality map loaded in the SAHRIS Case File Images), and follows the Mvubukazi River until it crosses Caluza Road to join an existing sewage pipeline running parallel to this main arterial.

Site assessment and recommendations

A site inspection was undertaken by eThembeni staff on 07 August 2015 with a follow up walk down on 29 and 30 August. Informal interviews with local residents confirmed a historically recent settlement expansion of the immediate areas around the proposed sewer alignments. These informants were aware of the proposed development and confirmed no graves were present along the alignment adjacent to the river as people feared flooding.

Most of the Caluza area was under Indian market gardeners usufruct until the internecine strife between Inkatha and the UDF in the late 1980's. Civil unrest and social turmoil forced the Indian communities out of the area. Caluza has subsequently been formally planned and laid out since 1994 (L.Sibiya *pers comm*).

The project area is underlain primarily by Pietermaritzburg and Vryheid Formation shales of the Permian Ecca Group. The upper contact between these two formations is difficult to map as shales within these are almost indistinguishable. Whilst King (1948) reported *Glossopteris* flora within these deposits at isolated localities the presence of intrusive dolerite sills along the Mvubukazi River precludes the presence of any significant fossil remains (G. Botha 2002). Consequently no further palaeontological assessment is considered necessary.



Figure 1. Intrusive dolerite sills along the Mvubukazi River within the sewer alignment



Figure2. Route alignment through Caluza settlement along the Mvubukazi River

Accordingly, we request that Amafa grant an exemption from a Phase 1 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 SAHRIS, as to the decision of Amafa.

Yours sincerely



Len van Schalkwyk

Director

References:

2002. Botha G.A and Botha R.C.N. Geological Description of Sheet 2930CB Pietermaritzburg. Council for Geoscience. Pietermaritzburg.

1948. King L.C. On The Ages of African Land-Surfaces. South African Geological Survey Bulletin.

G.A. Botha: *pers comm* (Ph.D) (Pri.Sci.Nat) is the Eastern Regional Director of the Council for Geoscience.