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Willowfountain housing development upgrade, Edendale, Pietermaritzburg

K2m Environmental is undertaking the EIA for the proposed housing upgrade study. The proposed development in the Willowfountain area is for the upgrade of existing houses (fig. 1). That is the footprint of existing houses will be affected only and no new developments will occur outside of these footprints. An initial desktop study shows that there is a pre 19th century ruin at S29.714401° E 30.311177°. The D.C.O Matiwane Museum also occurs in Willowfountain, however this will not be affected by the development.

The development is rated as having moderate palaeontological sensitivity and would normally require a desktop study as a minimum requirement. However the area is highly disturbed and the palaeontological layers tend to occur ~1.5m below the surface. The housing development will not be reaching these depths.

There are no known archaeological sites in the study area. Two HIA reports have been undertaken for the road upgrades within the study area (Anderson 2010; Prins 2012) and neither of these noted heritage sites. Anderson did note an existing cemetery at the top of the hill however, this falls outside of the study area.

We support the notion that the project be exempt from further HIA studies as it is in existing and disturbed footprints.

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Yours Sincerely

Gavin Anderson

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FIG. 1 LOCATION OF THE DEVELOPMENT

