15 May, 2009

Att: Mr Nik Wullschleger
Boland Enviro
PO Box 250
Worcester
6849

Dear Mr Wullschleger,

ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROPOSED AAN DE DOORNS SPORTS FIELD AND COMMUNITY CENTRE WESTERN CAPE

1. Introduction and brief

Boland Enviro, on behalf of the Breede Valley Municipality requested that the Agency for Cultural Resource Management undertake an Archaeological Impact Assessment for the proposed Aan de Doorns Sports Field and Multi-Purpose Community Centre on Portion 101 of Farm 369 near Worcester in the Western Cape.

The sports field and community centre will provide facilities for the Aan De Doorns Primary School, which is located adjacent to the site.

The affected property is currently zoned Agriculture I and will be rezoned to Institutional Zone 1 (place of learning, crèche and sport facilities), with a Consent Use for a place of gathering (multi-purpose enrichment centre), in order to accommodate the proposed development activities.

The property is about 3.7 ha in extent and the extent of the land coverage of the proposed development will be about 2.5 ha.

A Notification of Intent to Develop (NID) form has been completed by the archaeologist and submitted to Heritage Western Cape (Belcom) for comment.

2. Terms of reference

The Terms of Reference for the archaeological assessment are to:

• Identify and map archaeological resources on the proposed site;

• Determine the importance of archaeological resources on the proposed site;

• Assess the impacts of the proposed development on archaeological resources, and
• Recommend measures to minimise impacts associated with the proposed development.

3. The site

A locality map is illustrated in Figure 1.

An aerial photograph of the study site is illustrated in Figure 2.

The subject property (S° 33' 41 49.1" E 19° 29' 34.9" on map datum wgs 84) is located opposite the Aan de Doorns Wine Cellar on the R43 between Worcester and Villiersdorp. The proposed site is situated adjacent the Aan de Doorns Primary School. The vacant and undeveloped property is quite severely degraded, particularly alongside the Aan de Doorns Primary School, where dumping of rubble and trampling is widespread. The site is relatively undisturbed in the western portion, alongside the R43, where it is covered in low bushes and scrub (Figures 3-10). Several informal footpaths and tracks intersect the site, which is slightly undulating and bumpy and slopes gently toward the northwest. There are no significant landscape features on the property. Surrounding land use comprises Aan de Doorns Wine Cellar, Aan de Doorns Primary School, and agricultural and vacant farmland.

4. Approach to the study

The proposed site was searched on foot. This included the area beyond the proposed development footprint.

Archaeological remains were recorded using a Garmin Geko 401 GPS unit set on map datum wgs 84.

The site visit and assessment took place on the 12th May, 2009.

5. Results of the study

S° 33 41' 53.84" E 19° 29' 37.31"

One large, partially retouched (damaged) Early Stone Age (ESA) quartzite flake was found in a sandy footpath adjacent the Aan de Doorns Primary School (Figure 11).

S° 33 41' 56.66" E 19° 29' 86"

A low density scatter of Middle Stone Age (MSA) quartzite flakes were also found in a compact, gravel patch about 10 m from the fence alongside the R43 (Figure 12). No formal tools were found. This thin scatter of tools is situated outside the proposed development site and will not be impacted by the proposed development.

S° 33 41' 50.24" E 19° 29' 31.04"

One MSA flake was also found in a deflated patch of sand about 30 m north of the R60.

The archaeological remains have been rated as having low local significance.
6. Impact statement

The impact of the proposed development on archaeological remains is likely to be low as the receiving environment is already severely degraded.

The probability of locating significant archaeological remains during implementation of the project is likely to be improbable.

The thin scatter of MSA tools documented alongside the R43 will not be impacted by the proposed development as it falls outside the proposed development area.

7. Conclusion

The study has shown that no important archaeological remains occur within the proposed development site.

Should any human remains be disturbed, exposed or uncovered during excavations and earthworks for the proposed project, these should immediately be reported to Heritage Western Cape (Mr Nic Wiltshire 021 483 9692).

Yours sincerely

Jonathan Kaplan
Figure 9. View of the site facing north

Figure 10. View of the site facing south

Figure 11. ESA flake. Scale is in cm

Figure 12. Collection of MSA tools. Scale is in cm