12 February, 2021

Attention: Ms Nokukhanya Khumalo (nkhumalo@sahra.org.za)
SAHRA Case Officer Mpumalanga
South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)

Dear Ms Khumalo

Re: Application for Exemption from a Heritage Impact Assessment for the proposed Decommissioning of the Chrome Direct Reduction (CDR) facility, Middelburg, Mpumalanga

1. Introduction

The Samancor Middelburg Ferrochrome (MFC) facility is proposing to decommission a waste disposal facility known as the Chrome Direct Reduction (CDR) facility which was used up to the year 2000. Knight Piésold (Pty) Ltd has been appointed as the environmental assessment practitioner (EAP) to obtain Environmental Authorisation and as part of the process HCAC was appointed to provide an assessment of the possible impact on heritage resources.

2. Project Background

The Samancor MFC facility was established in 1964 to produce Ferrochrome for use in the production of steel. A process known as CDR was undertaken at MFC, whereby chrome ore is brought into contact with finely divided coal at high temperature. During the CDR process a dust is produced as waste, which is captured with water sprays producing a slimes material of high moisture content. In the 1990's to the year 2000, MFC disposed of this CDR dust, known as CDR slimes, at a constructed disposal area located to the west of the MFC production facility. The CDR Slimes facility is licensed in terms of water use 21 (g) of the National Water Act, and the facility has been out of commission since the year 2000.
MFC wishes to apply for the formal decommissioning / closure of this facility in line with legislation. There are no intentions to use the facility in the future. The study area is located on the farm Middelburg town and Townlands no 287 JS near Middelburg, Mpumalanga (Figure 1 -3 & Table 1).

Table 1: Project details.

Province	Mpumalanga
District Municipality	Nkangala District Municipality
Local Municipality	Steve Tshwete Local Municipality
Nearest Town	Middelburg
Property Name and Number	Portion 280 of Portion 155 Middelburg town and Townlands no 287 JS
SG Number:	TOJS00000000028700280
GPS Co-ordinates (relative centre point of CDR)	25° 48' 32.50" S 29° 29' 7.35" E
Pre-Closure Land Use	Decommissioned waste facility on active industrial site
Final Land Use	Rehabilitated area on active industrial site

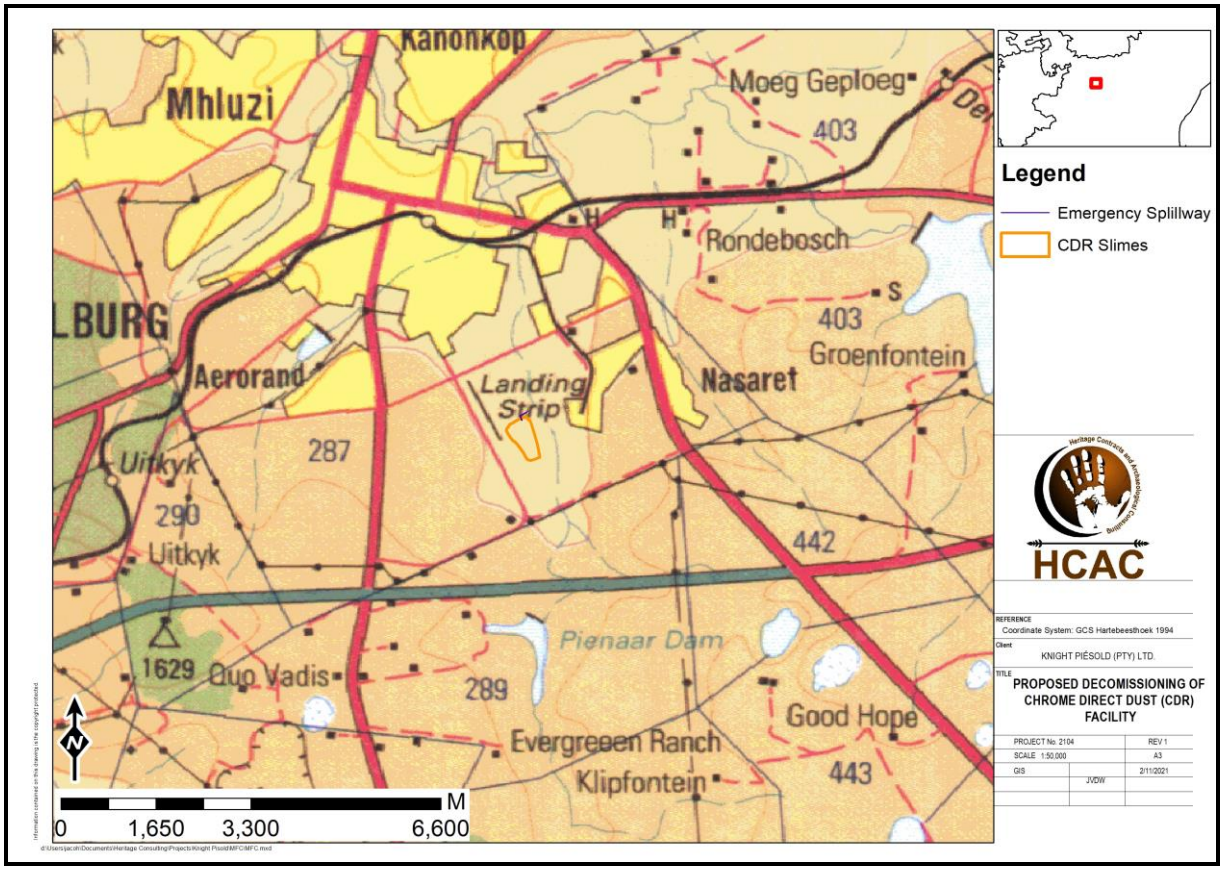

Figure 1. Regional setting of the project (1: 250 000 topographical map).

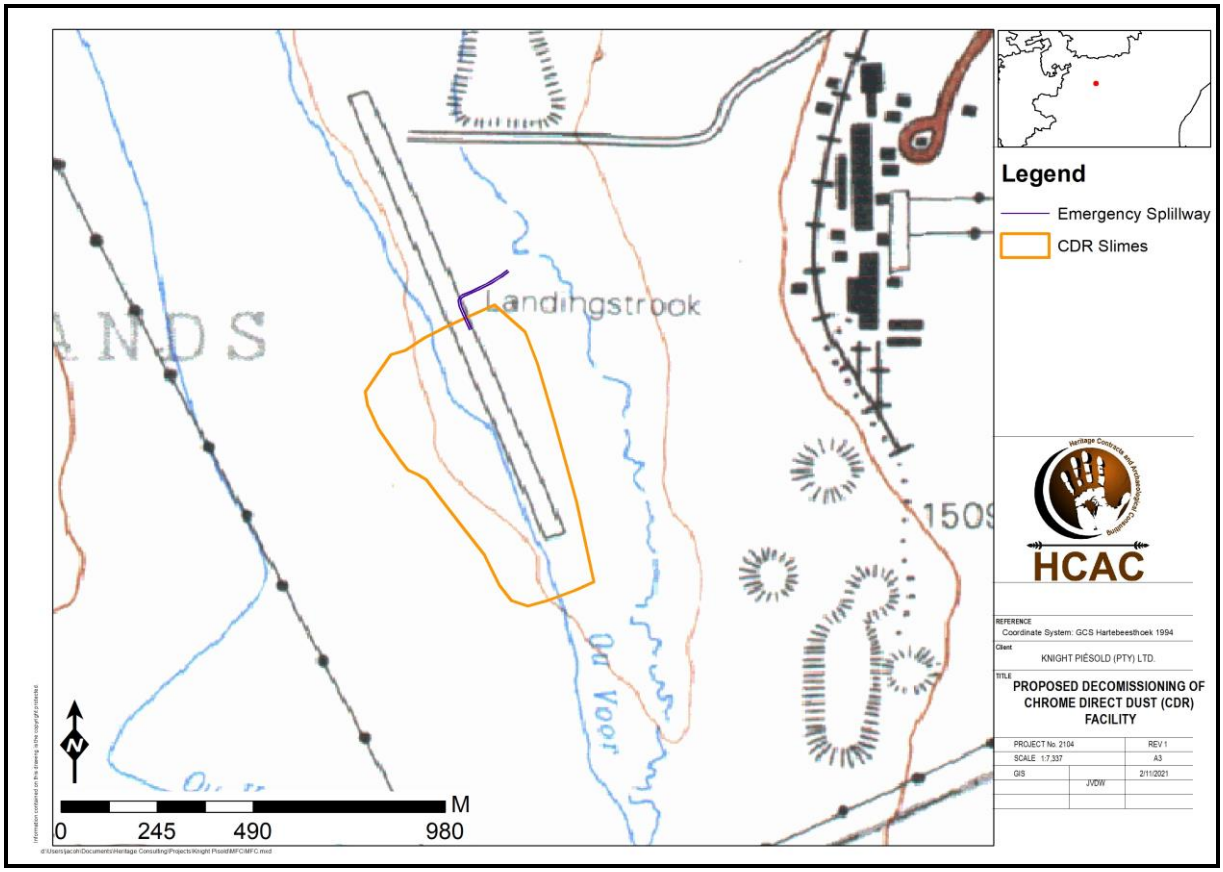

Figure 2. Local setting of the project (1: 50 000 topographical map 2529 CD).

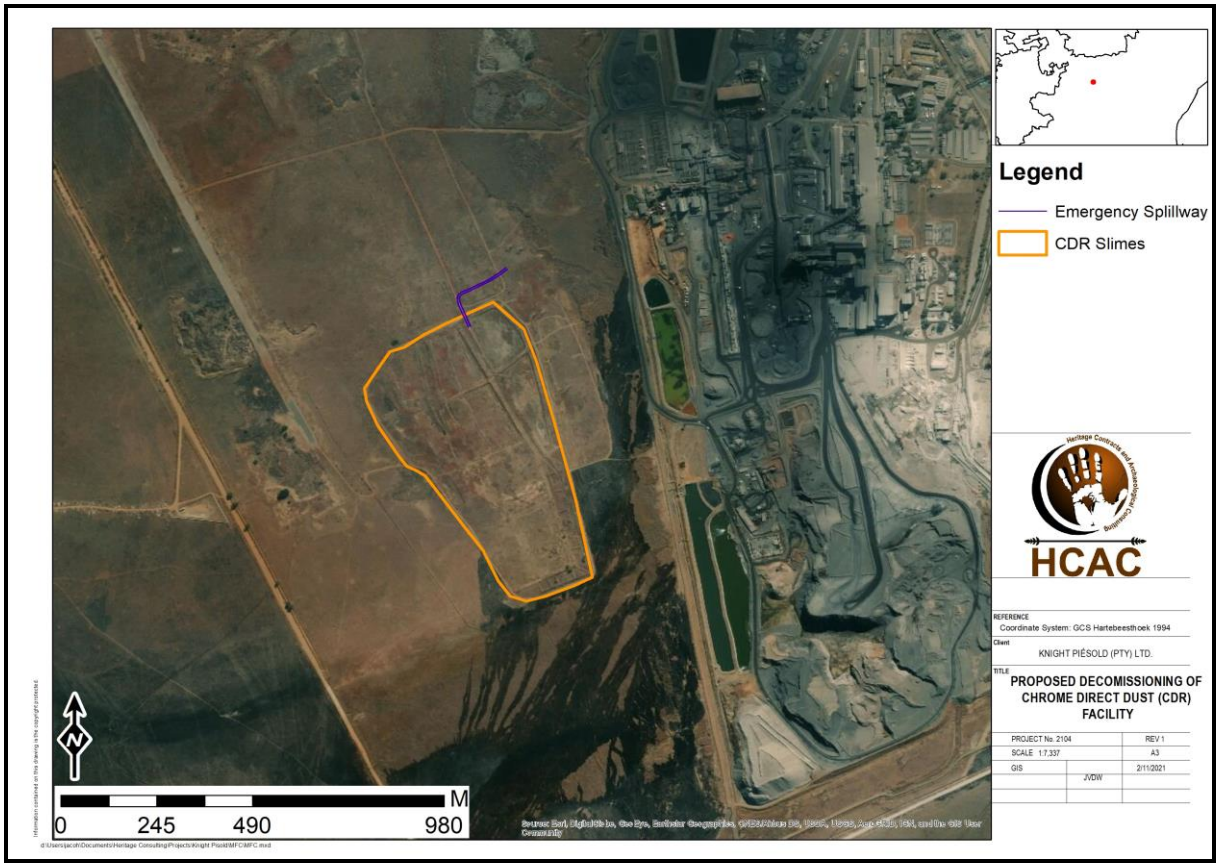

Figure 3. Aerial image of the study area. Note the extensive disturbance of previous activities.

3. Current site conditions

The CDR slimes facility consists of two paddocks, two pollution control dams (PCD's) consisting of a return water dam and a storm water dam, and two paddocks to contain runoff from the outer slopes of the facility (Figure 4). The two paddocks are constructed around the east and south of the south paddock.

Only the south paddock was used during the operational phase of the facility and CDR Slimes did not cover the full footprint of the paddock. The impoundment walls of the two paddocks are earthfill walls with a maximum height of 5 m and crest width of approximately 4 m.

Shortly after cessation of deposition into the south paddock, a 150mm thick capping layer of soil was placed over the CDR Slimes. This capping layer is now sparsely vegetated with grass (Figure 5). A storm water cut-off channel was excavated around the western side (up gradient) of the CDR Slimes Dam to divert runoff from the catchment lying to the west around the north and south sides of the Slimes Dam.

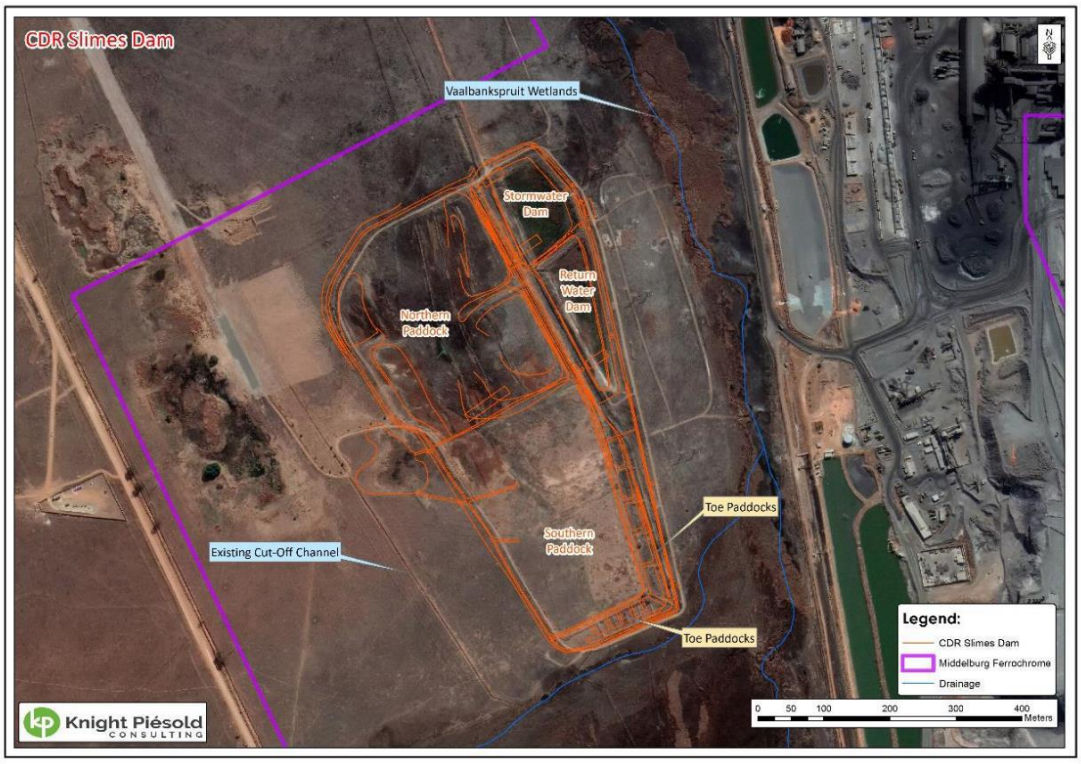

Figure 4. Site Layout**.**

Figure 5. General site conditions.

4. Proposed Activities

The impounding walls of the slimes dam and the toe paddock bund walls will be dozed down over the area previously covered by CDR Slimes. The Return Water Dam (RWD) and Stormwater Dam (SWD) will be left *in-situ.*

An emergency spillway will be cut into the natural ground at the north west corner of the facility. The emergency spillway is required to ensure that the embankments will not be overtopped during extreme rainfall events. The spillway will be 1.3 m deep with an invert width of 4m. The slope of the spillway channel will be 1:100 with side slopes of 1:1.5. The emergency spillway capacity is 10 m^3/s with 800mm dry freeboard.

Once the waste has been removed, the site will be rehabilitated and revegetated with a seed mixture of *Hyparrhenia hirta, Themeda triandra* and *Imperata cylindrica*, which has been identified as the dominant species occurring on the site (Yggdrasil Scientific Services, 2012).

5. The heritage character of the study area

5.1 Literature review

On the 1.50 000 map sheet 2529 CD five sites are on record at the Wits Archaeological database. These sites consist of ESA and LSA open air sites and farm labourer ruins but none of these sites are located in close proximity to the study area. Numerous CRM surveys are on record for the greater study area and the following studies were consulted: Huffman (1999), De Jong (2011 and 2006), Gaigher (2011), Van Wyk Rowe (2013), Pistorius (2013) and van der Walt (2015 and 2016). A few of these studies recorded cemeteries, and structures or ruins while the majority recorded no sites (e.g., Van Wyk Rowe 2013; Pistorius 2013 and Van der Walt (2018).

It should be noted that a SAHRIS case (Case number 1003) was created in 2012 for the Proposed Decommissioning of the CDR Slimes Dam on Portion 280 Of Portion 155 Middelburg Town And Townlands No. 287 JS. The case was marked ‘For Noting’ and no supporting documents were included.

5.2 Historical Background

5.2.1 Archaeology of the area

The Stone Age is divided in Early; Middle and Late Stone Age and refers to the earliest people of South Africa who mainly relied on stone for their tools.

Very few Early Stone Age sites are on record for Mpumalanga and no sites dating to this period are expected for the study area. An example in Mpumalanga is Maleoskop on the farm Rietkloof where ESA tools have been found. This is one of only a handful of such sites in Mpumalanga.

The MSA has not been extensively studied in Mpumalanga but evidence of this period has been excavated at Bushman Rock Shelter, a well-known site on the farm Klipfonteinhoek in the Ohrigstad district. This cave was excavated twice in the 1960's by Louw and later by Eloff. The MSA layers show that the cave was repeatedly visited over a long period. Lower layers have been dated to over 40 000 BP (Before Present) while the top layers date to approximately 27 000 BP (Esterhuizen & Smith in Delius, 2007; Bergh, 1998). Some isolated finds were recorded by Huffman (1999) on the farm Rietfontein directly west of the study area.

The Later phases of the Stone Age began at around 20 000 years BP. This period was marked by numerous technological innovations and social transformations within these early hunter-gatherer societies. These people may be regarded as the first modern inhabitants of Mpumalanga, known as the San or Bushmen. They were a nomadic people who lived together in small family groups and relied on hunting and gathering of food for survival. Evidence of their existence is to be found in numerous rock shelters throughout the Eastern Mpumalanga where some of their rock paintings are still visible. A number of these shelters have been documented throughout the Province (Bornman, 1995; Schoonraad in Barnard, 1975; Delius, 2007). These include areas such as Witbank, Ermelo, Barberton, Nelspruit, White River, Lydenburg and Ohrigstad.

The Iron Age as a whole represents the spread of Bantu speaking people and includes both the pre-Historic and Historic periods. It can be divided into three distinct periods:
The Early Iron Age: Most of the first millennium AD.
The Middle Iron Age: 10th to 13th centuries AD
The Late Iron Age: 14th century to colonial period.

The Iron Age is characterised by the ability of these early people to manipulate and work Iron ore into implements that assisted them in creating a favourable environment to make a better living. No Sites dating to the Early or Middle Iron Age have been recorded or is expected for the study area. The same goes for the Later Iron Age period where the study area is situated outside the known distribution of Late Iron Age settlements in Mpumalanga. This phase of the Iron Age (AD 1600-1800's) is represented by various tribes including Ndebele, Swazi, BaKoni, Pedi marked by extensive stonewalled settlements found throughout the Mpumalanga escarpment.

5.2.2 Historical Background

J. S. Bergh's historical atlas of the four northern provinces of South Africa is a very useful source for the writing of local and regional history. Through this source it could be ascertained that there might have been sporadic occurrences of Malaria infections in the area during the rainy season, up until the 1930's. Tsetse flies were however, not present in the area at that time. (Bergh 1999: 2)

Though the rarity of such pests may have facilitated early settlement in the area, there are no signs of Stone Age or Early Iron Age remains in the immediate vicinity. (Bergh 1999: 4-6) There are however signs that a large Late Iron Age (1000-1800) site was located approximately 50 km to the east and northeast of where the farm is located today (Bergh 1999: 7) By the beginning of the 19th century, the major black communities in the area of the farm would have been the Ndzundza Ndebele to the north, and the Kôpa even further to the north. (Bergh 1999: 11)

The Ndzundza Ndebele had moved away from the Pretoria District, and from the upper parts of the Steelpoort River, to the area where the Stoffberg is located today. This group of people were attacked and defeated by

Mzilikazi's Khumalo-Ndebeles in 1821. Mzilikazi apparently settled in the area for a while, after he had attained his victory. (Bergh 1999: 110-111) Mzilikazi's attack on the Ndzundza Ndebele was however not isolated. The Difaqane (Sotho), or Mfekane ("the crushing" in Nguni) was a time of bloody upheavals in Natal and on the Highveld, which occurred around the early 1820's until the late 1830's (Bergh 1999: 10). It came about in response to heightened competition for land and trade, and caused population groups like gun-carrying Griquas and Shaka's Zulus to attack other tribes (Bergh 1999: 14; 116-119).

During the time of the Difaqane, a northwards migration of white settlers from the Cape was also taking place. Some travellers, missionaries and adventurers had gone on expeditions to the northern areas in South Africa, some already as early as the 1720's. In 1934, the "Association for the Exploration of Central Africa" was established in Cape Town, with Andrew Smith as its Director. As a member of this party, one Robert Scoon also undertook a journey that led him through, or at least very close to the study area. His journey led him from the Strydpoortberge in the north, close to Potgietersrus, through Middelburg and to Chrissiesmeer in the east, and back to Pretoria (Bergh 1999: 13; 120).

It was however only by the late 1820's that a mass-movement of Dutch speaking people in the Cape Colony started advancing into the northern areas. This was due to feelings of mounting dissatisfaction caused by economical and other circumstances in the Cape. This movement later became known as the Great Trek. This migration resulted in a massive increase in the extent of that proportion of modern South Africa dominated by people of European descent (Ross 2002: 39). The Tregardt and Van Rensburg "trek" advanced past the Middelburg district, to the west thereof, in 1844. This migration ended in the area of the Soutpansberg (Bergh 1999: 14).

On 25 July 1846, the Volksraad (Council) at Ohrigstad bought a very large portion of land, stretching from the Olifants River in the north, the Crocodile River, the Elandspruit (Elands River) and to the Portuguese area in the east. This land was bought from the Swazi, who claimed to have a right to the area, for an amount of a 100 heads of cattle. The Middelburg District formed part of this area (Bergh 1999: 16; 131).

Since the mid 1800's up until the present, South Africa had been subdivided into various districts. Since 1945, the area where the modern-day Middelburg area is located formed part of the Lydenburg district. As of 1872, the farm area was located in the Middelburg district. By 1994, the property under investigation still formed part of the Middelburg district (Bergh 1999: 17, 20-27).

The decision to establish the town of Middelburg was based on the fact that Pretoria was situated far from towns like Lydenburg and Ohrigstad, which had been established before 1850. In order to facilitate a link between Lydenburg and Pretoria, the establishment of a town between these two centres was considered. (Green 1986: 3) in October 1859, it was decided that the town of Middelburg would be established. (Green 1986: 5) It is interesting that the town was at first known by two names; Nazareth by the Dutch Reformed Church and Middelburg by the ZAR Government. The name Middelburg was eventually accepted, and since the town was situated in the middle, between Pretoria and Lydenburg, it was considered to be the most appropriate title (Green 1986: 14-16).

The Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902)

The Anglo-Boer War, which took place between 1899 and 1902 in South Africa, was one of the most turbulent times in South Africa's history. Even before the outbreak of war in October 1899 British politicians, including Sir Alfred Milner and Mr. Chamberlain, had declared that should Britain's differences with the Z.A.R. result in violence, it would mean the end of republican independence. This decision was not immediately publicized, and as a consequence republican leaders based their assessment of British intentions on the more moderate public utterances of British leaders. Consequently, in March 1900, they asked Lord Salisbury to agree to peace on the basis of the status quo ante bellum. Salisbury's reply was, however, a clear statement of British war aims (Du Preez 1977).

Three individual battalions of British troops moved through Middelburg between February and September 1900. These included the regiments of Lieutenant General F. Roberts, Lieutenant General R. Pole-Carew and Lieutenant General French. During this period, a fleeing Boer commando had also gone through Middelburg. This town was perhaps a strategic point, since there was a railway line running through it (Bergh 1999: 51). During the latter phase of the war, the British followed a scorched earth policy. This entailed that whole towns and thousands of farm dwellings were set alight, that all sources of sustenance that were provided to the Boer Commandos would be destroyed and that women and children who had remained on the farms would be

moved into concentration camps. (Bergh 1999: 250) Both a white and a black concentration camp were established at Middelburg (Bergh 1999: 54).

The early defeats suffered by the British Army and the subsequent rebellion of many colonial subjects ensured a general endorsement by the British public of government policy. The republics were soon afterwards annexed. The meeting between Kitchener and Botha at Middelburg on 27 February 1901, made it clear that diplomacy could not bring the war to an end. Both sides were now made aware of the political objectives of the other. The terms that Kitchener presented to Botha were that the republics surrender their independence in exchange for a promise of a form of self-government 'as soon as possible'. (Readers Digest 1992: 257) Since the Boers were unwilling to surrender their independence, it became evident that the only possible conclusion was a military decision, and that only total defeat would force either party to relinquish its political views (Du Preez 1977).

5.2.3 Cultural Landscape

The study area was mostly fallow with almost no developments from the 1950's (Figure 6). From the 1970's onwards the area was gradually developed (Figure 7 & 8) into an industrial landscape forming part of the urban and mining landscape of Middelburg and is transformed from the rural character it once had (Figure 9).

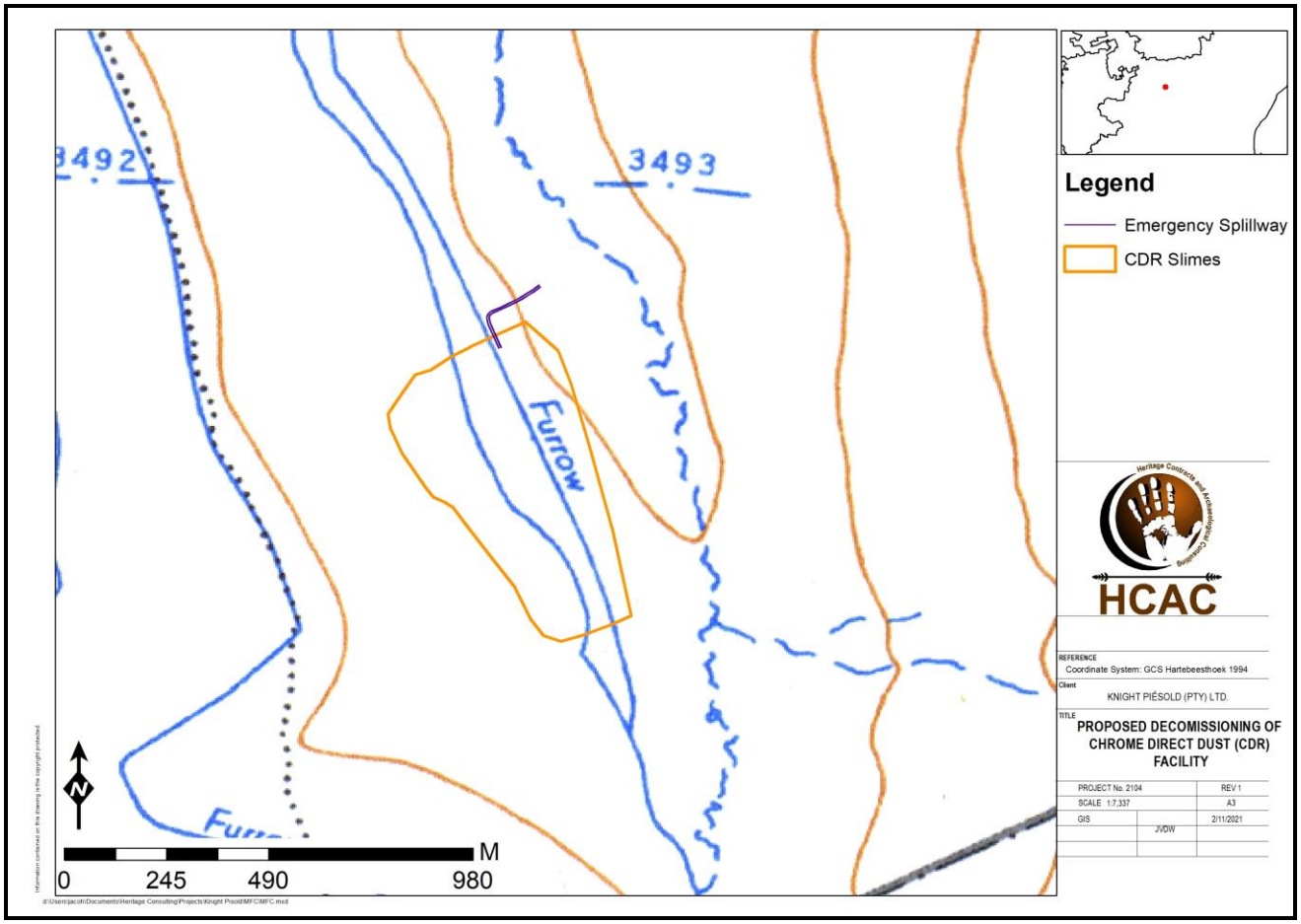

Figure 6. 1954 Topographical map indicating a water furrow in the study area. No other developments are indicated.

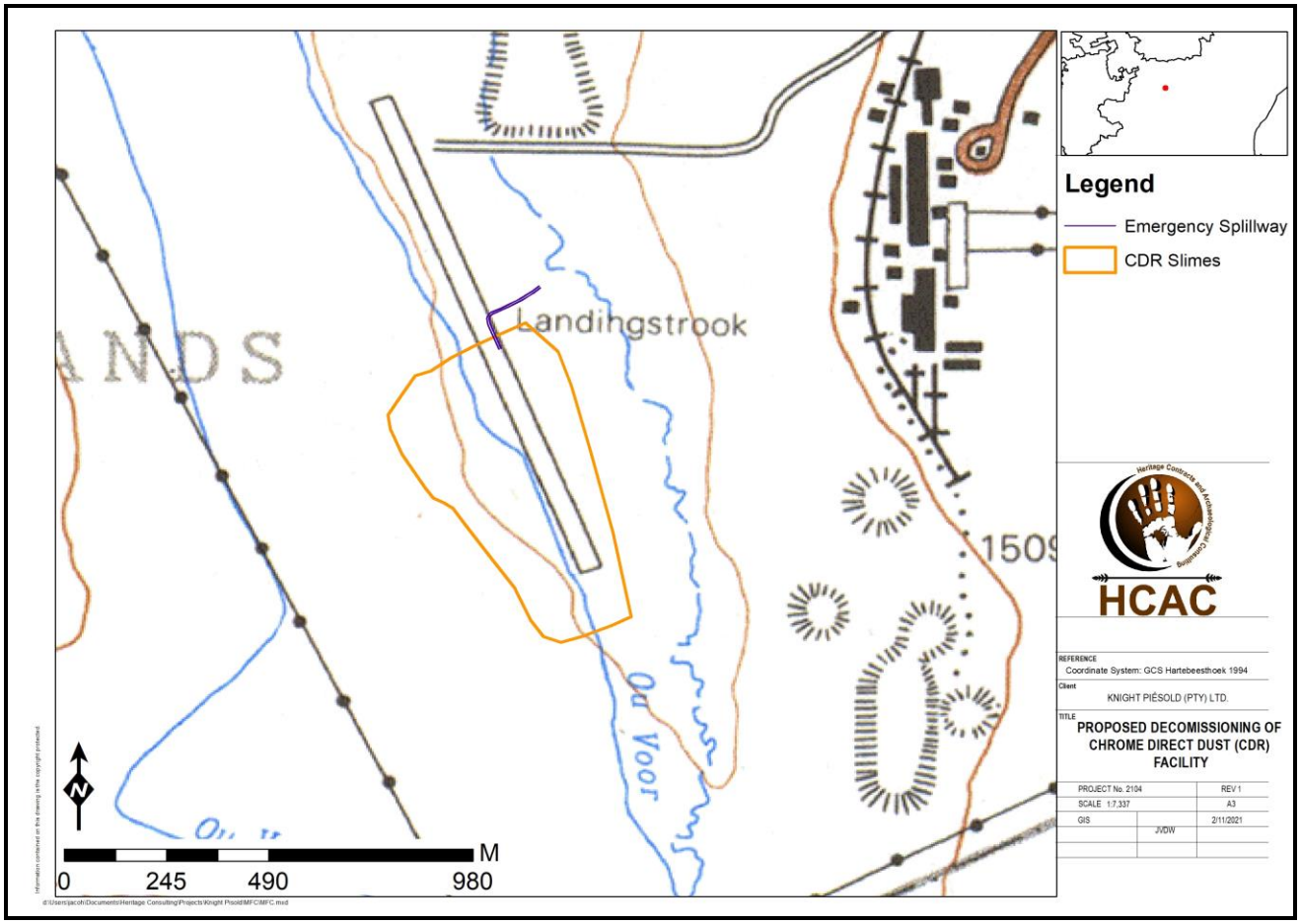

Figure 7. 1974 Topographic map, the furrow as well as a landing strip is visible with mining developments to the east.

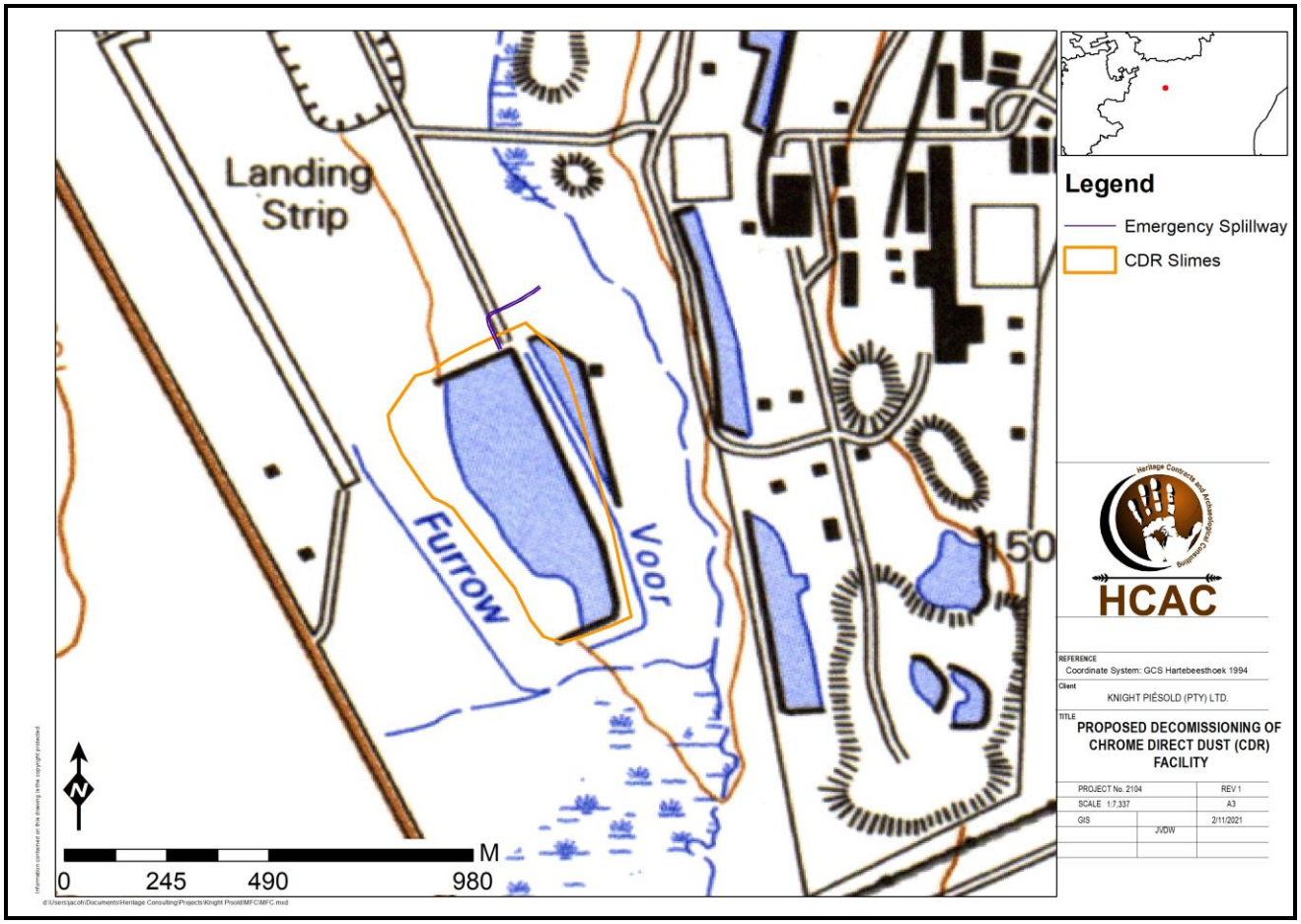

Figure 8. 1996 Topographic map showing the extensive development of the study area and surrounds.

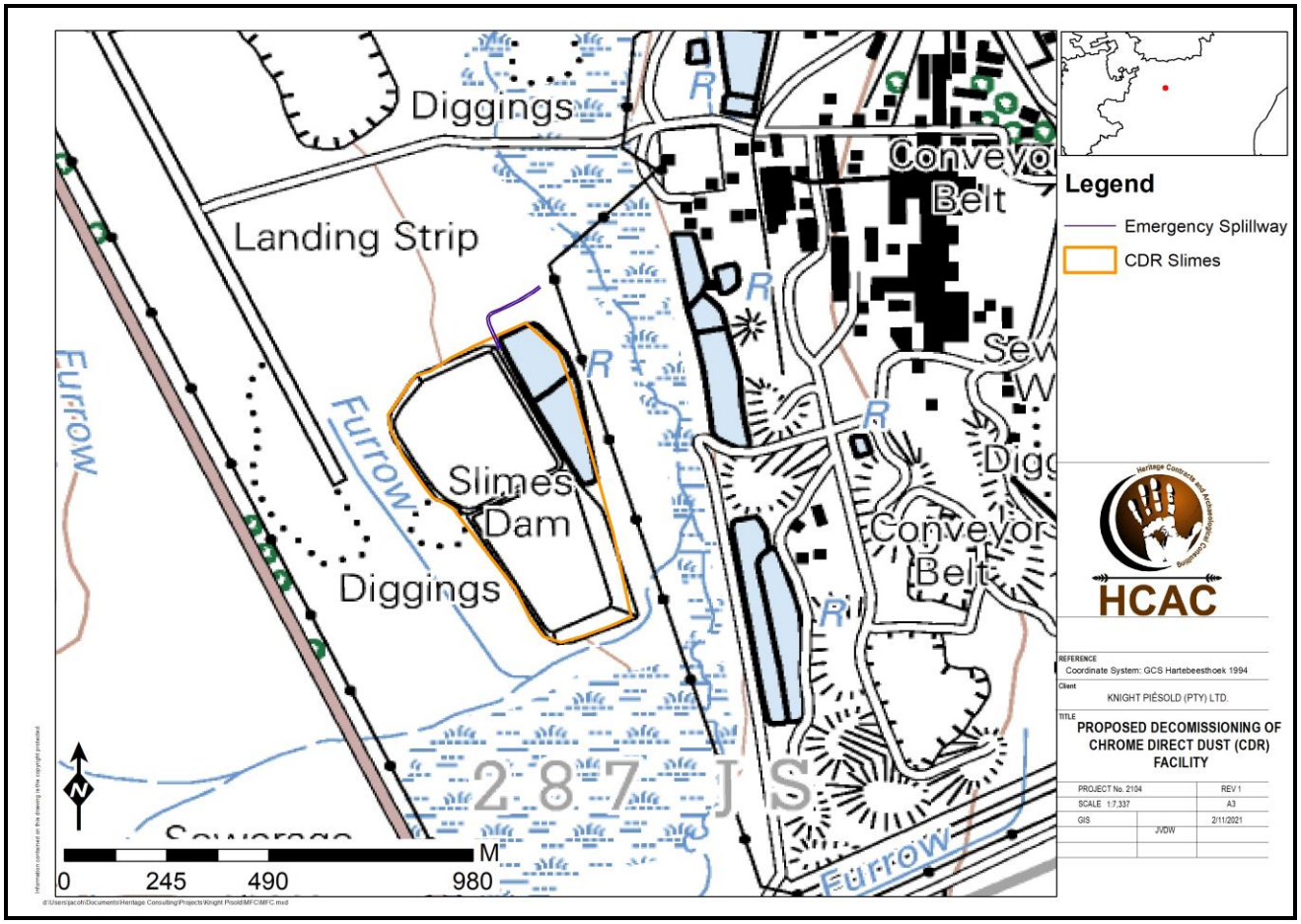

Figure 9. 2003 Topographic map – the slimes dam is visible, and the surrounding area has been developed.

6. Findings

6.1. Heritage resources

The area has been impacted on by development activities from prior to 1974 as indicated on topographic maps and is extensively transformed (Figure 6 – 9). These developments and day to day operations would have obliterated any surface indicators of heritage resources if any ever occurred in the study area prior to the establishment of the CDR Facility.

The current CDR facility was in use from the 1990's to the year 2000 (Knight Piesold 2021) and therefore not older than 60 years and not under the ambit of the Heritage Act. No heritage sites of significance are expected in the area. The decommissioning of the CDR slimes dam will not impact on heritage resources of significance.

6.2. Palaeontology

A letter of exemption was compiled for the paleontological aspect of the project by Prof. Marion Bamford and concluded that the CDR slimes dam lies partly on moderately sensitive rocks of the Dwyka Group (Karoo Supergroup) in the northern part, and partly on non-fossiliferous dolerite of Jurassic age but that the material to be screened and redistributed is from the previous mining operation and so is highly disturbed and out of context. The target mineral was chrome from the Rustenburg Layered Suite. They are intruded rocks of volcanic origin so would not have contained any fossils when in situ (Bamford 2020).
The SAHRIS palaeosensitivity map (Figure 10) indicating the study area as of moderate significance applies only to the original rocks in place before any mining activity. The decommissioning of the CDR slimes dam, therefore, will not impact on the fossil heritage.

Colour	Sensitivity	Required Action
RED	VERY HIGH	Field assessment and protocol for finds is required
ORANGE/YELLOW	HIGH	Desktop study is required and based on the outcome of the desktop study, a field assessment is likely
GREEN	MODERATE	Desktop study is required
BLUE	LOW	No paleontological studies are required however a protocol for finds is required
GREY	INSIGNIFICANT/ZERO	No palaeontological studies are required
WHITE/CLEAR	UNKNOWN	These areas will require a minimum of a desktop study. As more information comes to light, SAHRA will continue to populate the map.

Figure 10. SAHRA Paleontological sensitivity map indicating the approximate study area in yellow.

7. Conclusion

From a heritage perspective the study area is of low heritage significance and has been impacted upon by the development of the CDR Facility. The impact of earth moving, and mining activities would have obliterated any surface indicators of heritage resources in the area. The current CDR facility was in use for ten years from the 1990's and therefore not older than 60 years and not under the ambit of the Heritage Act and the decommissioning of the CDR slimes dam will not impact on heritage resources of significance. Therefore it is recommended that the project be exempt from a phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment.

Although there is a low likelihood that the project will impact on heritage resources, to mitigate against chance finds, it is recommended that a chance find procedure is implemented as part of the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) as described below.

7.1. Chance Find Procedure

The possibility of the occurrence of subsurface finds cannot be excluded. Therefore, if during construction any possible finds such as stone tool scatters, artefacts or bone and fossil remains are made, the operations must be stopped and a qualified archaeologist must be contacted for an assessment of the find and therefor chance find procedures should be put in place as part of the EMP. A short summary of chance find procedures is discussed below.

This procedure applies to the developer's permanent employees, its subsidiaries, contractors and subcontractors, and service providers. The aim of this procedure is to establish monitoring and reporting procedures to ensure compliance with this policy and its associated procedures. Construction crews must be properly inducted to ensure they are fully aware of the procedures regarding chance finds as discussed below.

If during the pre-construction phase, construction, operations or closure phases of this project, any person employed by the developer, one of its subsidiaries, contractors and subcontractors, or service provider, finds any artefact of cultural significance or heritage site, this person must cease work at the site of the find and report this find to their immediate supervisor, and through their supervisor to the senior on-site manager.
It is the responsibility of the senior on-site Manager to make an initial assessment of the extent of the find, and confirm the extent of the work stoppage in that area.
The senior on-site Manager will inform the ECO of the chance find and its immediate impact on operations. The ECO will then contact a professional archaeologist for an assessment of the finds who will notify the SAHRA.

Any further queries can be forwarded to Jaco van der Walt on Cell: +27 82 373 8491 or to jaco@heritageconsultants.co.za.

Jaco van der Walt
Archaeologist
HCAC Heritage Consultants

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Marion.bamford@wits.ac.za
11 February 2021

Dr Ragna Redelstorff
Heritage Officer Archaeology, Palaeontology & Meteorites Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency
111 Harrington Street
Cape Town 8001

Dear Dr Redelstorff

RE: Request for Exemption of any Palaeontological Impact Assessment for the proposed closure of CDR slimes dam, south of Middelburg, Mpumalanga

In my capacity as a professional palaeontologist, I am requesting exemption for palaeontological impact assessment in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) and the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) which requires that the proposed development must be preceded by the relevant impact assessment, in this case for palaeontology.

Background
The Samancor Middelburg Ferrochrome (MFC) facility is proposing to decommission a waste disposal facility known as the Chrome Direct Reduction (CDR) facility which was used up to the year 2000. The facility is licensed in terms of water use 21 (g) of the National Water Act (Licence Number 04/B12D/G/1193).

The CDR site is located on the farm Middelburg town and Townlands no 287 JS near Middelburg, Mpumalanga.

The CDR waste is heterogenous in nature (both vertically and horizontally). This leads to variations in the classification of the waste type. Although the majority of the samples were classified as Type 3, some sections of the CDR facility area exceeded the LCT2 threshold for Cr(VI) and should be considered as Type 1 waste. The waste material must be conclusively screened (classified) on a grid base and handled according to the worst-case sample result. DETAILS of the process are given in the report by Knight

Piésold (Pty) Ltd. (Proposal Number: RI-301-00183/40; Date: 6 January 2020. Proposed decommissioning of Chrome Direct Dust (CDR) Facility. Basic Assessment Report, Environmental Management Programme and Closure Plan.

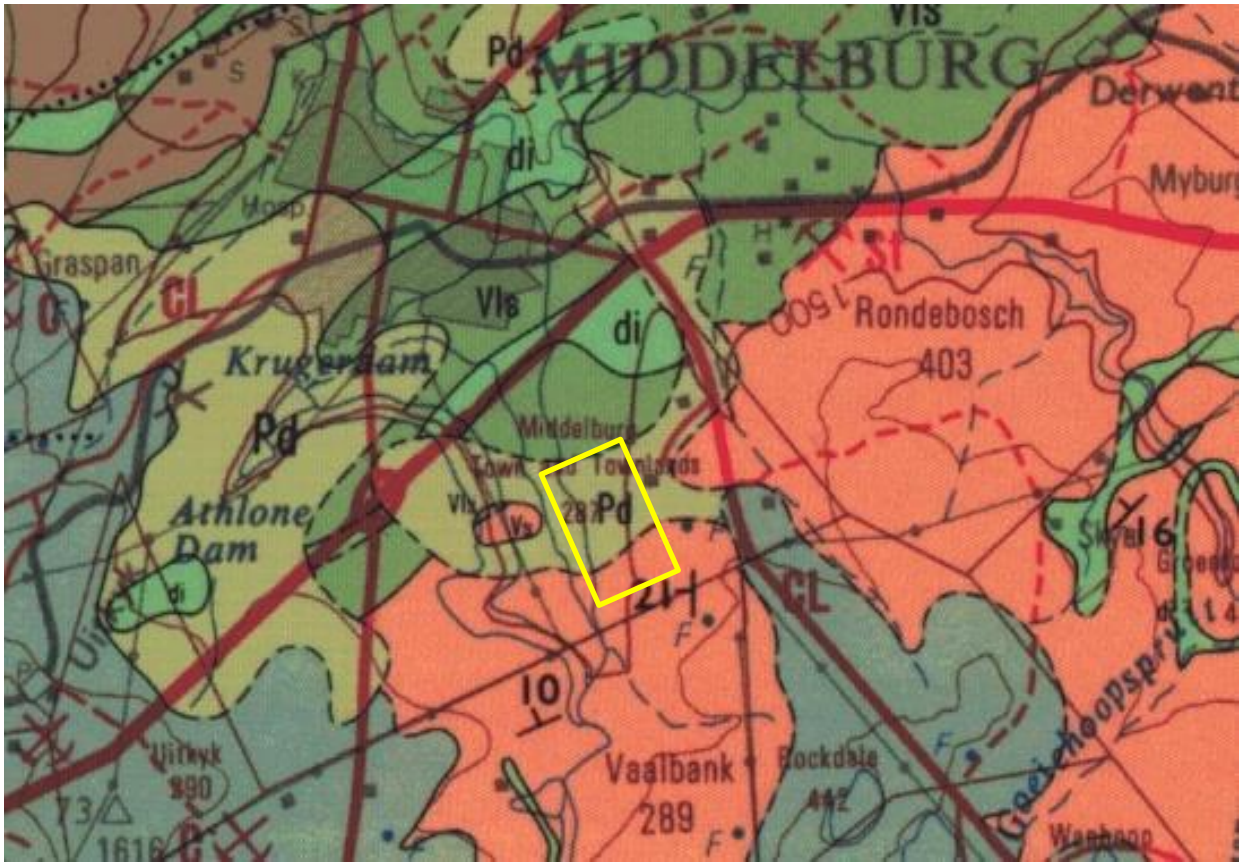

Figure 1: Geological map of the area around the CDR slimes dam. The location of the proposed project is indicated within the yellow rectangle. Abbreviations of the rock types are: Jd (pink) = Jurassic dolerite; Pd = Dwyka Group tillites; di = diabase; Vls = Loskop Group shales and volcanics. Map enlarged from the Geological Survey 1: 250 000 map 2528 Pretoria.

Geology and Palaeontology

The CDR slimes dam lies partly on moderately sensitive rocks of the Dwyka Group (Karoo Supergroup) in the northern part, and partly on non-fossiliferous dolerite of Jurassic age. However, it should be noted that the material to be screened and redistributed is from the previous mining operation and so is highly disturbed and out of context. The target mineral was chrome from the Rustenburg Layered Suite. They are intruded rocks of volcanic origin so would not have contained any fossils when in situ.

The SAHRIS palaeosensitivity map (Fig 2) applies only to the original rocks in place before any mining activity. The decommissioning of the CDR slimes dam, therefore will not impact on the fossil heritage.

Figure 2: SAHRIS palaeosensitivity map for the site for the proposed CDR slimes dam decommissioning project shown within the yellow rectangle. Background colours indicate the following degrees of sensitivity: red = very highly sensitive; orange/yellow = high; green = moderate; blue = low; grey = insignificant/zero.

It is recommended that the project be exempt from any Palaeontological Impact Assessment.

Yours faithfully

MKBamford

Prof Marion Bamford
Palaeobotanist; PhD (Wits 1990)

Our Ref: 16097

an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 16097

Final Comment

In terms of Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Knight Piesold Consultants

Knight Piesold Consultants
PO Box 383
Westvillle
South Africa
3630

PROPOSED DECOMMISSIONING OF CHROME DIRECT DUST (CDR) FACILITY

Knight Piesold Consulting (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by Samancor Middelburg Ferrochrome (MFC) to undertake a Basic Assessment application process in support for an Environmental Authorisation (EA) in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, Act no 107 of 1998 (NEMA) as amended, for activities that trigger the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) 2014 Regulations, as amended.

The Samancor Middelburg Ferrochrome is proposing to decommission their existing slurry dams. The dam is located on Portion 280 of Portion 155 of the farm Middelburg Town and Townlands 287 JS in the Steve Tshwete Local Municipality of the Mpumalanga Province. They do not intend to re-use the site in the future. As part of the decommissioning activities, the slurry dam will be dozed down and an emergency spillway will be constructed, then the site will be rehabilitated.

A Heritage Exemption Letter and Palaeontology Letter of exemption has been submitted to SAHRA for commenting in terms of section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act, no. 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

Van der Walt, J. February 2021. Application for Exemption from a Heritage Impact Assessment for the proposed Decommissioning of the Chrome Direct Reduction (CDR) facility, Middelburg, Mpumalanga.

The author assessed the proposed development activities and found that there will be no heritage impacted due to the area already being disturbed when the slurry dam was constructed. As such the author requests an exemption from undertaking a full phase 1 heritage impact assessment. The author recommends no further mitigation measures.

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Bamford, M. February 2021. Request for Exemption of any Palaeontological Impact Assessment for the proposed closure of CDR slimes dam, south of Middelburg, Mpumalanga.

The underlying geology of the proposed discard dam is Jurassic aged dolerite and has no palaeontological significance. At the edge of the site there is sandstone, shale and tillite of the Dwyka Group, Karoo Supergroup. This group is of moderate palaeontological significance. There will be no impact to intact bedrock as the proposed activities involve decommissioning of an existing facility and the screening of mined material from igneous Rustenburg layered suite. The author requests an exemption from undertaking a full phase 1 palaeontological impact assessment.

Final Comment

The South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit accepts the letters submitted to the case that provide motivation and recommendation for exemption from undertaking phase 1 HIA and the PIA studies. SAHRA has no objection to the development going ahead on the following conditions.

In the event that fossils are uncovered during construction then construction must cease within the immediate vicinity, a buffer of 30 m must be established, and a palaeontologist called in to inspect the finds. The palaeontologist must obtain a section 35(4) permit in terms of NHRA and Chapter IV NHRA Regulations, before any fossils are collected.

If there are any new heritages resources are discovered during construction and operation phases of the proposed development, then a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the findings at the expense of the developer.

If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required at the expense of the developer. Mitigation will only be carried out after the archaeologist or palaeontologist obtains a permit in terms of section 35 of the NHRA (Act 25 of 1999). You may contact SAHRA APM Unit for further details: (Nokukhanya Khumalo/Phillip Hine 021 202 8654).

If any unmarked human burials are uncovered and the archaeologist called in to inspect the finds and/or the police find them to be heritage graves, then mitigation may be necessary and the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit must be contacted for processes to follow (Thingahangwi Tshivase/Mimi Seetelo 072 802 1251).

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The Final BAR and its appendices must be submitted to the case and once a Record of Decision from the competent authority is issued, it must also be submitted to the case.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

Nokukhanya Khumalo
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Phillip Hine
Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:
Direct URL to case: https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/557119

Terms & Conditions:

1. This approval does not exonerate the applicant from obtaining local authority approval or any other necessary approval for proposed work.
2. If any heritage resources, including graves or human remains, are encountered they must be reported to SAHRA immediately.
3. SAHRA reserves the right to request additional information as required.