



21 November 2013  
466113

Jenna Lavin  
Heritage Officer: South African Heritage Resources Agency  
via SAHRIS

Dear Jenna

**Withdrawal of Application for Environmental Authorisation: Basic Assessment for the Raising of the Combined Treatment Plant Fine Residue Deposit Wall at De Beers Kimberley Mines, Kimberley (NCDENC Ref. No.: NC/BA/29/FB/SOL/GREEN/2013; SAHRA Ref. No.: 16/3/1 De Beers Kimberley Mines)**

The acknowledgement letter received from the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) on 20 September 2013 (Case 3651) and our telephonic conversation on 7 November 2013 refer.

It is the intention of De Beers Consolidated Mines Ltd (De Beers) to continue depositing tailings residue on an existing Fines Residue Deposit (FRD) at their Kimberley Mines operation. In order to provide sufficient capacity for the Life of Mine, the capacity of the FRD needs to be increased by raising the height of the south wall by approximately 2.5 m on average. The (downstream) exterior of the south-west section of the south wall (approximately 1 600 m) will be raised to the desired elevation as this section of wall is subject to the most intensive hydraulic pressure. The interior of the south-east portion of the south wall (approximately 1000 m) will also be raised. Raising the FRD wall will increase the total FRD footprint by approximately 2.4 ha. Furthermore, a solution trench will be constructed at the toe of the wall and a 715 m section of existing gravel road at the toe of the wall will be realigned to the south. Refer to the attached engineering drawings for further information.

SRK Consulting (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd (SRK) on behalf of De Beers, have formally withdrawn the application for Environmental Authorisation submitted to the Northern Cape Department of the Environment and Nature Conservation (NCDENC) as it has been determined that the raising of the FRD wall does not constitute a listed activity in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010. The confirmation letters received from NCDENC have been attached for your information.

A previous heritage study undertaken by African Heritage Consultants in 2006 (attached) did not identify any heritage resources (archaeological, paleontological or cultural) to the south of the FRD. However, SRK have included mitigation measures in the draft Environmental Management Programme Addendum (to be submitted to the Department of Mineral Resources), including notifying SAHRA should any heritage

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resources be discovered and ceasing work until the necessary actions have been taken (as advised by SAHRA).

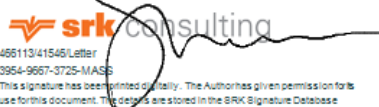
SRK believes that no heritage studies or authorisations will be required as the proposed development involves the widening of the existing FRD wall within De Beers property - a highly disturbed area with low heritage value. We would, however, appreciate it if you could confirm whether this assumption is correct.

We look forward to your response in this matter. Please don't hesitate to contact me should you require any further information.

Yours faithfully,

**SRK Consulting (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd**

SRK Consulting - Certified Electronic Signature

The image shows the SRK Consulting logo, which consists of a stylized orange and red 'S' followed by the text 'srk consulting' in a lowercase, sans-serif font. Overlaid on the logo is a handwritten signature in black ink. Below the logo, there is a small block of text providing technical details about the electronic signature.

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Scott Masson  
Environmental Consultant

cc Sara Sparks, De Beers