

Our Ref:



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

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South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town  
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001  
[www.sahra.org.za](http://www.sahra.org.za)

Enquiries: Nokukhanya Khumalo

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CaseID: 15161

Date: Tuesday June 23, 2020

Page No: 1

## Response to NID (Notification of Intent to Develop)

In terms of Section 38(3), 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Mr Shaun Macgregor  
Ecoleges Environmental Consultants  
PO Box 9005  
NELSPRUIT  
1200

**The dam remediation is to ensure the continued safe operation of this Category III dam and the stability of the main and right flank embankments and its foundations. The scope of construction works to be included in the rehabilitation and to be authorised is: 1. Stabilizing berm on the downstream face of the main embankment to RL 941.3 m, including approximately 30 000 m<sup>3</sup> of earthworks, a new internal drainage system (sand & gravel filters, rock toe and drain pipes with inspection concrete manholes) and gabion retaining walls. 2. Subsoil pipe drains above the berm of 133 m length with inspection concrete manholes. 3. Raising of the right flank embankment to prevent overtopping and failure during large floods and to improve the stability of the embankment (earthworks to be confirmed).**

Ecoleges Environmental Consultants was appointed to make an application for environmental authorisation for the Sappi Remediation Dam on Farm Ngodwana 1030 JT, Ngodwana, Mpumalanga Province. The development includes berm stabilization, Subsoil pipe drains above the berm with inspection concrete manholes along with the Raising of the right flank embankment.

In terms of the National Heritage Resources Act, no 25 of 1999 (NHRA), heritage resources, including archaeological or palaeontological sites over 100 years old, graves older than 60 years, structures older than 60 years are generally protected. They may not be disturbed without a permit from the relevant heritage resources authority. In contexts of development applications, the developer must ensure that no heritage resources will be impacted by the proposed development, by lodging an application to SAHRA and submitting detailed development specifications as a notification of intent to develop. If the application is made in terms of s. 38 (8) of the NHRA then it is incumbent on the developer to ensure that a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) is undertaken, as s. 38(2)a does not apply. Such a study should follow the SAHRA 2007 Minimum Standards: Archaeological Component of Impact Assessment Report, The SAHRA 2012 Minimum Standards:

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Page No: 2

Palaeontological Component of Impact Assessment Report and section 38(3) of the NHRA.

SAHRA as a commenting authority in this application requires an assessment of all heritage resources, including palaeontological resources to be conducted by suitably qualified archaeologist and palaeontologist respectively, within the EA application process. The development area is located on a moderate (green) palaeontology sensitive area according to the SAHRIS Palaeosensitivity Map, therefore a desktop study will be required along with protocol for finds. All required environmental documents must be submitted as well.

If you are unaware of any archaeologists and palaeontologists a list of them working within the Heritage Resources Management field are provided in the following websites: (see [www.asapa.co.za](http://www.asapa.co.za)) and (see [www.palaeosa.org](http://www.palaeosa.org)).

SAHRA will comment further on this proposed development once the requested reports are submitted to the case. This comment must be forwarded to the competent authority and proof of submission must be uploaded 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

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Nokukhanya Khumalo  
Heritage Officer  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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Page No: 3

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Phillip Hine

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

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## ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/537435>

## 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.