

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  
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Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt  
Tel: 021 462 4502  
Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za  
CaseID: 9917

Date: Tuesday September 27, 2016  
Page No: 1

## Interim Comment

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

Attention: Enviroafrica CC  
PO Box 5367  
Heilderberg  
7135

The activity is for the establishment of a Raisin processing and packaging facility on the Kanoneiland premises of Orange River Cellars. This will include the construction and installation of infrastructure as well as the required services and utilities to accommodate production of 8000 to 16 000 tons per annum. It is proposed that there should be a: -Pre-clean Line (6 tons/h) -Wet Processing Line (6 tons/h) -Bulk Packaging Line (6 tons/h) On the property there will be bulk raw material stores constructed that have the capacity to store 2664 raisin bin positions and 7 bins high. Buildings will be constructed for process and packaging, fumigation facilities, bin processing, admin, ablution and a workshop for forklift repairs and security facilities. The goal of sustainability is essential in the design of the facility. The following elements are implemented to reach such goals: ? 75 kWp Photovoltaic Panels are included in the Capex (+550 sqm) ? Natural Light is used where possible ? Solar + Heat Pumps for heated water ? Thermal Insulation for wall- and roof panels ? 100% of Effluent regenerated to recyclable process-water and irrigation The town of Upington is located centrally within the Northern Cape Province. The involved property of Orange River Wine Cellar is located adjacent to the R359 national road approximately 25km south west of Upington and approximately 15km northeast from Keimoes. The proposed site is located off the R359 to the east with GPS Coordinates: 28°39'0.97"S, 21° 6'52.48"E. The influx of people, due to the steep increase in employment opportunities is beneficial in this area. The proposed development will contribute positively to the land value of the involved property, as well as that of surrounding farms. Civil & Electrical services for the proposed development: Access to the site will be obtained from the existing R359 that is adjacent to the proposed site and already used for access to the property.

Enviroafrica CC was appointed by Orange River Wine Cellar to conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process for the proposed Raisin Processing and Packaging Facility on Erf 151, Blaauwskop Settlement, Keimies, Northern Cape Province. A Notice of Intent has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the 2014 EIA Regulations.

SAHRA requested, in a comment issued on 22/08/2016 the following:

- *It is noted that the proposed development is located within an area of Moderate Palaeontological*

# The proposed establishment of a Raisin processing and packaging facility on Erf 151, Blaauwskop Settlement, Keimoes, Northern Cape Province

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*Sensitivity and requests that a desktop Palaeontological study is completed and submitted to SAHRA for comment.*

A heritage screener was submitted to the application: *Cedar Tower Services 2016. Raisin Processing and Packaging facility, Keimos, Northern Cape, Palaeo-desktop heritage screener.*

The proposed development is situated on two different geological Formations: the Kanoneiland Formation (which is palaeontologically insignificant) and the Gordonia Formation. The Gordonia Formation is known for the following types of palaeontological specimens: palynomorphs, root casts and burrows, rare vertebrate remains, diatom-rich limestones, freshwater stromatolites, freshwater and terrestrial shells, ostracods and charophytes. The Gordonia Formation consists primarily of near surface unconsolidated Aeolian sands dating to the Quaternary period, and the nature of the deposits are not conducive to the preservation of fossils.

It is recommended that a palaeontological chance finds procedure should be implemented during the construction phase of the proposed development to mitigate any potential impacts to palaeontological specimens.

## **Interim Comment**

SAHRA APM notes that a palaeontological screener fulfills the role of a fatal-flaws analysis and does not substitute for a comprehensive palaeontological desktop assessment compiled by a qualified palaeontologist.

The palaeontological studies referenced are not from close proximity to the proposed development, and it should be emphasised that fossil localities can be sporadically distributed within a formation.

SAHRA APM requests that a desktop PIA, conducted by a qualified palaeontologist, must be submitted before further comment can be provided.

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

Yours faithfully

The proposed establishment of a Raisin processing and packaging facility on  
Erf 151, Blaauwskop Settlement, Keimoes, Northern Cape Province

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Natasha Higgitt  
Heritage Officer  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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John Gribble  
Manager: Maritime and Underwater Cultural Heritage Unit / Acting 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/367845>  
(DENC, Ref: )

**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.