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CaseID: 15906

Date: Friday April 23, 2021
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Final Comment

In terms of Section 38(4), 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Dikgatlong Local Municipality

33 Campbell Street, Barkly-West

proposed clearance of 196 ha of indigenous vegetation, partially located within a critical biodiversity area, the construction of a bridge and the installation of bulk services (400mm bulk sewer line) within a watercourse, for the proposed township establishment including a cemetery located on a Portion of the remaining extend of Erf 687, Barkly West, Dikgatlong Local Municipality, Northern Cape Province. The proposed development will also include the establishment of a cemetery

AB Enviro-Consult CC has been appointed by the Dikgatlong Local Municipality to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed construction of a bridge and bulk services within a watercourse and the proposed township establishment including a cemetery on a Portion of the remaining extend of Erf 687, Barkly West, Dikgatlong Local Municipality, Northern Cape Province

A draft Scoping Report has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, no 107 of 1998 (NEMA) and the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The proposed development will include approximately 3500 residential stands, and other stands for community services and businesses covering 196 ha, pipelines and a bridge.

APelser Archaeological Consulting has been appointed to provide heritage specialist input as part of the EIA process as required by section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(3) and 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

Pelser, A. 2020. Phase 1 HIA Report for Proposed Township Establishment on a Portion of the Remaining Extent of Erf 687, Barkly Wes Dikgatlong Local Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

Two heritage resources were identified of medium to high significance within the proposed development area that include lithics from the Early, Middle and Later Stone Age periods which is similar to Canteen Kopje (Provincial Heritage Site that has been nominated as a site of National significance).

Recommendations provided in the report include the following:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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- A detailed Phase 2 Assessment of the area to map the occurrence of the Stone Age sites and material;
- Comprehensive and detailed sampling of surface material after obtaining a permit from SAHRA;
- Conducting of Test excavations in selected areas to determine the presence of and the nature of the archaeological deposits. For this a SAHRA permit will also have to be obtained;
- The implementation of an Archaeological Watching Brief for when the development activities commence. This will ensure that if in situ deposits are exposed the material can be recovered, studied and preserved;
- It is recommended that the first 3 actions be undertaken before development actions commence and that once these have been completed that proposed development be undertaken with the Watching Brief implemented as a matter of course.

In an Interim Comment issued on the 29/01/2021, SAHRA requested that a desktop Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA) be conducted as part of the EIA phase as the proposed development is located in an area of moderate and high palaeontological sensitivity as per the SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity Map.

Additionally, SAHRA requests that consultation with interested and affected parties such as McGregor Museum be conducted regarding the recommended mitigation measures provided in the HIA. Proof of this consultation must be provided during the EIA phase.

Since the issuing of the Interim Comment, the desktop PIA (25/03/2021) and proof of consultation with Interested and Affected Parties has been provided (18/03/2021) along with the DEIA.

The McGregor Museum in Kimberley was consulted regarding the recommended mitigation measures and agrees that the proposed Phase 2 survey and test excavations would be beneficial to understanding the landscape that contains Canteen Kopje.

Rubidge, B. 2021. Desktop Palaeontological Impact Assessment: Proposed Township Barkly West, Dikgatlong Local Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed development area is underlain by the Precambrian Allanridge Formation that does not contain fossils. These sediments are overlain by late Caenozoic aeolian sands of the Kalahari Group that are not known to have fossils. It is highly unlikely that palaeontological resources will be affected by the proposed development. A Chance Finds Procedure is recommended.

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The following comments are made as a requirement in terms of section 3(4) of the NEMA Regulations and section 38(8) of the NHRA in the format provided in section 38(4) of the NHRA and must be included in the Final EIA and EMPr:

- 38(4)a – The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit has no objections to the proposed development;
- 38(4)b – The recommendations of the specialists are supported and must be adhered to. Further additional specific conditions are provided for the development as follows:
- Permits in terms of section 35 of the NHRA must be applied for from SAHRA in order to conduct the Phase 2 mitigation, test excavations and surface sampling can be conducted. No mitigation may occur without permits issued in this regard;
- The recommended Watching Brief must be submitted to SAHRA for comment once the construction phase has been concluded;
- 38(4)c(i) – If any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g. remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments, charcoal and ash concentrations), fossils or other categories of heritage resources are found during the proposed development, SAHRA APM Unit (Natasha Higgitt/Phillip Hine 021 462 5402) must be alerted as per section 35(3) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with section of the NHRA is an offense in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule;
- 38(4)c(ii) – If unmarked human burials are uncovered, the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit (Thingahangwi Tshivhase/Mimi Seetelo 012 320 8490), must be alerted immediately as per section 36(6) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with section of the NHRA is an offense in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule;
- 38(4)d – See section 51(1) of the NHRA;
- 38(4)e – The following conditions apply with regards to the appointment of specialists:
 - i) If heritage resources are uncovered during the course of the development, a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the heritage resource. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required subject to permits issued by SAHRA;
- The Final EIA and EMPr must be submitted to SAHRA for record purposes;
- The decision regarding the EA Application must be communicated to SAHRA and uploaded to the SAHRIS Case application.

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

Our Ref:



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above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

Natasha Higgitt
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/550759>
(DENC, Ref: NC/EIA/17/FB/DIK/BAR1/2020)

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.