



TURN180
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

REGISTRATION NUMBER: 2018/110720/07

7 August 2019

South African Heritage Resources Agency
P.O. Box 4637
Cape Town
8000

Attention: Ms. N. Higgitt

THE UNDERTAKING OF MINING ACTIVITIES INSIDE WATERCOURSES AND OTHER SENSITIVE AREAS ON ZAND PLAATS 102/5, VOGELSTRUISPAN 101, VOGELSTRUISPAN 98, KLIPFONTEIN 99 AND BERGPLAATS 100, KIMBERLEY DISTRICT, NORTHERN CAPE.

This letter serves as response to your comments regarding the above-mentioned project received by us on 3 August 2018. Please note that you have also been registered as an Interested and Affected Party and will receive all future reports regarding the project. Your comments refer:

A Heritage Impact Assessment was previously done for the entire Mining Right area during the application process for the Mining Right. This report will be included in all future reports relating to the proposed project and will remain implemented throughout.

The proposed project consists of a Section 102 application to amend the Mining Right in order to mine within the Vaal River and interior tributaries on the study area as per the layout plan. This mining is planned to occur in sections. The Vaal River will be divided into 19 sections of 1.5 km each. The flow in the river will be diverted using diversion channels and the bed and banks of the river will be left to dry and then mined. Mining of these sections will also only occur in the dry season (between April and December). Afterwards, the section will be rehabilitated. Only one diversion channel (one section) is to be constructed and operational at any given time to minimise the risk of contamination of the river system. It was recommended by the Civil Engineer that the Diversion Channels be constructed to allow for flow of 50m³/s. The mining method to be used is will involve the strip-mining method.

The entire study area contains 17 interior tributaries where mining is proposed. The largest amount of these watercourses is mainly found close to the Vaal River. The mining method to be used will be the same as for the Vaal River. It should be noted that these tributaries are non-perennial and dry through most of the year. It is also planned that they will be mined in the dry season.

The following is proposed for this application: a Heritage specialist and a Palaeontology specialist will be appointed to clear each section that will be mined before mining occurs. Reports will be compiled for each section where mining will occur to indicate the specialists' findings and recommendations and these reports will all be submitted to SAHRA and all other Interested and Affected Parties to obtain the necessary permits. Due to the scale of the project, the costs involved and time constraints, it would be nearly impossible to do a Heritage and Paleontological Assessment on the entire footprint of the study area all at once. For this reason, the above-mentioned is proposed. It is also proposed that this be included as a condition in the amendment, if it is granted.

We trust you find the above-mentioned in order. Please do not hesitate to contact us for any further information regarding the above-mentioned project.

Kind regards



Ansuné Weitsz