



NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO DEVELOP

Digby Wells Reference: SAS1744

Date: 28 October 2013

PROPOSED SYFERFONTEIN EXPANSION PROJECT, DIEPLAAGTE 123 IS, LANGSLOOT 99 IS, VAALBANK 96 IS, WILDEBEESTFONTEIN 122 IS, ZONDAGSFONTEIN 124 IS AND ZONDAGSKRAAL 125 IS, SECUNDA, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE

1 INTRODUCTION

Sasol Mining (Pty) Ltd (Sasol) has commissioned Digby Wells Environmental (Digby Wells) to conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and associated studies for the proposed new brown fields operation near Secunda in the Mpumalanga Province, South Africa.

1.1 Project Location

Name of property	Syferfontein Mine, Block 4
Street address or location (e.g.: Off R44)	Off the N17 near Kinross
Erf or farm numbers	Dieplaagte 123 IS Langsloot 99 IS Vaalbank 96 IS Wildebeestfontein 122 IS Zondagsfontein 124 IS Zondagskraal 125 IS
Coordinates of approximate centre of project area	-23.399008
	29.178650

Town or district	Kinross, Secunda
Responsible municipality	Govan Mbeki Local Municipality
Extent of property	8 987 ha
Maximum extent of proposed development	NA – underground mining only
Current use	Residential, agricultural, mining
Predominant land uses of surrounding properties	Residential, agriculture, mining

1.2 Registered Owners of Properties

Property	Name	Notified
Dieplaagte 123 IS Portions 1 & 7 Langsloot 99 IS Portions 16 & 17 Zondagsfontein 124 IS Portions 1, 3 to 7, 9 & 21 Zondagskraal 125 IS Portion 24	Nicol de Vos	Yes, via registered mail
Vaalbank 99 IS Portion 2 Zondagskraal 125 IS Portion 2	Johan Barnard	Yes, via registered mail
Wildebeestfontein 122 IS Portions 1 & 3	Gustaf Heymans	Yes, via registered mail
Wildebeestfontein 122 IS Portions 4 & 7 Wildebeestfontein 122 IS Portion 14	George du Toit	Yes, via registered mail
Wildebeestfontein 122 IS Portion 13	Anton Engelbrecht	Yes, via registered mail
Zondagsfontein 124 IS Portions 2 & 8	Lukas Potgieter	Yes, via registered mail
Zondagskraal 125 IS Portion 15	Republic of South Africa	Yes, via registered mail

2 PROJECT DETAILS

Sasol is planning to extend the existing Syferfontein Mine into the adjacent Block 4 reserves towards the north-west of the Syferfontein reserves. The proposed Block 4 reserves will be mined via underground bord and pillar method. The Block 4 reserves will be accessed via the existing vent shaft and vertical incline shaft at the present Syferfontein Mine.

The project area is approximately 8 987 ha. The proposed project will not generate any impact to surface heritage resources as no infrastructure will be constructed in the project area.

An Environmental Management Plan (EMP) and Integrated Water Use Licence Application (IWULA) for the existing Syferfontein Mine are available. Once the EIA / EMP for the proposed Block 4 operation is submitted, these documents are to be combined with the approved environmental authorisations obtained for the new Block 4 operation, in terms of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002) (MPRDA).

2.1 NHRA Section 38 Triggers

The following aspects of Section 38 of the NHRA may be triggered by the proposed project.'

	NHRA Section 38 (1) Activities / Triggers		Summary description (E.g. 500 m conveyor belt, open cast pit, etc.)
<input type="checkbox"/>	a	The construction of any linear development or barrier > 300 m	
<input type="checkbox"/>	b	The construction of any bridge or similar structure > 50 m	
<input type="checkbox"/>	c	Any development or activity that will change the character of a site:	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	i $\geq 5\,000\text{ m}^2$ in extent	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	ii Involving ≥ 3 existing erven / subdivisions	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	iii Involving ≥ 3 or more erven / divisions consolidated within past 5 years	
<input type="checkbox"/>	d	Rezoning of a site $\geq 10\,000\text{ m}^2$ in extent	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	e	Other triggers, e.g.: in terms of other legislation, (i.e.: National Environment Management Act, etc.)	MPRDA

2.2 Activities

There are no Listed Activities that will take place during the lifespan of the proposed project. The proposed development is an underground mine and there will be no infrastructure constructed on site.

NEMA activity no.	NHRA trigger	Description	Expected duration / phase
NA	NA	NA	NA

2.3 Additional Impact Assessment Process

The following impact assessment processes are currently being undertaken for the proposed project.

Legislation, e.g. NEMA, MPRDA, etc.	MPRDA
Consenting Authority that has / will receive information	Department of Environmental Affairs
Present phase of process at Authority, e.g. Draft Scoping Report	Application

3 IDENTIFIED HERITAGE RESOURCES AND POTENTIAL IMPACTS

The following categories of heritage resources as defined in Section 3 of the NHRA are known to occur within the proposed project area. For a more detailed description of the cultural landscape please refer to the attached Heritage Statement.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3(2)(a)	Places, buildings, structures and equipment of cultural significance
		<i>Description of resource:</i> Built structures possibly older than 60 years.
		<i>Potential impact:</i> Underground mining through the bord and pillar technique will not impact on built structures.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3(2)(b)	Places to which oral traditions are attached or which are associated with living heritage
		<i>Description of resource:</i> An initiation site on the farm Zondagskraal 125 IS Portion 2.
		<i>Potential impact:</i> Underground mining through the bord and pillar technique will not impact on places which are associated with living heritage such as the initiation site.
<input type="checkbox"/>	3(2)(c)	Historical settlements and townscapes
		<i>Description of resource:</i>
		<i>Potential impact:</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	3(2)(d)	Landscapes and natural features of cultural significance
		<i>Description of resource:</i>
		<i>Potential impact:</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	3(2)(e)	Geological resources of scientific or cultural importance
		<i>Description of resource:</i>
		<i>Potential impact:</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3(2)(f)	Archaeology and/or palaeontology (Including archaeological sites and material, fossils, rock art, battlefields & wrecks)
		<i>Description of resource:</i> Iron Age stone walls
		<i>Potential impact:</i> Underground mining through the bord and pillar technique will not impact on archaeological and palaeontological material located on the surface. Underground mining may result in damage to or destruction of fossil material that may exist beneath the surface.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3(2)(g)	Graves and burial grounds (e.g.: ancestral graves, graves of victims of conflict, historical graves & cemeteries)
		<i>Description of resource:</i> Burial grounds and graves
		<i>Potential impact:</i> Underground mining through the bord and pillar technique will not impact on burial grounds and graves.
<input type="checkbox"/>	3(2)(a)	Other human remains
		<i>Description of resource:</i>
		<i>Potential impact:</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	3(2)(h)	Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa
		<i>Description of resource:</i>
		<i>Potential impact:</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	3(2)(i)	Movable objects
		<i>Description of resource:</i>
		<i>Potential impact:</i>

3.1 Illustrative Material

Plan 2 on Page 8 illustrates the regional setting of the project area. Identified heritage resources in the project area are illustrated in Plan 6 on Page 9. For additional maps please refer to the attached Heritage Statement.

4 RECOMMENDATION

Is a Heritage Impact Assessment required?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<p>If NO, provide motivation: During the construction phase of the project, there will be no surface impacts as no infrastructure will be constructed on site. Underground mining through the bord and pillar technique will not impact on archaeological, palaeontological, and built environment resources and burial grounds and graves that may exist on the surface.</p> <p>It is therefore recommended that this aspect of the project be exempted from the following HIA components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Built Environment Assessment; ■ Archaeological Impact Assessment; ■ Burial Grounds and Graves Assessment; and ■ Visual Impact Assessment. <p>A monitoring programme for inclusion into the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) must be established to assess possible impacts on heritage resource by subsidence.</p> <p>Fossils can occur underground, especially in coal fields, however it is not possible to predict the buried fossil content of an area other than in general terms. Furthermore, the fossils plants associated with the underground coal seams will be poorly preserved and the most important fossil bone material is generally sparsely scattered in most deposits. It is therefore recommended that the proposed project be exempted from a Phase 1 Palaeontological Assessment.</p> <p>In the event that any heritage resources are identified, the client should adopt appropriate Chance Find Procedures that can be completed on request.</p>			
If YES, provide suggested components that may be required or undertaken during HIA.			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Archaeology	<input type="checkbox"/>	Architecture
<input type="checkbox"/>	Built Environment	<input type="checkbox"/>	Burial Grounds and Graves
<input type="checkbox"/>	Palaeontology	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Participation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Townscapes	<input type="checkbox"/>	Visual Impact
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:		
<p>Recommendation made by: Digby Wells Environmental</p> <p>Name: Shahzaadee Karodia</p> <p>Capacity: Assistant Heritage Consultant & Palaeontological Specialist</p>			

Plan 1

Plan 2: Regional setting of the project and study areas, 1:50 000

Plan 3Plan4Plan 5

Plan 6: Identified heritage resources in the project area, 1:10 000