



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 11168

Date: Wednesday November 08, 2017
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Final Comment

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

Attention: Pelham Bothma
S Bothma and Sons

Environmental Impact Management Services (Pty) Ltd (EIMS) has been appointed to apply for an Integrated Water Use Licence (IWUL) for the S. Bothma and Son Transport Sand Mine, located on the Remainder (Re) of the Farm Boschbank 12 (approximately 141 hectares), located near the town of Sasolburg in the Parys District Municipality area of the Free State Province. The co-ordinates for the centre of the S Bothma and Son Transport Sand Mine are 26°47'39.67"S and 27°47'46.55"E. This notification relates to the Integrated Water Use Licence Application (IWULA) for the S Bothma and Son Transport Sand Mine. The Applicant (S Bothma and Son Transport Sand Mine (Pty) Ltd) intends to apply to the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) for an Integrated Water Use Licence (IWUL) in accordance with Part 7 of the National Water Act (Act No. 36 of 1998)(NWA) for the following water uses: • Section 21(a): Taking water from a water resource. • Section 21(b): Storing water. This refers to the storage of clean / uncontaminated water. • Section 21(c): Impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse. • Section 21(f): Discharging waste or water containing waste into a water resource through a pipe, canal, sewer or other conduit. • Section 21(g): Disposing of waste in a manner which may detrimentally impact on a water resource. • Section 21(i): Altering the bed, banks, course or characteristics of a watercourse. An Integrated Water and Waste Management Plan (IWWMP) will be compiled as supporting documentation to the Integrated Water Use Licence Application (IWULA).

The proposed project entails an Integrated Water Use License for the S. Bothma and Son Transport Sand Mine, located on the Remainder of the Farm Boschbank 12, located near the town of Sasolburg in the Parys District Municipality, Free State Province. This will include taking water from a water resource, storage of clean / uncontaminated water, impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse, discharging waste or water containing waste into a water resource through a pipe, canal, sewer or other conduit, disposing of waste in a manner which may detrimentally impact on a water resource, and altering the bed, banks, course or characteristics of a watercourse.

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit issued a letter on 23 August 2017 requesting a phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) inclusive of a Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA) to be done. The heritage reports were submitted on 12 October 2017.

Fourie, W. 2017. Proposed Transport Sand Mining/ Integrated Water Use Licence Application on the



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Remainder Portion of the Farm Boschbank 12, near Sasolburg, Metsimaholo Local Municipality, Fezile Dabi District Municipality, Free State Province: Heritage Assessment.

Due to previous mining in the majority of the proposed area no archaeological resources were identified during a survey. No structures older than 60 years were found. The author identified a cemetery with at least 5-6 graves (Site Sas1) that was heavily disturbed by previous mining activities. It was attributed a significance of medium to high. The author recommends to barricade the cemetery site and impose a 20m buffer.

The included PIA was conducted by Ms. S. Baker. The proposed area is underlain by sediments of the Vryheid Formation (Ecca Group), which is known to contain fossil plants and insects, thickly mantled by young alluvial sediments. Impact of the proposed mining on palaeontology is considered low as it mainly impacts the young alluvial sediment. The author recommends that no further palaeontological heritage studies, ground truthing and/or specialist mitigation are required. If mining should excavate below the alluvial deposits on the property, a professional palaeontologist should survey the area and assess any potential exposure of fossil deposits from the underlying substrate. Further, if any fossil deposits are discovered during any phase of mining, the managing body responsible for mining should alert SAHRA (South African Heritage Research Agency) immediately so that appropriate mitigation (e.g. recording, sampling or collection) can be taken by a professional palaeontologist.

Final comment

The SAHRA APM Unit reviewed and accepts the HIA and PIA submitted. The following conditions as well as the ones in the heritage reports must be adhered to and must be incorporated into the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) for implementation:

1. A 30 meter buffer must be erected around the cemetery site.
2. The draft EIA with all appendices must be provided to SAHRA before any activities commence.
3. Should any objects of archaeological or palaeontological remains be found during construction activities, work must immediately stop in that area and the Environmental Control Officer (ECO) must be informed.
4. The ECO must inform the South African Heritage Recourse Agency (SAHRA) and contact an archaeologist and/or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the find, to assess the importance and rescue them if

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necessary (with the relevant SAHRA permit). No work may be resumed in this area without the permission from the ECO and SAHRA.

5. If the newly discovered heritage resource is considered significant a Phase 2 assessment may be required. A permit from the responsible heritage authority will be needed.

6. The Chance Finds Procedures must be included to ensure that standard protocols and steps are followed should any heritage and/or fossil resources be uncovered during all phases of the project. These procedures should outline the steps and reporting structure to be followed in the instance that heritage resources are found. This must be included in the Environmental Awareness Plan.

7. The final EIA and appendices must be submitted to SAHRA upon submission to DEA. Should the project be granted Environmental Authorisation, SAHRA must be notified and all relevant documents submitted to the case file.

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

Yours faithfully

Ragna Redelstorff
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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

S Bothma and Sons Water Use Licence Application

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ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/399083>

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.