Lefa Colliery Mine

Our Ref: 11559



an agency of the Department of Arts and Culture

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Interim Comment

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

Attention: Ergosat Pty Ltd

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) FOR A MINING RIGHT ON VARIOUS PROPERTIES TO BE KNOWN AS LEFA COLLIERY SITUATED IN THE MAGISTERAL DISTRICT OF SASOLBURG IN THE FREE STATE PROVINCE. REF NO: FS 30/5/1/2/3/2/1 (10033) EM

The proposed project entails underground mining of coal over various farms and farm portions situated 15km south of Vereeniging, 15km east of Sasolburg and around 10 km south east of Deneysville, Free State Province. Infrastructure will include but is not limited to Waste rock dumps, Power lines, access roads and weigh bridges, silos, crush and screen plants, ventilation shafts, offices, dams, workshops, ROM stockpiles, parking, truck loading areas, sewage treatment plant, a filling station and a substation. A Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) was submitted with the application.

Marais-Botes, L. March 2017. Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) for the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Water Use License Application Process for a Mining Right on an Existing Prospecting Right Ref. Fs 30/5/1/1/2/10158 PR to be known as Lefa Colliery.

Marked and unmarked graves as well as various structures older than 60 years are situated within the study area, however not in the area marked for infrastructure.

Recommendations:

- If any structures older than 60 years are in future earmarked for demolition a Section 34 application in terms of Act 25 of 1999 (National Heritage Resources Act) must be submitted to the relevant heritage authority.

- It is recommended that the graves situated on the site earmarked for the proposed planned development are conserved *in situ*. If the proposed outlay for the planned infrastructure cannot be altered the necessary processes and procedures with regard to exhumation and relocation of graves must be followed.

- The discovery of subsurface archaeological and/or historical material as well as graves must be taken into account in the Environmental Management Programme.

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Interim comment

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit does not accept the submitted HIA. It must be amended to comply with section 38(3) of the NHRA (No 25 of 1999) and the Minimum Standards for the archaeological component of HIAs and include the following:

- map indicating the location of the identified heritage resources and track log of the field survey;

- list of coordinates of identified heritage resources;
- assessment of the impact of the development on the heritage resources;
- description and grading of the identified heritage resources;
- signed declaration of independence
- CV of the author.

As the majority of the area is underlain by rocks of very high palaeontological sensitivity, a field-based Palaeontological Impact Assessment must be conducted by a qualified palaeontologist and submitted to SAHRA. The PIA should also be incorporated in the HIA.

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

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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

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: http://www.sahra.org.za/node/407257 (DMR, Ref: REF NO: FS 30/5/1/2/3/2/1 (10033) EM)

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.