Rehabilitation of the Jagersfontein pit through backfilling

Our Ref: 12155



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# **Interim Comment**

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

Attention: Jagersfontein Developments (Pty) Ltd

1 President Street Jagersfontein 9974

The proposed project entails the rehabilitation of the historically mined Pit at the Jagersfontein tailings operation. Rehabilitation will be done by the infilling of the Pit with coarse and fine tailings from the processing plant at the tailings operation. Material will be transported via conveyor (coarse tailings) and pipe (fine tailings suspended in water). This activity will occur at the Jagersfontein diamond extraction tailings operation located in Jagersfontein, Fauresmith RD, Kopanong Local Municilapity in the Free State Province.

The proposed project entails rehabilitation of the pit on portion 15 of the farm Jagersfontein 14, situated in Fauriesmith District, Free State Province. Activities include infilling to a depth of approximately 60m from the top with fine and coarse tailings and sand from the diamond extraction processing plant in Fauresmith Rd, Xhariep District Municipality, Free State Province. A draft Environmental Scoping Report (dESR) was submitted to the application.

The Pit is the oldest and largest hand-dug pit in the world and is associated with historic diamond mining operations. It is noted in the dESR that the SAHRA and FSHRA have confirmed that they do not have the capacity to manage the Pit or Jagersfontein Town. It is also noted in the dESR that an Heritage Impact Assessment will be undertaken by a specialist to determine the historical value of the Pit and all findings will be communicated to SAHRA and the FSHRA.

## Interim comment

The SAHRA Archaeology, palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit awaits the HIA to be conducted and submitted to SAHRA, as noted in the DESR, before issuing a final comment. Please note that for Built Environment-related heritage, Ms. Loudine Philip from Heritage Free State (HFS) must be contacted for comments: <u>loudine.philip@nasmus.co.za</u>.

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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

### ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: http://www.sahra.org.za/node/488103 (DETEA, Ref: )

#### 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.