

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
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Enquiries: Ragna Redelstorff
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CaseID: 12530

Date: Thursday March 14, 2019
Page No: 1

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

Application for Environmental Authorisation for a prospecting right on the Remainder, Portion 1 and Portion 16 of the farm Jagersfontein 14, Fauresmith District, Free State

The application entails a prospecting right for diamonds by Jagersfontein Developments (Pty) Ltd on the Remainder, Portion 1 and Portion 16 of the Farm Jagersfontein 14 IS, Fauriesmith District, Xhariep District Municipality, Free State. Invasive activities include drilling and sampling, followed by bulk sampling. A Scoping Report, draft EIA and EMP, and Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) were submitted with the application: Phillip, L. 2009. Phase I Impact Assessment of the Dormant Jagersfontein Mine (Free State) in terms of Archaeological and other Heritage Sites. In an interim comment dated 28 September 2018, SAHRA rejected the HIA and required a full, valid HIA inclusive of a desktop Palaeontological Impact Assessment to be conducted by suitable a professional heritage practitioner, respectively. A final EIA and EMP was submitted on 12 October 2018 without referring to the SAHRA comment and without providing the requested HIA and PIA, which is why SAHRA recommended in a final comment from 1/11/2018 to refuse the proposed activities. Subsequently, the applicant submitted a HIA and amended draft EIA and EMP to the application.

GAIGHER, S. 2019. PHASE 1 HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT – DESKTOP AND FIELD-BASED HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROSPECTING RIGHTS APPLICATION FOR PORTION 1 AND 16 OF THE FARM JAGERSFONTEIN 14, GHARIEP DISTRICT, FREE STATE PROVINCE.

Area A (P2): No heritage resources were encountered.

Area B (P1): Site 1: historic stone-walled enclosed area: to be preserved.

Area C (P4): No heritage resources were encountered.

Area D (P3): Isolated non-diagnostic stone chips and possible cores. Excavations to be monitored.

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Recommendations:

Several other sites of significance were identified within the larger prospecting rights application area and these should be mitigated as per the recommendations included.

Should the client decide to alter the size or location of any of the prospecting core areas (P1 – P4) the new areas should be subjected to a field based HIA before any work can commence.

A previous PIA of the area indicated that there is negligible possibility of finding any palaeontological deposits within the area (Rossouw, 2013).

In an interim comment from 14/3/2019, the referenced PIA by Rossouw (2013) was requested to be submitted and was uploaded subsequently.

ROSSOUW, L. 2013. EXEMPTION OF A PHASE 1 PALAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR A PROPOSED PIPELINE ON SUBDIVISION 16 & REMAIN EXTENT OF THE FARM JAGERSFONTEIN NO. 14, KOPANONG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, FREE STATE PROVINCE.

The author recommended an exemption from further palaeontological studies for a pipeline installation in a section in the SE corner of the proposed area.

The underlying geology consists of shales of the Tierberg Formation (Ecca Group, Karoo Supergroup) that may contain fossils such as fish scales, sponge spicules and, quite commonly, trace fossils. They are mantled by Quaternary-aged channel fills and sheet-wash deposits, including unconsolidated wind-blown sands and limited alluvium from the nearby Prosserspruit. Overbank deposits and alluvial terraces of large river courses such as the nearby Riet River have previously yielded numerous Quaternary vertebrate fossil remains.

Interim comment

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit cannot accept the Letter of Exemption (Rossouw, 2013) as it speaks to a different, less invasive activity than the drilling, sampling, and bulk sampling

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proposed for this project. The proposed activities are likely to have a larger impact than the installation of a pipeline. Therefore, the SAHRA APM Unit requests a desktop PIA to be conducted by a professional palaeontologist and submitted to the application.

SAHRA APM will issue a comment on this application when the requested desktop PIA was submitted.

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/504850>
(, Ref: FS30/5/1/1/2/10505PR)

[Terms & Conditions:](#)

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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.