Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Cultur

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001 www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Ragna Redelstorff Date: Tuesday April 16, 2019

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## **Final Comment**

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

Attention: Mosito Mining (Pty) Ltd

Email: rredelstorff@sahra.org.za

65 Boshof Road Kimberley, 8301

Small scale mining operations for diamonds (alluvial and Kimberlite) on a certain piece of land on the farm Du Toitspan 119, District of Boshoff, Free State Province.

Mosito Mining (Pty) Ltd proposes small scale mining operations for diamonds (alluvial and kimberlite) on a certain piece of land on the Remainder of the farm Dutoitspan 119 (now Rooifontein 1722; see locality plan for details), District of Boshoff, Free State Province.

Two Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA) and an Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) were submitted with to the application:

FOURIE, H. 2017. PROSPECTING RIGHT APPLICATION OF DIAMOND ALLUVIAL, DIAMOND GENERAL AND DIAMOND KIMBERLITE NEAR KIMBERLEY ON A PORTION OF THE FARM ROOIFONTEIN 1722 (PREVIOUSLY KNOWN AS A PORTION OF THE FARM DUTOITSPAN 119.

It must be noted that this PIA is for prospecting activities. The proposed area is underlain by Quaternary deposits as well as the Prince Albert Formation. The impact on the palaeontological heritage is high for the Quaternary deposits and Prince Albert Formation but low for kimberlites. A Chance Finds Protocol was included.

DURAND, JF. 2018. PALAEONTOLOGICAL DESK TOP STUDY FOR PROPOSED SMALL SCALE MINING OPERATIONS FOR DIAMONDS (ALLUVIAL AND KIMBERLITE) ON THE FARM DUTOITSPAN 119, DISTRICT OF BOSHOFF, FREE STATE.

The proposed area is underlain mainly by Karoo age sedimentary rock (Prince Albert Formation, Ecca Group) and by Quaternary sediments in the southern half. The latter consist mostly of calcrete, calcified pandune and surface limestone. Both the Prince Albert Formation and the Quaternary sediments are potentially fossiliferous. The proximity thermal metamorphism could have destroyed the Karoo-age fossils to a large

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degree; however, there is a slight probability of finding mammal, bird or reptile bones, mollusc shells and ostrich egg fragments in the alluvium, soils and gravels constituting the Quaternary to Recent deposits.

#### Recommendations:

Email: rredelstorff@sahra.org.za

The ECO should take responsibility of monitoring the excavations. If a significant find is made the procedure stipulated under Procedure for Chance Palaeontological Finds, appended to the PIA, must be followed.

ROSSOUW, L. PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR A MINING PERMIT APPLICATION ON THE REMAINDER OF THE FARM DUTOITSPAN 119 (NOW ROOIFONTEIN 1722), BOSHOF DISTRICT, FS PROVINCE.

The author of the AIA advises against further mining as the proposed area is located within a historically significant landscape central to the Kimberley Diamond Rush of the 1870's. The area is unique in terms of Diamond Fields history and therefore a focus of cross-frontier social and political interactions ranging from diamond trading (legal and illicit), to conflict including the South African War.

It must be noted that an appeal had been lodged against this application under FS 30/5/1/3/2/10201 MP and FS 30/5/1/3/2/10182 MP. In an appeal response, SAHRA was asked by the Regional manager: Mineral Regulation to issue a final comment so that the Department of Mineral resources will be able make an informed decision on this application.

### **Final comment**

As the proposed area was identified as part of a highly significant heritage landscape, the SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit endorses the recommendation of the author of the AIA that further mining or mining related activities at Rooifontein 1722 [previously Dutoitspan 119] are not advised.

SAHRA therefore advises the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) and the Department of Mineral Resources (DMR) to reject the application for mining operations on the Remainder of the Farm Dutoitspan 119 (now Rooifontein 1722), District of Boshoff, Free State Province [FS 30/5/1/3/2/10201 MP].

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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/505270

(, Ref: FS 30/5/1/3/2/10201 MP)

# 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.