

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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
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Enquiries: Ragna Redelstorff
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CaseID: 14551

Date: Wednesday December 18, 2019
Page No: 1

Interim Comment

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

Attention: THABA NCHU MASON STONE MANUFACTURES (PTY) LTD

THABA NCHU MASON STONE MANUFACTURES (PTY) LTD proposes to establish a small-scale sandstone mining operation. The total development area will be approximately 4.9 hectares, and will have a lifespan of 2 years. The process will include the excavation or removal of sand from the demarcated land. The sand will be stored in stockpiles within the 4.9-hectare area. The excavated sand will be transported using a Truck Load Backhoe (TLB) to the camp site, located within the 4.9 hectares. Thaba Nchu, Free State

The proposed project entails the establishment of a sand mining operation extending over a total area of approximately 4.9 hectares, situated within Thaba Nchu Municipality, Free State Province. Invasive activities include the excavation and removal of sand. A Basic Assessment Report and Environmental Management Programme Report were submitted with the application.

In terms of the National Heritage Resources Act, no 25 of 1999, heritage resources, including archaeological or palaeontological sites over 100 years old, graves older than 60 years, structures older than 60 years are protected. They may not be disturbed without a permit from the relevant heritage resources authority. This means that prior to any invasive activities it is incumbent on the developer to ensure that a **phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment** is done by a heritage specialist.

The Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment Report will identify the archaeological sites and assess their significance. Any other heritage resources that may be impacted such as built structures over 60 years old, sites of cultural significance associated with oral histories, burial grounds and graves, graves of victims of conflict, and cultural landscapes or viewsapes must also be assessed.

The PalaeoSensitivity Map on SAHRIS (<http://www.sahra.org.za/sahris/map/palaeo>) indicates very high palaeontological sensitivity in the proposed area. Therefore, the SAHRA APM Unit requires a **field-based Palaeontological Impact Assessment**, conducted by a qualified palaeontologist, to be submitted to the application.

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

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Yours faithfully

Ragna Redelstorff
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/530871>
(, 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.