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 www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Elijah Dumisani Katsetse

Tel: 0214624502

Email: ekatsetse@sahra.org.za

CaseID: 15679

Date: Thursday November 12, 2020

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Final Comment

In terms of Section 38(4), 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Fuller Developments Pty Ltd

Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed establishment of a mixed use development (8.4232ha) with associated services on land previously used for Agricultural purposes on Portion 51 of the Farm Vyfhoek 428-IQ, Potchefstroom, North West Province.

AB Enviro Consult CC has been appointed by Fuller Development Pty (Ltd) to conduct a Basic Assessment for an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed mixed-use establishment on portion 51 of the farm Vyfhoek, Potchefsftroom, North West Province.

A draft Scoping Report has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, no 107 of 1998 (NEMA) and the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The proposed development is a mixed-use establishment with associated services and will cover an estimated area of about 8, 423ha.

AB Enviro Consult and APelser Archaeological Consultanting have been appointed to provide heritage specialist input as part of the EIA process as required by section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(3) and 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

Pelser, A. 2020. Phase 1 HIA report for a proposed township development on portion 51 of the farm Vyfhoek 428IQ Potchesftstroom, North West Province.

The report has not identified any finds of cultural and/or heritage nature and has thus recommended that the development be allowed to continue. A Chance Finds Procedure is recommended to be implemented.

In an Interim Comment issued on the 02/11/2020, SAHRA requested that an assessment pertaining to the possible impacts of the proposed development to palaeontology be submitted for comment.

Since the issuing of the Interim Comment, a PIA has been provided by AB Enviro Consult.

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Fourie, H. 2020. Palaeontological Impact Assessment: Deststop Study- Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed establishment of a mixed used development (8. 432 ha) with associated services on land previously used for agricultural purposes on portion 51 of the Farm Vyfhoek 428-IQ, Potchefstroom, North West Province.

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The proposed footprint is underlain by potentially fossiliferous rocks of the Silverton Formation (Pretoria Group) and may contain stromatolites as well as Quaternary deposits that may contain fossil remains such as mammalian bones and teeth, tortoise remains, ostrich eggshells, non-marine mollusc shells, ostracods, diatoms, and other micro fossil groups, trace fossils (e.g. calcretised termitaria, rhizoliths, burrows, vertebrate tracks), freshwater stromatolites, plant material such as peats, foliage, wood, pollens, within calc tufa. For a chance fossil find, the protocol is attached:

- 1. Mitigation may be needed (appendix 2) if fossils are found.
- 2. No consultation with parties was necessary. The Environmental Control Officer must familiarise him or herself with formation and its fossil.
- 3. The development may go ahead, but the ECO must survey for fossils before and or after clearing, blasting, drilling or excavating.
- 4. The EMPr already covers the conservation of heritage and palaeontological material that may be exposed during construction activities. For a chance find, the protocol is to immediately cease all construction activities, construct a 30 m no-go barrier, and contact SAHRA for further investigation.

Final Comment

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit has no objections to the proposed development and supports the recommendations of the specialists.. The recommendations of the specialist's reports discussed above, and the following conditions must be incorporated into the EMPr:

- Construction and operations that include but are not limited to clearing, blasting, drilling and/or excavation within the Silverton Formation must be monitored by a qualified palaeontologist. A report detailing the results of the monitoring must be submitted to SAHRA upon completion;
- The Final BAR and EMPr must be submitted to SAHRA for record purposes;
- If any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g. remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments, charcoal and ash concentrations), fossils or other categories of heritage resources are found during the proposed development, SAHRA APM

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Unit (Elijah Katsetse/Phillip Hine 021 462 5402) must be alerted. If unmarked human burials are uncovered, the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit (Thingahangwi Tshivhase/Mimi Seetelo 012 320 8490), must be alerted immediately. A professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the findings. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required subject to permits issued by SAHRA;

• Should the project be granted Environmental Authorisation, SAHRA must be notified and all relevant documents submitted to the case file.

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

Yours faithfully

Elijah Dumisani Katsetse

Heritage Officer

South African Heritage Resources Agency

Phillip Hine

Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit

South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: http://www.sahra.org.za/node/543224

(DEDECT, Ref: NWP/EIA/35/2020)

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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.