

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
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CaseID: 21871

Date: Thursday July 20, 2023
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Interim Comment

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

Attention: Northam Platinum Limited

Northam Platinum Limited, has submitted an application for an environmental authorisation under NEMA to the DMRE to prospect for Iron, Vanadium, Titanium and related metals over the Remaining Extent (RE) of Portion 1 of the Farm Kopje Alleen 422 KQ situated in the in the Thabazimbi Local Municipality of Limpopo Province.

uKhozi Environmentalists (Pty) Ltd in association with JEMS (Pty) Ltd was appointed by Northam Platinum Limited to facilitate the Prospecting Right and Environmental Authorisation application process, has submitted an application for an environmental authorisation under NEMA to the DMRE to prospect for Iron, Vanadium, Titanium and related metals over the Remaining Extent (RE) of Portion 1 of the Farm Kopje Alleen 422 KQ situated in the in the Thabazimbi Local Municipality of Limpopo Province (DMRE LP30/5/1/1/2/14909 PR).

A Draft Basic Assessment (DBAR) has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) and the EIA Regulations for activities that trigger the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (MPRDA)(as amended). The proposed prospecting activities will include a desktop study, collation of existing data and project planning, surface geological mapping, geochemical sampling, geophysical sampling and analysis, borehole drilling and sampling (two boreholes), trenching and sampling, and ultimately (three trenches) modelling/ore resource estimation.

The DBAR references previous assessment of the impacts to heritage resources for other development applications on the same property, however, no application specific assessment of the impact to heritage resources has been submitted that complies with section 38(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

Interim Comment

The SAHRA Development Applications Unit (DAU) requests that an application specific assessment of the impact to heritage resources must be undertaken as part of the EA process that complies with section 38(3) of the NHRA as required by section 38(8) of the NHRA. The HIA must include an archaeological component.

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The field-based archaeological component of the HIA must be conducted by a qualified archaeologist and must comply with the SAHRA 2007 Minimum Standards: Archaeological and Palaeontological Components of Impact Assessment Reports (see www.asapa.co.za or www.aphp.org.za for a list of qualified archaeologists).

The proposed development is located within an area of insignificant Palaeontological Sensitivity as per the SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity map. As such, no further assessment of the impact to Palaeontological resources is required.

Any other heritage resources as defined in section 3 of the NHRA 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 applicant is advised to extend the EA process in terms of section 19(1)b of NEMA in order to address this comment. Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the above requested report and a revised DBAR that incorporates the results of the HIA.

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

Yours faithfully

Annlin Matabane
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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Natasha Higgitt
Manager: Development Applications Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/620645>
(DMR, Ref: LP30/5/1/1/2/14909PR)