

## Letter

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

Attention: C.J. Terblanche Beleggings (Pty) Ltd.

#### Open caste mining and crushing operation

Thank you for your application for mining (including clearing of access roads, stripping of topsoil up to 5m vertical and 20 x 10 m horizontal extent, topsoil storage sites) in an existing quarry on the farm Woodlands 407, Parys District, Free State Province.

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 development it is incumbent on the developer to ensure that a **Heritage Impact Assessment** is done. This must include the archaeological component (Phase 1) and any other applicable heritage components. Appropriate (Phase 2) mitigation, which involves recording, sampling and dating sites that are to be destroyed, must be done as required.

The quickest process to follow for the archaeological component is to contract an accredited specialist (see the web site of the Association of Southern African Professional Archaeologists [www.asapa.org.za](http://www.asapa.org.za)) to provide a Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment Report. This must be done before any large development takes place.

The Phase 1 Impact Assessment Report will identify the archaeological sites and assess their significance. It should also make recommendations (as indicated in section 38) about the process to be followed. For example, there may need to be a mitigation phase (Phase 2) where the specialist will collect or excavate material and date the site. At the end of the process the heritage authority may give permission for destruction of the sites.

Potentially fossiliferous sediments of the Madzaringwe and Volksrust Formations (Karoo Supergroup) as well as Transvaal, Ventersdorp and Witwatersrand Supergroups occur in the proposed area. Furthermore, the PalaeoSensitivity Map on SAHRIS (<http://www.sahra.org.za/sahris/map/palaeo>) indicates the proposed area as of moderate and very high (southwest) palaeontological sensitivity. Therefore, a **field-based Palaeontological Impact Assessment** for the proposed area, conducted by a professional palaeontologist within the last five years, should be submitted to SAHRA.

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.



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  
SAHRA Head Archaeologist (Acting)  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

**ADMIN:**

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/342684>  
(, Ref: FS30/5/1/3/2/10140MP)

**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.

