

Our Ref: 9082



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Nokukhanya Khumalo
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CaseID: 9082

Date: Friday March 11, 2016
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Response to NID (Notification of Intent to Develop)

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

Attention: SLR Consulting (Africa)
P O Box 1596
Cramerview, 2060, South Africa

Siyanda Chrome Smelting Company (Pty) Ltd SCSC is proposing to construct a new ferrochrome (FeCr) smelter on portion 3 of the farm Grootkuil 409 KO located adjacent to the existing Union Section Mine approximately 5 km north-west of Northam in the Thabazimbi Local Municipality, Limpopo 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, and structures older than 60 years are protected. They may not be disturbed without a permit from the relevant heritage resources authority. This means that before such sites are disturbed by development it is incumbent on the developer (or mine) to ensure that a **Heritage Impact Assessment** is done. This must include the archaeological component (Phase 1) 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.

In your application received by SAHRA there was no indication of any assessment of heritage resources, nor has there been any additional information uploaded to the case. SAHRA cannot comment on a proposed development when no clear project description is submitted to SAHRA on SAHRIS as such the following assessments need to be commissioned by the developer:

A Phase 1 Impact Assessment Report to identify any 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. If the property is very small or disturbed and there is no significant site the specialist may choose to send a letter to the heritage authority to indicate that there is no necessity for any further assessment. The quickest process to follow for the archaeological component would be to contract a specialist (see www.asapa.org.za) to provide a Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment Report.

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Where bedrock is to be affected, or where there are coastal sediments, or marine or river terraces and in potentially fossiliferous superficial deposits, a Palaeontological Impact Assessment must be undertaken by a palaeontologist to assess whether or not the development will impact upon palaeontological resources - or at least a letter of exemption to indicate that this is unnecessary. If the area is deemed sensitive, a field assessment will be required. If you are unaware of a professional Palaeontologist please see www.palaeontologicalsociety.co.za.

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.

SAHRA will comment further once these reports are submitted to this case along with any other environmental reports if this application is made through section 38(8) of the NHRA (Act 25 of 1999).

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

Yours faithfully

Nokukhanya Khumalo
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/356138>

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(LDEDET, Ref:) (DEA, 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.