Our Ref: 9870



an agency of the Department of Arts and Culture

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Enquiries: Ragna Redelstorff Date: Thursday January 18, 2018

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CaseID: 9870

Page No: 1

## **Final Comment**

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

Attention: Wheatfields Investments 168 (Pty) Ltd

PO Box 110447 Hadison Park Kimberley, 8306

# Small scale mining operations for diamonds (alluvial and kimberlite) on a certain piece of land on Rooifontein 1722, District of Boshoff, Free State Province

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit has received a number of applications related to prospecting and mining on the farm Rooifontein 1722 (previously known as a Portion of the farm Dutoitspan 119), Tokologo Local Municipality, Lejweleputswa District Municipality in the western Free State Province (SAHRA CaseIDs 8497, 9870, 9871, 11148 and 11717). The requested PIA as per the previous comment from 23 March 2017 is not necessary as this aspect has been assessed in one of the above referenced applications, which pertain to the same activities.

The Heritage Impact Assessments submitted for these applications indicate significant archaeological and historical resources in the proposed area and recommended i) no mining, ii) extensive mitigation, and/or iii) creating large buffer zones. SAHRA submitted the latter two assessments for external peer review, the outcome of which reinforced and broadened the importance of the proposed development area as constituting a significant heritage landscape.

### **Final comment**

Based on the prominent provincial significance of the archaeological and historical heritage present in the study area, SAHRA deems it to be a significant and conservation-worthy cultural heritage landscape. Therefore, the SAHRA APM Unit does not support any prospecting or mining activities on the farm Rooifontein 1722 (previously known as a Portion of the farm Dutoitspan 119), Free State Province.

As per sec 38(8) the Competent Authority must take SAHRA's comment into consideration during the decision making process. SAHRA's comments must be sent directly to the Competent Authority and proof of such

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must be provided to SAHRA.

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

Acting Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit

South African Heritage Resources Agency

#### ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: http://www.sahra.org.za/node/367345

(, Ref: FS 30/5/1/3/2/10181 MP)

#### 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.