

Final Comment

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

Attention: Sedex Minerals (Pty) Ltd

P.O. Box 8399,

Foreshore,

Cape Town

8000

Proposed upgrade of provincial roads OP09810 and OP09811 and associated infrastructure from the national route N7 via Stofkraal and construction of a new private road and associated infrastructure to the proposed Zandkopsdrift Mine, Northern Cape Province

Kruger, N., June 2014. SEDEX MINERALS: ZANDKOPSDRIFT RARE EARTH MINE - ROAD UPGRADE, GARIES AREA, NORTHERN & WESTERN CAPE PROVINCES

Africa Geo-Environmental Services Gauteng (Pty) Ltd is undertaking a Basic Assessment Report Report on behalf of Sedex Minerals (Pty) Ltd for the upgrade of the provincial roads OP09810 from the N7 to OP09811 for 10.7km and 2.5km from the OP09811 to the private road to be constructed from Stofkraal to the proposed Zandkopsdrift Mine near Garies (6.79km). Two alternatives are proposed for the last section of the road which connects to the mine on Farm Zandkopsdrift 375.

Existing storm water structures will need upgrade and new concrete pipes, box culverts, berms and mitre drains will also be established.

The project crosses over the Northern Cape and the Western Cape. Since SAHRA is the commenting authority for the Northern Cape, comments on the heritage of this project will be limited to the Northern Cape section. Any comments on the Western Cape section of the development must be sought from Heritage Western Cape.

Mr Kruger undertook a foot survey of the proposed route and identified Stone Age material on Farm Zandkopsdrift 375. The material is mostly on quartzite and it includes mostly Middle Stone Age material with some Later Stone Age evidence. While the author explains that the material is significant, the description of the site is quite minimal. Similar Stone Age material on Farm Zandkopsdrift, however, was subject to an extensive and complete Phase 2 archaeological impact assessment in 2012 by Dr van der Ryst and Dr Kusel. As such, SAHRA agrees with Mr Kruger that the area has been adequately assessed and no further study is required.

A palaeontological impact assessment for this specific project was not undertaken, however previous studies

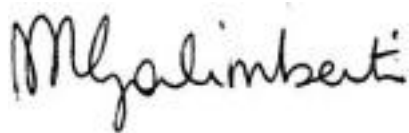
undertaken on the farm by Dr Almond confirmed that the Namaqua-Natal basement rocks are of low palaeontological significance and it is not expected that any significant fossils are present in this formation.

SAHRA has no objections to this development and supports both Alternative 1 and Alternative 2 on Farm Zandkopsdrift 375, provided that the following recommendations are implemented:

- Since Site SA01 will be disturbed during construction, SAHRA requires that the archaeologist creates the site on the South African Heritage Resources Information System as Site. The information required is: extent of the site mapped in details, density of the material, type of raw material used, type of artefacts identified and chronological attribution. Images of the site should also be uploaded. Please note that, while some of this information is already included in the report, the storing of this on the system, with the addition of a more detailed description of the site, will allow for it to be permanently recorded.
- If any new evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g., remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments and charcoal/ash concentrations), unmarked human burials, fossils or other categories of heritage resources are found during the proposed activities, SAHRA APM Unit (Colette Scheermeyer 021 462 4502) must be alerted immediately, and a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contacted as soon as possible to inspect the newly discovered heritage resources. If these prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation might be necessary.

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

Yours faithfully



Mariagrazia Galimberti
Heritage Officer: Archaeology
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Zandkopsdrift Access Road

Our Ref: 9/2/066/0001

Enquiries: Mariagrazia Galimberti
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CaseID: 5915

Date: Tuesday August 12, 2014

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an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

Colette Scheermeyer
SAHRA Head Archaeologist
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/167755>
(DEA, Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/1/940)

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.



The South African Heritage Resources Agency

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