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CaseID: 10029

Date: Wednesday September 21, 2016
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Interim Comment

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

Attention: Akani Properties

The Basic Assessment will provide information about the proposed Autumn Leaf Mall, hotel and conference centre and distribution centre (phase 1), and its scope is restricted to this component of the project. The proposed project (study site) is located approximately 2km east of the Zeerust CBD, and is situated within the Ramotshere Moiloa Local Municipality, North West Province. The proposed project is located on Portion 24 (a Portion of Portion 5) of the farm HAZIA 240 JP. The Surveyor-general 21 digit site (erf/farm/portion) reference number is T0JP0000000024000024.

Setala Environmental was appointed by Akani Properties (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation Application for the proposed Autumn Leaf Shopping Centre on Portion 24 (a Portion of Portion 5) of the farm HAZIA 240 JP, approximately 2km east of the Zeerust CBD, and is situated within the Ramotshere Moiloa Local Municipality, North West Province. A Basic Assessment Report (BAR) has been completed in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998(Act 107 of 1998) (NEMA) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014. The proposed development will include the construction of a shopping centre 40 317m² in size with 1618 parking bays, three Drive Thru's, a Taxi Rank and ablution facilities, a 4 891m² hotel with 28 rooms, and associated infrastructure such as access roads, water, sewer, storm water reticulation and electricity.

A Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) was submitted as part of the application to SAHRA that will form part of the BAR. The HIA was written by Integrated Specialist Services (Pty) Ltd.

Mlilo, T. 2016. Phase 1 Archaeological/Heritage Impact Assessment Report for the Proposed Autumn Leaf Shopping Centre at Zeerust in Ramotshere Moiloa Local Municipality of North West Province.

No heritage resources were identified within the proposed project area; however a historical pioneer burial site is located 1.3 km to the east. The project area appears to have been the site of a brick making facility. Recommendations provided as part of the report include but are not limited to the following:

- The Project Public Participation Process should ensure that any cultural heritage related matters for this project are given due attention whenever they arise and are communicated to the Provincial

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Department of Arts and Culture

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Heritage Resources Authority (PHRA) throughout the proposed project development. This form of extended community involvement would pre-empt any potential disruptions that may arise from previously unknown cultural heritage matter that may have escaped the attention of this study;

- Location of the Shopping Centre should be restricted to minimum footprint impact especially where such infrastructure fall within bushy area. Some bushy sections have local ethno-botany significance as sources of traditional herbs and medicines. As such, disruption and vegetation clearance should be minimal;
- Preserved bushveld area should be protected for ethnobotany significance. As such this development should avoid excessive vegetation clearance during the development;
- The footprint of the proposed Shopping Centre and associated infrastructure development should be kept to minimal to limit the possibility of encountering chance finds within the servitude;
- In situations where unpredicted impacts occur (such as accidentally disturbing a previously unknown grave), construction activities should be stopped and the heritage authority should be notified immediately. In the unlikely event of chance archaeological material or previously unknown human remains being disturbed during subsurface construction, the finds should be left in situ subject to further instruction from the project archaeologist or heritage authorities (refer to Appendixes 1-4 in the AIA for additional details). The overriding objective, where remedial action is warranted, is to minimize disruption in construction scheduling while recovering archaeological and any affected cultural heritage data as stipulated by the PHRA and NHRA regulations.

Interim Comment

As the proposed project area is located in an area of moderate palaeontological sensitivity, the SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit requests that a Desktop Palaeontological Assessment be conducted for the proposed development. The Desktop Palaeontological Assessment must be submitted to SAHRA before further comments may be issued.

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

Yours faithfully

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South African Heritage Resources Agency

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South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/368562>