

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 10029

Date: Thursday November 03, 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.

In an Interim Comment issued on the 21/09/2016, SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit requested that a Palaeontological Desktop Study be conducted for the project as it is located in an area of moderate palaeontological sensitivity. Dr H Fourie was appointed to conduct the Palaeontological Desktop Study for the project.

Fourie, H. 2016. Palaeontological Impact Assessment Desktop Study: Autumn Leaf Shopping Mall Project

The proposed development is underlain by the Time Ball Hill Formation of the Pretoria Group, Transvaal Supergroup and the intrusive diabase. The Time Ball Hill formation is highly sensitive (as it usually contains stromatolites) for palaeontological heritage and the impact of the development on fossil heritage is high.

Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

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- The impact on the development on fossil heritage is high and therefore a field survey or further mitigation or conservation measures may be necessary for this development. A Phase 1 Palaeontological Impact Assessment and or mitigation may be recommended;
- The overburden and inter-burden must always be surveyed for fossils;
- Special case must be taken during digging, drilling, blasting and excavation of foundations, trenches, channels and footings and removal of overburden not to intrude fossiliferous layers; and
- If any palaeontological material is exposed during digging, drilling, blasting and excavation, SAHRA must be notified. All construction activities must be stopped and a palaeontologist should be called in to determine proper mitigation measures.

Interim Comment

SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit requests clarity from the specialist as to whether a Phase 1 Palaeontological Impact Assessment inclusive of a field survey must be completed for the development or not. The recommendations in the report are not clear enough for an informed comment to be issued for the development.

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

Yours faithfully

Natasha Higgitt
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

John Gribble

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Manager: Maritime and Underwater Cultural Heritage Unit / Acting Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

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