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CaseID: 10395

Date: Monday December 12, 2016

Page No: 1

Interim Comment

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

Attention: Mr Neels Kruger

Exigo Sustainability

Eulophia Corner Building 1

38 Gen. Van Reyneveld St

Persequor Park

Pretoria

0020

ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (AIA) ON THE FARM MAANDAGSHOEK 254 KT FOR THE PROPOSED SMOKEY HILLS OPENCAST MINING PROJECT AND STORM WATER CONTROL DAMS, STEELPOORT AREA, GREATER TUBATSE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

Exigo (Pty) Ltd and EOH Company has been appointed by Phokathaba Platinum (Pty) Ltd to draw up a Scoping Report for the planned extension of mining activities on the farm Maandagshoek 254 KT and a Heritage Impact Assessment report by the in house archaeologist, in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 107 of 1998 (NEMA) and the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) 2014 Regulations. The mine known as Smokey Hills is proposing to re-establish an opencast pit to mine out the eastern limb of the UG2 Platinum Group Reef of the Bushveld Complex which is close to the surface, as well as construct a Pollution Control Dam that will have a capacity of 25 000m³ including 2 storm water management which will be 1.1ha and 1.3ha. The extent of the project area is proposed as 19ha within 500m of a village. It will be located in the Greater Tubatse Local Municipality of the Limpopo Province.

Kruger, N. Archaeology Impact Assessment, Exigo Sustainability: Proposed Smokey Hills Opencast Mining Project and Storm Water Control Dams, Steelpoort Area, Greater Tubatse Local Municipality, Limpopo Province.

A heritage field assessment was conducted within the proposed project area and two features of cultural significance were identified around Hill 3 (Exigo-SHP-FT01 and Exigo-SHP-FT02). FT01 consists of ashy soil with surface occurrences of recent scrap metals and it is listed as being of low significance the author recommends monitoring by the ECO during mining operations so the site is not destroyed. FT02 is a rectangular stone structure which the function and age was not identifiable. The report recommends oral history stakeholder engagement and non-intrusive ground-penetrating radar should be commissioned by the

**AIA FOR THE PROPOSED SMOKEY HILLS OPENCAST MINING PROJECT AND
STORM WATER CONTROL DAMS, STEELPOORT AREA, LIMPOPO PROVINCE**

Our Ref: 10395



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 10395

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Page No: 2

developer in order to identify the function and provenience of the feature. If the site proves to be very significant then it will have to be mitigated by an archaeologist.

A previous HIA was conducted in 2006 which identified various sites which have been mitigated with a section 35 permit and a destruction permit. Graves were also re-located following the graves relocation process.

Interim Comment

SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit agrees with the recommendations set in the HIA report as follows:

The area is known for having significant heritage resources, as it close to the Sekhukhune Cultural Landscape which is a declared Provincial Heritage Site SAHRA supports the recommendation for ground-penetrating radar and awaits the results of the of a report before construction begins on site.

SAHRA will only issue Final Comment once the report is submitted to the case.

However the area has low to insignificant potential for fossiliferous rocks therefore SAHRA exempts the developer from commissioning a Palaeontological Impact Assessment.

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

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Page No: 3

John Gribble

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/375481>