



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 10395

Date: Thursday September 07, 2017

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Letter

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

Perseuor Park

ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (AIA) ON THE FARM MAANDAGSHOEK 254 KT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF POLLUTION CONTROL DAMS, SMOKEY HILLS MINE, STEELPOORT, GREATER TUBATSE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, LIMPOPO PROVINCE (FORMERLY: 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)

This letter is in response to the query regarding the Interim Comment published 04/08/2017.

The Heritage Specialist on behalf of the EAP, had requested reasoning behind SAHRA requesting a Fossil Finds Procedure and Fossil Awareness Programme to be developed and included into the EMP for implementation, when the first Interim Comment issued on 12/12/2017, SAHRA had provided an exemption from conducting a field based Palaeontological Impact Assessment.

Starting in January 2017, as a result from a meeting with the Palaeontological Society of Southern Africa (PSSA) and SAHRA, it has come to the attention of SAHRA that the grey areas on the Palaeo-map may contain significant fossils in the superficial Tertiary and Quaternary deposits mostly occurring in water course ways, therefore a desktop study is now required of all development applications whether they are in a grey area or not. This resolution has been supported by the inconsistencies in the mapping applied for the geological maps that were used to create the Palaeo technical reports which helped generate the palaeo-map on SAHRIS. SAHRA is currently in the process of updating the Palaeo-map on SAHRIS.

Since SAHRA had given the development an exemption for a field based Palaeontological Impact Assessment, and in light of the new information, SAHRA finds it prudent for a fossil finds procedure (FFP) to be developed for the EMP. An induction programme must be created by a palaeontologist for the mine

**AIA FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF POLLUTION CONTROL DAMS,
SMOKEY HILLS MINE, LIMPOPO PROVINCE**

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workers and the ECO to know what procedures to follow should fossils be identified during construction phase and mining operations. The FFP must take into account the types of potential fossils that occur in the locality of the mine and provide images of the types of fossils that may have been found in the region to help the ECO and mine workers identify any potential fossils that may be uncovered during construction and operation of the Smokey Hills Mine. Therefore SAHRA requires that a fossil finds procedure is developed by a palaeontologist and included in the EMPr for implementation.

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

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/375481>