## THE DEVELOPMENT OF KHWARA, A PROPOSED NEW UNDERGROUND MANGANESE MINE

Our Ref:



an agency of the Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 10561

Date: Wednesday June 07, 2017

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## **Interim Comment**

In terms of Section 38(2) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Tshipi é Ntle Manganese Mining (Pty) Ltd

Tshipi é Ntle Manganese Mining (Pty) Ltd (Tshipi) currently holds a prospecting right for manganese on portion 2 of the farm Wessels 227 and the remaining extent and portion 3 and 4 of the farm Dibiaghomo 226, north of Black Rock in the Northern Cape Province. On the adjacent farm (Portion 1 of Lehating 741), Lehating Mining (Pty) Ltd (Lehating) holds the mining right and have an approved environmental management programme (EMP) from the Department of Mineral Resources (DMR) for manganese and iron (approved October 2013). Lehating also hold an environmental authorisation (EA), issued by the Department of Environment and Nature Conservation (DENC) in September 2014 in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 107 of 1998 (NEMA). Tshipi is planning to apply to the DMR for a mining right over the above portions of the farms Wessels 227 and Dibiaghomo 226, referred to as the Khwara Mine Project. The resource will be accessed and mined from the Lehating mine (underground). Approved surface infrastructure at the Lehating Mine will be used to support the mining of the underground resource on the farms Wessels 227 and Dibiaghomo 226 and as such no surface infrastructure will be established as part of the proposed project.

Tshipi é Ntle Manganese Mining (Pty) Ltd (Tshipi) appointed SLR Consulting to undertake a Mining Right Application Process for the proposed Khwara Mine Project on the farm Wessels 227 and Dibiaghomo 226, north of Black Rock, Northern Cape Province. An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) will be submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations 2014 for activities that trigger the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (MPRDA)(As amended). The mining activities will occur completely underground and no surface infrastructure is planned.

It is noted that a Palaeontological Impact Assessment will be conducted as part of the EIA report.

## **Interim Comment**

We await the pending PIA before further comments will be issued. Additionally, the EIA and all appendices must be submitted to SAHRA during the relevant Public Review periods so that SAHRA comments can be incorporated into the Final drafts of the reports.

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

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above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

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South African Heritage Resources Agency

John Gribble

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Meteorites Unit

South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: http://www.sahra.org.za/node/384576

(DMR - NC, Ref:)