

**Our Ref:**



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

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South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town  
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[www.sahra.org.za](http://www.sahra.org.za)

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CaseID: 10673

Date: Monday May 08, 2017  
Page No: 1

## **Final Comment**

**In terms of Section 38(4) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)**

Attention: Mr M.J. van Wyk

**Portion 12 of Farm Buffelsvlei 69 is situated approximately 5km North-East of Colesberg, between the R717 and N1, in the Northern Cape Province. The correct property number of the farm is 12/69 since amended in 1989, and not 69. The application is for the clearance of 19,9 ha of indigenous vegetation on Portion 12 of Farm Buffelsvlei 69, Colesberg, to establish a centre pivot development for the cultivation and irrigation of lucerne. This will trigger Activity 27 of GN R983 Listing Notice 1. Lucerne will be irrigated by using existing centre pivots from areas on the same property where planting is not anymore possible. Treated effluent water flowing through Buffelsvlei will be used for the irrigation as approved by the Water Use License (WUL) for the Municipal Waste Water Treatment Works (WWTW). The WUL indicate that 486 700m<sup>3</sup> at 12 167,50m<sup>3</sup>/ha may be cultivated on 40ha. The crop pre-scribed is Lucerne. This crop will not allow for the cultivation of other crops during the season when lucern is not productive. Application will be made to also plant other crops during the Lucerne "off season" so that crops such as oats or maize or teff can be planted to fully utilise the available water.**

Pieter Badenhorst Professional Services CC was appointed by M.J van Wyk to conduct a Basic Assessment Process for proposed clearance of 19.9 ha of indigenous vegetation on Portion 12 of Farm Buffelsvlei 69, near Colesburg, Northern Cape Province. A draft Basic Assessment Report (dBAR) has been submitted in term of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) and the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014. The proposed development will comprise the clearance of 19.9 ha of indigenous vegetation for the establishment of a centre pivot development for the cultivation of irrigation of lucerne.

Dr Lloyd Rossouw was appointed to conduct the Archaeological and Palaeontological Impact Assessments for the proposed project.

*Rossouw, L. 2017. Phase 1 Palaeontological Impact Assessment of two new irrigation pivots on Portion 12 of the farm Buffelsvlei 69, Colesburg, Northern Cape Province.*

The proposed development is underlain by palaeontologically sensitive Beaufort Group sediments (Adelaide Subgroup) and Jurassic dolerites, which are overlain by well-developed superficial Quaternary sediments which are not palaeontologically sensitive. Should fossil material be encountered during excavations, they must be protected and their location marked. SAHRA or the National Museum in Bloemfontein should then be

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notified immediately so that appropriate steps can be taken to collect and remove the material.

*Rossouw, L. 2017. Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment of two new irrigation pivots on Portion 12 of the farm Buffelsvlei 69, Colesburg, Northern Cape Province.*

No significant heritage resources were identified within the proposed development area. A few isolated formal and informal hornfels stone tools were identified within the development area.

There are no major archaeological grounds to suspend the proposed development, provided that all agricultural activities are restricted to within the confines of the development footprint.

### **Final Comment**

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit accepts the heritage specialist reports and the recommendations contained therein. The recommendations in the heritage specialist reports and the following conditions must be adhered to and incorporated into the Final BAR and the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr):

- The Final BAR and EMPr must be submitted to SAHRA via this SAHRIS Case application upon final submission to the relevant competent authority;
- If any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g. remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments, charcoal and ash concentrations), fossils or other categories of heritage resources are found during the proposed development, SAHRA APM Unit (Natasha Higgitt/John Gribble 021 462 5402) must be alerted. If unmarked human burials are uncovered, the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit (Mimi Seetelo 012 320 8490), must be alerted immediately. A professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the findings. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required subject to permits issued by SAHRA; and
- If the development receives an Environmental Authorisation (EA), SAHRA must be informed and all documents pertaining to the EA must be uploaded to the SAHRIS Case file.

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

Yours faithfully

**PROPOSED PIVOT PROJECT ON PORTION 12 OF FARM BUFFELSVLEI 69,  
COLESBERG**

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Natasha Higgitt  
Heritage Officer  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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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/386706>  
(DENC, Ref: N.C./EIA/01/PIX/UMS/COL1/2017)

**Terms & Conditions:**

1. This approval does not exonerate the applicant from obtaining local authority approval or any other necessary approval for proposed work.
2. If any heritage resources, including graves or human remains, are encountered they must be reported to SAHRA immediately.
3. SAHRA reserves the right to request additional information as required.