



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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Enquiries: Nokukhanya Khumalo
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CaseID: 10699

Date: Tuesday June 20, 2017
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Final Comment

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

Attention: Mr Khalid Patel
Tetra4 (Pty) Ltd

Tetra4 has an existing Production Right (12/4/1/07/2/2) to develop gas fields in the Virginia area (centre point is ~20 km to the south west of Virginia Town). The Production Right covers a large area where gas-emitting wells have previously been identified during exploration activities. Free State.

SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit issued an Interim Comment dated 9 May 2017 accepting the recommendations within the Heritage Impact Assessment report and Palaeontological Impact Assessment report. SAHRA requested a declaration of independence for the palaeontologist that was not included in the PIA report. The declaration of independence letter submitted to the case is accepted by the SAHRA APM unit as such a Final Comment is being issued. The conditions that were in the Interim Comment still stand and added to this comment, to be included in the EMPr as follows:

All construction work located near the banks of the Bosluisspruit and the Sand River must be monitored by an archaeologist and a palaeontologist, this also applies to the opening of F4 and F6.

A palaeontologist must be appointed to train the ECO in identifying fossil remains that may be uncovered during the construction phase. From there, the ECO must monitor all excavations into the sedimentary bedrock of the Karoo Supergroup.

The mitigation measures provided in the Heritage Impact Assessment must be followed through and a report of all the monitoring must be supplied to SAHRA at the end of the construction phase.

The graves must be fenced with an entrance gate for the families to gain access to their family graves. Where the pipeline will be less than 50 m away, the ECO must be present to monitor the construction.

Comments must be obtained from Free State Heritage Resources Authority (HFS) for all structures as defined in section 34 of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act No 25 of 1999 (NHRA) located within the Exploration right area, before the construction phase commences. No damage or destruction of the buildings may occur without a section 34 permit from HFS. The contact details are Ms Ntando Mbatha: mbatha.npz@sacr.fs.gov.za 015 410 4750.



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All test excavations in the vicinity of the homesteads must be done under the provision of a section 35 permit issued by SAHRA. If graves are identified then work must cease, and SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves must be consulted.

With regards to request in the HIA pertaining to an impact assessment of ground water resources as part of Natural Scared Sites as per the submitted report, SAHRA APM Unit currently reserves its position on this matter. Furthermore SAHRA APM Unit states that unless there is evidence of the historical or even archaeological period use of the groundwater in any way (either for water collections or cultural traditions), they cannot be defined as heritage resources in accordance with the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act 25 of 1999) (NHRA). These resources must be addressed by the relevant specialists and the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No 36 of 1998) (NWA). SAHRA cannot provide comments on this issue.

This comment must be forwarded to the competent authority and once Environmental Authorisation is received the ROD must be uploaded to the case.

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

John Gribble
Manager: Maritime and Underwater Cultural Heritage Unit / Acting Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and



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Meteorites Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/387381>

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.