



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 10717

Date: Wednesday March 29, 2017

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Interim Comment

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

Attention: Era Stene (Pty) Ltd

Application for an Environmental Authorisation in support of an Amendment to a Mining Right for the expansion of an existing clay quarry near Delmas on behalf of Era Stene (Pty) Ltd, Mpumalanga Province

Era Stene (Pty) Ltd is proposing to amend their existing mine right area by expanding it to include an additional 57.68 ha of land adjacent to its existing clay quarrying operations. The expansion area is Portion 7 of the farm Rietvlei 195 IR, 15 km away from the town of Delmas within Victor Kanye Local Municipality of Mpumalanga Province. They will be using existing infrastructure with only a portion of the existing 11 kV power line that will need to be rerouted.

Jones and Wagener Engineering and Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd have been appointed by Era Stene (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment process in support of an Environmental Authorisation application to the MDARDLEA for listed activities in the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulation of 2014, of the National Environmental Management Act, 107 Of 1998 (NEMA) triggered by the amendment of a Mine Right in terms of Section 102 of Minerals and Petroleum Resources Development Act, Act 28 of 2002 (MPRDA). Jones and Wagener Engineering and Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd has appointed PGS Heritage to conduct a Heritage Impact Assessment Report.

Fourie, W. May 2016. Application for an Environmental Authorisation in support of an Amendment to a Mining Right for the expansion of an existing clay quarry near Delmas on behalf of Era Stene (Pty) Ltd.

The author undertook a field assessment of the proposed development area and identified no heritage sites. The area is currently used for agricultural purposes however there is a possibility of uncovering some archaeological artefacts during ground clearance and mining.

Interim Comment

SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit accepts the recommendations provided in the Heritage Impact Assessment. But the Heritage Impact Assessment did not include an assessment of palaeontological resources as such SAHRA cannot issue a Final Comment until a Field based Paleontological Impact Assessment is carried out by suitably qualified palaeontologist. The report must be submitted to SAHRA for commenting including all the Environmental documents conducted for this proposed development.

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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 Meteorites Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/387552>
(DMR-MP, Ref: – MP 30/5/1/2/3/2/1 135 MR)