

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt
Tel: 021 462 4502
Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za
CaseID: 11179

Date: Thursday February 08, 2018
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Final Comment

In terms of Section 38(4), 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Mystic Pearl 157 (Pty) Ltd.

The activity entails Bulk Sampling by excavating 50 trenches with an average 3m depth of overburden (calcrete and soil) removed before accessing the gravel layer (average width 2 – 4m) which is host to the diamonds. The trenches will be 25m x 15m x 0.5 – 7m deep. This constitutes the Prospecting Right application on a Portion of Portion 1 of the Farm Vooruitzicht No 81, Kimberley District, Northern Cape

Wadala Mining and Consulting (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by Mystic Pearl 157 (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process for a proposed Prospecting Right Application on a Portion of Portion 1 of the farm Vooruitzicht 81, Kimberley Magisterial District, Northern Cape Province. A Basic Assessment Report (BAR) has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) and the EIA Regulations 2014 for activities that trigger the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (MPRDA)(As amended). A total area of 253.6919 ha will be subjected to prospecting activities inclusive of 50 trenches measuring 25 m x 15 m 0.5-7 m deep and associated stockpiles.

A Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) and a Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA) were conducted as part of the project.

Matenga, E. 2017. Phase I Heritage Impact Assessment (including Palaeontological Assessment) requested in terms of Section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act No 25/1999 for Mining Right on a Portion of Portion 1 of the Farm Vooruitzicht 81, Kimberley District, Northern Cape Province.

Two industrial/domestic middens were identified within the proposed development area, however there are not worthy of protection. If heritage resources are discovered during the proposed mine operations, the heritage resources authorities must be informed and a heritage expert called.

Chikumbirke, J. 2017. Palaeontological Assessment (Desktop) requested in terms of section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act No 25/1999 for Mining Right on Portion of Portion 1 of Farm Vooruitzicht 81, Kimberley District, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed development area is underlain by the Allanridge Formation which is igneous and therefore unfossiliferous. The Dwyka Group tends to overlies the Allanridge Formation, though appears to be absent from



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the area. Associated glacial tillites of the Dwyka Group are considered to be of medium to low significance. The Prince Albert Formation, known for its fossil marine deposits has been rated as highly significant in the area. The western outskirts of the farm are covered with large areas of unconsolidated, reddish-brown to grey aeolian sands of the Quaternary Gordonia Formation which may overlie a calcrete layer that may contain calcretised ostrich egg shells, land snail shells, rare mammalian and reptile bones, stromatolites etc. Overall the impact of the proposed development on fossil resources is expected to be minimal.

Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- The Environmental Control Officer (ECO) must put in place a contingency plan to rescue chance finds and where possible preserve them in situ;
- It is further advised that the recommendations made here should also be incorporated into the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for the proposed mining operations;
- A standard Fossil Finds Procedure (FFP) is appended to the report to provide field guidance to the ECO.

In an Interim Comment issued on 14/07/2017, SAHRA noted issues with the submitted FFP and requested that it be revised to address the highlighted issues.

The Final EMPr has been submitted to the case.

In an Interim Comment issued on 27/11/2017, SAHRA requested that the FFP had not yet been amended as requested in the Interim Comment issued on 14/07/2017.

Pether, J. 2018. Updated Palaeontological Assessment with Revised Fossil Finds Procedure for the EMP: Proposed Prospecting on a Portion of Portion 1 of the Farm Vooruitzigt 81, Sol Plaatje Municipality, Kimberley Magisterial District, Northern Cape Province.

The revised report found that the development area is underlain by the Dwyka Group and Prince Albert Formation (Ecca Group, Karoo Supergroup) that are vastly covered by unfossiliferous Kimberly dolerite. Shales of the Prince Albert Formation may crop out in the south-eastern part of the proposed area; however, the prospecting will end on the shale bedrock, no significant impact to fossil resources is expected. Kalahari-type sand that may contain fossils covers slopes and lower-lying parts of the area. The residual gravels known as Rooikoppie gravels are also present but few fossils are known to be present within these sediments. The sensitivity of all mentioned formations is low and minimal impact is expected.

A Prospecting Right Application on a Portion of Portion 1 of the Farm Vooruitzicht No 81, Kimberley District

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Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- It is recommended that a requirement to be alert for possible fossil materials and buried archaeological material be included in the EMP for the proposed prospecting applications;
- A Fossil Finds Procedure has been included in the report.

Final Comment

The SAHRA Archaeological, Palaeontological and Meteorites (APM) Unit has no objection to the development and supports the recommendations of the specialists and the recommendations within the EMP as referred to above. The recommendations of the specialists and the following conditions apply to the development and must be included in the EMP:

- As the Final EIA/EMP has been completed, and SAHRAs comments not incorporated as part of the submission to the Competent Authority for decision making, this comment must be forwarded directly to the Competent Authority for their consideration as per section 38(8) of the NHRA. Proof of this submission must be provided to SAHRA;
- 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/Phillip Hine 021 462 5402) must be alerted. If unmarked human burials are uncovered, the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit (Thingahangwi Tshivhase/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.
- Should the project be granted Environmental Authorisation and Prospecting Right, SAHRA must be notified and all relevant documents submitted to the 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

**A Prospecting Right Application on a Portion of Portion 1 of the Farm
Vooruitzigt No 81, Kimberley District**

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Natasha Higgitt
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/399139>
(DMR - NC, Ref: (NC) 30/5/1/1/2/11750 PR)

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.