

**Our Ref:**



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 11179

Date: Monday November 27, 2017  
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## **Interim Comment**

### **In terms of Section 38 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.

### **Interim Comment**

SAHRA notes the Final EMPr, however, the FFP has not been amended as requested in the previously issued Interim Comment. Please submit the revised FFP as soon as possible.

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

Yours faithfully

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Natasha Higgitt

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Heritage Officer  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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Phillip Hine  
Acting Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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**ADMIN:**

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/399139>  
(DMR - NC, Ref: (NC) 30/5/1/1/2/11750 PR)