



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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CaseID: 11291

Date: Monday July 31, 2017

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Interim Comment

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

Attention: Afrimat Aggregates (Trading) (Pty) Ltd

P O Box 768
BELLVILLE
7535

Proposed Reclaiming of clinker (ash from old power stations) and development of a haul road in Witbank in Mpumalanga Province

Mbviseni Sustainable Environmental Management Initiative (Pty) Ltd (MSEI) has been appointed by Afrimat on behalf of Clinker Supplies (Pty) Ltd have been appointed to conduct a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) of the proposed reclamation of clinker from the Witbank Ash Dump. The HIA report is submitted to SAHRA in terms of s. 38 of the National Heritage Resources Agency, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA). The Witbank Ash Dump is located within the outskirts of the town of Witbank (Emalahleni), on the farms Industria 305 JS and Eskompark 319 JS, in the Emalahleni Local Municipality of Mpumalanga Province.

The total extent of the ash dump is 15 hectares, and Clinker Supplies is proposing to construct an access road to the site, plant and weigh bridge as well as a site office in order to start mining the ash dump for brick manufacturing. Once the ash is reclaimed it will be process by SA Block (Pty) Ltd for clinker brick manufacturing. The proposed mining method is using an excavator, and the ash will be transported to the processing plant, and then weighed before sold to the brick manufacturers as well as SA Block.

Mlilo, T. May 2017. A Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment for the proposed Reclaiming of Clinker (ash from old power stations) in Witbank, eMalahleni Local Municipality in Mpumalanga Province.

The author conducted a heritage assessment of the proposed Witbank Ash Dump and surrounds and found no archaeological resources in the field survey but identified 6 heritage buildings (A to F) still in use by Eskom. The report also summarised the industrial development of the town of Witbank, including the establishment of the Witbank Eskom power station in 1920 to its closure in 1970. The identified heritage buildings are estimated to be over 60 years due to the age of the power station. The significance of the buildings are of low to medium significance. All of the buildings are proposed to be used by Clinker Supplies for the mine dump reclamation operations.

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SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) cannot process this case as it is not clear what type of application it forms part of, as the legal requirements do not stipulate whether it is a section 38(1) application or a section 38(8) application. If the application is made in terms of section 38(8) please upload all environmental documents compiled in support of an Environmental Authorisation.

The HIA does not assess the potential impacts to Palaeontological resources therefore SAHRA requires a suitably qualified palaeontologist to assess the proposed development. The resultant report must provide recommendations and fossil chance finds procedures to be implemented during the construction phase.

SAHRA will comment on this case once the above information is uploaded.

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:

Proposed Reclaiming of clinker (ash from old power stations) in Witbank

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Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/405394>
(DMR-MP, Ref: Witbank Clinker reclamation)