

Our Ref:



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 11768

Date: Thursday August 02, 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: Black Mountain Mining (PTY) LTD

1 Penge Road  
Aggeneys  
8893

### **APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENT OF THE APPROVED ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME IN TERMS OF SECTION 102 OF THE MINERAL AND PETROLEUM RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT, 2002 (ACT 28 OF 2002) ON PORTION 1 OF THE FARM GAMS 60, NAMAQUALAND, NORTHERN CAPE**

EndemicVision Environmental Services (Pty) Ltd have been appointed by Black Mountain Mining to conduct a Basic Assessment Process for proposed a Prospecting Right application for a proposed Amendment of Approved Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) of portion 1 of the far Gams 60, Namaqualand, Northern Cape. A draft Basic Assessment Report (dBAR) and EMP have 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). The proposed amendment to the approved EMP includes the expansion of the prospecting area to include a total of 148 drill sites, and access roads.

The dBAR notes that a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) has been conducted for the Amendment; however no report has been submitted to the SAHRIS Case application. A desktop Palaeontological Impact Assessment has been submitted to the case; however this study examined the development area adjacent to the current proposed development area for a mining operation.

In an Interim Comment issued on 02/11/2017, SAHRA requested an HIA and PIA relevant to the proposed development to be completed.

*Gaigher, S. 2018. Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment for the Prospecting Rights Application: Gamsberg near Aggeneys in the Northern Cape.*

No heritage resources were identified within the proposed development footprint. The development is located within an area of insignificant to low palaeontological sensitivity, and therefore no further palaeontological



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studies are required. A possible Bushmen massacre site known as “*Inkruip*” is possibly located on the southwestern side of the mountain but may lie on the northeastern side of the mountain.

Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- Once the exact location of the proposed percussion boreholes is available, these should be investigated individually. This should be done by a qualified archaeologist;
- A historic study be performed specifically focused on clarification of the location of the *Inkruip* Bushmen Massacre at Gamsberg;
- Chance Finds Procedures provided in the report must be incorporated into the Environmental Management Programme.

In a Final Comment issued on the 29/05/2018, SAHRA stated no objections to the proposed development and accepted the recommendations of the specialist. Additional conditions were provided to be implemented as part of the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

Since the issuing of the Final Comment, an updated BAR has been uploaded to the SAHRIS Case application, that indicates some adjustments to the positions of the proposed drill holes and access roads. The amendments are not substantial and the overall area was generally assessed within the HIA.

## Final Comment

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit does not have any objections to the proposed Prospecting Right Application and accepts the recommendations by the heritage specialist. The recommendations provided in the report and the following conditions must be included in the EMPr:

- A report on the investigation of the final positions of the new boreholes and new access roads must be conducted by a qualified archaeologist and submitted to SAHRA for review and comment prior to the construction phase. No construction activities may occur without comments from SAHRA;
- If the prospecting shows that full scale mining is feasible, a comprehensive study inclusive of relevant stakeholder consultation must be conducted as part of the EA and Mining Right Application process to investigate the *Inkruip* Massacre site. This is a neglected portion of South Africa’s history and must be fully understood before any development may occur;
- The Final BAR and EMPr must submitted for record purposes;
- 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

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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

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Natasha Higgitt  
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

**ADMIN:**

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/408673>

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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.