

Our Ref:



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: 11784

Date: Thursday January 25, 2018
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Interim Comment

In terms of Section 38(3), 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Kobus Duvenhage Bouers BK

Stand 1070
Louisvale Road
Upington
South Africa

Proposed sand mining operation situated on a 5ha section of the Hartbees River on Erf 1768 Kakamas-South Northern Cape

Green Direction Sustainability Consulting has been appointed by Kobus Duvenhage Bouers (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed sand mining activities on section of the Hartbees River on Erf 1768, Kakamas South, Kai !Garib Local Municipality, Northern Cape. A draft Basic Assessment Report (dBAR) and Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) has been conducted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) and the EIA Regulations 2017 for activities that trigger the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (MPRDA)(As amended). The proposed activities will cover 5 ha and include loading and hauling of river sand from the Hartbees River, 1.5 m deep. Associated activities include a stockpile area and parking area/laydown area.

The BAR notes that no heritage resources will be impacted by the proposed activities, however no Heritage Impact Assessment has been conducted as part of the EA Application process as per Section 38(8) and 38(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

In a Final Comment issued on 02/11/2017, SAHRA rejected the EA application as no HIA had been conducted as part of the BAR process as required by Section 38(8) of the NHRA. SAHRA advised the Department of Environmental Affairs and the Department of Mineral Resources to reject the application for EA and Mining Permit on the section of the Hartbees River on Erf 1768, Kakamas South, Kai !Garib Local Municipality, Northern Cape (NC 30/5/1/3/2/10631 MP).

In response to SAHRAs Final Comment, the application requested a 50 day extension to conduct an Amended BAR process in order to comply with Section 38(8) of NHRA.

In an Interim Comment issued on the 20/11/2017, SAHRA noted the extension and awaits the pending HIA

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that must assess all heritage resources as defined in section 3 of the NHRA

Morris, D. 2017. Heritage Impact Assessment of proposed sand mining in the bed of the Hartebees River on Lot 1768 Kakamas South, near Kakamas, Northern Cape.

A total of five heritage resources were identified, all rated as resources of low significance. These include surface scatters of Stone Age lithics and pottery, with one shelter containing quartz lithics and ostrich eggshell fragments. These resources are all located outside of the proposed sand mining area. Secondary impacts highlighted include increased impacts due to development and operational activity associated with the life of the proposed sand mining.

Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- Provision for on-going heritage monitoring in an environmental management plan which also provides guidelines on what to do in the event of any major heritage feature being encountered during any phase of mining;
- Should unexpected finds be made (e.g. pre-colonial burials; ostrich eggshell container cache; or localised Stone Age sites with stone tools, pottery; military remains), the relevant Heritage Authority should be contacted.

Interim Comment

As requested in the Interim Comment, the HIA should have assessed all heritage resources as defined in section 3 of the NHRA. According to the Palaeontological Sensitivity map, the proposed development area is located within moderately sensitive geology for palaeontological resources. A Palaeontological Desktop Study is therefore required to be completed by a qualified palaeontologist.

Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the above report.

As the Final BAR has been submitted, the above comment has not been incorporated into the report for consideration by the Competent Authority as per section 38(8) of the NHRA. This comment must be forwarded directly to the Competent Authority for their consideration during the decision making process. Proof of this submission must be provided to SAHRA.

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

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Yours faithfully

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/408755>
(DMR - NC, Ref: NC30/5/1/3/2/10631MP)