

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](mailto: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](http://www.sahra.org.za)

Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt  
Tel: 021 462 4502  
Email: [nhiggitt@sahra.org.za](mailto:nhiggitt@sahra.org.za)  
CaseID: 11805

Date: Friday February 01, 2019  
Page No: 1

## Final Comment

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

Attention: Mr Khaukanani Ramuhashi  
Lesekha Consulting  
25 Caroline Close  
Rowlands Estate  
Mafikeng  
2745

### **The 280 ha piece of land between N14 and R 30 roads will be used for an Integrated human Settlement in Ventersdorp in the Ventresdorp/ Tlokwe 405 Local Municipality in the DR Kenneth Kaunda District Municipality within the North West Province .**

The North West Provincial Government Department of Local Government and Human Settlements (DLGHS) has appointed Lesekha Consulting to conduct Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (S&EIA) Process for a proposed Integrated Human Settlement and Related Infrastructure on Elandskuil Farm No. 205 & 206 IP, in Ventersdorp, North West Province (NWP/EIA/34/2017). A draft Scoping Report has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) and the 2017 EIA Regulations. The proposed development will include approximately 3852 housing units, open recreational space/educational purposes, schools, police station, churches, filling station etc. The proposed development will cover approximately 280.7752 ha.

It is noted that the Draft Scoping report states that a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) will be conducted as part of the EIA phase of the EA Application process.

In an Interim Comment issued on the 06/11/2017, SAHRA requested that the pending HIA be submitted along with the DEIA and all appendices before further comments could be issued.

*Küsel, U. 2017. A Heritage report for the proposed Human Development Settlement in Ventersdorp in the J. B Marks Local Municipality.*

A total of six heritage resources were identified, and these include the J B Marks Provincial Monument and grave site, a possible grave, a cemetery consisting of 38 graves, a rocky outcrop where animals have rubbed the boulders smooth, remains of farm workers housing and remains of a farm werf.



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Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- The JB Marks heritage site is protected by Act 25 of 1999 and should be maintained in good condition;
- The animal rubbing stones should be protected, fenced in and retained as part of an open space development;
- The farm workers area can be demolished;
- The large cemetery should be cleaned and fenced in and maintained in a good condition;
- The possible single grave should be investigated by a heritage specialist in a separate report before any decisions are taken.

In an Interim Comment issued on 04/12/2017, SAHRA requested that the DEIA and all appendices are submitted to the case so that an informed comment may be issued. Additionally, the application must be mapped on the GIS Layer of the case.

SAHRA requests that the statement of significance of the identified rubbed boulders and the statement that the site is a relatively scarce Natural History phenomenon be further clarified. Additionally, further photographs of the possible grave must be provided. A desktop Palaeontological Assessment must be conducted for the proposed development.

In a memo submitted to the case, the applicant (now jointly Methâle Environmental Consulting and Lesezha Consulting) explains that SAHRIS Case ID 11805 and SAHRIS Case ID 12171 are the same development application. The applicant advised that SAHRIS Case ID 11805 should be considered as the relevant application and that SAHRIS Case ID 12171 should be disregarded.

In an Interim Comment issued on the 28/03/2018, SAHRA requested that the comments regarding the boulders and graves be addressed, and that a consolidated HIA be submitted that takes into account the results of both HIAs conducted for the proposed development application i.e. Kusel 2017 and Van der Walt 2017 must be compiled and the impacts to the identified heritage resources verified. The HIA must also address the comments issued on 04/12/2017. The Palaeontological Exemption letter (submitted on Case 12171) was accepted and SAHRA supported the recommendations of the specialists contain therein. No further assessment of palaeontological resources was required.

*Küsel, U. 2017. Phase 1 Cultural Heritage Resources Impact Assessment for the proposed development of an Integrated Human Settlement in Ventersdorp Town within the jurisdiction of Ventersdorp/Tlokwe 405 Local*



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## *Municipality, in the North West Province. (REVISED REPORT).*

The report assessed the heritage resources identified in the Küsel 2017 and the Van der Walt 2017 HIA reports. These include the JB Marks Provincial Heritage Site memorial, animal rubbing stones, remains of a farm workers settlement, a possible single grave and a large burial ground.

Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- The JB Marks heritage site is protected by Act 25 of 1999 and should be maintained in good condition;
- The animal rubbing stones should be protected, fenced in and retained as part of an open space development;
- The farm workers area may be demolished;
- The large cemetery should be cleaned, fenced in and maintained in good condition;
- The possible single grave should be investigated by a heritage specialist in a separate report before any decisions are taken.

## **Final Comment**

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit and the Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit has no objections to the proposed development and supports the recommendations of the specialists. The recommendations of the specialists and the following conditions must be included in the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr):

- The JB Marks Provincial Heritage site memorial must be avoided with a buffer of 100 m;
- The animal rubbing stones must be avoided with a buffer of 10 m and a fence with access gate must be installed;
- An amended plan showing the heritage sites with the relevant buffer zones must be supplied to SAHRA;
- Should the farm workers settlement be over 60 years old, a destruction permit must be applied for from the North West Provincial Heritage Resources Authority (NWPHRA) in terms of section 34 of the NHRA. Should the farm workers settlement be over 100 years old, a destruction permit in terms of section 35 of the NHRA must be applied for from SAHRA. These permits must be applied for prior to construction commencing;
- Before construction commences, an investigation regarding the possible grave must be conducted. A

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ground penetrating radar (GPR) survey is recommended. The results of this survey must be submitted to the case for review by the SAHRA BGG Unit. No construction within 30 m of the possible grave site may commence without comments from the SAHRA BGG Unit;

- The Final BAR and EMPr must be submitted to SAHRA 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 Unit (Natasha Higgitt/Phillip Hine 021 462 5402) must be alerted as per section 35(3) of the NHRA. 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 as per section 36(6) of the NHRA. 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;
- The decision regarding the EA Application must be communicated to SAHRA and uploaded to the SAHRIS Case application for record purposes.

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

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**ADMIN:**

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/408905>  
(DMR, Ref: )

**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.