



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 11938

Date: Monday November 27, 2017  
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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: Witkop Fluorspar Pty Ltd

**Witkop Fluorspar Mine (Pty) Ltd has submitted an application for a Prospecting Right in terms of the Minerals and Petroleum Resources Development Act, Act 28 of 2002 (MPRDA) over Portions 1, 2 and the Remaining Extent of the farm Verdoorst Kolk No. 342. The proposed Prospecting Right Area comprises 8,223.3736 hectares and is located between the towns of Kenhardt and Brandvlei, within the Hantam Municipality of the Northern Cape Province. The prospecting is for the mineral Gypsum, depth of drilling will be m and the life of the project is 2 years.**

Thank you for notifying SAHRA of the proposed prospecting activities on Portions 1, 2 and the Remaining Extent of the farm Verdoorst Kolk No. 342, between the towns of Kenhardt and Brandvlei, within the Hantam Municipality of the Northern Cape Province.

As the proposed development is undergoing an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application process and National Environmental Management Act, No 107 of 1998 (NEMA), for activities that trigger the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, No 28 of 2002 (MPRDA)(As amended), it is incumbent on the developer to ensure that a **Heritage Impact Assessment** (HIA) is done as per section 38(3) and 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA). This must include the archaeological component (Phase 1) and any other applicable heritage components. The HIA must be conducted **as part of the EA** Application in terms of NEMA and the 2014 or 2017 NEMA EIA Regulations.

The quickest process to follow for the archaeological component would be to contract a specialist (see [www.asapa.org.za](http://www.asapa.org.za) / [www.aphp.org.za](http://www.aphp.org.za)) to provide a Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment Report. The Phase 1 Impact Assessment Report will identify the archaeological sites and assess their significance. It should also make recommendations (as indicated in section 38) about the process to be followed. For example, there may need to be a mitigation phase (Phase 2) where the specialist will collect or excavate material and date the site. At the end of the process the heritage authority may give permission for destruction of the sites. If the property is very small or disturbed and there is no significant site the specialist may choose to send a letter to the heritage authority to indicate that there is no necessity for any further assessment.

Where bedrock is to be affected, or where there are coastal sediments, or marine or river terraces and in potentially fossiliferous superficial deposits, a Palaeontological Desk Top study must be undertaken to assess

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whether or not the development will impact upon palaeontological resources - or at least a letter of exemption from a Palaeontologist is needed to indicate that this is unnecessary. If the area is deemed sensitive, a full Phase 1 Palaeontological Impact Assessment will be required and if necessary a Phase 2 rescue operation might be necessary (see [www.palaeontologicalsociety.co.za](http://www.palaeontologicalsociety.co.za) for qualified palaeontologists).

Any other heritage resources that may be impacted such as built structures over 60 years old, sites of cultural significance associated with oral histories, burial grounds and graves, graves of victims of conflict, and cultural landscapes or viewsapes must also be assessed.

All environmental reports and appendices produced as part of the EA application process must be submitted to the SAHRIS Case file in order for an informed comment to be issued. Additionally, the proposed development must be mapped on the GIS Layer of the SAHRIS application.

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/414684>  
(, Ref: )