

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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Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt
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CaseID: 12033

Date: Monday May 21, 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: Pieter Gideon van Zyl
PGL Boerdery (Pty) Ltd

The proposed prospecting right application for the prospecting of diamonds alluvial and diamonds general on the Remaining Extent of Portion 23 of the farm Mimosa 61, Registration Division: HO, North West Province.

Milex 189 CC was appointed by PGL Boerdery (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process in support of an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for a Prospecting Right Application (PRA) for proposed prospecting activities on the Remaining Extent and Portion 23 of the farm Mimosa 61, Registration Division HO, North West Province. A Final Scoping Report has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) and the NEMA 2014 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations for activities that trigger the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (MPRDA)(As amended). The application area is 165.0814 ha and will include 50 3 m x 2 m x 2 m pits, and 25 20 m x 30 m x 1.55 m trenches. Supporting infrastructure will include a stockpile of topsoil and a processing plant.

It is noted that the Scoping Report states that it is not foreseen that the proposed activity will impact heritage resources, however an assessment of heritage resources as required as per section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA) has not been submitted.

In an Interim Comment issued on the 08/01/2018, SAHRA requested that an assessment of heritage resources be conducted as part of the EIA phase of the project as required by section 38(8) of the NHRA inclusive of a desktop Palaeontological Assessment. The draft EIA and all appendices must be submitted along with the above reports so that an informed comment may be issued.

Van Schalkwyk, J. 2018. Phase 1 Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment: Prospecting Right of Diamond Alluvial and Diamond General on the Remaining Extent of Portion 23 of the Farm Mimosa, near Schweizer-Reneke, Mamusa Local Municipality, North West Province.

No heritage sites were identified within the proposed development area. Recommendations provided in the report include that should archaeological sites or graves be exposed in other areas during construction work, it must immediately be reported to a heritage practitioner so that an investigation and evaluation of the finds can



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be made.

Butler, E. 2018. Palaeontological Desktop Assessment of the Proposed Diamonds Alluvial and Diamonds General Prospecting Right Application near Schweizer-Reneke on the Remaining Extent of Portion 23 of the Farm Mimosa 61 Registration Division: HO, North West Province.

The proposed development is underlain by the Allanridge and Bothaville Formations (Ventersdorp Supergroup), which are not fossiliferous. These formations are overlain by the aeolian and alluvial sands of the Gordonia Formation (Kalahari Group), which may contain fossils but is of low palaeontological sensitivity.

Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- In the event that fossil remains are discovered during any phase of construction, either on the surface or unearthed by fresh excavations, the ECO in charge of these developments ought to be alerted immediately. These discoveries ought to be protected (preferably *in situ*) and the ECO must report to SAHRA so that appropriate mitigation (e.g. recording, collection) can be carry out by a professional paleontologist;
- Preceding any collection of fossil material, the specialist would need to apply for collection permit from SAHRA. Fossil material must be curated in an approved collection (museum or university) and all fieldwork and reports should meet the minimum standards for palaeontological impact studies developed by SAHRA.

Final Comment

The SAHRA Archaeological, Palaeontological and Meteorites (APM) Unit has no objection to the development and supports the recommendations of the specialists. The recommendations of the specialists and the following conditions apply to the development and must be included in the Environmental Management Programme:

- As the Final EIA has been finalised and submitted, this comment must be forwarded to the Competent Authority as part of their decision-making process. Proof of the submission and receipt thereof must be provided to SAHRA;
- 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. If unmarked human burials are



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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

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/487359>
(, Ref: NW30/5/1/1/2/12199PR)

Terms & Conditions:

**EIA210 - NW12199PR - Diamonds alluvial and diamonds general Prospecting
Right application on Mimosa RE/23/61**

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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.