



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 12218

Date: Friday July 13, 2018
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Final Comment

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

Attention: Henwood Environmental Services

PO Box 12340
Steitlies
Nelspruit, 1213

Phase 1 Archaeological and Heritage Impact Assessment on the farms Barclay Vale 288 JT and Montrose 290 JT in respect of proposed agricultural development, Mpumalanga Province.

Hotazhel Developments NO1 (Pty) Ltd has appointed Henwood Environmental Solutions (Pty) Ltd to undertake a Basic Assessment process for the clearing of 6.07 ha of natural vegetation to make way for the Macadamia Orchards. The proposed farm is located on Barclay Vale 288 JT, in Mbombela Local Municipality of Mpumalanga Province. The Draft Basic Assessment Report is in support of an Environmental Authorisation Process in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 107 of 1998, as amended (NEMA) for listed activities in the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014 as amended. A Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) and Palaeontological Impact Assessment report have been submitted to SAHRA, in terms of section 38 (8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

Celliers, J.P. Phase 1 Archaeological and Heritage Impact Assessment on the farms Barclay Vale 288 JT and Montrose 290 JT in respect of proposed agricultural development, Mpumalanga Province.

The author undertook a field assessment of the bush clearance area and identified 9 heritage sites within the farm of Barclay Vale 290 JT and 3 sites on the farm Montrose 288 JT. This comment will discuss the sites located on Barclay 290 JT, as the BAR assesses the environmental impacts on that farm only. However, all the sites apart from site BV8 are located outside the development footprint. Site BV8 is a concrete water reservoir that is of low significance. The site will be directly impacted by the proposed development and its sufficiently recorded in the report. Site BV9 is a formal cemetery located outside the development area, it's of high significance but it will not be impacted. The author recommends that the site is fenced with a gate to allow access to visiting family members.

Bamford, M. July 2017. Palaeontological Impact Assessment for the proposed Clearing and cultivation of



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currently untransformed areas on the Farms Montrose 290 JT and Barclay Vale 288 JT, Mpumalanga Province.

The author undertook a desktop study of the proposed development area and found that the area is underlain by basalts of the Hekpoort Formation (Pretoria Group), granites of the Nelspruit Batholiths (Nelspruit Suite) and cherts and dolomites of the Malmani Subgroup (Chuniespoort Group). The Nelspruit Batholith rocks are igneous and have no palaeontological significance, but rocks of the Malmani Subgroup have medium palaeontological significance. However, no algae fossils have been reported in the Nelspruit region.

Final Comment

SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit agrees with the recommendations provided within the HIA and PIA reports, the following conditions must be included in the EMPr for implementation:

The Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit accepts the recommendations for the burial grounds identified in the HIA report and further recommends that Site BV9 must be fenced with an access gate, before fencing may occur permission from the family members must be sort. This must be done by undertaking a social consultation process to identify the family members of the site. This must be done in terms of Chapter IX of the NHRA Regulations and section 36(3) of the NHRA.

Further comment for Site BV8, from the Mpumalanga Heritage Resources Authority (MPRHA). Please contact Benjamin Moduka at bmoduka@mpg.gov.za and at 013 766 5196.

In the unlikely event that fossils are uncovered during construction then construction must cease within the immediate vicinity, a buffer of 30 m must be established, and a palaeontologist called in to inspect the finds. The palaeontologist must obtain a section 35(4) permit in terms of NHRA and Chapter IV NHRA Regulations, before any fossils are collected.

If there are any new heritages resources are discovered during construction and operation phases of the proposed development, then a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the findings at the expense of the developer.

If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required at the expense of the developer. Mitigation will only be carried out after the archaeologist or palaeontologist obtains a permit in terms of section 35 of the NHRA (Act 25 of 1999). You may contact SAHRA APM Unit for further details: (Nokukhanya Khumalo/Phillip Hine 021 202 8652).

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If any unmarked human burials are uncovered and the archaeologist called in to inspect the finds and/or the police find them to be heritage graves, then mitigation may be necessary and the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit must be contacted for processes to follow (Mimi Seetelo 012 320 8490).

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

Yours faithfully

Nokukhanya Khumalo
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/488300>

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.