

**NEMA Section 24G Rectification Process for the already established 4 X circular agricultural pivots to a total of approximately 100ha on the Remaining Extent of the Farm New Waterford no. 229 and Portion 2 of the Farm New Waterford no. 229 near Hopetown**



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 12219

Date: Wednesday March 07, 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: Mr Pieter Louw

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Eco-Con Environmental has been appointed by Mr. Pieter Louw to conduct a Basic Assessment Process in support of a Section 24G rectification application for four developed cultivated circular pivot lands on the remaining extent and portion 2 of the farm New Waterford 229, Hopetown and two water extraction points in the Orange River, Northern Cape Province. A draft Basic Assessment Report (dBAR) has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No 107 of 1998 (NEMA) and the 2017 NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations.

Palaeo Field Services was contracted to undertake a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) for the development.

*Rossouw, L. 2017. A Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment of proposed installation of new irrigation pivots and associated infrastructure on portion 0 and 2 of the farm Waterford 229 outside Hopetown, NC Province.*

As the development occurred prior to assessment, the area investigated was shown to be heavily disturbed. The development area is underlain by Precambrian Ventersdorp Supergroup lavas which over overlain by the Mbizane Formation (Dwyka Group, Karoo Supergroup). The Mbizane Formation is not highly fossiliferous; however non-marine ichno fossils and vascular plants remains are known to be present. The on-going development will impact geological recent alluvial and wind-blown sands of low palaeontological sensitivity. A single Middle Stone Age (MSA) flake blade of low cultural significance was identified within the development area. No further heritage resources were identified. No recommendations were provided.

Recommendations provided in the DBAR include the following:

- Should any heritage resources (including but not limited to fossils, coins, indigenous and/or colonial ceramics, any articles of value or antiquity, stone artefacts or bone remains, structures and or built features, rock art and rock engravings) be exposed during excavations for the purpose of construction, construction in the vicinity of the finding must be stopped. A trained palaeontologist or heritage

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specialist must be notified to assess the finds, and this must then be reported to the applicable heritage authority;

- Heritage remains uncovered or disturbed during earthworks must not be disturbed further until the necessary approval has been obtained from the heritage authority. A registered heritage specialist must be called to the site for inspection and removal once authority to do so, has been given;
- Under no circumstances shall any heritage material be destroyed or removed from site;
- All operations of excavation equipment must be made aware of the possibility of the occurrence of sub-surface heritage features and the following procedures must be followed: All construction in the immediate 50 m vicinity of the site must be ceased; The heritage practitioner must be informed as soon as possible; In the event of obvious human remains SAPS must be notified; Mitigation measures (such as refilling) must not be attempted; The area in a 50 m radius of the find must be barricaded with visible taping; Public access must be limited and the area must be placed under guard.

### **Final Comment**

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit has no objections to the proposed development and supports the recommendations of the specialists and the recommendations contained in the DBAR pertaining to heritage. The recommendations and the following conditions must be included as part of the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr):

- 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 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, 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

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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/488307>  
(DENC, Ref: S24G02/04/2018)

**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.