



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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CaseID: 12228

Date: Friday September 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: Witkop Fluorspar Pty Ltd

Witkop Fluorspar Mine (Pty) Ltd intends to submit an application for a mining right in terms of the Minerals and Petroleum Resources Development Act, Act 28 of 2002 (MPRDA) over Portion 0 (the Remaining Extent), Kanakies 332, Calvinia Rd. The proposed mining right area comprises 7,456.70 hectares and is located approximately 45km eastsouth- east of the town of Loeriesfontein and 40km north-north-west of the town of Nieuwoudtville, within the Northern Cape Province (Figures 1 and 2). This application for a mining right is subject to an application for an Environmental Authorisation in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), Act 107 of 1998. In addition to this, the project may also require a waste management license in terms of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act (NEM:WA), Act 59 of 2008 and a water use license in terms of the National Water Act, Act No. 36 of 1998 (NWA). Cabanga has been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to complete the necessary environmental applications and oversee the various specialist studies.

Cabanga Environmental has been appointed by Witkop Fluorspar Mine (Pty) Ltd to undertake a Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (S&EIA) process in support of an Environmental Authorisation (EA) and Mining Right Application on over Portion 0 (the Remaining Extent), Kanakies 332, Calvinia Rd, Northern Cape Province.

A draft Scoping Report has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, No. 107 of 1998 (NEMA), NEMA EIA Regulations for activities that trigger the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, No. 28 of 2002 (MPRDA) (As amended).

Project activities include 700 ha of vegetation clearance and topsoil stripping, 700 ha of surface trench mining and backfilling and rehabilitation, and supporting infrastructure such as administrative and ablution facilities, maintenance shed, various stockpiles, stockpile yard, and mobile crushing and screening plant.

The Scoping Report notes that a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) will be completed as part of the EIA.

In an Interim Comment issued on the 10/04/2018, SAHRA noted the pending HIA and awaited the submission



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of the report.

Prof Marion Bamford and Archaetnos Culture and Cultural Resource Consultants were appointed to provide the heritage specialist component of the EIA in terms of section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

Bamford, M. 2018. Palaeontological Impact Assessment for the proposed gypsum mining operation on farm Kanakies 332, Calvinia District, Northern Cape Province.

The project area is underlain by the Knersvlatke Subgroup which is known to contain trace fossils and stromatolites. The Quaternary alluvial sands do not contain well preserved fossils. The mining will not impact on significant fossil heritage. No recommendations are provided in the report.

Van Vollenhoven, A. C. 2018. A Report on a Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment for a Proposed Mining Rights Application on the Farm Kanakies 332, close to Loeriesfontein, Northern Cape Province.

No heritage resources were identified on site. Recommendations provided in the report include care should be taken when development commences that if any of these are discovered, a qualified archaeologist be called in to investigate the occurrence.

Final Comment

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology 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 without the incorporation of this comment, this comment must be forwarded directly to the competent authority for their consideration as per section 38(8) of the NHRA. Proof of the submission of the comment 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 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,



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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

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/488338>

Terms & Conditions:

1. This approval does not exonerate the applicant from obtaining local authority approval or any other necessary approval for proposed work.



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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.