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CaseID: 12503

Date: Wednesday August 15, 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: Concor Infrastructure

Opening of Ek Kraal quarry, Northern Cape Province

Chameleon Environmental had been appointed by Concor Infrastructure to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) and Mining Permit Application on portion 1 of the farm Ek Kraal No 199 RD, Northern Cape Province. A Basic Assessment Report (BAR) had been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, no 107 of 1998 (NEMA), NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations for activities that trigger the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, No 28 of 2002 (MPRDA)(As amended).

A final BAR had been submitted, however no Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) has been submitted.

In a Final Comment issued on the 25/05/2018, SAHRA did not endorse the application as no HIA had been conducted as per section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA). SAHRA then advised the Department of Environmental Affairs and the Department of Mineral Resources to **reject** the application for a Mining Permit on portion 1 of the farm Ek Kraal No 199RD, Northern Cape Province (NC 30/5/1/3/2/10667MP). The case was then Closed (Refused) on SAHRIS.

Since then, a HIA has been submitted to the case for SAHRA comment.

Van Schalkwyk, J. 2018. Phase 1 Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment: The Planned Development of a Borrow Pit on the Farm Ek Kraal 199 in the Karoo Hoogland Local Municipality of Northern Cape Province.

No heritage resources 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 be made.

In an Interim Comment issued on the 18/06/2018, SAHRA requested that an assessment of the impact to palaeontological resources must be conducted by a qualified palaeontologist. The report must comply with



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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2012 Minimum Standards: Palaeontological Component of Heritage Impact Assessments.

Fourie, H. 2018. Palaeontological Impact Assessment Phase 1 Field Study: Opening of Ek Kraal Quarry.

The proposed development is underlain by the Abrahamskraal Formation (Adelaide Subgroup, Beaufort Group, Karoo Supergroup). No fossils were identified during the site visit.

Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- Care must be taken during the grading of roads, digging of foundations, drilling, and removing topsoil, subsoil and overburden (see Executive Summary) or blasting of bedrock;
- If any palaeontological material is exposed during digging, excavating, drilling or blasting SAHRA must be notified. All construction activities must be stopped and a palaeontologist should be called in to determine proper mitigation measures.

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 (EMPr):

- The Fossil Finds Procedure included in Palaeontological report must be implemented as part of the EMPr;
- The final BAR must be submitted to SAHRA for record purposes;
- 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.

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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/504250>
(DMR - NC, Ref: NC30/5/1/3/2/10667MP)