Proposed development of an agriculture and forestry technology park

Our Ref: 12762



an agency of the Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 12762

Date: Monday October 01, 2018

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Interim Comment

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

Attention: THABA CHWEU LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment of a proposed new industrial development on the farm Waterval 168, Sabie, Mpumalanga Province.

Greenbox Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd is undertaking an Environmental Assessment for a Environmental Authorisation application on behalf of their client, in respect of listed activities in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations 2014 as amended in 2017, in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA). To meet the requirements of section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, no 25 of 1999, a revised Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) inclusive of a Palaeontological Impact Assessment by Dr Lloyd Rossouw has been submitted to South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) for commenting.

Roussouw, L. May 2018. Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment of a proposed new industrial development on the f arm Waterval 168, Sabie, Mpumalanga Province.

The author undertook a field assessment of the proposed Agriculture and Forestry Technology park to determine whether any significant heritage resources would be impacted. From the survey, it is found that the study is underlain by the late Archaean Black Reef Formation of the Transvaal Supergroup which has a rare chance for the occurrence of stromatolitic carbonates in the sandstone rocks. It is overlain by colluvium and unconsolidated residual soils of the Quaternary Age. The only visible surface heritage is a small grave yard with 10 graves. The overall visibility is low due to the tree plantation and most of the surface area has been impacted by tree-planting activities. The impact to palaeontological resources is low due to the lack of suitably significant fossiliferous rocks. The author recommends that a suitably qualified palaeontologists must be called in to inspect any fossils uncovered during construction and that the cemetery must be fenced off with a 10 m no-go buffer area.

Interim Comment

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology, Meteorites (APM) Unit cannot accept this HIA report as it does not adhere to the 2007 SAHRA Minimum Standards: Archaeological and Palaeontological components of the

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Impact Assessment reports. There is no tracklog provided in the report, or a detailed project description clearly defining the proposed development activities and a Chance Finds Procedure for heritage and palaeo heritage is not included in the HIA. Therefore a map depicting the proposed activities must be added to the HIA along with the project description and Chance Finds Procedures. A .kml file must be added to the case, in the relevant palaeomap field. In addition, all the environmental documents created for this EA application must be submitted to the case on SAHRIS.

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SAHRA awaits the amended HIA and all the environmental documents before we process the case further.

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/510151

(TCLM, Ref: 1/3//1/16/1E-196)

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