

PROPOSED EXPANSION OF THE EXISTING DAM ON REM PORTION OF THE FARM OVERVLAKTE 125 MS, MUSINA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

Our Ref: 12775



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 12775

Date: Wednesday August 15, 2018

Page No: 1

Interim Comment

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

Attention: Tua Conserva Environmental

PO Box 960
Fauna Park
Polokwane
0787

The area proposed for development on the Remaining portion of the farm Overvlakte 125 MS, 61km west of Musina, Limpopo, is an application to extend an existing dam. Total hectares proposed is 98.2 ha of which 32 ha is the existing dam. The farm is mainly utilized as an irrigation water storage farm for citrus production.

Tua Conserva Environmental and Conservation Services cc is undertaking an environmental assessment on behalf of their client, in respect of listed activities in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations 2014, that require an application for Environmental Authorisation, 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 Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) by Shasa Heritage Consultants was undertaken and the report submitted to South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) for commenting.

Roodt, F.E. and Stiegman, L. April 2018. Phase 1 Heritage Resources Scoping Report Proposed Expansion of the Existing Dam on Rem Portion of the Farm Overvlakte 125 MS, Musina Local Municipality, Vhembe District, Limpopo Province.

The author undertook a field assessment of the proposed development area and identified 6 areas with archaeological artefacts that correspond to site 45 in the 2009 and 2012 HIA reports. These findings are of medium significance and will be impacted by the proposed dam expansion. The authors recommend that either the dam size is changed to accommodate the conservation of the sites or that the sites are mitigated.

Interim Comment

SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit cannot accept the HIA report provided to the case as the report does not comply with the SAHRA 2007 minimum standards for impact assessment

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Page No: 2

guidelines and section 38(3) of the NHRA. The report does not make adequate reference to the two previous HIAs conducted over this area, as well as several years of monitoring reports conducted as part of the Vele Mine Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

The site names/numbers from previous reports must be used when describing sites to be impacted by the current proposed dam to ensure consistency with regards to reporting and monitoring. It is unclear whether site 4 (site number as per the previous 2009 and 2012 HIAs) will be impacted by the proposed dam and associated activities.

The report must provide a track log of the field survey that was undertaken for the proposed dam expansion project. The report must also provide a detailed impact assessment of the proposed activities on the identified heritage resources, including risks such as potential flooding and cumulative impacts. A discussion regarding the long term conservation of the sites versus mitigation of the sites must be included in the revised HIA. Furthermore, the report must provide long term conservation measures that will be included into the existing Heritage Management Plan (HMP) for Vele Colliery.

The proposed development area is also underlain by palaeontologically significant formations therefore, a Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA) must be undertaken by a suitably qualified palaeontologist and submitted to SAHRA for commenting.

Before this case can be processed further, an amended HIA and a PIA report must be submitted, along with the environmental assessment reports and its appendices.

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

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Page No: 3

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/510413>