

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 13063

Date: Monday June 10, 2019
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Interim Comment

In terms of Section 38(3), 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Assmang (Pty) Ltd

DRAFT Environmental Scoping Report for in terms of Nation Environmental Management Act, 1998 for: Project 1: New Return Water Dam 3. Project 2: New Infrastructure (New Water Containment Facility and Pipelines Project 3: Water Use License (WUL) amendment

EnviroGistics has been appointed by Assmang (Pty) Ltd: Khumani Iron Ore Mine to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for proposed projects within the Khumani Iron Ore Mine, near Kathu, Northern Cape Province.

A draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, no 107 of 1998 (NEMA), NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The proposed projects include a new Return Water Dam (RWD) 3 and King Water Containments Facility, Pipelines project and an amendment to the Water Use Licence (WUL).

Two Heritage Impact Assessments (HIA) have been submitted as part of the EA application in terms of section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

Morris, D. 2005. Report on a Phase 1 Archaeological Assessment of proposed mining areas on the farms Bruce, King, Mokaning and Parson, between Postmasburg and Kathu, Northern Cape.

A total of four cemeteries, surfaces scatters of Stone Age artefacts, one high density surface scatter of Stone Age lithics and Later Iron Age potsherds were identified within the surveyed footprint. Recommendations in the report include surface collection of specific Stone Age and Iron Age occurrences, long-term management of heritage resources that are to remain *in-situ* and a monitoring procedure be implemented.

Van der Walt, J. 2017. Heritage Impact Assessment for the proposed Khumani Iron Ore Project, Sishen, Northern Cape.

No heritage resources were identified within the proposed project area surveyed as part of the HIA. These areas include a proposed new Sorter Plant and two new silos/magazines. A chance finds procedure was

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recommended.

In an Interim Comment issued on the 07/03/2019, SAHRA stated that the HIA reports submitted to the application could not be accepted as the reports do not address the current activities under application. An application and site specific HIA that complies with section 38(3) of the NHRA was requested to be submitted as part of the EA application.

Van der Walt, J. 2019. Heritage Impact Assessment for Khumani Iron Ore Mine New Water Return Dam, Pipelines and Water Containment Facility, Sishen, Northern Cape.

No significant heritage resources were identified within the current proposed development area. Isolated out of context occurrences of Stone Age lithics were identified along the proposed pipeline alignment. Recommendations provided in the report include the implementation of a chance finds procedure as part of the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

The report references a 2019 Palaeontological report, but the report has not been submitted to the application.

Interim Comment

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit requests that the 2019 Palaeontological Study referenced in the 2019 HIA be submitted for review.

Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the above requested report.

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

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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/513690>
(DMR - NC, Ref: NC30/5/1/2/3/2/1/070)