

Prospecting Right for Diamonds on Remaining extent of portion 9 and 13 of the farm Rietfontein 11 within the administrative district of Prieska, Northern Cape

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 13076

Date: Tuesday January 21, 2020
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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: Kimswa Mining (Pty) Ltd

Kimswa Mining (Pty) Ltd (“The applicant”) has applied for a Prospecting Right on 04 July 2018 on the above mentioned farms situated in the Magisterial District of Prieska, Northern Cape Province to mine for diamonds (alluvial); diamonds (in kimberlites); diamonds (general). Prieska is a town on the south bank of the Orange River, in the province of the Northern Cape, in South Africa. The application area is about 60 km northwest from Prieska and about 25km east from Maryvale on the south bank of the Orange River, Northern Cape, South Africa.

Wadala Mining and Consulting (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by Kimswa Mining (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) and Prospecting Right (PR) Application for proposed prospecting activities on Remaining extent of portion 9 and 13 of the farm Rietfontein 11, near Koegas, Northern Cape Province (NC30/5/1/1/2/12200PR).

An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 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). The proposed prospecting will cover 6 613.2836 ha and will include 100 trenches (200 m x 200 m x 0.5 m deep). Supporting infrastructure will include water pipelines, diesel storage, ± 5 km haul roads, stockpiles, slimes dams, office complex, workshop facilities, return water dams and waste disposal sites.

Prof Marion Bamford and Archaeological and Heritage Services Africa (Pty) Ltd have been appointed to provide heritage input in the EA process as per section 38(3) and 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA) as required by section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA.

Bamford, M. 2019. Palaeontological Impact Assessment for the proposed prospecting rights on Farm Rietfontein 11 and 13, Prieska District, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed development area is underlain by the Archean Granitoid intrusion and Marydale Greenstone Belt that do not preserve fossils. Other formations present include the Allanridge Formation (Ventersdorp

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Supergroup), Vryburg Formation (Transvaal Supergroup), Schmidtsdrift Supgroup (Ghaap Group, Transvaal Supergroup), Asbestos Hills Subgroup (Ghaap Group, Transvaal Supergroup) and Dwyka Group (Karoo Supergroup). Stromatolites are known to be present within the Vryburg formation, and marine fossils and plant fossils have been identified in the Dwyka Group sediments. Due to the, however low, likelihood of fossils being uncovered, a Fossil Finds Procedure is recommended and is provided in the report.

Matenga, E. 2019. Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment (including Palaeontological Assessment) requested in terms of section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act, (No25/1999) for the proposed mine prospecting on the remaining extent of portion 13 and 9 of the farm Rietfontein 11, Prieska District, Northern Cape Province.

A total of 15 heritage resources of medium B cultural significance were identified within the proposed prospecting area. These include 13 surface occurrences of Stone Age lithics and two historical built structures.

Recommendations provided in the report include the need to protect the two identified historical structures, and the implementation of a Chance Finds Procedure.

Final Comment

The following comments are made as a requirement in terms of section 3(4) of the NEMA Regulations and section 38(8) of the NHRA in the format provided in section 38(4) of the NHRA and must be included in the Final EIA and EMPr:

- 38(4)a – The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit has no objections to the proposed development;
- 38(4)b – The recommendations provided by the heritage specialists are supported and must be adhered to. Additional further specific conditions are provided for the development as follows:
 - A 30m no go buffer zone must be adhered to around the identified historical structures;
- 38(4)c(i) – 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 as per section 35(3) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with section of the NHRA is an offense in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule;
- 38(4)c(ii) – If unmarked human burials are uncovered, the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG)

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Unit (Thingahangwi Tshivhase/Mimi Seetelo 012 320 8490), must be alerted immediately as per section 36(6) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with section of the NHRA is an offense in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule;

- 38(4)d – See section 51(1) of the NHRA;
- 38(4)e – The following conditions apply with regards to the appointment of specialists:
 - i) If heritage resources are uncovered during the course of the development, a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the heritage resource. 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;
- The Final EIA and EMPr must be submitted to SAHRA for record purposes;
- The decision regarding the EA Application must be communicated to SAHRA and uploaded to the SAHRIS Case application.

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
Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit

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South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/513945>
(DMR - NC, Ref: NC30/5/1/1/2/12200PR)

Terms & Conditions:

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