A Mining Right for Diamonds (Alluvial); Sand (General and Manufactured from waste dump) Unserveyed State Land adjacent to farm 248 NC10134MR

Our Ref:



an agency of the Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001 www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt Tel: 021 462 4502 Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za CaseID: 13193 Date: Thursday December 20, 2018 Page No: 1

## **Interim Comment**

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

Attention: Silver Solutions 851 CC

Silver Solutions 851 CC ("The applicant") has applied for a Mining Right on Unsurveyed State Land between the inner bank boundary of Farm 248 and the middle of the Vaal river boundary of Rooipport Farm situated in the Magisterial District of Herbert, Northern Cape Province to mine for diamonds (alluvial); Sand (general and Manufactured from waste dump). The Silver Solutions Project Area is situated: Douglas South-West +- 40 Griquatown West +-80 Kimberley North-West +-75 On the left-hand-bank of the Vaal River about 75Km west of Kimberley in the Herbert District. The property is accessible via good roads from different directions.

Wadala Mining and Consulting (Pty) Ltd have been appointed by Silver Solutions 851 CC conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) and Mining Right (MR) application for proposed mining activities on Unsurveyed State Land between the inner bank boundary of Farm 248 and the middle of the Vaal river boundary of Rooipport Farm situated in the Magisterial District of Herbert, Northern Cape Province.

A Background Information Document (BID) has bee submitted to the SAHRIS application 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). The proposed mining activities will include board and pillar over an area of 35.1275 ha.

Archaeological and Heritage Services Africa (Pty) Ltd and Prof Marion Bamford were appointed to provide the heritage specialist component as part of the EA application in terms of section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

Matenga, E. 2018. Phase I Heritage Impact Assessment (Including Palaeontological Assessment) Requested in Terms of Section 38 Of the National Heritage Resources Act No 25/1999 For the Proposed Mine Prospecting on The Remainder of The Farm Schimdtsdrift 248, Pixley Ka Seme District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

A total of 11 heritage resources were recorded within the proposed development footprint. Of the 25 sites, 10

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sites were comprised of low density Stone Age lithic scatters of medium heritage significance. The 11<sup>th</sup> site contains possible Later Iron Age potsherds and was rated as a site of medium heritage significance. A Chance Finds procedure was recommended.

Bamford, M. 2018. Palaeontological Impact Assessment for the proposed mining rights on Farm Schmidtsdrift 248, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed development footprint is underlain by the Quaternary group sands with underlying ancient volcanic rocks that do not contain fossils. Rocks from the Dwyka Group are located to the north of the proposed mining area and there have been reports of pollen, spore, plant and fish fragments near Douglas, therefore there is a small chance that fossils would be evident in the mudstones within the proposed mining area. A Chance Finds Procedure is recommended to be included in the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

## **Interim Comment**

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit requests that the EIA documents i.e. draft Scoping and appendices and draft EIA and appendices be submitted to the SAHRIS Case application so that an informed comment can be issued.

Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the above.

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

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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/514675 (DMR - NC, Ref: NC30/5/1/2/2/10134MR)