#### THE RE-LOCATION OF EXISTING EVAPORATION PONDS AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF VINEYARDS ACROSS STREAMS ON PORTION 75 OF FARM KEBOES NO 37, NORTHERN CAPE 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: 13469 Date: Monday June 10, 2019 Page No: 1

## **Final Comment**

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

Attention: Mr Piet Karstens Newgro Farming PTY Ltd

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Pieter Badenhorst Professional Services was appointed by Newgro Farming (Pty) Ltd to conduct a section 24G rectification of cultivation of vineyards across small streams and relocation of existing evaporation ponds on portion 75 Farm Keboes no 37, Keimoes, Northern Cape Province.

A draft 24G Assessment Report has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, no 107 of 1998 (NEMA), NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The conducted activities included the clearance of 30 ha of indigenous vegetation and construction of evaporation ponds within a watercourse.

The Agency for Cultural Resources Management was appointed to provide specialist heritage input into the 24G application as per section24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and 38(8) and 38(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

Kaplan, J. 2019. Heritage Letter: Section 24G Rectification of cultivation of vineyards on portion 75 of farm Keboes no 37 near Keimoes, Kara Hais Municipality, Northern Cape.

The letter notes two separate Heritage Impact Assessments (HIA) conducted in 2008 and 2010 that did not identify any significant heritage resources. The specialist recommends that no further assessment of heritage resources is required for the 24G application.

In an Interim Comment issued on the 18/03/2019, SAHRA requested that an assessment of the potential palaeontological resources that may have been impacted by the unauthorized activities be conducted, as the development footprint is located within an area of moderate sensitivity for palaeontological resources as per the SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity map.

A Palaeontological Desktop Assessment conducted in 2009 for a housing development over adjacent portions

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of the farm Keboes No 37 has been submitted for review.

#### Rubidge, B. 2009. Farm Keboes 37, Upington: Palaeontological Impact.

The development area is underlain by Precambrian aged granites and charnockites of the Keimoes Suite as well as the Areachap Formation that do not contain fossils. Recommendations provided in the report include that if fossils are encountered during the course of the development, a suitably qualified palaeontologist must be contacted to assess the situation.

In an Interim Comment issued on the 01/04/2019, SAHRA stated that the submitted Palaeontological Desktop Study could not be accepted as it has not assessed the current area under application and does not comply with the 2012 Minimum Standards: Palaeontological Components of Heritage Impact Assessments.

Since the issuing the Interim Comment, a second Palaeontological assessment has been submitted for review.

Almond, J. E. 2019. Recommended Exemption from Further Palaeontological Studies: Desktop Study Re-Location of Existing Evaporation Ponds and the construction of Vineyards across streams on Portion 75 of farm Keboes No 37 near Keimoes, Kai! Garib Municipality, Northern Cape.

The development area is underlain by unfossiliferous Precambrian granitoid rocks of the the Keboes Granite and the Kanoneiland Granite (Keimoes Suite, Namaqua-Natal Province). The overlying aeolian sands and stream gravels of the Gordonia Formation (Kalahari Group) are of low to very low palaeontological sensitivity. It is unlikely that significant impacts to palaeontological resources would have occurred. A Chance Fossil Finds Procedure was included.

#### **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 no objections to the proposed development;
- 38(4)b The specialist recommendations are supported and must be included in the final 24G report. No specific conditions are provided for the proposed development;

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- 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) 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 Section 24G and EMPr must be uploaded to the SAHRIS application for record purposes;
- The decision regarding the 24G 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

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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/520973 (DENC, Ref: S24G 02/03/2018)

#### 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.