

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: 13848

Date: Friday June 21, 2019
Page No: 1

Interim Comment

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

Attention: Mrs Lee-Ann Pretorius
Grasaro Environmental Consultants

The mining permit is for a 5 ha area on Erf 536 Springbok blue mine. Only 7 blocks is set out for mining that the client is interested in. The northern side/boundary consist of a 10-meter-high stable face which is to be left in current state. Mining will occur on the blocks (blue squares). No blasting will occur, and blocks will be drilled by a low noise, low vibrating drill up to a depth of 6 meters. The proposed mining area falls in Springbok, Northern Cape Province.

Grasaro (Pty) Ltd have been appointed by Xwena Copper Pty Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application and Mining Permit (MP) Application for proposed mining activities on the Erf 536, Springbok, Northern Cape (NCS 30/5/1/3/3/2/1 (10728) MP).

A Final Basic Assessment Report (BAR) has been submitted 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, 28 of 2002 (MPRDA) (As amended). The proposed mining activities include open cast mining of copper by excavator, loader and jack hammer.

The FBAR notes that an assessment of heritage is being undertaken (page 17 and 49) but has yet to be submitted to SAHRA for comment.

Interim Comment

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit requests that the outstanding Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) be submitted to the case for review. The HIA must have been completed in terms of section 38(3) and 38(8) of National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA). The HIA must be inclusive of archaeological components.

The quickest process to follow for the archaeological component would be to contract a qualified archaeologist (see www.asapa.co.za or www.aphp.org.za to provide an Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA). The AIA must comply with the SAHRA 2007 Minimum Standards: Archaeological and Palaeontological Component of

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Page No: 2

Impact Assessments.

No further Palaeontological Assessment is required as the proposed development footprint is located within an insignificant sensitivity as per the SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity map. A Fossil Finds Procedure must be developed for the construction phase of the proposed development (a list of qualified palaeontologists can be found at <https://www.palaeosa.org/heritage-practitioners.html>).

Any other heritage resources as defined in section 3 of the NHRA that may be impacted, such as built structures over 60 years old, sites of cultural significance associated with oral histories, burial grounds and graves, graves of victims of conflict, and cultural landscapes or viewsapes must also be assessed.

The applicant is advised to apply for an extension of the BAR process in terms of section 19(1)b of the NEMA Regulations in order to include the results of the heritage assessment and comments from SAHRA into the Final BAR to be submitted to the competent authority.

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

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Page No: 3

Acting Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/523891>
(DMR - NC, Ref: nid:523887)