



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 13958

Date: Thursday September 05, 2019

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## Interim Comment

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

Attention: Minah Moabi

Universal Coal (Pty) Ltd

**Eloff Mining Company (Pty) Ltd has been granted a Mining Right Mining Right (MP30/5/1/2/2/10169MR), in terms of the Minerals and Petroleum Resources Development Act (Act 28 of 2002 – MPRDA) as amended, for the mining of the Eloff Coal Resource (Eloff Project) and further applied for Environmental Authorisation (“EA”) for the mining of coal and associated activities for Phase 1 Pit 1 of the Eloff Project which has been granted on the 25th April 2019. In addition to the above, Eloff Mining Company wishes to apply for EA for the development of a Eloff Phase 3 (“Phase 3 Project) opencast mining pit and associated infrastructure on the southern-eastern part of the Eloff Project mining right and adjacent to the existing Kangala Colliery covering an extent of approximately 251 hectares (ha) (herein referred to as the Phase 3 Project). The proposed Phase 3 Project extends over portions 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24 and 59 of the farm Strydpan 243 IR located approximately 7.5km south-east of the town Delmas in Victor Khanye Local Municipality, within the Nkangala District Municipality, Mpumalanga Province. The proposed Phase 3 Project is anticipated to use a standard truck and shovel mining method based on strip mining design and layout. The existing Coal Handling and Processing Plant (CHPP) at the adjacent Kangala Colliery will be utilised, and it is anticipated that no new surface infrastructure such as offices, dams, stores facility, workshops, or change house will be required for the project. A full Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process is being undertaken in support of the EA application. A new Water Use Licence Application (WULA) for the relevant water uses associated with the project is also underway as a separate application which is being undertaken by GCS Water and Environmental Consultants (GCS).**

Eloff Mining Company (Pty) Ltd are proposing to establish an opencast mining pit as part of the Eloff phase 3 mining project. The mined coal will be processed at the existing coal handling and processing plant at Kangala Mine. The mine will be 251 ha in extent, located on Portions 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, and 59 of the farm Strydpan 243 IR, in Victor Khanye Local Municipality of the Mpumalanga Province.

Environmental Impact Assessment Services (Pty) Ltd have submitted a draft Scoping report on behalf of the applicant, Eloff Mining Company (Pty) Ltd, in support of an Integrated Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment application for Environmental Authorisation in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA), as amended. A Water Use License in terms of the National Water Act, No. 36 of 1998

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(NWA), in respect of listed activities in the NEMA 2014 EIA Regulations, as amended. A mine right amendment application is also being applied for in terms of section 102 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (MPRDA) (As amended).

In order to meet the requirements of SAHRA for commenting in terms of section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, no. 25 of 1999 (NHRA), a Heritage Scoping report by PGS Heritage has been submitted to SAHRA for commenting.

*Fourie, W. August 2018. Heritage Scoping Report, for Inclusion in the Environmental Scoping Report for the Proposed Kangala Extension Project, Mpumalanga.*

The author undertook a field survey of the proposed Kangala Mine extension in 2018 and identified various heritage sensitive zones on a topographical map and then confirmed them as heritage sites. The author recommends a HIA with a Palaeontological Impact Assessment due to the very high palaeontological significance rating of the mine location. The HIA will assess the significance and impacts to the identified heritage resources. These reports will be submitted in the EIA phase.

The graves that were identified in the heritage scoping report, and have subsequently been relocated through a grave relocation process, must also be indicate in a map in the HIA phase.

### **Interim Comment**

It is noted that a Heritage Impact Assessment and Palaeontological Impact Assessment will be undertaken for the proposed development area. by a qualified archaeologist and palaeontologists respectively. It is understood that the reports will be submitted to SAHRA in the EIA phase of the EA application.

The South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit awaits the submission of the HIA and PIA reports, as well as the EIA report and its appendices before making further comments on the application.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

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Nokukhanya Khumalo  
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South African Heritage Resources Agency

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

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**ADMIN:**

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/524556>