



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 14067

Date: Friday December 06, 2019

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Final Comment

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

Attention: National Department of Health

Project Background: The building of a proposed new 488 bed central hospital, Limpopo Central Hospital (LCH), on a new site in Polokwane, Limpopo Province, that will provide the tertiary care for the province and which will be the major teaching hospital for the University of Limpopo Faculty of Health Sciences and School of Medicine. The proposed Limpopo Central Hospital is situated within the Limpopo Province. The proposed project footprint falls within the jurisdiction of the Capricorn District Municipality (DM), and the Polokwane Local Municipality (LM). The proposed Limpopo Central Hospital is currently situated between Edupark, the Northern Academy Secondary School and the N1 road. The proposed site is located on the remainder of Erf 6861 of Pietersburg Extension 30. **Project Scope:** There will be provision of the following at the new facility: ? 488 beds clinical care capacity for a wide range of highly specialised care; ? Mostly arranged in 28 bed wards (comprising some single-bed, double-bed, four bed and six bed units); ? Specific intensive care units (ICU) and high care (HC) layouts; ? Maternal and child health (MCH) (Paediatrics and Obstetrics & Gynaecology) will be consolidated on the site separate to the adult component but sharing clinical and hospital support services; ? A mothers lodge (capacity of 24); ? A pregnant mothers lodge (capacity of 18); ? Transit – waiting (capacity of 12); and ? A day procedure beds (capacity of 12) There will be support for a complete tertiary clinical care and academic complex core teaching capacity, comprising of a 488 x L3 beds at Limpopo Central Hospital delivering Provincial Tertiary Services (T1) and Central Referral Services (T2) care in most major clinical disciplines.

The University of Limpopo are proposing to construct a hospital in Erf 6861 of Pietersburg Extension 30 of the town of Polokwane, in the Polokwane Local Municipality of the Limpopo Province. The new hospital will be named the Limpopo Central Hospital and will be a teaching hospital with a 488-bed capacity.

Nemai Environmental, Social and OHS Consultants (Pty) Ltd have been appointed to undertake the Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (S&EIA) application process in support of an Environmental Authorisation application, made on behalf of the applicant. The application process is in respect of listed activities in the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, that require an application for Environmental Authorisation in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA).



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A draft Scoping Report has been submitted to SAHRA in terms of section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, 25 of 1999 for commenting. SAHRA acknowledged the notification by issuing an Interim Comment on 16/08/2019, and a draft EIAr and HIA report have been submitted to the case.

Hutten, M. October 2019. Proposed Development of the Limpopo Central Hospital on the Remaining Extent of Erf 6861–Extension 30 IN Polokwane in the Limpopo Province. Phase 1 –Heritage Impact Assessment.

The author undertook a field survey of Limpopo Central Hospital and identified 7 heritage sites of medium to high heritage significance located within the development area. The sites all relate to the pre-colonial farming communities and are extension of the pre-colonial stone walled sites that were excavated in the adjacent property (EduCare Complex). Sites Lim 03;04;05;08;09 are stone walled settlements with surface scatters of potsherds. Sites Lim 06 and 07 are middens with potsherds eroding out of them. These sites likely represent the early farming community period (Eiland phase) and later farming community period (Moloko phase and the Letaba phase), as identified in the EduCare excavations in 2001.

Both proposed alternatives will impact on the identified heritage resources. The author recommends all the sites to be mitigated to the following standards:

The extent of the Iron Age site needs to be documented through surveying of the site and the development of site layout maps;

Identified structures must be excavated with the aim of determining age, cultural affinity and utilization areas;

Specific attention must be given to the excavation and documentation of identified middens on the site;

After completion of the excavation, the collected material must be analysed for reporting purposes and then curated in a recognised provincial repository;

A destruction permit must then be applied for with the backing of the mitigation report;

This application for destruction must be lodged with the SAHRA under section 35 of the National Heritage Resources Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

Upon issuing of the destruction permit, construction can then commence.



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During the construction an archaeologist must monitor the site clearing, as the possibility of encountering subsurface cultural and human remains are deemed to be high.

No further mitigation required for palaeontological resources as the proposed hospital is located in an area of very low palaeontological sensitivity.

Final Comment

The South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit accepts the HIA report and the recommendations provided therein.

SAHRA has no objection to the development going ahead on the condition that the mitigation measures as listed above and in the HIA report must be included in the EMPr as well as following additional conditions:

A suitably qualified archaeologist must be appointed to undertake mitigation measures for the identified sites that will be impacted by the proposed development. The appointed archaeologist must obtain a section 35(4) permit in terms of NHRA and Chapter IV NHRA Regulations before mitigation commences.

If there are any new heritages resources are discovered during construction and operation phases of the proposed development, then a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the findings at the expense of the developer.

If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required at the expense of the developer. Mitigation will only be carried out after the archaeologist or palaeontologist obtains a permit in terms of section 35 of the NHRA (Act 25 of 1999). You may contact SAHRA APM Unit for further details: (Nokukhanya Khumalo/Phillip Hine 021 202 8654).

If any unmarked human burials are uncovered and the archaeologist called in to inspect the finds and/or the police find them to be heritage graves, then mitigation may be necessary and the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit must be contacted for processes to follow (Thingahangwi Tshivase/Mimi Seetelo 072 802 1251).

The Final EIAR and its appendices must be submitted to the case and once a Record of Decision from the competent authority is issued, it must also be submitted to the case. This comment must be forwarded to the competent authority and proof of submission must be uploaded to the case.

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

Yours faithfully

Nokukhanya Khumalo
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/526253>
(LIHRA, Ref:)

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.