

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 14268

Date: Friday March 27, 2020
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Interim Comment

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

Attention: Mr Jonathan Kaplan
Agency for Cultural Resources Management
5 Stuart Road
Rondebosch
7700

Proposed water pipeline and associated infrastructure

EnviroAfrica CC has been appointed by the Nama Khoi Municipality to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application process for the proposed upgrade of the Komaggas Water Supply System on portion 5 of the Farm Komaggas No 200, Northern Cape Province.

A Background Information Document (BID) has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 107 of 1998 (NEMA) and NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The proposed development will include the refurbishment of existing boreholes, new boreholes, the upgrading and installation of new infrastructure, construction of a new reservoir, construction of new water supply pipelines and the construction of electrical supply lines to the new boreholes.

Dr Pether and ACRM has been appointed to provide heritage specialist input as part of the EA process as per section 38(3) and 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA) as required by section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA.

Pether, J. 2020. Brief Palaeontological Assessment with Chance Fossil Finds Procedure: Upgrade of the Komaggas Water Supply System.

The proposed development is underlain by bedrock outcrops of gneiss and granites that do not contain fossils. Between the Buffelsrivier and Voorberg reservoirs within Quaternary to Recent superficial deposits which are poorly fossiliferous and do not preserve fossil bone well. Where the pipeline runs parallel to the left bank of the Buffelsrivier, alluvial deposits are expected to occur below the superficial soil that may contain remains of large mammals deposited during flood occurrences, however, the shallow trench for the pipeline is not expected to disturb large section of this area.

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A Chance Fossil Finds Procedure is recommended and is provided in the report.

Kaplan, J. 2020. Archaeological Impact Assessment: Proposed upgrade of the Komaggas Water Supply System on portion 5 and Rem. Of Farm Komaggas 200, Northern Cape.

A total of five heritage resources were identified as part of the AIA, including four surface occurrences of Middle Stone Age (MSA) lithics and one large fenced cemetery. The MSA lithics were assessed as having a low significance rating while the cemetery was assessed as a site of high significance. The cemetery is located outside of the alignment of the proposed pipeline. A Chance Finds Procedure is recommended.

Interim Comment

In the previously issued Interim Comment, SAHRA had requested that the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) be submitted to the case so that an informed comment could be issued. As it has now been six months since the comment was issued, SAHRA requests an update regarding the progress of the EA application in terms of NEMA.

Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the above requested clarification.

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

ADMIN:
Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/527906>