



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
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CaseID: 14328

Date: Thursday October 31, 2019
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Interim Comment

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

Attention: Eyethu Coal (Pty) Ltd

cBlesboklaagte Colliery, owned by Eyethu Coal (Pty) Limited is the proposed mining operation, situated about 5 kilometres northwest of Emalahleni. The proposed opencast mining will utilise the sequential rollover opencast mining method. Burgh Plant Hire (Pty) Ltd, a reputable opencast mining contractor will conduct the opencast mining. Blesboklaagte Colliery falls within the Emalahleni Local Municipality, which in turn falls under the Nkangala District Municipality area (Magisterial District of Witbank, Mpumalanga Province).

Eyethu Colliery (Pty) Ltd is proposing to amend their current coal mining activities by establishing another opencast coal mine located on the remainder of Portion 5 and the remainder of Portion 216 of the farm Blesboklaagte 296 JS, eMalahleni Local Municipality of the Mpumalanga Province. The mining operations will include a haul road, security access point, water storage facility, weighbridge, access roads, water management facility, workshop and admin area. All beneficiation will occur off site and the mined-out coal will be transported by road to the beneficiation plant.

Eyethu Colliery (Pty) Ltd have appointed Eco Elementum (Pty) Ltd to undertake a Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (S&EIA) application process in support of an Environmental Authorisation application and Section 102 amendment application in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA), as amended and the the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (MPRDA) (As amended) respectively. The proposed development triggers listed activities in the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, that require an integrated application for Environmental Authorisation.

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.

The draft Scoping Report states that a Heritage Impact Assessment and a Palaeontological Impact Assessment will be submitted to SAHRA for commenting, in the EIA phase of the EA application.

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The HIA and PIA must be undertaken by a suitably qualified archaeologist and palaeontologist respectively. They must comply with section 38(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA). Once the reports are submitted to the case for commenting, SAHRA will provide further comments on this proposed development.

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/528544>