



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 14375

Date: Tuesday May 19, 2020

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## Final Comment

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

Attention: Mr SITHOLE, MASIWA TOWELL

**The mine is located near the towns of Hendrina, Bethal and Ermelo. There are roads near the mine, making the area accessible, and there are no observable powerlines or nature reserves in the vicinity. The hydrological map confirms that there are rivers close to the project area. The Incredible Berachot coal mining right area comprises approximately 346,4648 ha and the project area is approximately 53.8 km north-west from Ermelo, using the N11 to Middleburg, approximately 31,2 km north-east of Bethal using R38 road to Hendrina and it is 16 km south-west of Hendrina. The area is under the control of the Gert Sibande District Municipality and Msukaligwa Local Municipality, located in South Africa's Mpumalanga province.**

Incredible Berachot Mining and Trading (Pty) Ltd is proposing to establish an opencast and underground coal mine on Portion 10 of the farm Granspan 222 IS, in the Msukaligwa Local Municipality of the Mpumalanga Province. The extent of the proposed mine right area is 346 hectares. A boxcut will be opened and an audit constructed for the underground mine access, a haul road and mine processing area will be constructed. This will include the weighbridge, the diesel facilities, workshop, offices, stockpile area, surface management measures and contractors yard.

Singo Consulting (Pty) Ltd have been appointed to undertake Basic Assessment (BAR) application process in support of an Environmental Authorisation application, made on behalf of the applicant, Incredible Berachot Mining and Trading (Pty) Ltd. 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) and a mine right in terms of section 22 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 Impact Assessment (HIA) by Integrated Specialist Services cc has been submitted to SAHRA for commenting.



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*Miilo, T. July 2019. A Phase 1 Archaeological/Heritage Impact Assessment for the proposed coal mining on the Farm Graspan 222 IS Portion 10 in the Magisterial District of Ermelo in Mpumalanga Province*

The author undertook a field assessment of the proposed development and identified a historical farm house and associated buildings.

## Final Comment

South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit cannot endorse this proposed mining project, because the EIA application has been undertaken in 2019 and case on SAHRIS was only submitted to SAHRA in 2020. As it stands, the application is still incomplete because an assessment of palaeontological heritage has not been conducted.

- The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit advises the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) and the Department of Mineral Resources (DMR) to reject the application to establish an opencast and underground coal mine on Portion 10 of the farm Granspan 222 IS, in the Msukaligwa Local Municipality of the Mpumalanga Province as SAHRA was afforded the opportunity to provide comments in terms of heritage resources as per section 38(3) or section 38(8) of the NHRA as part of the EA application.
- This comment must be forwarded directly to the competent authorities and proof of the submission and receipt thereof must be provided to SAHRA.

The developer is reminded that no heritage must be damaged or destroyed in terms of sections 34, 35 and 36 of the NHRA.

The Final EIA and its appendices must be submitted to the case.

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  
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/529210>  
(DMR-MP, Ref: )