

Proposed Turfvlakte Open Pit Project at Grootegeluk Coal Mine near Lephalale, Limpopo

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Nokukhanya Khumalo

Tel: 021 462 4502

Email: nkhumalo@sahra.org.za

CaseID: 14746

Date: Wednesday February 12, 2020

Page No: 1

Interim Comment

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

Attention: Exxaro Resources

PO Box 9229
Pretoria 0001
South Africa

Application for EA and WUL for the proposed Turfvlakte Open Mine Project at Grootegeluk Coal Mine near Lephalale, Limpopo Province

Exxaro Resources (Pty) Ltd appointed Golder Associates Africa (Pty) Ltd to undertake the Environmental Authorization application for the expansion of their existing mining operations by extending the opencast coal mining operation to mine the Turfvlakte coal reserves in farm Turfvlakte 463 LQ located within Grootegeluk Coal Mine's existing Mining Right area, in the Waterberg District Municipality, Limpopo Province.

A Draft Scoping Report is submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 107 of 1998 (NEMA) and the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations that trigger the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, No 28 of 2002 (MPRDA) (As amended), the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) (NWA) and National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act 59 of 2008) (NEMWA).

The proposed project will consist of two pits, namely Pit 1 and Pit 2. Pit 1 will be 158 ha in size and will be approximately 88 m deep, while Pit 2 will be 64 ha and approximately 109 m deep. The preferred option is to mine Pit 1 and then Pit 2 over a period of 12 years.

The proposed surface infrastructure to be constructed includes haul roads connecting the proposed pits to the existing Grootegeluk Coal Mine operations, a laydown area for the mine equipment and offices, water management infrastructure (sumps and pipelines), waste management area (waste skips) and a sub-station.

Golder Associates Africa (Pty) Ltd commissioned Dr J Pistorius and Dr H Fourie to provide the heritage specialist input as per section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA) as required by section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA.

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Nokukhanya Khumalo

Tel: 021 462 4502

Email: nkhumalo@sahra.org.za

CaseID: 14746

Date: Wednesday February 12, 2020

Page No: 2

Pistorius, J. 2018. A PHASE I HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT STUDY FOR THE PROPOSED EXXARO TURFVLAKTE OPEN PIT PROJECT NEAR LEPHALALE IN THE LIMPOPO PROVINCE

No heritage resources heritage resources as outlined in Section 3 of the National Heritage Resources Act (No 25 of 1999) were discovered in the Project Area. There is no objection for the proceeding of the project.

Fourie, H. 2018. Proposed Turfvlakte Open Pit Mining near Lephalale, Limpopo Province Lephalale Municipality, Waterberg District Municipality, Limpopo Province Farm: Daarby 458, Appelvlakte 448, Grootestryd 465, Nelsonskop 464, Turfvlakte 463-LQ

The site is underlain mostly by the sandstone, shale, coal and mudstone of the Grootegeluk Formation (Ecca Group, Karoo Supergroup). Glossopterid coal flora is known to be abundant in the formation which is associated with thick coal seams. No fossils were discovered during the field survey and protocol for finds is included into the report.

Interim Comment

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology, Meteorite (APM) unit notes the recommendations provided in the heritage specialist report and notes that no heritage resources were found during the surveys. The PIA report however does not contain a tracklog.

It is noted that a number of surveys have been done in the development footprint which have not been referenced in the HIA report. The HIA must therefore be amended to include the results of previous surveys within the surroundings and assess their impacts.

The PIA report therefore has to be amended to include the tracklog and be submitted as part of the EIA phase. The EIA report and all its appendices must be submitted along with the PIA report so that an informed comment may be issued.

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

Yours faithfully

Proposed Turfvlakte Open Pit Project at Grootegeluk Coal Mine near Lephalale, Limpopo

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Nokukhanya Khumalo
Tel: 021 462 4502
Email: nkhumalo@sahra.org.za
CaseID: 14746

Date: Wednesday February 12, 2020
Page No: 3

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/533279>

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.