

Our Ref:



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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Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt
Tel: 021 462 4502
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CaseID: 14928

Date: Wednesday November 11, 2020
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Final Comment

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

Attention: Willie Oosthuizen
Wadala Mining and Consulting Pty Ltd

Drilling

Wadala Mining and Consulting Pty Ltd has been appointed by Thunderflex 78 (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for proposed prospecting activities on various properties near Griekwastad, Northern Cape Province (NC) 30/5/1/1/2/12433 PR.

A draft Basic Assessment Report (DBAR) process will be followed in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) and the 2014 EIA Regulations for activities that trigger the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (MPRDA)(As amended). The proposed prospecting right application area will cover 15 358.8792 ha and will include 700 boreholes of ± 5 m deep over five years, including access roads, minor bush clearance, and a mobile officer container.

It is noted that the assessment of the impact to heritage resources is still pending (see page 68 of the DBAR).

In an Interim Comment issued on the 23/09/2020, SAHRA noted the pending HIA. Since the issuing of the Interim Comment, the assessment of heritage resources has been submitted to the case (13/10/2020).

Bamford, M. 2020. Palaeontological Impact Assessment for the proposed Prospecting and Mining Rights Application by Thunderflex 78, north east of Griekwastad, Northern Cape Province.

*Only results pertaining to the prospecting rights application will be discussed below.

The proposed development footprint is underlain by the moderately fossiliferous Lime Acre Member (Kogelbeen Fm, Campbell Rand Subgroup, Ghaap Plateau Group) and Quaternary Limestone as well as BIFs of the Kuruman Formation (Asbestos Hills Subgroup, Ghaap Plateau Group). It is noted that the SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity map has incorrectly displayed the sensitivity of the Kuruman Formation as very highly sensitive, however this formation does not preserve fossils and therefore no site visit is required. Drilling through the surface limestone is unlikely to disturb any fossils, however a Chance Finds Protocol is recommended to be followed and is provided in the report.

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Matenga, E. 2020. Phase I Heritage Impact Assessment in terms of Section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act No 25/1999 for the Proposed Prospecting and Mining Right on the Remaining Extent of The Farm Mesnard 38, Farm Rooipan 43, Farm La Provence 51, Remaining Extent and Portion 1 (Turksvypan) of the Farm 52, Portion 1 of the Farm Hopefield Estate 552, Remaining Extent of the Farm 565 in the Siyancuma Local Municipality, Northern Cape.

*Only results pertaining to the prospecting rights application will be discussed below.

It is noted that no access to the farm La Provence and the Farm 38/RE was granted. A farm to the south was surveyed to assess the broader heritage sensitivity of the area.

A total of 34 heritage resources were identified within the proposed development area. These include farmsteads, cattle enclosures and farm structures, and scatters of Stone Age lithics. No heritage resources of high heritage significance were identified. A Chance Finds Procedure is recommended to be followed.

Final Comment

The following comments are made as a requirement in terms of section 3(4) of the NEMA Regulations and section 38(8) of the NHRA in the format provided in section 38(4) of the NHRA and must be included in the Final BAR and EMP:

- 38(4)a – The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit has no objections to the proposed development;
- 38(4)b – The recommendations of the specialists are supported and must be adhered to. No further additional specific conditions are provided for the development;
- 38(4)c(i) – If any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g. remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments, charcoal and ash concentrations), fossils or other categories of heritage resources are found during the proposed development, SAHRA APM Unit (Natasha Higgitt/Phillip Hine 021 462 5402) must be alerted as per section 35(3) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with section of the NHRA is an offense in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule;
- 38(4)c(ii) – If unmarked human burials are uncovered, the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit (Thingahangwi Tshivhase/Mimi Seetelo 012 320 8490), must be alerted immediately as per section 36(6) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with section of the NHRA is an offense in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule;

Prospecting Right for diamonds by Thunderflex 78 (Pty) Ltd (Turksvypan) with Drilling (NC12433PR)

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- 38(4)d – See section 51(1) of the NHRA;
- 38(4)e – The following conditions apply with regards to the appointment of specialists:
 - i) If heritage resources are uncovered during the course of the development, a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the heritage resource. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required subject to permits issued by SAHRA;
 - The Final BAR and EMPr must be submitted to SAHRA for record purposes;
 - The decision regarding the EA Application must be communicated to SAHRA and uploaded to the SAHRIS Case application.

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

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

ADMIN:

Prospecting Right for diamonds by Thunderflex 78 (Pty) Ltd (Turksvypan) with Drilling (NC12433PR)

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Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/534897>

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.