

Application for an Environmental Authorisation for relocation of the bulk chemical storage facility at Anglo American Platinum's Rustenburg Base Metal Refiners

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
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Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt
Tel: 021 462 4502
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CaseID: 15638

Date: Wednesday July 14, 2021
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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: Anglo American Platinum Limited

55 Marshall Street, Floor 11, Marshalltown, Johannesburg, 2001, South Africa

Anglo American Platinum's Rustenburg Base Metals Refiners (RBMR) requires reagents in support of processing applications at their Magnetic Concentrator (MC) Plant and BMR plants. The chemicals are received, stored and distributed from a centralised bulk chemical storage facility. However, continuous leaks and loss of bund integrity have resulted in the contamination of the current site's substrate resulting in heaving of the foundations. The chemical storage plant therefore needs to be relocated.

SRK Consulting (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by Anglo American Platinum RBMR to conduct an Environmental Authorisation Application for the proposed relocation of the bulk chemical storage facility at Anglo America Platinum's Rustenburg Base Metal Refiners, near Rustenburg, North West Province.

A draft Scoping Report (DSR) has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) and the 2017 NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The proposed activities includes the construction of a new Bulk Chemical Storage Facility, paved access roads and siding on the railway.

Digby Wells Environmental has been appointed to provide heritage specialist input as required by section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

Hardwick, S and Du Piesanie, J. 2020. Heritage Scoping Input: Heritage Resources Management Process for the Rustenburg Base Metals Refinery Bulk Chemical Storage Facility Relocation Project, North West Province.

The Heritage Scoping Input notes potential risk to heritage resources defined as section 35 and 36 heritage resources. It is recommended that an HIA be completed to assess identified heritage resources and develop specific and appropriate mitigation measures. It is further noted that no Palaeontological Assessment will be conducted as the proposed development footprint is underlain by areas of zero palaeosensitivity.

In an Interim Comment issued on the 19/11/2020, SAHRA noted the pending heritage reports and requested

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that the draft EIA and appendices be submitted in order to issue informed comments.

Since the issuing of the Interim Comment, the Heritage Impact Assessment (05/07/2021) and EIA documents have been submitted to the case (01/06/2021).

Hardwick, S. 2020. Heritage Impact Assessment for the Rustenburg Base Metals Refinery Bulk Chemical Storage Facility Relocation Project, North West Province.

No heritage resources were identified within the proposed development footprint. A Chance Finds Procedure is recommended to be developed and implemented as part of the EMPr for the project.

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 EIA and EMPr:

- 38(4)a – The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) 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;
- 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

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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 EIA 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:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahrissahra.org.za/node/542104>
(DEDECT, Ref:)

Terms & Conditions:

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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.