Imvubu Berries: Upgrade of existing farm dams & construction of new dam

Our Ref: 15643



an agency of the Department of Arts and Culture

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Date: Friday November 27, 2020

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Interim Comment

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

Attention: Imvubu Berries

Imvubu Berries (Pty) Ltd (the applicant) appointed Setala Environmental (Pty) Ltd as the independent environmental assessment practitioner (EAP) to undertake the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the proposed project. The project involves the upgrade of existing in-channel farm dams and the construction of a new off-channel farm dam for the existing lawful water use(s): Surface water abstraction and storage; and for the abstraction of groundwater at Elandsbosch 122-KR for domestic purposes. The scope of the project includes application for environmental authorisation and a water use licence for the use of water for irrigation purposes.

Setala Environmental (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by Imvubu Berries (Pty) Ltd to undertake an environmental assessment as part of a Basic Assessment application process in support of an Environmental Authorisation (EA) in terms of the National Environment Management Act, Act 107 of 1998 (NEMA) for activities that trigger the NEMA EIA 2014 Regulations.

Imvubu Berries (Pty) Ltd is proposing to upgrade existing dams on the farm located Elandsbosch 122 KR, in the Lephalalae Local Municipality of Limpopo Province, and to construct a new dam.

The area is of moderate palaeontological significance according to the SAHRIS palaeomap, and as per the policy, a destop assessment of palaeontological resources are required.

Archaetnos Culture and Cultural Resources Consultants cc has submitted a Letter of Recommendation for an Exemption from undertaking a Heritage Impact Assessment to SAHRA for commenting.

Van Vollenhoven, A.C. October 2020. LETTER FOR HIA EXEMPTION REQUEST: IMVUBU BERRIES, MODIMOLLE-MOOKGOPONG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Assessed the proposed developments and the known heritage and history or the area, and determines that there will be no impact to any heritage resources by the proposed development activities.

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SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology, and Meteorites (APM) Unit notes the submission of the letter of exemption from undertaking a HIA, however, SAHRA cannot comment further without an assessment of palaeontological resources.

The proposed development area is located within an area of moderate sensitivity in terms of palaeontological resources as per the SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity. As such, a desktop Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA) must be undertaken by a qualified palaeontologist (See https://www.palaeosa.org/heritage-practitioners.html for a list of qualified palaeontologists). The report must comply with the 2012 Minimum Standards: Palaeontological Components of Heritage Impact Assessments.

The applicant is advised to extend the BAR process in terms of section 19(1)b of the NEMA EIA regulations in order to comply with this comment.

Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the requested.

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

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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/542134

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.