



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 15764

Date: Thursday September 09, 2021
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Interim Comment

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

Attention: Glencore Operations South Africa (Pty) Ltd

Anglo Operations Proprietary Limited (“AOPL”) previously conducted underground coal mining operations at the Nooitgedacht Colliery and specifically at the No. 5 Seam. Glencore Operations South Africa (“GOSA”) now proposes to mine the No. 4 seam and the No. 2 seam below the No 5 seam workings. Such mining will take place under the mining right (MP 30/5/1/2/2/303 MR) that was approved as part of the Section 11 mining right transfer on 19 February 2019. The bord and pillar mining method will be used, using Continuous Miners (“CM”) feeding shuttle cars. Coal mined will either be placed on a conveyor or will be trucked to GOSA’s South Witbank Colliery (“SWC”) processing plant. A 40-meter-wide servitude is proposed for this. Access to the underground workings will take place via a decline shaft. The location of the decline shaft will be on the same area that was previously used by AOPL. Proposed surface infrastructure will further include for offices, carports, change houses, workshops, etc. A topsoil stockpile and waste rock dump will be established as part of the sinking of the decline shaft. An emergency ROM stockpile area will also be constructed and will be used during conveyor/truck downtime and / or maintenance. Two Pollution Control Dams (“PCD”) will be constructed as part of the Nooitgedacht Colliery. The proposed Nooitgedacht Colliery will be located approximately halfway between Bethal and Ogies (30 km), in the province of Mpumalanga.

Anglo Operations (Pty) Ltd's Nooitgedacht Colliery is proposing to expand their existing underground mining operations. They are proposing to construct a decline shaft, two PCDs, stockpile area, access roads, admin area, water sump and clean water culvert. It is located on the farms Bosch Krans 53 IS, Dorstfontein 71 IS, Fentonia 54 IS, Welstand 55 IS, eMalahleni and Govan Mbeki Local Municipality of the Mpumalanga Province.

Shangoni Environmental Services (Pty) Ltd has been appointed to undertake an environmental assessment as part of the Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting process in support of an Environmental Authorisation (EA) in terms of the National Environment Management Act, Act 107 of 1998 (NEMA) and the in terms of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act (MPRDA) (Act 28 of 2002) as amended, for activities that trigger the NEMA EIA 2014 Regulations.

Miller, S. July 2019. 1st phase Heritage Impact Assessment (“HIA”) of a portion of Nooitgedacht 37 IS in the Ogies district, Mpumalanga for Glencore Operations Limited – Nooitgedacht Project (“Glencore”).

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The author undertook a field assessment in 2019 and identified 5 burial grounds, historical farm house and labourers dwelling. The burial grounds are of high significance and the historical farm house built in the 1920's is of medium significance. The author recommends the conservation of the farmstead and the cemeteries. The labourers houses is built recently and is not protected by the NHRA.

Interim Comment

The SAHRA Archaeological, Palaeontological, Meteorites (APM) Unit notes the submission of the EIA report and the HIA report, however, the study area is in s Very Highly significant palaeontological zone according to the SAHRIS palaeomap. SAHRA had issued an Interim Comment dated 27/11/2020 requesting a Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA) by a suitably qualified palaeontologist. The draft EIAR makes no reference to an appointment of a palaeontologist, no an assessment of palaeontological impacts.

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

Phillip Hine
Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit

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ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/545198>
(DMR-MP, Ref: MP 30/5/1/2/2/303MR)