

**PROPOSED WASTE MANAGEMENT LICENCE AND WATER USE LICENCE
APPLICATIONS ON FARM SMITSPAN 306 LQ, MASSENBERG 305 LQ AND
REMAINDER OF HOOIKRAAL 315 LQ IN LEPHALALE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY.**

Our Ref: 15874



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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CaseID: 15874

Date: Thursday January 14, 2021

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Interim Comment

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

Attention: TAYOB, MAHOMED MAHIER

The applicant Lephalale Coal Concessions (Pty) Ltd, (herein after referred to as LCC), has a granted Environmental Authorisation over Minnasvlakte 258 LQ, Smitspan 306 LQ, Massenberg 305 LQ and Remainder of Hooikraal 315 LQ. The Environmental Authorisation was granted on the 27th of March 2012 by the Limpopo Economic Development Environmental and Tourism (LEDET). LCC only undertook bulk sampling activities for the mining of coal on the remainder of Hooikraal 315 LQ.

Lephalale Coal Concessions (Pty) Ltd received their mining right application in 2011 and are now proposing to apply for a Water Use Licence and Waste Management Licence as required in terms of National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (NEM:WA) (Act 59 of 2008) and the National Environment Management Act, Act 107 of 1998 (NEMA) for activities that trigger the NEMA EIA 2014 Regulations. As well as an Environmental Management Plan as per the requirements of the Minerals and Petroleum Resources Development Act, No 28 of 2002 (MPRDA)(As amended).

Singo Consulting (Pty) Ltd have been appointed to undertake an environmental assessment as part of the Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting process in support of obtaining the Water Use Licence and Waste Management Licence. A Scoping Report was submitted to the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) for commenting in terms of section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

In order to meet the requirements of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA) a 2013 heritage scoping report by Heritage Contracts and Archaeological Consulting (HCAC) was submitted to the case. SAHRA notes that the area assessed in the Heritage Scoping Report included 2 additional farms that no longer form part of this current proposed application area.

Van der Walt, J. December 2013. Archaeological Scoping Report for the Proposed Sekoko Waterberg Colliery in Lephalale, Limpopo Province.

The author undertook a desktop study of the proposed mining area and determined that there is a high likelihood of heritage occurring in the study area. Some Middle Stone Aged (MSA) Stone tools have been

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identified in water pans in the region, as well as some rock engravings. Some farming community remains have also been previously identified as well.

Interim Comment

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit requests that an assessment of the impacts to heritage resources that complies with section 38(3) and section 38(8) of the NHRA, and section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA be conducted as part of the EA process.

The assessment must include an assessment of the impact to archaeological and palaeontological resources. The assessment of archaeological resources must be conducted by a qualified archaeologist and the report comply with the SAHRA 2007 Minimum Standards: Archaeological and Palaeontological Components of Impact Assessment Reports (see www.asapa.co.za or www.aphp.org.za for a list of qualified archaeologists).

Furthermore, the area is underlain by Very Highly Palaeontologically Significant rock formations that may be impacted during mining activities. Therefore impacts to palaeontological heritage must be assessed by a qualified palaeontologist and the report comply with the 2012 Minimum Standards: Palaeontological Component of Heritage Impact Assessments (a list of qualified palaeontologists can be found at <https://www.palaeosa.org/heritage-practitioners.html>).

SAHRA will comment further once the aforementioned reports are submitted to SAHRA for comments in the EIA phases of the application, along with all the EIA report and its appendices.

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: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/547773>

(, Ref:)