

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 16033

Date: Friday February 26, 2021
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Interim Comment

In terms of Section 38(3), 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Wouterspan Mining (Pty) Ltd

THE PROSPECTING RIGHT APPLICATION FOR A PROSPECTING RIGHT OF DIAMONDS ALLUVIAL (DA), DIAMONDS GENERAL (D), DIAMONDS (DIA) & DIAMONDS IN KIMBERLITE (DK) PROSPECTING RIGHT, COMBINED WITH A WASTE LICENCE APPLICATION OF WOUTERSPAN MINING (PTY) LTD, ON THE REMAINING EXTENT, PORTION 1 (UITZICHT) OF THE FARM 392 AND PORTION 1 (TEVREDE) OF THE FARM WINDHOEK 393, REGISTRATION DIVISION: HAY; NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE.

Milnex Environmental Consultants CC has been appointed by Wouterspan Mining (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for proposed prospecting activities on the Remaining Extent, Portion 1 (Uitzicht) of the Farm 392 and Portion 1 (Tevrede) of the Farm Windhoek 393, Registration Division: Hay; Northern Cape Province (NC30/5/1/1/2/12646PR).

A draft Scoping Report and has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) and the 2017 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 3 708.3484 ha and will include 100 pits (3 m x 2 m x 4 m) and 50 trenches (60 m x 40 m x 3 m), and a washing pan.

Prof Dr J A Van Schalkwyk was appointed to provide heritage specialist input into the EA process as required by section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA in terms of section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

Van Schalkwyk, J. A. 2021. Phase 1 Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment: The Proposed Prospecting Right Application for a Prospecting Right of Diamond Alluvial (Da), Diamond General (D), Diamonds (Dia) and Diamonds in Kimberlite (Dk), Prospecting Right, combined with a Waste Water Licence Application of Wouterspan Mining (Pty) Ltd, on the Remaining Extent, Portion 1 (Uitzicht) of the Farm 392 and Portion 1 (Tevrede) of the Farm Windhoek 393, Registration Division: Hay; Northern Cape Province.

A total of eight heritage resources were identified within the proposed prospecting application area. These include one archaeological site of low significance (Stone Age lithics scatter), two archaeological sites of

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medium significance (diggers camps), three historical farmsteads of low and medium significance (one of which is defined as an archaeological site), and two burial grounds of high significance.

Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- Sites 7.3.1 – 7.3.4 should be recorded before destruction;
- As no blasting or large-scale mining is to take place, it is recommended that the burial grounds should be retained in situ and, although they are already fenced off, an additional buffer zone of 20m should be added around them;
- The Palaeontological Sensitivity Map (<https://sahris.sahra.org.za/map/palaeo>) indicate that most of the project area has a high possibility of fossil remains to be found and therefore desktop palaeontological assessment is required. Based on the outcome of the desktop study, a field assessment is likely;
- Should archaeological sites or graves be exposed during construction work, it must immediately be reported to a heritage practitioner so that an investigation and evaluation of the finds can be made.

Interim Comment

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit requests that a desktop Palaeontological Impact Assessment be conducted as part of the EIA phase of the EA application. The report must comply with the 2012 Minimum Standards: Palaeontological Components of Heritage Impact Assessments and must be compiled by a qualified palaeontologist.

Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the above requested report and the draft EIA with all associated appendices.

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

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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://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/554484>
(DMR - NC, Ref: NC30/5/1/1/2/12646PR) (DMR - NC, Ref:)