

Our Ref:



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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Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt
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CaseID: 16159

Date: Wednesday March 31, 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: Prescali Environmental Consultants (pty) Ltd

P.O. Box 2544
Montana Park
0159

Draft Scoping Report for the proposed amendment of the Environmental Management Programme and Section 102 application. The proposed additional infrastructure: 3 opencast pits (1 iron ore and 2 manganese ore); DMS crushing and screening plant; waste rock dump; access road; water storage reservoir; manganese static plant; new workshop area; topsoil dump; sub-station; container office; container onboarding facility; and stormwater infrastructure Portions 2, 3, 4 and 5 of the Farm Macarthy 559, situated between Postmasburg and Sishen in the Northern Cape Province of South Africa

Prescali Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by Salene Manganese (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed Section 102 Amendment Application of the Environmental Management Programme for the Macarthy Mining Operations on portion 2 – 5 of the farm Macarthy 559 near Kathu, Northern Cape Province (NC/30/5/1/2/2/10013 MR).

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 amendments include new opencast pits, new topsoil dump, waste rock dump, new DMS plant, new manganese static plant, new access road, increased groundwater abstraction, new water storage reservoir, new workshop area, new substation, new container onboarding facility, and storm water infrastructure.

APelser Archaeological Consulting has been appointed to provide heritage specialist input into the EA process as per section 24(4)b(iii) of the NEMA and section 38(3) and section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

Pelser, A. 2020. A Phase 1 AIA Report for the Salene Manganese EIA/EMP Amendment located on various Portions of the Farm MaCarthy 559, Magisterial District of Postmasburg, Northern Cape Province.

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A total of four heritage sites were identified. These include surface scatters of Stone Age lithics of low heritage significance with one site (Site 1) of medium to high heritage significance.

Two structure of recent age were identified that have no heritage significance, and one fenced cemetery younger than 60 years is located close to the current site offices. The cemetery will not be impacted by mining activities.

Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- Detailed mapping and recording of Site 1 and potentially other sites located around the hill;
- Surface sampling of material from the site and the hill;
- A 30m buffer zone (around the cemetery) within which no development will be allowed needs to be adhered to;
- A Chance Finds Procedure must be implemented.

Interim Comment

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit requests that a field-based Palaeontological Impact Assessment be conducted by a qualified palaeontologist as part of the EA process. The proposed development is located within an area of moderate, high and very high Palaeontological Sensitivity as per the SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity map. (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.

Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the above requested report and the draft EIA documents with 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

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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://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/560513>
(, Ref:)