

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt
Tel: 021 462 4502
Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za
CaseID: 16177

Date: Thursday July 28, 2022
Page No: 1

Final Comment

In terms of Section 38(4), 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Willie Oosthuizen
Wadala Mining and Consulting Pty Ltd

DJ de Smidt (“The applicant”) has applied for a Mining Right on Remaining Extent of Portion 1 (Paals Werf) of the Farm Saxendrift 20 situated in the Magisterial District of Hopetown, Northern Cape Province to mine for Diamonds (alluvial); Diamonds (General). The farm Saxendrift 20 is situated in the Northern Cape about 80 km south west of Douglas along the R357 tar road to Prieska. The farm borders on the Orange River to the South West. The property is accessible via good roads from different directions.

Wadala Mining and Consulting (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by David John de Smidt to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for a proposed Mining Right application on the remaining extent of portion 1 (Paals Werf) of the farm Saxendrift 20, near Douglas, Northern Cape Province (NC 30/5/1/2/2/10175 MR).

A draft Scoping Report 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 mining right application area will cover 1 323,7453 ha and will include activities and infrastructure such as open cast alluvial diamond mining, water distribution pipeline, storm water control berms, possible storage dam and tanks, possible excavation within the 1:100 year floodline, access and haul roads, diesel storage, the clearance of ± 436 ha, residue deposits, office complex, workshop, storage facilities, diesel depot, ablution facilities, topsoil stockpiles, overburden stockpiles, water tanks and waste disposal site.

The DSR notes that a Heritage specialist study will be conducted (pg 99 of the DSR). In an Interim Comment issued on the 26/03/2021, SAHRA requested that the HIA comply with section 38(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA) and that a field-based PIA be conducted as part of the HIA. Since the issuing of the Interim Comment, the DEIA, HIA and PIA have been submitted for review (25/04/2022).

Prof Marion Bamford and Archaeological and Heritage Services Africa (Pty) Ltd were appointed to provide heritage specialist input as part of the EA process as required by section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
www.sahra.org.za

Bamford, M. 2022. Palaeontological Impact Assessment for the proposed Mining Right Application on the remaining extent of portion 1 (Paals Werf) of the farm Saxendrift 20, near Prieska, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed development area is underlain by potentially fossiliferous Dwyka Group rocks, Tertiary calcretes and Quaternary alluvium. Fossils that might be present in the development area include silicified wood, invertebrate remains and fossilised flora. A Fossil Chance Finds Procedure is recommended to be implemented as part of the EMPr.

Matenga, E. 2022. Heritage Impact Assessment (including Palaeontological Desk Assessment) for a Mining Right Application on the Remaining Extent of Portion 1 (Paals Werf) of the farm Saxendrift 20, near Prieska, Northern Cape.

A total of 18 heritage sites were identified within the proposed development footprint. These include one isolated Early Stone Age handaxe, surface scatters of Middle Stone Age and Later Stone Age lithics of low heritage significance, a historical trigonometrical beacon and a stone walled feature, both of low heritage significance. No mitigation actions were recommended for the identified heritage sites. A Chance Finds Procedure is recommended.

In an Interim Comment issued on the 26/05/2022, SAHRA requested that the PIA be revised to include a field work component as requested in the Interim Comment. Additionally, SAHRA requested that more comprehensive survey be undertaken as part of a revised HIA. Since the issuing of the Interim Comment, a revised PIA and HIA have been submitted for review (29/06/2022).

Bamford, M. 2022. Palaeontological Impact Assessment for the proposed Mining Right Application on the Remaining Extent of Portion 1 (Paals Werf) of the farm Saxendrift 20, near Prieska, Northern Cape Province.

No fossils were identified as part of the field assessment. A Fossil Chance Finds Procedure is recommended to be implemented as part of the EMPr.

Matenga, E. 2022. Heritage Impact Assessment (including Palaeontological Desk Assessment) for a Mining Right Application on the Remaining Extent of Portion 1 (Paals Werf) of the farm Saxendrift 20, near Prieska, Northern Cape.

An additional six (6) heritage resources were identified as part of the revised field assessment. These include



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt
Tel: 021 462 4502
Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za
CaseID: 16177

Date: Thursday July 28, 2022
Page No: 3

four (4) surface occurrences of Stone Age lithics of low heritage significance, one stone feature of low heritage significance and one historical structure foundation of low heritage significance. No mitigation actions were recommended for the identified heritage sites. A Chance Finds Procedure is recommended.

Final Comment

The following comments are made as a requirement in terms of section 3(4) of the NEMA Regulations and section 38(8) of the NHRA in the format provided in section 38(4) of the NHRA and must be included in the Final EIA and EMPr:

- 38(4)a – The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit has no objections to the proposed development;
- 38(4)b – The recommendations of the specialists are supported and must be adhered to. No further additional specific conditions are provided for the development;
- 38(4)c(i) – If any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g. remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments, charcoal and ash concentrations), fossils or other categories of heritage resources are found during the proposed development, SAHRA APM Unit (Natasha Higgitt/Phillip Hine 021 462 5402) must be alerted as per section 35(3) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with section of the NHRA is an offense in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule;
- 38(4)c(ii) – If unmarked human burials are uncovered, the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit (Thingahangwi Tshivhase/ Ngqabutho Madida 012 320 8490), must be alerted immediately as per section 36(6) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with section of the NHRA is an offense in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule;
- 38(4)d – See section 51(1) of the NHRA with regards to offenses;
- 38(4)e – The following conditions apply with regards to the appointment of specialists:
 - i) If heritage resources are uncovered during the course of the development, a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the heritage resource. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required subject to permits issued by SAHRA;
 - The Final EIA and EMPr must be submitted to SAHRA for record purposes;
 - The decision regarding the EA Application must be communicated to SAHRA and uploaded to the SAHRIS Case application.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt
Tel: 021 462 4502
Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za
CaseID: 16177

Date: Thursday July 28, 2022
Page No: 4

above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

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/561413>

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.