

Our Ref:



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 16177

Date: Friday March 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: 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).

### Interim Comment

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit requests that a Heritage Impact Assessment be conducted as part of the EA application that complies with section 38(3) of the NHRA. The field-based 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

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Impact Assessment Reports (see [www.asapa.co.za](http://www.asapa.co.za) or [www.aphp.org.za](http://www.aphp.org.za) for a list of qualified archaeologists).

The proposed development is located within an area of moderate, high and very high Palaeontological Sensitivity as per the SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity map, and therefore a field-based Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA) must be required to be undertaken by a qualified palaeontologist. (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.

Any other heritage resources as defined in section 3 of the NHRA that may be impacted, such as built structures over 60 years old, sites of cultural significance associated with oral histories, burial grounds and graves, graves of victims of conflict, and cultural landscapes or viewsapes must also be assessed.

Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the above requested reports 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

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Phillip Hine

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Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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**ADMIN:**

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/561413>