



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: 16464

Date: Wednesday July 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: Trentra (Pty) Ltd

Basic Assessment in support of a Mining Permit Application

Trentra (Pty) Ltd is proposing to mine coal via opencast methods on 5ha of land located on the remaining extent of the farm Vlaklaagte 45 IS in the eMalahleni Local Municipality of the Mpumalanga Province.

Eco Elementum (Pty) Ltd have been appointed to undertake an environmental assessment as part of the Basic Assessment process in support of an Environmental Authorisation (EA) in terms of 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).

A Basic Assessment Report, its appendices and the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) 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).

Coetzee, T. September 2020. A Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment for the Proposed Trentra Mining Development near Kriel, Mpumalanga.

The author undertook a field assessment of the proposed coal mine area and did not identify any heritage resources. Previous studies have identified some heritage resource but none were found within the proposed mine area. The author recommends chance finds procedures.

Interim Comment

The SAHRA APM Unit cannot provide further comments as the proposed development area is located within an area of very high sensitivity in terms of palaeontological resources as per the SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity. As such, a field-based Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA) must be undertaken by a qualified

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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. The Minimum Standards refers to a Letter of Recommendation for Exemption from further studies, that may be submitted should the palaeontologist deem it appropriate.

Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the requested.

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

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

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/574039>
(DMR-MP, Ref: 11815MP)