

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
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
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Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt
Tel: 021 462 4502
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CaseID: 16534

Date: Thursday June 24, 2021
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Final Comment

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

Attention: Southern African Tantalum Mining (Pty) Ltd

PO Box 44547, Claremont 7735, Cape Town
Cadiz Corporate Solutions, 4th floor, The terraces, 25 Protea Rd, Claremont 7700, Cape Town

Proposed 8409Ha prospecting right on Portion of Portion 3, Portion of Portion 10, Portion of Portion 13, Portion of Portion 14, Portion 15, Portion 16, Portion of Portion 21 of farm NababEEP 134 & Plot 2086 Okiep Township in the Namaqualand District in the Northern Cape province.

Southern African Tantalum Mining (Pty) Ltd has appointed N. J van Zyl as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for proposed prospecting activities on several portions on the farm NababEEP 134 and Plot 2086, Okiep, Northern Cape Province (NC30/5/1/1/2/12755PR).

A draft Basic Assessment Report (DBAR) 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 8 409 ha and will include an estimated 20 RC drilled boreholes and 3 Diamond boreholes, however it is noted that the amount of targets and their locations will only be determined during the non-invasive phase. Each drill pad will be contained in an area of 160m². The drill pad will include excavated sumps (2.5 m x 2.5 m x 1.5 m) and laydown areas.

ASHA Consulting (Pty) Ltd was appointed to provide heritage specialist input as part of the EA process as required by section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA, and in terms of section 38(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA) as required by section 38(8) of the NHRA. A desktop HIA was submitted on the application on the 09/06/2021.

Orton, J. 2021. Desktop Heritage Impact Assessment: Proposed Prospecting on various Portions of Farm NababEEP 134 and Plot 2086, Okiep, Namakwaland Magisterial District, Northern Cape.

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Desktop research has shown that heritage resources such as historical mining is most likely to be present within the proposed development area including the historic copper railway, and that heritage resources such as Stone Age resources are not likely to be present. The proposed development footprint is underlain by areas of low to negligible PalaeoSensitivity and therefore no further assessment of the impacts to palaeontological resources is required.

Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- Once the drilling locations are known, a map should be provided to an archaeologist for desktop analysis. If any potentially sensitive areas cannot be avoided then a brief site visit should be carried out to confirm sensitivity and, in consultation with the prospecting geologists, propose alternative nearby drill sites. An opinion should then be expressed in a letter that should be submitted to SAHRA confirming whether or not drilling may proceed;
- Regardless of the above archaeological opinion, all drill sites should be carefully inspected by project staff to ensure that no heritage features are present;
- A fossil Chance Finds Procedure must be included in the project EMPr and implemented in the event of any chance finds of fossils, and
- If any archaeological material or human burials are uncovered during the course of development then work in the immediate area should be halted. The find would need to be reported to the heritage authorities and may require inspection by an archaeologist. Such heritage is the property of the state and may require excavation and curation in an approved institution.

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 BAR 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. Further additional specific conditions are provided for the development as follows:
- Once the locations of the boreholes are known, an archaeologist must survey the locations and results of the survey must be submitted to SAHRA for review and comment. No construction may commence

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without comments in this regard;

- 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/Mimi Seetelo 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 offences;
- 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 BAR 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 above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

Natasha Higgitt
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/574642>
(DMR - NC, Ref: 12755PR)

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.