

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  
www.sahra.org.za

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Tel: 021 462 4502  
Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za  
CaseID: 16590

Date: Monday July 12, 2021  
Page No: 1

## Final Comment

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

Attention: Mr David Le Roux Muller

**Digital Soils Africa (Pty) LTD (DSA) was tasked by Uitdraai Boerdery (Pty) Ltd to conduct environmental investigations and complete the Environmental Authorisation Application for the authorisation of clearing 185Ha of vegetation on Portion 18 (Ptn of Ptn 15) of the Farm Uitdraai No. 33, Prieska in the Northern Cape. DSA was appointed by Uitdraai Boerdery (Pty) Ltd as the independent environmental assessment practitioner (EAP) to undertake the Environmental Authorisation Application for the commencement of a listed activity in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations 2014, as amended in 2017. Uitdraai Boerdery (Pty) Ltd would like to clear vegetation to establish a vineyard. Currently the site host intact vegetation with some evidence of overgrazing. Soil samples were taken and analysed to investigate if the soil is suitable for establishing a vineyard on a 174Ha area. The soil study indicated that about 145Ha were suitable for the cultivation of vineyards according to the norms and standards provided by the Northern Cape Department of Agriculture. However upon further investigation, it was found that only 111.22Ha is suitable. A HIA was completed to comply with the Heritage act, since more than 1Ha will be disturbed.**

Digital Soils Africa has been appointed by Uitdraai Boerdery (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed clearing of vegetation to establish a vineyard on Portion 18 (Ptn of Ptn 15) of the Farm Uitdraai No. 33, near Prieska in the Northern Cape Province (DENC Ref: NC/EIA/03/PIX/SIY/PRI1/2021).

A Final Scoping Report has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) and the 2017 NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The proposed development will include the clearing of 163.82 ha of vegetation.

Dr Lloyd Rossouw 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.

*Rossouw, L. 2021. Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment for establishment of a vineyard on Portion 18 (Portion of Portion 15) of the Farm Uitdraai No. 33, Prieska, NC Province*

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No heritage resources were identified within the proposed development area. A Chance Finds Protocol is recommended and included in the report.

In an Interim Comment issued on the 05/07/2021, SAHRA noted the submitted heritage report and awaited the submission of the draft EIA report before further comments could be issued. Since the issuing of the Interim Comment, the draft EIA with appendices has been submitted. The draft EIA has included the results and recommendations of the heritage specialist.

## 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) 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/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;
- 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;

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

**ADMIN:**

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/575305>  
(DENC, Ref: NC/EIA/03/PIX/SIY/PRI1/2021)

**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.

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3. SAHRA reserves the right to request additional information as required.