

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: 16720

Date: Friday July 30, 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: Golden Tropic Mining (Pty) Ltd

Postal: 304 Manhattan Quarter, Esplanade Road, Century City 7441
Physical: 4 Penning Road, Century City, Milnerton 7441

Tropic Mining (Pty) Ltd (Golden Tropic) is applying for a mining right and associated Environmental Authorisation (EA) and Waste Management Licence (WML) in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA), the National Environmental Management Waste Act (Act No. 59 of 2008) (NEM: WA) and the section 22 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002) (MPRDA), as amended. The proposed mining project will cover an area of 2 627.28 hectares and is located on a Portion of Zwart Modder Mountain No. 446 (445) approximately ±45km North East of Pofadder Kai! Garib Local Municipality situated in the ZF Mgcawu District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

Ndi Geological Consulting Services (Pty) Ltd have been appointed by Golden Tropic Mining to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for proposed mining activities on Portion of Zwart Modder Mountain No. 446 (445), near Pofadder, Northern Cape Province (NC 30/5/1/2/2/10193 MR).

A draft Scoping Report (DSR) 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 activities will include cutting and dressing of bedrock, access roads and explosives within an application area of 2 627.28 ha.

The DSR notes that an assessment of the impact to heritage inclusive of a palaeontological study will be undertaken during the EIA phase.

Interim Comment

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit notes the pending assessment of the impact to heritage resources and requests that the assessment comply with section 38(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA). Additionally, the assessment of the impact to archaeological resources must be conducted by a qualified archaeologist and comply with the 2007 SAHRA Minimum

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Standards: Archaeological and Palaeontological Components of Impact Assessments.

As the mining rights application area is located in an area of moderate sensitivity for palaeontological resources as per the SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity map, a desktop 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.

Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the above requested reports and the draft EIA documents inclusive of appendices.

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

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

ADMIN:

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Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/577135>
(DMR - NC, Ref: NC 30/5/1/2/2/10193 MR)