

**Our Ref:**



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 16831

Date: Friday August 06, 2021  
Page No: 1

## **Interim Comment**

### **In terms of Section 38(3), 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)**

Attention: Blue Lounge Trading 107 (Pty) Ltd

P.O. Box 1776  
Kimberley  
8300

### **Prospecting Right application for Iron Ore and Manganese ore over Farm Spitzkop 168, Farm Bingap 184 and Farm Cairnpoint 195, Hay District, Northern Cape Province.**

M and S Consulting have been appointed by Blue Lounge Trading 107 (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for proposed prospecting activities on Farm Spitzkop 168, Farm Bingap 184 and Farm Cairnpoint 195, near Groblershoop, Hay District, Northern Cape Province (NC 30/5/1/1/2/12368 PR).

A draft Basic Assessment Report and 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 9 127.3034 ha and will include 39 boreholes and access tracks. A conceptual site layout has been provided however it is noted that the final layout can only be determined after the second phase of the development.

Natura Viva CC and G & A Heritage Management Consultants have been appointed to provide heritage specialist input into the EA process that complies with section 38(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA) as required by section 38(8) of the NHRA and section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA.

*Almond, J. E 2019. Palaeontological Heritage Report: Desktop Study Proposed mineral prospecting on the farms Spitz Kop 168, Bingap 184 and Cairnpoint 195 near Groblershoop, Hay Magisterial District, Northern Cape Province.*

The proposed prospecting area is underlain by unfossiliferous Koegas Subgroup and Elim Group rocks with possible microfossils in less altered ironstone facies. Stromatolites may be present within the Heynskop and Lucknow Formations, while the overlying Late Cenozoic superficial deposits are sparsely fossiliferous.

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Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- A Chance Fossil Finds Procedure is recommended to be followed and is provided in the report;
- The ECO responsible for the Blue Lounge mineral prospecting programme should be aware of the potential for exposure of well-preserved stromatolites within the borehole cores.

*Gaigher, S. 2019. Blue Lounge Trading 107 (Pty) Ltd: Prospecting Activities, Desktop Heritage Impact Assessment Report.*

As a result of a desktop study, the proposed prospecting rights area was found to be devoid of any documented heritage sites with significance, however there is a strong likelihood that Stone Age sites, rock art sites and Stone Age shelters could be found in the area.

Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- It is recommended that the plots identified for the prospect drilling be cleared through a pre-development walkdown by a qualified heritage practitioner;
- A Chance Finds Procedure is recommended to be followed which is provided in the report.

### Interim Comment

As the estimated positions of the boreholes are known, the SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit requests that a field survey of the locations and all access tracks be conducted as part of the field-based HIA to be completed as part of the EA process.

The applicant is advised to extend the EA process in terms of section 19(1)b of the NEMA EIA regulations in order to comply with this comment.

Further comments will be issued on receipt of the above requested report.

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/578564>  
(DMR - NC, Ref: NC 12368 PR)

**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.