

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 16853

Date: Friday August 06, 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: Thunderflex 78 (Pty) Ltd.

6 Millin Street
Hadison Park
8301

Prospecting Right application with bulk sampling for alluvial diamonds Kannikwa, Namaqualand, Northern Cape Province

Wadala Mining and Consulting (Pty) Ltd have been appointed by Thunderflex 78 (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for proposed prospecting activities on farm Kannikwa 156 and Kannikwa Vlake 157, near Port Nolloth, Northern Cape Province (NC30/5/1/1/2/12842 PR).

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 prospecting activities will include 100 – 200 boreholes and 20 trenches (100 m x 200 m) and 5 bulk samples (200 m x 200 m), and the exact location of the drilling holes will only be determined in the first phase of the development. Other associated activities and infrastructure will include water distribution pipelines, clean and dirty water system, clean water dam or return water dam, access and haul roads, diesel storage, residue deposits, office complex, workshop facilities, stockpiles and storage facilities.

The DSR states that a heritage and palaeontological impact assessment will be conducted as part of the EIA phase of the application process.

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 Standards: Archaeological and Palaeontological Components of Impact Assessments.

**Prospecting Right by application Thunderflex 78 for alluvial diamonds
Kannikwa**

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As the prospecting rights application area is located in an area of low sensitivity for palaeontological resources as per the SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity map, no further assessment of the impact to palaeontological resources is required. A Chance Fossil Finds Protocol is required to be developed and implemented.

Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the above requested reports and the draft EIA 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:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahrissahra.org.za/node/578797>