Proposed installation of a bulk water pipeline in Postmasburg

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: 16957 Date: Friday September 10, 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: Tsantsabane Municipality

P.O. Box 5 Postmasburg 8420

Proposed installation of a bulk water pipeline (710 ø) from the Postdene reservoir to the Greenfields residential development in Postmasburg, Northern Cape. The project also includes the construction of an 11M? reservoir and a 0.8M? water tower at the Postdene reservoir site.

Marguerite Cronje Environmental Consultant has been appointed by the Tsantsabane Local Municipality to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed installation of a bulk water pipeline from the Postdene reservoir to the Greenfields residential development in Postmasburg, Northern Cape Province.

A draft Basic Assessment Report (DBAR) 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 construction of a 1.9 km long underground bulk water pipeline, reservoir and water tower.

Palaeo Field Services was appointed to provide heritage specialist input as required by section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

Rossouw, L. 2021. Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment for the proposed installation of a 710 mm – diameter, bulk water pipeline from the Postdene reservoir to the Greenfields residential development in Postmasburg, NC Province.

The proposed development area is underlain by the Cambellrand Subgroup which consist of stromatolite- and microfossil-bearing dolomite, dolomitic limestone and chert members. Small, isolated and horizontally exposed dolomites were identified that may contain stromatolites. The area is covered by recent superficial deposits which are not expected to be fossiliferous and no fossils were observed within unconsolidated sediments as anticipated. The significant Provincial Heritage Site Blinkklipkop is located 250 m due east of the reservoir, and

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associated open pit area is located between 35 m south-east of the pipeline footprint. Neither site will be impacted by the proposed development.

Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- Any excavation within the development footprint larger than 1 m2 that exceeds depths of >1 m into un-weathered Campbellrand Subgroup bedrock, will need monitoring by a professional palaeontologist during the construction phase;
- As far as the archaeological heritage is concerned, the proposed development may proceed, provided that all excavation activities are restricted to within the boundaries of the linear development footprint.

### **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:
- A monitoring report must be submitted to SAHRA by a qualified palaeontologist upon completion of the construction phase;
- A no-go buffer zone of 35 m must be maintained from the small open pit noted in figure 8 and 12 of the HIA;
- Monitoring of the construction of the pipeline within 50 m of the small open pit must be conducted by a qualified archaeologist. A monitoring report must be submitted to SAHRA by the appointed archaeologist upon completion of the construction phase;
- 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;

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- 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 of the NHRA for offences;
- 38(4)e The following conditions apply with regards to the appointment of specialists:
- 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

June

Phillip Hine

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

#### ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/580040 (DENC, Ref: Not yet available)

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.