

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: 17476

Date: Wednesday December 15, 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: Willie Oosthuizen
Wadala Mining and Consulting Pty Ltd

Bellsbank Diamond Exploration (Pty) Ltd is proposing the prospecting of diamonds on the Remaining Extent and Portion 1 (Success) of the Farm Paiskloof 149 (from hereon referred to as the Paiskloof study/prospecting right area/site). The prospecting right area is located within the Barkly West District Municipality of the Northern Cape Province. It lies approximately 40 km north-west of Barkly West on the R370, that turns off from the R31 and leads to Jan Kempdorp (Figure 1). The total extent of the prospecting right area is ± 3 641 ha. The company has submitted a Prospecting Right application which include bulk sampling methods.

Wadala Mining and Consulting (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by Bellsbank Diamond Exploration (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation Application for proposed prospecting activities on Remaining Extent and Portion 1 (Success) of the Farm Paiskloof 149, Barkly West District Municipality of the Northern Cape Province (Ref: NC30/5/1/1/2/12895 PR).

A draft Scoping Report (DSR) has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) and the 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 3 641.2488 ha and include water distribution pipelines, clean and dirty water system, diesel tanks, 20 trenches (100 m x 150 m), five (5) bulk samples (100 m x 100 m x 0.5 m – 5 m deep), access and haul roads, residue deposits, office complex, temporary workshop facilities, storage facilities, topsoil and overburden stockpiles and waste disposal site.

Prof Marion Bamford and Archaeological and Heritage Services Africa (Pty) Ltd (AHSA) have been appointed to provide heritage specialist input into the EA process as per section 24(4)b(iii) of the NEMA and section 38(3) and section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

Bamford, M. 2021. Palaeontological Impact Assessment for the proposed Prospecting Rights Application for Farm Paiskloof 149, Barkly West, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed development area is underlain by non-fossiliferous dolerite in the south-eastern section,

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possible fossiliferous Quaternary sands and potentially fossiliferous Campbellrand Subgroup dolerite along the north-western border, that may contain stromatolites. A Fossil Chance Finds Protocol for the Quaternary Sands has been included in the report.

Matenga, E. 2021. Heritage Impact Assessment & Palaeontological Desk Assessment for a Prospecting Right Application on a Remainder of the Farm Paiskloof 149 and Portion 1 of the Farm Paiskloof 149 near Barkly West, Northern Cape.

A total of four (4) heritage resources were identified within the proposed prospecting area. These include surface scatters of Middle Stone Age lithics of low heritage significance. The mining occurrences date to the 1970s and are not considered to be heritage resources. A Chance Finds Procedure is recommended to be followed.

In an Interim Comment issued on the 19/11/2021, SAHRA requested that the draft EIA report and appendices be submitted before further comments could be issued. Since the issuing of the Interim Comment, the DEIA has been submitted to the application (23/11/2021). The DEIA has included the results and recommendations of the heritage specialist reports.

Final Comment

The following comments are made as a requirement in terms of 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) Unit 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

**PROSPECTING RIGHT APPLICATION FOR BELLSBANK DIAMOND
EXPLORATION PTY LTD FOR DIAMONDS**

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Page No: 3

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 regarding offences;
- 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;
- The Final EIA must be submitted to the SAHRIS application for record purposes;
- The decision regarding the EA application and PR application must be submitted to the SAHRIS application for record purposes.

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

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Page No: 4

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/588465>

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.