



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: Nokukhanya Khumalo

Tel: 021 462 4502

Email: nkhumalo@sahra.org.za

CaseID: 17508

Date: Monday January 31, 2022

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Final Comment

In terms of Section 38(8), 38(4) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Rhengu Environmental Services

P O Box 1046
MALELANE
1320

A Phase 1 AIA / HIA for bulk water infrastructure (Dams & Weirs) on the farm Nosilla 27JU, White River / Hazyview area, Mpumalanga

The applicant has appointed Rengu Environmental Services (Pty) Ltd to undertake a Basic Assessment application process in support for an Environmental Authorisation (EA) in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, Act no 107 of 1998 (NEMA) as amended, for activities that trigger the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) 2014 Regulations, as amended.

The applicant is proposing to clear existing blue gum tree plantation to make way for macadamia orchards, and the construction of 2 weirs and pump stations, 3 dams, 2 water pipelines, and electrical infrastructure which require authorisation for bulk water infrastructure. The proposed macadamia orchards are located on the farm Nosilla 27 JU in the Mbombela Local Municipality of the Mpumalanga Province. The total development area will be 218 ha.

The development area is located in an area of negligible palaeontological sensitivity/grey zone on the palaeomap and according to the palaeomap, the proposed development is exempt from undertaking a Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA) assessment. A Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) report by Adonsonia Heritage (Pty) Ltd has been submitted to SAHRA for commenting in terms of section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act, no. 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

Van wyk-Rowe, C. August 2021. A Phase 1 AIA / HIA for bulk water infrastructure (dams & weirs) on the farm Nosilla 27JU, White River / Hazyview, Mpumalanga Province

The author undertook a field survey of the proposed development area and did not identify any heritage

Application for bulk water infrastructure on the farm Nosilla 27JU, White River / Hazyview

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resources, and the farm manager is not aware of any heritage on the property. The current property has been altered by blue gum tree forestry activities making the likelihood of finding surface heritage very low. The author recommends chance finds procedures in the event that subsurface heritage artefacts are uncovered during excavation work.

Final Comment

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) accepts the HIA report. The SAHRA has no objection to the development going ahead on the following conditions:

In the unlikely event that fossils are uncovered during construction then construction must cease within the immediate vicinity, a buffer of 30 m must be established, and a palaeontologist called in to inspect the finds. The palaeontologist must obtain a section 35(4) permit in terms of NHRA and Chapter IV NHRA Regulations, before any fossils are collected.

If there are any new heritages resources are discovered during construction and operation phases of the proposed development, then a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the findings at the expense of the developer.

If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required at the expense of the developer. Mitigation will only be carried out after the archaeologist or palaeontologist obtains a permit in terms of section 35 of the NHRA (Act 25 of 1999). You may contact SAHRA APM Unit for further details: (Nokukhanya Khumalo/Phillip Hine 021 202 8654).

If any unmarked human burials are uncovered and the archaeologist called in to inspect the finds and/or the police find them to be heritage graves, then mitigation may be necessary and the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit must be contacted for processes to follow (Thingahangwi Tshivhase/Ngqalabutho Madida 012 320 8490).

The Final BAR and its appendices must be submitted to the case and once a Record of Decision from the competent authority is issued, it must also be submitted to the case.

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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Nokukhanya Khumalo
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://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/588710>

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.