

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
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Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt
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CaseID: 17759

Date: Friday January 14, 2022
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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: Matsapa Trading529 CC

P O Box 1539
KIMBERLEY
8300

Proposed 5 ha mining on a portion of Portion 1 of Farm 431, administrative district of Postmasburg, Northern Cape Province

LW Consultants have been appointed by Matsapa Trading 529 (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation Application for proposed mining activities on a portion of Portion 1 of Farm 431, administrative district of Postmasburg, Northern Cape Province (NC 30/5/1/3/2/10934 MP).

A draft Basic Assessment Report (DBAR) 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 mining activities will cover 4.6999 ha and will include 3 ha of open cast mining, topsoil and overburden stockpiles, ore dumps, waste dumps, office site, processing plant, ablution facility, parking area, washbay, storeroom, scrapyard, temporary workshop facility, chemical, hydrocarbon and diesel storage, domestic waste facility and access and haul roads.

The DBAR states that it is not foreseen that any archaeological sites will be impacted by the mining operations, however, no assessment that complies with section 38(4) 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 has been conducted as part of the EA application process.

Interim Comment

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit requests that an assessment of the impact to heritage resources is completed as part of the DBAR process. The HIA must comply with section 38(3) of the NHRA.

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The assessment must include an assessment of the impact to archaeological and palaeontological resources. The assessment of archaeological resources must be conducted by a qualified archaeologist and the report comply with the SAHRA 2007 Minimum Standards: Archaeological and Palaeontological Components of Impact Assessment Reports (see www.asapa.co.za or www.aphp.org.za for a list of qualified archaeologists).

The proposed development is located within an area of moderate Palaeontological Sensitivity as per the SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity map. As such, a desktop Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA) must be undertaken by a qualified palaeontologist. (See <https://www.palaeosa.org/heritage-practitioners.html> for a list of qualified palaeontologists). The report must comply with the 2012 Minimum Standards: Palaeontological Components of Heritage Impact Assessments.

Any other heritage resources as defined in section 3 of the NHRA that may be impacted, such as built structures over 60 years old, sites of cultural significance associated with oral histories, burial grounds and graves, graves of victims of conflict, and cultural landscapes or viewsapes must also be assessed.

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 upon receipt of the above reports and a revised DBAR 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

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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/590833>
(DMR - NC, Ref: NC 30/5/1/3/2/10934 MP)