

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
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CaseID: 17817

Date: Friday February 18, 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: Uthando Lwethu Investments

3587 Section K
Botshabelo
Free State
9781

Proposed prospecting activities on farms Christiana 425, Areachap 426, Loer Kop 427, Loer Kop 655 and Droogehout 442 situated in the magisterial district of Gordonia, The area is located between Upington and Askham. Northern Cape Province.

LW Consultants have been appointed by Uthando Lwethu Investments (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation Application for proposed prospecting activities on the farms Christiana 425, Areachap 426, Loer Kop 427, Loer Kop 655 and Droogehout 442 situated in the magisterial district of Gordonia, Northern Cape Province (NC 30/5/1/1/2/12900 PR).

A draft Basic Assessment Report (DBAR) process will be conducted 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 application area will cover 80 256.9997 ha and will include 30 boreholes (40 m² each) and storage of dangerous goods such as diesel and chemicals, domestic waste facility, vehicle storage and access tracks.

Interim Comment

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit requests that an assessment of the impact to heritage resources be completed as required by section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA that complies with section 38(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA) as required by section 38(8) of the NHRA. The HIA must include an archaeological and palaeontological component.

The archaeological component of the HIA must be conducted by a qualified archaeologist and must 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).

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The proposed prospecting footprint is located in an area of moderate, high and very highly sensitivity as per the SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity Map. Therefore, a desktop Palaeontological Impact Assessment must be undertaken by a qualified palaeontologist. (See <https://www.palaeosa.org/heritage-practitioners.html> for a list of qualified palaeontologists). If drilling is planned within the areas of very high sensitivity, a field-based PIA must be undertaken as part of the EA process. 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.

Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the requested studies and draft BAR documents 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

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ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/591564>
(DMR - NC, Ref: NC 30/5/1/1/2/12900 PR.)