

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 17843

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: Tshenolo Iron Ore Mine (Pty) Ltd

374 Furrow Road
Equestria
0184

Proposed prospecting operations for various minerals on the farms Zeekoebar 9, Farm 1 (Boegoeberg Water Reserve), Erven of Boegoeberg Settlement, farms Missing 153, Carter Block 584, Zeekoebaart 306, Farm 307, Farm 308, Boven Zeekoebaart 131, Rocksburg 301, farm 312 and Farm 309 situated in the Magisterial district of Prieska and Hay, Northern Cape Province

LW Consultants have been appointed by Tshenolo Iron Ore Mine (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation Application for proposed prospecting activities on various farms situated in the Magisterial district of Prieska and Hay, Northern Cape Province (NC 30/5/1/1/2/13083 PR).

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 prospecting application area will cover 36 686.9995 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.

No assessment of the impact to heritage resources complying with section 38(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA) as required in section 38(8) of the NHRA, nor in terms of 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 be completed as required by section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA that complies with section 38(3) of the NHRA as required by section 38(8) of the NHRA. The HIA must include an archaeological and palaeontological component.

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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).

The proposed prospecting footprint is located in an area of moderate, high and very high 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). Should prospecting be planned within the areas of very high sensitivity, a field-assessment 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.

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 requested studies and updated 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

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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/591798>
(DMR - NC, Ref: NC 30/5/1/1/2/13083 PR)