

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: 17950

Date: Wednesday August 03, 2022
Page No: 1

Final Comment

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

Attention: Electri City Mining (Pty) Ltd

Prospecting Right over the farm Windhoek 393

DERA Environmental Consultants have been appointed by Electri City Mining (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation Application for proposed prospecting activities on Remaining Extent of the farm Windhoek 393, near Griekwastad, Northern Cape Province (NC 30/5/1/1/2/12680PR).

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 application area will cover 3 007,8021 ha and will include 150 test pits (2 m x 2 m x ±5 m deep) and 10 trenches (10 x 60 x ±5 m deep), plant area with stockpiles, roads ablation facilities and temporary office buildings.

In an Interim Comment issued on the 18/02/2022, SAHRA requested 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. Since the issuing of the Interim Comment, an HIA along with the draft EIA has been submitted to the application for review (05/07/2022).

Rossouw, L. 2022. Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment for proposed Phase 2 and Phase 3 prospecting activities on the Remaining Extent of the farm Windhoek 393, near Douglas, Hay District, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed prospecting areas are underlain by calcrete hardpan and overlain by aeolian sand and sorted gravel matrix. No aboveground evidence of fossils or fossil exposures were observed within the the proposed prospecting areas. One cemetery was identified within the proposed development footprint. No further heritage resources were identified in the proposed development footprint.

Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- The cemetery must be protected with a proper fence and a 20 m no-go bufferzone;

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Page No: 2

- A professional palaeontologist must be brought in to monitor freshly exposed calcrete exposures for late Neogene vertebrate fossils during Phase 2 (test pit phase) of the project.

It is noted the results of the HIA have not been included in the EIA.

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 BAR and EMPr:

- 38(4)a – The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit and Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit has no objections to the proposed development;
- 38(4)b – The recommendations of the specialists are supported and must be adhered to. Further additional specific conditions are provided for the development as follows:
 - BGG Unit conditions: The burial site must be demarcated with a fence for *in-situ* preservation. A buffer-zone of at least 100m must be established and maintained around the site.
- 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/Ngqabutho Madida 012 320 8490), must be alerted immediately as per 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

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Page No: 3

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

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/592544>
(DMR - NC, Ref: NC 30/5/1/1/3/12680 PR)

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.