Our Ref: 17994



an agency of the Department of Arts and Culture

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Date: Thursday May 05, 2022

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## **Final Comment**

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

Attention: Collins Chabane

## The proposed demarcation of 100 sites on n Farm Mckhenie 228 LT and Portion of Farm Natorp 227 LT under the jurisdiction of Collins Chabane Local Municipality in Limpopo Province

Ngoti Consultant Developers (Pty) Ltd have appointed Mang Geo-Enviro Services (Pty) Ltd to undertake a Basic Assessment application process for extention and formalisation of a 11 ha township development in Rikaka village as described in the title. The BAR is 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.

A Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) report has been submitted to SAHRA for commenting in terms of section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act, no. 25 of 1999 (NHRA). The HIA covers two BAR applications, the other BAR was uploaded to SAHRIS case ID 18008 and case ID 18009.

Pelser, A.J. February 2022. PHASE 1 HIA'S FOR PROPOSED TOWNSHIP ESTABLISHMENTS ON A PORTION OF NATORP 227LT (MPHAMBO VILLAGE), PORTIONS OF NATORP 227LT & MCKHENIE 228LT (RIKAKA VILLAGE) AND THE REMAINING EXTENT OF ALTEIN 222LT IN THE MALAMULELE REGION OF THE COLLINS CHABANE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY IN THE LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The author undertook a field assessment of the proposed development area and the area had dense vegetation cover, the survey concentrated in areas that have been previously cleared or where there has been erosion offering ground visibility. Some isolated potsherds have been identified around the proposed Altein and Rikaka. The isolated finds are not associated of with settlement remains as such they are out of context and are of low significance. The author recommends the relocation of the following:

• Implementation of a chance find procedure for the project.

The development area has negligible palaeontological sensitivity and is granted exemption from undertaking a palaeontological assessment.



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## **Final Comment**

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology, and Meteorites (APM) Unit notes and accepts the submission of the draft BAR and HIA however SAHRA requires an additional survey of the development area after ground clearance due to the limited survey undertaken during the initial survey for the HIA. As such, SAHRA has no objections to the proposed development on the following conditions:

A watching brief during ground clearance and a walk down survey of the area after ground clearance must be conducted by a suitably qualified archaeologist. A report of the survey must be submitted to SAHRA for comments.

In the 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 Tshivase/Ngqalabutho Madida 012 320 8490).

Please submit an amended .kml file to the palaeo-sensitivity map section of the case. Only a polygon of the Rikaka extention area must be mapped as separate cases for the other township developments have been created.

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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

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/592916

(EDTEA, Ref: RIKAKA HIA)

## 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.