

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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Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt
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CaseID: 18027

Date: Wednesday June 01, 2022
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Final Comment

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

Attention: Erna F. Erasmus

Environmental Management Plan for the proposed Prospecting Right application on the farm Aansluit 250, Registration Division: Hopetown, Northern Cape province.

Milnex CC has been appointed by Erna F. Erasmus to conduct an Environmental Management Plan for proposed prospecting activities on P the farm Aansluit, Hopetown District, Northern Cape Province (NC30/5/1/1/2/1832PR).

An Environmental Management Plan has been submitted in terms of the as per the Minerals and Petroleum Resources Development Act, Act 2002 (MPRDA) as the application was initially submitted in 2008. The proposed prospecting activities will include 25 trenches (40 m x 15 m x 9 m) and 200 pits covering 1.5 ha, chemical toilets, maintenance yard and container.

Banzai Environmental (Pty) Ltd and Dr Van Schalkwyk have been appointed to provide heritage specialist input as per section 39(3)b(iii) of the MPRDA and section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

Butler, E. 2022. Palaeontological Desktop Assessment for the Prospecting Right Application for Diamonds Alluvial on the Farm Aansluit 250, Registration Division: Hopetown, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed development footprint is underlain by the Dwyka Group and Vryburg Formations, which are overlain by sediments of the Late Caenozoic age, with Late Tertiary to Quaternary calcretes covering the largest area with the development footprint. Fossils that may be present include trace fossils such as trackways, marine fossils and fossil plants, and stromatolites. A Fossil Chance Finds Protocol is recommended to be added to the EMPr.

Van Schalkwyk, J. 2022. Phase 1 Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment: The Prospecting Right Application Including Associated Infrastructure, Structure and Earthworks of Erna Francine Erasmus to Prospect for Diamond Alluvial (DA) on the Farm Aansluit 250 (excluding a certain area), Registration Division: Hopetown, Northern Cape Province.

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A total of five (5) heritage resources were identified within the proposed development footprint. These include one surface scatter of Middle Stone Age lithics of low heritage significance and one of medium heritage significance (located along a pan with a rectangular platform), two historical structures of medium significance and one burial ground of high significance.

Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- Avoid or carry out archaeological mitigation of the Stone Age site of medium significance;
- Avoid the burial ground with a fence with a 10 m buffer around the grave and a further 50 m buffer from the fence;
- Mitigation and recording of the built structures to be implemented before destruction
- A Chance Finds Procedure must be implemented.

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 EMP:

- 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:
 - A buffer of 30 m must be maintained around the Stone Age site of medium significance and the two built structures;
 - If it is not possible to avoid the above sites, permits in terms of section 35 of the NHRA must be applied for the mitigation of the Stone Age site and the two built structures as they are older than 100 years. These permits must be applied from SAHRA and must be applied for prior to the construction phase;



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- BGG Unit conditions: The identified burial ground must be avoided with a buffer-zone of 100m, a fence with access gate erected, and Heritage Management Plan (HMP) developed for long terms preservation of the site. Development activities must be closely monitored for possible unknown graves;
- 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;

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- The Final EMP must be submitted to the SAHRIS application for record purposes;
- The decision regarding the PR application must be submitted to the SAHRIS 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/593151>
(DMR - NC, Ref: NC30/5/1/1/2/1832PR)

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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.