

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: 18283

Date: Friday April 22, 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: Lesego Diamond Mining (Pty) Ltd

The proposed Prospecting Right combined with a Waste Licence application to prospect for Diamond DIA, Diamond (Alluvial), Diamond (General) and Diamond (In Kimberlite) near Barkly West on the Remaining Extent of the Farm 225, Registration Division: Barkly West, Northern Cape province.

Milnex Environmental Consultants CC have been appointed by Lesego Diamond Mining (Pty) Ltd to undertake an Environmental Authorisation Application for proposed prospecting activities on the Remaining Extent of the Farm 225, Registration Division: Barkly West, Northern Cape Province (NC30/5/1/2/2/13003PR).

A Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (DEIA) 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 1 776.2518 ha and will include 100 pits (4 m x 2 m x 3 m) and 50 trenches (40 m x 40 m x 3 m), ablution facility, and storage of dangerous goods.

No assessment of the impact to heritage resources has been conducted as part of the EA application process as required by section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA) that complies with section 38(3) of the NHRA.

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.

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 and 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). 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 23(1)b of the NEMA EIA Regulations in order to comply with this comment. A revised EIA with the results of the above requested specialist studies must be completed.

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/594884>
(DMR - NC, Ref: NC30/5/1/2/2/13003PR)