PROSPECTING RIGHT APPLICATION OF MANGANESE ORE, IRON ORE & DIAMOND ON THE FARMS BRETBY 687 AND HURLEY 688

Our Ref:



an agency of the Department of Arts and Culture

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Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt Tel: 021 462 4502 Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za CaseID: 19033 Date: Monday August 08, 2022 Page No: 1

Interim Comment

In terms of Section 38(3), 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Lesego Mathebula Raycom Resources

Prospecting Right Application within Remaining Extent and Portion 1 of farm Hurley 688 for Diamond and Remaining Extent of Bretby 687 farm for Manganese and Iron ore. The project area is within the Administrative District of Kuruman in Northern Cape Province. The Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE) reference for this project is: DMRE Ref: NC 30/5/1/1/2/12989 PR. The project area is located in the Ga-Segonyana Local Municipality.

Thank you for notifying SAHRA of the proposed Prospecting Right Application and Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for prospecting activities on Remaining Extent and Portion 1 of farm Hurley 688 for Diamond and Remaining Extent of Bretby 687 farm, near Kuruman, Northern Cape Province (NC 30/5/1/1/2/12989 PR).

As the proposed development is undergoing an EA Application process in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 107 of 1998 (NEMA), NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations as amended, it is incumbent on the developer to ensure that an application specific **Heritage Impact Assessment** (HIA) is done as per section 38(3) and 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA) as required by section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA. This must include an archaeological component, palaeontological component and any other applicable heritage components. The HIA must be conducted **as part of the** EA Application in terms of NEMA and the NEMA EIA Regulations.

SAHRA requests that an assessment of the impacts to heritage resources that complies with section 38(3) of the NHRA as required by section 38(8) of the NHRA and section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA be conducted as <u>part of the EA process</u>. The prospecting right is proposed to occur in very close proximity to the declared Wonderwerk Cave National Heritage Site (9/2/055/0005 <u>https://sahris.sahra.org.za/sites/920550005</u>). The HIA <u>must include</u> the following: Noise Impact Assessment, Visual Impact Assessment and Seismic Assessment of the impact of the proposed drilling on the cave.

The assessment must include an assessment of the impact to archaeological and palaeontological resources. The assessment of archaeological resources must be conducted by a qualified archaeologist and the report comply with the SAHRA 2007 Minimum Standards: Archaeological and Palaeontological Components of

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Impact Assessment Reports (see <u>www.asapa.co.za</u> or <u>www.aphp.org.za</u> for a list of qualified archaeologists). The standards also refer to a Letter of Recommendation for Exemption for further assessment should the specialist deem it appropriate.

The proposed development is located within an area of moderate and very high Palaeontological Sensitivity as per the SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity map. As such, a field-based Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA) 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. The standards also refer to a Letter of Recommendation for Exemption for further assessment should the specialist deem it appropriate.

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 viewscapes must also be assessed.

Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the 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/600954 (DMR - NC, Ref: NC 30/5/1/1/2/12989 PR)