

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: 19203

Date: Monday August 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: GEJ Resources (Pty) Ltd

GEJ intends to prospect, including bulk sampling, for Attapulгите/Sepiolite (Clay) and Gold Ore over Portion 1 of the Farm Mierhoop 68, Remaining Extent of the Farm Baken Kop 69 and Portion 1 of the Farm Baken Kop 69; and also for Attapulгите/Sepiolite (Clay), Copper Ore and Gold Ore over the Remaining Extent of the Farm Mierhoop 68 and Portion 2 of the Farm Baken Kop 69, situated in the Hay District, Northern Cape Province.

M and S Consulting (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by GEJ Resources (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed prospecting activities on Portion 1 of the Farm Mierhoop 68, Remaining Extent of the Farm Baken Kop 69 and Portion 1 of the Farm Baken Kop 69; and also for Attapulгите/Sepiolite (Clay), Copper Ore and Gold Ore over the Remaining Extent of the Farm Mierhoop 68 and Portion 2 of the Farm Baken Kop 69, near Blouboospan, Northern Cape Province (NC 30/5/1/1/2/13167 PR).

A draft Scoping Report (DSR) has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) and the 2017 NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The proposed prospecting will include 30 boreholes (10 m x 10 m each), 30 trenches (30 m x 50 m x 40 m) blasting, mobile offices, processing plant, access roads, stockpiles, salvage yard, wash bay, waste rock dumps, weighbridge and weighbridge control room and workshop within an application area of 3 982.6753 ha.

It is noted that a palaeontological specialist will be appointed to assess the development as par of the EIA phase.

Interim Comment

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit requests that an assessment of the impact to heritage resources be conducted as part of the EA process that complies with section 38(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA) as required by section 38(8) of the NHRA and section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA. The assessment must include an archaeological and palaeontological component.

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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 Impact Assessment Reports (see www.asapa.co.za or www.aphp.org.za for a list of qualified archaeologists).

The proposed development is located within an area of moderate and high Palaeontological Sensitivity as per the SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity map. As such, a desktop 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.

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.

Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the above reports and the Draft EIA 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/602607>
(DMR - NC, Ref: NC 30/5/1/1/2/13167 PR)