



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 20123

Date: Wednesday December 07, 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: Mr Sipiwe, Mafereka

The applicant (Sillage Capital Pty Ltd) intends to extract Coal using opencast mining method. Mining activities will be undertaken over a period of two (2) years. This project will entail an open cast method of excavation. The mine design will be developed according to the dimension of the mineral applied deposit within the project area, but overall mining activities will be limited to an area of 5 Ha as per mining permit requirements.

Thank you for notifying SAHRA of the proposed Mining Permit Application and Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for mining activities on Portion of Portion 14 of the Farm Vlakfontein 569 JR, near Wilge, Mpumalanga Province (No reference number).

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 part of the EA process.

The assessment must include an assessment of the impact to archaeological and historical resources. The field-based 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 Minimum Standards refer to a Letter of Recommendation for Exemption for further studies should the specialist deem it appropriate. SAHRA reserves the right to insist on a field-based assessment should the Letter of Recommendation not provide ample information to make an informed comment.

ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED MINING PERMIT APPLICATION FOR COAL WITHIN PORTION OF PORTION 14 OF THE FARM VLAKFONTEIN 569 JR, UNDER MAGESTERIAL DISTRICT OF WITBANK MUNICIPALITY, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE



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The proposed development is located within an area of very high Palaeontological Sensitivity as per the SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity map. As such, field-based Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA) is requested to 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 Minimum Standards refer to a Letter of Recommendation for Exemption for further studies should the specialist deem it appropriate. SAHRA reserves the right to insist on a field-based assessment should the Letter of Recommendation not provide ample information to make an informed comment.

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 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

ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED MINING PERMIT APPLICATION FOR COAL WITHIN PORTION OF PORTION 14 OF THE FARM VLAKFONTEIN 569 JR, UNDER MAGESTERIAL DISTRICT OF WITBANK DUMFRIES MAMALANGA PROVINCE



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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/609049>
(DMR-MP, Ref:)