



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 20132

Date: Thursday April 06, 2023

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Interim Comment

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

Attention: Vanadium Resources (Pty) Ltd

3695 Platanus Close
Centurion
0157

Vanadium Resources (Pty) Ltd proposed to construct and operate a Salt Roast Leach (SRL) plant on portion 15 of the farm Tweefontein 360 KT, Sekhukhune District Municipality, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality, Limpopo Province.

Vanadium Resources (Pty) Ltd have appointed Redkite Consulting (Pty) Ltd to undertake a Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (S&EIAr) application process in support of an Environmental Authorisation application in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA), as amended and the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (MPRDA) (As amended), for listed activities in the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.

The project will include the construction of an SRL Plant, Tailings Storage Facility, Raw water storage tank/s, Return water tanks, Storm water management infrastructure, including PCD/s, Plant feed and product stockpiling, Offices and ablution facilities, Access and haul roads, Security and fencing of operational areas, Boreholes for groundwater abstraction and groundwater monitoring. The project will be 132 ha in extent.

A Heritage Impact Assessment report by APelser Archaeological Consulting and Scoping Report by Redkite has been submitted to SAHRA in terms of section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, 25 of 1999 for commenting.

Pelser, A. April 2022. A PHASE 1 HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT & REPORT FOR THE VANADIUM RESOURCES SALT ROAST LEACH PLANT ON A PORTION OF PORTIONS 3 & 13 OF THE FARM TWEEFONTEIN 360KT NEAR STEELPOORT IN THE LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The study area was assessed in April 2022 and 9 heritage sites were identified. These sites consist of surface

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scatters of potsherds (sites 1 to 7), as well as baked hut floors (site 8) and an upper grinding stone at site 9. These sites are of medium to high significance and any impacts by the proposed development must be avoided. There is a high likelihood of further sites being uncovered as dense vegetation hampered ground visibility.

The author recommends the following:

The sampling of representative surface material (decorated pottery) dating to the Iron Age. This will assist in providing a relative date for the Iron Age occupation of and settlement in the area. For this an archaeological permit will be required from SAHRA,

The excavation of surface features dating to the Iron Age (Sites 8 & 9) in order to determine the age of and extent of the Iron Age in the study area. A permit from SAHRA will have to be obtained for this purpose as well,

The implementation of an Archaeological Watching Brief and Monitoring Program for the duration of the development and construction activities associated with the Vanadium SRL Plant and related to the Plant. This will ensure that if any unknown and significant material deposits, features and possible burials are exposed during these actions that they are identified, recorded and properly investigated and recovered.

Interim Comment

The Development Applications Unit (DAU) notes the submission of the Scoping Report and HIA report and requests the submission of the draft EIA report.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

Nokukhanya Khumalo
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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Natasha Higgitt

Manager: Development Applications Unit

South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/609129>