Our Ref:



an agency of the Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001 www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt Tel: 021 462 4502 Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za CaseID: 20290 Date: Friday January 20, 2023 Page No: 1

## **Interim Comment**

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

Attention: Notre Coal

## Mining Permit and Environmental Authorization application for Coal, on portion of the remaining extent of portion 2 of the farm Mooihoek 168 HT, situated in the Magisterial District of Mkhondo in Mpumalanga Province.

Thank you for notifying SAHRA of the proposed Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for mining activities on the remaining extent of portion 2 of the farm Mooihoek 168 HT, near Piet Retief, Mpumalanga Province (MP 30/5/1/3/2/13870 MP).

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 assessment must include an assessment of the impact to archaeological and palaeontological 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 <u>www.asapa.co.za</u> or <u>www.aphp.org.za</u> for a list of qualified archaeologists).

The proposed development is located within an area of 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 <u>https://www.palaeosa.org/heritage-practitioners.html</u> for a list

MP 30/5/1/3/2/13870 MP

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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 viewscapes must also be assessed.

Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the draft BAR documents inclusive of appendices.

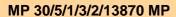
Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

Natasha Higgitt Heritage Officer South African Heritage Resources Agency

Phillip Hine Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:



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Direct URL to case: https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/610158 (DMR-MP, Ref: MP 30/5/1/3/2/13870 MP)