



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 20472

Date: Friday September 08, 2023
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Final Comment

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

Attention: African Realty Trust (Pty) Ltd

The proposed construction of six in-stream storage dams

ECI Environmental Consultants International (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by African Realty Trust to undertake a Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment in support of an Environmental Authorisation (EA) in terms of the National Environment Management Act, Act 107 of 1998 (NEMA) for activities that trigger the NEMA EIA 2014 Regulations, for the construction of 6 in-stream storage dams, that will have a total extent of 51.08 ha, located Farm Letaba Estates 525 LT and Portion 0 of the Farm Beaconsfield 530 LT, Greater Letaba Local Municipality, Limpopo Province.

The draft EIAR, its appendices, including the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) report by Shasa Heritage Consultants for the project have been submitted to SAHRA in terms of section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, 25 of 1999 for commenting.

Roodt, R. December 2022. Heritage Scoping report for the construction of 6 in-stream dams on Letaba Estate 525 LT (dam 1-5) and Portion 0 of the Farm Beaconsfield 530 LT (dam 6), Mopani District, Limpopo.

The author undertook a field assessment and did not identify any heritage resources along the proposed 6 dams. The author recommends monitoring of ground clearance activities particularly where vegetation was dense. The author notes that the study area is in an area of negligible palaeo-sensitivity and no studies are required according to the SAHRIS palaeomap policy.

Final Comment

The following comments are made as a requirement in terms of section 3(4) of the NEMA Regulations and section 38(8) of the NHRA in the format provided in section 38(4) of the NHRA and must be included in the Final BAR:

38(4)a – The SAHRA Development Applications Unit (DAU) has no objections to the proposed development;



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38(4)b – The recommendations provided by the heritage specialists are supported and must be adhered to. The following additional conditions must be adhered to:

An archaeologist must be appointed to monitor ground clearance activities at Dam 1, 4, 5 and 6 where vegetation was very dense and ground visibility very poor.

38(4)c(i) – If any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g. remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments, charcoal and ash concentrations), fossils or other categories of heritage resources are found during the proposed development, SAHRA DA Unit (Nokukhanya Khumalo/Natasha Higgitt 021 202 8660) must be alerted as per section 35(3) of the NHRA.

Non-compliance with section of the NHRA is an offence in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule;

38(4)c(ii) – If unmarked human burials are uncovered, the SAHRA DA Unit (Nokukhanya Khumalo/Natasha Higgitt 021 202 8660), must be alerted immediately as per section 36(6) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with section of the NHRA is an offence in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule;

38(4)d – See section 51(1) of the NHRA;

38(4)e – The following conditions apply with regards to the appointment of specialists:

i) If heritage resources are uncovered during the course of the development, a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the heritage resource. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required subject to permits issued by SAHRA;

The Final BAR must be submitted to SAHRA for record purposes;

The decision regarding the EA Application must be communicated to SAHRA and uploaded to the SAHRIS Case application.

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

Our Ref: 20472



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South African Heritage Resources Agency

Natasha Higgitt
Manager: Development Applications Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/611734>
(LEDET, Ref: 12/1/9/2-M70)

Terms & Conditions:

1. This approval does not exonerate the applicant from obtaining local authority approval or any other necessary approval for proposed work.
2. If any heritage resources, including graves or human remains, are encountered they must be reported to SAHRA immediately.
3. SAHRA reserves the right to request additional information as required.