

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: 20685

Date: Monday April 17, 2023
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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: Jaments (Pty) Ltd

Pentagon House, 5 Neven Street, Model Park, eMalahleni

Prospecting Right Application for Coal on the remaining extent of the farm Bankfontein 445 JS, Portion 38 of the farm Groenfontein 440 JS and Portion 05 of the farm Erfdeel 446 JS, situated in the Magisterial District of Middleburg in Mpumalanga Province

Singo Consulting (Pty) Ltd have been appointed by Jaments (Pty) Ltd to undertake an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for proposed prospecting activities on the remaining extent of the farm Bankfontein 445 JS, Portion 38 of the farm Groenfontein 440 JS and Portion 05 of the farm Erfdeel 446 JS, near Middelburg, Mpumalanga Province (MP 30/5/1/1/2/16558 PR).

A Draft Basic Assessment Report (DBAR) has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) and the EIA Regulations for activities that trigger the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (MPRDA)(As amended). The proposed activities will include 15 boreholes, mobile office and toilet, parking, access road, guard room, logging area, waste storage area, sumps and tanks within an application area of 515.096 ha.

No heritage assessment that complies with section 38(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA) as required in terms of section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(8) of the NHRA has been conducted as part of the EA process.

Interim Comment

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 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

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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 low Palaeontological Sensitivity as per the SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity map. As such, a no further assessment of the impact on palaeontological resources is required.

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.

The applicant is advised to extend the EA process in terms of section 19(1)b of the NEMA Regulations in in order to address this comment. Further comments will be issued upon receipt of an amended BAR documents inclusive of appendices that includes the results of the requested heritage assessments.

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
Manager: Development Applications Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

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Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/613080>
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