

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 20750

Date: Thursday March 30, 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: Mr Thabo Thomas

Prospecting Right Application by Chipso Holdings (Pty) Ltd in respect of Coal on Portion 1, 2 and the Remaining extent of the farm Stroomwater 96 JS, situated in the Magisterial District of Thembisile Hani in Mpumalanga Province with DMRE Ref.: MP 30/5/1/1/2/17897 PR.

Thank you for notifying SAHRA of the Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for proposed prospecting activities on Portion 1, 2 and the Remaining extent of the farm Stroomwater 96 JS, near Venera, Mpumalanga Province (MP 30/5/1/1/2/17897 PR).

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 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 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 and insignificant Palaeontological Sensitivity as per the SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity map. As such, no further studies regarding the impact to palaeontological resources is required.

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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
Manager: Development Applications Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/613413>
(DMR-MP, Ref: MP 30/5/1/1/2/17897 PR)