

**Our Ref:**



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 20750

Date: Tuesday May 30, 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: Mr Thabo Thomas

**Prospecting Right Application by Chipo 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.**

Singo Consulting (Pty) Ltd have been appointed by Chipo Holdings (Pty) Ltd to undertake an Environmental Authorisation 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).

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 prospecting activities include 15 drilled boreholes, mobile offices and toilets, parking, guard room, logging area, clean and dirty sump and access tracks over an application area of 3 186.18 ha.

No assessment of the impact to heritage resources as been conducted as per section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA) that complies with section 38(3) of the NHRA.

### **Interim Comment**

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit requests that an assessment of the impact to heritage resources be undertaken as part of the EA process that complies with section 38(3) of the NHRA as required by section 38(8) of the NHRA. The HIA must include an archaeological component.

The field-based archaeological component of the HIA must be conducted by a qualified archaeologist and must comply with the SAHRA 2007 Minimum Standards: Archaeological and Palaeontological Components of Impact Assessment Reports (see [www.asapa.co.za](http://www.asapa.co.za) or [www.aphp.org.za](http://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

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PalaeoSensitivity map, and therefore no further assessment of the impact to palaeontology is required. A Chance Finds Procedure must be included in the EMPr.

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 EIA Regulations in order to address this comment. Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the above requested reports and revised DBAR that incorporates the results of the heritage specialist report.

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

Yours faithfully

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

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**ADMIN:**

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