Portion of Portion 24 of the farm Weltevreden 227 IR with DMRE Ref.: MP 30/5/1/1/3/13702 MP.

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

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CaseID: 20833

Date: Tuesday May 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: Jaments (Pty) Ltd

Pentagon House, 5 Neven Street, Model Park, eMalahleni

Mining Permit and Environmental Authorization application for Coal, portion of portion 24 of the farm Weltevreden 227 IR, situated in the Magisterial District of Delmas in Mpumalanga Province with DMRE Ref.: MP 30/5/1/1/3/13702 MP.

Singo Consulting (Pty) Ltd have been appointed by Jaments (Pty) Ltd to undertake an Environmental Authorisation Application for proposed mining activities on portion of portion 24 of the farm Weltevreden 227 IR, near Delmas, Mpumalanga Province (MP 30/5/1/1/3/13702 MP).

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 mining activities will include open cast coal mining, blasting, crushing and screening, haul road, loading zone, access route, ablution facilities and waste storage area within an application area of 5 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 <a href="www.asapa.co.za">www.asapa.co.za</a> or <a href="www.asapa.co.za">www.asapa.co.za</a> or <a href="www.asapa.co.za">www.asapa.co.za</a> for a list of qualified archaeologists). The standards also refer to a Letter of Recommendation for Exemption for further assessment should the

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specialist deem it appropriate. SAHRA reserves the right to insist on a field-based assessment should the Letter of Recommendation not provide ample information to make an informed comment.

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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 <a href="https://www.palaeosa.org/heritage-practitioners.html">https://www.palaeosa.org/heritage-practitioners.html</a> for a list of qualified palaeontologists). The report must comply with the 2012 Minimum Standards: Palaeontological Components of Heritage Impact Assessments. The standards also refer to a Letter of Recommendation for Exemption for further assessment should the specialist deem it appropriate. SAHRA reserves the right to insist on a field-based assessment should the Letter of Recommendation not provide ample information to make an informed comment.

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.

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

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/614941

(DMR-MP, Ref: MP 30/5/1/1/3/13702 MP)

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