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 Tel: 021 202 8660 Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za CaseID: 21095 Date: Wednesday July 12, 2023 Page No: 1

Final Comment

In terms of Section 38(4), 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Willie Oosthuizen Wadala Mining and Consulting Pty Ltd

PROSPECTING RIGHT LODGED IN TERMS OF SECTION 24 OF NATIONAL ENVIRONMETNAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998 (ACT 107 OF 1998) READ WITH REGULATION 19 OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) REGULATIONS, 2014 AS AMENDED FOR PROSPECTING RIGHT FOR URANIUM (THORIUM) AND RARE EARTHS ON REMAINING EXTENT OF PORTION 1 (DRAGOENDER PUT); PORTION 6 (A PORTION OF PORTION 1) ; PORTION 10 (A PORTION OF PORTION 7 -ZOUTPUTS); REMAINING EXTENT OF PORTION 14 (A PORTION OF PORTION 8); PORTION 17 (A PORTION OF PORTION 1) ; PORTION 18 (A PORTION OF PORTION 1) ; PORTION 19 (A PORTION OF PORTION 1); PORTION 23 (A PORTION OF PORTION 1) ; PORTION 24 (A PORTION OF PORTION 1) ; AND PORTION 25 (A PORTION OF PORTION 14) OF THE FARM RIETFONTEIN 11 AND FARM 20 IN EXTENT: 4737.5007 HA IN EXTENT LOCATED IN THE PRIESKA DISTRICT, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE FOR SIX DRILL HOLES

Wadala Mining and Consulting (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by Camel Thorn Group (Pty) Ltd to undertake an Environmental Authorisation Application for proposed prospecting activities on various portions of Rietfontein 11 and Farm 20, near Prieska, Northern Cape Province (NC 30/5/1/1/3/2/1/13389 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 will include six boreholes and a possible 18 boreholes thereafter, two track roads and ablution facilities within an application area 4 737.5007 ha.

Prof Marion Bamford and Archaeological and Heritage Services Africa (Pty) Ltd AHSA were appointed to provide heritage specialist input as per section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

Bamford, M. 2023. Palaeontological Impact Assessment for the proposed Prospecting and Mining Right Application by Camel Thorn Group (Pty) Ltd for 3 - Farms Rietfontein 11 and Farm 20, Northern Cape Province

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The proposed development area is underlain by non-fossiliferous Namaqua-Natal Province, Campbell Rand Formation and Kalahari Group sands. Stromatolites may be present within the Campbell Rand Formation however, no pans or springs are within the proposed development area. A Fossil Chance Finds Procedure is recommended.

Matenga, E. 2023. Heritage Impact Assessment and Palaeontological Impact Assessment (Desktop) for a Prospecting Right Application on the Remaining Extent of Portion 1 (Dragoender Put) of the Farm Rietfontein 11; Portion 6 (a Portion of Portion 1) of the Farm Rietfontein 11; Portion 10 (a Portion of Portion 7 - Zoutputs) of the Farm Rietfontein 11; Remaining Extent of Portion 14 (a Portion of Portion 8) of the Farm Rietfontein 11; Portion 17 (a Portion of Portion 1) of the Farm Rietfontein 11; Portion 18 (a Portion of Portion 1) of the Farm Rietfontein 11; Portion 18 (a Portion of Portion 1) of the Farm Rietfontein 11; Portion 23 (a Portion of Portion 1) of the Farm Rietfontein 11; Portion 23 (a Portion of Portion 1) of the Farm Rietfontein 11; Portion 14 (a Portion 1) of the Farm Rietfontein 11; Portion 25 (a Portion of Portion 14) of the Farm Rietfontein 11; and Farm 20 near Marydale in the Siyathemba Local Municipality, Northern Cape Province

A desktop assessment was conducted for the proposed development as the location of the boreholes are not yet known. Heritage resources that may be present within the development footprint include Stone Age surface lithic scatters, burial grounds and historical structures, with a lower possibility for rock engravings.

Recommendations provided in the report include the need for a Chance Finds Procedure.

Final Comment

The following comments are made as a requirement in terms of 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 and EMPr:

- 38(4)a The SAHRA Development Applications Unit (DAU) has no objections to the proposed development;
- 38(4)b Further additional specific conditions are provided for the development as follows:
- Once the drilling locations are known, a qualified archaeologist must inspect each location and a report with the results of the inspection must be submitted to SAHRA for review. No clearance or drilling may occur without comment from SAHRA in this regard;
- SAHRA reserves the right to provide additional conditions or object to the development based on the result of the above requested report;
- 38(4)c(i) If any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g. remnants of stone-made structures,

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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 DAU (Natasha Higgitt 012 202 8660/ nhiggitt@sahra.org.za) must be alerted as per section 35(3) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with section of the NHRA is an offense 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 DAU (Natasha Higgitt 012 202 8660/ <u>nhiggitt@sahra.org.za</u>) must be alerted immediately as per section 36(6) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with section of the NHRA is an offense 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 regarding offences;
- 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 and EMPr must be submitted to the SAHRIS application for record purposes;
- The decision regarding the EA application and PR application must be submitted to the SAHRIS application for record purposes.

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/616301

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.