

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: 21608

Date: Friday July 14, 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: Wadala Mining and Consulting (Pty) Ltd

P.O Box 564
Jan Kempdorp
8550

The prospecting activities will be a combination of both non-invasive and invasive methods. A suitable level of feasibility study (technical and economic evaluation) will also be undertaken

Wadala Mining and Consulting (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by Thunderflex 78 (Pty) Ltd to undertake an Environmental Authorisation Application for proposed prospecting activities on portions 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 13 and remainder of the farm Stofbakkies 31, near Prieska, Northern Cape (NC 30/5/1/1/2/13318 PR).

A Draft Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment 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 100 boreholes, 100 pits (2 x 3 x 0.5-5 m deep) and 30 trenches (100 x 50 x 0.5-5 m), haul roads, temporary office, workshop and ablution facilities, storm water control berms, water tanks, fuel storage, wash bay, salvage yard, waste disposal site, processing plant and pipeline infrastructure within an application area of 4 794.3250 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 Prospecting Right Application on portions of the Farm Stofbakkies 31, northeast of Prieska, Northern Cape Province

The proposed development area is underlain by the highly fossiliferous Campbell Rand Formation, Kuruman Formation, Tertiary-Quaternary calcretes, Dwyka Group tillites and Gordonias Formation. No fossils were identified during the site visit. A Fossil Chance Finds Procedure is recommended.

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Matenga, E. 2023. Heritage Impact Assessment (Walk-down) and Palaeontological Impact Assessment (Walkdown) for a Prospecting Right Application on Portion, Portion 4, Portion 5, Portion 7, Portion 9, Portion 13, and Remainder of the Farm Stofbakkies 31 near Prieska in the Siyathemba Local Municipality, Northern Cape Province

A total of 32 heritage resources were identified within the proposed development area. These include surface scatters of Stone Age lithics and one potsherd of low heritage significance and one historical structures of medium heritage significance.

Recommendations provided in the report include the need for the historical structure to be protected and a Chance Finds Procedure to be implemented.

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 EIA and EMP:

- 38(4)a – The SAHRA Development Applications Unit (DAU) has no objections to the proposed development;
- 38(4)b – The recommendations of the heritage specialists are supported and must be adhered to. Further additional specific conditions are provided for the development as follows:
 - A 30 m no go buffer must be maintained around site SBK01;
- 38(4)c(i) – If any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g. remnants of stone-made structures, 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/ nhiggitt@sahra.org.za) 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

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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 EIA 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

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/618934>

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.