



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: 22050

Date: Friday August 25, 2023
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Final Comment

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

Attention: Mr Wilmot Prusent
Transalt (Pty) Ltd
7 Clarke Street
South Alrode
Alberton
1451

Proposed prospect for salt containing brine from 3 pans. Northern Cape

Site Plan Consulting has been appointed by Transalt (Pty) Ltd to undertake an Environmental Authorisation Application for proposed prospecting activities on the remainder and portion 1 of the farm Vilander 381, and portion 112 and 158 of the farm Kalahari-Wes 251, near Upington, Northern Cape Province (NC30/5/1/1/2/13638PR).

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 three auger holes per pan, a total of nine auger holes.

Dr John Pether and the Agency for Cultural Resources Management were appointed to provide heritage specialist input into the EA process in terms of section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

Pether, J. 2023. Basic Palaeontological Assessment: Letter of Recommendation for Exemption from further Palaeontological Studies, Vilander Pans Salt Prospect Farm Vilander 1/318 & RE/318 and Farm Kalahari-Wes 112/251 & 158/251 Dawid Kruiper Municipality, Gordonias District, Northern Cape

The proposed development footprint is underlain by the Goeboe Goeboe Formation, however the Karo bedrock beneath the pans is expected to be weathered and unlikely to yield well-preserved fossils. A Chance Fossil Finds Procedure is recommended to be implemented.

Kaplan, J. 2023. Recommended Exemption from Further Archaeological Studies, Prospecting Right



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Application on remainder of farm Vilander No. 318, Portion 1 of Farm Vilander No. 318, Portion 112 of Farm Kalahari-Wes No. 251, & Portion 159 of Farm Kalahari-Wes No. 251, Dawid Kruiper Local Municipality, Northern Cape Province

Heritage resources identified within the surrounding areas include Stone Age lithic scatters of low heritage significance. The proposed development activities do not pose a threat to heritage resources. No further heritage studies are recommended.

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 – The recommendations of the specialists are supported and must be adhered to. No further additional specific conditions are provided for the development;
- 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 021 202 8660/ nhiggitt@sahra.org.za) must be alerted as per section 35(3) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with this 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 021 202 8660/ nhiggitt@sahra.org.za) must be alerted immediately as per section 36(6) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with this 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 must be submitted to the SAHRIS application for record purposes;

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- 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/621642>
(DMR - NC, Ref: NC30/5/1/1/2/13638PR)

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.