



## **Final Comment**

### **In terms of Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)**

Attention: Lesego Raborifi, Hernic Ferrochrome (Pty) Ltd

**Hernic Ferrochrome (Pty) Ltd (Hernic) owns and operates Morula Chrome Mine and Ferrochrome Plant (Morula Operation) (previously known as Hernic Maroelabult Chrome Mine). The Morula Operation is located on the farms De Kroon 444 JQ and Elandsfontein 440 JQ, to the south of the town of Brits (refer to Figure 1 for a locality map).**

Thank you for notifying SAHRA of the proposed upgrading of the Morula waste of facility on the property of the Morula Chrome Mine and Ferrochrome Plant (Morula Operation) (previously known as Hernic Maroelabult Chrome Mine). Located on the farms De Kroon 444 JQ and Elandsfontein 440 JQ, just south of the town of Brits, Madibeng Local Municipality, North-West Province. It is noted that in the background information document uploaded to this case, that the waste management facility is located on the Morula Chrome Mine, this application is made because the facilities need to apply for a waste management facility to fulfill the new Government Gazette Notice 718 of 2009. However it is noted the existing facilities are also to be upgraded. The Mine Waste Management Application requires environmental authorisation which also requires SAHRA's comments under section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (25 of 1999).

In terms of the National Heritage Resources Act, no 25 of 1999, heritage resources, including archaeological or palaeontological sites over 100 years old, graves older than 60 years, structures older than 60 years are protected. They may not be disturbed without a permit from the relevant heritage resources authority. This means that before such sites are disturbed by development it is incumbent on the developer (or mine) to ensure that a **Heritage Impact Assessment** is done. This must include the archaeological component (Phase 1) any other applicable heritage components. Appropriate (Phase 2) mitigation, which involves recording, sampling and dating sites that are to be destroyed, must be done as required.

The location of the proposed development has already been significantly disturbed by the Morula Chrome Mine. As the development is an upgrade and expansion on existing Mine Waste Facilities, the likelihood that any significant heritage resources will be disturbed is low. However the area surrounding the town of Brits, or less particularly, the Brits Magisterial District is known for its significant heritage resources, particularly Early Stone Age heritage resources. Thus this development application is exempted by SAHRA APM Unit from doing a Heritage Impact Assessment.

The Morula Chrome Mine, lies on a insignificant/negligible palaeontological sensitivity zone (<http://www.sahra.org.za/map/palaeo>). The chances of finding fossils in the bedrock are rare, if any palaeontology is uncovered during the construction of the Mine Waste Facility, then construction must stop and a professional palaeontologist called in to inspect the finds. Thus SAHRA APM Unit does not require a Palaeontological Impact Assessment from this development.



**Hernic Ferrochrome (Pty) Ltd: Morula Mine Waste License Management  
Application (EIA)**

**Our Ref:**

Enquiries: Nokukhanya Khumalo  
Tel: 021 462 4502  
Email: [nkhumalo@sahra.org.za](mailto:nkhumalo@sahra.org.za)  
CaseID: 5710

Date: Tuesday October 07, 2014

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an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

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**Final Comment**

Based on the submitted information to this case, SAHRA APM Unit has no objections to this development, due to the extensively developed/disturbed state of the area proposed for the expansion of the Mine Waste Facility. The likelihood of significant heritage resources being disturbed or damaged is low, thus this development application is exempted from conducting a HIA and a PIA.

Should any evidence of any significant archaeological sites or remains (e.g: remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments and charcoal/ash concentrations), unmarked human burials, fossils or other categories of heritage resources are found during the proposed activities, SAHRA APM Unit (Nokukhanya Khumalo/Colette Scheermeyer 021 462 4502) must be alerted immediately, and a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contacted as soon as possible to inspect the findings. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance a Phase 2 rescue operation might be necessary.

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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Nokukhanya Khumalo  
Heritage Officer  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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Colette Scheermeyer  
SAHRA Head Archaeologist  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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**ADMIN:**



The South African Heritage Resources Agency

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# Hernic Ferrochrome (Pty) Ltd: Morula Mine Waste License Management Application (EIA)

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Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/164575>  
(, Ref: 12/9/11/L1419/1)

## 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.



The South African Heritage Resources Agency

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