

Our Ref:

Enquiries: Nokukhanya Khumalo
Tel: 021 462 4502
Email: nkhumalo@sahra.org.za
CaseID: 6397

Date: Wednesday June 10, 2015

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Final Comment

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

Attention: BHP Billiton Energy Coal South Africa

Environmental Authorisation for the Klipspruit Extension Weltevrede Project, Hartebeestlaagte 325 JS, Grootpan 7 IS, Prinshof 2 IS, Tweefontein 328 JS, Weltevrede 324 JS, Wildebeestfontein 327 JS, Witbank Magisterial District, Mpumalanga Province

Du Piesanie, J. December 2014. Environmental Authorisation for the KPSX: Weltevrede Project. Heritage Impact Assessment.

Mr du Piesanie undertook a field assessment of the proposed KPSX coal mine extension to assess the possible negative impacts the proposed development may have on heritage resources. A total of 57 heritage resources were found and documented, 36 were built environment structures, 1 was a palaeontological feature and there 20 cemeteries.

Site GY15 is a graveyard with one of the graves at risk of exposure due to sand mining on the property of KPSX.

Bamford, M. October 2014. Palaeontological Impact Assessment for the proposed Klipspruit Coal Mine, near Ogies, Mpumalanga Desktop Study For Digby Wells Environmental.

Dr Bamford undertook a field assessment of the proposed development on behalf of Digby Wells Environmental to assess the palaeontological sensitivity of the proposed mine extension area. The underlying geology of the proposed development is of the Vryheid formation, however a Palaeontological Impact Assessment will only be feasible once mining commences.

Final Comment

SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit has no objections to the proposed development on condition that the following are implemented before construction and during construction:

The recommendations of the Heritage Impact Assessment are:

The shales and mudstones that are excavated out during mining should be inspected by the ECO and if there are fossils found then a professional palaeontologist should be notified and a collections permit must be applied to SAHRA.

Site GY15 should be mitigated in terms of the pit created by the sand mining must be filled and the edges of the fence must be stabilised.

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All activities on the proposed mine should be restricted around a 30m perimeter buffer zone around the cemeteries.

All farmsteads, homesteads and built structures older than 60 years are protected under the NHRA (25 of 1999) if any negative impacts are foreseen, further comment and permitting should be applied for to the MPHRA (Mpumalanga Provincial Heritage Resources Authority).

If any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g., remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments and charcoal/ash concentrations), fossils or other categories of heritage resources are found during the proposed activities, SAHRA APM Unit (Nokukhanya Khumalo/Colette Scheermeyer 021 462 4502), and unmarked human burials contact the SAHRA BGG Unit (Mimi Seetelo 012 320 8490), 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



Nokukhanya Khumalo
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/174914>

Terms & Conditions:

1. This approval does not exonerate the applicant from obtaining local authority approval or any other necessary approval for proposed work.

Klipspruit Extension Weltevreden Project

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an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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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