

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

Date: Monday May 16, 2016

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Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za

CaseID: 9396

Final Comment

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

Attention: Nama Khoi Local Municipality
PO Box 17, Springbok, South Africa, 8240

The Nama Khoi Local Municipality is applying for a Waste Management License (WML) for the closure of the existing Violsdrift Landfill. The landfill is located about 2.54 km south east of the Violsdrift town and 0.37km east from the Violsdrift settlement, Northern Cape. The Violsdrift Landfill is located in portion 0 of the Farm Violsdrift 226.

The Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) appointed Sustainable Environmental (Pty) Ltd (SE Solutions) and AECOM SA (Pty) Ltd to prepare the necessary applications for the Waste Management License and closure of the existing un-licensed Violsdrift Landfill near Violsdrift, Northern Cape. A Basic Assessment (BA) process was completed in compliance with the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008) as amended (NEMWA).

According to the Basic Assessment Report (BAR), activities for the closure of the Violsdrift Landfill will include re-contouring of the landfill area and covering of the site with topsoil. The Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) provides more details for the closure. The EMPr stated that the re-contouring will include the stripping of the top 150 mm of topsoil which will be stockpiled. In addition, the areas requiring re-contouring will be cross-ripped and scarified to allow for vegetation growth. The stockpiled topsoil will be used to cover the landfill site and add to the re-contouring activity.

The BA process did not identify any impact to heritage resources.

Final Comment

Based on the information provided, it is unlikely that significant heritage resources will be impacted by the proposed closure of the Violsdrift Landfill. The following additional conditions must be adhered to and must form part of the final EMPr:

- Should additional topsoil be required to complete the re-contouring, the above Chance Finds Procedures must be implemented for the relevant borrow pit area. Should the borrow pit exceed

Waste Management License for the Closure of the existing unlicensed Violsdrift Landfill Site

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5 000 m², the developer must notify SAHRA of the development as per section 38 (1) of the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999) (NHRA). Should SAHRA deem it necessary, an Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) or Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) will need to be completed and submitted to SAHRA for comment;

- A Chance Finds Procedures must be developed for the project to ensure that standard protocols and steps are followed should any heritage and/or fossil resources be uncovered during the re-contouring phase of the project. These procedures should outline the steps and reporting structure to be followed in the instance that heritage resources are found. Should heritage resources be uncovered during the construction phase of the project, all work in the area must cease immediately and the find should be reported to SAHRA; and
- 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 APM Unit (Natasha Higgitt/Phillip Hine 021 462 5402) must be alerted. If unmarked human burials are uncovered, the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit (Itumeleng Masiteng/Mimi Seetelo 012 320 8490), must be alerted immediately. A professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted 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 may be required.

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
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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Phillip Hine
SAHRA Head Archaeologist (Acting)
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/361486>
(DENC, Ref:)

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.