

**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](mailto: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](http://www.sahra.org.za)

Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt  
Tel: 021 462 4502  
Email: [nhiggitt@sahra.org.za](mailto:nhiggitt@sahra.org.za)  
CaseID: 9746

Date: Tuesday July 19, 2016  
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## **Interim Comment**

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

Attention: China African Precious Metals (Pty) Ltd.

**China African Precious Metals (Pty) Ltd. - Orkney Gold Mine wishes to recommence with mining and mining related activities at the No.6 and No.7 Shafts, initially, located within Orkney, Northwest Province. The EMPr has been amended and has been placed for public comment for a period of 30 days, from 15 June 2016 to 18 July 2016.**

Shangoni Management Services (Pty) Ltd have been appointed by China African Precious Metals (Pty) Ltd (CAPM) to conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process for the proposed re-commencement of mining activities at the Orkney Gold Mine, Orkney, North West Province. A draft EIA and Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) has been completed in terms of Environmental Authorisation Application in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) 2014 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, and the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (MPRDA) (as amended). The proposed activities include the re-commencement of mining activities at Shaft No. 6 and No. 7 at the Orkney Gold Mine, after two years at Shaft No. 1 and No.4 after which the re-commencement of operations at Shaft No. 2 will be investigated. Operations will not commence at Shaft No. 3 as the shaft barrel has twisted and CAPM is in the process of decommissioning and rehabilitating this shaft area. Similarly, operations at Shaft No. 5 will not recommence as the majority of the infrastructure has been decommissioned and removed, and CAPM is in the process of rehabilitating this shaft area.

Sidney Miller was appointed to conduct the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) for the project.

*Miller, 2015. Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment for Shafts #1 to #7, Orkney, Northwest Province, South Africa, for CAPM Gold*

Each of the seven shafts was investigated as part of the HIA. Shafts 1, 2, 4, 5 and office complex are younger than 60 years and do not fall within the protection of the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act, 25 of 1999) (NHRA). Shaft No. 6, No.7 and associated buildings date to the mid-1930s and are protected under section 34 of the NHRA. According to the HIA, the sites will be retained in-situ and maintained according to modern safety regulations.

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Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- Shaft 3 and 7 cannot be altered or demolished without a demolition permit issued by the relevant authorities;
- It is recommended that CAPM approach the heritage authorities to demolish any buildings found to be superfluous to the activities. The normal procedure of a second phase study must be followed and a demolition permit must be applied for with the appropriate heritage authorities before the demolition can proceed;
- It is recommended that CAPM must comment on the demolition of Shaft No. 2 and that this comment must be evaluated by the appropriate heritage authorities;
- It is recommended that a Heritage Management Plan (HMP) is compiled so that heritage resources can be monitored during the environmental auditing process.

### **Interim Comment**

With regards to archaeology, palaeontology and meteorite heritage resources, the Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit accepts and promotes the recommendations provided in the submitted HIA. The recommendations in the HIA and the following comments must be incorporated into the Final EIA and EMP:

- Shafts No. 3, No.6 and No.7 are protected under section 34 of the NHRA. North West Provincial Heritage Resources Authority (NWPHRA) is responsible for the management of built heritage within the North West Province. Should the structures require any alteration or demolition, a destruction permit must be applied for through NWPHRA (Contact Motlabane Mosiane at [mosianem@nwpg.gov.za](mailto:mosianem@nwpg.gov.za)/018 388 2826);
- According to NWPHRA, no destruction permit was issued for the headgear at Shaft No. 3. CAPM must provide a report regarding the demolition of the headgear at Shaft No. 3 to NWPHRA;
- A HMP must be compiled for the mining complexes at Shaft No. 3, No. 6 and No.7. This HMP must be submitted to NWPHRA for comment;
- 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 (e.g. trace fossils or stromatolites) or other categories of heritage resources are found during the proposed development, SAHRA APM Unit (Natasha Higgitt/John Gribble 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 at the expense of the developer. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation

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- may be required at the expense of the developer; and
- The Final EIA/EMPr and appendices must be submitted to the case to ensure that comments issued by SAHRA and NWPHERA are incorporated;
  - SAHRA must be informed if the project is granted a positive Environmental Authorisation and the relevant documents should be uploaded to the case file; and
  - Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the Final EIA/EMPr and report on the destruction of the headgear at Shaft No. 3.

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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Natasha Higgitt  
Heritage Officer  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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John Gribble  
Manager: Maritime and Underwater Cultural Heritage Unit / Acting Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

**ADMIN:**

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/365015>

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## 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.