

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: Nokukhanya Khumalo

Tel: 021 462 4502

Email: nkhumalo@sahra.org.za

CaseID: 14444

Date: Friday November 15, 2019

Page No: 1

Interim Comment

In terms of Section 38(3), 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Kangra Coal(Pty) Ltd

Postnet Suite 624
Private Bag X29
GALLO MANOR
2052

Proposed 19 hectare opencast coal mine pit within the Maquasa East mining right area, near Driefontein, Mpumalanga

Kangra Coal (Pty) Ltd appointed EXM Advisory Services (Pty) Ltd to undertake the environmental authorisation (EA) for the extension of coal mining activities at Maquasa East Operations to include the block c open cast pit on the existing Maquasa Mining Right area located on the remaining Extent of Farm Roodekraal 21HT near Driefontein in Mpumalanga.

The draft Basic Assessment Report was in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), act 107 of 1998 and the National Environmental Management Waste Act, 2008 in respect of listed activities that have been triggered by applications in terms of the Mineral And Petroleum Resources Development Act (MPRDA), act 28 of 2002 (as amended). In respect of listed activities in the NEMA 2014 EIA Regulations, as amended.

The proposed Block c 19 hectare open cast pit is located 60km south-east of Ermelo and 38km west of Piet Retief in Gert Sibande District Municipality and Mkhondo Local Municipality. The Block C Open Pit Project will largely utilise existing support infrastructure located at the Maquasa East Section minimising additional site clearance related impacts.

PGS Heritage (Pty) Ltd and Banzai Environmental provided heritage specialist input into the EA process as per section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, No 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

Butler, E. 2019. Palaeontological Desktop Assessment For The Proposed Kangra Maquasa Block C Mining Development Near Piet Retief, In The Mkhondo Local Municipality Within The Gert Sibande District

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: Nokukhanya Khumalo
Tel: 021 462 4502
Email: nkhumalo@sahra.org.za
CaseID: 14444

Date: Friday November 15, 2019
Page No: 2

Municipality.

The area is underlain entirely by the Vryheid Formation of the Ecca Group (Karoo Supergroup). The underlying formation is rich in numerous plant fossils and trace fossils. Palynomorphs along with marine fossils and non-marine bivalves and fish scales have also been reported from this formation.

The report states that a Phase 1 field-based assessment will be conducted with a comprehensive assessment of the impacts identified during the scoping phase.

Birkholtz, P. 2019. Heritage Impact Assessment Proposed Block C Open Pit Project Located Near Driefontein, Mkhondo Local Municipality, Gert Sibande District Municipality, Mpumalanga Province

No evidence for any heritage resources could be identified during the fieldwork. As a result, no assessment of the impact of the proposed development on resources will be undertaken, as the impact would be zero. Significant sections of the study area have been disturbed and modified by mining activities.

Interim Comment

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology, Meteorites (APM) Unit notes that a phase 1 field-based Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA) will be conducted. Since the project is coal mining, the field based PIA must contain a Chance Find Procedure and a Monitoring Program.

The field based PIA must be conducted as part of the EA application. SAHRA therefore will need to extend the BAR process in terms of section 19(1)b of the NEMA regulations to complete the field based PIA. The dBAR must be amended to correctly reflect the results of the HIA and PIA

Further comments will be provided once the ammended dBAR and the appendices along with the field-based PIA are submitted to the case.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

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: Nokukhanya Khumalo
Tel: 021 462 4502
Email: nkhumalo@sahra.org.za
CaseID: 14444

Date: Friday November 15, 2019
Page No: 3

Yours faithfully

Nokukhanya Khumalo
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Phillip Hine
Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/530126>
(DMR-MP, 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.