



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
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Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt
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CaseID: 13104

Date: Monday November 19, 2018
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Interim Comment

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

Attention: Mr Craig Donald
Site Plan Consulting
Shop 5 Goedehoop Shopping Centre
Broadway Boulevard
Strand
7140

Prospecting drilling of 5 holes on pan surface to search for salt containing Brine

Thank you notifying SAHRA on the proposed prospecting activities for salt on a pan located on Farm Gemsbok Horn 242 Remainder, Gemsbok Horn 242 Portion 1 in Gordonia within the Dawid Kruiper Local Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

Site Plan Consulting has been appointed by Transalt (Pty) Ltd to undertake the Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application. A Draft Basic Assessment Report (BAR) and Environmental Management Programme Report has been submitted for environmental authorisation and prospecting right in terms of Regulation 16 of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No 107 of 1998 (NEMA) 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, 2002, Act 28 of 2002 (as amended).

The property is located 75km north of Upington and has a total extent of 1622.7362 hectares. The developer proposes the prospecting drilling of 5 holes located entirely on two isolated (Bettastadt (northern) and Tsonga (southern) pans to search for salt containing Brine. The auger drilling method will be used to drill to probable average depth of 10m. Samples will be taken, and the holes will be backfilled. No roads will be developed for the development and the drill rig will merely drive to the location.

Interim Comment

As per section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA) and section 24(4)d(iii) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, an assessment of heritage is required as part of a NEMA EA application. The assessment must comply with section 38(3) of the NHRA. No such assessment has been conducted as part of the current BAR process.

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A heritage practitioner must be appointed to conduct the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) which must be submitted to the case file on SAHRIS as part of the EA Application and prospecting right application. The HIA must include a detailed Archaeological Impact assessment and it must comply with section 38(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA). The AIA must comply with the SAHRA 2007 Minimum Standards: Archaeological and Palaeontological Component of Impact Assessments. See www.asapa.org.za or www.aphp.org.za for a list of specialists that would be able to provide an AIA.

Furthermore, the proposed prospecting location is in an area of moderate palaeontological sensitivity with areas of high sensitivity on the edges of the pan, as per the SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity map, therefore, a palaeontological desktop study to be done. The report must comply with the SAHRA 2012 Minimum Standards: Palaeontological Component of Heritage Impact Assessments (a list of qualified paleontologists is available upon request from our office while the Palaeontological Society of South Africa website is being restored).

Any other heritage resources as defined in section 3 of the NHRA that may be impacted, such as maritime archaeology, built structures over 60 years old, sites of cultural significance associated with oral histories, burial grounds and graves, graves of victims of conflict, and cultural landscapes or viewsapes must also be assessed.

The SAHRA APM unit awaits the HIA to be submitted before any further comments can be issued. SAHRA further advises the applicant to apply for an extension of the BAR process as per section 19(1)b of the NEMA EIA Regulations in order to complete the above request.

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

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South African Heritage Resources Agency

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

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/514212>
(DMR - NC, Ref: NC30/5/1/1/2/12226PR)