## Two Rivers Platinum (TRP) New Tailings Storage Facility (TSF)

Our Ref: 9/2/266/0003

Enquiries: Phillip Hine Tel: 021 462 4502

Email: phine@sahra.org.za

CaseID: 697

Date: Tuesday November 19, 2013

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# **Final Comment**

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

Attention: GCS Water and Environmental Consultants - Head Office JHB PO Box 2597 Rivonia 2128

Two Rivers Platinum is an existing platinum mine in Limpopo Province. Expansion projects have resulted in the need for a new Tailings Storage Facility and associated pipeline. Limpopo Province, near Steelpoort.

Van Vollenhoven, AC. September 2013. A Report On A Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment For A Proposed New Tsf Pipeline At The Two Rivers Platinum Mine, Close To Steelpoort, Limpopo Province.

Rubidge, B. June 2013. Palaeontological Desktop Study – Two Rivers, Steelpoort

In a letter dated 13 May 2013, SAHRA APM Unit requested that the proposed pipeline for the new Tailings Storage Facility be assessed for potential heritage resources. In addition, a Palaeontological Desktop Assessment was requested to assess the potential impact on palaeontological resources. SAHRA also requested clarity on potential impacts of possible graves in the area proposed for the TSF and that the buildings identified on the property be properly assessed for their significance.

A number of issues were addressed in the Final EIA/EMP Report:

- 1. The EAP indicated that that there are no burials in the area proposed for the new Tailings Storage Facility;
- 2. The structures that were identified during the initial heritage report were also described in the Final EIA/EMP Report. However, the significance of these buildings has not been assessed properly.

The 7km pipeline that will connect the TSF to the Merensky Concentrator Plant was assessed by Dr van Vollenhoven. No archaeological or any other heritage sites were identified during the assessment. However, isolated stone tools and Iron Age pottery were identified along the pipeline corridor.

The palaeontological assessment indicated that the area is underlain by Precambrian aged igneous rocks of the Bushveld Igneous Complex which in turn are overlain by unconsolidated Quaternary aged alluvial deposits. According to the palaeontologist it is extremely unlikely that palaeontological resources will be found in the area proposed to be developed.

Decision:



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- 1. Considering the fact that no archaeological sites were identified and the likelihood of palaeontological resources being uncovered is low; SAHRA APM Unit has no objection to the proposed development in terms of the archaeological/palaeontogical component of the heritage resources.
- 2. In terms of the structures 60 years or older, any decision regarding these will have to be obtained from to the Limpopo Heritage Resources Authority, (Mr Donald Lithole, Litholek@sac.limpopo.gov.za).
- 3. If archaeological/palaeontological or any other heritage resources are found during construction activities, SAHRA APM Unit (Mrs Colette Scheermyer/Mr Phillip Hine) and an archaeologist/palaeontologist depending on the find must be alerted immediately to inspect the finding. If the newly discovered heritage resource is considered significant a rescue excavation may be requires at the cost of the developer.

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

Yours faithfully

Phillip Hine

Heritage Officer

Colette Scheermeyer

SAHRA Head Archaeologist

South African Heritage Resources Agency

#### ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: http://www.sahra.org.za/node/92590

(LDEDET, Ref: 12/1/9/2-GS22) (DMR, Ref: DMR LP 178 MRC)

#### Terms & Conditions:

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



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# 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.