

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
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CaseID: 16520

Date: Monday July 19, 2021

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Final Comment

In terms of Section 38(4) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Tekplan Environmental

PO Box 55714
Polokwane
0070

Sefanjeskraal Vodacom Mast, North West Province

TEKPLAN Environmental has been appointed by Vodacom (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed construction of a 55m lattice mast in the Vlaklaagte area on Portion 13 of the Farm Sefanjeskraal of Kafferskraal 251 JQ, Kgetlenrivier Local Municipality, Bojanala Platinum District Municipality, North West Province.

A draft Basic Assessment Report (dBAR) has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, no 107 of 1998 (NEMA) and the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The scope of work includes a 55m lattice mast with antennae mounted onto the mast and container housing associated infrastructure. The size of the base station (fenced area) in which the mast and associated infrastructure will be placed will measure 12m x 12m (144m²).

TEKPLAN and Heritage Contracts and Archaeological Consulting, have been appointed to provide heritage specialist input as part of the BAR process as required by section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(3) and 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

van der Walt, J. May 2021. Heritage Impact Assessment for the Safenjeskraal Vodacom Mast in the North West Province.

The study area has been fallow for several years, used for grazing and after heavy rainfall experienced in the area, grass cover is high limiting archaeological visibility. The identified activities would have impacted on surface occurrence of heritage features if any used to be present. The assessment also did not observe any structures older than 60 years or archaeological finds of significance. No heritage resources of significance will be affected by the development and the impact of the project on heritage resources is low. However, the possibility of the occurrence of subsurface cannot be excluded. Therefore, a Chance Find Procedure is

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recommended for the ECO. The project can commence on acceptance of the above and approval by SAHRA.

In an Interim Comment issued on 01/07/2021, the SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology, Meteorite Unit acknowledged receipt of the dBAR and HIA with the recommendations provided therein. SAHRA also noted that a .kml detailing the geographic location of the proposed project was attached as a point data source and as such the application could not be subjected to a Palaeontological Assessment using PalaeoSensity Maps. SAHRA's APM Units further noted that the PalaeoSensity of the area is low/insignificant as recorded in the specialist report and requested that a .kml polygon file be submitted for Palaeontological Assessment in compliance with requirements of section 38(3) of the NHRA. Since the issuing of the Interim Comment a polygon .kml file has since been submitted to the application.

The proposed location for the Vodacom Mast is in an area of low/insignificant as per SAHRA's PalaeoSensitivity Maps. Therefore, no further action is required with regards to palaeontological resources as per section 38(2)b of the NHRA.

Final Comment

The following comments are made as a requirement in terms of section 3(4) of the NEMA Regulations and section 38(8) of the NHRA in the format provided in section 38(4) of the NHRA and must be included in the Final BAR and EMP:

- 38(4)a – The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit has no objections to the proposed development;
- 38(4)b – The recommendations of the specialists must be adhered to. No further additional specific conditions are provided for the development;
- 38(4)c(i) – 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 (Elijah D. Katsetse/Phillip Hine 021 462 5402) must be alerted as per section 35(3) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with section of the NHRA is an offense in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule;
- 38(4)c(ii) – If unmarked human burials are uncovered, the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit (Thingahangwi Tshivhase/Mimi Seetelo 012 320 8490), must be alerted immediately as per section 36(6) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with section of the NHRA is an offense in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule;

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- 38(4)d – See section 51(1) of the NHRA;
- 38(4)e – The following conditions apply with regards to the appointment of specialists:
- i) If heritage resources are uncovered during the course of the development, a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the heritage resource. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required subject to permits issued by SAHRA;
- The Final BAR and EMPr must be submitted to SAHRIS case for record purposes,
- The decision regarding the EA document must be communicated to SAHRA and uploaded to the case application.

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

Yours faithfully

Elijah Dumisani Katsetse
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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

ADMIN:

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Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/574527>

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.