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CaseID: 16409

Date: Tuesday May 25, 2021  
Page No: 1

## Final Comment

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

Attention: Affordable Outcomes cc

PO Box 110447  
Hadison Park  
Kimberley  
8306

**The amended draft Basic Assessment Report (DBAR) and Environmental Management Programme Report (EMPR) for the abovementioned Section 102 amendment application over the Remaining Extent of the farm Rooifontein No 1722 (formerly known as Speculatie No 217) in the Boshof magisterial district is now available for your perusal**

Greenmined Environmental (Pty) Ltd was appointed by Affordable Outcome CC to undertake the Environmental Authorisation application for the amendment of the approved prospecting right footprint of 333.0435ha to include 4.8864ha of the farm Rooifontein No 1722, Boshof Magisterial District, Free State.

An Amended Draft Basic Assessment Report (DBAR) has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 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, 2002 (MPRDA) (as amended).

Initially, the project entailed the prospecting of the approved 333.0435 ha and 4.8864ha portion of land over the Remaining Extent farm Rooifontein through percussion drilling and bulk sampling. However, following the comments received from SAHRA, it was decided that prospecting within the ±5 ha area will only be done through non-invasive prospecting.

Dr Lloyd Rossouw has been appointed to provide heritage specialist input as part of the EA Amendment application report 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).

*Rossouw, L. 2017. Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment for a mining permit application on the Remainder of the farm Speculatie 217 (now Rooifontein 1722), Boshof District, FS Province*



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

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A large excavation pit with accompanying dumps within the study area is evidence of late 19th century prospecting and mining activities at the site. A modern reconstruction of the Olifantsfontein Hotel, purported to have been erected at the mine during the 1880's is located next to the historical mining pit. The study area is located about 800 m south of a large dolerite outcrop with potential engraving sites, as well as sangars and trenches associated with the Anglo Boer War. The remnants of a tram line as well as 19th century and early 20th century refuse middens are also found in the area. Uncapped and weathered stone tool flakes were recorded during the survey, but no evidence was found of in situ Stone Age archaeological material, capped or distributed as surface scatters on the landscape.

The proposed development footprint is located within a historical mining area that forms part of a historically significant landscape central to the Kimberley Diamond Rush of the 1870's. The proposed development footprint is located within an area considered to be of high historical and archaeological significance. **The proposed development will likely have an adverse effect on the integrity of Kimberley's historical landscape. Further mining or mining related activities at Rooifontein 1722 are not advised.**

*Rossouw, L. 2021. Heritage Impact Statement concerning prospecting rights over the Remaining Extent of the Farm Rooifontein No 1722 (formerly known as Speculatie No 217) in the Boshof Magisterial District, Free State Province.*

The report reiterates the recommendations of the previous heritage studies report undertaken in 2017, that the site forms part of the eastern periphery of a large area (the latter currently encompassing the farms Alexanderfontein 129, Benauwdheidfontein 124, Dutoitspan 119 and Rooifontein 1722), that probably represent some of the last untouched vestiges of the historical Diamond Fields landscape and that mining or mining related activities are not advised within the area.

The SAHRA APM unit previously issued comments with regards to proposed prospecting and mining activities in farm Rooifontein 1722 (please see [\(EIA168\) - FS10462PR - Matolo Trade and Investment \(Pty\) Ltd. - Rooifontein 1722 | SAHRA, APPLICATION FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL AUHORISATION FOR THE PROPOSED PROSPECTING RIGHT FOR EKAPA MINERALS \(PTY\)LTD | SAHRA, Du Toitspan 119 \(FS 10201 MP\) | SAHRA](#)), [Affordables | SAHRA](#) which notes the significant heritage landscape and advised that the proposed development application be rejected by Competent Authorities.

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The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) unit notes that the proposed development is non-invasive prospecting and that the site will not be impacted. The heritage specialist report and the SAHRA notes that the proposed development is within an area considered to be of high historical and archaeological significance which will likely have an adverse effect on the integrity of Kimberley's historical landscape and that further mining or mining related activities at Rooifontein 1722 are not advised.

SAHRA therefore advises the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, (DFFE) and the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE) to reject the application for non-invasive prospecting on farm Rooifontein 1722, District of Boshoff, Free State Province [FS 30/5/1/1/2/10261 PR].

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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Sityhilelo Ngcatsha  
Archaeology, Palaeontology, Meteorite Assistant  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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

**ADMIN:**

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/573622>

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Page No: 4

**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.