



Heritage Impact Assessment - Proposed Ophondweni and Emalahleni Pits – Somkhele Mine Development

Our Ref: SAH20/15116

Enquiries: Bernadet Pawandiwa

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Email: bernadep@amafapmb.co.za

CaseID: 15116

Date: Thursday August 13, 2020

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Final Comment

IN TERMS OF SECTION 38(8) OF THE NATIONAL HERITAGE RESOURCES ACT (ACT 25 OF 1999) AND SECTION 41 OF THE KWAZULU-NATAL AMAFA AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE ACT (ACT 05 OF 2018)

Attention: Tendele Coal Mining (Pty) Ltd

Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) for proposed mining infrastructure for Somkhele's Ophondweni and Emalahleni opencast pits, Portion 0 of Farm No. 15822 GV Reserve No. 3 in the Mtubatuba Administrative District, near Mtubatuba, KwaZulu Natal Province

The Heritage Impact Assessment Report by PGS and the Palaeontological Report by Banzai Environmental have been considered. The Palaeontological report confirms that the proposed Ophondweni, Mahujini and Emalahleni opencast mining pits, is underlain by the coal-bearing Emakwezini Formations (Adelaide Subgroup, Beaufort Group, Karoo Supergroup) and Vryheid Formation (Ecca Group, Karoo Supergroup) of very high significance as well as the insignificant igneous Jurassic dolerite. Numerous heritage resources ranging from burial ground and graves, Sacred Ancestral prayer huts and trees, cultural landscape as well as historic structures and homesteads through to the Old Somkhele mine area.

The KwaZulu Natal Amafa And Research Institute concurs with the proposed mitigation measures to ensure protection of the identified resources as outlined in the heritage report. The affected communities should be engaged to provide a list of sensitive heritage requiring protection. Age of graves and structures should be confirmed with the relevant community. A Heritage Management Plan encompassing the Palaeontological, Meteorite, Historical, Cultural and Living heritage resources is required to ensure proper management of the heritage resources in the area. A heritage practitioner is required to monitor the development process to ensure acceptable implementation of the relevant management plan and procedures.

The Developer is required to consider and adhere to the requirements of the heritage legislation including securing relevant permits throughout all the phases of the proposed development.

The Institute therefore has no objection to the proposed development provided that the developer operates within the limits of the prescribed mitigation measures and recommendations. Development should not commence before approval of the Heritage Management Plan. You are also required to adhere to the below-mentioned standard conditions:

Conditions:



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1. The KwaZulu Natal Amafa and Research Institute should be contacted if any heritage objects are identified during earth-moving activities and all development should cease until further notice.

2. No structures older than sixty years or parts thereof are allowed to be demolished altered or extended without a permit from the KwaZulu Natal and Amafa Research Institute.

3. Under no circumstances may any heritage material be destroyed or removed from site unless under direction of the KwaZulu Natal and Amafa Research Institute and a heritage specialist.

4. Should any remains be found on site that is potentially human remains, the South African Police Service (SAPS) should also be contacted. No SAPS official may disturb or exhume such remains, without the necessary permission from the KwaZulu Natal and Amafa Research Institute.

5. No activities are allowed within 50m of a site, which contains rock art.

6. Sources of all natural materials (including topsoil, sands, natural gravels, crushed stone, asphalt, etc.) must be obtained in a sustainable manner and in compliance with the heritage legislation.

Failure to comply with the requirements of the National Heritage Resources Act and the KwaZulu Natal Amafa and Research Institute Act could lead to legal action being instituted against the applicant.


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



Yours faithfully

Bernadet Pawandiwa
Senior Heritage Officer
KwaZulu-Natal Amafa and Research Institute

**KWAZULU-NATAL
AMAFA AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE
ISIKHUNGO SAMAFA NOCWANINGO
SAKWAZULU-NATALI
KWAZULU-NATAL
AMAFA- EN NAVORSINGSINSTITUUT**



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ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/537010>

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 the Institute immediately.
3. The Institute reserves the right to request additional information as required.