

# Proposed establishment of additional waste rock storage at Tharisa Mine near Marikana, North West Province

Our Ref:



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 18735

Date: Wednesday July 20, 2022

Page No: 1

## Interim Comment

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

Attention: SLR Consulting (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd

**Tharisa Minerals (Pty) Ltd (Tharisa) is an opencast mining operation that produces chrome and platinum group metals (PGM) concentrate. The opencast mine is located on the farms 342 JQ and Elandsdrift 467 JQ near the town of Marikana in the Bojanala District Municipality and Rustenburg Local Municipality within the North West Province. As part of its on-going mine planning Tharisa has identified the need for additional waste rock storage on site. In this regard, Tharisa is proposing: the expansion of the existing and approved Far West WRD 1 by a footprint of 109 ha. The expanded area will be referred to as the West Above Ground (OG) WRD. Portions of the West OG WRD will be located on backfilled areas of the West Pit; and the establishment of a waste rock dump (referred to as the East OG WRD) on backfilled portions of the East Pit. The proposed East OG WRD will cover an area of approximately 72 ha.**

SLR Consulting has been appointed by Tharisa Minerals (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed expansion of the existing and authorised Far West WRD 1 by a footprint of 109 ha on the Farms 342 JQ and Elandsfontein 467 JQ near Marikana in the Rustenburg Local Municipality, Bojanala Platinum District Municipality, North West Province.

A draft Scoping Report (DSR) has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, no 107 of 1998 (NEMA) and the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations for activities that trigger the . The scope of work will entail an addition of waste rock storage by a footprint of 109 ha and the establishment of a waste rock dump on backfilled portions of the East Pit covering an area of 72 ha.

CTS Heritage have been appointed to provide heritage specialist input as part of the EIA 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).

*Lavin, J. May 2022. Heritage Screener: Proposed establishment of additional waste rock storage at Tharisa Mine near Marikana, North West Province.*

The author undertook a desktop assessment and notes that the proposed development area is located within

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an authorised development and mining operations. It is clear that all of the areas proposed for development have been either previously surveyed for heritage resources or impacted by the existing mine and as such, it is veru unlikely that the proposed development will impact negatively on any significant archaeological heritage resources. No further assessment of impacts to archaeological heritage is recommended. Based on the available information, the proposed development is not likely to impact on significant heritage resources and as such, it is recommended that no further heritage impact assessments are required in terms of section 38 of the NHRA.

## Interim Comment

The SAHRA acknowledges receipt of the DSR submitted in terms of section 38(3) of the NHRA (25 of 1999) and the recommendations contained therein.

Further comments will be issued upon the submission of a draft EIA with appendices.

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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Elijah Dumisani Katsetse  
Heritage Officer  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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Phillip Hine  
Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit

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South African Heritage Resources Agency

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## ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/598540>