Our Ref:



an agency of the Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001 www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Sityhilelo Ngcatsha Tel: 0212028663 Email: sngcatsha@sahra.org.za CaseID: 16819 Date: Thursday August 12, 2021 Page No: 1

## **Interim Comment**

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

Attention: Invest In Property 84 Ltd Pty

The applicant currently holds a prospecting right (FS 30/5/1/1/2/449 PR) over the proposed mining right application area, where the prospecting for alluvial diamonds is in progress. Owing to the outcome of the prospecting operation up until now, the applicant wishes to convert the prospecting right into a mining right for the winning of alluvial diamonds, gold and sand.

Greenmined Environmental was appointed by invest in Property 84 (Pty) Ltd to undertake the Environemtal Authorisation (EA) application for the mining of alluvial diamonds and gold from a 3 955.7022 ha area that extends over eight properties in the Lejweleputswa Magisterial district, Free State Province (FS 30/5/1/2/2/10067 MR).

A Draft Scoping Report has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA, 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). The about 6ha of the proposed development area will be disturbed by mining activities. Activities associated with mining will include clearing of vegetation, stripping and stockpiling of topsoil, and establishing site infrastructure. Opencast and strip-mining method will be used for the proposed development.

Heritage Contracts and Archaeological Consulting (HCAC) was contracted to conduct a desktop heritage impact assessment (HIA) inclusive of a desktop Palaeontological Impact Assessment.

## **Interim Comment**

It is noted that a desktop HIA inclusive of a Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA) will be undertaken during the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) phase.

The archaeological component of the HIA should follow the SAHRA 2007 Minimum Standards: Archaeological Component of Impact Assessment Report. The quickest process to follow for the archaeological component would be to contract a qualified archaeologist (see <a href="http://www.asapa.co.za">www.asapa.co.za</a> or <a href="http://www.asapa.co.za">www.asapa.co.za</a>

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The desktop PIA must be undertaken by a qualified palaeontologist (See <u>www.palaeosa.org/heritage-practitioners.html</u> for a list of qualified palaeontologists). The report must comply with the 2012 Minimum Standards: Palaeontological Components of Heritage Impact Assessments.

Further comments will be issued upon submission of the HIA and the draft EIA inclusive of 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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Sityhilelo Ngcatsha Archaeology, Palaeontology, Meteorite Assistant South African Heritage Resources Agency

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

**ADMIN:** Direct URL to case: https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/578413