

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
www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Sityhilelo Ngcatsha
Tel: 0212028663
Email: sngcatsha@sahra.org.za
CaseID: 18279

Date: Friday April 22, 2022
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Interim Comment

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

Attention: Willie Oosthuizen
Wadala Mining and Consulting Pty Ltd

The Kophia Diamonds Pty Ltd New Elands mine is operating under care and maintenance since 2011 and is applying for this status to continue indefinitely until market conditions and economics makes the project viable again on the Remaining Extent of New Elands No 949, Boshof District, Free State Province.

Thank you for notifying the South African Heritage Resources Agency of the application for Care and Maintenance of the Kophia Diamonds (Pty) Ltd (New Elands) in Remaining Extent of farm New Elands No 949, Boshof District, Free State ((FS) 30/5/1/2/3/2/0236 MR).

The Draft Care and Maintenance Plan is submitted in terms of section 24N of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (act no. 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014. Since 2011 the infrastructure and all components of the plant were dismantled and removed. Final backfilling of the trenches, the storage dam, tailings dumps and slimes dams have not been done. All the above areas are partially rehabilitated and over the years have become re-vegetated.

The current mining area is disturbed as a result of previous mining activity and no further mining activities are proposed for the period in which the mine is under care and maintenance. The mining activities will follow once the mine is no longer under care and maintenance. It is not deemed necessary to undertake an archaeological survey unless excavations reveal significant finds during the mining operations. An HIA was undertaken by Van Riet in 2002 which noted that no artefacts were found on the surface of the mining area.

Interim Comment

Please submit the HIA undertaken in 2002 by Van Riet before further comments can be made.

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/594868>