

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
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CaseID: 19396

Date: Wednesday September 07, 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: Crystal Blue Diamond Mining (Pty) Ltd

To prospect for Diamond alluvial and Diamonds in Kimberlite with test pits

DERA Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by Crystal Blue Diamond Mining (Pty) Ltd to undertake the the Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed prospecting for alluvial and Kimberlite Diamonds on the farms Nooitgedacht 418, Uitkyk 1152, De Rust 396 the remaining extent and Portion 1 of Eureka 870 within the Letsemeng Local Municipality, Free State Province.

The Basic Assessment Report (BAR) and Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) have been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 107 of 1998 (NEMA) and the National Environmental Management Waste Act, 2008 for activities that trigger the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, No 28 of 2002 (MPRDA)(As amended).

The prospecting will be done 5 phases; Field mapping, Geochemical survey, Geophysical surveys, Test pitting and then Drilling in an area that is 2408.0332 hectare in extent.

The site has been disturbed by previous and current agricultural and mining activities and it is unlikely that the development will result in significant archaeological and palaeontological Impacts impacts.

Interim Comment

It is incumbent on the developer to ensure that a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) is done as per section 38(3) and 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA). This must include an archaeological component, palaeontological component and any other applicable heritage components. The HIA must be conducted as part of the EA Application in terms of NEMA and the NEMA EIA Regulations.

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 www.asapa.co.za or www.aphp.org.za). The Minimum Standards provides allowance for a Letter of Recommendation for Exemption that can be submitted by a

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qualified archaeologist should they deem it appropriate.

The proposed development area is located mostly within an area of very high sensitivity and high, moderate and insignificant sensitivity in terms of palaeontological resources as per the SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity map. As such, a field based Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA) must be undertaken by a qualified palaeontologist (See <https://www.palaeosa.org/heritage-practitioners.html> for a list of qualified palaeontologists). The report must comply with the 2012 Minimum Standards: Palaeontological Components of Heritage Impact Assessments. The Minimum Standards provides allowance for a Letter of Recommendation for Exemption that can be submitted by a qualified palaeontologist should they deem it appropriate.

Any other heritage resources as defined in section 3 of the NHRA that may be impacted, such as built structures over 60 years old, sites of cultural significance associated with oral histories, burial grounds and graves, graves of victims of conflict, and cultural landscapes or viewsapes must also be assessed.

SAHRA will issue further comment upon submission of the PIA and HIA reports

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

Yours faithfully

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/604145>