

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 19816

Date: Wednesday February 15, 2023
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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: mahikeng local

Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed clearance of 387.41768ha of indigenous vegetation, of which 21 829 m2 is located within 100 metres from the edge of 2 pans, in order to establish a mixed use township, located on Portion 54 of the farm Mmabatho Town and Townlands 301-JO

AB Enviro Consult CC has been appointed by The Mahikeng Local Municipality to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed mixed use Township establishment on Portion 54 of the Farm Mmabatho Town and Townlands, Mahikeng Local Municipality, Ngaka Modiri Molema 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, 2017 (as Amended). The proposed development entails the clearance of 387.417 of indigenous vegetation for the development of a mixed use Township.

APelser Archaeological Consulting has 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).

Pelser, A. September 2021. Phase 1 HIA Report for Proposed Township Development on Portion 54 of the Farm Mmabatho Town and Townlands No. 301-JO Mahikeng Local Municipality, North West Province.

The assessment of the study area identified a number of sites, features or material of cultural heritage (archaeological and/or historical) origin or significance located here. A single undecorated piece of Iron Age-type pottery was identified found, numerous historical sites, features or objects of cultural significance dating to the recent historic period were identified in the study area. These include destroyed, dilapidated and run down houses and structures of brick, mortar and stone. No other structures or features were noted beyond those mapped. Four burial grounds were also identified in the study area and proposed development footprint.

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- Seven (7) sites with remains of houses and other structures were identified in the area non of which are of any heritage significance.
- Grave Site 1: Contains ten (10) visible graves that could be older than 60 years old. The site is not fenced-in.
- Grave Site 2: There are five (5) visible and destroyed graves that could could be older than 60 years.
- Grave Site 3: There are six(6) visible stone-packed graves that are not fenced.
- Grave Site 4: The unfenced grave site consists of nine (9) visible graves that could be older than 60 years.

It is noted that the development area is mostly located in an area of low palaeontological sensitivity and the southern border of the development area is of moderate sensitivity.

Interim Comment

The SAHRA APM Unit notes the heritage studies along with the recommendation's provided therein. The southern border of the development are is located within an area of moderate sensitivity in terms of palaeontological resources as per the SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity map. As such, a desktop 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 Draft EIA document along with its appendices must be submitted to SAHRA along with the above requested 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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Phillip Hine
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South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:
Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/606745>
(DETECT, Ref: na)