## BASIC ASSESSMANT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF A BORROW PIT NO:7 FOR EXCAVATION OF GRAVEL MATERIAL WITHIN THE KAGISANO MOLOPO LO

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: Elijah Dumisani Katsetse Tel: 0214624502 Email: ekatsetse@sahra.org.za CaseID: 16153 Date: Wednesday March 24, 2021 Page No: 1

## **Interim Comment**

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

Attention: Bopa Lesedi

Bopa Lesedi Po Box 100853, Brandhof, 9324 Bloemfontein South Africa 9324

# The Department of Public Works and Roads intends to commence with mining of the gravel material from the borrow pit no 7 located on Austrey Farm No. 403 IN.

Lesekha Consulting has been appointed by The Department of Public Works, Roads and Transport, North West province to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the burrow pit No: 7 excavation for gravel material for the proposed road 374 upgrade, Austrey Farm No. 403 IIN in the Kagisano Molopo Local Municipality, Dr. Ruth Segomotsi Mompati District Munipality, North West Province.

A Basic Assessment Report has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, no 107 of 1998 (NEMA) and the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The Scope of work will include clearing of vegetation, excavations of burrow pit, access routes for transportation of gravel to road construction site.

According to the BAR the impact of the proposed burrow pit to heritage is low as no material(s) of cultural or heritage potential including graves have been identified as shown in the images provided. It is also stated that the proposed burrow pit location is close to a road and it is already disturbed.

#### **Interim Comment**

The SAHRA APM Unit acknowledges receipt of the BAR application and request that the following is undertaken in terms of section 38(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act (25 of 1999) as part of the EA application process.

The proposed burrowing and associated activities extend beyond the road into areas that appear less

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disturbed as per kml and images provided. Although the potential impact may appear low, the activity still has the potential to impact negatively on heritage and/or cultural resources, therefore a heritage impact assessment must be conducted. A field-based assessment of the impact to archaeological resources must be conducted by a qualified archaeologist. The report must comply with section 38(3) of the NHRA and the SAHRA 2006 Minimum Standards: Archaeological and Palaeontological Component of Impact Assessments, and the 2012 Minimum Standards: Archaeological Component of Heritage Impact Assessments. The Minimum Standards provides allowance for a Letter of Recommendation for Exemption that can be submitted by a qualified archaeologist should they deem it appropriate.

The proposed burrow pit location is in area of moderate palaeontological sensitivity as per the palaeosensitivity map. Therefore, a desktop assessment of the impact to palaeontological resources must be undertaken. The assessment must be conducted by a qualified palaeontologist. The report must comply with section 38(3) of the NHRA and the SAHRA 2006 Minimum Standards: Archaeological and Palaeontological Component of Impact Assessments, and the 2012 Minimum Standards: Palaeontological Component 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.

Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the above. The applicant is advised to extend the EA process in terms of section 19(1)b of the NEMA EIA regulations in order to comply with this comment.

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

Yours faithfully

Elijah Dumisani Katsetse Heritage Officer 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/560469 (, Ref: NW30/5/1/1/2/00090BP)