



## **Interim Comment**

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

Attention: Mr Rudolf de Jager  
Synergistics Environmental Services  
PO Box 68821  
Bryanston  
2021

### **COZA Proposed Iron Ore Project on Driehoekspan and Doorpan Farms, Tsantsabane Local Municipality**

Birkholtz, P. July 2013. *Heritage Scoping Report for the proposed Coza Iron Ore Project on the Remainder of the farm Driehoekspan 435 and Portion 1 of the farm Doringpan 445, north of Posmasburg, Northern Cape Province*

Groenewald, G. April 2013. *Palaeontological Desktop Assessment for Two Pits and Associated Infrastructure on the Farms Driehoeks Pan 435 Re and Doorpan 445 1 near the Town of Postmasburg in the Tsantsabane Local Municipality in the Northern Cape Province*

Coza Mining (Pty) Ltd has proposed the establishment of an iron ore mining pit, together with related infrastructure on the farms Driehoekspan and Portion 1 of the farm Doringpan. This project will mine ore from two open pits, with crushing, screening and blending taking place on site and transported off site for further processing. The pits will be excavated by truck and shovel to a depth of between 80 and 100m, with an estimated area of surface disturbance of 25 ha on Doorpan and 80 ha on Driehoekspan. Associated infrastructure will include access roads, fencing, water management infrastructure, power supply, offices and workshops, sewage and waste treatment facilities and fuel and explosives storage.

The scoping report reviewed published literature on sites in the region as well as AIAs and HIAs conducted in the vicinity. This work revealed several important archaeological sites known in the region, such as the pre-historic specularite mines on Blinkkop and Doornfontein and rock art sites at Beeshoek and Paling. Impact assessments have been conducted on both farms affected by this application, as well as adjacent farms Paling and Kapstewel. These reports record Early, Middle and Later Stone Age material, possible Late Iron Age walling, graves, historic middens and historic mining-related structures. The author further notes that both farms are likely to have historic farm buildings on them, with likely historic railway structures on Driehoekspan. The area is, moreover, important in terms of its location relative to the historically proclaimed Griqualand West and British Bechuanaland regions, with Driehoekspan forming part of the northern border between the two.

The project area is underlain by metamorphic and sedimentary rocks of the Postmasburg and Campell Group sediments of the Transvaal Supergroup. These Groups are associated with the development of Banded Iron Formations (BIF's). These BIF's will be exploited by the proposed Iron Ore Mine. The deposition of Banded





Iron Formation rocks can be associated with Stromatolite Domes of medium palaeontological significance. It is therefore likely that palaeontological resources of medium significance will be impacted by the proposed development.

**Case Decision:**

SAHRA supports the recommendations of the author and requests that:

- A full Heritage Impact Assessment is compiled for the application, including comprehensive assessment of the heritage resources located on the site and the likely impact the proposed mining activities will have on them.
- A Fossil Finds Procedure as described in the PIA must be included in the CMP.

SAHRA looks forward to receiving the full HIA and will comment on this report then.

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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Kathryn Smuts  
Heritage Officer: Archaeology  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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Colette Scheermeyer  
SAHRA Head Archaeologist  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

**ADMIN:**

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/122953>

