



Enquiries: Kathryn Smuts  
Tel: 021 462 4502  
Email: ksmuts@sahra.org.za  
CaseID: 71

Date: Wednesday September 12, 2012

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## Final Comment

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

Attention: Takalani Muahva  
Kai Batla Holdings (Pty) Ltd  
PO Box 41995  
Craighall  
2024

### **PROPOSED UPGRADE OF TRANSNET'S GLOSAM SIDING FOR PMG'S BISHOP MINE (LOADING BAY) ON PORTION 2 AND THE REMAINDER OF GLOUCESTER 674 NEAR POSTMASBURG, TSANTSABANE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, NORTHERN CAPE**

van Vollenhoven, A. and Pelser, A. June 2011. *A Report on a Heritage Impact Assessment for the Upgrade of Transnet's Glosam Siding for PMG's Bishop Mine (Loading Bay) on Portion 2 and the Remainder of Gloucester 674 near Postmasburg, Tsantsabane Local Municipality, Northern Cape*

Pelser, A. June 2012. *A 2nd Report on a Heritage Impact Assessment for the Upgrade of Transnet's Glosam Siding for PMG's Bishop Mine (Loading Bay) on Portion 2 and the Remainder of Gloucester 674 near Postmasburg, Tsantsabane Local Municipality, Northern Cape*

PMG Mining has proposed the upgrading and rehabilitating of the Transnet Glosam Siding to serve as a loading bay for PMG's Bishop Mine. A road linking this development to the R325 is also proposed. An earlier survey was conducted and this identified several modern buildings related to the siding and railway within and around the proposed development area. No other heritage resources were identified. PMG Mining has since proposed shifting the development to the west and so a second site survey was commissioned.

The study area is fairly flat with some rocky outcrops and is under dense grass and shrub cover. It has been disturbed by activities related to the railway line and old mine works are located on ridges west of the railway line, outside the development footprint.

The report included a background study that revealed that the area is home to several significant Stone Age sites, including Wonderwerk Cave to the east and several specularite mines. The arrival of Sotho-Tswana and Nguni people in the area is attested to by finds from Kathu Pan and the Blinkkop specularite mine. White settlers arrived after the 1830s and exacerbated regional instability brought about by the Mfecane. Despite the discovery of diamonds in the Northern Cape in the 1860s, the area remained sparsely populated until the 1900s. The importance of manganese mining from the late 1920s led to the railway being extended to Beeshoek in 1930 and Gloucester in 1935. The site survey identified one further structure, like those identified in the 2011 survey, related to the recent past. The only archaeological occurrence encountered was a low density scatter of MSA/LSA cores, flakes and other artefacts located in a stream bed in the west of the proposed development area.



The South African Heritage Resources Agency

Street Address: 111 Harrington Street, Cape Town 8000 \* Postal Address: PO Box 4637, Cape Town 8000  
\* Tel: +27 21 462 4502 \* Fax: +27 21 462 4509 \* Web: <http://www.sahra.org.za>



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**Decision:**

SAHRA supports the recommendations of the author and requires that:

- A 10m buffer be observed from the centre of the stream bed on each side in the west of the development area and that no construction activity or development take place within this buffer zone.

If the recommendations made in the specialist report and in this comment are adhered to, the SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit has no objection to the development (in terms of the archaeological component of the heritage resources). If any new evidence of archaeological sites or artefacts, palaeontological fossils, graves or other heritage resources are found during development, construction or mining, SAHRA and a professional archaeologist and/or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be alerted immediately.

Decisions on Built Environment (e.g. structures over 60 years) and associated Living Heritage (e.g. sacred sites) must be made by the Provincial Heritage Resources Authority of the Northern Cape (**Mr. Andrew Timothy**, email: [ratha.timothy@gmail.com](mailto:ratha.timothy@gmail.com)) to whom this Archaeological Review Comment will be copied.

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

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**ADMIN:**

Terms & Conditions:

1. This approval does not exonerate the applicant from obtaining local authority approval or any other necessary approval for proposed work.
2. If any heritage resources, including graves or human remains, are encountered they must be reported to SAHRA immediately.
3. SAHRA reserves the right to request additional information as required.



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