

Our Ref:

Enquiries: Kathryn Smuts
Tel: 021 462 4502
Email: ksmuts@sahra.org.za
CaseID: 735

Date: Thursday November 29, 2012

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Final Comment

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

Attention: Ms Fiona Bolton
SLR Consulting (Africa)
PO Box 1596
Cramerview
2060

Proposed establishment of an underground platinum mine and establishment of related surface infrastructure

Pistorius, J. August 2010. *A Phase I Heritage Impact Assessment for the farm Magazynskraal 3 JQ near the Pilanesberg National Park in the North West Province of South Africa.*

Rubidge, B. February 2011. *Magazynskraal project – Palaeontological Impact Assessment.*

Richtrau No. 123 (Pty) Ltd (Richtrau), owned by Pallinghurst Resources Limited, the Bakgatla-BaKgafela Tribe and Anglo Platinum Limited, currently holds the prospecting rights for platinum group metals and base minerals on Magazynskraal 3 JQ, north of the Pilanesberg National Park, in the Bojanala Platinum District Municipality in the North West Province. Richtrau is proposing the development of subsurface platinum mining and the construction of associated surface infrastructure to be called the Magazynskraal Platinum Mine. The necessary infrastructure could include two shaft complexes and associated ventilation shafts; a mineral processing plant; waste rock dumps topsoil stockpiles; tailings storage facility; reef transport facility; waste disposal facility; and support services and infrastructure such as roads, power supply and water supply.

The archaeologist conducted background research that showed the area had been extensively settled during the Late Iron Age by Tswana and Ndebele people who created large walled communities on mountain slopes and spurs. White settlers arrived in the area in the second half of the 1800s and platinum mining commenced in the early 20th century. Stone Age material is also likely to exist, as are rock paintings.

The field assessment identified the foundations of several circular dwellings, constituting Site LIA01; these foundations consisted of upright stones. These dwellings were approximately 1.2m in diameter and associated with scatters of potsherds, abraded stone surfaces and one lower grindstone. The archaeologist also found a scattering of potsherds constituting site IA01, found across an area of open veld. These may be associated with the possible remains of a collapsed clay-built structure, indicating that it is possibly from the historical period or recent times. This site was associated with a lower grindstone, abraded stones and a single upper grindstone. Several heaps of stones were identified, but these were not associated with any cultural material and were not burial cairns.

The palaeontological desktop assessment concluded that the area is underlain by the Rustenburg Suite of the Bushveld Igneous Complex, which comprises igneous rocks of Precambrian age and unlikely to be



The South African Heritage Resources Agency

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fossiliferous.

Case Decision:

SAHRA supports the recommendations of the author and requires that:

- Site LIA01 be mitigated by means of Phase 2 assessment, in terms of Section 38(4)(b&c) of the National Heritage Resources Act (25 of 1999). The archaeologist will require a mitigation permit from SAHRA in terms of Section 35 of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999). Mitigation in the form of systematic recording and description, as well as test excavation of the site, must be undertaken before trenching and any other earth-moving activity occurs, related to this proposed project. The visible material boundaries of the sites to be mitigated must be surveyed with the aid of a surveying instrument and a photographic record must be established immediately before, during and after mitigation. On receipt of a satisfactory mitigation (Phase 2) permit report from the archaeologist, SAHRA will make further recommendations in terms of the site such as its final destruction or additional sampling. Very often permission is given for the destruction of the remainder of the archaeological or palaeontological sites. Very rarely, if a site has high heritage significance the authority may request that it be conserved, that mini-site management plans, interpretive material and possibly protective infrastructure be established.
- As there is apparently no evidence of any significant palaeontological material in this area, the SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit has no objection to the development in terms of the palaeontological component of the heritage resources) on condition that, if any new evidence of palaeontological fossils is found during development, construction or mining, SAHRA and a palaeontologist must be alerted immediately.

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

Yours faithfully

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:

(DMR, Ref: NW 30/5/1/2/2/10029 MR)

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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