



Final Comment

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

Attention: JMA Consulting
PO Box 883
DELMAS
2210

No heritage resources will be impacted by the Sasol Mining Borrow Pits Project. Consequently, no mitigation or monitoring measures have to be implemented for the historical remains or the graveyards and graves.

Pistorius, J. (February 2013). A Phase I Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) Study For Sasol Mining's Proposed Borrow Pits On The Eastern Highveld In The Mpumalanga Province

The above report has reference;

The application is for 8 proposed borrow pits along the Impumelelo Conveyor Route on the Eastern Highveld. The proposed development includes fencing, vegetation clearance, the removal of topsoil, the development of roads, stormwater management berms, excavation of dolerite, dust suppression and rehabilitation at each of the 8 proposed borrow pits. The report indicates that the area proposed for development has already been transformed as a result of the Sasol Coal Mining Industry.

According to the report, the 8 proposed borrow pits and surrounding areas were assessed on foot. All proposed borrow pits are located in areas that have been previously disturbed by mining, agriculture and as dams. The remains of houses as well as formal and informal graveyards were identified in the vicinity of the proposed borrow pits, however no pre-historic archaeological resources were identified. The report indicates that none of the identified heritage resources will be directly impacted by the proposed development.

Although no formal palaeontological assessment has been completed, the Final Scoping Report indicates that the area proposed for development is underlain by the Vryheid Formation of the Ecca Group of the Karoo Supergroup with Jurassic Age Dolerite intrusions. Because important plant fossil localities are known from the Vryheid Formation the proposed mining activities for dolerite may expose rocks of the Vryheid Formation. As construction activities will expose mudrocks of the Vryheid Formation, it will create a unique opportunity to explore the area for fossils.

Based on the above information, SAHRA has no objection to the proposed development on condition that;

Should fossil bearing mudrocks of the Vryheid Formation be exposed by excavation activities, a qualified palaeontologist must be contacted to assess the exposure for fossils.

The identified historical structures must not be impacted by the proposed development

The identified burials and graveyards may not be disturbed and must be managed as well as conserved throughout the life of the borrow pits.





Should it not be possible to adhere to the above conditions, the applicant must consult with SAHRA regarding the reasons for non-compliance. In this instance, on SAHRA's advice, other mitigation strategies may have to be adopted which will require following a process for archaeological investigation in terms of Section 35 and for exhumation in terms of Section 36 of the NHRA (Act 25 of 1999).

If any new evidence of archaeological sites or artefacts, palaeontological fossils, graves or other heritage resources is identified during development, construction or mining, work must cease and SAHRA (Jenna Lavin, Tel: 021 462 4502) 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

Jenna Lavin
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South African Heritage Resources Agency

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SAHRA Head Archaeologist
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Edit view (DMR, Ref: MP30/5/1/2/2/10051MR)

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.

