Prevention of Wataer Ingress into Mined out Areas of the Witwatersrand Mining Basin
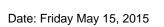**Our Ref:**

Enquiries: Andrew Salomon
Tel: 021 462 4502
Email: asalomon@sahra.org.za
CaseID: 5324

Date: Friday May 15, 2015

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an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

Final Comment

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

Attention: Zitholele Consulting
Zitholele Consulting (Pty) Ltd
P O Box 6002
Halfway House
1685

Request for Exemption from an Archaeological Impact Study: Prevention of Water Ingress into mined out Areas of the Witwatersrand Mining Basin, Gauteng Province

Fourie, W. March 2014. Request For Exemption From An Archaeological Impact Study: Prevention Of Water Ingress Into Mined Out Areas Of The Witwatersrand Mining Basin, Gauteng Province

The proposed development entails a project by the Department of Mineral Resources, through the Council for to prevent water ingress into mined out areas of the Witwatersrand goldfields. This project is part of a large project approved by Cabinet to deal with Acid Mine Drainage.

The author states that the proposed foot print areas of the three canals have been disturbed by mining activities in the past 130 years. These disturbances would have removed any remnants of heritage resources in the footprint areas.

The author recommends that no further heritage impact assessment of the study area is required and that no palaeontological assessment will be required, as bedrock has already been disturbed during earlier mining activities, and no archaeological assessment will be required, as the stream beds have already been disturbed during earlier mining activities. As soon as the laydown areas, access roads and construction camps foot prints have been identified, after the appointment of the contractor, a qualified archaeologist must screen these footprint areas and then make the relevant recommendations on any heritage resources found. The age of the culvert and bridge at the DRD and Elsburg streams be determined and if found to be older than 60 years a destruction permit be applied for under Section 34 of the National Heritage Resources Act, and this application must be lodged with the Gauteng Provincial Heritage Resources Agency. In the event of any unmarked human burials, burial pits, potsherds or stone tools being uncovered during earthworks, these must be reported immediately to the South African Heritage Resources Agency.

Final comment

Since no sites of archaeological heritage importance could be identified on site, the SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit (APM) has no objection to the development, in terms of archaeological heritage resources.

The SAHRA Fossil Sensitivity Map indicates that the study area has low potential fossil sensitivity, and considering the pre-existing disturbance of the study area, a palaeontological assessment is not required, however, a protocol for finds is required.

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The SAHRA APM Unit supports the recommendations of the author.

Comments relating to Built Environment, if required, must be obtained from the relevant provincial heritage resources authority.

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

Yours faithfully

_____

Andrew Salomon
Heritage Officer: Archaeology
South African Heritage Resources Agency

_____

ADMIN:
Direct URL to case: http://www.sahra.org.za/node/161430
(DEA, Ref: DEA 14/12/16/3/3/3/72 and NEAS DEA/EIA/0001640/2013)

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.