



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 13112

Date: Tuesday November 22, 2022  
Page No: 1

## Final Comment

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

Attention: Blyvoor Gold Capital (Pty) Ltd

**Environmental Impact Assessment and Environmental Management Plan for the Blyvoor Gold Mining Project near Carletonville, West Rand, Gauteng. Exploration started at Blyvooruitzicht Gold Mine Company Limited (BGMC) in the 1930s and mining activities continued until the mine went into liquidation in 2013. Blyvoor Gold is returning the mine to operation and will continue with the existing underground mining accessed through the No. 5 Shaft. Gold will be recovered through a metallurgical plant to be re-constructed on a previous plant site at No. 5 Shaft.**

**Du Piesanie, J. & Bamford, M. September/October 2018. Environmental Impact Assessment for the Blyvoor Gold Mining Project near Carletonville, Gauteng Province**

The proposed development entails resumption of gold mining activities for the former Blyvooruitzicht operations

The heritage assessment revealed that the project area has been subject to a long period of anthropogenic disturbance as evidenced by the history of mining in the nearby area and the existing infrastructure which Blyvoor Gold wish to refurbish and return to operation. All project activities will take place within the area which has already been disturbed. No outcrops of palaeontologically sensitive material and no heritage resources were identified during the pre-disturbance survey. Built heritage resources were identified through historical imagery but none of these resources exist within the development footprint area. The infrastructure associated with No. 5 Shaft and the No. 5 Sub-vertical Shaft was completed from the 1980s onwards and is therefore not afforded general protection under Section 34 of the NHRA.

The authors recommend exemption from further heritage assessments, on condition that: Blyvoor Gold develops a project-specific Chance Finds Protocol and Fossil Finds Protocol for implementation during the establishment and construction phase of the Project. The proponent immediately informs SAHRA of any chance finds identified and enlists the services of a qualified and accredited archaeologist to assess and recommend appropriate mitigation measures.

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Page No: 2

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Considering the evidence provided, the SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit grants exemption to this project from having to undertake further heritage assessments, on condition that:

- No palaeontological studies are required however a protocol for finds is required.
- A chance find procedure for archaeological materials is implemented.
- The recommendations in the letter of exemption and this comment are adhered to.
- If any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g., remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments and charcoal/ash concentrations), fossils or other categories of heritage resources are found during the proposed activities, SAHRA must be alerted immediately, and a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contacted as soon as possible to inspect the findings. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance a Phase 2 rescue operation might be necessary.

If any unmarked human burials are uncovered and the archaeologist called in to inspect the finds and/or the police find them to be heritage graves, mitigation may be necessary and the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit must be contacted for processes to follow.

Should the project be granted Environmental Authorisation, SAHRA must be notified and all relevant documents submitted to the case on SAHRIS.

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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Andrew Salomon  
Heritage Officer: Archaeology  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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Phillip Hine  
Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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**ADMIN:**

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/514255>  
(DMR, Ref: GP 30/5/1/2/2 (143) MR (EA))

**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.