

Interim Comment

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

Attention: Sibanye Gold Limited

Ezulwini Mining Right, part of the West Rand Tailings Retreatment Project

Higgitt, N. & Du Piesanie, J. May 2015. Sibanye Gold Limited's West Rand Tailings Retreatment Project Heritage Scoping Report

The proposed development entails a project known as the West Rand Tailings Retreatment Project (WRTRP) whereby historical Tailings Storage Facilities (TSF) will be retreated, including those of the Driefontein Complex, Kloof Complex, Rand Uranium and Ezulwini. Future reclamation of other dumps in the area is also likely. Treatment of the dump material will take place at a proposed new Central Processing Plant, resultant tailings will be deposited on a proposed new Regional Tailings Storage Facility.

The authors note that the project area for the initial implementation phase of the WRTRP is located roughly 55 km to the south-west of greater Johannesburg and that this area is intrinsically associated with the mining heritage of the larger region. Archaeologically, Stone Age and Late Farming Community sites have been recorded within the larger area under consideration. Stone Age lithics recorded have been found as surface scatters outside of any discernible context thereby limiting the information potential and overall significance of these resources. Late Farming Community sites within the region have primarily been identified as stone walled settlements classified as Type N and Klipriviersberg. One possible Late Farming Community site has been noted within the development footprint of the proposed linear infrastructure. This will be investigated further during the impact assessment.

Within regional, local and site specific contexts the project is located in historically significant mining-industrial and agricultural-rural cultural landscapes. In terms of the mining landscape, there are several features and markers such as the many of the historical TSFs created by the original mines established during the first half of the 20th century. The agricultural landscape is represented in turn by several werwe that were recorded.

The authors recommend:

Exemption from further palaeontological assessment based on the current project activities.

A Heritage Impact Assessment must be undertaken for the proposed infrastructure development footprint, including linear infrastructure outside of established servitudes. This must include the following components: an Archaeological Impact Assessment including reconnaissance of the proposed development footprint of the CPP, RTSF, RWD and AWTF, and linear infrastructure outside of existing servitudes; an assessment of burial grounds and graves including reconnaissance to identify, record and document all burials that may exist in the



development footprint; and integration of additional specialist studies to determine any possible living heritage in the project area.

Where linear infrastructure is contained within existing servitudes, these should be exempted from further heritage assessment.

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The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit supports the authors' recommendations for a full Heritage Impact Assessment to be undertaken and will comment on this assessment once it has been submitted to SAHRA.

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit grants exemption to this project from having to undertake further palaeontological assessments, on condition that, if any fossils or other categories of heritage resources are found during the proposed activities, SAHRA must be alerted immediately, and a professional palaeontologist must be contacted as soon as possible to inspect the findings.

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/330490>
(, Ref: GP 38 MR)

Terms & Conditions:

1. This approval does not exonerate the applicant from obtaining local authority approval or any other necessary approval for



Ezulwini Mining Right

Our Ref: 8433

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CaseID: 8433

Date: Tuesday November 10, 2015

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an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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.



The South African Heritage Resources Agency

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