Replacement of timber support poles at the Sterkfontein Caves, Sterkfontein National Heritage Site

Our Ref:

Enquiries: Ragna Redelstorff Tel: +27 (0)21 462 8651

Email: rredelstorff@sahra.org.za

CaseID: 6620

Date: Wednesday March 18, 2015

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PERMIT: Maintenance/Restoration

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

Permit Holder: Ms Lindsey Smith
Cradle of Humankind World Heritage Site Management Authority
8th Floor
124 Main Street
Johannesburg

Site: Sterkfontein Caves, Zwartkrans, Krugersdorp District (9/2/233/0004)

This permit is issued to Ms Smith as representative of the Management Authority of the Cradle of Humankind World Heritage Site for the repair and maintenance of timber poles at the entrance of the the Sterkfontein Caves within the Sterkfontein National Heritage Site, including the removal of the existing poles, installation of an appropriately sized and cut pole, with the setting of the base in concrete.

Conditions:

- 1. If Ms Smith is not to be present on the site at all times then SAHRA must be provided with the names and qualifications of the authorised representatives.
- 2. The activities will consist of:
- Taking measurements and identifying appropriate materials for new timber poles at the entrance of the the Sterkfontein Caves:
- Removal and disposal of the existing timber poles;
- Installation of new, appropriately sized and cut poles, with the setting of the base of the vertical pole in concrete;
- If necessary, one or two appropriately sized and shaped wedges may be installed at the head of the support pole to ensure a proper fit against the overhang;
- The poles should be inspected as arranged between the landowner and the MA. SAHRA should be notified how often this will take place in terms of the arrangement.
- 3. All waste material and left over equipment will be removed from the site once the installation has been completed, and the site will be left in the manner it was found (save for the new installation).
- 4. The landowner must be consulted before any intervention and L. Smith or a representative of the landowner should be on site on the first day of the installation.



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5. It is understood that the COHWHS MA will photograph the affected area prior to the installation, and again after the installation has been completed.

- 6. A final report on the results of the maintenance activities should be submitted to SAHRA by the end of March 2016.
- 7. It is the responsibility of the permit holder to obtain permission from the landowner for each visit, and to ensuring that she has an understanding with the landowner concerning: the number of visitors and workers; speed limits on access roads; possible prohibitions on off-road driving; size, type and number of vehicles permitted; possible prohibitions on trespassing beyond the site; disturbing fauna, flora or substrate; appropriate hours of visiting and working on the Site; use of firewood, electricity and water; lighting fires and the prevention of uncontrolled fires and any fencing necessary to protect livestock. Conditions of access imposed by the landowner must be observed.
- 8. SAHRA shall not be liable for any losses, damages or injuries to persons or properties as a result of any activities in connection with this permit.
- 9. SAHRA reserves the right to cancel this permit by notice to the permit holder.

This permit is valid from 17/03/2015 to 31/03/2016.

Ragna Redelstorff

Heritage Officer

South African Heritage Resources Agency

Colette Scheermeyer

SAHRA Head Archaeologist

South African Heritage Resources Agency

Additional Info:

Please note that this permit may be suspended should an appeal against the decisions be received by SAHRA



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an agency of the Department of Arts and Culture

within 14 days from the date of the permit. SAHRA may not be held responsible for any costs or losses incurred in the event of the suspension or retraction of this permit.

