

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 15347

Date: Friday August 28, 2020
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Interim Comment

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

Attention: !Kheis Local Municipality

PROPOSED NEW TOWNSHIP DEVELOPMENT ON ERF 1, ERF 45, ERF 47, WEGDRAAI, !KHEIS LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, ZF MGCAWU DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, NORTHERN CAPE

Enviroafrica CC has been appointed by !Kheis Local Municipality to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed township development on Erf 1, Erf 45, Erf 47, Wegdraai, !Kheis Local Municipality, Northern Cape.

A draft Scoping Report has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, no 107 of 1998 (NEMA) and the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The proposed development will include approximately 360 erven with associated services, over 45 ha.

Banzai Environmental (Pty) Ltd and Ubique Heritage Consultants have been appointed to provide heritage specialist input as part of the EIA process as required by section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(3) and 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

Butler, E. 2020. Palaeontological Desktop Assessment for the Proposed Wegdraai Township Expansion, !Kheis Local Municipality, ZF Mgcawu District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed development area is underlain by the Precambrian Transvaal Supergroup and aeolian sands and dunes of the Kalahari Group (Gordonia Formation). The Precambrian sediments are too deep to be impacted by the proposed development and the Kalahari Group sediments are of low sensitivity with Pleistocene to recent remains. A Chance Fossil Finds Procedure is recommended and is provided in the report.

Fivaz, H and Engelbrecht, J. 2020. Phase 1 HIA Report, !Kheis Township Expansion, Wegdraai, Northern Cape.

A total of six isolated surface scatters of Early Stone Age and Middle Stone Age lithics of low significance were identified. Two cemeteries are located close to the proposed development and are grades as sites of High

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Local Significance (Grade IIIB).

Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- The cemeteries (WGD002 and WGD003) must be fenced off and have a 50 m buffer zone around the sites;
- Constant monitoring of the graves along the dry river should be undertaken by the municipality, to ensure timely mitigation of human remains become exposed by erosion;
- A Chance Finds Procedure is recommended and is provided in the report.

Interim Comment

SAHRA requires the draft EIA documents before further comments can be issued.

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

Yours faithfully

Natasha Higgitt
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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

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ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/538651>