

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENT ON NATIONAL ROUTE N14 SECTION 12 FROM COLIGNY (km 0.0) TO VENTERSDORP (km 58.40), WITHIN THE DITSOBOTLA AND JB MARKS LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES, IN THE NORTH WEST PROVINCE



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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Case ID: 25410

Date: Monday, 23 June, 2025

Interim Comment

In terms of Section 38(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)/In terms of Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Ms. Miriam Ramoba
South African National Heritage Resources Agency SOC Ltd
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Zitholele Consulting (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by SMEC on behalf of the South African National Roads Agency SOC Limited to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed improvement of National Route N14 Section 12 from Coligny to Ventersdorp in North-West Province.

A Draft Scoping Report (DSR) has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA). The proposed activities will include widening certain sections, strengthening the pavement, realignment of the N14, construction of a road above the railway line, upgrade to existing culverts and bridges, construction of new bridges and culverts, upgrade to several intersections, and construction of an interchange.

It is noted that no assessment of the impact to heritage resources has been provided as per section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

Interim Comment

The SAHRA Development Applications Unit (DAU) requests that an assessment of the impact to heritage resources that complies with section 38(3) of the NHRA as required by section 38(8) of the NHRA must be conducted as part of the EA process. The HIA must include an archaeological and palaeontological component.

The field-based archaeological component of the HIA must be conducted by a qualified archaeologist and must comply with the SAHRA 2007 Minimum Standards: Archaeological and Palaeontological Components of Impact Assessment Reports (see www.asapa.co.za or www.aphp.org.za for a list of qualified archaeologists).

Several portions of the proposed development are located within an area of moderate Palaeontological

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Sensitivity as per the SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity map. As such, a desktop Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA) must be undertaken by a qualified palaeontologist. (See <https://www.palaeosa.org/> for a list of qualified palaeontologists). The report must comply with the 2012 Minimum Standards: Palaeontological Components of Heritage Impact Assessments.

The Archaeological and Palaeontological Minimum Standards refer to a Letter of Recommendation for Exemption for further studies should the specialist deem it appropriate. SAHRA reserves the right to insist on a field-based assessment should the Letter of Recommendation not provide ample information to make an informed comment.

Any other heritage resources as defined in section 3 of the NHRA that may be impacted, such as built structures over 60 years old, sites of cultural significance associated with oral histories, burial grounds and graves, graves of victims of conflict, and cultural landscapes or viewsapes must also be assessed.

Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the above requested reports and a DEIR that incorporates the results of the specialist assessment.

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

Yours faithfully

Boitshepo Motsodisa

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Heritage Officer: Development Applications Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Natasha Higgitt
Manager: Development Applications Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.org.za/node/382448>