



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
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Tel: 021 462 4502

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Case ID: 25440

Date: Wednesday, 23 July, 2025

Interim Comment

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

Aaron Larkens
Trans Hex Heavy Minerals Mining (Pty) Ltd
19 Chain Avenue
Montague Gardens
Cape Town
7441

Trans Hex Heavy Minerals Mining (Pty) Ltd is applying for a multi-commodity prospecting right in terms of the Mineral and Petroleum Resource Development Act 28 of 2002 (MPRDA) in off the Kwa-Zulu Natal (KZN) coast (offshore of Richards Bay), South Africa. The prospecting will occur in a 70500 ha area known as the prospecting precinct, and extends from approximately 21 km south of Richards Bay to 44 km northeast of Richards Bay. Occurring from 5km off the coast in the north and 31km off the coast in the south.

SRK Consulting (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd (SRK) has been appointed by Trans Hex Heavy Minerals Mining to undertake the Scoping & Environmental Impact Report (S&EIR). The EIA process is being undertaken in accordance with the EIA Regulations, 2014, and will inform the application for EA in terms of National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) and the Mining Right Application in terms of the MPRDA.

The application is for prospecting of gemstones, precious metals, industrial minerals, Ferrous and Non-ferrous metals. The proposed prospecting activities will include geophysical surveys, drill sampling and the deployment of seabed crawlers to systematically recover and process diamond-bearing sediments.

The draft Scoping Report (dSR) has been submitted to SAHRA for comment. It is noted that the dSR states that a Marine Heritage Specialist Study will be undertaken as part of the EIA phase. As part of the study, a Marine Heritage Impact Assessment and Palaeontological Impact Assessment will be compiled into a Heritage Impact Assessment report.

Interim Comment

The Development Application Unit supports the recommendation set out in the dSR for the above referenced specialist studies.



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The archaeological component of the HIA must be conducted by a qualified maritime 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). The HIA must consider any impacts to maritime heritage that may occur due to the proposed works.

The Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA) must be undertaken by a qualified palaeontologist. (See <https://www.palaeosa.org/heritage-practitioners.html> for a list of qualified palaeontologists). The report must comply with the 2012 Minimum Standards: Palaeontological Components of Heritage Impact Assessments.

Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the above requested reports and draft EIA inclusive of appendices.

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

Yours faithfully

Nokukhanya Khumalo
Senior Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Natasha Higgitt

Multi-Commodity Prospecting Right, Offshore of Richards Bay



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Manager: Development Applications Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.org.za/node/382525>