



mineral resources & energy

Department:
Minerals Resources and Energy
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Mine Environmental Management

The Directors

Hotazel Manganese Mine (Pty) Ltd

1 Pepperboom Avenue

HOTAZEL

8490

For Attention: The Manager

Dear Sir/Madam

ADDITIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998 (ACT 107 OF 1998) AS AMENDED, THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REGULATIONS, 2017 AS AMENDED, WITH REGARD TO A MINING RIGHT ISSUED TO HOTAZEL MANGANESE MINES (PTY) LTD ON THE REMAINING EXTENT OF PORTION 1 AND PORTION 2 OF MAMATWAN 331, FARM SINTERFONTIEN 748, PORTION 3 OF FARM ADAMS 328, PORTION 3 OF THE FARM MOAB 700, PORTION 5 AND 6 OF THE REMAINING EXTENT OF THE FARM GOOLD 329, SITUATED IN THE MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT OF KURUMAN.

Your application in the above regard refers.

DECISION ON ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

By virtue of the powers conferred on it by the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) ("NEMA") and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2017, ("EIA Regulations") the competent authority herewith **grants** environmental authorisation to the applicant to undertake the list of activities specified in Section B below and as described in the EIAR/EMP dated 24th November 2021.

The granting of this environmental authorisation is subject to compliance with the conditions set out in Section E below.

A. DETAILS OF THE APPLICANT FOR THIS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

The Directors

Hotazel Manganese Mine (Pty) Ltd

1 Pepperboom Avenue

HOTAZEL

8490

Tel: (053) 742 2300

Fax: (086) 664 8458

The abovementioned company is the holder of this environmental authorisation and is hereinafter referred to as "the applicant".

B. LIST OF ACTIVITIES AUTHORISED

1. Listing Notice 1 GNR 327

Activity 13: The development of facilities or infrastructure for the off-stream storage of water, including dams and reservoirs, with a combined capacity of 50 000 cubic metres or more, unless such storage falls within the ambit of activity 16 in Listing Notice 2 of 2014.

Activity 27: The clearance of an area of 1 hectares or more, but less than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation, except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for—

- (i) the undertaking of a linear activity; or
- (ii) maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance

Activity 10: The development and related operation of infrastructure exceeding 1 000 metres in length for the bulk transportation of sewage, effluent, process water, waste water, return water, industrial discharge or slimes –

- (i) with an internal diameter of 0,36 metres or more; or
- (ii) with a peak throughput of 120 litres per second or more;

excluding where—

- (a) such infrastructure is for the bulk transportation of sewage, effluent, process water, waste water, return water, industrial discharge or slimes inside a road reserve or railway line reserve; or
- (b) where such development will occur within an urban area.

Activity 34: The expansion of existing facilities or infrastructure for any process or activity where such expansion will result in the need for a permit or licence or an amended permit or licence in terms of national or provincial legislation

governing the release of emissions, effluent or pollution, excluding—

- (i) where the facility, infrastructure, process or activity is included in the list of waste management activities published in terms of section 19 of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008) in which case the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 applies;
- (ii) the expansion of [or changes to] existing facilities or infrastructure for the treatment of effluent, wastewater, polluted water or sewage where the capacity will be increased by less than 15 000 cubic metres per day; or
- (iii) the expansion is directly related to aquaculture facilities or infrastructure where the wastewater discharge capacity will be increased by 50 cubic meters or less per day.

Activity 9: The development of infrastructure exceeding 1 000 metres in length for the bulk transportation of water or storm water—

- (i) with an internal diameter of 0,36 metres or more; or
- (ii) with a peak throughput of 120 litres per second or more;
excluding where—
 - (a) such infrastructure is for bulk transportation of water or storm water or storm water drainage inside a road reserve or railway line reserve; or
 - (b) where such development will occur within an urban area.

1. Listing Notice 2 GNR 325

Activity 15: The clearance of an area of 20 hectares or more of indigenous vegetation, excluding where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for—

- (i) the undertaking of a linear activity; or

- (ii) maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.

Activity 6: The development of facilities or infrastructure for any process or activity which requires a permit or licence or an amended permit or licence in terms of national or provincial legislation governing the generation or release of emissions, pollution or effluent, excluding—

- (i) activities which are identified and included in Listing Notice 1 of 2014;
- (ii) activities which are included in the list of waste management activities published in terms of section 19 of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008) in which case the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 applies;
- (iii) the development of facilities or infrastructure for the treatment of effluent, polluted water, wastewater or sewage where such facilities have a daily throughput capacity of 2 000 cubic metres or less; or
- (iv) where the development is directly related to aquaculture facilities or infrastructure where the wastewater discharge capacity will not exceed 50 cubic metres per day.

Activity 16: The development of a dam where the highest part of the dam wall, as measured from the outside toe of the wall to the highest part of the wall, is 5 metres or higher or where the high watermark of the dam covers an area of 10 hectares or more.

Activity 17: Any activity including the operation of that activity which requires a mining right as contemplated in section 22 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002), including—

- (a) associated infrastructure, structures and earthworks, directly related to the extraction of a mineral resource ; or

(b) the primary processing of a mineral resource including winning, extraction, classifying, concentrating, crushing, screening or washing; but excluding the secondary processing of a mineral resource, including the smelting, beneficiation, reduction, refining, calcining or gasification of the mineral resource in which case activity 6 in this Notice applies.

Description of the activities to be undertaken:

- Establishment of a top-cut stockpile and associated mobile crushing and screening plant.
- Establishment of stormwater management infrastructure, Pollution Control Dam and evaporation channels.
- Establishment of stormwater management infrastructure proposed pumping system to transfer process water from the Pollution Control Dam to the plant for re-use.
- Changes to Waste Rock Dump (excluding rehabilitated Waste Rock Dump).
- Establishment of a pipeline to transport abstracted water from decommissioned Middelplaats Mine MMT.
- Upgrading the railway loadout station.
- Sale of waste rock as aggregate.
- Reprocessing of material located in Adams Pit.

C. PROPERTY DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

The listed activities will take place on the remaining extent of portion 1 and portion 2 of Mamatwan 331, farm Sinterfontien 748, portion 3 of farm Adams 328, portion 3 of the farm Moab 700, portion 5 and 6 of the remaining extent of the farm Goold 329, situated in the magisterial district of Kuruman.

The 21-digit surveyor general code for each farm portion are

C04100000000032900005

C04100000000032900009

C04100000000032800004

C04100000000074800000

C04100000000033200003

C04100000000033200004

C04100000000033000001

C04100000000033100002

C04100000000033100008

C04100000000033100016

C04100000000033100020

C04100000000033100000

D. DETAILS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER

SLR Consulting (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd

P.O Box 1596

Cramerview

2060

Tel: (011) 467 0945

Fax: (011) 467 0978

E. CONDITIONS OF AUTHORISATION

1. This environmental authorisation is conditional upon the implementation of the Environmental Management Programme identified and signed by the Regional Manager on today's date being implemented in full.

2. This environmental authorisation does not absolve the holder of its obligation to comply with the requirements of the National Water Act, Specific Environmental Management Acts and any other applicable legislation.
3. The environmental authorisation for the listed activities must commence within 10 years.
4. The listed activities, including site preparation, must not commence within 20 (twenty) calendar days of the date of the notification of the decision being sent to the registered Interested and Affected Parties ("I&APs"). In the event that an appeal is lodged with the appeal administrator, the effect of this environmental authorisation is suspended until such time as the appeal is decided.
5. The applicant must in writing, within 14 (fourteen) calendar days of the date of this decision and in accordance with Regulation 4(2)

5.1 Notify all registered and affected parties of –

- the outcome of the application;
- the reasons for the decision as included in Annexure 1;
- the date of the decision; and
- the date of issue of the decision;

5.2 draw the attention of all registered I&APs to the fact that an appeal may be lodged against the decision in terms of the National Appeals Regulation, 2014 detailed in Section F below; and

5.3 draw the attention of all registered I&APs to the manner in which they may access the decision.

5.4 Provide the registered Interested and Affected Parties with:

- name of the holder (entity) of this Environmental Authorisation;
 - name of the responsible person for this Environmental Authorisation;
 - postal address of the holder;
 - telephonic and fax details of the holder; and
 - e-mail address if any.
6. The holder is responsible for ensuring compliance with the conditions by any person acting on his/her behalf, including an agent, sub-contractor, employee or any person rendering a service to the holder.
 7. The holder of the EA must implement an Emergency Preparedness Plan and review it bi-annually when conducting audit and after each emergency and major incident. The holder must notify the competent authority in writing, within 24 hours thereof of the occurrence.
 8. This environmental authorisation only authorises activities specified in the Environmental Management Plan ("EMP") and a new authorisation must be applied for in respect of any new activity not specified as part of the EMP
 9. A copy of the environmental authorisation and the EMP must be kept at the site where the listed activities will be undertaken. Access to the site must be granted to any authorised official representing a competent authority. The environmental authorisation and EMP must be available on site to the aforesaid authorised official on request at all times.
 10. Only activities that are expressly specified in the EMP that forms part of this authorisation may be conducted, and additional or new activities not specified herein must be applied for by the holder and authorised by the competent authority in the form of an amendment or an addendum to the aforesaid EMP before such activities may be commenced with. This condition is also applicable in the case of the amendment, addition,

substitution, correction, and removal or updating of any detail in the aforesaid EMP.

11. Whenever any of the applicant's contact details, physical or postal address and/ or telephonic details change, the applicant must notify the competent authority in writing to that effect.
12. Non-compliance with a condition of this environmental authorisation or EMP may result in the issuing of a directive in terms of section 28 and or a compliance notice in terms of section 31L of NEMA.
13. Should any heritage remains be exposed during excavations or any actions on the site, these must immediately be reported to the Provincial Heritage Resources Authority (in accordance with the applicable legislation). Heritage remains uncovered or disturbed during earthworks must not be further disturbed until the necessary approval has been obtained from the Heritage Resources Authority. Heritage remains include: archaeological remains (including fossil bones and fossil shells); coins; indigenous and/or colonial ceramics; any articles of value or antiquity; marine shell heaps; stone artifacts and bone remains; structures and other built features; rock art and rock engravings; shipwrecks; and graves or unmarked human burials.
14. A qualified archaeologist must be contracted where necessary (at the expense of the applicant and in consultation with the relevant authority) to remove any human remains in accordance with the requirements of the relevant authority.
15. The holder must appoint a suitably experienced environmental control officer ("ECO"), or site agent where appropriate, before commencement of any land clearing to ensure compliance with the EMP and the conditions contained herein.

16. The holder of the environmental authorisation must annually assess the environmental liabilities of the operation by using the master rates in line with the applicable Consumer Price Index (CPI) at the time and address the shortfall on the financial provision submitted in terms of section 24P of NEMA.
17. The holder of the authorisation must appoint an independent auditor to audit the site bi-annually. This auditor must compile an environmental audit report documenting the findings of the audit.

The audit report must:

- specifically state whether conditions of this environmental authorisation and EMP/closure plan are adhered to;
- identify and assess any new impacts and risks as a result of undertaking the activity/ies, if applicable;
- identify shortcomings in the EMP/closure plan, if applicable;
- identify the need, if any, for any changes to the management, avoidance and mitigation measures provided for in the EMP/closure plan;
- if applicable, specify that the corrective action/s taken for the previous audit's non-conformities, was adequate; and
- be submitted by the holder to the competent authority within 30 days from the date on which the auditor finalised the audit.

Should any shortcomings in terms of Regulation 34(4) be identified, the holder of the authorisation must submit recommendation to amend the EMP plan in order to rectify any shortcomings identified with the aforementioned audit report.

18. An integrated waste management approach, which is based on waste minimisation and incorporates reduction, recycling, re-use and disposal, where appropriate, must be employed. Any solid waste must be disposed of at a landfill licensed in terms of the applicable legislation.

19. The amount of waste to emanate from the activity due to its nature must be treated and disposed of to relevant licensed landfill sites (NB; no waste must be mixed during storage and or disposal process).
20. All employees and contractors must frequently undergo an environmental awareness training on site.
21. No surface or ground water may be polluted due to any actions on the site. The applicable requirements with respect to relevant legislation pertaining to water must be met prior to any extraction of water on the properties.
22. The applicable requirements with respect to relevant legislation pertaining to cutting, damaging, disturbing or destroying protected trees or trees from a natural forest must be adhered to.
23. The applicable requirements with respect to relevant legislation pertaining to occupational health and safety must be adhered to.
24. You shall not store any fuel either above or underground, with a combined capacity of 80 cubic metres or more without an authorisation in each of the above mentioned sites. All fuels and lubricants that are allowed to be stored in the sites must be stored inside a bounded area.
25. Should the holder of the Authorisation ever cease, he/she must take required actions as prescribed by legislation at the time and comply with all the relevant legal requirements administered by any relevant and competent authority at that time.
26. Any changes to or deviations from the activity description set out above must be approved in writing by the Department before such changes or deviations may be effected. In assessing whether to grant such approval or not, the Department may request information as it deems necessary to evaluate the significance and impacts of such changes or deviation and it may be necessary for the EA holder to apply for further authorisation in terms of the regulations.

27. All the (3) pillars of sustainable development (environment, social and economic) must always be considered before commencement, during the operation and post the operation period of decommissioning by the holder.
28. All the possible accidental effluent, oil spillages etc must be cleaned immediately at all times on site.
29. Faunal species must not be trapped, killed or hunted during the construction period.

F. APPEALS

Appeals must comply with the provisions contained in the National Appeal Regulations 2014.

1. An appellant must –
 - 1.1. submit an appeal in accordance with Regulation 4 to the appeal administrator, within 20 (twenty) calendar days from the date the applicant notified registered I&APs of this decision;
 - 1.2. If the appellant is the applicant, provide any registered I&AP, any Organ of State and the decision-maker with a copy of the appeal lodged with the appeal administrator;
 - 1.3. If the appellant is a person other than the applicant, provide any registered I&AP, any Organ of State and the decision-maker with a copy of the appeal lodged with the appeal administrator;
- 1.2 The applicant (if not the appellant) the decision-maker, I&APs and Organ of State must submit their responding statement, if any, to the appeal authority and the appellant within 20 days from the date of receipt of the appeal submission.

1.3 The appeal form/s must be submitted by means of one of the following methods:

By post: Attention: Directorate Appeals and Legal Review
The Minister
Department of Environmental Affairs
Private Bag X 447
PRETORIA
0001

By facsimile: (012) 359 3609; or

By hand: Environmental House, Corner Steve Biko and
Soutspanberg, Arcadia, Pretoria, 0083

By e-mail: appealsdirector@environment.gov.za

An electronic copy (word document format) of the appeal and its supporting documents must also be submitted.

1.4 A prescribed appeal form, as well as assistance regarding the appeal processes is obtainable from the office of the appeal authority/ at: Tel. (021) 483 3721, E-mail appealsdirector@environment.gov.za

Copy of the lodged appeal to the Department of Mineral Resources

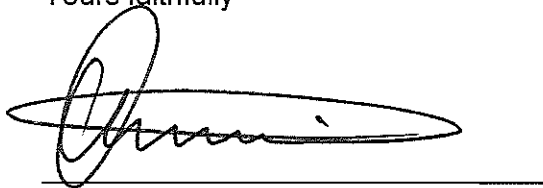
Attention : Regional Manager: Northern Cape Region
E-mail : Ntombi.Mayekiso@dmr.gov.za
By post : Private Bag X 6093, **Kimberley**, 8300
By hand : 65 Phakamile Mabija Street, 1st Floor Permanent Building,
Kimberley, 8301

G. DISCLAIMER

The Department of Mineral Resources in terms of the conditions of this environmental authorisation shall not be responsible for any damages or losses suffered by the holder, developer or his/her successor in any instance where construction or operation subsequent to construction is temporarily or permanently stopped for reasons of non-compliance with the conditions as set out herein or any other subsequent document or legal action emanating from this decision.

Your interest in the future of our environment is appreciated.

Yours faithfully



NDLELENHLE ZINDELA

REGIONAL DIRECTOR: NORTHERN CAPE

MINERAL REGULATION

DATE OF DECISION: 15/02/2023

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY:

EIA REFERENCE NUMBER:

NC 30/5/1/2/3/2/1/ (00189) EM

ANNEXURE 1: REASONS FOR THE DECISION

In reaching its decision, the competent authority, inter alia, considered the following:

- a) The information contained in the application was received on 18 March 2021 and the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) together with Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) submitted on the 24th November 2021.
- c) The objectives and requirements of relevant legislation, policies and guidelines, including Section 2 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) ("NEMA");
- d) The comments received from Interested and Affected Parties ("I&APs") and the responses provided thereon, as included in the Environmental Management Programme dated 24th November 2021;
- e) This application was submitted in terms of the 2014 NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations ("EIA Regulations"),

All information presented to the competent authority was taken into account in the consideration of the application for environmental authorisation. A summary of the issues which, according to the competent authority, were the most significant reasons for the decision is set out below.

1. Exemption

No Exemption from NEMA and its Regulation was granted to the applicant by the competent authority. No Public Participation Process ("PPP") in accordance with Regulation 4(3) in terms of the National Exemption Regulations and Regulation 41 in terms of the EIA Regulation 2014 was conducted by the Department of Mineral Resources; the applicant and the Environmental Assessment Practitioner did the PPP and the Department was satisfied with the documentation that was submitted as a proof of the whole process.

2. Public Participation

No deviations requested and accepted by the Department from certain requirements of Regulation 41 of Government Notice No. R. 982.

The PPP conducted as part of the Environmental Management programme process included:

- identification of and engagement with I&APs;
- fixing a notice board at the site and any alternative site where the listed activity/ies is/are to be undertaken;
- giving written notice to the owners and occupiers of land adjacent to the site and any alternative site where the listed activities is/are to be undertaken, the municipality, and the various Organs of State having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the listed activities; and
- the placing of newspaper advertisements in the Kathu Gazette on 27th March 2021 and also in Noordkaap Bulletin on 25th March 2021.

All the concerns raised by I&APs were responded to and adequately addressed during the PPP. Specific management and mitigation measures have been considered in this environmental authorisation and in the EMP/closure programme to adequately address the concerns raised.

The Department concurs with the Environmental Assessment Practitioner's responses to the issues raised during the PPP and has included appropriate conditions in this environmental authorisation.

3. Alternatives

Alternatives considered are only applicable to the Pit and Dump Extension Project for which an Environmental Assessment is being undertaken. Other activities as provided for in this pit and dump extension EIA/EMP have already approved and are operational.

4. Impacts, assessment and mitigation measures

4.1. Activity Need and Desirability

The objective is to beneficiate the low grade ROM from the King Mine, similar to the plant process applied for at the Parson Mine. The project will not allow for (the extension to the LOM- which means it will lead to improvement of beneficiation on site, by allowing the beneficiation of a lower grade iron ore. In terms of Local Economic Development. The lawful and sustainable operation of the mine allows the mine to contribute to the Local Economic Development programmes.

4.2. Services/ Bulk Infrastructure

Phase 3 will require an additional stockpile from where the -32mm size fraction will be beneficiated. As an alternative, Khumani may consider a truck tip instead of the additional stockpile to beneficiate the -32mm size fraction, resulting in less clearance. This will however be determined and finalised as part of the project design and will not have a further impact on the environmental consideration as presented in the report.

The explosive magazine and silos located on farm Parson are located a distance away from the existing mining operations at Bruce Mine. The alternative to moving the silos will be to retain the site where it currently is. The relocation of the silos at this site is an economic decision which involves the relocation of the silos and magazine will reduce transportation costs is situated closer to the Bruce Mine. The silos at King Mine will be relocated within the plant and workshop areas. To improve efficiency, the mine intends constructing a magazine on King Mine.

4.3. Air quality

Air quality monitoring station will be installed to determine fallout and respirable dust (PM10) concentration that will rise from the mine. Dust suppression should be undertaken regularly to prevent dust emissions. Haulage roads will be treated with dust suppression techniques such as wet to reduce dust creation. Tarpaulins will be placed over all vehicles transporting product.

4.4. Noise impact

Machinery and vehicles will be well maintained to prevent excessive noise and to comply with national and provincial regulations. All vehicles will have muffles to minimise noise emissions

4.5. Ground water

- Clean and dirty water separation systems should be incorporated in terms of 2016 SWWP.

4.6. Soil contamination

- All fuels and soils must be stored in appropriate containers. Chemicals and hazardous material must be stored in suitable containers, fit for purpose and in line with SDS requirements. Spill kit must be provided to be used in the event of a spill. Contaminated soil must be removed immediately and stored accordingly. Contaminated soil will be disposed of at the suitably licensed facility.

5. NEMA Principles

The NEMA Principles (set out in Section 2 of NEMA, which apply to the actions of all Organs of State, serve as guidelines by reference to which any Organ of State must exercise any function when taking any decision, and which must guide the interpretation, administration and implementation of any other law concerned with the protection or management of the environment), inter alia, provides for:

- the effects of decisions on all aspects of the environment to be taken into account;
- the consideration, assessment and evaluation of the social, economic and environmental impacts of activities (disadvantages and benefits), and for decisions to be appropriate in the light of such consideration and assessment;
- the co-ordination and harmonisation of policies, legislation and actions relating to the environment;
- the resolving of actual or potential conflicts of interest between Organs of State through conflict resolution procedures; and
- the selection of the best practicable environmental option.

6. Conclusion

In view of the above, the NEMA principles, compliance with the conditions stipulated in this environmental authorisation, and compliance with the EMP/closure plan, the competent authority is satisfied that the proposed listed activities will not conflict with the general objectives of Integrated Environmental Management stipulated in Chapter 5 of NEMA and that any potentially detrimental environmental impacts resulting from the listed activities can be mitigated to acceptable levels.

-END-