

NOTICE OF INTENT TO DEVELOP (NID) & BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT (BID)

PROPOSED MINING ACTIVITIES FOR STONE AGGREGATE (Stw), STONE AGGREGATE; GRAVEL (St), AGGREGATE (RM) & SAND (GENERAL) (QY) OVER A 5Ha PORTION OF PORTION 1 FARM CROPWELL 384 IN THE GAMAGARA LOCAL MUNICIPAL AREA, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

DMRE REFERENCE: NC30/5/1/3/2/11005MP.

DATE: March 2023

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

The Applicant, Alcon Projects (Pty) Ltd (REG No. 2009/000168/23) applied for a mining permit in terms of Section 27 of the MPRDA to mine Stone Aggregate (Stw), Stone Aggregate; Gravel (St), Aggregate (RM) and Sand (General) (QY) on a 5Ha portion of Portion 1 Farm Cropwell 384. Portion 1 of Farm Cropwell 384 is registered in the name of the National Government of the Republic of South Africa. The mining area is located 21 Km West of Kuruman of the N14 refer to the Locality Map at Fig. 1.

As part of the application for a mining permit in terms of Section 27 accepted by DMRE on 25 October 2022 an application for an Environmental Authorisation herein referred to as "EA" were lodged as the proposed mining activity triggers listed activities in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, Act 107 of 1998 (NEMA) Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 (as amended), and therefore requires an Environmental Authorisation (EA) from the Department of Mineral Resources (DMR), before mining may commence.

PROPOSED MINING ACTIVITIES

Mining will be in the form of an opencast mine. Disturbed areas will be demarcated as laydown and stockpile areas. Any virgin areas allocated for mining and stockpiling would first be stripped of all available topsoil.

The project can be divided in a Construction Phase, Operational Phase and Decommissioning and Closure Phase. The following is a summary and brief description of the activities to be undertaken for each phase of work:

Construction Phases

Due to the small scale of operations no permanent infrastructure will be developed and only existing roads will be used as access. Refer to Figure 1 to 3 for the location of the existing roads that provide access off the N14 to the proposed project site. Farm tracks provide access to the sections being mined. With regard to haul roads existing roads will be used and farm tracks will be upgraded and maintained by the mine for the hauling of sand and gravel with 20m³ trucks to the company headquarters in Upington. No buildings and accommodation will be required as the operation will be run from the company headquarters where all logistics will be available. No water or electricity is used in the mining operation and no permanent infrastructure will be required due to the small scale and simple mining method to be employed.

Domestic waste will be collected in plastic containers and transported daily to the company headquarters. A temporary storage area for used lubrication products and other hazardous chemicals will be provided for the collection of the small volume of waste before it is removed to the company headquarters. Only one 200-liter container is needed for the small amount of waste.

Maintenance Oil/grease/diesel management systems will require a parking area/service bay, provided as part of the stockpile area outside the ephemeral drainage line and will provide for drip trays for stationary equipment.

Operational Phase

The mining area is situated within the Kalahari which is characterized by sandy flats with occasional granite outcrops.

Mining will be in the form of an opencast mine and stone aggregate would be mined from the burrow pit. The proposed activity will entail blasting using explosives in order to loosen the hard rock from the host rock. The loosened hard rock will be crushed and screened using a mobile crusher whereafter it will be transported to be stockpiled until sold. Virgin areas allocated for mining and stockpiling would first be stripped of all available topsoil. This topsoil would be stockpiled separately for later use when the quarry is rehabilitated. Any oversize material and rocks will be removed and stockpiled separately for later use when the quarry is rehabilitated.

Processing will take place by crushing and screening making use of a mobile crusher plant. The estimated footprint of the excavation is 4Ha and at final closure the sides of the excavation will be profiled to form an even depression.

The plans as contemplated in regulation 2.2, of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002) will be updated on an annual basis with regard to the actual progress of the establishment of surface infrastructure, mining operations and rehabilitation together with a Performance audit on the implementation of the Environmental Management Plan. The only surface disturbance except for the mining of the outcrop, will be a small laydown area. This area will also serve as parking area and final sorting and stockpile area.

Decommissioning and Closure Phase

Planning for closure and restoration from the beginning of an operation makes the process more efficient:

- Waste can be removed as it is created,
- Excavation can be planned so that topography restoration is less complicated, and
- Topsoil can be re-used at shorter interval.
- Establishing a closure strategy (and communicating that activity to the public) can help enhance the company's reputation as a socially-responsible operation.
- Rehabilitation is carried out on a continuous basis as work progresses according to the annual rehabilitation plan. This will be monitored continuously to ensure effective restoration and revegetation of disturbed areas. The rehabilitation work will be conducted in-house under the supervision of an ECO.

The decommissioning and closure phase at the end of the life of the mine will consist of implementing the Final Rehabilitation, Decommissioning and Closure Plan.

Figure 1: Locality plan with major Towns and Routes

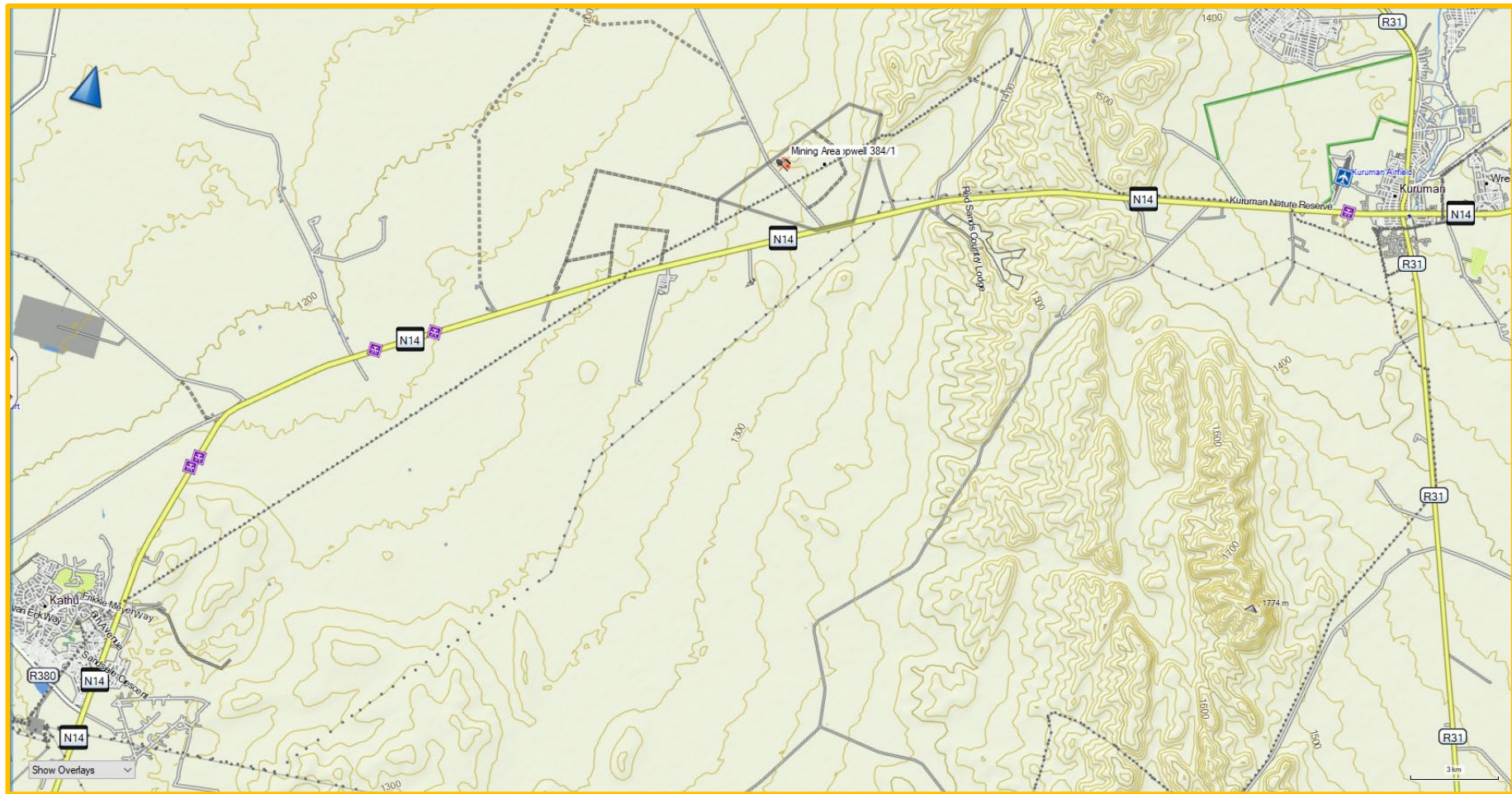


Figure 2: Layout plan

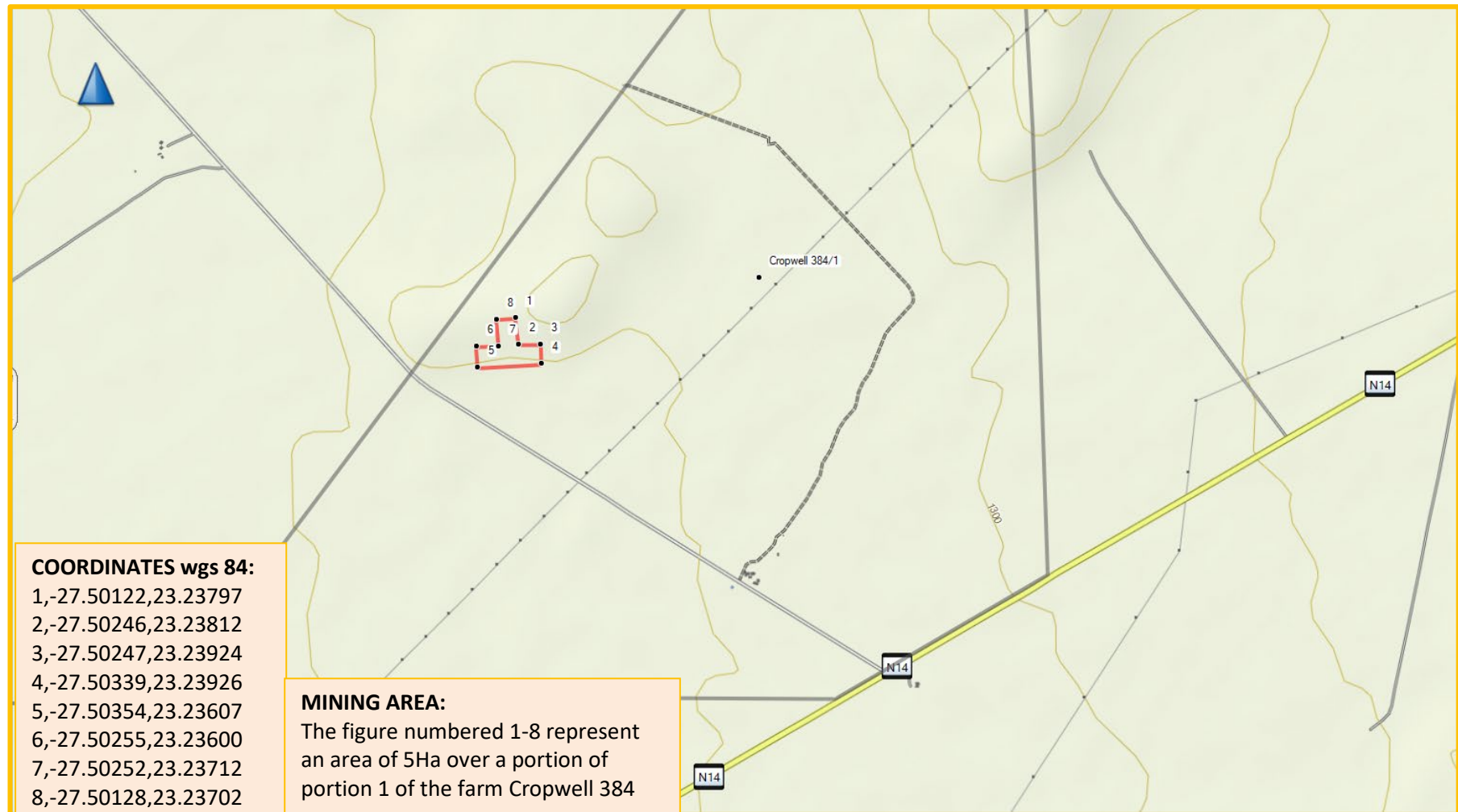


Figure 3 Site Plan



BASIC ASSESSEMENT REPORT & ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME FOR MINING ACTIVITIES

To undertake the proposed mining activities on the site the applicant needs to obtain an Environmental Authorisation (EA) from the DMRE to lawfully undertake activities that are triggered in the Listing Notices of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended, promulgated in terms of the NEMA (Table 1).

Mitigation measures will be implemented to prevent disruption to the day to day running of the farms and to minimize any negative environmental impacts. The potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed mining activities are managed through a comprehensive Environmental Management and Final Rehabilitation, Decommissioning and mine Closure Plan.

Table 1: Listed activities which are triggered by the proposed mining operation

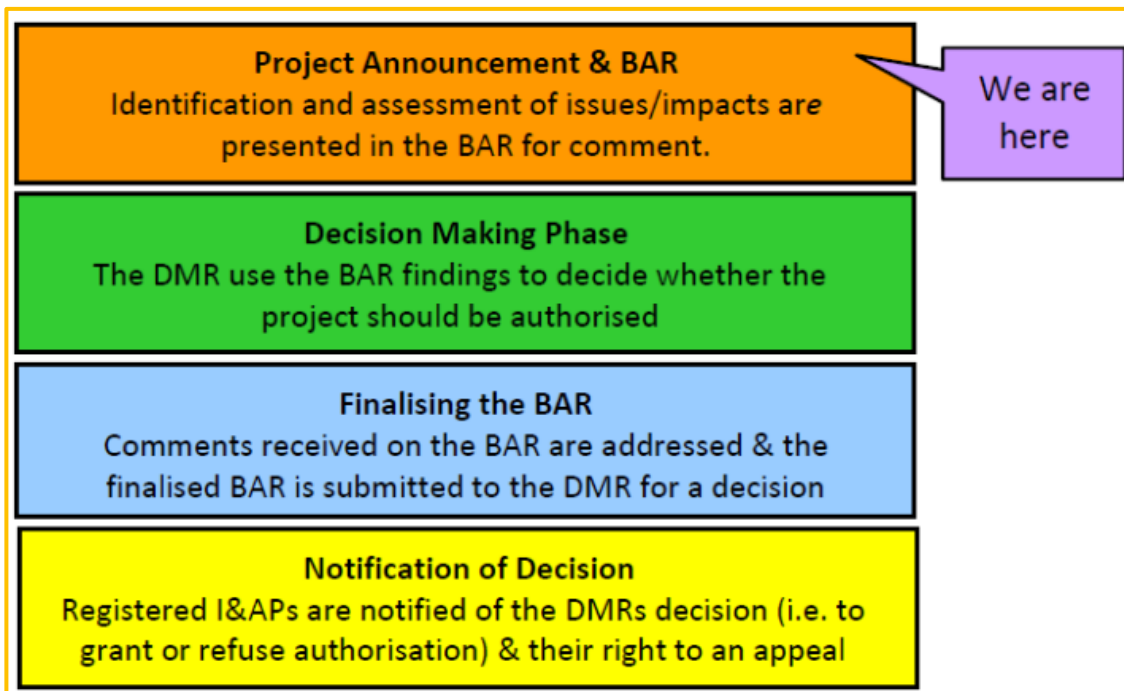
NAME OF ACTIVITY	APPLICABLE LISTING NOTICE	WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORISATION
Site establishment including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removal and stockpiling of topsoil from laydown areas. • Refuse collection containers. • Mobile ablution facilities. • Accessing the site via existing farm tracks. 	GNR 983 Listing Notice 1 of 2014 (dated 8 December 2014), as amended by GNR 517 (dated 11 June 2021): Activity 21: Any activity including the operation of that activity which requires a mining permit in terms of section 27 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, as well as any other applicable activity as contained in Listing Notice 1 or in Listing Notice 3 of 2014, required to	Temporary Product stockpiles are not regarded as residue stockpiles and no residue deposits or stockpiles will remain above surface. No waste management activities will be triggered
Mining requires the clearance of indigenous and alien vegetation on an area of 5 hectare.		
Opencast mining (rock quarry) including blasting and crushing.		
The rehabilitation, decommissioning and closure of the mining site which will only be required at final decommissioning and closure.		

PURPOSE OF THIS BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

The purpose of this Background Information Document (BID) is to:

- Consult stakeholders and provide them with an opportunity to register as Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs).
- Provide interested and affected parties (I&APs) with details on the proposed project and Mining activities to be undertaken
- Describe potential impacts associated with the Mining activities and how these will be managed.
- Obtain stakeholder (IAP's) comments and contribution and incorporate these into a detailed Environmental Management Plan report.

Outline of the Basic Assessment (BAR) process that is being undertaken



PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

The Public Participation Process (PPP) offers Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) the opportunity to familiarise themselves with the proposed project and the BAR process being undertaken, and provides them with opportunities to:

- Raise issues of concern and suggestions for enhanced benefit;
- Contribute their local knowledge to the project;
- Ask questions related to the project or the BA Process; and to
- Comment on the proposed project and on the documentation made available as part of the BAR process.

This proposed mining operation and BAR process is being announced through:

- Providing this BID to all landowners of the properties covered by this application and adjacent to these properties.
- By an advertisement published in the Local Newspaper and by a site notice that will be placed at the application site and other public places. I&APs responding to these notices will then also be provided with this BID.

As part of this BID, I&APs are invited to register and comment on the proposed project in any of the following manners:

- Complete the Registration and Comment sheet below, and return it to the address provided; or
- Mail, fax or e-mail your comments or request to be added to the register of interested and affected parties to the contact person listed below.

WAY FORWARD

Please note that in terms of the NEMA EIA Regulations (Reg 43(1)) only registered interested and affected parties is entitled to comment, in writing, on all reports or plans submitted to such party during the public participation process and to bring to the attention of the proponent or applicant any issues which that party believes may be of significance to the consideration of the application, provided that the interested and affected party discloses any direct business, financial, personal or other interest which that party may have in the approval or refusal of the application.

In terms of the NEMA EIA Regulations (Reg 43(2)) only State departments that administers a law relating to a matter affecting the environment (Provincial Department of Environment, DWA and SAHRA) are automatically registered as interested and affected.

You will only be registered as an I&AP and receive the Draft Basic Assessment and any further correspondence relating to this application if you return the attached Registration and Comment sheet, or if you request that your name be added to the register of registered I&APs.

Application to register as I&A Party and written comments should be submitted to the contact person listed below:

Any submission by I&APs should please include the following information:

- DMR's Reference No. **NC30/5/1/3/2/11005MP**;
- The I&APs name, contact details (postal address, fax number and e-mail address); and
- An indication of any direct business, financial, personal or other interest which they may have in the application.

Alcon Projects (Pty) Ltd

NC30/5/1/3/2/11005MP.

PO. Box 255, Springbok, 8240;

Email: vanzyl.eap@gmail.com

The applicant will make the draft BAR and EMPr available by 13 March 2023 to all registered I&AP for a 30-day period to supply comments and inputs. Comments received on the draft BAR and EMPr will be collated and responded to in a finalised BAR and EMPr which will be submitted to the DMR for decision making (along with copies of the original written comments received by our office). Upon receipt of the decision from the DMR, all registered I&APs will be informed of the decision and of their right to an appeal and the details of the appeal process.

**REGISTRATION FORM AS INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTY
AND
QUESTIONNAIRE IN RESPECT OF MINING PERMIT APPLICATIONS**

The information below is requested purely for use in the compilation of the Environmental Management Plan. Any personal information obtained from this document will only be in accordance with applicable data protection laws including the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (POPI), and shall not be used for marketing purposes.

The information below is requested purely for use in the compilation of the Environmental Management Plan	For Attention: Alcon Projects (Pty) Ltd PO. Box 255, Springbok, 8240; Email: vanzyl.eap@gmail.com
DMR Reference: NC30/5/1/3/2/11005MP	

Please complete this section if you wish to register as interested and affected party and return the completed form to the contact details above

Title, Name and Surname (respondent):

Capacity (e.g., owner, tenant, etc.):

Postal Address:		Postal Code:	
Tel:		Fax:	
Cell:		E-mail:	

Organisation Represented (if any):

I have the following interest(s) in this application (Direct business, financial, personal or other):

Please complete this section if you wish to provide preliminary comments on the proposed development that should be considered as part of the Draft BAR & EMPr and return the completed form to the contact details above

Your Comments

1. Please provide a description on the current land use and location within the area under Consideration (e.g.: Crop production, cattle farming etc.)
2. Do access roads, if any, pass through other privately-owned property, if so, what are the requirements to use such road (e.g.: permission from neighbors or other surface owners?)
3. Please provide information on how you consider the proposed activities will have an impact on you or your socio-economic condition.
4. Please make proposals as to how the potential impacts in 3 above can be managed, avoided or remedied.

5.	Please provide information on the location of the environmental features on site that may be impacted by the proposed activities.
6.	Is there to your opinion any concern regarding the biophysical, heritage or cultural environment that may be impacted during the proposed activities.
7.	Please make proposals as to how and to what standard the impacts in 6 above can be remedied, managed or avoided.
8.	Is the project area to your knowledge subjected to any land claims or developments
9.	If you are the owner of the property, are you the sole owner or are there other individuals, trusts or companies that share legal title? If so, please provide contact details so that we can consult them too:
10.	Is there any tribal authority or community near your farm that we should communicate with?
11.	Please inform the local newspaper name(s) which are most used in your area:
12.	Please indicate whether or not you have an objection, comment or approval in regard to the proposed project.
13.	Any other comment not included above.
14.	I suggest that the following person(s) should be included in this public participation process [please provide contact details if possible]:
Thank you for your participation	