



Background Information Document:

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Document version 1.0 – Final

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Proposed platinum mining activities on the farms Koppieskraal 475 KS, Spelonk 478 KS, Dal Josaphat 461 KS, Olifantspoort 479 KS, Eerste Regt 502 KS, Zaaikloof 480 KS and Stofpoort 481 KS, Limpopo Province

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Prepared for: Lesego Platinum Mining (Pty) Ltd.

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Compiled by M Grobler

C Smith



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1 INTRODUCTION

AGES (Pty) Ltd was appointed by Lesego Platinum Mining (Pty) Limited to facilitate the Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process as contemplated in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (Act no. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) read with the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010 (GNR 543 of 2 August 2010) for the proposed platinum mine development on the farms Koppieskraal 475 KS, Spelonk 478 KS, Dal Josaphat 461 KS, Olifantspoort 479 KS, Eerste Regt 502 KS, Zaaikloof 480 KS and Stofpoort 481 KS, Limpopo Province.

The Scoping and EIA Process is being undertaken in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998).

Prior to the development of the project, Lesego Platinum Mining (Pty) Ltd will have to acquire the necessary Mining Right, permits and licences to commence with mining related activities.

2 PURPOSE OF THE BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

The purpose of this document is to provide you, as an interested and / or affected party (I&AP) with:

- An overview of the proposed development;
- An overview of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process;
- Details on how you can become involved in the EIA process, receive information; and
- Voice issues or concerns regarding the proposed project, for inclusion in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report.

3 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed site is located on the farms Koppieskraal 475 KS, Spelonk 478 KS, Dal Josaphat 461 KS, Olifantspoort 479 KS, Eerste Regt 502 KS, Zaaikloof 480 KS and Stofpoort 481 KS. The proposed project area is located next to the Phosiri dome, also known as the Zaaikloof or Fortdraai dome, in the Limpopo Province of South Africa and is approximately 240 km north east of Johannesburg and 65km North west of Burgersfort. The site is intersected by the Olifants river, leaving the farms scattered to the east and west of the river (Refer to Figure 2 Regional Locality Map). The following coordinates serve as the centre point of the site:

Latitude: S -24°23'14.61"

Longitude: E 29°44'14.44"

The proposed project will involve platinum mining activities and related infrastructure. The resource battery limit of the identified platinum resources is 700m below ground surface. The ore body underlying the site consists of Merensky as well as UG2 reefs, which will be exploited via access from two vertical shafts. The shaft system will go to a depth of 1300m with one shaft to be used for man and material and the other for ventilation. Mining will consist of two phases, with phase 1 having an 8 years life of mine and phase 2 a 15 years life of mine.

The main infrastructure which will be positioned and constructed along with the twin shaft system, will comprise of the following:

- A tailings disposal facility (TDF);
- A processing plant and associated infrastructure;
- Offices and workshops;
- Water management and distribution infrastructure;
- Two 132 kV electricity lines;
- Diesel storage facilities;
- Sewage treatment plant;
- Water treatment plant;
- Haul and access roads
- Perimeter and internal fencing;
- Waste rock dumps; and
- Topsoil stockpiles.

4 DESCRIPTION OF THE BASELINE ENVIRONMENT

The area proposed to be mined is currently utilised extensively for grazing purposes. According to Mucina and Rutherford (2006) the proposed site can be classified as Ohrigstad Mountain Bushveld as well as Sekhukhune Plains bushveld. The site is located within the Limpopo Climatic Zone where the average annual rainfall varies from 478 mm to just over 738 mm. Precipitation occurs mainly in the summer months (November to March) with the highest rainfall occurring in January with an average monthly rainfall of 85 mm per month while the months with the lowest rainfall are June

and July.

Summers are characterised by high temperatures in summer months and temperatures dropping below zero in the winter. Mean monthly temperatures for the area ranges from 37.3°C for January and -0.9°C in June. The temperatures are very mild and stable with a minimum variance between maximum and minimum temperatures.

The regional topography of the study area can generally be classified as low mountainous terrain throughout most parts of the central, eastern and western sections of the study area often forming deep valleys and a gorge where the Olifants River cuts through the mountainous area. The study area is located within the Olifants Water Management Area and falls mainly within Quaternary surface water catchment B52E, with parts of the site situated within B52D and B52B quaternary surface water catchments.

The Olifants River is the main surface water feature on site transecting the site mainly in a north easterly direction. Other surface water features on site includes the Mohlaletsi River, which is a perennial tributary of the Olifants River, crossing the Southern portion of the site in an easterly direction. Due to the mountainous terrain on certain areas of the site, there are also numerous non perennial drainage lines situated on site rapidly flowing after good rains.

5 ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESS

Environmental Authorisation: an Environmental Impact Assessment in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (Act no. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) read with the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010 (GNR 543 of 2 August 2010) must be undertaken for the proposed construction and operation of the proposed mining development and associated infrastructure. The following activities listed in GNR 544, GNR 545 and GNR 546 of 2 August 2010 are applicable to the proposed project and require an environmental authorisation: GNR 544: item 9, 10, 11, 13, 18, 22, 37, 41 and 47; GNR 545: item 15 and 19; and GNR 546: item 2, 4, 10, 14, 16 and 19. The environmental authorisation application subject to a scoping and environmental impact assessment process has been submitted to the Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (LEDET ref: 12/1/9/2-C17).

Waste Management Licence: in terms of section 20 of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act (Act 59 of 2008) (NEMWA) read with the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010 (GNR 543 of 2 August 2010) for the undertaking of waste

management activities listed in GNR 718 of 3 July 2009. The waste management licence application will be submitted to the Department of Environmental Affairs during the EIA phase.

Water Use Licence: the project will entail the undertaking of various water uses as listed in section 21 of the National Water Act (Act 36 of 1998) (NWA). A Water Use Licence application in terms of section 40 of the NWA will be submitted to the Department of Water Affairs for consideration.

The Environmental Authorization Process is described in the Figure below (currently in Phase 1) - after each phase there will be opportunity to comment:



6 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The following studies are anticipated to be conducted as part of the EIA process. The terms of reference for these studies will only be finalised after the scoping phase. Should any additional studies be required after the public participation phase it will form part of the Environmental Impact Assessment.



Figure 1 Proposed Specialist Studies

7 YOUR RESPONSIBILITY

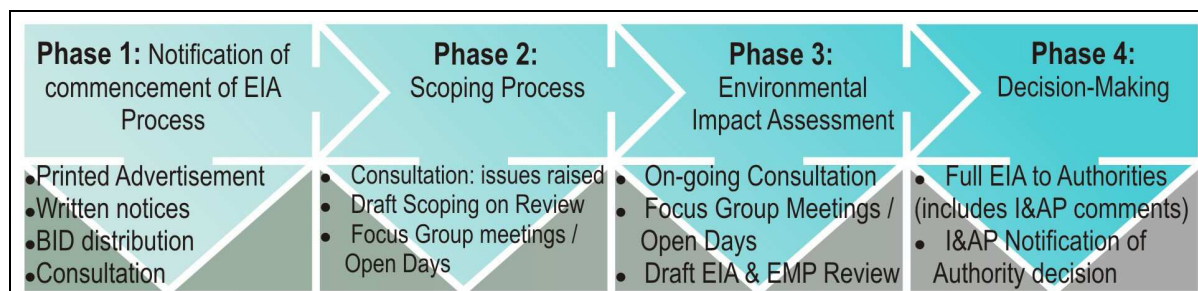
Information sharing forms the basis of the public involvement process. Comments and inputs from individuals or organizations who may be affected by the proposed development are incorporated into the impact assessment, in order to ensure that effective communication can influence the decision making process.

According to the EIA Regulations, the roles of the I&AP include:

- Assisting in the identification and prioritisation of issues that need to be investigated;
- Making suggestions on alternatives and means of prevention, minimising and managing negative impacts and enhancing project benefits;
- Assisting or commenting on the development of mutually acceptable criteria for the evaluation of decision options;
- Contributing information on public needs, values and expectations;

- Contributing local and traditional knowledge; and
- Verifying that their issues have been considered.

The following diagram briefly describes the activities that may take place during the Public Participation Process in light of the roles and responsibilities of AGES, acting as the environmental consultants, and you, the I&AP.



8 HOW TO BECOME INVOLVED

In order to ensure that you are identified as an interested and/or affected party (I&AP) or if you require further information on the application and or activity, please submit your name, contact information, interest and relevant issues on the matter by completing the attached registration form by **26 November 2012** and sending it to:

Chantal Smith (AGES Environmental Unit)

Telephone Number: 012 751 2160

Fax Number: 086 607 2406

Email address: csmith@ages-group.com

Postal Address: Postnet 74, Private Bag X07, Arcadia, 0007

Please note: this does not serve as an offer of employment nor a guarantee that a mine will be constructed.

9 PUBLIC MEETING

For more information on the project a public meeting will be held after the initial public participation period. The public meeting will take place during Phase 2: Scoping Process.

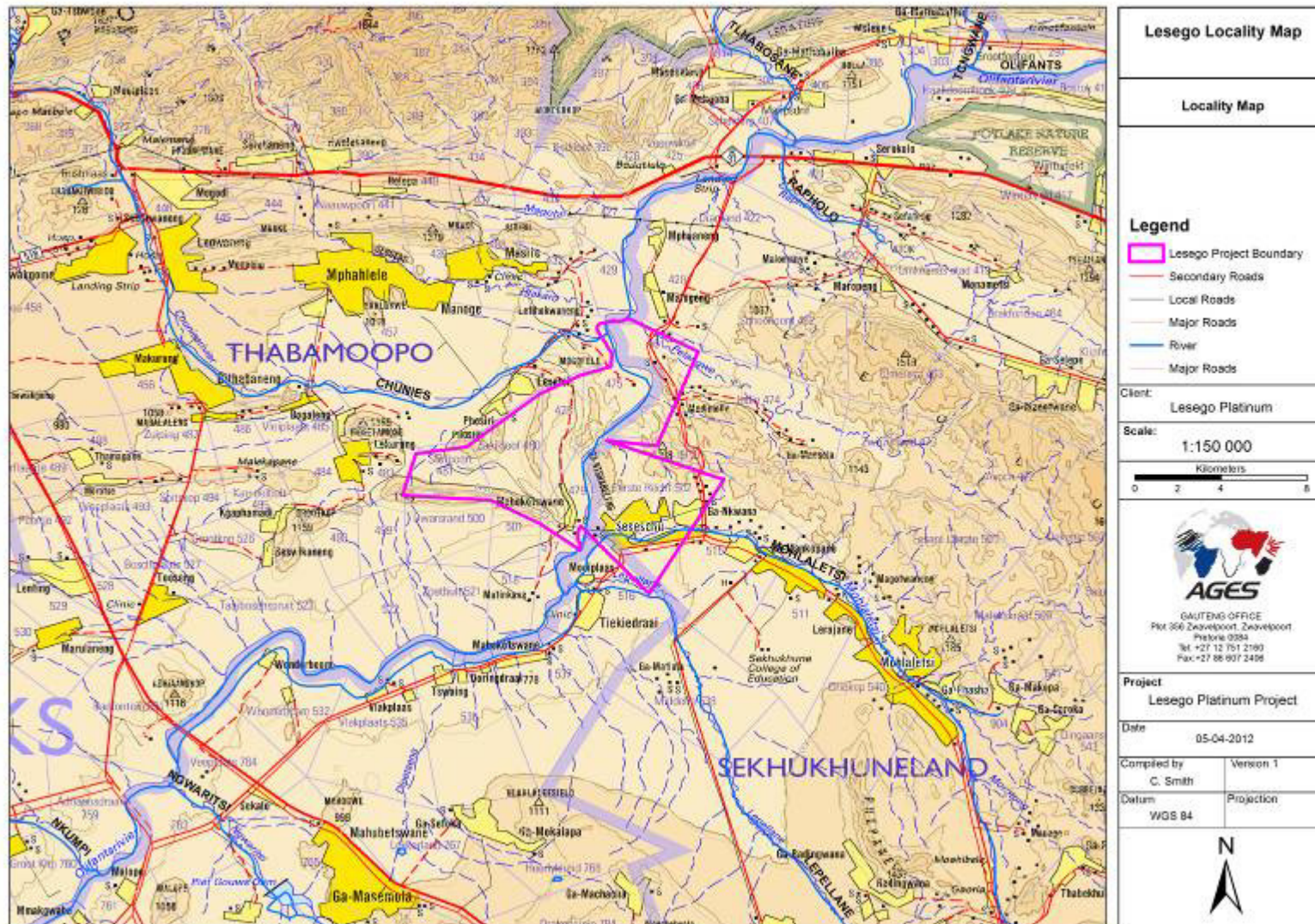


Figure 2 Regional Locality Map

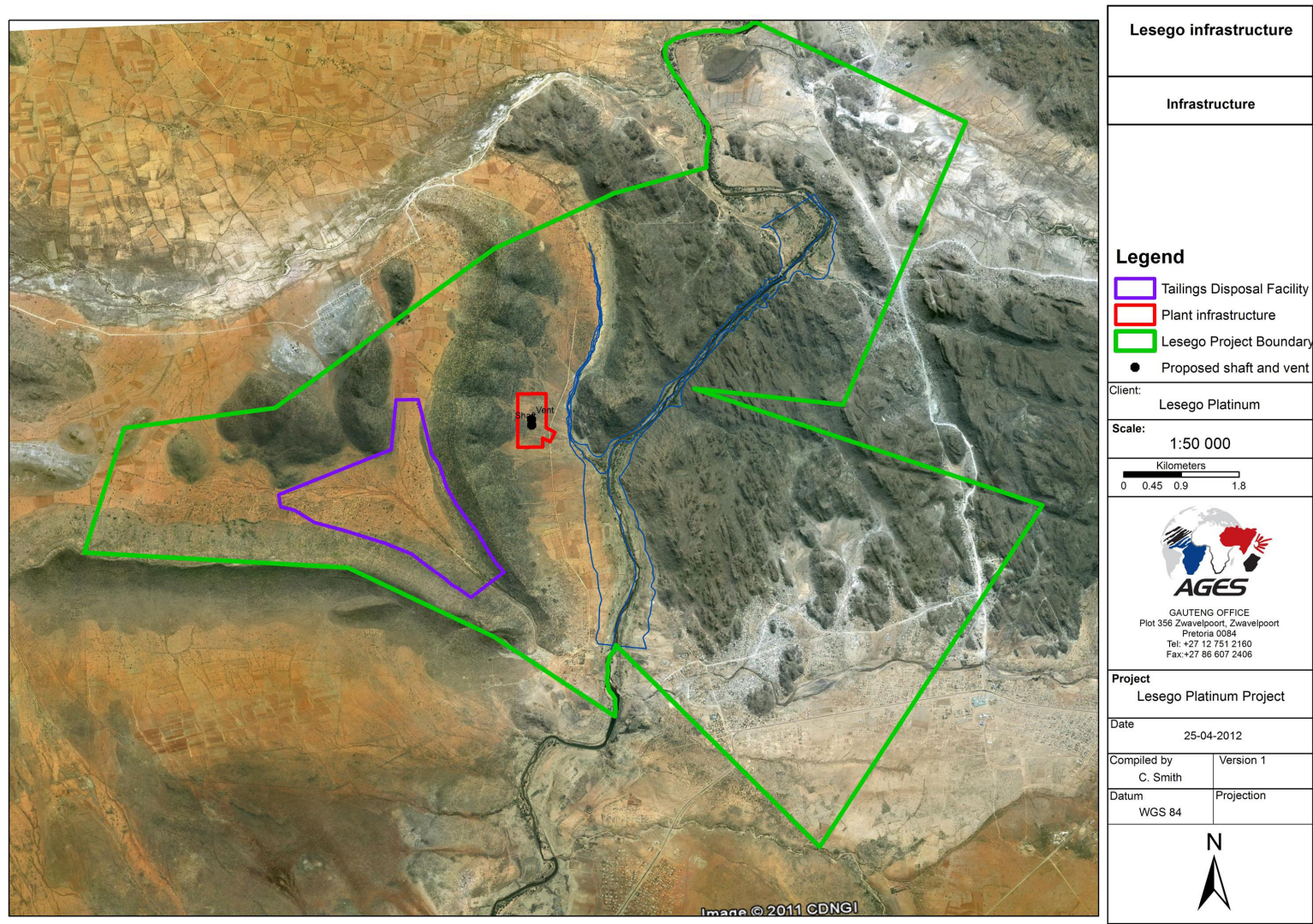


Figure 3 Locality Map (with proposed infrastructure)

REGISTRATION FORM

INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED PLATINUM MINING ACTIVITIES ON THE FARMS KOPPIESKRAAL 475 KS, SPELONK 478 KS, DAL JOSAPHAT 461 KS, OLIFANTSPOORT 479 KS, EERSTE REGT 502 KS, ZAAIKLOOF 480 KS AND STOFPOORT 481 KS, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

Title:		Tel number (Work):	
First Name:		Tel number (Cell):	
Surname:		Fax number (Work):	
Capacity/Interest		E-mail address:	
Postal/Residential Address			
Comments on the proposed development (You are welcome to use separate sheets)			
1. Environmental Issues:	(such as water, ecology, soil pollution etc.)	2. Socio-economic Issues:	(such as job creation, safety and security)
3. Cultural/Historical Issues:	(such as demolition of graves/old buildings)	4. Any other Issues or Comments:	
Please return this registration sheet by no later than the 26 November 2012 via any of the following communication methods, attention to:			
<p>Ms C Smith Fax: 086 607 2406 Tel: 012 751 2160 Email: csmith@ages-group.com Post: Postnet 74, Private Bag X07, Arcadia, 0007</p>			
Your comments are highly appreciated and they will form part of the final documentation to be submitted to the decision-making authority.			