

26 January 2018

ATTENTION: INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES**THOLIE LOGISTICS (PTY) LTD: COMMISSIEKRAAL COAL PROJECT****FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
PROGRAMME REPORT - SUBMISSION TO DMR AND DEDTEA FOR DECISION MAKING**

Departmental reference numbers for this project:

DMR reference number (KZN 30/5/1/2/2/10061 MR) and DEDTEA reference number (DC25/0010/2014:
KZN/EIA/00001763/2014)

Dear Interested and/or Affected Party

As an interested and/or affected party (IAP) registered on the project's database you had an opportunity to review and comment on the draft environmental impact assessment (EIA) and environmental management programme (EMP) report and/or summary that was made available for review from the 29 October 2015 to 08 December 2015 and thereafter extended to 29 February 2016 following a request made by IAPs. Further opportunity was made for IAPs to raise issues and concerns during the public feedback meetings.

Due to objections received during the public review period, the mining right application was referred to the Regional Mining Development and Environmental Committee (RMDEC). Important to note is that the Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (DEDTEA), responsible for taking a decision on the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) application for this project, hold a place on this committee and therefore are informed of the process that has taken place. This letter serves to inform you that following the public and regulatory authority review period and finalisation of the RMDEC process, the final EIA and EMP report has been submitted to the Department of Mineral Resources (DMR) and the Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (DEDTEA) for final decision making.

The final EIA and EMP report includes all comments received during the public and regulatory authority review process. Where comments required an amendment to the report these have been incorporated into the final report and are reflected in blue text. The main amendments to the report relate to:

- Updating of dates to reflect the timeframe associated with the processes undertaken
- Clarification of the applicant, Tholie Logistics (Pty) Ltd, as a junior South African coal exploration and development company
- Confirmation of the mining rate of approximately 480,000 tons per annum per production section, with two production sections in operation, resulting in a total of approximately 1 million tons per annum



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- Confirmation that the mine product will be of export and Eskom quality
- Inclusion of safety rescue bays underground in the event of an emergency
- Inclusion of additional details on the management of waste generated underground from mining through structures and partings
- Inclusion of additional flow monitoring data in the Pandana River
- Inclusion of a revised mine plan that excludes a more sensitive zone below the Pandana River as recommended by the EIA groundwater specialist study
- Inclusion of the findings of additional specialist work completed as part of the RMDEC process. The additional work facilitated the review and refinement of the water balance and water management strategy for the project and informed preliminary receiving water quality and quantity objectives for the project and water treatment requirements. This information was then used to review and refine the impact assessment and related mitigation measures
- Inclusion of closure and post-closure water management in the closure cost / financial provision
- Inclusion of a revised site layout that supports the refined water management strategy
- Updating and refinement of the mitigation measures (action plans) based on comments made during the EIA feedback meetings and comments received during the review period. These related to surface subsidence, loss of soil resources, terrestrial biodiversity, aquatic biodiversity, loss of water supply to third parties, water contamination, air pollution, land uses, traffic, heritage (and cultural), economic (positive and negative) and stakeholder engagement
- Updating and refinement of the planned monitoring programme related to water, air quality and biodiversity.

Should you wish to receive an electronic copy of the final EIA and EMP report please request an electronic copy from SLR. Any additional comments should be submitted by **26 February 2018** directly to the DEDTEA and DMR (see contact details below), and a copy of the comments forwarded to SLR.

Department and Contact Person (s)	Postal Address*	Fax number	Email
Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs Att: Mr Poovie Moodley	P. O Box 170 Newcastle 2940	034 312 9986	Poovie.Moodley@kznedtea.gov.za
Department of Mineral Resources Att: Ms S Francis	Private Bag 54307 Durban 4000	031 301 6950	Shanthinie.francis@dmr.gov.za

* If using postal address, please call/email the official to notify them of the submission.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact:
Alex Pheiffer (EAP and Project Manager) on
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Kind regards



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