

20 July 2022

Dear Sir/Madam,

UNITED MANGANESE OF KALAHARI (PTY) LTD**APPROVAL OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME FOR THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO SURFACE INFRASTRUCTURE AT THE UMK MINE****1. BACKGROUND**

United Manganese of Kalahari (Pty) Ltd (UMK) applied for an Environmental Authorisation for new listed activities on the farm Botha 313, the RE of the farm Smartt 314, and portions 1, 2 and 3 (a portion of the RE) of the farm Rissik 330. The UMK Mine is an opencast manganese mine located approximately 13 km to the south of the town of Hotazel in the Joe Morolong Local Municipality and the John Taolo Gaetsewe District Municipality in the Northern Cape Province. The manganese mine lies directly adjacent and to the west of the R380 provincial road.

UMK applied to the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE) for an integrated Environmental Authorisation (including Waste Management License) to change the approved surface layout for the mine to optimize their mining operations. The proposed changes to the approved layout are discussed in detail below:

New Infrastructure to be established on site in support of the current mining operations.

- New parking area (0.52 ha);
- Solar equipped boreholes and associated storage tanks;
- Tyre fitting bay, workshop/ tyre centre and oil storage (7 ha);
- Waste rock and sand stockpiles;
 - Central West Waste Rock Dump (WRD) (84 ha);
 - Central West Sand Stockpile (40.9 ha);
 - J Block West WRD (133 ha);
 - J Block West Sand Stockpile (46.5 ha);
 - J Block East WRD (63.5 ha);
 - J Block East Sand Stockpile (16.5 ha);
 - Powerline West WRD (196 ha);
 - Powerline West Sand Stockpile (35.9 ha); and
 - A Block West WRD (145 ha).
- Product stockpile area within the approved sinter plant area (21.4 ha);



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178 Montecasino Boulevard, Fourways, Johannesburg, Gauteng, 2191
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Cape Town Office: Physical Address: 5th Floor, Letterstedt House, Newlands on Main,
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1 Old Main Road, Kloof, Durban, KwaZulu-Natal, 3640
Tel: +27 31 467 0945

- TUP stockpile (12.4 ha);
- Truck staging area (20.4 ha);
- Hard Park areas (Phase 1 and 3) (14.3 ha);
- Barlow's Store (1 ha);
- Explosive depo and associated service road (13.1 ha); and
- Engineering salvage yard (temporal and permanent) (2.43 ha).

Upgrade of existing approved infrastructure:

- Prentec Sewage Plant; and
- Existing weigh bridge and associated access road.

Expansion of existing approved infrastructure

- Open pit (458,7 ha);
- Product stockpile (53.6 ha);
- Modular crushing plant (34.6 ha);
- Fuel storage farm (0.45 ha);
- EME workshop for major repair and maintenance (3.6 ha);
- Road truck staging area (1.6 ha); and
- Offices (19.1 ha).

Relocation of the following surface infrastructure at the mine:

- Approved dirty water dams/pollution control ponds; and
- 132 KV powerline from current location to its old location.

SLR Consulting (Africa) (Pty) Ltd (SLR), an independent firm of environmental assessment practitioners, was appointed to manage the integrated environmental authorisation process in support of the Proposed Project.

2. GRANTING OF ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

This letter serves to inform you, that on behalf of UMK, notice is hereby given that on **14 July 2022**, UMK was granted environmental authorisation (EA) by the DMRE; for the above-mentioned project in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (No. 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014 (GN R 982 of 2014) (EIA Regulations, 2014).

In accordance with regulation 4(2) of the EIA Regulations, 2014; *the applicant must, in writing, within 14 days of the date of the decision on the application ensure that all registered interested and affected parties are provided with access to the decision and the reasons for such decision.* **It is important to note that the date of the decision, as signed by the Chief Director, is 21 June 2022. SLR was only provided with the EA notification letter on 14 July 2022. It was therefore not possible to notify registered interested and affected parties within a 14 days period from the date of the decision of the EA due to the fact that the authorisation letter was not yet in our position.**

A copy of EA is attached as Appendix A.

Should you wish to appeal the DMRE's decision, your appeal must be lodged in terms of Chapter 2 of the National Appeal Regulations, 2014 (GN R. 993 of 2014) within 20 calendar days from the date of this notification. An appeal must be submitted to the Minister of Environmental Affairs Appeals Administrator in writing on a form obtainable from the Appeal Authority. A prescribed appeal form, as well as assistance regarding the appeal process is obtainable from the office of the Appeal Authority at: Email: Appeals@dffe.gov.za. A copy of the appeal must also be submitted to the DMRE on the details provided below.

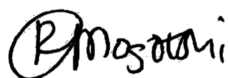
An appeal must be lodged by means of the methods as prescribed in the table below.

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment	
Attention:	Directorate Appeals and Legal Review
Facsimile:	012 359 3609
Email:	Appeals@dff.gov.za
By post:	Private Bag X447, Pretoria, 0001
By hand:	Environment House, Corner of Steve Biko and Soutpansberg Street, Arcadia, Pretoria, 0083
Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (a copy of the appeal)	
Attention:	Regional Manager: Northern Cape Region
Facsimile:	053 807 1700
Email:	Ndlelenhle.zindela@dmre.gov.za
By post:	Private Bag X 6093, Kimberley, 8300
By hand:	Telkom Building, 41 Schmidtsdrift Street, Kimberly 8300

The procedure pertaining to the administration and processing of appeals in terms of the National Appeal Regulations, 2014, (GN R. 993 of 2014) is outlined in Appendix B.

For any further queries please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours sincerely



Reinett Mogotshi

Senior Environmental Consultant

Appendix A: Copy of the EA



**mineral resources
& energy**

Department:
Minerals Resources and Energy
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 6093 Kimberley, 8300; Tel: 0538071700; Fax: 0538328593, 41 Schimdsdriest street, Telkom Building, Kimberley 8300, E-mail: Takalani.khorombi@dmr.gov.za Ref No:30/5/1/2/2/113 /00182 EM
Enquiries: Takalani Khorombi

Tribe Mxolisi Bhengu

United Manganese of Kalahari

Farm Perth

Road D 3340

Hotazel

8490

Dear Sir/Madam

INTEGRATED ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION AMENDMENT LODGED IN TERMS OF NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998 (ACT 107 OF 1998) AND THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT WASTE ACT (ACT NO.59 OF 2008) 2014 AS AMENDED FOR MINING RIGHT AND RELATED INFRASTRUCTURAL ACTIVITIES ON THE FARM BOTHA 331, THE REMAINDER OF FARM SMARTT 314 AND PORTION 1,2, AND 3 (A PORTION OF THE REMAINDER) OF THE FARM RISSIK 330 , SITUATED IN THE MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT OF KURUMAN, NORTHERN CAPE REGION.

With reference to the abovementioned application, please be advised that the Department has decided to **grant** an integrated environmental authorization in terms of regulation 20(1) (a)/24(1) (b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2017 ("EIA Regulations"). The environmental authorisation and reasons for the decision are attached herewith.

In terms of regulation 4(2) of the EIA Regulations, you are instructed to notify all registered interested and affected parties, in writing within 14 (fourteen) calendar days, of the date of the Department's decision in respect of your application and the provisions regarding the making of appeals must be provided for in terms of the National Appeal Regulations, 2014.

Should you wish to appeal any aspect of the decision, you must submit the appeal to the Minister of Environmental Affairs, within 20 days from the date of notification, and such appeal must be

lodged as prescribed by Chapter 2 of the National Appeal Regulation, 2014 by means of one of the following methods:

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

By facsimile: (012) 359 3609; or

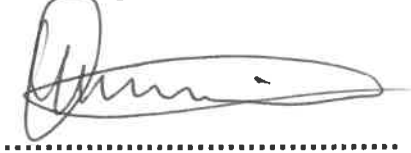
By hand: Environmental House, Corner Steve Biko and Soutspanberg,
Arcadia, Pretoria, 0083

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

A prescribed appeal form, as well as assistance regarding the appeal processes is obtainable from the office of the appeal authority/ at: Tel. (012) 399 9000, E-mail: appealsdirector@environment.gov.za

Should you decide to appeal, you must comply with the National Appeal Regulations, 2014 in relation to notification of all registered interested and affected.

Kind Regards



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REGIONAL MANAGER: MINERAL REGULATION

NORTHERN CAPE REGION

DATE 21 / 06 / 2022



mineral resources & energy

Department:
Minerals Resources and Energy
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 6093 Kimberley, 8300; Tel: 0538071700; Fax: 0538328593, 41 Schimidtdrift Road,
Telkom Building, Kimberley 8301

INTEGRATED ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

Reference number: NC30/5/1/2/2/113/00182 EM

Holder of authorisation: United Manganese of Kalahari (Pty) Ltd

Last amended: Second Issued

Commodity: Manganese Ore

Location of activity: On the Farm Botha 313, the Remainder of Farm Smartt 314 and Portion 1,2, and 3 (A Portion of the Remainder) of the Farm Rissik 330, situated in the Magisterial District of Kuruman, Northern Cape Region.

ACRONYMS

NEMA: National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998), as amended

DEPARTMENT: Department of Mineral Resources.

EA: Environmental Authorisation.

EMPr: Environmental Management Programme.

BAR: Basic Assessment Report.

I&AP: Interested and Affected Parties.

ECO: Environmental Control Officer.

SAHRA: South African Heritage Resources Agency.

EIA REGULATIONS: Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2017.

MPRDA: Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act 28 of 2002), as amended

NEM:WA: National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act 59 of 2008), as amended.

EIA: Environmental Impact Assessment.

The Department is satisfied, on the basis of information available to it and subject to compliance with the conditions of this environmental authorisation, that the applicant should be authorised to undertake **NEMA EIA** listed activities specified below. Details regarding the basis on which the Department reached this granting decision are set out in **Annexure “1”** of this Environmental Authorisation.

By virtue of the powers conferred on it by NEMA, the Department hereby Grant an application for EA by **United Manganese of Kalahari (Pty) Ltd** with the following contact details –

A.DETAILS OF THE APPLICANT FOR THIS INTEGRATED ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

Tribe Mxolisi Bhengu United Manganese of Kalahari
Farm Perth
Road D 3340
Hotazel

By Email: Tribe.Bhengu@UMK.co.za

to undertake the following activities listed in the NEMA EIA Regulation-

ACTIVITY APPLIED FOR

B. LIST OF ACTIVITIES AUTHORISED IN TERMS OF NEMA;

Listing Notice 1: GNR 327 Activity No. 34

The expansion [or changes to] of existing facilities or infrastructure for any process or activity where such expansion [or changes] 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; [or]

(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;

Listing Notice 1: GNR327 Activity No. 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 management plan

Listing Notice 2: GNR327 Activity No. 14

The development and related operation of facilities or infrastructure, for the storage, or for the storage and handling, of a dangerous good, where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity of 80 cubic metres or more but not exceeding 500 cubic metres.

Listing Notice 1: GNR327 Activity No. 11

The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity—

- (i) outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33 but less than 275 kilovolts; or
- (ii) inside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of 275 kilovolts or more;

Listing Notice 2: GNR. 325 Activity No. 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) (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) (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) (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.

Listing Notice 2: GNR. 325 Activity No. 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) (ii) maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.

Listing Notice 2: GNR. 325 Activity No. 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.

NEM:WA 59 of 2008: GNR 332 of 2014 and GNR 1094 OF 2017 , Category B: (10)

The construction of a facility for a waste management activity listed in Category B of this Schedule (non in isolation to associated waste management activity).

NEM:WA 59 of 2008: GNR 332 of 2014 and GNR 1094 OF 2017 , Category B: (11)

The establishment or reclamation of a residue stockpile or residue deposit resulting from activities or production right in terms of MPRDA.

C. PROPERTY DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

The listed activities will be undertaken on the Farm Botha 313, the Remainder of Farm Smartt 314 and Portion 1,2, and 3 (A Portion of the Remainder) of the Farm Rissik 330, situated in the Magisterial District of Kuruman, Northern Cape Region.

Co-ordinates of the boundary of the properties are those that are described in the final site layout map attached hereto hereinafter referred to as "the site".

No.	Longitude	Latitude
0	22°56'0,865"E	27°15'55,739"S
1	22°54'58,074"E	27°16'16,947"S
2	22°55'20,607"E	27°16'43,647"S
3	22°55'19,997"E	27°16'44,191"S
4	22°54'56,81"E	27°17'16,312"S
5	22°54'7,405"E	27°17'47,869"S
6	22°53'41,162"E	27°18'18,349"S
7	22°54'43,948"E	27°18'33,098"S
8	22°56'26,938"E	27°20'10,642"S
9	22°57'37,657"E	27°21'19,836"S
10	22°58'4,487"E	27°21'47,074"S
11	23°1'12,341"E	27°19'8,593"S
12	22°59'41,488"E	27°18'14,679"S
13	22°58'44,795"E	27°17'35,46"S
14	22°58'35,649"E	27°17'42,539"S
15	22°57'51,149"E	27°17'33,27"S
16	22°57'38,341"E	27°17'48,517"S
17	22°56'52,038"E	27°16'44,234"S

D. DETAILS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER

SLR Consulting (Pty Ltd

PO BOX 1596

CRAMERVIEW

By Email : rmogotshi@slr@consulting.com

Tel : 011 441 1111

Fax : 011 880 8086

E. EA SITE SPECIFIC CONDITIONS

1. Protected plant species that could be identified within mining area should not be removed and/or destroyed unless the necessary permission is granted by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DEFF) (formerly known as the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF).
2. No water uses activities shall be permitted unless the water use license has been obtained from Department of Water and Sanitation.
3. Notwithstanding the above alternative, no authorised activity may be permitted within the water course within the vicinity of the mine.
4. No mining activities shall be permitted within water course unless such triggered water use has been granted to with DWS.
5. All development footprint areas and areas affected by the proposed development must remain as small as possible and must not encroach onto the surrounding sensitive areas and the associated buffer zones.
6. Always remove and retain topsoil for subsequently rehabilitation.
7. Clearance of vegetation should be limited to that absolutely necessary for the operation of the mine.
8. The need to expand the existing biodiversity offset should be considered taking into account the loss of biodiversity due to expansion of mining operation.
9. Concurrent rehabilitation must be applied during the mining operation. When mining technique is used, the extent of void may be minimised by progressive direct backfilling of overburdens in the mined out sections of the pit.
10. Excavation must take place only within the approved demarcated mine.

11. No waste shall under any circumstances be disposed of in the veld or burning of waste is prohibited.

F. CONDITIONS OF AUTHORISATION

1. SCOPE OF AUTHORISATION

- 1.1. The holder of the EA shall be responsible for ensuring compliance with the conditions contained in the EA. This includes any person acting on the holder's behalf, including but not limited to an agent, servant, contractor, subcontractor, employee, consultant or any person rendering a service to the holder of EA.
- 1.2. Any changes to, or deviation from the project description set out in this EA must be approved in writing by this Department before such changes or deviation may be effected. In assessing whether to grant such approval or not, the Department may request such information as it deems necessary to evaluate the significance and impacts of such changes or deviation and it may be necessary for the holder of the EA to apply for further authorisation in terms of the EIA Regulations.
- 1.3. The activities, which are authorised, may only be carried out at the properties indicated in the EA and or on the approved EMPr.
- 1.4 Where any of the holders of the EA contact details change including the name of the responsible person, physical/postal address or telephonic details, the holder of the EA must notify the Department as soon as the new details become known to the holder of the EA.
- 1.5 The EA does not absolve the responsibility of the holder to comply with any other statutory requirements that may be applicable to the undertaking of such activities.
- 1.6. The holder of the EA must ensure that all areas where the authorised activities occur have controlled access to ensure safety of people and animals.
- 1.7. 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.
- 1.8. The holder of an authorisation as the case may be, must apply for an closure certificate upon the lapsing, abandonment or cancellation of the right in question, cessation of the mining, the relinquishment of the portion of the mining of the land to which a right.

An application for a closure certificate must be made to the Regional Manager in whose region the land in question is situated within 180 days of the occurrence of the lapsing, abandonment, cancellation, cessation, and relinquishment.

2 APPEAL OF AUTHORISATION

2.1 The holder of EA must in writing, within 14 (fourteen) calendar days of the date of this decision and in accordance with EIA Regulation 4(2)-

2.2 Notify all registered I&APs of –

2.2.1 The outcome of the application;

2.2.2. The date of the decision;

2.2.3. The date of issue of the decision and;

2.2.4 The reasons for the decision as included in Annexure 1 and this Annexure 2 (Departmental Standard Conditions).

2.3 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 Regulations,

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

3 COMMENCEMENT OF THE ACTIVITIES

3.1 In order to ensure safety, all employees must be given the necessary personnel protective equipment (PPE).

3.2 This EA must be provided to the site operator and the requirements thereof must be made fully known to him or her.

3.3 Hauling routes for construction vehicles and machinery must be clearly marked and appropriate signaling must be posted to that effect. Furthermore, movement of construction vehicles and machinery must be restricted to areas outside of the drainage line or wet areas.

- 3.4 Appropriate notification sign(s) must be erected at the construction site, warning the public (residents, visitors etc.) about the hazard around the construction site and presence of heavy vehicles and machinery.
- 3.5 Construction must include design measures that allow surface and subsurface movement of water along the drainage lines so as not to impede natural surface and subsurface water flow, and drainage measures must promote the dissipation of storm water runoff.
- 3.6 Vegetation clearance must be limited areas where the individual activities will occur, and mitigation measures must be implemented to reduce the risk of erosion and alien species invasion.
- 3.7 The holder of EA must note that in terms of the National Forest Act, 1998 (Act No .84 of 1998) protected plant species, also listed in Northern Cape Nature Conservation (NCNCA) Act no. 9 of 2009 must not be cut, disturbed, damaged, destroyed and their products must not be possessed, collected, removed, transported, exported, donated, purchased or sold unless permission is granted by the DEFF.
- 3.8 Construction areas (e.g. material lay down areas), topsoil and subsoil must be protected from contamination or pollution. Stockpiling must not take place in drainage lines or areas where it will impede surface water runoff
- 3.9 If any soil contamination is noted at any phase of the proposed activities, the contaminated soil must be removed to a licensed waste disposal facility and the site must be rehabilitated to the satisfaction of the Department and Department of Water and Sanitation. The opportunity for the onsite remediation and re-use of contaminated soil must be investigated prior to the disposal and this Department must be informed in this regard.
- 3.10 An integrated waste management approach must be implemented that is based on waste minimization and must incorporate avoidance, reduction, recycling, treat, reuse and disposal where appropriate. Uncontaminated rubble generated on the premises can be re-used as back filling material on site. Ensure that no refuse or rubble generated on the premises is placed, dumped or deposited on the adjacent properties or public places and open space.

- 3.11 In terms of sections 28 and 30 of NEMA, and sections 19 and 20 of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998), any costs incurred to remedy environmental damage must be borne by the person responsible for the damage. It is therefore imperative that the holder of the EA reads through and understand the legislative requirements pertaining to the operation. It is the applicant's responsibility to take reasonable measures which include informing and educating contractors and employees about environmental risks of their work and training them to operate in an environmentally acceptable manner.
- 3.12 Construction vehicle must be serviced and maintained in the manner whereby no excessive smokes is released, noise production is reduced to acceptable levels, and to prevent oil leaks. Contaminated soil must be remediated on site or removed to an authorised landfill site.
- 3.13 Residents (if any) on the properties and surrounding areas must be informed if any unusually noisy activities are planned.
- 3.14 Dust suppression measures must be implemented on all exposed surface to minimize and control airborne dust.
- 3.15 Mixing of cement, concrete, paints, solvent, sealants and adhesive must be done in specified areas on concrete aprons or on protected plastic linings to contain spillage or overflow onto soil to avoid contamination of underground water and environmental damage.
- 3.16 Should any heritage remains be exposed during operation or any actions on the site, these must immediately be reported to the South African Heritage Resource Agency (SAHRA) and or Northern Cape Heritage Resource Agency (NCHRA) (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 South African Heritage Resource Agency (SAHRA) and or Northern Cape Heritage Resource Agency (NCHRA).
- 3.17 Heritage remains include: archaeological remains (including fossil bones and fossil shells); coins; middens, 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. 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.

3.18 Care must be taken to ensure that the material and excavated soil required for backfilling are free of contamination from hydrocarbons.

3.19 Hydraulic fluids or chemicals required during construction must be stored in a concrete lined surface with bund walls and shall be designed in such a manner that any spillage can be contained and reclaimed without any impact on the surrounding environment. Should any spills occur it should be cleaned immediately by removing spillage together with the polluted solids and dispose it in the authorised disposal site permitted of such waste. The regional office of the Department of Water and Sanitation must be notified within 24 hours of an incident that may pollute surface and underground water resources.

3.20 Chemical sanitation facilities or system such as toilets that do not rely on the seepage of liquids must be provided with a ratio of 1 for every 15 workers. These must be placed such that they prevent spills or leaks to the environment and must be maintained according to the operating instructions and the content thereof must be disposed of at an authorised waste water treatment works.

3.21 The holder of EA must ensure that any water uses listed in terms of section 21 of National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998) must get authorization from Department of Water and Sanitation prior to the commencement of such activities. The holder of the EA shall note that in terms of Section 19 (1) of the national Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998). "An owner of land , a person who occupies or uses the land on which – (a) any activity or process is or was performed or undertaken; or (b) any other situation exists, which caused or is likely to cause pollution of a water source must take all reasonable measures to prevent any such pollution from occurring, continuing or recurring."

- 3.22 Therefore any pollution incidents associated with the proposed project shall be reported to the relevant Regional Office of the DMR and Department of Water and Sanitation within 24 hours.
- 3.23 This EA does not purport to absolve the holder of EA from its common law obligations towards the owner of the surface of land affected.
- 3.24 The holder of EA must ensure that rehabilitation of the disturbed areas caused by operation(s) at all times comply with the approved EMPr.
- 3.25 This EA may be amended or withdrawn at any stage for non-compliance and provides no relief from the provisions of any other relevant statutory or contractual obligations.
- 3.26 The holder of EA must note that in terms section 43A of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008), residue stockpile and residue deposit must be deposited and managed in a prescribed manner on any site demarcated for that purpose in the approved EMPr. No person may temporary or permanently deposits residue stockpile or residue deposit on any area or site other than on site indicated on the approved EMPr.
- 3.27 The holder of EA must note that in terms section 20 of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008), no person may commence, undertake or conduct a waste management activity, except in accordance, with the requirements of norms and standards determined in terms of section 19(3) for that activity or a waste management license is issued in respect of that activity if license is required.
- 3.28 An appeal under section 43(7) of the National Environmental Management Act NEMA), Act 107 of 1998 (as amended) suspend an EA or exemption or any provisions of conditions attached hereto, or any directive unless the Minister directs otherwise.
- 3.29 Should you be notified by the Minister of a suspension of the authorisation pending appeal procedure, you may not commence/continue with the activities until such time that the Minister allows you to commence with such activities in writing.

- 3.30 The Department reserves the right to audit and/or inspect the activities without prior notification at any reasonable time and at such frequency as may be determined by the Regional Manager. Environmental Management Inspector or Environmental Management Resource Inspector within his or her mandate in terms of section 31D, may – question any person; issue a written notice inspect any document (books or record or any written or electronic information); copy or make extracts from any document (book or record or written or electrical information); take photographs or make audio- visual recordings; dig or bore into the soil or take samples and carry out any other prescribed duty not inconsistent with this Act and any other duty that may be prescribed in terms of a specific environmental management Act. Environmental Management Inspector or Environmental Management Resource Inspector without a warrant may enter and search any vehicle, vessel or aircraft or search any pack-animal or any other mechanism of transport, on reasonable suspicion.
- 3.31 The waste storage site must have a firm, impermeable, chemical resistant floors and a roof to prevent direct sunlight and rain water from getting in contact with the waste.
- 3.32 The storage of hydrocarbons must have bund walls with adequate capacity to contain the maximum volume that is stored in the area. Uncontaminated storm water must be prevented from coming into contact with the waste and must be diverted away from the storage site.
- 3.33 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.
- 3.34 Subject to the commencement and duration requirements of the MPRDA and NEMA for the listed mining activity is valid for the period for which the aforesaid right is issued provided that this activity must commence within 10 years. If the commencement of the proposed activity does not occur within the specified period, the EA lapses and a new application for EA in terms of the NEMA and the EIA Regulations should be made for the activity to be undertaken.

- 3.35 The commissioning and decommissioning of individual activity within the overall listed mining activity must take place within the phases and timeframes as set out in EMP or EMPr.
- 3.36 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 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 finalized.
- 3.37 Should there be any conflicting conditions between this EA and other approval granted by other authorities, it is upon the holder of EA to bring it to the attention of the Department for resolution.
- 3.38 If the EA holder is not the surface owner must before commencement of the mining activities consult with the land owners for reasonable compensation of damages such as loss of grazing, stock theft, fire hazard that may be associated with the listed activities.
- 3.39 Notwithstanding the provision of any other law, no person is civilly or criminally liable or may be dismissed, disciplined, prejudiced or harassed on account of having refused to perform any work if the person is good faith and reasonable believed at the time of the refusal that the performance of the work would result in an imminent and serious threat to the environment.

4. MANAGEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

- 4.1 A copy of the EA and EMPr must be kept at the property or on site office where the activity (lies) will be undertaken. The EA and EMPr must be produced to any authorised officials of the Department who request to see it and must be made available for inspection by any employee or agent of the holder of the EA who works or undertakes work at the properties. 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.

- 4.2 The content of the EMPr and its objectives must be made known to all contractors, subcontractors, agent and any other people working on the site, and any updates or amendments to the EMPr must be submitted to the Department for approval.
- 4.3 Regular monitoring and maintenance of storm water drainage facilities must be conducted at all times, if damaged as directed by the Department or any other relevant authority.
- 4.4 A buffer zone of 100 meters between the activities and the residential areas, cemeteries or burial grounds must be clearly demarcated and maintained.
- 4.5 The holder of the EA must prevent nuisance conditions or health hazards, or the potential creation of nuisance conditions or health hazards.
- 4.6 The holder of the EA must ensure that all non-recyclable waste are disposed of at waste management facilities licensed to handle such wastes and all recyclable waste are collected by licensed waste management facilities for recycling, reuse or treatment.
- 4.7 The holder of the EA must ensure that all liquid wastes, whose emissions to water or land could cause pollution are diverted to sewer, after testing water quality and receiving written approval from the relevant local authority.
- 4.8 Mining vehicles must be serviced and maintained in a manner whereby excessive smoke and noise production is reduced to acceptable levels, and to prevent oil leaks. Drip trays must be placed under each stationary equipment or vehicles to avoid soil contamination which may lead to water pollution.
- 4.9 Non-compliance with any condition of this EA or EMPr 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.
- 4.10 Should it be discovered or come to the attention of the Department that the EA has been obtained through fraud, non-disclosure of information or misrepresentation of a material fact, the Department will suspend your EA in terms of the provisions of regulation 38(1) of the EIA Regulations.
- 4.11 Only listed activities that are expressly specified in the section B that forms part of this EA may be conducted. Additional or new activities not specified herein must be applied for by the holder of the EA and authorised by the Department 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 EMPr.

- 4.12 Any changes to or deviations from the activity description set out above must be approved in writing by the competent authority before such changes or deviations may be effected. In assessing whether to grant such approval or not, the competent authority 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.
- 4.13 Rehabilitation of the disturbed surface caused by the operation at all times must comply with the conditions set in the approved EMPr. The historical liability in the mining area form part of mining right.
- 4.14 The holder of the EA must ensure that the names and contact details of the ECO is made available to the Regional Manager within 30 days of commencement. The holder of EA must also ensure that an ECO is always available on site to ensure that activities at all times comply with the issued EA and approved EMPr.
- 4.15 Adhere to the recommendations from Groundwater Assessment report and Ecological fauna and flora habitat specialist report.
- 4.16 The ECO must:
- 4.16.1 Keep and maintain a detailed incidents register (including any spillages of fuels, chemicals or any other material;
 - 4.16.2 Keep a complaint register on site indicating the complaint and how the issues were addressed, what measures were taken and what the preventative measures were implemented to avoid re-occurrence of complaints;
 - 4.16.3 Keep records relating to monitoring and auditing on site and avail them for inspection to any relevant authorised officials;
 - 4.16.4 Keep copies of all environmental reports submitted to the Department;
 - 4.16.5 Keep the records of all permits, licences and authorisations required by the operation; and
 - 4.16.6 Compile a monthly monitoring report and make it available to the Department if requested
 - 4.16.7 The duties and responsibilities of the ECO should not be seen as exempting the holder of the EA from the legal obligations in terms of the NEMA and NEMWA

- 4.17 The footprint of the activities must be limited on the areas authorised for the actual construction works and operational activities and all areas outside of the footprint must be regarded as a “no go” areas.
- 4.18 Erosion and soil loss must be prevented by minimizing the construction site exposed to surface water run-off. Where necessary erosion stabilizing action such as gabions or re-vegetation must be implemented to prevent further habitat deterioration.
- 4.19 The holder of the EA must ensure that all personnel who work with hazardous waste are trained to deal with these potential hazardous situations so as to minimise the risk involved. Records of training and verification of competence must be kept by the holder EA.
- 4.20 In order to prevent nuisance conditions, the holder of the EA must ensure that all storage skips and bins are not overfilled.
- 4.21 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.
- 4.22 The holder is responsible for ensuring compliance with the conditions EA by any person acting on his/her behalf, including an agent, servant, contractor, sub-contractor, employee, consultant or any person rendering a service to the holder of the EA.
- 4.23 A person convicted of an offence of failure to comply with compliance notice is liable to a fine not exceeding five million rand or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding 10 years or to be both such fine and such imprisonment.
- 4.24 The applicable requirements with respect to relevant legislation pertaining to occupational health and safety must be adhered to.
- 4.25 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.
- 4.26 If any soil contamination is noted during mining period of the proposed activities, the contaminated soil must be removed to a suitable waste disposal facility and the site must be rehabilitated to the satisfaction of the competent authority and Department of Water and

Sanitation. The opportunity for the on-site remediation and re-use of contaminated soil must be investigated prior to disposal and this competent authority must be informed in this regard.

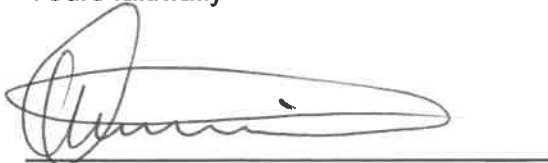
4.27 Notwithstanding the Companies Act, 2009 (Act No.71 of 2008) or the Close Corporations Act, 1984 (Act No.69 of 1984), the directors of a company or members of a close corporation are jointly and severally liable for any negative impact on the environment whether advertently or inadvertently caused by the company or close corporation which they represent including damage, degradation or pollution.

G. DISCLAIMER

The Department of Mineral Resources and Energy 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



Regional Manager: Mineral Regulation (Northern Cape Region)

Mr Ndlelenhle Zindela

DATE OF DECISION: 21/06/2022

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY:

IEA REFERENCE NUMBER:

NC30/5/1/2/2/113/113/00182 MEM

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

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

- a) The information contained in the Environmental Authorisation application form received by the competent authority on 29th April 2021, Final Scoping Report on the 14th of June 2021 and the Environmental Impact Assessment Report with Environmental Management Programme (“EMPr”)/closure plan received by the competent authority on 29th April 2022.
- b) Relevant information contained in the Departmental information base, including, the Department’s circular on the One Environmental Management System dated 8 December 2014;
- 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, meetings as included in the Scoping Report and Environmental Impact Assessment Report with EMPr;
- e) The posting the Background Information Document, Scoping Report, Environmental Impact Assessment Report with EMPr on the SLR website: (<https://slrconsulting.com/public-documents>)
- f) This application was submitted in terms of the 2017 NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (“EIA Regulations”);
- g) The sense of balance of the negative and positive impacts and proposed mitigation measures;
- h) Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) conducted on the month of November 2018 to determine if there are any archaeological and/ or Paleontological sites that may be impacted upon by the proposed mining activities (Act 25 of 1999) was incorporated in the BAR.
- i) Further specialist studies were incorporated for this application:
Biodeversity offset investigation in support of EMPr.

Heritage Report
Paleontological Report
Soil and Agricultural potential study
Surface Water study
Groudwater Report

j) No site visit was conducted.

k) The financial provision which is in line with mining activities for the rehabilitation and/ or management of negative environmental impact.

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. R326.

The PPP conducted as part of the Scoping and EIA process included:

- Notification to landowner and adjacent landowners;
- registered letters and e-mail correspondent;
- Newspaper adverted notice;
- fixing notice boards at the site, areas around the site and any alternative site where the listed activities;

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 plan 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

The proposed mining operation and current proposed site shows to have an overall medium to low negative impact on the property. The alternatives that could be explored was towards the mining related structures and processes.

No other alternatives in regard to the preferred site, activities and technology is considered as the current planning is to be best possible option at this stage to ensure minimal environmental disturbance and cost effective mining operation.

4. Impacts, assessment and mitigation measures

All the negative impacts identified and assessed shall be mitigated in accordance with the EMP mitigation measures.

5. EMA 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-

Appendix B: National Appeal Regulations, 2014 (GN R 993 of 2014) – Chapter 2

Appeal Submission

- 1) An appellant must submit the appeal to the appeal administrator, and a copy of the appeal to the applicant, any registered interested and affected party and any organ of state with interest in the matter, within 20 days from:
 - (a) the date that the notification of the decision for an application for an environmental authorisation or a waste management licence was sent to the registered interested and affected parties by the applicant; or
 - (b) the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the applicant by the competent authority, issuing authority or licensing authority, in the case of decisions other than those referred to in paragraph (a).
- 2) An appeal submission must be -
 - (a) submitted in writing in the form obtainable from the appeal administrator; and
 - (b) accompanied by -
 - (i) a statement setting out the grounds of appeal;
 - (ii) supporting documentation which is referred to in the appeal submission; and a statement, including supporting documentation, by the appellant to confirm compliance with regulation 4(1) of these Regulations.

5. Responding Statement

The applicant, the decision-maker, interested and affected parties, and organs 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.

6. Appeal Panel

- 1) If the appeal authority reasonably believes that expert advice must be sought or that an appeal panel must be appointed, the appeal administrator must source an independent expert or constitute an independent appeal panel, or both, within 10 days from the date of receipt of an instruction from the appeal authority.
- 2) The appeal panel contemplated in sub regulation (1) may consist of such number of independent experts and with such expertise as the Appeal Authority may deem necessary under the circumstances;
- 3) The expert or appeal panel must provide advice to the appeal administrator within 10 days from the receipt of an instruction from the appeal administrator.

7. Recommendations and Decisions on Appeals

- 1) The appeal administrator must make a recommendation on the appeal to the appeal authority within 30 days of receipt of the responding statement referred to in regulation 5 of these Regulations, in the event that an independent expert has not been sourced or an independent appeal panel has not been constituted.
- 2) The appeal administrator must make a recommendation on the appeal to the appeal authority within 10 days of receipt of the advice referred to in regulation 6(2) of these Regulations, in the event that an independent expert has been sourced or an independent appeal panel has been constituted.
- 3) The appeal authority must reach a decision on an appeal, and notify the appellant, applicant, and any registered interested and affected party, within 20 days of the recommendation on the appeal by the appeal administrator.
- 4) The decision contemplated in sub regulation (3) must contain written reasons for the decision.

8. Communication

- 1) A person may deliver documents in terms of these regulations by using one of the delivery methods referred to in section 47D of the Act.

2) In order to meet the time periods determined in these regulations, the person referred to in sub regulation (1), must also email, fax or hand deliver the document to the recipient, if the document is delivered by ordinary mail or registered mail.