

Project Reference: 720.18034.00020 File Ref. 2022-08-22 Rhino ER294 Well Drilling Notice

22 August 2022

Attention: Interested & Affected Party

Dear Sir/Madam,

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOR THE PROPOSED EXPLORATION WELL DRILLING WITHIN TWO TARGET AREAS IN ER 294, FREE STATE PROVINCE (12/3/318)

In 2019, the (now) Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE), through the Petroleum Agency of South African (PASA), granted Rhino Oil and Gas Exploration South Africa (ROGESA) an Exploration Right (ER) to explore for petroleum resources in an area in the Free State Province of South Africa (reference 12/3/294 (ER 294)). The ER, which was informed by an Environmental Authorisation (EA), permitted ROGESA to undertake an exploration work programme involving desktop studies and an aerial gradiometry gravity survey.

Following the successful completion of the desktop studies and aerial gradiometry gravity survey, ROGESA is proposing to advance their exploration by drilling up to 40 exploration wells within two Target Areas located in the ER. The first Target Area is located south of Petrus Steyn and the second Target Area lies south of the R34 between Kroonstad and Edenville. The specific well locations proposed by ROGESA, will be confirmed based on landowner engagement and environmental investigations (during this application process).

No hydraulic fracturing or fracking is proposed.

Prior to the commencement of the exploration drilling, ROGESA is required to obtain an amendment to ER 294 and approved Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) from the DMRE in terms of Section 102 of the Minerals and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (MPRDA).

Furthermore, an Environmental Authorisation (EA) from the DMRE in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA), for activities in Listing Notice 1 (GNR 983 of 2014, as amended) and Listing Notice 2 (GNR 985 of 2014, as amended) is also required. The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (GNR 982 of 2014, as amended) require that a Scoping and EIA process be undertaken to inform an EA decision from the DMRE.

SLR Consulting (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd are appointed as independent environmental consultants responsible for the public participation and environmental assessment processes required to inform a decision on the EA. As part of public participation process, SLR is circulating this written notice along with a background information document, erecting site notices at various public locations and publishing an advertisement in various newspapers.



SLR Consulting (South Africa) Proprietary Limited

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SLR will also be hosting information meetings, which stakeholders are invited to attend, in order that information about the project can be shared and so that SLR can receive any initial comment. Details of the information meetings are provided below:

MEETING DETAILS	
<u>WESSELSBRON</u>	<u>ODENDAALSRUS</u>
Date: Wednesday, 7 September 2022	Date: Thursday, 8 September 2022
Venue: Steynsrus Boerevereniging Hall	Venue: Edenville Boerevereniging Hall
Time: 15h00	Time: 09h00

As part of the public participation process, you are invited to register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) and to make input into the Scoping and EIA process. Further details regarding the project and the Scoping and EIA process are provided in the project background information document and on the SLR website at: https://www.slrconsulting.com/en/public-documents/Rhino-well-ER294 and on a zero-data rated website at https://www.slrpublicdocs.datafree.co/en/public-documents/Rhino-well-ER294. The background information document is also available from SLR in Afrikaans or seSotho.

To register as an I&AP, please forward your name and contact details along with any comments to SLR at:

SLR contact: Theo Wicks / Gugu Dhlamini **Email**: RhinoER294@slrconsulting.com

Tel: 011 467 0945, Fax: 011 467 0975 and/or Post: PO Box 1596, Cramerview, 2060

WhatsApp: 066 313 7574

Please also pass this document on to any other persons whom you believe may have in interest in the proposed exploration or the Scoping and EIA process right application area. We welcome any comment or questions.

Thank you in advance for your involvement.

Yours faithfully

Theo Wicks