

**THE APPLICATION FOR A MINING PERMIT,
LOCATED ON PORTION 26 OF
LANGEOPDRAVENDE NO. 1111, ESTON,
MKHAMBATHINI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY,
KWAZULU-NATAL**

Applicant: Beaumont Eston Farmers Association

**Public Information Session
Friday, 21 October 2022**

WELCOME

The purpose of this **Public Information Session** is to:

- Provide information to **Interested and Affected Parties** (I&APs) on the project;
- Describe the **Basic Assessment Process**; and
- Give **I&APs** an opportunity to **raise any additional issues** which should be addressed.

Please complete the **Attendance Register**.

PROJECT TEAM MEMBERS PRESENT

- **Mrs. Roxanne van Rooyen**
 - Green Door Environmental (Environmental Consultant)
- **Mrs. Hannah Markham**
 - Green Door Environmental (Environmental Consultant)

Please do not hesitate to ask the Project Team questions or raise any issues or concerns that you may have.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The **Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP)**, Green Door Environmental, is required to:

- Act on **behalf** of the Applicant (**not for**);
- Be **independent** with **no vested interest** in the project (financial or other);
- Have the necessary **qualifications, experience, expertise** and **knowledge** of **relevant legislation**;
- Undertake the **public participation process**;
- **Identify, assess and mitigate all impacts** (positive & negative) the project may have had on the **environment** (social, ecological and economic); and
- Produce all **information, plans** and **reports** to the **relevant authorities** timeously.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES CONT.

The Applicant, **is required to:**

- Appoint an **Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP)**;
- Be responsible for all **costs**;
- Ensure that the **EAP is independent**, i.e. has no vested interest in the outcome of the project;
- Ensure **suitability** of the EAP; and
- Ensure that the EAP **provides adequate information** to the **Competent Authority**.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES CONT.

Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs), which include authorities, interest groups, neighbouring landowners, general public, are required to:

- **Provide inputs and comments** on supplied documentation within the given timeframes;
- **State their interest** in the project (business, financial, personal or other); and
- **Contribute and participate** openly, effectively and honestly.

BACKGROUND TO THE PROJECT

The Applicant, **Beaumont Eston Farmers Association (BEFA)** wishes to **obtain Environmental Authorisation** and a **Mining Permit** to mine Bulli soil on their property.

- **Location:** Portion 25 of Langeopdravende No. 1111, Eston.
- **Property extent:** 60 hectares
- **Site extent:** 4.1 hectares
- The site is located on a field on the BEFA property.
- **Municipality** – Mkhambathini Local Municipality and uMgungundlovu District Municipality.
- BEFA sell the Bulli soil, which is predominantly used on cricket pitches.

BACKGROUND TO THE PROJECT

- The Applicant **does not mine the Bulli themselves**, but employs a company to mine the soil on their behalf.
- The mining process involves a **TLB and tip truck**.
- The Bulli mining process involves the stockpiling of the vegetation and topsoil. A depth of approximately 30cm of the subsoil is mined.
- The topsoil and vegetation are replaced and the site is allowed to **rehabilitate**, which occurs naturally.
- Approximately **150m³** of Bulli soil is mined **per year** and **10 – 30m³** is mined **at a time**.
- The mining of the Bulli is not a constant process and may occur only **once every two months**, over a period of **1 – 3 days**.

BACKGROUND TO THE PROJECT

- BEFA currently holds a **mining permit** which has since **expired**. This Mining Permit was issued in 2008 and was for the mining of Bulli on two sites located on the property.
- Both of the original mining sites were closed and rehabilitated six years ago.
- The **Mining Closure Application Process** is being conducted concurrently with the Basic Assessment Process and has already been **submitted** to the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE).

LOCALITY MAP

- **Area A (1.4ha)** – Part of the Mining Closure Application. This area has been rehabilitated.
- **Area B (3.5ha)** – Part of the Mining Closure Application. This area has been rehabilitated.
- **Area C (4.1ha)** – New proposed Mining Area.





LOCALITY MAP



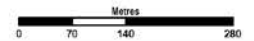
PROPOSED MINING AREA OF FARM
PORTION 26 OF LANGEOPDRACENDE
NO. 1111

Overview Map
Scale 1:6 000

Legend

-  Farm Portion 26 of Langeopdracende No. 1111
-  Area A (1.4 ha)
-  Area B (3.5 ha)
-  Area C (4.1 ha)

NOTE:



Source: Surveyor General
Aerial Imagery: 2016 (SG)
Coordinate System: WGS84 LO31



KwaZulu-Natal:
Mkhambathini Local Municipality



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Project Code	Map Code	Size	Prepared By	Date
GDE097	OM 1.0	A3	BRB	2022/06/09

LOCALITY MAP



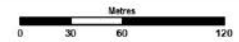
PROPOSED MINING AREA OF FARM
PORTION 28 OF LANGEOPDRACENDE
NO. 1111

Overview Map
Scale 1:2 500

Legend

- Area A (1.4 ha)
- Area B (3.5 ha)
- Area C (4.1 ha)

NOTE:



Source: Surveyor General
Aerial Imagery: 2016 (30)
Coordinate System: WGS84 LO31



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BACKGROUND OF THE PROJECT

- The development and activities trigger:
Listed NEMA **EIA activities**.
- The applicability of identified activities will be confirmed during the process.
- EIA Activities and Mining Permit will be applied for through the **Basic Assessment Process**.
- Competent Authority - KwaZulu-Natal **Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE)**.

EIA LISTED ACTIVITIES

- The proposed development triggers the following Listed Activity:

Activity No.	Legislation Extract	Comment
Government Notice Regulation No. (GNR) 327 of 2014 (Amended 2017 & 2021)		
21.	<p><i>Any activity, including the operation of that activity, which requires a mining permit in terms of Section 27 of the Minerals and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002, (Act No. 28 of 2002), including associated infrastructure, structures and earthworks directly related to the extraction of a mineral resource, including activities for which an exemption has been issued in terms of section 106 of the Minerals and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002, (Act No. 28 of 2002).</i></p>	<p>This activity is applicable, as the Applicant requires a Mining Permit to mine the Bulli Soil on the property.</p>

SPECIALIST STUDIES

In terms of **specialist input**:

- The mining footprint does **not** intersect any wetlands from the **National Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Area (NFEPA)** database or **South African Inventory of Inland Aquatic Ecosystems (SAIIAE)** database.
- The proposed site **does not** intersect any **Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBA)**.
- The site is **not** within 5km or 10km of any **Protected Areas**.
- The site **does not** intersect any **Irreplaceable Critical Biodiversity Areas** and has **little ecological value**.
- The proposed mining activities will have little to **minimal impact** on the environment.

PROGRESS TO DATE

To date the following activities have been completed for the **Basic Assessment Process**:

- **Newspaper Adverts** were placed in the Witness (English) and in the Echo (Zulu) on 11 August 2022.
- **Site posters** were placed on site on the 10 August 2022.
- Written notification in the form of a **Background Information Document (BID)** was circulated to all I&APs from 11 August 2022.

COMMENTS ON BID TO DATE

COMMENT / CONCERN	RESPONSE
<p>Any impact on the drainage line and wetland, and cumulative impacts downstream are to be assessed.</p>	<p>Noted. This will be addressed in the Basic Assessment Report.</p>
<p>Duration of the mining activities must be specified and details on the depth of removal and extent.</p>	<p>Approximately 150m³ of Bulli is mined per year and 10 – 30 m³ is mined at a time. The mining of the Bulli is not a constant process and may only occur once every two months, over a period of 1 – 3 days. The topsoil and vegetation are replaced, and the site is allowed to rehabilitate, which occurs naturally.</p>
<p>Location of the Eskom power lines in relation to the proposed mining activity.</p>	<p>Noted. The proposed mining site is not in close proximity to any Eskom Powerlines.</p>

COMMENTS ON BID TO DATE

COMMENT / CONCERN	RESPONSE
The need of a soil survey to show the extent of the Bulli soil within the entire property, which will indicate its quantity on site.	Noted. This will be addressed in the Basic Assessment Report.
The measures put in place to ensure soil is not exposed to erosion and alien vegetation.	Noted. This will be addressed in the Basic Assessment Report.

THE WAY FORWARD

- The **summary** of the **comments** received and responses provided at this Public Information Session, as well as any received after the Public Information Session, will be included and responded to **in the Draft Basic Assessment Report**.
- Following this, the **Draft Basic Assessment Report** will be **made available for comment** to all registered I&APs for a period of **30 days**.
- All **comments received** on the **draft report** will be addressed and included in the **final version** of the **Basic Assessment Report**, which will then be submitted to the DMRE.
- Once the DMRE has reached a **decision**, all **I&APs will be notified and informed of that decision**.

THANK YOU

for your attendance

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