

NAME OF APPLICANT: Nimbargo Resources Pty Ltd

REFERENCE NUMBER: GP30/5/1/1/2 (10652) PR

REPORT ON THE RESULTS OF CONSULTATION

WITH COMMUNITIES AND INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES

**AS REQUIRED IN TERMS OF SECTIONS, 16(4)(b) or 27 (5) (b) OF THE
MINERAL AND PETROLEUM RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT (ACT
28 of 2002), AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STANDARD DIRECTIVE
FOR THE COMPILATION THEREOF AS PUBLISHED ON THE OFFICIAL
WEBSITE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES.**



mineral resources

Department:
Mineral Resources
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

A. Definitions

'consultation' means a two way communication process between the applicant and the community or interested and affected party wherein the former is seeking, listening to, and considering the latter's response, which allows openness in the decision making process.

'community' means a group of historically disadvantaged persons with interest or rights in a particular area of land on which the members have or exercise communal rights in terms of an agreement, custom or law: Provided that, where as a consequence of the provisions of the Act negotiations or consultations with the community are required, the community shall include the members or part of the community, directly affected by prospecting or mining, on land occupied by such members or part of the community.

'Interested and affected' parties include, but are not limited to; –

- (i) Host Communities
- (ii) Landowners (Traditional and Title Deed owners)
- (iii) Traditional Authority
- (iv) Land Claimants
- (v) Lawful land occupier
- (vi) The Department of Land Affairs,
- (vii) Any other person (including on adjacent and non-adjacent properties) whose socio-economic conditions may be directly affected by the proposed prospecting or mining operation
- (viii) The Local Municipality,
- (ix) The relevant Government Departments, agencies and institutions responsible for the various aspects of the environment and for infrastructure which may be affected by the proposed project.

B. Report on the results of consultation

1. Methodology applied to consultation.

- 1.1. Name the community or communities identified, or explain why no such community was identified.

The proposed prospecting area falls within ward 45 of the Emfuleni Local Municipality and ward 16 of the Midvaal Local Municipality; . No formal communities have been identified.

1.2. Specifically state whether or not the Community is also the landowner.
It is understood that land is not owned by a community in the application area.

1.3. State whether or not the Department of Land Affairs been identified as an interested and affected party.

The Department of Land Affairs has been identified as an interested and affected party. Consultation was done with the department to enquire on existing land claims within the application area.

1.4. State specifically whether or not a land claim is involved.

EIMS has not yet received feedback from the Department of Land Affairs regarding and claims lodged against the properties in the application area.

1.5. Name the Traditional Authority identified

No Traditional Authority was identified however, the Gauteng Department of Cooperate Governance and Traditional Affairs have been notified of the proposed project and the availability of the BAR.

1.6. List the landowners identified by the applicant. (Traditional and Title Deed owners)

The following surrounding surface rights holders/landowners of the area under application have been identified of the proposed Prospecting Right application:

Name of Landowner	Company / Trust
Mohammed Saleem Thokan	Cartoon Inv Pty Ltd
Willem Andrie van der Westhuizen	Damfontein Five-Four_One Pty Ltd
Frederik Jacobus Wepener	Damfontein Five-Four_One Pty Ltd
William Henry Kemp De Jager	De Jager Boerdery

Happy M	Emfuleni Local Municipality
	Escom
Lanie Els	Eskom
John Flemming	Klip Industrial Park Pty Ltd
David Andrew	Klip Industrial Park Pty Ltd
Paulus Motaung Tisetso	
Willem Nicolaas Pienaar	Ocon Brick Pty Ltd
Arno Janse van Resnburg	Ocon Brick Pty Ltd
Michael John Koch	Ocon Brick Pty Ltd
Pieter Hamman	P H Hamman Boerdery Cc
Ngaka Daniel Pension	
Matilda Gasela	Provincial Government Of Gauteng
Richard	DeweyRosherville Prop Pty Ltd
Paul Faloona	Rosherville Prop Pty Ltd
Keke Mzimkhule Blekiwe	Siyahula Agricultural Farming Services CC
Sindiswa	Khoza Siyahula Agricultural Farming Services CC
Cornelia	Truter Smaldeel Trust
Nicolaas	Brits South Vereeniging Prop Pty Ltd
Annish Doorgapersad	South Vereeniging Prop Pty Ltd
	T-L-Ramovha Family Trust
Phindile Mnguni	Transnet Ltd

Weltevreden Trust

Wessel Hamman Trust

Estelle de Jager

Mohammed Ameen Saib

John Balassis

Eon Viljoen

Carel de Klerk

Mokete Motsama

Midvaal Local Municipality

1.7. List the lawful occupiers of the land concerned.

No lawful occupiers have been identified at this stage. Questionnaires were distributed to landowners requesting information regarding occupiers.

This section will be updated post site visit and review period of the BAR.

1.8. Explain whether or not other persons' (including on adjacent and non-adjacent properties) socio-economic conditions will be directly affected by the proposed prospecting or mining operation and if not, explain why not.

The proposed prospecting activity will not directly affect the socio-economic conditions. Although the proposed activity may interfere with existing landuses, this would be limited to the application areas and not the adjacent or nonadjacent properties. Furthermore the potential for migrant workers to enter the community which could potentially affect the community. Mitigation measures have also been included and further discussed in Section 21.4 of the Environmental Management Plan, which propose that further landowner interaction be undertaken prior to the actual activities being undertaken, the activities be limited to the actual prospecting areas, access to the project area be limited to the applicant and contractor and that rehabilitation be undertaken of the sites and the access roads.

1.9. Name the Local Municipality identified by the applicant

Emfuleni and Midvaal Local Municipalities.

1.10. Name the relevant Government Departments, agencies and institutions responsible for the various aspects of the environment and for infrastructure which may be affected by the proposed project.

- **Emfuleni Local Municipality;**
- **Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (GDARD)**
- **Gauteng Department of Energy and Mineral Resources (DEMRE);**
- **Gauteng Department of Health: Environmental Health;**
- **Gauteng Department of Health;**
- **Gauteng Department of Human Settlements;**
- **Gauteng Department of Social Development;**
- **Gauteng Tourism Authority**
- **Midvaal Local Municipality;**
- **National Department of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation (DHSWS);**
- **National Department of Rural Development and Land Reform;**
- **Sedibeng District Municipality; and**
- **South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA**

1.11. Submit evidence that the landowner or lawful occupier of the land in question, and any other interested and affected parties including all those listed above, were notified.

I&APs have been notified of the proposed project and the availability of the BAR for review and comment on the 5th August 2020.

Proof of delivery of notification documents will be attached in Appendix B2 of the Basic Assessment Report for submission to the DMRE.

2. Description of the existing status of the cultural, socio-economic or biophysical environment, as the case may be, prior to the proposed prospecting or mining operation.

2.1.1. Confirm that the identified and consulted interested and affected parties agree on the description of the existing status of the environment.

fI&AP registration questionnaires containing information relating to the receiving environment were provided to the identified interested and affected parties

This section will be updated post the site visit and public review period of the BAR.

2.1.2. Describe the existing status of the cultural environment that may be affected

Palaeontology

The geological map of the study area overlain on the SAHRIS palaeo-sensitivity map (Figure 19 of the BAR), indicates that the majority of the geological formations underlying the study area have a High to Very High palaeontological sensitivity (red/orange colour). This indicates that there is a Very High possibility of finding fossils in the Vryheid Formation while the possibility of finding fossils in the Malmani and Quaternary deposits is High. It is therefore recommended that a field assessment and protocol for finds is required to be undertaken.

Archaeology

There is one known formally protected archaeological site (Redan rock engraving site) located within the study area and at least one archaeological find spot that was identified in a previous study. This site should be demarcated as a “no go” area with a buffer zone of at least 200m.

The pre-mitigation Environmental Risk impact significance for the Provincial Heritage Site (Redan) is rated as High negative, and with the implementation of the required mitigation measures the post-mitigation ER impact will be Low negative. The overall Environmental significance would be Medium negative

2.1.3. Describe the existing status of any heritage environment that may be affected

Heritage

The heritage impact assessment and desktop palaeontological impact assessment identified various heritage resources within the study area, including burial grounds and graves, historical structures, palaeontological resources and archaeological resources that could be impacted during project activities.

Burial Grounds and Graves

The Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) identified six graves and burial grounds that could have been impacted due to activities associated with the drill site

establishment. Mitigation measures would include avoidance of these sites and associated buffer zones with the drill sites being moved to areas of no sensitivity.

The pre-mitigation Environmental Risk impact significance is rated as Medium negative, and with the implementation of the required mitigation measures, the post-mitigation ER impact would become Low negative. The overall Environmental significance will be Low to Medium negative

Historical Structures

The HIA study identified five sites containing historical structures within the Kookfontein study area. Mitigation measures would include avoidance of these sites with a buffer of at least 50m (especially site KF008) (Figure 18 of the BAR).

The pre-mitigation Environmental Risk impact significance is rated as Medium negative, and with the implementation of the required mitigation measures the post-mitigation ER impact will be Low. The overall Environmental significance would be Medium negatives.

2.1.4. Describe the existing status of any current land uses and the socio-economic environment that may be directly affected

Current Land Uses

The proposed properties are situated west of the R59 tar road that passes the project area from Vereeniging to Meyerton. Several farm roads and servitude gravel roads cross these properties. Existing power lines and a randwater pipeline is also situated across these properties.

The proposed properties are expected to be generally flat (refer to Figure 3 and Figure 4 of the BAR), with a few drainage lines across most of the properties. The area is predominantly characterised by intensive agriculture and grazing, agricultural smallholdings and farmsteads, with some mining activities, residential urban development and industrial development.

Socio-Economic Context

The proposed Kookfontein Prospecting Project will be situated on several farm portions as identified in Table 4. The area is located approximately 7km north of Vereeniging and 4km southwest from Meyerton. The application area falls within the Emfuleni Local Municipality (LM) as well as the Midvaal LM, within the Sedibeng District Municipality in the Gauteng Province. The prospecting area falls within ward 16 of Emfuleni LM and ward 3 of Midvaal LM within the Sedibeng District Municipality (SDM).

Emfuleni LM has the smallest land cover of all the local municipalities within the SDM with an area of 987.45 km². Emfuleni LM has two main city/town centres, namely, Vereeniging and Vanderbijlpark and forms the centre of what was formerly known as the Vaal triangle, renowned for its contribution to the iron and steel industry in South Africa. Emfuleni LM also contains six large peri-urban townships namely Evaton, Waldrift, Rust-ter-Vaal, Roshness and Deonairpark.

According to Census 2011, the Emfuleni LM has a total population of 721 663 people, of which 85.4% are black African, 12% are white, 1.2 % are coloured and 1% are Indian/Asian. Other groups make up 0,4% of the population. The education levels in the LM are low. Of those aged 20 years and older, 36.7% have some secondary schooling, 3.6% have completed primary schooling, 32.4 % completed Grade 12/matric, 12.9% have some higher education, and 4 % of have no schooling.

The main economic activity within the Emfuleni LM is manufacturing. Manufacturing contributes 36.5 % of the municipalities gross value add (GVA, approximately R16.9 billion) and 87% of the SDM total manufacturing output. Of the 202 543 economically active people (employed and unemployed but looking for work), 34.7% (107 555) are unemployed. 20145 people are classified as discouraged work-seekers. Of the 85 594 economically active youth (aged 15 – 35), 45% are unemployed.

There are 220 135 households in the municipality, with an average household size of 3,1 persons per household. Of the households in the municipality, 69.9% have access to piped (tap) water inside the dwelling/institution, 88.2% have a flush toilet connected to sewage systems, 89.8% have weekly refuse removal and 92.2% have electricity for lighting.

The Census 2011 shows that there is a broad distribution of incomes across households in the Emfuleni LM with the largest portion, 16.4% of households earning between R19 601 – R38 200 per annum. Approximately, 14.5% of all households earn no income.

Midvaal Local Municipality (LM) is an administrative area in the SDM. The LM is the largest of the 3 municipalities in the SDM covering an area of 1 722 km². The Midvaal LM consists of predominantly rural area with extensive farming constituting approximately 50% of the total area.

According to the Midvaal IDP, the Midvaal LM has a total population of 95301 people, of which 58.5% are black African, 39.1% are white, 1.6 % are coloured and 0.8% are Indian/Asian. The education levels in the LM are low. Of the total LM population, 34.40% have some secondary schooling, 3.80% have completed primary schooling, 32.3 % completed Grade 12/matric, 15.3% have some higher education, and 5.2% of have no schooling.

The main economic activities within the LM are manufacturing, finance, government, community and social services and wholesale and retail trade. Of the LM economic activities manufacturing contributes 27.6 %, finance contributes 24.1%, government, community and social services contributes 23.6% and wholesale and retail trade contribute 15.1%. Cumulatively, these activities contribute to 90.4% to the local economy. Of the 45956 economically active people (employed and unemployed but looking for work), 18.8% (8620) are unemployed. 1939 people are classified as discouraged work-seekers.

There are 29 965 households in the municipality, with an average household size of 3,05 persons per household. Of the households in the municipality, 64.9% have access to piped (tap) water inside the dwelling/institution, 58% have a flush toilet connected to sewage systems, 82.1% have weekly refuse removal and 79.3% have electricity for lighting.

The Demacon Midvaal Economic Analysis (2015) shows that there is a broad distribution of incomes across households in the Midvaal LM with the largest portion, 16.5%, of households earning between R21 350- R42 698 per annum. Approximately, 13.9% of all households earn no income. Consultation with the community and landowners will be conducted in order to capture any comments or concerns regarding the proposed activities and to ensure the community and landowners are kept informed and allowed to raise issues. The concerns raised will be included in the final BAR

2.1.5. Describe the existing status of any infrastructure that may be affected.

The most notable infrastructure located within the application area includes the following:

- Households;
- Industries;
- Mining areas;
- Power Lines;
- Randwater Pipeline;
- A Landfill;
- Roads; and
- Waste Treatment Works;

2.1.6. Describe the existing status of the biophysical environment that will be affected, including the main aspects such as water resources, flora, fauna, air, soil, topography etc.

1. Topography

The prospecting area covers various farm portions, over an area of approximately 2949.7522 Ha. Topographically, the prospecting area ranges in altitudes from approximately 1454m amsl to 1525m amsl. This is predominantly due to existing mining operations in the area. The area is also characterised by extensive agricultural areas from the west to east. As can be seen in Figure 3 of the BAR , the average elevation from the most northern point to the most south point of the project area is approximately 1477 m amsl and the average slope is 3.3%. Figure 4 of the BAR shows that the average elevation from the most western point to the most eastern point of the project area is 1483m amsl and the average slope is 1%.

2. Climate

The climate is warm and temperate in Vereeniging. In winter, there is much less rainfall in Vereeniging than in summer. This location is classified as Cwb by Köppen and Geiger. The average annual temperature is 16.5 °C. annual rainfall is approximately 659 mm per year. The least amount of rainfall occurs in August with an average of approximately 6 mm. In January, the precipitation reaches its peak, with an average of 110 mm. The temperatures are highest on average in January, at around 21.7°C. At 9.0°C on average, July is the coldest month of the year. (en.climate-data.org, 2020).

3. Geology and Soils

The geology of the proposed Kookfontein study area is primarily underlain by the Vryheid Formation (Ecca Group, Undifferentiated Karoo), Precambrian dolomites and associated marine sedimentary rocks that are allocated to the Malmani Subgroup (Chuniespoort Group, Transvaal Supergroup), as well as Quaternary superficial deposits. According to the PalaeoMap on the SAHRIS database, the Palaeontological Sensitivity of the Vryheid Formation (Ecca Group, Undifferentiated Karoo) is Very High, while that of the Malmani Subgroup and Quaternary deposits are both High (Almond and Pether 2008, SAHRIS website). Groenewald and Groenewald (2014) allocated a High Sensitivity to the Malmani Subgroup as they noted that, in addition to the stromatolites, potentially fossiliferous Late Caenozoic Cave breccias within the “Transvaal dolomite” outcrop area could be present. These breccias are not individually mapped on geological maps (Butler, 2020).

Soil sampling during the site visit revealed mainly dark orthic topsoils underlain by a G-horizon which were classified as a Katspruit soil form, although some areas contained a more gritty, sandy substrate which was classified as a Kroonstad soil form. Descriptions of these dominant soil forms are shown in Figure 6 of the BAR.

4. Hydrogeology

No detailed hydrogeology study has been undertaken as part of this application due to the low impact the proposed prospecting drilling (20m deep) will have on the groundwater. No abstraction of groundwater is included in this application and no pollution of the groundwater is foreseen due to the prospecting activities.

5. Land cover

As illustrated in Figure 7 of the BAR, the application area is mostly cultivated land with areas of grassland, forested land, wetlands and mines and quarries. Patches of mines and quarry areas can be found on the northern and central portion of the application area. Grassland is present in patches across the Kookfontein project area, predominately in the northern and southern area

6. Ecosystem Protection Level and Threat Status

The Soweto Highveld Grassland vegetation type is found in Mpumalanga, Gauteng and to a little extent also in neighbouring Free State and North-West Provinces.

This vegetation type typically comprises of an undulating landscape on the Highveld plateau supporting short to medium-high, dense, tufted grassland dominated almost entirely by *Themeda triandra* and accompanied by a variety of other grasses such as *Elionurus muticus*, *Eragrostis racemosa*, *Heteropogon contortus* and *Tristachya leucothrix*. Scattered small wetlands, narrow stream alluvia, pans and occasional ridges or rocky outcrops interrupt the continuous grassland cover (Mucina & Rutherford, 2006).

Ecosystem protection level tells us whether ecosystems are adequately protected or under-protected. Ecosystem types are categorised as not protected, poorly protected, moderately protected or well protected, based on the proportion of each ecosystem type that occurs within a protected area recognised in the Protected Areas Act (Skowno et al., 2019).

According to Mucina and Rutherford (2006), the Soweto Highveld Grassland vegetation type is classified as Endangered (EN). The national target for conservation protection for this vegetation type is 24% (Figure 8 of the BAR), but only a few areas are statutorily conserved (52.7%) in Waldrift, Krugersdorp, Leeuwkuil, Suikerbosrand, Rolfe's Pan Nature Reserves or privately conserved in Johanna Jacobs, Tweefontein, Gert Jacobs, Nikolaas and Avalon Nature Reserves and the Heidelberg Natural Heritage Site.

The proposed prospecting area was superimposed on the ecosystem protection level map for this type of vegetation to assess the protection status of terrestrial ecosystems associated with the development (Figure 9 of the BAR). Based on Figure 9 the terrestrial ecosystems associated with the proposed prospecting area are rated as not protected for the entire project area. This means that these ecosystems are considered not to be adequately protected in areas such as national parks or other formally protected areas.

Ecosystem threat status outlines the degree to which ecosystems are still intact or alternatively losing vital aspects of their structure, function and composition,

on which their ability to provide ecosystem services ultimately depends (Skowno et al., 2019). Ecosystem types are categorised as Critically Endangered (CR), Endangered (EN), Vulnerable (VU) or Least Threatened (LT), based on the proportion of each ecosystem type that remains in good ecological condition (Skowno et al., 2019).

The project area was superimposed on the terrestrial ecosystem threat status. As seen in Figure 10 of the BAR, the project area is situated within an ecosystem that are listed as VU

7. Terrestrial Ecosystems

The project area is situated within the grassland biome. This biome is centrally located in southern Africa, and adjoins all except the desert, fynbos and succulent Karoo biomes (Mucina & Rutherford, 2006). The grassland biome comprises many different vegetation types. The project area is situated within the Soweto Highveld Grassland vegetation type according to Mucina & Rutherford (Figure 11 of the BAR). Based on the Plants of Southern Africa (BODATSA-POSA, 2019) database, 361 plant species have the potential to occur in the project area and its surroundings. Of the 361-plant species, two (2) species is listed as being species of conservation concern (SCC). This species is *Gnaphalium nelsonii* and *Lithops lesliei* subsp. *lesliei*. They are described in Section 9.7 of the Ecological Specialist Report (Appendix E: Specialist Reports).

8. Gauteng Conservation Plan (Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs))

The Gauteng Conservation Plan (Version 3.3) (GDARD, 2014b) classified areas within the province on the basis of its contribution to reach the conservation targets within the province. These areas are classified as Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs) and Ecological Support Areas (ESAs) to ensure sustainability in the long term. The CBAs are classified as either 'Irreplaceable' (must be conserved), or 'Important'.

Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs) are terrestrial and aquatic areas of the landscape that need to be maintained in a natural or near-natural state to ensure the continued existence and functioning of species and ecosystems and the delivery of associated ecosystem services. If these areas are not maintained in a natural or near natural state then biodiversity targets cannot be met.

The project area falls across both a CBA: Important and an ESA classified area (Figure 12 of the BAR). The remaining sections of this project are "unclassified"

9. Mining and Biodiversity Guidelines

Portions in the north and central part of the project area is classified as "highest biodiversity importance" with associated highest risks for mining. The central part of the project area is classified as "moderate biodiversity importance" with its associated moderate risk for mining

10. Vegetation Assessment

The vegetation assessment was conducted throughout the extent of the project area. A total of 107 tree, shrub and herbaceous plant species were recorded in the project area during the field assessment. Some of the plant species recorded can be seen in Figure 14 of the BAR.

Several individuals of three protected plant species within Gauteng (*Boophone disticha*, *Crinum bulbispermum* and *Hypoxis hemerocallidea*) were observed and marked during the field survey, and their locations mapped can be seen in Figure 15 of the BAR. These plants are protected due to them being collected for their medicinal values and has led to a decrease in their numbers. Protected plant species can either be relocated in situ (preferred option) or a permit to destroy can be obtained

Twenty (20) alien and/or invasive plants were recorded during the field survey within the project area. It is recommended that an Alien Plant Species Management Plan be implemented within the project areas in order to prevent the prospecting activities and movement exacerbating the infestation.

11. Fauna

Based on the South African Bird Atlas Project, Version 2 (SABAP2) database, 273 bird species have the potential to occur in the vicinity of the project area. The full list of potential bird species is provided in Appendix E.

Of the potential bird species, twelve (12) species are listed as SCC either on a regional or global scale.

Important Bird & Biodiversity Areas (IBAs) are sites of international significance for the conservation of the world's birds and other conservation significant species as identified by Birdlife International. These sites are also all Key Biodiversity Areas; sites that contribute significantly to the global persistence of biodiversity (Birdlife, 2017). The project area is approximately 9.8km away from the Suikerbosrand Nature Reserve IBA and therefore no IBAs will be affected by this prospecting right application.

The IUCN Red List Spatial Data (IUCN, 2017) lists 79 mammal species that could be expected to occur within the project area. Of these species, 11 are medium to large conservation dependant species, such *Ceratotherium simum* (Southern White Rhinoceros) and *Tragelaphus oryx* (Common Eland) that, in South Africa, are generally restricted to protected areas such as game reserves. These species are not expected to occur in the project area and are removed from the expected SCC list. They are however still included in the expected species list (Appendix E) Of the remaining 79 mammal species, 68 are considered small to medium sized, fourteen (14) (20.5%) are listed as being of conservation concern on a regional or global basis.

Based on the IUCN Red List Spatial Data (IUCN, 2017) and the Reptile Map database provided by the Animal Demography Unit (ADU, 2019) 57 reptile species have the potential to occur in the project area (Appendix E). One of the species are a SCC (IUCN, 2017) however there are no recorded instances of the Nile Crocodile occurring in this area.

Based on the IUCN Red List Spatial Data (IUCN, 2017) and the Amphibian Map database provided by the Animal Demography Unit (ADU, 2019) 21 amphibian species have the potential to occur in the project area (Appendix E). No amphibian SCCs are expected to occur in the project area.

12. Watercourse

This spatial dataset used to determine watercourses on site is part of the South African Inventory of Inland Aquatic Ecosystems (SAIIAE) which was released as part of the National Biodiversity Assessment (NBA) 2018. National Wetland Map 5 includes inland wetlands and estuaries, associated with river line data and many other data sets within the South African Inventory of Inland Aquatic Ecosystems (SAIIAE) 2018.

Ecosystem threat status (ETS) of river ecosystem types is based on the extent to which each river ecosystem type had been altered from its natural condition. Ecosystem types are categorised as Critically Endangered (CR), Endangered (EN), Vulnerable (VU) or Least concern (LC), with CR, EN and VU ecosystem types collectively referred to as 'threatened' (Van Deventer et al., 2019; Skowno et al., 2019).

Some the delineated wetlands are characterised by artificial water inputs, which provides difficulties in identifying hydromorphic soils. Due to the extent of agricultural activities in the area, compounded by efforts to divert and drain areas the key consideration was in situ wetland identification and assessment. o The project area overlaps with two freshwater ecosystem priority areas (FEPA) wetlands and no FEPA rivers can be found in close proximately to the project area.

Figure 16 of the BAR shows that a not protected wetland and a poorly protected wetland can be found in the project area. Both a protected and a poorly protected river can also be found in the project area. Figure 17of the BAR shows that these wetlands are CR and LC respectively while the river has an ecosystem threat status of CR.

Please consult Section 6.4.2 of the Basic Assessment Report.

2.1.7. Provide any relevant additional information.

Copies of the I& AP registration questionnaires completed and correspondence from interested and affected parties will be included in Appendix B4 of the Comments and Response Report.

This section will be updated post the review period of the BAR.

3. The anticipated environmental, social or cultural impacts identified.

3.1. Confirm that the community and identified interested and affected parties have been consulted and that they agree that the potential impacts identified include those identified by them.

3.1.1. Provide a list and description of potential impacts identified on the cultural environment.

**Impact on archaeological resources; and
Impact on palaeontological resources.**

3.1.2. Provide a list and description of potential impacts identified on the heritage environment, if applicable.

**Impact on potential burial grounds and graves; and
Impact on structures older than 60 years (heritage structures).**

3.1.3. Provide a list and description of potential impacts identified on the socio-economic conditions of any person on the property and on any adjacent or non adjacent property who may be affected by the proposed prospecting or mining operation.

**Noise;
Deterioration and damage to existing access roads and tracks;
Safety and security risks to landowners and lawful occupiers;
Interference with existing land uses; and
Generation and disposal of waste.**

3.1.4. Provide a list and description of potential impacts (positive & negative) identified on: employment opportunities, community health, community proximity.

**Job Creation;
Impact on identified heritage sites;
Safety and security risks to landowners and lawful occupiers;
Interference with existing land uses;
Generation and disposal of waste;**

3.1.5. Provide a list and description of potential impacts identified on the biophysical environment including but not be limited to impacts on: flora, fauna, water resources, air, noise, soil etc.

Temporary disturbance of wildlife due to increased human presence and possible use of machinery and/or vehicles;

Destruction of, and fragmentation of, portions of the vegetation community;
Irreplaceable loss of resources;
Loss of CBA and ESA and sections of area classed as moderate and highest biodiversity importance;
Introduction of alien species, especially plants;
Erosion due to storm water runoff and wind;
Displacement of faunal community due to habitat loss, direct mortalities and disturbance (road collisions, noise, light, dust, rock chips, vibration and poaching);
Potential leaks, discharges, pollutant from drilling machines and storage leaching into the surrounding environment;
Continued encroachment of an indigenous and EN vegetation community by alien invasive plant species as well as erosion due to disturbed soils;
Continued displacement and fragmentation of the faunal community (including threatened or protected species) due to ongoing anthropogenic disturbances (noise, dust and vibrations) and habitat degradation/loss (litter, road mortalities and/or poaching);
Loss of indigenous vegetation;
Impact on potential burial grounds and graves;
Impact on structures older than 60 years (heritage structures);
Impact on archaeological resources;
Impact on palaeontological resources;
Noise;
Pollution of Soils;
Air Quality;
Deterioration and damage to existing access roads and tracks; and
Erosion due to improper rehabilitation.

3.1.6. Provide a description of potential cumulative impacts that the proposed operation may contribute to considering other identified land uses which may have potential environmental linkages to the land concerned.

Clearance of vegetation may take many years to re-establish after rehabilitation has taken place. The interference of the proposed activity with existing land uses may affect the livelihood of the farmers within the application areas.

4. Land use or development alternatives, alternative means of carrying out the proposed operation, and the consequences of not proceeding with the proposed operation.

4.1. Provide a list of and describe any alternative land uses that exist on the property or on adjacent or non-adjacent properties that may be affected by the proposed mining operation.

The proposed properties are situated west of the R59 tar road that passes the project area from Vereeniging to Meyerton. Several farm roads and servitude gravel roads cross these properties. Existing power lines and a randwater pipeline is also situated across these properties.

The proposed properties are expected to be generally flat (refer to Figure 3 and Figure 4), with a few drainage lines across most of the properties. The area is predominantly characterised by intensive agriculture and grazing, agricultural smallholdings and farmsteads, with some mining activities, residential urban development and industrial development..

- 4.2. Provide a list of and describe any land developments identified by the community or interested and affected parties that are in progress and which may be affected by the proposed mining operation.

The proposed project is for prospecting activities.

No land developments have been identified at this stage. This section will be updated post the review period of the BAR.

- 4.3. Provide a list of and describe any proposals made in the consultation process to adjust the operational plans of the mine to accommodate the needs of the community, landowners and interested and affected parties.

The proposed project is for prospecting activities.

No land developments have been identified at this stage. This section will be updated post the review period of the BAR..

- 4.4. Provide information in relation to the consequences of not proceeding with proposed operation

If the prospecting right is not granted, the potential to identify viable mineral resources could be lost. Historical prospecting and mining activities have taken place in the vicinity of the proposed prospecting right area and as such the proposed prospecting activities represent a continuation of surrounding land uses. . The negative impacts likely to occur as a result of the prospecting work are anticipated to be of low significance.

5. Description of the process of engagement referred to in 3.2.1 and 3.2.2 above with identified communities, landowners and interested and affected parties.

- 5.1. Provide a description of the information provided to the community, landowners, and interested and affected parties to inform them in sufficient detail of what the prospecting or mining operation will entail on the land, in order for them to assess what impact the prospecting will have on them or on the use of their land;

Notification documents sent to all pre-identified I&AP's included the following information:

- **The site plan;**
- **List of activities to be authorised;**
- **Typical impacts of activities to be authorised;**
- **The duration of the activity;**
- **Sufficient detail of the intended operation to enable them to assess what impact the activities will have on them or on the use of their land;**
- **The purpose of the proposed project;**
- **The prospecting methods to be used;**
- **Details of the affected properties (including parent farm and portion);**
- **Details of the MPRDA and NEMA Regulations that must be adhered to;**
- **The minerals being prospected for;**
- **The information contained in the BAR and EMPR;**
- **Date by which comment, concerns and objections must be forwarded through to EIMS; and**
- **Contact details of the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP).**

In addition, a questionnaire was included in the registered letters, emails and facsimiles sent and requested the following information from I&AP's:

- **To provide information on how they consider that the proposed activities will impact on them or their socio-economic conditions;**
- **To provide written responses stating their suggestions to mitigate the anticipated impacts of each activity;**
- **To provide information on current land uses and their location within the area under consideration;**
- **To provide information on the location of environmental features on site, to make written proposals as to how and to what standard the impacts on site can be remedied.**
- **To mitigate the potential impacts on their socio-economic conditions to make proposals as to how the potential impacts on their infrastructure can be managed, avoided or remedied;**

- **Details of the landowner and information on lawful occupiers;**
- **Details of any communities existing within the area;**
- **Details of any Tribal Authorities within the area;**
- **Details of any other I&AP's that need to be notified;**
- **Details on any land developments proposed;**
- **Details of any perceived impacts to the environment that should be considered in the BAR; and**
- **Any specific comments, concerns or objections to the proposed prospecting operation.**

5.2. Provide a list of which of the identified communities, landowners, lawful occupiers, and other interested and affected parties were in fact consulted.

The following authorities have been identified and notified of the proposed:

**Agricultural Research Council;
 Endangered Wildlife Trust;
 Eskom Holdings (SOC) Limited;
 Randwater
 South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI);
 South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA);
 South African National Roads Agency Limited (SANRAL); and
 Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA).**

The following surrounding surface rights holders/ landowners of the area under application have been identified and notified of the proposed Prospecting Right application:

**Actop Asphalt Pty Ltd;
 Blokbles Inv Pty Ltd
 Cape Gate Pty Ltd
 Carel de Klerk
 Cartoon Investment Pty Ltd;
 Chris and Marjorie Pieters Familie Trust;
 Daily Maid Cleaning Services Pty Ltd;
 Damfontein Five-Four One Pty Ltd;
 De Jager Boerdery;
 Donald McKay;**

Dumisani Mazinyane;
Edward Vivian Venter;
Eon Viljoen;
Estelle de Jager;
ETS Emergency Training Solutions;
Fred Johannes Weber;
Gerhardus Josiah Goss;
Gert and Ms Susara van der Walt;
Humrec-Human Resource Training Centre;
Iketsetseng Agricultural Development Trust;
John Balassis;
Klip Industrial Park Pty Ltd;
Koola, and Zainab Hussain;
Locker Davies Prop Development cc;
Lodiwikus van Rensburg;
Lucky Zondo;
Marxville Brahaman Stoetplaas Pty Ltd;
Meropa Trust;
Mohammed Ammen Saib
Nienaber Family Trust;
Ocon Brick Pty Ltd;
Paulus Tieseto;
Petrus Gerhardus Pieters;
Ptyprops 171 Pty Ltd;
Rosherville Prop Pty Ltd;
Samancor Manganese Pty Ltd;
Siyahula Agricultural Farming Services cc;
Smakeiso Maziyane;
Smaldeel Trust;
South Vereeniging Prop Pty Ltd;
The Republic of South Africa;
T-L Ramovha Family Trust;
Transnet Pty Ltd;
Tutu Nicholas Mlungwana;
Walkerville Hardware cc;
Weltevreden Trust;
Wessel Hamman Trust;
Zink Inv. 26 Private Co Lt

The I&AP database is included in Appendix B1

5.3. Provide a list of their views raised in regard to the existing cultural, socio-economic or biophysical environment, as the case may be.

No comments have been received from I&APs at this stage.

This section will be updated post the review and comment period of the BAR,

5.4. Provide a list of their views raised on how their existing cultural, socio-economic or biophysical environment potentially will be impacted on by the proposed prospecting or mining operation.

No comments have been received from I&APs at this stage.

This section will be updated post the review and comment period of the BAR,

5.5. Provide list of any other concerns raised by the aforesaid parties.

No comments have been received from I&APs at this stage.

This section will be updated post the review and comment period of the BAR,

5.6. Provide the applicable minutes and records of the consultations as appendices.

This section will be updated post the review and comment period of the BAR,

5.7. Provide information with regard to any objections received.

No objections have been received to date.

6. Describe the most appropriate means to carry out the proposed operation with due accommodation of the issues raised in the consultation process.

This section will be updated post the review and comment period of the BAR

C. IDENTIFICATION OF THE REPORT

The report on the results of consultation must, at the end of the report include a certificate of identification as follows;

Herewith I, the person whose name and identity number is stated below, confirm that I am the person authorised to act as representative of the applicant in terms of the resolution submitted with the application, and confirm that the above report comprises the results of consultation as contemplated in Section 16 (4) (b) or 27 (5) (b) of the Act, as the case may be.	
Full Names and Surname	Cheyenne Muthukarapan
Identity Number	9201030167089

- END -