

Qaphela Magaqa

From: Qaphela Magaqa
Sent: Tuesday, 06 December 2022 08:27
To: nrstat@nra.co.za
Cc: Ria Barkhuizen (NR)
Subject: 1542 - Harmony Mispah Pipeline: Initial Call to Register
Attachments: Harmony TFS Reclamation and pipelines.kmz; 1542_Locality Map.jpg

Good morning Ria,

Please find attached map and kmz file, as per your request below.

Should you have any comments and/or queries, please feel free to contact EIMS.

Regards,

QAPHELA MAGAQA



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F +27 86 571 9047
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W www.eims.co.za

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PO Box 2083, Pinegowrie, 2123,
ZA

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From: Ria Barkhuizen (NR) <Barkhuizenr@nra.co.za>
Sent: Tuesday, 29 November 2022 10:32
To: 1542 Harmony Mispah Pipeline Project <mispah@eims.co.za>
Subject: RE: 1542 - Harmony Mispah Pipeline: Initial Call to Register

Good day

Please supply SANRAL with an A4 locality map as well as GPS co-ordinates pertaining to your application. Maps and GPS co-ordinates together with the whole application can be emailed to nrstat@nra.co.za

Kind regards
Ria

Qaphela Magaqa

From: Livhuwani Ndou Transnet Freight Rail JHB <Livhuwani.Ndou@transnet.net>
Sent: Sunday, 27 November 2022 10:35
To: Zanele Manyathi Transnet Freight Rail JHB
Cc: 1542 Harmony Mispah Pipeline Project
Subject: FW: 1542 - Harmony Mispah Pipeline: Initial Call to Register
Attachments: 1542_Initial Notification_JvW.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Zanele

For consideration.

NB: Qaphela, please communicate Ms. Zanele Manyathi on the matter in future.

Kind regards

Ndou

From: 1542 Harmony Mispah Pipeline Project <mispah@eims.co.za>
Sent: Wednesday, November 23, 2022 11:51 AM
To: 1542 Harmony Mispah Pipeline Project <mispah@eims.co.za>
Subject: 1542 - Harmony Mispah Pipeline: Initial Call to Register

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Dear Interested and Affected Party,

Please find attached notification regarding opportunity to participate in the Environmental Authorisation process for the proposed Mispah TSF Reclamation Pipelines project, across the City of Matlosana and Moqhaka Municipalities, North West and Free State Provinces, South Africa.

Should you have any comments and/or queries, please feel free to contact EIMS.

Kind Regards,

QAPHELA MAGAQA



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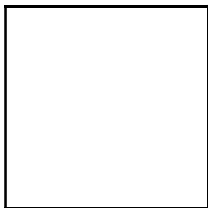
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Qaphela Magaqa

From: 1542 Harmony Mispah Pipeline Project
Sent: Friday, 25 November 2022 09:29
To: Thami Hadebe Transnet Pipelines DBN
Subject: RE: 1542 - Harmony Mispah Pipeline: Initial Call to Register

Greetings Mr MT Hadebe,

Thank you for your correspondence.

EIMS acknowledges receipt of the comment below from Transnet.

Should you have any further comment and/or queries, please feel free to contact EIMS.

Regards,

QAPHELA MAGAQA



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From: Thami Hadebe Transnet Pipelines DBN <Thami.Hadebe@transnet.net>
Sent: Friday, 25 November 2022 09:11
To: 1542 Harmony Mispah Pipeline Project <mispah@eims.co.za>
Subject: RE: 1542 - Harmony Mispah Pipeline: Initial Call to Register

Dear Mr Magaqa

Your wayleave application with project reference 1542/QM/jp dated 24 November 2022 has reference.

Transnet Pipelines, a division of Transnet SOC Limited, is not affected by the proposal.

Your awareness of the existence of Transnet's pipeline servitudes and concern for their integrity is highly appreciated.

This authorisation shall be valid for 48 months from the date - 25 November 2022.

Yours Sincerely
Mr MT (Thami) Hadebe
Tel: 031 – 361 1454



TRANSNET HAS A 'ZERO GIFTS' POLICY. NO EMPLOYEE IS ALLOWED TO ACCEPT GIFTS, FAVOURS OR BENEFITS

From: Jeffrey Madingani <Jeffrey.Madingani@transnet.net>
Sent: Thursday, 24 November 2022 2:30 PM
To: Muzi Zulu Transnet Pipelines DBN <Muzi.Zulu@transnet.net>
Cc: Thami Hadebe Transnet Pipelines DBN <Thami.Hadebe@transnet.net>
Subject: FW: 1542 - Harmony Mispah Pipeline: Initial Call to Register



Afternoon Sir



The attached refers. Please check if the proposed project route will not encroach into TPL servitude and provide comments. I guess that's what they are looking for from TPL.

Regards



Jeffrey Musa Madingani
Environmental Specialist
Suite 428A, Transnet Pipelines Building, 202 Anton Lembede (Smith) Street, Durban

 0313611198
 031 3611346

 0810350061
 jeffrey.madingani@transnet.net

From: Muzi Zulu Transnet Pipelines DBN <Muzi.Zulu@transnet.net>
Sent: Thursday, 24 November 2022 2:25 PM
To: Jeffrey Madingani <Jeffrey.Madingani@transnet.net>
Cc: Thami Hadebe Transnet Pipelines DBN <Thami.Hadebe@transnet.net>
Subject: FW: 1542 - Harmony Mispah Pipeline: Initial Call to Register

Hi Jeffrey

Your assistance please

Regards
Muzi

From: Saret Knoetze Transnet Pipelines DBN <Saret.Knoetze@transnet.net>
Sent: Thursday, 24 November 2022 14:21
To: Muzi Zulu Transnet Pipelines DBN <Muzi.Zulu@transnet.net>
Subject: FW: 1542 - Harmony Mispah Pipeline: Initial Call to Register

Dear Team

For your info please

Saret

From: 1542 Harmony Mispah Pipeline Project <mispah@eims.co.za>
Sent: Wednesday, 23 November 2022 11:51 AM
To: 1542 Harmony Mispah Pipeline Project <mispah@eims.co.za>
Subject: 1542 - Harmony Mispah Pipeline: Initial Call to Register

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Dear Interested and Affected Party,

Please find attached notification regarding opportunity to participate in the Environmental Authorisation process for the proposed Mispah TSF Reclamation Pipelines project, across the City of Matlosana and Moqhaka Municipalities, North West and Free State Provinces, South Africa.

Should you have any comments and/or queries, please feel free to contact EIMS.

Kind Regards,

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Qaphela Magaqa

From: Mashudu Mudau <MaMudau@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Wednesday, 05 April 2023 14:59
To: 1542 Harmony Mispah Pipeline Project
Cc: Portia Makitla
Subject: COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE MINE WASTE SOLUTIONS: MISPAH TSF RECLAMATION AND ASSOCIATED PIPELINES, WITHIN THE FEZILE DABI DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY IN THE FREE STATE PROVINCE AND SOUTHERN DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY IN
Attachments: Mispah TSF DBAR Comments.pdf

Good day Qaphela.

Kindly find attached comments for the aforementioned project.

*Regards,
Mashudu Mudau*

Biodiversity Mainstreaming & EIA
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Environment House
473 Steve Biko and Soutpansberg Streets
PRETORIA
Tel: (012) 399 9945
Cell: 076 166 8307
E-mail: mamudau@dffe.gov.za





forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447, Pretoria, 0001, Environment House, 473 Steve Biko Road, Pretoria, Tel: +27 12 399 9000, Fax: +27 86 625 1042

Reference: Mispah TSF Reclamation

Enquiries: Ms. Mashudu Mudau/ Ms. Portia Makitla

Telephone: 012 399 9411/9945 **E-mail:** pmakitla@dfre.gov.za

Mr. Qaphela Magaqa
Environmental Impact Management Services
P.O. Box 2083,
PINEGOWRIE
2123

Telephone Number: +27 (11) 789 7170
Email Address: mispah@eims.co.za

PER E-MAIL

Dear Mr. Qaphela Magaqa

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE MINE WASTE SOLUTIONS: MISPAH TSF RECLAMATION AND ASSOCIATED PIPELINES, WITHIN THE FEZILE DABI DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY IN THE FREE STATE PROVINCE AND SOUTHERN DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY IN THE NORTH-WEST PROVINCE

The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation has reviewed and evaluated the reports.

According to the information provided in the report, a large portion of the proposed area falls within Ecological Support Area 1 (ESA 1), with a small portion classified as Critical Biodiversity Area 1 (CBA 1). It is noted that the area is heavily modified due to the mining activities, the existing pipelines and the associated infrastructure within the site.

Due to the above the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation does not have objections to the proposed project, however the recommendation made by the terrestrial specialist that the western portion of the project area, where the pipeline near Harmony Moab, should only be laid down along the existing road in a 'Medium' or 'Low' sensitivity habitat, must be adhered to. It is also recommended that this 'High' sensitivity area be classified as a 'No-Go Area' in order to maintain the level of habitat integrity and it must also be noted that the Vaal River is an inherently a sensitive habitat due to the nature of rivers and must be treated accordingly.

Furthermore, according to the protected area spatial datasets from SAPAD (2022) and SACAD (2022), the project area overlaps with the Mispah Game Farm, which is a protected area, therefore kindly liaise with Directorate: Protected Area at TNethononda@dfre.gov.za for the attention of Mr. T Nethononda.

The Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA for review and queries should be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation at Email; BCAdmin@dfre.gov.za for the attention of Mr. Seoka Lekota.

Yours faithfully

Mr. Seoka Lekota
Control Biodiversity Officer Grade B: Biodiversity Conservation
Department of Forestry, Fisheries & the Environment
Date: 05/04/2023



Lucien James

From: Onalenna Mokoena Transnet Freight Rail Johannesburg
<Onalenna.Mokoena@transnet.net>
Sent: Tuesday, 02 May 2023 11:48
To: 1542 Harmony Mispah Pipeline Project
Cc: Suzan Aidelomo Transnet Freight Rail JHB
Subject: Proposed Mispah TSF Reclamation Pipeline Project

Greetings

I hope this email finds you well. I just want to find out if will the proposed Mispah TSF Reclamation Pipeline project affect Transnet's Railway line.

Regards

Onalenna Mokoena



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Lucien James

From: Lucien James
Sent: Friday, 12 May 2023 07:54
To: 'Onalenna.Mokoena@transnet.net'
Cc: 'Suzan.Aidelomo@transnet.net'; John Von Mayer
Subject: Proposed Mispah TSF Reclamation Pipeline Project
Attachments: Map.kmz

Dear I&AP,

Thank you for your message in relation to the proposed Mispah TSF Pipeline project. I have attached a KML file for your interest which illustrates the footprint of the project. The file also includes other features which might be of interest. As observable, the footprint of the project does not interact with any railway infrastructure. Should you have any other concerns or any further questions, please feel free to let me know.

KIND REGARDS
LUCIEN JAMES



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forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447· PRETORIA · 0001· Environment House ·473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia, · PRETORIA

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2714

Enquiries: Ms. Sindiswa Dlomo

Telephone: (012) 399 9390 **E-mail:** sdlomo@dffe.gov.za

Mr. John von Mayer
Environmental Impact Management Services (Pty) Ltd
PO Box 2083
PINEGOWRIE
2123

Telephone Number: 011 789 7170
Email Address: john@eims.co.za

PER MAIL / E-MAIL

Dear Mr. Meyer

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF THE MISPAH TSF RECLAMATION AND PIPELINES IN THE FREE STATE AND NORTH WEST PROVINCES

The application for environmental authorisation and the draft Basic Assessment Report (BAR) dated February 2023 and received by this Department on 09 March 2023, refer.

This letter serves to inform you that the following information must be included in the final BAR:

(a) Listed Activities, Application Form, and Project Description

- (i) It is imperative that the relevant authorities with jurisdiction in respect of geographically designated areas in terms of GN R. 985 (Listing Notice 3) Activities are continuously involved throughout the basic assessment process. Written comments (or proof of consultation) must be obtained from the relevant authorities and submitted to this Department. These activities must be verified with the relevant management authority. In addition, a graphical representation of the proposed development within the respective geographical areas must be provided. Please also ensure that the potential impacts on the affected areas (i.e., critically biodiversity areas) are fully assessed.

(b) Undertaking of an Oath

- (i) Please ensure that the final BAR includes an undertaking under oath or affirmation by the EAP (administered by a Commissioner of Oaths) as per Appendix 1(3)(r) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

(c) Public Participation Process

- (i) The following information must be submitted with the final BAR:
 - A list of registered interested and affected parties as per Regulation 42 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended;
 - Copies of all comments received during the draft BAR comment period; and a comment and response report which contains all comments received and responses provided to all comments and issues raised during the public participation process for the draft BAR. Please note that comments received from this Department must also form part of the comment and response report.

- (ii) Please ensure that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the draft BAR from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in the final BAR.
- (iii) The final BAR must include proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders (including this Department's Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation, and the relevant heritage and agricultural authorities). Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof should be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.
- (iv) The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of the approved public participation plan and Regulations 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended. Please ensure that the BAR includes a copy of the approved public participation plan.

General

Please also ensure that the final BAR includes the period for which the Environmental Authorisation is required and the date on which the activity will be concluded (for activities without operational aspects) as per Appendix 1(3)(1)(q) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

You are further reminded to comply with Regulation 19(1)(a) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states that: *"Where basic assessment must be applied to an application, the applicant must, within 90 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, submit to the competent authority- (a) a basic assessment report, inclusive of any specialist reports, an EMPr, a closure plan in the case of a closure activity and where the application is a mining application, the plans, report, and calculations contemplated in the Financial Provisioning Regulations, which have been subjected to a public participation process of at least 30 days and which reflects the incorporation of comments received, including any comments of the competent authority."*

Should there be significant changes or new information that has been added to the BAR or EMPr, which changes or information was not contained in the reports or plans consulted on during the initial public participation process, you are required to comply with Regulation 19(1)(b) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states: *"the applicant must, within 90 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, submit to the competent authority – (b) a notification in writing that the documents contemplated in subregulation 1(a) will be submitted within 140 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, as significant changes have been made or significant new information has been added to the documents which changes or information was not contained in the original documents consulted on during the initial public participation process contemplated in subregulation (1)(a) and that the revised documents will be subjected to another public participation process of at least 30 days."*

Should you fail to meet any of the timeframes stipulated in Regulation 19 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, your application will lapse.

You are hereby reminded that Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, states that no activity may commence before the Department grants an Environmental Authorisation.

Yours sincerely



Mr. Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Signed by: Ms. Sindiswa Dlomo

Designation: Deputy Director: National Integrated Authorisation Projects

Date: 11/04/2023

cc: Mr. John van Wayk	Mine Waste Solution (Pty) Ltd	E-mail: JVVYk@Harmony.co.za
-----------------------	-------------------------------	-----------------------------



HARMONY GOLD MINING COMPANY LIMITED

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Johannesburg, South Africa

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NYSE trading symbol HMY
JSE trading symbol HAR

22 May 2023

Department of Economic and Small Business Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (DESTEA)

Attention: Mr Dave Hayter (Acting Director: Biodiversity Management and Conservation)

Protected Areas Development and Support Programmes

Email: hayterd.destea@gmail.com

MOTIVATION TO DELIST THE PROTECTED AREA KNOWN AS "MISPAH GAME FARM" LOCATED ON THE REMAINING EXTENT OF FARM MISPAH 274 IP WITHIN THE MOQHAKA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, FREE STATE PROVINCE.

Mispah TSF Reclamation Project Background

Mine Waste Solutions (MWS), a wholly owned subsidiary of Harmony Gold Mining Company Limited, has been in business since 1964 and conducts its operations over a large area of land to the east of Klerksdorp, within the area of jurisdiction of the City of Matlosana and JB Marks Local Municipalities (LM), which fall within the Dr Kenneth Kaunda District Municipality (DM) in the North-West Province. The MWS Operations are located primarily to the south of the N12, east of the town of Stilfontein. The closest town is Khuma, located about 3km northwest of the facility. Other nearby towns include Stilfontein (10km from facility) and Klerksdorp (19km from facility).

The operations at MWS entail the hydraulic reclamation and reprocessing of mine tailings that were previously deposited on Tailings Storage Facilities (TSFs) in order to extract gold. High pressure water cannons are used to slurry the tailings on the Source TSFs. The slurry is then pumped by a number of pump stations and pipelines to the MWS Processing Plant. The residue from the processing plants is then pumped to the current Kareerand TSF. Once an old Source TSF has been completely recovered, it is cleaned-up and rehabilitated.

MWS wishes to expand their reclamation activities to the Mispah 1 TSF through the construction of a reclamation pump station adjacent to the Mispah 1 TSF and installation of additional pipelines to meet the planned Life of Mine (LoM) for Mispah TSF to approximately 8 years and reclaiming around 75 Million tons at a rate of around 9.4 mT/annum. The existing return water and slurry pipeline infrastructure fails to meet the requirements of the planned LoM and has direct and indirect impacts on the long-term sustainability of the Harmony Gold operations in this region.

The planned infrastructure is a new 600mm slurry- and 500mm low-pressure process water pipelines of ~9km from the East Pump Station to the Mispah 1 TSF Reclamation Pump Station, as shown Figure 1. Both the slurry and process water pipeline will cross the Vaal River at Nologwa Bridge. In addition to the slurry and process water pipelines, a sewage pipeline will be installed from the sewage change house at the new reclamation pump station and the sewage will be pumped to the existing Moab Khotsong sewage works (Figure 1).

Directors: PT Motsepe* (Chairman), JM Motloba* (Deputy Chairman), PW Steenkamp (Chief Executive), B Lekubo (Financial Director), HE Mashego (Executive Director), JA Chissano**, FFT De Buck*, Dr DSS Lushaba*, M Msimang*, JL Wetton*, AJ Wilkens*, KT Nondumo*, VP Pillay*, GR Sibiya*, PL Turner*
*Non-Executive; **Mozambican

Secretary: Shela Mohatla

Registration Number: 1950/038232/06

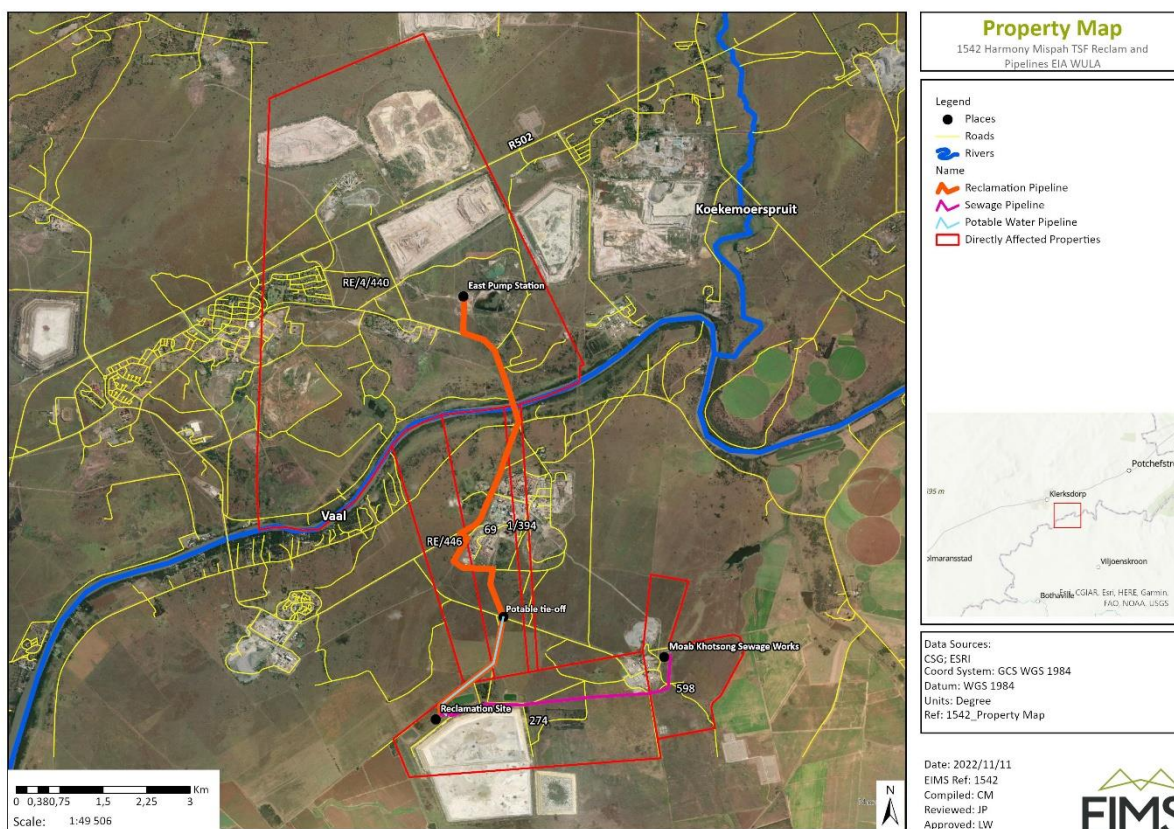


Figure 1: Project layout overlaid with farm portions.

Background to this Protected Area

Applications for Environmental Authorisation (EA) and Water Use Licence (WUL) have been initiated. Comment has been received on the EA application from the Competent Authority (Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment - DFFE) who indicated that a portion of the proposed infrastructure falls within a protected area (attached comment letter included in **Error! Reference source not found.**). Overall the DFFE has no objections to the proposed project as stated in the letter. In a follow-up email correspondence dated 13 April 2023 the DFFE stated the following: ***“the protected area must be withdrawn from the gazette or maybe province has other plan for the area, because as things stand the area is a declared protected area, but the DESTEA will have to advise the national government on the process to be undertaken”*** (email included in **Error! Reference source not found.**).

The history of this farm and protected area and the declaration for such is not entirely clear however the following is known:

- The Mispah TSF was constructed in 1993 according to Google Earth records and was constructed on the farm Mispah 274 IR.
- The protected area was initiated by Anglo Gold Ashanti (AGA) sometime in the 1990’s. AGA was the owner of the mining operations back then before Harmony Gold acquired these operations from AGA in 2017.
- Only a portion on the eastern side of the farm Mispah 274 IR was fenced off and stocked with Springbok for use by the previous mine management for recreational hunting purposes (~20 years ago).
- This protected area was registered in about 2001 and was registered under the old Provincial Ordinance. It is unclear why the entire farm extent was registered as a protected area when only a portion of the farm was initially used as a game farm.

- In about 2007 the game farm no longer existed. Since this time and to date, no further game farming has taken place on this farm.
- The farm Mispah 274 RE is owned by Harmony Moab Khotsong Operations (Pty) Ltd which is a wholly owned subsidiary of Harmony Gold Mining Company Limited and therefore Harmony is the rightful owner of the land comprising the protected area (title deed included in **Error! Reference source not found.**).

The location and extent of the protected area in relation to the Mispah TSF and proposed infrastructure is depicted in Figure 2 and Figure 3.

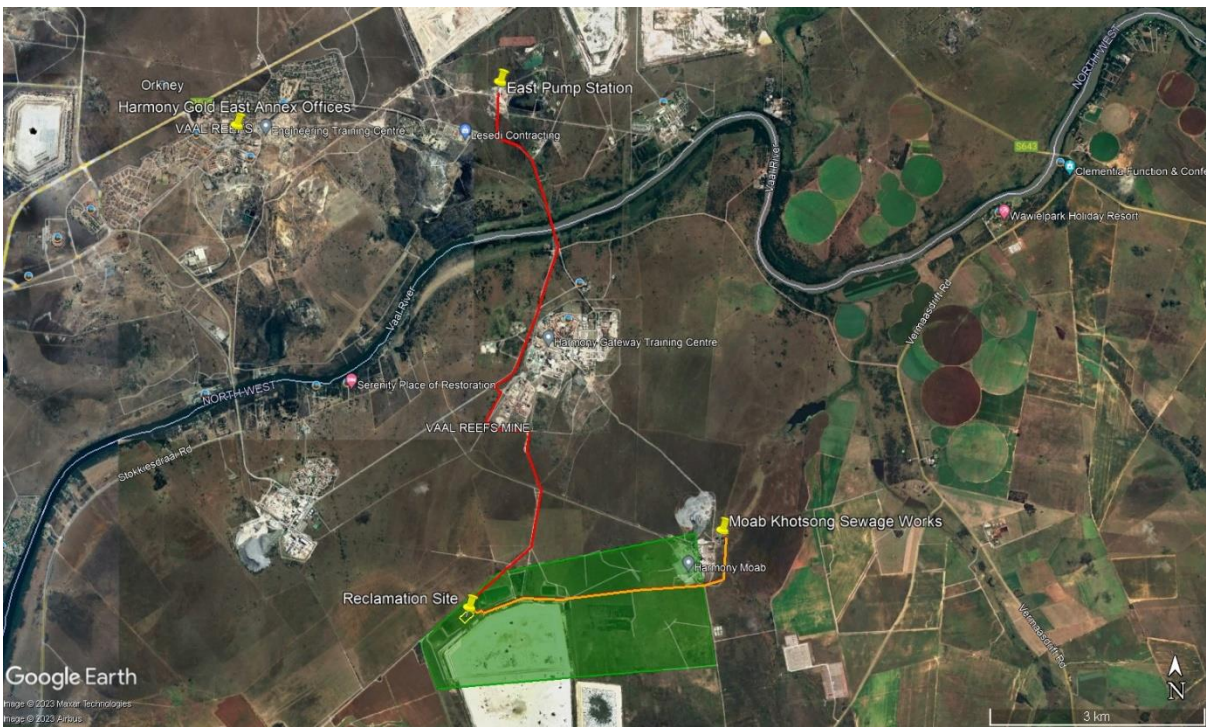


Figure 2: Proposed project infrastructure in relation to the protected area shown in green.



Figure 3: Project infrastructure overlaid with protected area.

Need and Motivation for Delisting of Protected Area

Harmony Gold (through our subsidiary MWS) is busy applying for Environmental Authorisation for a new TSF Reclamation pipeline project and the DFFE has flagged the protected area as an item that must be addressed in order for the decision to be finalised. The DFFE has recommended that your Department (DESTEA) consider delisting this protected area and Harmony fully supports this approach.

The need and motivation for delisting this specific protected area is discussed in detail below.

a) Current conservation value of this protected area.

A specialist Terrestrial Biodiversity study was undertaken in November 2022 (refer to **Error! Reference source not found.**), and the following was derived from this study:

The critically modified grassland is the predominant habitat type within the project area. The completion of the terrestrial desktop and field studies disputes the 'Very High' sensitivity presented by the DFFE screening report, as relevant to the proposed footprint areas. The proposed footprint area is largely degraded and as such, is assigned an overall sensitivity of medium.

The screening report classified the animal theme sensitivity as being of 'High' sensitivity and classified the relative plant theme sensitivity as being of 'Medium' sensitivity. Following the field survey findings, the animal species theme sensitivity should be classified as 'Medium' due to the presence of the Vaal River in the project area, and the plant species theme sensitivity should be classified as 'Low'. The habitat within the project area has experienced high levels of disturbance due to mining activities in the area and is largely degraded. This has resulted in it only maintaining a low level of functionality.

In summary, the specialist reports the following: *"No portion of the project area represents an intact vegetation type, and the areas listed as CBA and 'protected areas' exist in a modified state as they have experienced degradation due to grazing by livestock, the invasion of alien species and the additional related effects of nearby agricultural and mining activity. No SCC flora or fauna were recorded during the field survey"*.

During the site visit undertaken on 4 May 2023 with Mr David Hayter from the DESTEA, Mr Hayter indicated that the ecological importance of the protected area is extremely low due to the transformed nature of the site and that the protected area does not serve the intended purpose of conserving biodiversity in the province.

b) Need to redress the results of past racial and gender discrimination.

Harmony Gold aims to redress historical socio-economic inequalities, ensure broad-based economic empowerment (BBEE) and the meaningful participation of Historically Disadvantaged Persons in the mining and minerals industry within South Africa. The construction and extension of the pipelines will extend the LoM for Mispah TSF by ± 8 years and reclaiming around 75 Million tons at a rate of around 9.4 mT/annum. This extension will indirectly impact the employment rate in the community and directly impact on the continued employment of the existing mining personnel and their dependents.

c) Socio-economic benefits of the project.

The reclamation operations in this region result in numerous socio-economic benefits within the affected local municipalities and its' communities. The details regarding the socio-economic impacts are described below.

The Mispah TSF Reclamation project will have a positive impact on the employment opportunities in the region through the extension of the operational lifespan of the MWS operations and thereby securing longer term job retention of existing employees. Furthermore, the reclamation of the TSF will allow Harmony to rehabilitate the footprint of the TSF to a more natural state.

Failure to delist this protected area will likely result in the DFFE delaying the decision indefinitely or issuing a negative decision on the environmental authorisation application which will result in negative socio-economic impacts including a reduction of the LOM of the MWS Operations and premature closure of MWS Operations that will have a direct impact on employment in the region. Without the necessary authorisation, various construction contractors and their employees will be unable to participate in this project which would reduce the potential economic stimulus in the region.

As described above the Mispah TSF reclamation project forms part of the LoM and without the proposed remaining of the Mispah TSF, MWS would be at risk of meeting the planned operational lifespan until 2042. MWS provides important socio-economic advantages to the community and to South Africa.

Conclusion

In summary, the protected area is delaying a critical decision by the DFFE which would enable MWS to extend the current LoM by approximately 8 years and around 75 Million tons of tailings from the TSF will be reclaimed at a rate of around 9.4 mT/annum. The vegetation within this protected area does not contain sufficient ecological importance or functionality to contribute in any meaningful way to the provincial conservation targets. The positive socio-economic benefits to the region of the Mispah TSF reclamation project far outweigh the conservation value of the land in its current degraded state.

Therefore, Harmony Gold respectfully requests your assistance in delisting this protected area from the protected areas database as a matter of urgency.

For any queries please contact Brian Whitfield (brian@eims.co.za) or the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Melanie Naidoo-Vermaak

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