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Job No:	1188	Project Name:	Vlaskfontein Coal Mine
Meeting Description:	Arbor Community Focus Group Meeting		
Meeting Venue:	Vlaskfontein Coal Mine	Date:	2017/07/27
MD			
RR	M	MDDR	
Elizabeth Malibe	Steering Committee		
T.W. Mahlaba	Arbor Trading ENT	twmahlaba@gmail.com	
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Mandisa Mangaliso	Arbor Community Forum	mandisa.mangaliso@yahoo.com	
John Mahlangu	Arbor Community Forum		
Sello Mannenyana (SM)	Mbuyelo	sello@mbuyelocoal.com	
Raymond Mahlangu	Arbor Community Forum	mrendzoss@gmail.com	
Dudu Manyisa	Arbor Community Forum	dudumanyisa@gmail.com	
Sebenzile Mdlalose(SMd)	Mbuyelo / Ntshovelo	sebenzile@mbuyelocoal.com	
Felicia Zikalal	Mbuyelo / Ntshovelo	Felicia@mbuyelocoal.com	
S. Mkhonza	Arbor Community Forum		
Phillip Morake	Steering Committee		
Poppy Makhato	Steering Committee		
John von Mayer (JvM)	EIMS	john@eims.co.za	
Cheyenne Muthukarapan (CM)	EIMS	cheyenne@eims.co.za	
Nobuhle Hughes (NH)	EIMS	nobuhle@eims.co.za	
San-Marie Aucamp (SMA)	Equispectives	sanmarie@equispectives.co.za	
Ilse Aucamp(IA)	Equispectives	ilse@equispectives.co.za	
Adri Joubert	Geo Soil & Water (GSW)		
<p>A Focus Group meeting was scheduled with the community Leaders from Arbor community, representatives from Ntshovelo mine, the social specialists, and the Environmental Assessment Practitioner EIMS.</p>			

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Introductions were made and the purpose of the meeting was highlighted.		N/A	N/A
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<p>The EIMS and the Social Study Specialists introduced themselves to the Ntshovelo mine representatives and Arbor Community in attendance. An overview of the project was presented covering the following matters:</p> <p>Introduction to project; Project location; Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process; Other licences (e.g. Water Use Licence); Specialist studies; Way forward / indicative timeframes; and Community consultation preferences.</p> <p>The meeting was open for discussion and queries or comments throughout the presentation and continued thereafter. The discussions undertaken were as per the record below.</p>		N/A	N/A
<p>Nobuhle Hughes from EIMS raised the question as to which form of communication would best suit the community moving forward. It was agreed that SMS's would be preferred when notifying the community leaders/members of any notifications that have been distributed via post and/or email (e.g. availability or reports, upcoming meetings, etc.). However, the detailed notifications, possibly with attachments, should be distributed via email to those community leaders/members with email addresses. Furthermore, the pre-existing communication mechanism/protocol between the community and the mine should be used to notify the community. The community leaders informed EIMS that the Arbor Primary School has a local notice board and one other location within the Arbor community, these two locations will be the best places to place project notices as the mine also currently places their communication with the community at the said locations. Furthermore, Arbor Primary School is ideal for placement of reports/ project documents for community review as it is already used for such a function. EIMS will communicate with the school principal for permission prior to placing any documents at the school. With regards to community/ public meetings, it was recommended that the Arbor Community Soccer Field be used for such community gatherings. However, it was emphasised that the community should be notified of any planned meetings in advance in order for them to be able to make themselves available to attend. It was also confirmed that the local newspaper for the area is the Delmas Highveld Chronicle. The predominant language in the area is IsiZulu followed</p>		N/A	N/A

<p>by IsiNdebele. It was recommended that notices (e.g. letters, site notices and posters, be presented in IsiZulu and English to cater for non-IsiZulu speaking community members).</p>		
<p>□ □ □ □ □</p> <p>A Community Leader raised an issue with regards to the social labour plan (SLP), asking whether the mine has a plan as they have never seen a copy and if this gets reviewed and updated. San-Marie Aucamp, the social specialist, explained that the SLP has to be reviewed and reported on every year, and the SLP is updated every 5 years whereby the updated version has to be submitted to the Department of Mineral Resources for approval. Sebenzile Mdlalose, from the mine, clarified that the mine does have an existing SLP and that the plan undergoes a review on a yearly basis. She further clarified that the SLP will be updated to incorporate the proposed mine extension. Ilse Aucamp, also a social specialist, elaborated that the SLP is reviewed yearly in terms of checking on how much progress has been made to date, this does not constitute any changes of the SLP unless there is a project included in the SLP that is not working which may be stopped completely and a new project included to replace it. Every 5 years however, the entire SLP is updated to incorporate any new information, this is done without removing aspects of the previous SLP version. The updated SLP which as per legislation has to be done in consultation with the community and the local municipality towards alignment with the municipal plans, must be submitted to the authorities for approval. The approval period may take some time from submission.</p> <p>The community leaders inquired whether the community leaders can be involved in the review and updating of the SLP. They further requested that the community be provided access to a copy of the SLP in order to ascertain that community input is included in the SLP. Sebenzile Mdlalose from the mine explained that she is aware that the municipality and a community representative are involved in the process of updating the SLP however she is unsure of who the community representative is and how much that involvement filters down to the rest of the community.</p> <p>The community leaders reiterated their concern that the voice of the community directly affected by the mine does not seem to be involved in the process. They stated that as the community leaders in the meeting, they have never seen a copy of the SLP and never partaken in its review or updating.</p> <p>Sebenzile Mdlalose from mine will follow up with the mine regarding the community involvement in the process at present (i.e. who represents the</p>	<p>Sebenzile Mdlalose (mine representative)</p>	



<p>community currently, how do they share the information with the community, etc.) and provide feedback to the community leadership.</p> <p>A community leader further queried when last the SLP was updated, stating that it is important to know when the SLP was last updated in order to know where the cycle is at present and when the next update is due and thus community involvement can be determined moving forward. Sebenzile Mdlalose will investigate and provide feedback on the last update of the SLP.</p>	<p>Sebenzile Mdlalose (mine representative)</p>	<p>??</p>
<p>□ d□</p> <p>The community leaders requested that a copy of the slides be sent to them so that they may be able to share the information as well as have more time to review the information in case they have further queries in this regard. Jon von Mayer from EIMS will distribute the meeting presentation slides to the community leaders in attendance.</p>	<p>John von Mayer (EIMS)</p>	<p>??</p>
<p>□ □</p> <p>A community leader asked if there was information on where the blasting that is anticipated will take place for the proposed extension. He stated that he was asking because the proposed extension location seems to be in the area where community members were relocated to because of current mining/ blasting activities. He wanted to know if the details of the location or direction of the pillars is known and can be communicated to the community. He added that he is concerned about the potential blasting impacts on the housing structures near the proposed mine extension area and feels it is prudent that the community be made aware of the likely blasting impacts in advance.</p> <p>Sebenzile Mdlalose answered that the community has been made aware of potential mine extensions and areas that may be affected and this has been one of the reasons the mine has continuously advised the community not to build in those areas. She further stated that a map with the details on the location of the pillars is available which can be provided to the community leaders.</p> <p>Nobuhle Hughes from EIMS mentioned that one of the identified specialist studies for the project includes a Blasting Impact Assessment. She added that the findings of the blasting impact study will include identified impacts, their significance, and proposed measures to manage or minimise the impacts. The specialist reports will form part of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report that will be made available for public review and comment, and</p>	<p>Sebenzile Mdlalose (mine representative)</p>	

subsequently submitted to the decision-making authority, the Department of Mineral Resources,		
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<p>Nobuhle Hughes from EIMS asked the community leadership for their views regarding the format of conducting public meetings with the community, whether a formal meeting should be the approach or an open day even whereby community members may have one-on-one discussions with the project team as individuals rather than a group gathering. Upon discussion, it was suggested that the public meeting format be followed whereby time is allocated for a formal group meeting including a presentation, followed by an opportunity for the community to have one on-one discussions with the project team (e.g. 2 hours for formal meeting; followed by 2 hours for individual discussions).</p> <p>EIMS thanked the community for their valuable input on the matter and agreed that this approach would be possible.</p>	N/A	N/A
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		
<p>The community leaders raised their concerns with regards to community benefits from the proposed mine extension.</p> <p>The community leaders stated that their previous experience with the mine is such that the contractors bring their own workforce from other parts of the country and that the local community which is most impacted upon by mining activities is not considered either in the form of jobs or providing services needed by the mine.</p> <p>Sebenzile Mdlalose from the mine explained that the project/ mine does not want to raise false hopes about job opportunities from the proposed mine extension. She mentioned that the extension will be such that the activities currently underway at the mine would come to an end and the work force from those activities would be utilised where the extension is to take place. Therefore, the opportunity for new jobs is minimal.</p> <p>EIMS as well as the social specialists reiterated that it is very important to highlight from the commencement of the project that job opportunities will be few from this proposed extension so as to not raise the hopes of the community. Furthermore, EIMS added that although recommendations regarding the consideration of local community for the few job opportunities that may be available, these are merely recommendations as only the mine and its contractors can make the final decision on job related matters.</p>	N/A	N/A

<p>It was further stated by one community leader that previous experience has been such that job opportunities from the mine include a requirement for a Grade 12 certificate, however a number of people in the community do not have Grade 12 qualifications and are thus always excluded from such opportunities. The community member stated that these vulnerable community members need to also be considered and included for future job opportunities.</p> <p>EIMS acknowledged the concerns and input from the community and mentioned that although EIMS and the specialists cannot make decisions on community benefits and job opportunities as such decisions can only be made by the mine, the comments raised will be included in the correspondence record for the project which will be submitted as part of the various reports to the decision-making authorities.</p>		
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<p>Ilse and San-Marie Aucamp. The project social specialists, will conduct several focus groups with the community as part of the social impact study. The specialists proposed conducting meetings with groups of community members at a time such as a group of the elderly, a youth group, community leaders, church group, etc. towards getting input from as many points of view as possible to reflect the various community dynamics. A community leader requested that should such meetings be scheduled; the community must be given enough notice so as to able to plan their day accordingly and attend the meeting. The social specialists confirmed that they would inform the mine and the community leaders in advance prior to the said group meetings to ensure that the community members are available.</p>	N/A	N/A
<p>Minutes Approved by: Signed: _____</p> <p>Date: _____</p>		



# MEETING ATTENDANCE REGISTER

EIMS Ref	1188	Project Name	Vlakvarkfontein Mine Extension
Description of Meeting	Meeting with Community Representatives		
Meeting Venue	WVF Mine Office	Date	2017/07/27
		Time	10:30

Representative	Company / Organisation	Telephone	Fax	E-mail address	Signature
John von Meyer	EIMS	0844043673		john@eims.co.za	
Elizabeth Mole	Steering Committee	0759973045			EW. Mole
Pappy Makheke	Steering Committee				Pappy
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Mapheko Botsheloi	Community Council	0630159108		mapheko.botsheloi@gmail.com	
Mandisa Mawabiso	Arbor C Forum	0795946810		mandisa.mawabiso@yahoo.com	
John Mawabiso	Arbor C Forum				
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S. Mthembu	Concurrence Forestry	072058 858		-	
Phiso Mthembu	Steering Committee	0782919089		-	
Jojoji Mxantsa	Steering Committee			-	
Nobuhle Hughes	EIMS	0732206368		nobuhle@eims.co.za	

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## VLAKVARKFONTEIN: COAL MINE EXTENSION PROJECT



### Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Proposed Project:
  - Introduction to project
  - EIA and Licensing Process
  - Way forward and timeframes
- Community Communication
- Questions and Answers



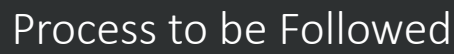
## Project Overview

- Ntshovelo Mining Resources (Pty) Ltd (a subsidiary of Mbuyelo Coal) wishes to extend the mining operations at the Vlakvarkfontein Coal Mine.
- The proposed extension will include open cast mining operations, using the roll-over method, onto portion 5 of the farm Vlakvarkfontein 213R.
- Relocation and re-establishment of the existing ancillary infrastructure associated with the current mining operations.
- Ntshevelo also wishes to establish a new coal processing plant (wash plant) to beneficiate the run-of-mine coal as well as a new wastewater treatment facility.
- The proposed extension of the mine and new coal processing plant will be located within the existing approved Mining Right boundary.









## Specialist Studies

- Surface water assessment
- Groundwater assessment
- Wetlands and aquatic ecology;
- Heritage and palaeontology
- Air quality assessment;
- Noise impacts;
- Blasting impacts; and
- Social impact assessment.



## Indicative Timeframes

- Initial notification and call to register to be sent out: early August 2017
- Scoping Report availability: mid-September 2017
- EIA/EMPR Report availability: February 2018
- All decisions received by end of 2018
- Construction planned to begin in early 2019
- Ongoing public participation throughout EIA process



## Discussion

### Questions and Answers

#### Community Consultation

- Best channels of communication?
- Best methods of communication?
- Meeting venues?



## Who to Contact

### **Environmental Impact Management Services (Pty) Ltd (EIMS)**

P.O. Box 2083 Pinegowrie 2123

Phone: 011 789 7170 / Fax: 011 787 3059

Contact: Cheyenne Muthukarapan

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EIMS Reference number: 1188

