

## **Stakeholder Notifications**

## NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR MINING RIGHT, ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION AND INTEGRATED WATER USE LICENCE

### VARDOCUBE (PTY) LTD, PRIESKA ZINC COPPER PROJECT (VARDOCUBE SECTION), COPPERTON, SIYATHEMBA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, NORTHERN CAPE

27 September 2018

Dear Interested or Affected Party

#### **Notification**

Notification is hereby given in terms of the National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998, Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act 28 of 2002, and the National Water Act 36 of 1998 of the intent to apply for a Mining Right, Environmental Authorisation (EA), and Integrated Water Use Licence for activities associated with the Prieska Zinc Copper Project (Vardocube Section).

The latter is an endeavour that is proposing to establish an underground mining operation in the vicinity of the historical Prieska Copper Mine (PCM).

In addition, notification is also given that the Draft Scoping Report is available for public review and comment until **29 October 2018**.

#### **Project Summary**

PCM is a closed mine situated approximately 3 km south of Copperton and 60 km south-west of the town of Prieska in the Siyathemba Local Municipality, Northern Cape Province. It was operated as an underground copper and zinc mine between 1971 and 1991.

The applicant is applying for a Mining Right on the Remaining Extent of Portion 1 of the Farm Vogelstruisbult 104.

The activity being applied for is exclusively for underground mining with no requirement for any surface area disturbance within the proposed mining right area.

Orion Minerals (Orion), through its subsidiary company of Vardocube (Pty) Ltd., is the holder of a prospecting right in the Copperton area of the Northern Cape Province. The prospecting right was recently executed, and drilling of the Volcanogenic Massive Sulphide (VMS) Deposit, to confirm the mineral resource estimate for copper and zinc has commenced.

The proposed Vardocube mining right area is adjacent to the Repli Trading No. 27 (Pty) Ltd. (Repli) mining right area. Repli is also a subsidiary of Orion and a Mining Right Application (DMR Reference No: NC30/5/1/2/3/2/1/10138 MR) for Repli was submitted in April 2018 and is expected to be finalised by the first quarter of 2019.

Please note that the Mining Right Application for Vardocube is entirely separate to the Mining Right Application for Repli.

The Copperton Deposit extends across the Repli and Vardocube prospecting right areas. Through its subsidiary company Vardocube, Orion therefore intends to access and mine the full extent of the Vardocube mining area via the refurbished existing Hutchings Shaft, situated on Portion 25 of the Farm Vogelstruisbult 104, within the proposed Repli mining right area.

A commercial agreement will be entered into between Repli and Vardocube so that all other infrastructure and structures established to support the proposed Repli surface and underground mining will also be used for the underground mining of the deposit on Vardocube. The infrastructure and structures to be established by Repli have been designed with sufficient capacity to accommodate the additional ore and tailings from the Vardocube underground mining.

### **Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting Process**

The proposed development concerns listed activities identified in Listing Notice 2 of the EIA Regulations, 2014. Accordingly, a Scoping and Environmental Impact Report (S&EIR) Process must be applied to the application for EA.

ABS Africa has been appointed as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner, responsible for undertaking the required S&EIR Process. The Scoping Phase of the S&EIR process has been completed and the findings thereof compiled into a Draft Scoping Report. The latter is available for a 30-day commenting period and may be accessed as follows:

- ➔ By download: <http://www.abs-africa.com/project-documents/>
- ➔ By e-mail: [prieskapp@abs-africa.com](mailto:prieskapp@abs-africa.com)
- ➔ Hard copies are available for review at the following venues:
  - Alkantpan Lodge in Copperton
  - Prieska Municipal Library, Stewart Street, Prieska
  - Orion Minerals Office, Loots Boulevard, Prieska
  - Marydale Municipal Office, Van Wyk Street, Marydale
  - Niekerkshoop Municipal Office, Church Street, Niekerkshoop

Comments on the Draft Scoping Report are to be submitted to ABS Africa by **29 October 2018**.

Comments received will be captured into an Issues and Response Report which will be included in the Final Scoping Report to be submitted to the Department of Mineral Resources. Registered Interested and Affected Parties will be notified of the availability of the Final Scoping Report as well as all future documents compiled as part of the S&EIR process.

### **Further Information**

Should you have any queries with respect to this letter, please contact the undersigned.

We welcome your ongoing participation.

Kind Regards

Ms. Chané Pretorius

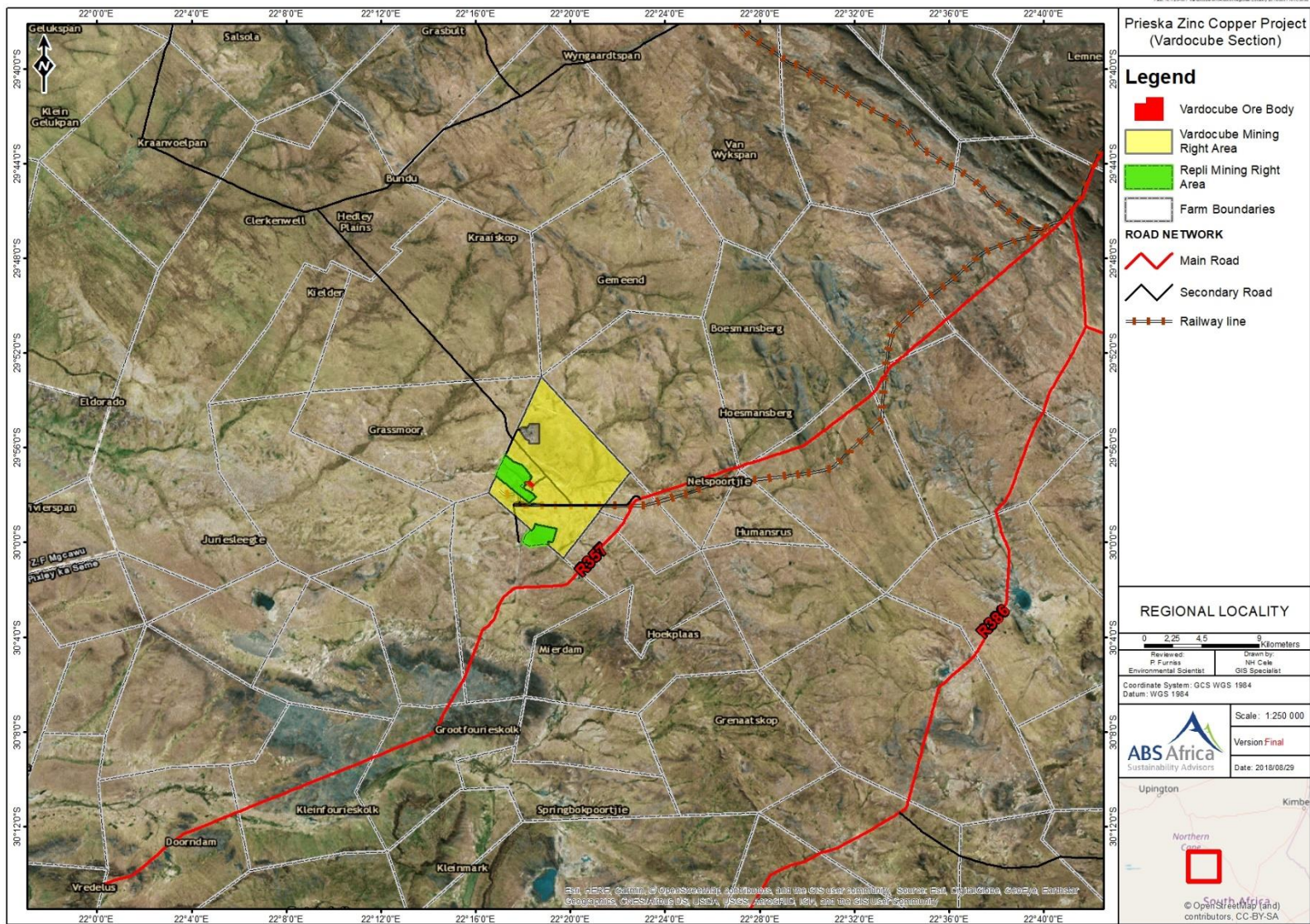
**Tel:** +27 21 403 6570

**e-mail:** [prieskapp@abs-africa.com](mailto:prieskapp@abs-africa.com)

**Postal address:** PO Box to 14003, Vorna Valley, 1686

**Encl:**

Registration and Comment Sheet



**Figure 1: Location of the Vardocube Mining Right Application Boundary**

## REGISTRATION AND COMMENT SHEET

Should you wish to be registered as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) for the Project, please complete your details in the form below and return to [prieskapp@abs-africa.com](mailto:prieskapp@abs-africa.com).

Registration as an I&AP will ensure that you will receive further notifications on the status of the applications and that you will be informed of the availability of the Scoping Report and Environmental Impact Report for your review and comment.

Please also make use of the form to note any initial queries or comments you may have regarding the applications.

Would you like to be registered as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) for the Project			<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
I would like to receive further information regarding the Project via:	<b>Email</b>	<b>Post</b>	<b>Fax</b>	

<b>Name &amp; Surname</b>			
<b>Organisation</b>			
<b>Telephone Number</b>		<b>Fax</b>	
<b>Cell phone Number</b>		<b>Email</b>	
<b>Postal Address</b>			
<b>Comments:</b>			
<b>Please register the following I&amp;APs for the Process:</b>			

**KENNISGEWING RAKENDE DIE AANSOEK OM 'N MYN REG, OMGEWINGSMAGTIGING,  
WATERVERBRUIKSLISENSIE, AFVALBESTUURSLISENSIE ASOOK DIE BESKIKBAARHEID VAN DIE  
VOORLOPIGE KONSEP OMVANGSBEPALINGSVERSLAG (KOBV)**

**VARDOCUBE (PTY) LTD, PRIESKA ZINC COPPER PROJECT (VARDOCUBE SECTION), COPPERTON,  
SIYATHEMBA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, NORTHERN CAPE**

**27 September 2018**

Geagte Belanghebbende en Geaffekteerde Party

**Kennisgewing**

Kennis word hiermee gegee ingevolge die Nasionale Omgewingsbestuur Wet (NOBW), (Wet 107 van 1998), die Wet op die Ontwikkeling van Minerale en Petroleum Hulpbronne (OMPW), (Wet No. 28 van 2002), asook die Nasionale Waterwet (NWW), (Wet 36 van 1998) van die beplande aansoek om 'n Myn Reg, Omgewingsmagtiging en Geïntegreerde Waterverbruikslisensie vir aktiwiteite geassosieer met die Prieska Sink-Koper Projek (Vardocube Afdeling). Laasgenoemde poog om 'n ondergrondse mynbou-operasie in die omgewing van die historiese Prieska Kopermyn (PCM) te vestig.

Kennis word hiermee ook gegee van die beskikbaarheid van die voorlopige Omvangsbepalingsverslag (OBV) wat beskikbaar sal wees vir publieke hersiening en insette tot en met **29 Oktober 2018**.

**Projek Beskrywing**

PCM is 'n geslote myn ongeveer 3 km suid van Copperton en 60 km suid-wes van die dorp Prieska in die Siyathemba Plaaslike Munisipaliteit, Noord Kaap Provinsie. Dit is tussen 1971 en 1991 as 'n ondergrondse koper- en sinkmyn bedryf.

Die applikant doen aansoek om 'n Mynreg op die Resterende Gedeelte van Gedeelte 1 van die Plaas Vogelstruisbult 104.

Die aktiwiteit waarvoor aansoek gedoen word is vir ondergrondse mynbou sonder enige vereiste vir enige versteuring van die oppervlak binne die voorgestelde mynreg.

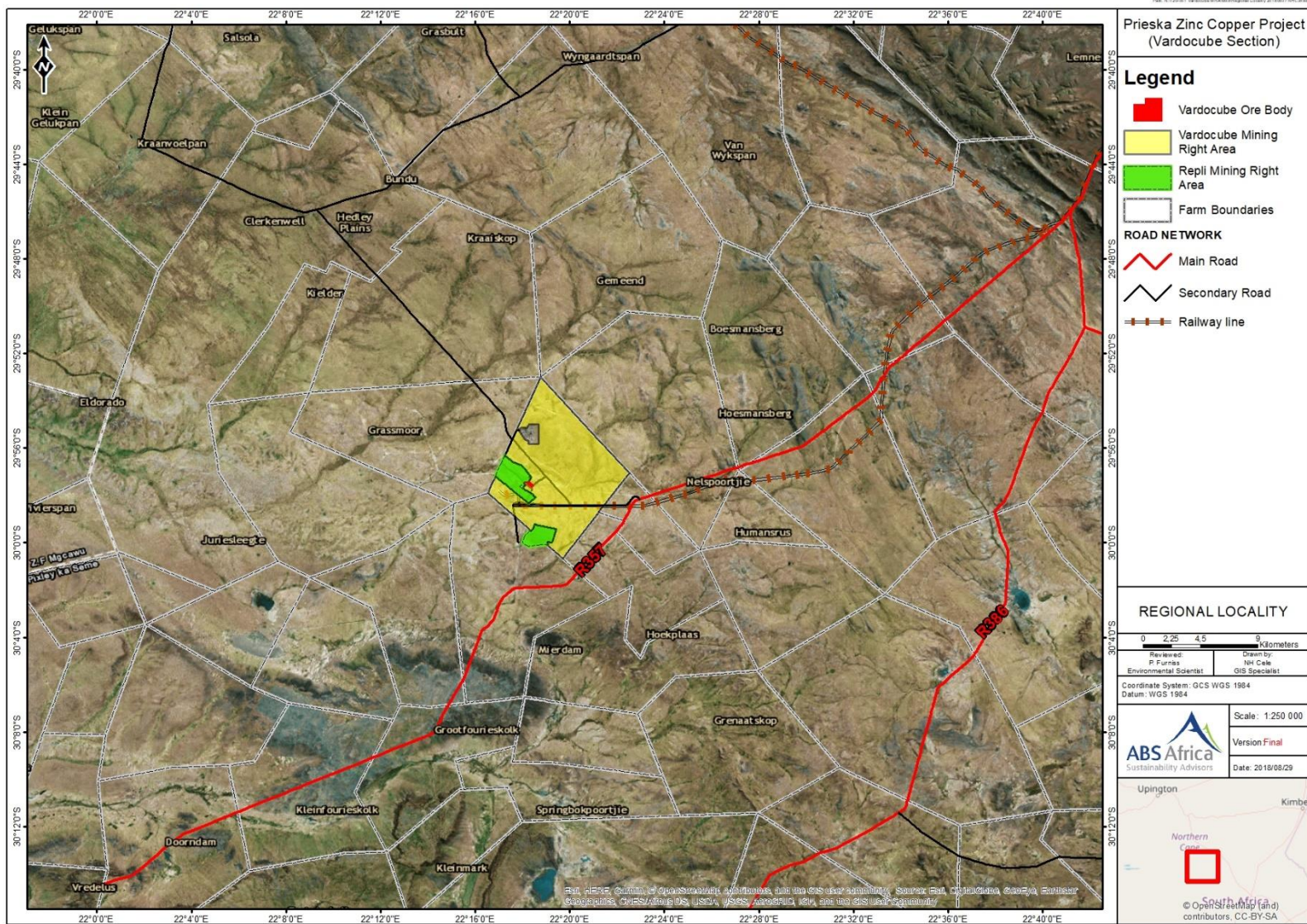
Orion Minerals (Orion), deur sy affiliaat maatskappy Vardocube (Edms.) Bpk., is die houër van 'n prospekterreg in die Copperton-gebied van die Noord-Kaap Provinsie. Die prospekter reg is onlangs toegeken, en die boorwerk van die reserwe, om die beskikbaarheid van minerale hulpbronne vir koper en sink te bevestig, het begin.

Die voorgestelde Vardocube-mynreg is aangrensend aan die Repli-mynboureg. Repli is ook 'n filiaal van Orion en 'n Mynreg Aansoek (DMR Verwysingsnommer: NC30 / 5/1/2/3/2/1/10138 MR) vir Repli is in April 2018 ingedien en sal na verwagting gefinaliseer word deur die eerste kwartaal van 2019.

Let asseblief daarop dat die Mynreg aansoek vir Vardocube heeltemal afsonderlik is vir die Mynreg aansoek vir Repli.

Die Copperton reserwe strek oor die Repli en Vardocube prospekterreg gebied. Orion wil dus deur sy filiaalmaatskappy Vardocube toegang tot die ondergrondse minerale verkry deur gebruik te maak van die reeds bestaande Hutchings-slag, geleë op Gedeelte 25 van die Plaas Vogelstruisbult 104, binne die Repli mynreg aansoek gebied..

'n Handelsooreenkoms sal tussen Repli en Vardocube aangegaan word sodat alle infrastruktuur en strukture wat beplan is op die voorgestelde Repli-oppervlak om ondergrondse mynbou te ondersteun, ook gebruik sal word vir die ondergrondse ontginning van die reserwe geassosieer met Vardocube. Die infrastruktuur en strukture wat deur Repli gevestig gaan word, is ontwerp met voldoende kapasiteit om die bykomende erts en myn-oorblyfsels van die Vardocube-ondergrondse mynbou te akkommodeer.



**Figuur 1: Ligging van die Myn Reg Aansoek Area**

## **Omvangsbepaling en Impakbepaling Proses**

Die voorgestelde ontwikkeling het betrekking tot gelyste aktiwiteite wat geïdentifiseer is in Noteringskennisgewing 2 van die Omgewings Impak Bepallings-regulasies, 2014. Gevolglik moet 'n Omvangsbepaling- en Omgewingsimpak-proses vir die aansoek vir n Omgewingsmagtiging onderneem word.

Die Omgewingsmagtiging en Geïntegreerde Waterverbruikslisensie sal terselfdertyd onderneem word en sal ingelig word deur die omvangsbepaling en Impakbepaling proses.

ABS Africa (Pty) Ltd (ABS Africa) is aangestel as onafhanklike omgewingsbepalingspraktisyn om die Omvangsbepaling en Impakbepaling Proses te onderneem. Die omvangsbepaling fase van die Omvangsbepaling en Impakbepaling proses is voltooi en die bevindinge is saamgevat in die voorlopige Omvangsbepalingsverslag (OBV) wat nou beskikbaar is vir publieke hersiening en kommentaar. Die dokument is nou beskikbaar by die volgende Die dokument is nou beskikbaar vir 'n 30 dae periode en toegang kan as volg verkry word tot die dokument:

- ➔ Deur af te laai via die internet: <http://www.abs-africa.com/project-documents/>
- ➔ Via e-pos: [prieskapp@abs-africa.com](mailto:prieskapp@abs-africa.com)
- ➔ Kopieë van die dokument kan ook by die volgende plekke besigtig word:
  - Alkantpan Lodge in Copperton
  - Prieska Munisipale Biblioteek, Stewart Straat, Prieska
  - Orion Minerals Kantore, Loots Boulevard, Prieska
  - Marydale Munisipale Kantore, Van Wyk Straat, Marydale
  - Niekerkshoop Munisipale Kantore, Kerk Straat, Niekerkshoop

Insette en kommentaar rakende die voorlopige Omvangsbepalingsverslag moet ABS Africa asb. bereik voor of op **29 Oktober 2018**.

Insette en kommentaar wat ontvang word sal in 'n register vasgevang word en ingesluit word in die finale Omvangsbepalingsverslag wat by die Departement van Minerale Hulpbronne ingedien sal word. Partye wat geregistreer het as belanghebbende partye sal in kennis gestel word van die beskikbaarheid van die finale Omvangsbepalingsverslag asook verdere verwickelinge en dokumente was saamgestel word as deel van die Omvangsbepaling en Impakbepaling Proses.

## **Verdere Inligting**

Indien verdere inligting verlang word aangaande die inhoud van hierdie brief, kan die onderstaande persoon gekontak word

Ons sien uit na U voortgesette deelname in die publieke deelname proses.

Die Uwe

Me. Chané Pretorius

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**e-pos:** [prieskapp@abs-africa.com](mailto:prieskapp@abs-africa.com)

**Pos adres:** PO Box to 14003, Vorna Valley, 1686

**Ingesluit:**

Registrasie en Kommentaar Blad



