

# BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

## ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOR THE CLEARANCE OF VEGETATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF MACADAMIA FARMING, NEAR BARBERTON, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE

### Background Information

**MS Teck Farming (Pty) Ltd** is proposing to clear approximately 19.5 hectares of indigenous vegetation to establish an agricultural area for the purpose of macadamia or similar farming activities. In accordance with the National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998, GNR 983 of 2014 (as amended in 2017), an Environmental Authorisation (EA) is required before any clearance activities can take place.

Ms Teck Farming subsequently appointed **Core Environmental Services** to apply for the EA by means of conducting a Basic Environmental Authorisation process as regulated within General Notice Regulation 982, 2014 (as amended in 2017).

### Location of the activity

The proposed site is located along the R38 between Barberton and Badplaas, on portion 3 of the farm Boerlands 631-JT, near Barberton, City of Mbombela, Mpumalanga Province.

Coordinates:

25° 45'58.20"S

30° 53'42.77"E

### Legal Requirements

As per the National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998 (NEMA 107, 1998), GNR 983 of 2014 (as amended in 2017), the following listed activity is being applied for:

*GNR 983, Activity 27:*

*The clearance of an area of 1 hectares or more, but less than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation, except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for –*

*(i) The undertaking of a linear activity; or*

*Maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.*

### Basic Environmental Impact Assessment Process

A Basic Environmental Impact Assessment is a process used to assess the negative and positive consequences of the proposed activities on the immediate and surrounding environment and propose recommendations to enhance positive impacts and reduce negative impacts.

The BA Environmental process will include:

- a) Stakeholder engagement;
- b) Environmental assessment of current site conditions;

- c) A description of the activities commenced with;
- d) Description of the environment that was affected;
- e) Description of need and desirability of the activities commenced with;
- f) Identification of possible alternatives; and
- g) Description and assessment of the significance of environmental impacts.

Consideration of comments received from various authorities, stakeholders and Interested and Affected Parties, forms an intrinsic part of this process. Authority decision-making and a public appeal opportunity will occur after the submission of the final Basic Assessment Report to MDARDLEA.

### **Public Participation Process (PPP)**

During the public participation phase, consultation with the following parties will take place:

- Relevant authorities at various levels;
- Relevant stakeholders;
- The proponent; and
- The public at large.

The following activities will take place as part of public participation:

- Advertising: On-site and in a local newspaper;
- Supplying people with an opportunity to comment and register as interested and affected parties; and
- The Draft Basic Assessment Environmental Report will be made available for public review. I&APs will be notified when the document will be available for review and will then have a 30-day opportunity to comment on it, prior to submission to the MDARDLEA for consideration.

# COMMENT AND REGISTRATION SHEET

## PUBLIC CONSULTATION PROCESS FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESS FOR THE CLEARANCE OF VEGETATION ON THE FARM BOERLANDS, NEAR BARBERTON, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE

If you would like to register as an Interested and Affected Party for the project and you would like to receive all documentation that will be made available for public review, and/or should you have any comments, please complete the registration form and send it to the address as indicated at the end of the page.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Owner/Lessee: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Residential Address: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS;

**Return to:**

Core Environmental Services

Cell: 060 878 1591

Email: [info@coreenviro.co.za](mailto:info@coreenviro.co.za)

# Locality Map