



mineral resources

Department:
Mineral Resources
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

NAME OF APPLICANT: De Groote Boom Minerals (Pty) Ltd

REFERENCE NUMBER: LP 10656 MR

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

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, 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 environmental and for infrastructure which may be affected by the proposed project

B. Report on the results of consultation

Various farms were identified for the proposed prospecting activities by De Groote Boom Minerals (Pty) Ltd (De Groote Boom), to compile and submit an Environmental Management Plan (EMP), pursuant to an application for a mining permit, in terms of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002) (MPRDA) to the Limpopo Department of Mineral Resources (DMR). The Project is situated on the Farm De Grooteboom 373 KT, near the town Steelpoort, situated in the Limpopo Province.

The Mining Permit Application (MPA) has been accepted by the Regional Manager, Limpopo Region, of the DMR under Reference LP 10656 MR and De Groote Boom has been instructed to prepare an EMP, which will include various specialist investigations, and a Public Participation Process (PPP) will be undertaken. Below in *Table 1* are the farms included as part of the Mining Permit Application.

Table 1: Landowners affected by the Mining Perming Application

Prospecting Licence	Farm Name	Portion	Landowner/Company	Contact Person
Directly Affected Landowners				
LP 10656 MR	De Grooteboom 373	RE	Private person	Jacob Ryno Le Grange
LP 10656 MR	De Grooteboom 373	2	4U2 Farm 002 CC	Jacob Ryno Le Grange
LP 10656 MR	DE Grooteboom 373	3	Xstrata South Africa (Pty) Ltd	Kenedy Owour
LP 10656 MR	DE Grooteboom 373	1	Trust	Willem Johannes Steenkamp Testamentary Trust
Adjacent Landowners				
LP 10656 MR	Rietfontein 375	7	Private Person	Hiemstra Egbert Carl Arthur
LP 10656 MR	Rietfontein 375	8	Van Niekerk Stene CC	Piet Van Niekerk
LP 10656 MR	Rietfontein 375	9	Zeburaba Cattle Enterprises Pty Ltd	Zeburaba Cattle Enterprises Pty Ltd
LP 10656 MR	Rietfontein 375	12	Winterbach Petrus Johannes	Winterbach Petrus Johannes
LP 10656 MR	Zwakwater 377	0	National Government of the Republic of South Africa	Suzan Molele
LP 10656 MR	Rietfontein 375	13	Trust	Bakoni Ba Shaga Community Development Trust
LP 10656 MR	Rietfontein 375	15	Zeburaba Cattle Enterprises Pty Ltd	Zeburaba Cattle Enterprises Pty Ltd
LP 10656 MR	Dwars Rivier 372	0	Assmang Ltd	Thandiwe Buthelezi
LP 10656 MR	Dwars Rivier 372	1	Assmang Ltd	Thandiwe Buthelezi
LP 10656 MR	Frischgewaagd 359	0	National Government of the Republic of South Africa	Suzan Molele
LP 10656 MR	Tweefontein 360	1	Samancor Chrome Ltd	Charles Mathoma
LP 10656 MR	Thornclyff 374	3	Xstrata South Africa Pty Ltd	Kenedy Owour
LP 10656 MR	Thornclyff 374	4	Private Person	Louw Jacobus Johannes
LP 10656 MR	Thornclyff 374	0	Xstrata South Africa Pty Ltd	Kenedy Owour
LP 10656 MR	Thornclyff 374	2	Didingwe River Lodge CC	Martie Du Plessis

Please refer to **Appendix A** for the Regional Locality Plan and Land Tenure Plan.

1. Methodology applied to consultation

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

Within the applicable MPA area no communities were identified, hence, no communities are landowners or occupiers within the MPA area. However, the following communities were identified who reside within the indirect study area (in the excess of 3 km):

- Buffelshoek Community;
- Kalkfontein Community;
- Richmond Community; and
- Moletsi Dwars River Community.

1.2 Specifically state whether or not the Community is also the landowner.

No communities are landowners within the MPA area. Directly affected landowners were identified by means of Windeed searches, utilising information from an existing stakeholder database and telephonic consultations undertaken with landowners. A field visit was conducted by the Heritage Specialist in April 2015 in order to identify affected communities together with traditional authorities. Landownership of the relevant farms is provided in *Table 1*.

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

The Limpopo Department of Rural and Land Reform has been identified as an Interested and Affected Party and included in the Public Participation Process (PPP). Please find the relevant contact details of representatives below:

Mr SR Mphasha, Email: srmphasha@ruraldevelopment.gov.za, Tel No: (015) 284 6300

Ms Lorraine Mosebedi, Email: lmosebedi@ruraldevelopment.gov.za, Tel No: (015) 284 6300

1.4 State specifically whether or not a land claim is involved

A request for land claims information was submitted to the Limpopo Department of Rural and Land Reform to Mrs Gladys Kekana, Email: ngkekana@ruraldevelopment.gov.za, Tel (015) 284 6324 of which the outcome of any land claims over the applicable Farms are detailed below.

A directive from the DMR stated that consultation needs to be undertaken with the Department of Land Affairs, if the affected land is state-owned, or the office of Commission of Land Rights, if the affected land is subject to land restitution. A summary of the outcome is provided within this section and the full report can be referred to in *Appendix G*.

Through the process to establish landownership it was found that no properties are owned by the Department of Land Affairs. As such, consultation was undertaken with the office of the Commission of Land Rights in order to determine if the affected properties are subject to land restitution.

The Digby Wells Stakeholder Engagement office engaged, by means of telephone and email, with representatives from the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform as stipulated below on Wednesday, 18 March 2015 and Tuesday, 24 March 2015:

- Mrs Gladys Kekana;

- Mr Maphoto; and
- Mrs Linah Bopape (PA to Mr Maphoto).

The Department of Rural Development and Land Reform project manager for the enquiry is Mrs Senwana Makhanana and be reached on (015) 287 2600.

The purpose of these engagements was to firstly ensure that the relevant representatives from the Department Rural Development and Land Reform are consulted and secondly to determine if the affected properties are subject to land restitution. A formal enquiry for directly affected and adjacent properties was submitted on Wednesday, 18 March 2015.

Feedback was received from the Office of the Regional Land Claims Commissioner: Limpopo on Monday, 23 March 2015 (refer to *Appendix G*) which indicates the following:

- Farms De Grootboom 373, Dwars Rivier 372, Frischgewaagd 359, Tweefontein 360 and Thorncliff are subject to restitution land claims by the Masha Community and Moletsi Dwars Rivier Community; and
- Farms Zwakwater 377 and Rieftontein 375 indicated that no information relating to restitution land claims existed.

The Department Rural Development and Land Reform indicated that research about the restitution land claims is ongoing and that relevant correspondence would be provided should claims be identified that satisfy requirements of the Restitution of Land Rights Act (Act no 22 of 1994).

1.5 Name the Traditional Authority identified

A Traditional Authority has been identified being active around the MPA area, namely the Masha Royal Council (Masha Makopole Traditional Council) with Kgosi LA Masha being the key representative and Senior Traditional Leader.

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

Please refer to *Table 1* for details on landownership.

1.7 List the lawful occupiers of the land concerned

Please refer to *Table 1* for details.

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 mining operations will be conducted using invasive and non-invasive methods. Because of the open cast mining, invasive methods will result in land disturbances. However, the socio-economic conditions of land occupants will not be directly impacted since site rehabilitation will be undertaken and mitigation measures implemented throughout the mining process. Specialist studies are being undertaken in order to understand impacts incurred by the proposed project. As part of the studies a social specialist study impact assessment will be completed which will provide more comprehensive information regarding the impact on socio-economic conditions of landowners. This information will be included as part of the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) where mitigation measures will be prescribed in order to minimise social impacts as far as possible.

1.9 Name the Local Municipality identified by the applicant

The Local Municipality identified and included in the PPP is the Greater Tubatse Local Municipality, which fall under the Sekhukhune District Municipality.

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

The various Government Departments, agencies and institutions included in the PPP are set out below:

National

- National Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)
- South African Heritage Resources Agency
- National Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA)
- National Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

Provincial

- Limpopo Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)
- Limpopo Department of Mineral Resources (DMR)
- Limpopo Department of Rural Development and Land Reform
- Limpopo Department of Public Works
- Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (LEDET)
- Limpopo Department of Labour
- Limpopo Department of Health and Social Development
- Limpopo Department of Roads & Transport
- Limpopo Heritage Resources Authority (LIHRA)
- Limpopo: Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs
- SA National Road Agency (SANRAL) - Northern Region
- Limpopo Provincial House of Traditional Leaders

District and Local

- Greater Tubatse Local Municipality
- Sekhukhune District Municipality.

Non-governmental Organisations

- Birdlife South Africa
- Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT)
- Lebalelo Water User Association
- Water Research Commission
- Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA)
- Working for Wetlands
- Northern Transvaal Agricultural Union

A full stakeholder database is included as **Appendix B**.

- 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

Identification of Stakeholders

To ensure a proper representation of stakeholders interested in or affected by the proposed, the following identification methods were used to develop a stakeholder database:

- Utilisation of an existing stakeholder database;
- Conducting Windeed and related desktop searches in and around the project to verify landownership and obtain contact details;
- Responses to be received from newspaper advertisements and site notices;
- Responses on the distribution of the Background Information Document (BID); and
- Telephonic and one-on-one consultations with stakeholders to identify additional I&APs.

Stakeholders for the proposed project are grouped into the following categories:

- **Government:** National, Provincial, District and Local authorities;
- **Landowners:** Directly affected and adjacent landowners;
- **Land occupiers:** Directly affected and adjacent land occupiers;
- **Communities:** Surrounding communities;
- **Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs):** Environmental and social organisations;
- **Agriculture:** associations or organisations focussed on agricultural activities; and
- **Business:** small medium enterprises and formal organisations.

A stakeholder database has been compiled which will be updated throughout the environmental regulatory process with new stakeholders (**refer to Appendix B**).

Public Participation Materials

Considering the legislative requirements and good practice the following methods have been implemented to disseminate information to stakeholders about the proposed project (see *Table 2* for further details). The various PP materials used during announcement of the proposed project have been included as **Appendices C, D, E and F**.

- **Background Information Document (BID):** includes the location and a description of the proposed project, the legislative processes and requirements that will be followed, the specialist studies to be conducted, the competent authorities, and the consultation and registration process including contact details of the responsible person representing the EAP.
- **Newspaper Advertisement:** an English newspaper advert was placed in one local newspaper. The advert included a brief project description, information about the required legislation, the competent authorities and details of the appointed EAP.
- **Site Notices:** English site notices were put up at various places as indicated in *Table 2*. The site notices contained a brief project description, information about the required legislation, the competent authorities and details of the EAP.
- **Letter with Registration and Comment Sheet:** a letter was sent in English which contained information about the proposed project, applicable legislation and competent authorities. A Registration and Comment Sheet was also provided for stakeholders to use for formal registration as I&APs or to submit comments.

Consultation with Stakeholders

Telephonic consultations: various telephonic consultations were conducted with directly affected landowners, adjacent landowners, traditional authorities and communities during April 2015.

Written comments: All comments received via email, mail or telephonically have been included into the Comment and Response Report (CRR) (**see Appendix H**). Stakeholder comments will be closely considered and addressed, where applicable, by the project team. Responses are provided to the comments raised by stakeholders and included in the CRR.

Public Participation Activities

In *Table 2* more detail is provided about the PP activities undertaken thus far, together with referencing materials included as Appendices.

Table 2: Public Participation Activities

Activity	Details	Reference in Report
Scoping Phase		
Identification of stakeholders	Stakeholder database which includes I&APs from various sectors of society, including directly affected and adjacent landowners, in and around the proposed study area.	Appendix B Stakeholder Database
Land Claims Commissioner	The office of the Regional Land Claims Commissioner Limpopo has been informed on 18 March 2015 by means of a letter requesting confirmation if any land claims exist on the affected properties. Feedback was received on 23 March 2015 from the Commissioner stating that there is a claim on De Grootboom 373 KT Ptn RE, 1, 2, 3.	Appendix G Department of Land Affairs Consultation Report
Distribution of announcement letter and Background Information Document (BID)	BID, announcement letter with Registration and Comment Sheet was emailed and posted to stakeholders on 14 April 2015. An SMS was sent to the stakeholders on the database that has cell phone numbers on 14 April 2015 to notify them of the announcement of the project. The BID and announcement letter was also made available on the Digby Wells website under Public Documents (www.digbywells.com)	Appendix C Letter with Registration and Comment Sheet Appendix D Background Information Document (BID)

Putting up of site notices	English site notices were put up at the proposed project site, local library, municipal offices and public places such as recreational venues on 16 - 17 April 2015 at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burgersfort Public Library, at the Greater Tubatse Municipal office; • Roosenekal Public Library; • Miners Inn; and • Around the proposed study area. A site notice report and placement map has been developed, indicating the various points where site notices were placed.	Appendix E Site Notice Report and Map
Placing of newspaper advertisement	An English advert was placed in the Steelburger on Friday, 17 April 2015.	Appendix F Advertisement
Telephonic consultation	Telephonic consultation has been undertaken during April 2015 with directly affected and adjacent landowners, traditional authorities and communities.	Appendix H Comment and Response Report
Obtained comments from stakeholders	Comments received from stakeholders have been captured in the Comment and Response Report.	Appendix H Comment and Response Report
Announcement of EMP availability	Announcement of availability of the EMP Report will be done with submission of the EMP to the DMR for a decision of the proposed project. The EMP will be made available to stakeholders on www.digbywells.com and at various public places.	

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

Stakeholders made no comment as to the status of the existing environment. All other comments received have been captured in the Comment and Response Report (CRR) (see *Appendix H*).

2.2 Describe the existing status of the cultural environment that may be affected

The dominant ethnicity of the area is Pedi. An influx of job seekers could introduce more diverse cultures although residents have stated that previous mining developments haven't really attracted too many foreigners. No current sites of cultural significance such as initiation sites or other culturally significant sites were identified.

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

A total of 6 heritage resources were identified within the De Grooteboom study area. These included two Stone Age sites, three Iron Age sites and one possible gong rock. The heritage resources were of negligible significance and value and therefore the impact on these heritage resources was negligible. The HIA did not assess intangible or living heritage that may be

associated with the study area and identified sites, as time and budgetary constraints did not allow for this. However, it is acknowledged that various elements of living heritage may be associated, for example by land claimants, among other communities.

Based on the Heritage Scoping Report and the Heritage Impact Assessment, Digby Wells recommends the following:

- A Watching Brief should be conducted during the construction of the roads and infrastructure areas. The Watching Brief will entail a qualified archaeologist to be present on site during site clearance to identify and investigate possible heritage resources that may be uncovered during construction;
- It is recommended that CFPs be developed and included within the EMP for the mining area and the general DGP area. The CFPs must clearly define the reporting structure and action items required in the discovery or accidental exposure of possible heritage resources during construction and operational activities;
- Additionally, should the mining operation prove to be successful and a Mining Right be applied for, Environmental Authorisation will be applied for which must include a full HRM process, inclusive of a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) which should consist of the following:
 - Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA); and
 - Stakeholder consultation to identify potential ancestral sites and/or burial grounds.

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

De Grootboom Farm used to be a game ranch but game has moved on since the arrival of mining in the area. The land is used to lodge contractors who are working at surrounding mines some of them are staying here for extended periods of time. There is also a lodge operational with a bar and restaurant. This lodge currently relies on business provided by mine contractors in the area. There is also a compound where employees of the lodge stay. There is no agriculture present on the land although the land owner allows some employees and other herdsman in the area to graze their cattle on the land. An increase in mining activity will likely increase the business of the lodge.

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

Current infrastructure found in the area is only the lodge, homes of the landowners, homes of the employees of the lodge, gravel and dirt roads and a power line that provides these homes with electricity. Additional road access could be another positive. Residents are concerned about an increase in traffic as mining in the area has increased carrying capacity of roads in the area. They are also worried about nuisances such as noise, dust, potential water contamination and visual impact to their surroundings affecting sense of place.

2.6 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.

Soil

The study area is dominated by shallow rocky soils (Mispah/Glenrosa) on upper slopes. The flatter slopes show greater accumulation of soil. The dominant soil in the downslope region is Hutton soil form. The lower slopes are currently used for subsistence grazing. There is evidence of overgrazing and large areas of erosion. This is due to the combination of high runoff velocity from the steep slopes and reduced ground cover (overgrazing).

The dominant land capability for the area is the Class VI (Moderate Grazing) and Class VIII (Wilderness). These capability classifications are due to the steep slopes. The footslopes where the slopes are less than 5% the shallower soils (Mispah/Glenrosa) have a Class IV (Low Cultivation/Intensive Grazing) land capability. The deeper Hutton soils have Class III (Moderate Cultivation) land capability. The land use dominating the study area is natural veld which has been used in some parts for subsistence grazing by the community. There are portions downslope that show signs of erosion.

Water resources

The De Groote Boom study area is located within the Olifants Water Management Area (WMA 4) and within quaternary catchments B41G and B41H, with majority of the study area falling within quaternary catchment B41G. A number of non-perennial streams drain the mountain where the infrastructure and open cut mining is planned and may potentially be impacted as a result of the project. These non-perennial streams were found to be seasonal and only likely to flow after rainfall. The southernmost branch of non-perennial streams drains the proposed mining area into the Springkaanspruit, which was found to be flowing at the time of the site visit. The non-perennial streams to the west and north of the mining area drain into the Dwars River, after the confluence of the Groot Dwars and Klein Dwars Rivers. Water quality sampling conducted in April 2015 near the study area indicated that water quality within the Groot Dwars and Dwars Rivers was good, with all analysed parameters within the SANS 242-1:2011 drinking water quality standards.

Fauna and Flora

The study area is located within the Sekhukhuneland Centre of Plant Endemism (SCPE) and 58 endemic plant species are known to occur in the area. Endemic fauna are also present in the SCPE, and the Sekhukhuneland Flat Lizard (*Platysaurus orientalis*) and the Cicada (*Pycna sylvia*) are likely to occur on site. The site is also situated in a Nationally Threatened Ecosystem, namely Sekhukhune Mountainlands.

2.7 Provide any relevant additional information

No additional information has been provided.

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

3.1 Confirmation 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

Please refer to *Sections 1.11 and 2.1* above. With availability of the EMP to stakeholders, it is envisaged that further comments will be obtained.

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

Please refer to *Section 2.2*. Further details will be provided with availability of the EMP.

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

Please refer to *Section 2.3*. Further details will be provided with availability of the EMP.

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.

Please also refer to *Sections 2.2, 2.4 and 2.5* for information. Further details will be provided with availability of the EMP.

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

Unemployment levels are relatively high and income levels are relatively low thus there is sure to be raised expectations due to the arrival of another project. Please also refer to *Sections 2.4 and 2.5* for supporting information.

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

Soil

Construction Phase

During the construction phase the work carried out will include the construction of the mine and supporting infrastructure. This will entail the clearing of areas and the disturbance of the topsoil through excavations as well as the construction of a soil stockpile. The topography and natural drainage lines will be disturbed. The overall impact will be loss of topsoil as a result of erosion and possible contamination of the soil by fuel, and oils due to the excavation activities. Soil compaction caused by heavy vehicles and machinery surrounding the open cut areas could also be a problem.

Soil stripping will require the removal of all soil materials to a depth of at least 0.3 m. This activity will provide needed soil cover material for rehabilitation purposes. Construction activities will change the land use from natural/subsistence grazing to mining causing unsuitable conditions for any further commercial farming.

Operation Phase

Soil erosion through wind and storm water run-off, and soil pollution by means of hydrocarbon contamination and, may be encountered during the operational phase. Water runoff from roads must be controlled and managed by means of proper storm water management facilities in order to prevent soil erosion. Diesel and oil spills are common at mine sites due to the large volumes of diesel and oil consumed by mining vehicles, also vehicles must be maintained to reduce the chances of any leaks occurring. Pollution may however be localised. Small pockets

of localised pollution may be cleared up easily using commercially available hydrocarbon emergency clean-up kits.

Decommissioning Phase

During the decommissioning phase all infrastructure will be demolished and removed, which will entail vehicle movement in the infrastructure area. The potential impacts associated with these activities will include the risk of hydrocarbon spills, and compaction. The rehabilitation of the mining area and infrastructure area should have a positive impact if done correctly.

Water resources

The following are identified as significant water impacts:

- Removal of vegetation and topsoil exposes the soil, leaving it prone to soil erosion which may cause siltation of water resources.
- Storage of diesel and other hazardous substances onsite has the potential to spill and contaminate water resources.
- Water management: channels, pipelines and PCD should be appropriately sized and maintained to avoid spills that may wash into water resources.
- Haul roads used by heavy machinery has the potential to deteriorate causing erosion and subsequent siltation of water resources. Storm water structures need to be implemented and roads regularly maintained.
- Rehabilitation of the site is extremely important, and should rehabilitation not take place, then long term impacts on surface water resources may be the result.

Fauna and Flora / Ecology

The following impacts from the proposed project on ecology have been identified:

- Removal of vegetation;
- Disturbance of the soil;
- Vehicle operation;
- Establishment of alien plant species in disturbed areas;
- Increased human presence; and
- Machinery and vehicle operation (noise).

An initial field survey was undertaken in September 2014, and in March 2015. The plant species list amounted to 62 species although many more may occur. The natural vegetation was found to be largely intact and only a single alien plant was recorded for the site. Nine plant Species of Special Concern (SSC) were expected to occur on site, four of which were confirmed during the field survey. A total of 6 mammals were confirmed to occur within the study area during the field survey, The Brown Hyaena (*Hyaena brunnea*) and African Leopard (*Panthera pardus*) were reported to be present on site by the farmer at De Grooteboom. These species will relocate during any major disturbance, but are regarded as Vulnerable according to the IUCN.

The impact of the proposed mine is regarded as highly significant. Although limited in extent, the regional and local sensitivity of the study area deems it as very important for biodiversity

and natural heritage. Plant endemism and diversity, as well as the fact that the SCPE has not been fully described taxonomically, are factors that contribute to the sensitivity of the site.

- 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.

These will be discussed in detail in the EMP developed for the MPA and will be submitted to the DMR.

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.

Most of the Farm is used for recreational purposes and of course the lodge. There is a tarred road that runs between the R55 and Lydenburg (R577), this road appears to be busy with a lot of trucks hauling goods along it. There is evidence of erosion being a problem in the area as we noticed some large gullies. Generally the study area and surrounding area is sparsely populated with one or two households scattered around the area, the closest densely populated area is a township called Kalkfontein which is approximately 8 km to the west of the study area. Didingwe River Lodge is situated 1 km south of the project boundary and it is anticipated that this lodge would not be affected too much. To the west of the project boundary a fair amount of mining activity is taking place and some activity to the south and north.

- 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.

No land developments were identified by the community during the consultation undertaken for the prospecting rights application.

- 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.

No suggestions were made by stakeholders through the consultation process relating to operational plans.

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

The demand for PGMs was boosted in the first nine months of 2010 by improved economic conditions, which lifted business and consumer confidence and led to a recovery of many industrial sectors. Gross industrial demand for platinum was forecasted to increase in 2010 as better economic conditions drive restocking and production levels across many industrial sectors. In addition to the local and national economic benefits of the proposed mining operation, there will also be a social benefit.

Direct economic benefits will be derived from wages, taxes and profits and local and regional employment opportunities would be created. Indirect economic benefits will also be derived from the procurement of goods and services and the increased spending power of employees. Increased business opportunities for local entrepreneurs through the supply of goods and services to the mine will also be evident.

The De Groote Boom project would contribute towards economic development through employment opportunities, improvement of procurement of services and increase in social development projects for the communities in the local area. The aforementioned benefits would be omitted should the proposed project be deemed unviable to proceed with development.

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.

See *Section 1.11* for detail on the information that was provided to stakeholders. Further to the information provided in *Section 1.11*, all stakeholder comments are captured in a Comment and Response Report (CRR) as included in **Appendix H**.

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

All directly affected and adjacent landowners, traditional authorities and communities were engaged by means of telephonic consultation in an effort to obtain comments (see *Table 1* below). Furthermore, email and post correspondence and SMS were provided to stakeholders as listed in *Table 3* below.

Table 3: List of stakeholders notified

Company	Name	Surname
Agri SA	Willem	Van Jaarsveld
Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	Mpume	Ntlokwana
Department of Water and Sanitation - (DWS) Bronkhorstspuit	Standford	Macevele
Limpopo Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Love	Hlekane
Limpopo Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Ben	Sengani
Limpopo Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	H	Mabada
Limpopo Department of Mineral Resources (DMR)	Thivhulwawi	Kolani
Limpopo Department of Mineral Resources (DMR)	Bongani	Hlatswayo
Limpopo Department of Mineral Resources (DMR)	Aaron	Kharivhe
Limpopo Department of Rural Development and Land Reform	Makhanana	Senwana
Limpopo Department of Rural Development and Land Reform	Tele	Maphoto

Limpopo Department of Mineral Resources (DMR)	Azwi	Mulaudzi
Limpopo Department of Rural Development and Land Reform	SR	Mphasha
Limpopo Department of Mineral Resources (DMR)	Thanyani	Muronga
Limpopo Department of Public Works	Ngoashenga	Nare
Limpopo Department of Rural Development and Land Reform	Gladys	Kekana
Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism(LEDET)	TP	Malungani
Limpopo Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Marencia	Mashilo
Limpopo Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Mpho	Mabuda
Limpopo Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Malegodi	Mahlatji
Limpopo Department of Mineral Resources (DMR)	Lerato	Maibelo
Limpopo Department of Mineral Resources (DMR)	Tebogo	Mangaba
Limpopo Department of Rural Development and Land Reform	Kgaugelo	Sebati
Limpopo Department of Rural Development and Land Reform	Lorraine	Mosebedi
Limpopo Department of Mineral Resources (DMR)	Cate	Mashapu
Limpopo Department of Labour	Carol	Mthethwa
Limpopo Department of Health and Social Development	D	Mafubela
Limpopo Department of Agriculture	Jacqueline	Maisela
Limpopo Department of Roads & Transport	Jonathan	Gafane
Limpopo Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (LEDET)	Phumozo	Thivhafuni
Limpopo Heritage Resources Authority (LIHRA)	Donald	Lithole
Limpopo: Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs	MG	Makoko
Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency	Frans	Krige
National Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA)	Obed	Baloyi
National Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA)	Mark	Gordon
National Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Ockie	Van den Berg
National Department of Water affairs	Solly	Mabuda
National Department of Agriculture	Portia	Khumalo
National Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	Mashudu	Marubini
National Department of Agriculture , Forestry and Fisheries	Lydia	Bosoga
National Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA)	Millicent	Solomons
SA National Road Agency (SANRAL) - Nothern Region	Victoria	Bota
South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)	Phillip	Hine
South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)	Godfrey	Tshivhalavhala
Independent Consultant	Johan	Spangler
Leads 2 Business	Marlaine	Andersen
SOTAC Transport & Express	Geophrey	Mashego
Transnet	Francis	Rahlapane

Eskom Transmission Land and Rights	Tobile	Bokwe
Assmang LTD	Thandiwe	Buthelezi
Willem Johannes Steenkamp Testamentere Trust	Elsa	van den Heever
Xstrata South Africa (Pty) Ltd	Kenedy	Owour
Sekhukhune District Municipality	DM	Makgabe
Sekhukhune District Municipality	Mpho	Makhema
Sekhukhune District Municipality	Mokoko	Seoketsa
Birdlife SA	Simon	Gear
Birdlife South Africa	Mark	Anderson
Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT)	Kirsty	Brebner
Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT)	Rynette	Coetzee
Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT)	Wendy	Collinson
Lebalelo Water User Association	Ossie	Rossouw
Lebalelo Water User Association (LWUA)		Malcom
Water Research Commission	Adriaan	Taljaard
WESSA	Rudzani	Nemukula
Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA)	Lemson	Betha
Working for Wetlands	Marie	Mathebula
Working for Wetlands	Lebogang	Ralepeli
Northern Transvaal Agricultural Union (NTLU)	Wilma	Prinsloo
Indirectly affected landowner	Egbert Carl Arthur	Hiemstra
Indirectly affected landowner	Petrus Johannes	Winterbach
Indirectly affected landowner	Jacobus Johannes	Louw
Didingwe River Lodge CC	Martie	Du Plussis
Dwarsrivier Mine	Remember	Mmbengwa
First Platinum/Aquarius Platinum (South Africa)	Tshepo	Mothobi
Government of Lebowa	Suzan	Molele
National Government of the Republic of South Africa	Dan	Mongale
Samancor Chrome Ltd	Charles	Mathoma
Van Niekerk Stene CC	Piet	Van Niekerk
Zeburaba Cattle Enterprises Pty Ltd	To be confirmed	To be confirmed
Anglo Platinum	Mike	Marshall
SANCO Limpopo	MJ	Maphoso
Moletsi Dwars River Community	To be confirmed	To be confirmed
Directly Affected Landowner	Ryno	le Grange
Landowner	Annatjie	Roode
Border on Farm	D	Robberts
Border on Farm	C	Cornelius
De Grootleboom farm	Elsa	van den Heever
Government Of Lebowa	Tandani	Rakhumba
Burgersfort Public Library	Golddollar	Mtheza
Roosenekal Public Library	Jonas Tshepo Mahlangu	Mahlangu
Greater Tubatse Local Municipality	Moengi Queen	Makgale

Greater Tubatse Local Municipality	MM	Moja
Greater Tubatse Local Municipality	Lekgau	Molepo
Greater Tubatse Local Municipality	M	Monyepao
Greater Tubatse Local Municipality	Queen	Makgale
Greater Tubatse Local Municipality	Rose	Maphanga
Buffelshoek Community	Phillimon	Maimela
Buffelshoek Community	Katlego	Mampuru
Buffelshoek Community	Johannes	Tau
Buffelshoek Community	Tebogo	Maimela
Farm Projects	MS	Manoge
Kalkfontein Community	Salome	Tshehla
Richmond Community	Jacobus	Magane
Limpopo Provincial House of Traditional Leaders	Solomon	Dikgale
Masha Royal Council	LA	Masha
Masha Royal Council	KN	Masha
Masha Royal Council	PS	Masha
Masha Royal Council	William	Masha

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.

Please see **Appendix H** for the Comment and Response Report.

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.

Please see **Appendix H** for the Comment and Response Report.

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

Please see **Appendix H** for the Comment and Response Report.

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

Please see **Appendix H** for the Comment and Response Report.

5.7 Provide information with regard to any objections received.

Please see **Appendix H** for the Comment and Response Report.










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

As far as possible local people should be employed to assist with the prospecting process. Community infrastructure should be avoided as far as possible where these cannot be avoided discussions should take place with the affected community and mitigation measures put in place.



Appendix A: Regional Locality Plan













De Groote Boom Mining Permit: Land Tenure

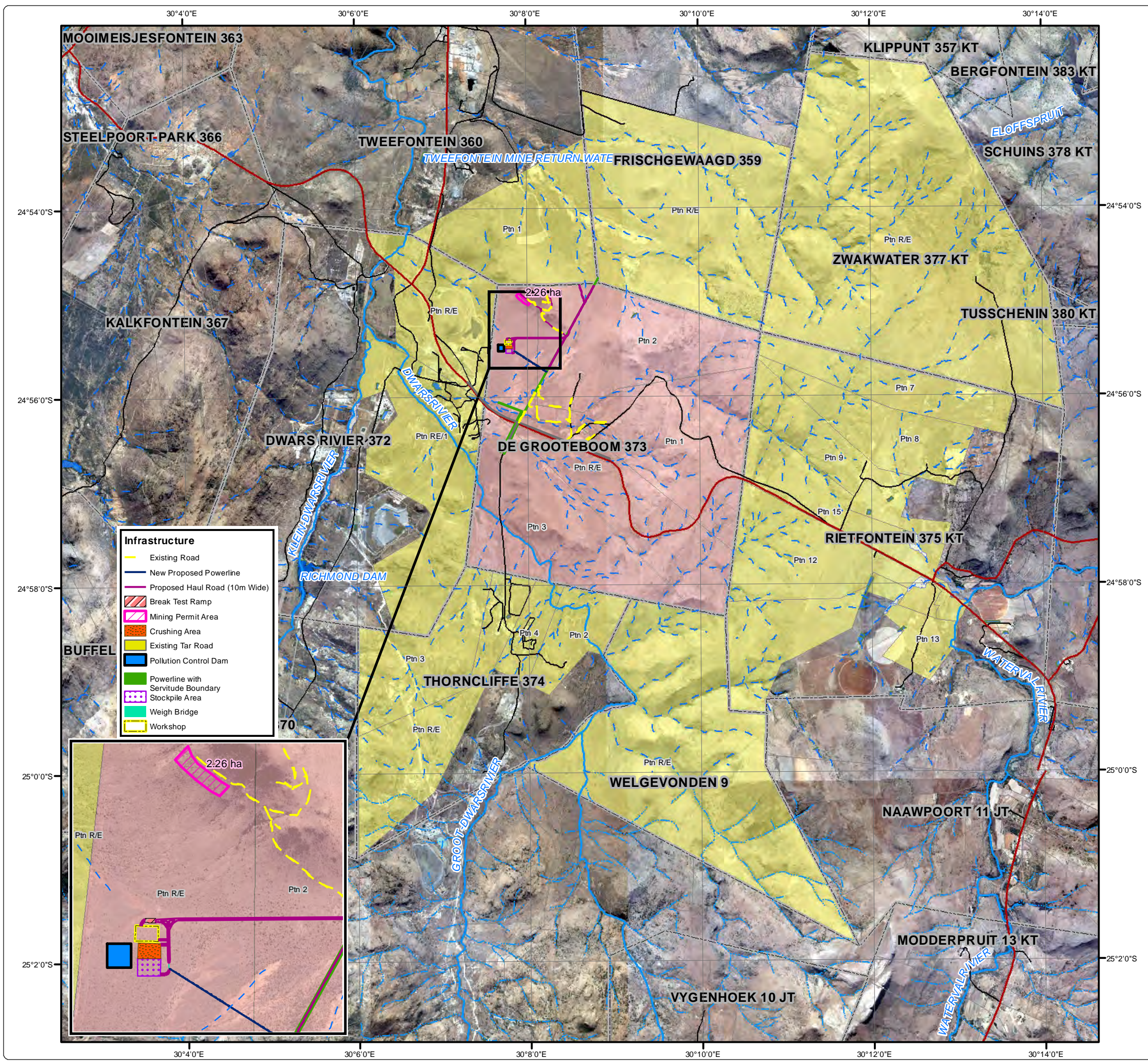
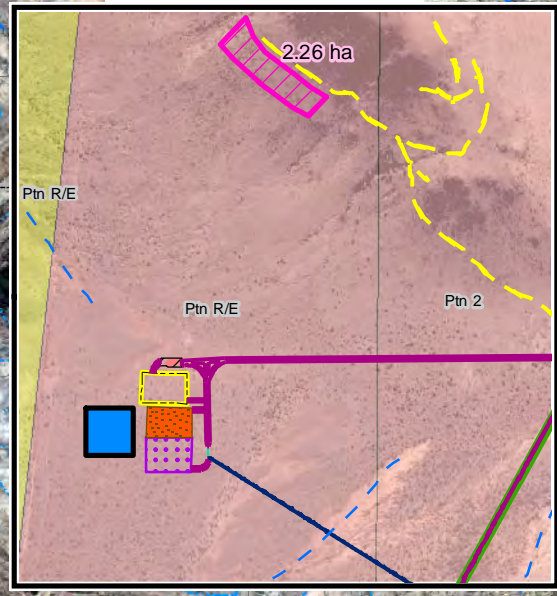
Legend

-  Main / Secondary Road
-  Minor Road
-  Non-Perennial Stream
-  Perennial Stream
-  Dam Wall
-  Dam
-  Wetland
-  Farm Portion
-  Farm Boundary

Affected Farm Portions

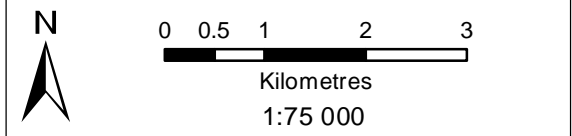
-  Adjacent
-  Directly Affected

- #### Infrastructure
-  Existing Road
 -  New Proposed Powerline
 -  Proposed Haul Road (10m Wide)
 -  Break Test Ramp
 -  Mining Permit Area
 -  Crushing Area
 -  Existing Tar Road
 -  Pollution Control Dam
 -  Powerline with Servitude Boundary
 -  Stockpile Area
 -  Weigh Bridge
 -  Workshop



• Sustainability • Service • Positive Change • Professionalism • Future Focused • Integrity

Projection: Transverse Mercator Ref #: sdp.UAR2967.201504.163
Datum: WGS84 Revision Number: 1
Central Meridian: 31°E Date: 30/04/2015



Appendix B: Full Stakeholder Database

Category	Company	Mr/Ms	First Name	Last Name	Position
Agricultural and farmers association	Agri SA	Mr	Willem	Van Jaarsveld	Chairman
Authorities	Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	Ms	Mpume	Ntlokwana	
Authorities	Department of Water and Sanitation - (DWS) Bronkhorstspuit	Mr	Standford	Macevele	Deputy Director
Authorities	limpopo Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Mr	Love	Hlekane	
Authorities	Limpopo Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Mr	Ben	Sengani	
Authorities	Limpopo Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Mr	H	Mabada	
Authorities	Limpopo Department of Mineral Resources (DMR)	Mr	Thivhulwawi	Kolani	
Authorities	Limpopo Department of Mineral Resources (DMR)	Mr	Bongani	Hlatswayo	
Authorities	Limpopo Department of Mineral Resources (DMR)	Mr	Aaron	Kharivhe	Regional Manager
Authorities	Limpopo Department of Rural Development and Land Reform	Mr	Makhanana	Senwana	
Authorities	Limpopo Department of Rural Development and Land Reform	Mr	Tele	Maphoto	Chief Director
Authorities	Limpopo Department of Mineral Resources (DMR)	Mr	Azwi	Mulaudzi	

Authorities	Limpopo Department of Rural Development and Land Reform	Mr	SR	Mphasha	
Authorities	Limpopo Department of Mineral Resources (DMR)	Mr	Thanyani	Muronga	
Authorities	Limpopo Department of Public Works	Mr	Ngoashenga	Nare	Head of Department
Authorities	Limpopo Department of Rural Development and Land Reform	Mrs	Gladys	Kekana	
Authorities	Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism(LEDET)	Ms	TP	Malungani	
Authorities	Limpopo Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Ms	Marencia	Mashilo	
Authorities	Limpopo Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Ms	Mpho	Mabuda	
Authorities	Limpopo Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Ms	Malegodí	Mahlatji	
Authorities	Limpopo Department of Mineral Resources (DMR)	Ms	Lerato	Maibelo	
Authorities	Limpopo Department of Mineral Resources (DMR)	Ms	Tebogo	Mangaba	
Authorities	Limpopo Department of Rural Development and Land Reform	Ms	Kgaugelo	Sebati	
Authorities	Limpopo Department of Rural Development and Land Reform	Ms	Lorraine	Mosebedi	
Authorities	Limpopo Department of Mineral Resources (DMR)	Ms	Cate	Mashapu	Officer: Directorate Mineral Regulation

Authorities	Limpopo Department of Labour	Ms	Carol	Mthethwa	Occupational Health and Safety Specialist
Authorities	Limpopo Department of Health and Social Development	Ms	D	Mafubela	
Authorities	Limpopo Department of Agriculture	Ms	Jacqueline	Maisela	Head of Department
Authorities	Limpopo Department of Roads & Transport	Mr	Jonathan	Gafane	Senior Manager
Authorities	Limpopo Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (LEDET)	Ms	Phumozo	Thivhafuni	Environment Officer
Authorities	Limpopo Heritage Resources Authority (LIHRA)	Mr	Donald	Lithole	Manager
Authorities	Limpopo: Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditiona Affairs	Mr	MG	Makoko	Acting Head of the Department
Authorities	Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency	Mr	Frans	Krige	
Authorities	National Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA)	Mr	Obed	Baloyi	Environmental Impact Evaluation
Authorities	National Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA)	Mr	Mark	Gordon	Deputy Director General
Authorities	National Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Mr	Ockie	Van den Berg	
Authorities	National Department of Water affairs	Mr	Solly	Mabuda	
Authorities	National Department of Agriculture	Ms	Portia	Khumalo	ROC - Environmental

Authorities	National Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	Ms	Mashudu	Marubini	
Authorities	National Department of Agriculture , Forestry and Fisheries	Ms	Lydia	Bosoga	
Authorities	National Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA)	Ms	Millicent	Solomons	Director
Authorities	SA National Road Agency (SANRAL) - Nothern Region	Ms	Victoria	Bota	Environmentalist
Authorities	South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)	Mr	Phillip	Hine	
Authorities	South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)	Mr	Godfrey	Tshivhalavhala	Heritage Officer
Business and commerce	Leads 2 Business	Ms	Marlaine	Andersen	Senior Regional Content Researcher
Business and commerce	Safety Consultation	Mr	Johan	Spangler	SHEQ Consultant
Business and commerce	SOTAC Transport & Express	Mr	Geophrey	Mashego	
Business and commerce	Transnet	Mr	Francis	Rahlapane	
Business and commerce, Indirectly Affected Landowners	Eskom Transmission Land and Rights	Mr	Tobile	Bokwe	Chief Environmental Advisor
Community	Buffelshoek Community	Mr	Phillimon	Maimela	

Community	Buffelshoek Community	Mr	Katlego	Mampuru	
Community	Buffelshoek Community	Mr	Johannes	Tau	
Community	Buffelshoek Community	Ms	Tebogo	Maimela	
Community	David & Sons	Mr	David	Makola	Manager
Community	Farm Projects	Mr	MS	Manoge	
Community	Kalkfontein Community	Ms	Salome	Tshehla	representative
Community	Richmond Community	Mr	Jacobus	Magane	representative
Directly Affected Landowner		Mr	Ryno	Le Grange	
Directly Affected Landowner, Indirectly Affected Landowners	Assmang LTD	Ms	Thandiwe	Buthelezi	
Directly Affected Landowner	Willem Johannes Steenkamp Testamentere Trust	Ms	Elsa	van den Heever	
Directly Affected Landowner	Xstrata South Africa (Pty) Ltd	Mr	Kennedy	Owour	
District Municipality	Sekhukhune District Municipality	Cllr	DM	Makgabe	Executive Mayor
District Municipality	Sekhukhune District Municipality	Ms	Mpho	Makhema	PA: Speaker

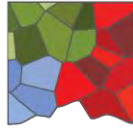
District Municipality	Sekhukhune District Municipality	Ms	Mokoko	Seoketsa	Municipal Manager
Environmental NGO's	Birdlife SA	Mr	Simon	Gear	Policy & Advocacy Manager
Environmental NGO's	Birdlife South Africa	Mr	Mark	Anderson	
Environmental NGO's	Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT)	Ms	Kirsty	Brebner	
Environmental NGO's	Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT)	Ms	Rynette	Coetzee	
Environmental NGO's	Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT)	Ms	Wendy	Collinson	
Environmental NGO's	Lebalelo Water User Association	Mr	Ossie	Rossouw	CEO
Environmental NGO's	Lebalelo Water User Association (LWUA)	Mr		Malcom	Technical Manager
Environmental NGO's	South Africa Human Rights Commission	Ms	Janet	Love	
Environmental NGO's	Water Research Commission	Mr	Adriaan	Taljaard	
Environmental NGO's	WESSA	Mr	Rudzani	Nemukula	Representative
Environmental NGO's	Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA)	Mr	Lemson	Betha	
Environmental NGO's	Working for Wetlands	Ms	Marie	Mathebula	

Environmental NGO's	Working for Wetlands	Ms	Lebogang	Ralepeli	
Farmers Association	Northern Transvaal Agricultural Union (NTLU)	Mr	Wilma	Prinsloo	
Indirectly Affected Landowners		Mr	Egbert Carl Arthur	Hiemstra	
Indirectly Affected Landowners		Mr	Petrus Johannes	Winterbach	
Indirectly Affected Landowners		Mr	Jacobus Johannes	Louw	
Indirectly Affected Landowners		Ms	Annatjie	Roode	
Indirectly Affected Landowners	Border on Farm	Mr	D	Robberts	
Indirectly Affected Landowners	Border on Farm	Mr	C	Cornelius	
Indirectly Affected Landowners	DIDINGWE RIVER LODGE CC	Ms	Martie	Du Plussis	
Indirectly Affected Landowners	DWARSRIVIER Mine	Mr	Remember	Mmbengwa	
Indirectly Affected Landowners	First Platinum/Aquarius Platinum (South Africa)	Mr	Tshepo	Mothobi	
Indirectly Affected Landowners	Government of Lebowa	Ms	Suzan	Molele	Senior Project Office
Indirectly Affected Landowners	GOVERNMENT OF LEBOWA	Mr	Tandani	Rakhumba	

Indirectly Affected Landowners	National Governemnt of the Republic of South africa	Mr	Dan	Mongale	Porperty Reseacher
Indirectly Affected Landowners	SAMANCOR CHROME LTD	Mr	Charles	Mathoma	
Indirectly Affected Landowners	VAN NIEKERK STENE CC	Mr	Piet	Van Niekerk	
Indirectly Affected Landowners	ZEBURABA CATTLE ENTERPRISES PTY LTD				
Industry and mining	Anglo Platinum	Mr	Mike	Marshall	
Labour Union	SANCO Limpopo	Mr	MJ	Maphoso	Provincial Secretary
Land Claimant	Moletsi Dwars River community				
Library	Burgersfort Public Library	Mr	Golddollar	Mtheza	
Library	ROOSSENEKAL PUBLIC LIBRARY	Mr	Jonas Tshepo Mahlangu	Mahlangu	
Local Municipality	Greater Tubatse Local Municipality	Mr	Moengi Queen	Makgale	Speaker
Local Municipality	Greater Tubatse Local Municipality	Mr	MM	Moja	Acting Municipal Manager
Local Municipality	Greater Tubatse Local Municipality	Mr	Lekgau	Molepo	Town Planner
Local Municipality	Greater Tubatse Local Municipality	Ms	M	Monyepao	LED Manager

Local Municipality	Greater Tubatse Local Municipality	Ms	Queen	Makgale	Speaker
Local Municipality	Greater Tubatse Local Municipality	Ms	Rose	Maphanga	PA:Mayor
Local Municipality	Greater Tubatse Municipality	Cllr		Mabilo	
Tribal Authorities	Limpopo Provincial House of Traditional Leaders	Kgosi	Solomon	Dikgale	Chairperson
Tribal Authorities	Masha Royal Council	Kgosi	LA	Masha	
Tribal Authorities	Masha Royal Council	Mr	KN	Masha	Representative
Tribal Authorities	Masha Royal Council	Mr	PS	Masha	Representative
Tribal Authorities	Masha Royal Council	Mr	William	Masha	Representative

Appendix C: Letter with Registration and Comment Sheet



DIGBY WELLS

ENVIRONMENTAL

Project Reference: UAR2967

14 April 2015

MINING PERMIT APPLICATION ON FARM DE GROOTEBOOM FOR COBALT AND ASSOCIATED PLATINUM GROUP METALS, NEAR STEELPOORT, TUBATSE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

De Groote Boom Minerals (Pty) Ltd (De Groote Boom) is proposing the development of an open pit mine with associated infrastructure. The proposed project is situated on the farm De Grooteboom 373 KT, 35 km South East of Steelpoort Town, within the Greater Tubatse Local Municipality in the Limpopo Province.

De Groote Boom currently holds an approved Bulk Sample Prospecting Right valid for three years, the company has applied for a mining permit which will allow for the mining of primarily Cobalt and associated Platinum Group Metals (PGMs) covering an extent of not more than 5 ha on the Remaining Extent and Portion 2 of the farm De Grooteboom 373 KT. More information is available in the attached Background Information Document.

It is possible that after completing work under the mining permit, De Groote Boom will commence with full scale mining of Cobalt and PGMs in terms of a mining right that would be applied for at that stage. Mining under the mining permit will be undertaken by open pit methods and the ore will be transported to a mobile plant for crushing and screening. The ore will be stockpiled until transported off site by truck. The mining permit area is adjacent to the Bulk Sample area and the operational and related infrastructure areas.

The environmental authorisation for the proposed project will require the compilation and submission of a Mining Permit Application and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) in terms of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002) to the Limpopo Department of Mineral Resources (DMR).

Stakeholders affected by, or who are interested in, the proposed project are invited to register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) by contacting Digby Wells Environmental on Tel: 011 789 9495, Fax: 086 583 5715, Postal: Private Bag X10046, Randburg, 2125, Email: nestus.bredenhann@digbywells.com or vanessa.viljoen@digbywells.com.

Yours sincerely

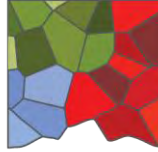
Nestus Bredenhann

Stakeholder Engagement Office

Enclosed

- Background Information Document (BID)
- *Registration and Comment Form*

Appendix D: Background Information Document (BID)



DIGBY WELLS

ENVIRONMENTAL

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

Mining Permit Application on Farm De Grooteboom for Cobalt and Associated Platinum Group Metals, near Steelpoort, Tubatse Local Municipality

April 2015

Project Code:

UAR2967

Prepared for:

De Groote Boom Minerals (Pty) Ltd

For any project related information, please contact:

Digby Wells Environmental – Stakeholder Engagement Office

Nestus Bredenhann or Vanessa Viljoen

Tel: (011) 789 9495 or Fax: 086 583 5715

*Email: vanessa.viljoen@digbywells.com or
nestus.bredenhann@digbywells.com*

Website: www.digbywells.com (Public Documents)

Digby Wells and Associates (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd (Subsidiary of Digby Wells & Associates (Pty) Ltd). Co. Reg. No. 2010/008577/07. Fern Isle, Section 10, 359 Pretoria Ave Randburg Private Bag X10046, Randburg, 2125, South Africa
Tel: +27 11 789 9495, Fax: +27 11 789 9498, info@digbywells.com, www.digbywells.com

Directors: DJ Otto, GB Beringer, LF Koeslag, AJ Reynolds (Chairman) (British)*, J Leaver*, GE Truster (C.E.O)

*Non-Executive

1 PURPOSE OF THE DOCUMENT

De Groote Boom Minerals (Pty) Ltd (De Groote Boom) is proposing the development of an open pit mine with associated infrastructure on a site located near Steelpoort Town in Limpopo Province (the proposed project). This Background Information Document (BID) has been developed to:

- Provide a description of the proposed project;
- Provide an overview of the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) which will be undertaken; and
- Provide details of the Public Participation Process (PPP) and how stakeholders can become involved.

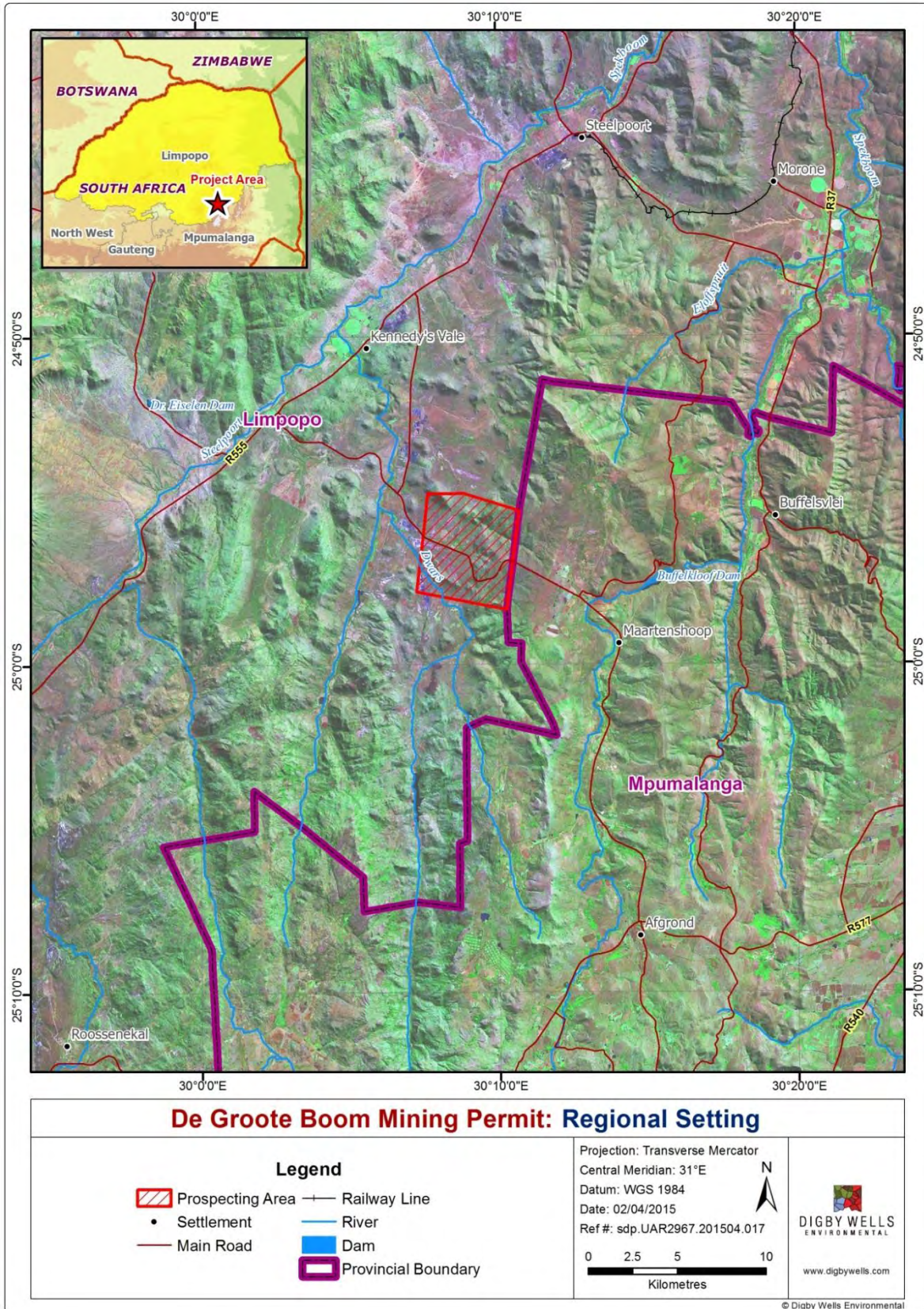
2 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.1 Background

De Groote Boom has submitted a Mining Permit Application (MPA) to mine Cobalt and Platinum Group Metals (PGMs) to the Department of Mineral Resources (DMR). De Groote Boom has been instructed by the DMR to prepare an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) and and undertake a Public Participation Process (PPP). Digby Wells Environmental (Digby Wells) has been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to compile and submit the EMP and undertake the PPP.

2.2 Project Location

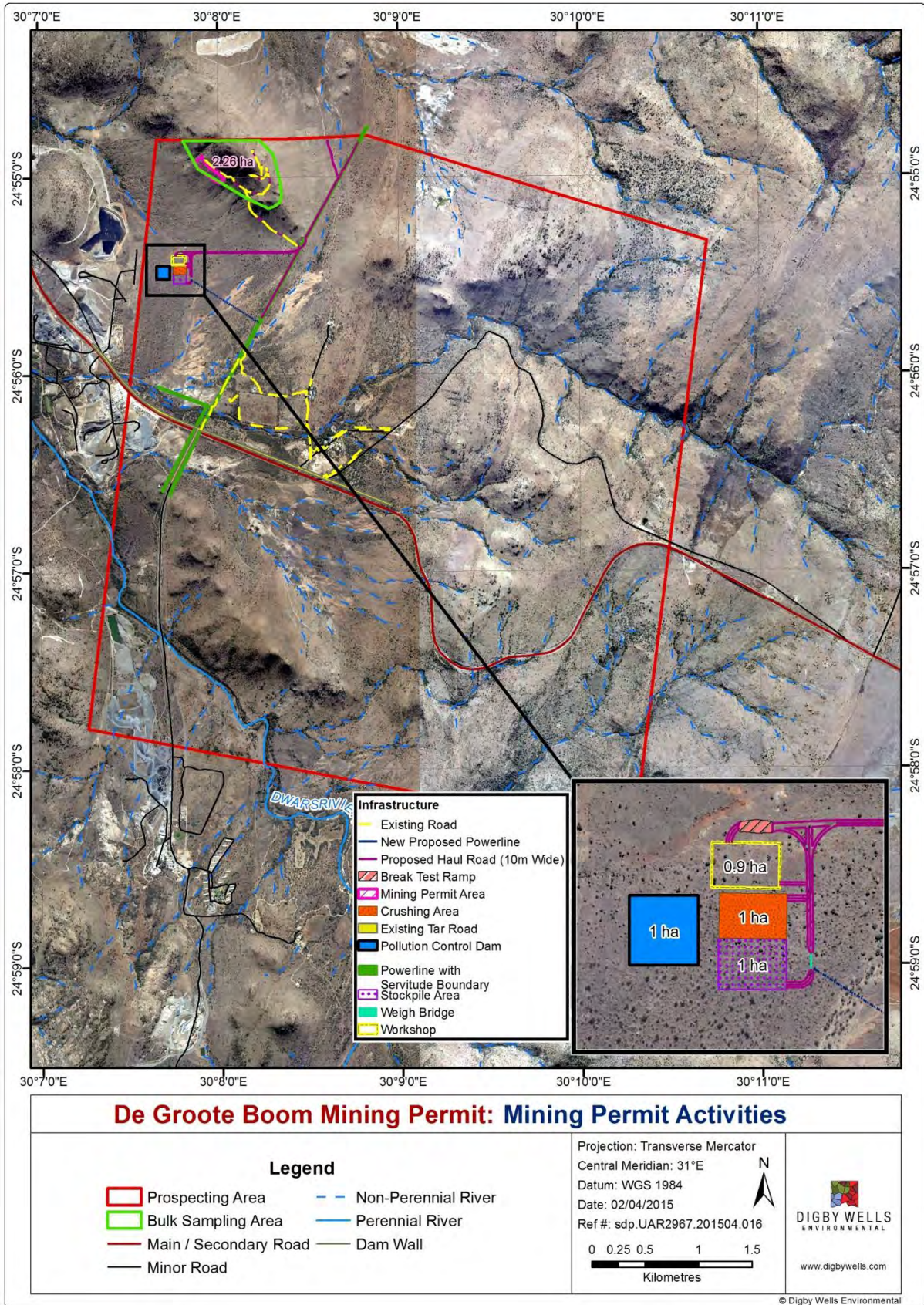
The proposed project is situated on the farm De Grooteboom 373 KT, 35 km South East of Steelpoort Town, within the Greater Tubatse Local Municipality in the Limpopo Province (see regional setting).



Plan 1: Regional Setting

2.3 Project Description

De Groote Boom currently holds an approved Bulk Sample Prospecting Right valid for three years, the company has applied for a mining permit which will allow for the mining of primarily Cobalt and associated Platinum Group Metals (PGMs) covering an extent of not more than 5 ha on the Remaining Extent and Portion 2 of the farm De Grooteboom 373 KT. It is possible that after completing work under the mining permit, De Groote Boom will commence with full scale mining of Cobalt and PGMs in terms of a mining right that would be applied for at that stage. Mining under the mining permit will be undertaken by open pit methods and the ore will be transported to a mobile plant for crushing and screening. The ore will be stockpiled until transported off site by truck. The mining permit area is adjacent to the Bulk Sample area and the operational and related infrastructure areas. See Mining Permit Activities map. The project entails a construction phase, mining phase and potentially a decommissioning phase. The decommissioning phase will only be applicable if the project does not prove to be viable.



Plan 2: Mining Permit Activities

2.4 Project Infrastructure and Activities

The project infrastructure and activities will include the following:

- Upgrading of existing roads;
- Construction of a Pollution Control Dam;
- Construction of a weigh bridge;
- Storage of fuel and oils in temporary storage facilities;
- Site clearance by topsoil removal and stockpiling;
- Workshops, ablution facilities and offices;
- Extraction and hauling of ore;
- Crushing and screening of ore in mobile plant and stockpiling;
- Dirty and clean water management; and
- Waste generation and disposal of waste including sewage.

3 ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

The environmental authorisation for the proposed project will require the compilation and submission of a Mining Permit Application and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) in terms of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002) to the Limpopo Department of Mineral Resources (DMR).

3.1 Specialist Studies

In order to compile the EMP various specialist studies will be undertaken to assess the potential impacts the project might have, including:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| ■ Soils and Land Use Capability | ■ Noise | ■ Hydrology |
| ■ Closure and Rehabilitation | ■ Air Quality | ■ Hydrogeology |
| ■ Wetlands | ■ Heritage | ■ Social |
| ■ Aquatics | ■ Fauna and Flora | ■ Visual |

3.2 Public Participation Process

Any Stakeholder affected by or who may be interested in the proposed project is invited to register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) and to become involved in the EMP development for the proposed project. I&APs will be informed of availability of the EMP which will also simultaneously send to the DMR for a decision about the proposed project.

Registered I&APs will be informed about availability of reports and scheduled stakeholder meetings via their preferred means of communication (SMS, email, post or fax). Comments raised by stakeholders will assist in informed decision-making for authorities and provides information to be considered by the project team and specialists conducting the EMP process. Please complete the attached Registration and Comment Form to submit your comments and to register as an I&AP.



Mining Permit Application on Farm De Grooteboom for Cobalt and Associated Platinum Group Metals, near Steelpoort, Tubatse Local Municipality, Limpopo Province

De Groote Boom Minerals (Pty) Ltd

REGISTRATION AND COMMENT FORM

April 2015

Registered Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) will be informed about availability of reports and scheduled stakeholder meetings via their preferred means of communication (SMS, email, post or fax). Comments raised by I&APs will assist in informed decision-making for authorities and provides information to be considered by the project. Please register as an I&AP and provide comments by sending this Registration and Comment Form or other written correspondence to the contact details provided below:

Nestus Bredenhann or **Vanessa Viljoen** of Digby Wells Environmental: **Fax:** 0865835715 or
Email: nestus.bredenhann@digbywells.com, vanessa.viljoen@digbywells.com, or visit www.digbywells.com
Postal Address: Private Bag X10046, Randburg, 2125

Please formally register me as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP)	Yes		No	
I would like to receive my notifications by	Email	SMS	Post	Fax

Please fill in your contact details below for the project database

Title, Full Name				
Designation				
Cellphone	Fax	Tel		
Email				
Postal Address				

Please indicate to which you are associated with by providing a name next to the applicable category

Non-Government Organisation	
Business	
Community	
Government Department	
Municipality	

If you are a landowner or land occupier, please indicate which farm(s) and portion(s) you reside on

Landowner	
Land occupier	

How do you think the project might impact (affect) you?

How do you think the project might impact (affect) your socio-economic conditions? (e.g. livelihoods, farm, business, household)

How can these impacts be managed, avoided and / or fixed?
What is the land being used for?
Where are these land uses taking place?
Are there any environmental features which we need to be aware of? (e.g. water, heritage sites, rare plants or animals)
Where are these found?
Do you think the project could impact (affect) infrastructure you might have? (e.g. houses, buildings, roads)
If so how can these impacts (affects) be managed, avoided or fixed?

General Comments

If there are any other stakeholders we should include onto the stakeholder database for the proposed project, please provide their contact details.

Title, Full Name		Title, Full Name	
Organisation		Organisation	
Cellphone		Cellphone	
Email		Email	

Signature _____

Date _____

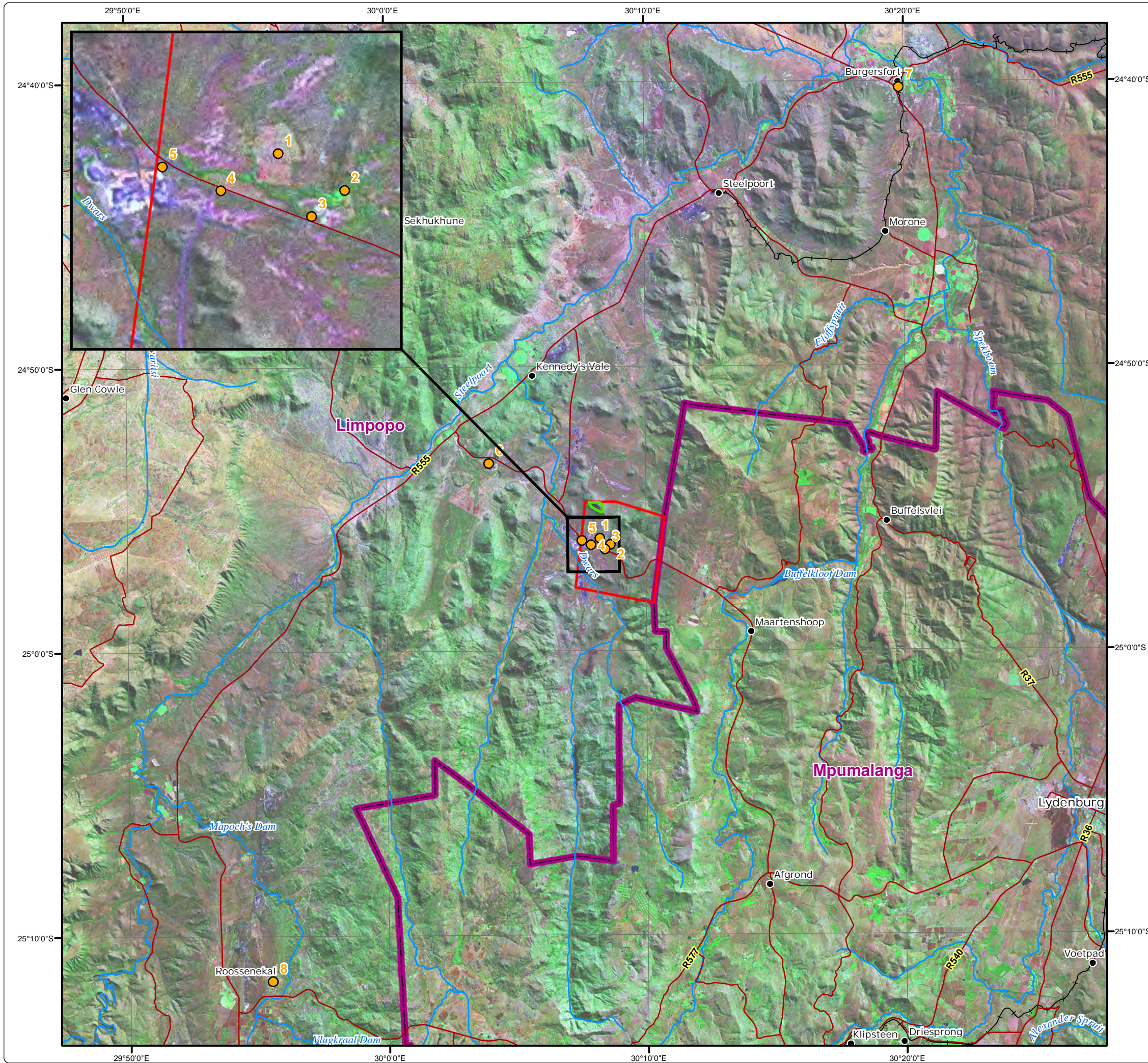
Appendix E: Site Notice Report and Map

De Groote Boom Mining Permit

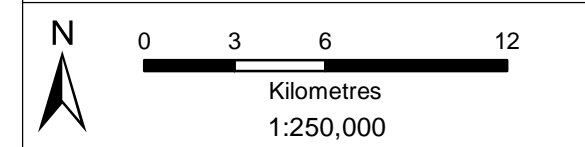
Mining Permit Activities

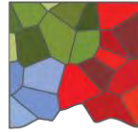
Legend

- Prospecting Area
- Bulk Sampling Area
- Site Notice Locations
- Settlement
- Main Road
- Railway Line
- River
- Dam
- Provincial Boundary



Projection: Transverse Mercator Ref #: sdp.UAR2967.201504.136
 Datum: WGS 1984 Revision Number: 1
 Central Meridian: 31°E Date: 22/04/2015







DIGBY WELLS




ENVIRONMENTAL

Mining Permit Application on Farm De Grootboom for Cobalt and Associated Platinum Group Metals, near Steelpoort, Tubatse Local Municipality

SITE NOTICES

SITE NOTICES PLACED AT THE FOLLOWING VENUES/PUBLIC PLACES:

Where site notice was placed (Organisation and/or address)	Coordinates	Date	Photo
De Grootboom Farm Gate 1 Site Notice	001 (Map) --24.934567" S 30.137123" E	15 th April 2015	
Miners Inn 1 Site Notice 15 BID's	002 (Map) -24.938256 "S 30.143803 " E	15 th April 2015	

Where site notice was placed (Organisation and/or address)	Coordinates	Date	Photo
De Grooteboom Access Road 1 Site Notice	003 (Map) -24.940882 "S 30.140503 " E	15 th April 2015	
Crossroads Truck Wash 1 Site Notice	004 (Map) -24.940882 "S 30.131364 "E	15 th April 2015	
Dwars Rivier Mine 1 Site Notice	005 (Map) -24.935912 "S 30.125516 "E	15 th April 2015	
Masha Community Hall 1 Site Notice	006 (Map) -24.890406 " S 30.066049 " E	15 th April 2015	

Where site notice was placed (Organisation and/or address)	Coordinates	Date	Photo
Burgersfort Public Library 1 Site Notice 15 BID's	007 (Map) -24.670701 " S 30.330318 " E	15 th April 2015	
Roosenekal Public Library 1 Site Notice 15 BID's	008 (Map) -25.193287 " S 29.924859 " E	15 th April 2015	

PROJECT NO : UAR2967

Appendix F: Advertisement



Former MK soldiers carry the coffin of Mr Meshack Komsasa Nyathi.

Formal burial of MK veteran brings closure

Gilbert Motseo

PENGE - On Saturday the Tubatse community buried one of their beloved sons, Mr Meshack Komsasa Nyathi, after his remains were exhumed from the Tshikota Cemetery by the Missing Persons Task Team. The service was held at Leagathoko High School and his remains reburied at Penge Cemetery.

Meshack's remains were returned home on Thursday April 9. He went into exile in 1982. He was only 21 years old.

Meshack was born on January 8, 1961 in Vaalhoek, Pilgrim's Rest. His family moved to Penge when he was a young boy. He was a staunch member of the ANC.

Meshack received military training in Angola and Swaziland as a member of Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK).

He was one of five Umkhonto we Sizwe members who were killed in an ambush by members of the South African security forces near Alldays in Limpopo on August 3, 1988.

He was shot dead along with Messrs Sechaba Lesimola, Sizakele Buzo, Fuzile Patrick Zigoxo and Thamsanqa Poto.

All five were buried as unidentified paupers at Tshikota Cemetery in Makhado.

A frail Ms Merriam Nyathi, Meshack's mother, said that her family could finally have peace after burying their son. "We only found out in 1995 about his fate and now we can finally bury his remains."

The minister of justice and correctional

services, Adv Michael Masutha, said that today's youth could learn a lot from Meshack about commitment. "He showed true commitment to the struggle for our freedom and that's something the youth can learn from him."

Masutha said that the sombre occasion reminded everyone of the adversity that the people of the past had to face during the struggle for political freedom and more importantly, gave people resilience as they now sought to consolidate socio-economic freedom for the people. He said the process was meant to bring closure to the families which had lost their loved ones during the liberation struggle.

Limpopo premier, Mr Stan Mathabatha, said that it was important that Meshack's legacy lived on. "We have spoken with the provincial ANC leadership that Meshack's name must live on. We will name the local Penge Hospital and road after him," said Mathabatha. His remains were recovered by the Missing Persons Task Team and were identified through DNA testing.

The official handover was done by Masutha. Other dignitaries who attended the funeral included the deputy minister of defence and military veterans Mr Kebby Maphatsoe, Limpopo MEC of health, Mr Ishmael Kgetjepe, ANC Sekhukhune region secretary, Mr Jerry Maseko, Greater Tubatse Municipality (GTM) mayor, Cllr Ralepane Mamekoa and Sekhukhune District Municipality (SDM) mayor, Cllr David Magabe.

Relatives question cause of death

Bridget Mpande

SKHILA - The death of an elderly man has left his family with unanswered questions. The body of Mr Elvis Mkhonto was found in a pathway in the early hours of Thursday April 9.

Ms Shirly Ngobeni, his niece, said that one of the residents told her that they had seen a corpse and thought it could be her relative. "When I got there and I realised that it was really him, my heart couldn't handle the thought of what could have happened to him," she said. According to Ngobeni, the police said that he had died of natural causes but she did not believe it. "The are rumours going around that my uncle was heard screaming in the middle of the night. I think people tried to rob him and at the end they killed him," she said.

According to Ms Sarah Ngobeni, a relative who lived on the same yard with Mkhonto, she last saw him on Wednesday. "I got a little worried when I didn't hear him come home because he would normally come home with his friends late at night," she said. Ngobeni was informed by Mkhonto's friend's child that they had found



Local Hazmat operator and paramedic, Mr Deon Broekman, at the scene.

him laying in the path.

"On my way I kept hoping it's not true and when I saw his body lying there I realised that he is gone," she explained.

"My uncle will be laid to rest on Saturday April 18 in Skhila," said Ngobeni.



Solomon Modutlela with Kaizer and Maisy Chilwane at the cable.

Power line poses a real danger

Gilbert Motseo

GA MAROGA - Members of the Chilwane family say they live in fear as an Eskom power cable has been laid in their yard. The cable has already electrocuted two kids, and the rest of the family members are thankful to be alive.

They told *Steelburger/Lydenburg News* that they had previously reported the matter to the Eskom offices in Burgersfort, but no one bothered to come and remedy the situation.

"The last time I visited them, they told me to buy a pole to balance the cable. I am not working and I cannot afford one. It's their responsibility, not mine," said homeowner Kaizer Chilwane.

According to him, they have been living

with the cable in their yard for the past eight years.

The paper visited the family to view the supposed power line in question. It passes along the Chilwanes' vegetable garden and is about 1,70 metres long. Another resident said he was also concerned about the hazards the power line could have on a metal plate in his foot.

Kaizer said he could not be home at all times to prevent the children from playing next to the lines. "I don't know what to do now. I am not sure if I have to take the legal route or what. My family is at risk here, I heard the lines gives kids leukaemia. I just don't know if it will affect my kids."

The paper contacted Eskom, where an agent advised the family to report the matter again at the nearest branch.

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OMELETTE R40.00

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MINING PERMIT APPLICATION ON FARM DE GROOTEBOOM FOR COBALT AND ASSOCIATED PLATINUM GROUP METALS, NEAR STEELPOORT, TUBATSE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

De Groote Boom Minerals (Pty) Ltd (De Groote Boom) is proposing the development of an open pit mine with associated infrastructure. The proposed project is situated on the farm De Grooteboom 373 KT, 35 km South East of Steelpoort Town, within the Greater Tubatse Local Municipality in the Limpopo Province.

De Groote Boom currently holds an approved Bulk Sample Prospecting Right valid for three years, the company has applied for a mining permit which will allow for the mining of primarily Cobalt and associated Platinum Group Metals (PGMs) covering an extent of not more than 5 ha on the Remaining Extent and Portion 2 of the farm De Grooteboom 373 KT. It is possible that after completing work under the mining permit, De Groote Boom will commence with full scale mining of Cobalt and PGMs in terms of a mining right that would be applied for at that stage. Mining under the mining permit will be undertaken by open pit methods and the ore will be transported to a mobile plant for crushing and screening. The ore will be stockpiled until transported off site by truck. The mining permit area is adjacent to the Bulk Sample area and the operational and related infrastructure areas.

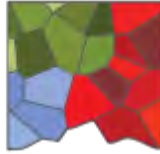
The environmental authorisation for the proposed project will require the compilation and submission of a Mining Permit Application and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) in terms of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002) to the Limpopo Department of Mineral Resources (DMR).

DIGBY WELLS
ENVIRONMENTAL

Project Code UAR2967

Stakeholders affected by, or who are interested in, the proposed project are invited to register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) by contacting **Digby Wells Environmental** on Tel: 011 789 9495, Fax: 086 583 5715, Postal: Private Bag X10046, Randburg, 2125, Email: nestus.bredenhann@digbywells.com or vanessa.viljoen@digbywells.com.

Appendix G: Department of Land Affairs Consultation Report



DIGBY WELLS
ENVIRONMENTAL



Mining Permit Application on the farm De Grooteboom for Cobalt and associated PGMs

PRELIMINARY CONSULTATION REPORT

Project Number:

UAR2967

Prepared for:

De Groote Boom Minerals (Pty) Ltd.

6 April 2015

Digby Wells and Associates (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd
(Subsidiary of Digby Wells & Associates (Pty) Ltd). Co. Reg. No. 2010/008577/07. Fern Isle, Section 10, 359
Pretoria Ave Randburg Private Bag X10046, Randburg, 2125, South Africa
Tel: +27 11 789 9495, Fax: +27 11 789 9498, info@digbywells.com, www.digbywells.com



Directors: DJ Otto, GB Beringer, LF Koeslag, AJ Reynolds (Chairman) (British)*, J Leaver*, GE Trusler
(C.E.O)
*Non-Executive



DIGBY WELLS
ENVIRONMENTAL

This document has been prepared by Digby Wells Environmental.

Report Type:	Preliminary Consultation Report
Project Name:	Mining Permit Application on the farm De Grootboom for Cobalt and associated PGMs
Project Code:	UAR2967

Name	Responsibility	Signature	Date
Nestus Bredenhann	Report Writer		02 April 2015
Michael Hennessy	Reviewer		07 April 2015

This report is provided solely for the purposes set out in it and may not, in whole or in part, be used for any other purpose without Digby Wells Environmental prior written consent.



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2	Project Background and Description	1
3	Preliminary Consultation	1
4	Next Steps.....	2

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix A: DMR Directive

Appendix B: Letter from Commission on Restitution of Land Rights



1 Introduction

Digby Wells Environmental (Digby Wells) has been requested by De Groote Boom Minerals (Pty) Ltd (DGB), to compile and submit an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for a Mining Permit Application (MPA), in terms of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002) (MPRDA) to the Limpopo Department of Mineral Resources (DMR).

The MPA has been accepted by the DMR under Reference LP 10656 MR and DGB has been instructed to prepare an EMP, which will include various specialist investigations, and a Public Participation Process (PPP) will be undertaken. One part (Section c on page 1) of the directive from DMR, dated 25 February 2015 relates to consultation with the Land Claims Commissioner and the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform.

2 Project Background and Description

DGB currently holds an approved Prospecting Right valid for three years (with the right to take a Bulk Sample) and it now proposes to mine primarily Cobalt and also associated Platinum Group Metals (PGMs) covering an extent of not more than 5 ha on the Remaining Extent and Portion 2 of the farm De Grooteboom 373 KT. Mining will be undertaken by open cut methods and the ore will be transported to a portable plant for crushing and screening. The ore will be stockpiled until transported off site by truck. The mining permit area is adjacent to the Bulk Sample area.

The project entails a construction phase, sampling phase and possibly a decommissioning phase. The decommissioning phase will only be applicable if the project does not prove to be viable.

3 Preliminary Consultation

The directive from DMR stated that consultation be undertaken with Department of Land Affairs, if the affected land is state-owned, or the office of Commission of Land Rights, if the affected land is subject to land restitution (refer to Appendix A).

To identify landownership Windeed searches were completed for the affected properties for the MPA and results showed that no properties are owned by the Department of Land Affairs. Properties are held by private owners. As such, consultation was to be conducted with the office of the Commission of Land Rights in order to determine if the affected properties are subject to land restitution.

The Digby Wells Stakeholder Engagement office engaged, by means of telephone and email, with representatives from the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform as stipulated below on Wednesday, 18 March 2015 and Tuesday, 24 March 2015:

- Mrs Gladys Kekana;
- Mr Maphoto; and
- Mrs Linah Bopape.



The Department of Rural Development and Land Reform project manager for the enquiry is Mrs Senwana Makhanana and be reached on (015) 287 2600.

The purpose of these engagements was to firstly ensure that the relevant representatives from the Department Rural Development and Land Reform are consulted and secondly to determine if the affected properties are subject to land restitution. A formal enquiry for directly affected and adjacent properties was submitted on Wednesday, 18 March 2015 (refer to Appendix B).

Feedback was received from the Office of the Regional Land Claims Commissioner: Limpopo on Monday, 23 March 2015 (refer to Appendix B). Results from the feedback indicate the following:

- Farms De Grooteboom 373, Dwars Rivier 372, Frischgewaagd 359, Tweefontein 360 and Thornclyff are subject to restitution land claims by the Masha Community and Moletsi Dwars Rivier Community; and
- Farms Zwakwater 377 and Rieftontein 375 indicated that no information relating to restitution land claims existed.

The Department Rural Development and Land Reform indicated that research about the restitution land claims is ongoing and that relevant correspondence would be provided should claims be identified that satisfies requirements of the Restitution of Land Rights Act (Act no 22 of 1994).

4 Next Steps

As part of the MPA the proposed project will be announced early in April 2015 by means of a Background Information Document, placement of site notices and advert and formal announcement letter. All Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) will be included as part of the announcement; this involves the Department Rural Development and Land Reform. Specific effort will be made, by means of telephonic consultations and where necessary, individual meetings to obtain comments from I&APs, which will be included into a Comment and Response Report and a Consultation Report will be compiled to detail all PPP activities. The Consultation Report will be submitted to the DMR early in May 21015.

Preliminary Consultation Report

Mining Permit Application on the farm De Grooteboom for Cobalt and associated PGMs

UAR2967



DIGBY WELLS
ENVIRONMENTAL

Appendix A: DMR Directive



mineral resources

Department:
Mineral Resources
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 9467, Polokwane, 0700, Tel: 015-287 4700, Fax: 015-287 4729
101 Dorp Street, Polokwane, 0699

From: Directorate Mineral Regulation: Limpopo Region
Enquiries: Bongani.Hlatshwayo Ref: LP30/5/1/3/2/10656 MP
E-mail: Bongani.Hlatshwayo @dmr.gov.za

Registered Mail

De Groote Boom Minerals (Pty) Ltd
Postnet Suite 320
Waterkloof
Pretoria
0145

Fax: 086 6576 796
Tel: 082 9063 299

Attention: Henk Moen

Sir/Madam

ACCEPTANCE OF AN APPLICATION FOR A MINING PERMIT: DE GROOTE BOOM MINERALS (PTY) LTD ON THE REMAINING EXTENT OF THE FARM DE GROOTEBOOM 373 KT, IN THE MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT OF GREATER TUBATSE.

I refer to the abovementioned matter and I confirm that your application for a mining permit of **Chrome Ore, Platinum Group Metals and Gold Ore** in terms of section 27 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act 28 of 2002 as Amended) has been accepted.

In terms of Section 27 (5) of the Act, you are required to submit the following:

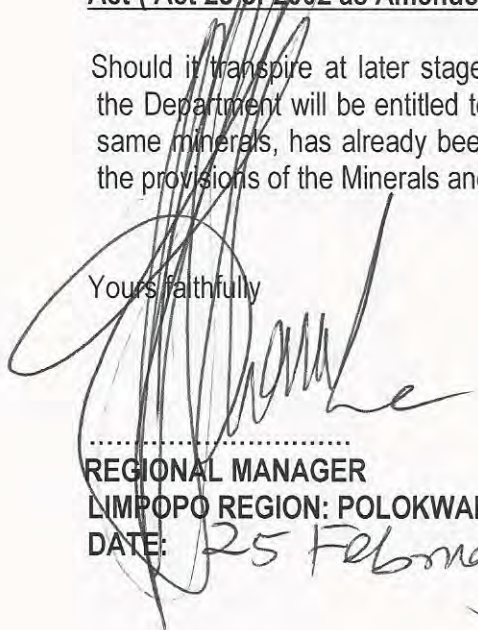
- (a) to submit Environmental Management Plan in seven folds on or before the **19 May 2015 (60 days)**.
- (b) to notify in writing and consult with the landowner or lawful occupier and any other affected party; and
- (c) to consult the Department of Land Affairs if it is state-owned land, in the event the land is subject to land restitution consult office of the Commission of Land Rights and submit the result of such consultation to this office on or before the **07 April 2015 (30 days)**.

Acceptance of your application does not grant you the right to commence with mining operations. Your application will be evaluated / processed and a recommendation on the issuing of the permit will be forwarded to the Minister or her delegate. Any person operating without a prospecting / mining right or mining permit will be in contravention of Section 5(4) of the MPRDA and would be guilty of an offence in terms of the relevant Act.

N.B Notwithstanding the fact that reasonable care was taken in verifying the existence of rights, permits and prior applications this office reserves the right to consider and/or effect the provisions of sections 9(1) (a), 9 (1) (b) and 16 (2) (b) of the Minerals and Petroleum Resources Development Act (Act 28 of 2002 as Amended).

Should it transpire at later stage that the area under application is encumbered by an old order right, the Department will be entitled to refuse this application based on the fact that an old order right for the same minerals, has already been granted to another entity, as the issuing thereof would be contrary to the provisions of the Minerals and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act 28 of 2002).

Yours faithfully



.....
REGIONAL MANAGER
LIMPOPO REGION: POLOKWANE

DATE: 25 February 2015

Preliminary Consultation Report

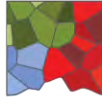
Mining Permit Application on the farm De Grootboom for Cobalt and associated PGMs

UAR2967



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Appendix B: Letter from Commission on Restitution of Land Rights



DIGBY WELLS
ENVIRONMENTAL

Project No.: UAR2967

18 March 2015

Ms Gladys Kekana
Department of Rural Development and Land Reform
Land Claims Commission
Limpopo Province

**LAND CLAIMS ENQUIRY: DE GROOTE BOOM MINERALS (PTY) LTD
PROPOSAL FOR A MINING PERMIT APPLICATION AND ASSOCIATED
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Dear Gladys

Digby Wells Environmental (Digby Wells) has been requested by De Groote Boom Minerals (Pty) Ltd (De Groote Boom), to compile and submit an Environmental Management Plan (EMP), pursuant to an application for a mining permit, in terms of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002) (MPRDA) to the Limpopo Department of Mineral Resources (DMR). The Project is situated on the Farm De Groote Boom 373 KT, near the town Steelpoort, situated in the Limpopo Province

The Mining Permit Application has been accepted by the Regional Manager, Limpopo Region, of the DMR under Reference LP 10656 MR and De Groote Boom has been instructed to prepare an EMP, which will include various specialist investigations, and a Public Participation Process (PPP) will be undertaken.

Project Background and Description

De Groote Boom proposes to mine Platinum Group Metals (PGMs) covering an extent of not more than 5 ha on the Remaining Extent and Portion 2 of the Farm De Groote Boom 373 KT De Groote Boom currently holds an approved Prospecting Right valid for three years (with the right to take a Bulk Sample), after which De Groote Boom wishes to commence with the mining of PGMs. Mining will be undertaken by open cut methods and the ore will be transported to a portable plant for crushing and screening. The mining permit area is adjacent to the Bulk Sample area and the operational and related infrastructure areas.

Farm Name	Portion	Local Municipality	District Municipality
Directly Affected Landowners			
De Grooteboom 373	0	Greater Tubatse Local Municipality	Sekhukhune District Municipality
De Grooteboom 373	4	Greater Tubatse Local Municipality	Sekhukhune District Municipality
DE Grooteboom 373	2	Greater Tubatse Local Municipality	Sekhukhune District Municipality

Digby Wells and Associates (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd (Subsidiary of Digby Wells & Associates (Pty) Ltd). Co. Reg. No. 2010/008577/07. Fern Isle, Section 10, 359 Pretoria Ave Randburg Private Bag X10046, Randburg, 2125, South Africa
Tel: +27 11 789 9495, Fax: +27 11 789 9498, info@digbywells.com, www.digbywells.com

Directors: A Sing*, AR Wilke, DJ Otto, GB Beringer, LF Koeslag, AJ Reynolds (Chairman) (British)*, J Leaver*, GE Trusler (C.E.O)
*Non-Executive

Farm Name	Portion	Local Municipality	District Municipality
DE Grooteboom 373	3	Greater Tubatse Local Municipality	Sekhukhune District Municipality
DE Grooteboom 373	1	Greater Tubatse Local Municipality	Sekhukhune District Municipality
Adjacent Landowners			
Rietfontein 375	7	ThabaChweu Local Municipality	Ehlanzeni District Municipality
Rietfontein 375	8	ThabaChweu Local Municipality	Ehlanzeni District Municipality
Rietfontein 375	9	ThabaChweu Local Municipality	Ehlanzeni District Municipality
Rietfontein 375	12	ThabaChweu Local Municipality	Ehlanzeni District Municipality
Zwakwater 377	0	ThabaChweu Local Municipality	Ehlanzeni District Municipality
Rietfontein 375	13	ThabaChweu Local Municipality	Ehlanzeni District Municipality
Rietfontein 375	15	ThabaChweu Local Municipality	Ehlanzeni District Municipality
Dwars Rivier 372	0	Greater Tubatse Local Municipality	Sekhukhune District Municipality
Dwars Rivier 372	1	Greater Tubatse Local Municipality	Sekhukhune District Municipality
Frischgewaagd 359	0	Greater Tubatse Local Municipality	Sekhukhune District Municipality
Tweefontein 360	1	Greater Tubatse Local Municipality	Sekhukhune District Municipality
Thornclyff 374	3	Greater Tubatse Local Municipality	Sekhukhune District Municipality
Thornclyff 374	4	Greater Tubatse Local Municipality	Sekhukhune District Municipality
Thornclyff 374	0	Greater Tubatse Local Municipality	Sekhukhune District Municipality
Thornclyff 374	2	Greater Tubatse Local Municipality	Sekhukhune District Municipality

Should you require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Vanessa Viljoen

Stakeholder Engagement Office

Tel: (011) 789 9495 or Fax: 086 583 5715

Email: vanessa.viljoen@digbywells.co.za

Postal Address: Private Bag X 10046, Randburg, 2125



OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL LAND CLAIMS COMMISSIONER: LIMPOPO

Private Bag X 9552, Polokwane, 0700, 61 Biccard Street: (015) 284 6300 Fax No: (015) 295 7404/7403, E-mail Address clientrelations@ruraldevelopment.gov.za . Also at 96 Kagiso House Cnr. Rissik and Schoeman Street Tel: (015) 287 2600 and Andrea Building Tel: (015) 287 9460

**Enquiries: Mosebedi Lorraine
Our Ref : KRP 12317/4426**

**DIGBY WELLS ENVIRONMENTAL
P/BAG X 10046
RANDBURG
2125
FAX: 011789 9498**

ATTENTION: VANESSA VILJOEN
Dear Sir/Madam

ENQUIRIES REGARDING LAND CLAIMS IN TERMS OF THE RESTITUTION OF LAND RIGHTS ACT, 1994 (ACT NO. 22 OF 1994)

Your enquiry dated the 18 March 2015 has reference.

Kindly take note that there is a restitution land claim lodged on the under mentioned property:-

Property/ Farm Name	Claimant (s)	KRP(s)	Claim Status
PTN 0,1,2,3,4 OF GROOTEBOOM 373 KT	MASHA COMMUNITY(MASHA LA)	12317	RESEARCH
PTN 0,1 DWARS RIVIER 372 KT	MASHA COMMUNITY(MASHA LA)	12317	RESEARCH
PTN 0 FRISCHGEWAAGD 359 KT,	MOLETSI DWARS RIVIER COMMUNITY	4426	RESEARCH
PTN 1 TWEEFONTEIN 360 KT	MASHA COMMUNITY(MASHA LA)	12317	RESEARCH
PTN 0,2,3,4 OF THE FARM THORNCLIFF 374 KT	MASHA COMMUNITY(MASHA LA)	12317	RESEARCH
	MASHA COMMUNITY(MASHA LA)	12317	RESEARCH

The Project Manager is Mrs Senwana Makhanana and she can be contacted at (015) 287 2600.

Yours Faithfully,


SHILOTE R

**DIRECTOR QUALITY ASSURANCE
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL LAND CLAIMS COMMISSIONER: LIMPOPO**

DATE: 23/03/2015



OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL LAND CLAIMS COMMISSIONER: LIMPOPO

Private Bag X 9552, Polokwane, 0700, 61 Biccard Street: (015) 284 6300 Fax No: (015) 295 7404/7403, E-mail Address clientrelations@ruraldevelopment.gov.za . Also at 96 Kagiso House Cnr. Rissik and Schoeman Street Tel: (015) 287 2600 and Andrea Building Tel: (015) 287 9460

Enquiries: Mosebedi Lorraine
Our Ref : General

**DIGBY WELLS ENVIRONMETAL
P/BAG X 10046
RANDBURG
2125
FAX: 011789 9498**

ATTENTION: VANESSA VILJOEN

Dear Sir /Madam

ENQUIRIES REGARDING LAND CLAIMS IN TERMS OF THE RESTITUTION OF LAND RIGHTS ACT, 1994 (ACT NO. 22 OF 1994)

Your enquiry dated the 18 March 2015 has a reference.

According to the records in our database, there is no information available at this stage on the under-mentioned property:

- **PTN 0 ZWAKWATER 377 KT, PTN 7, 8,9,12,13,15
OF RIETFONTEIN 375 KT**

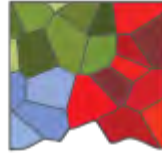
It should however be noted that the office is in a process of finalizing outstanding research, if it emerges during this process that there is a claim on the said farms/ properties which satisfies the requirements of the Restitution of Land Rights Act, (Act no 22 of 1994), then the Commission will send you the relevant correspondence.

We trust you will find the above in order.

Yours Faithfully,

**SHILOTE R
DIRECTOR QUALITY ASSURANCE
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL LAND CLAIMS COMMISSIONER: LIMPOPO
DATE: 23/03/2015**

Appendix H: Comment and Response Report (CRR)



DIGBY WELLS
ENVIRONMENTAL

Comment and Response Report

Mining Permit Application on Farm De Grooteboom for Cobalt and Associated Platinum Group Metals, near Steelpoort, Tubatse Local Municipality, Limpopo Province

Project Number: UAR2967

Prepared for: De Groote Boom Minerals (Pty) Ltd.

For any project related information, please contact:

Digby Wells Environmental – Stakeholder Engagement Office

Nestus Bredenhann or Vanessa Viljoen

Tel: (011) 789 9495 or Fax: 086 583 5715

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nestus.bredenhann@digbywells.com*

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Directors: DJ Otto, GB Beringer, LF Koeslag, AJ Reynolds (Chairman) (British)*, J Leaver*, GE Trusler
(C.E.O)
*Non-Executive

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Introduction

De Grootboom Minerals (Pty) Ltd (De Grootboom) is proposing the development of an open cut mine with associated infrastructure. The proposed project is situated on the farm De Grootboom 373 KT, 35 km South East of Steelpoort Town, within the Greater Tlhabathe Local Municipality in the Limpopo Province.

De Grootboom currently holds an approved Bulk Sample Prospecting Right valid for three years. The company applied for a mining permit which will allow for the mining of primarily Chrome and associated Platinum Group Metals (PGMs) covering an extent of not more than 5 ha on the Remaining Extent and Portion 1 of the farm De Grootboom 373 KT.

It is possible that after completing work under the mining permit, De Grootboom will commence with full scale mining of Chrome and PGMs in terms of a mining right that would be applied for at that stage. Mining under the mining permit will be undertaken by open cut methods and the ore may be transported to a mobile plant for crushing and screening. The ore will be stockpiled until transported off site by truck. The mining permit area is adjacent to the Bulk Sample area and the operational and related infrastructure areas.

The environmental authorisation for the proposed project will require the compilation and submission of a Mining Permit Application and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) in terms of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002) to the Limpopo Department of Mineral Resources (DMR).

COMMENT RAISED	CONTRIBUTOR	ORGANISATION/ COMMUNITY	DATE	METHOD	RESPONSE
1 Water					
Use water with respect.	JH Spangler	SHE Manager Diamond Engineering and Mining	17 April 2015	Written Comment	Thank you for the comment; surface and groundwater impact assessment specialist studies are to be completed and will provide details of the impacts together with proposed mitigation measures.
1.1 Surface Water					
I am concerned that the proposed project will pollute the Dwars Rivier.	Kennedy Owour	Landowner	29 April 2015	Telephonic Consultation	Thank you for the comment; surface and groundwater impact assessment specialist studies are to be completed and will provide details of the impacts together with proposed mitigation measures.
2 Wetlands/Biodiversity					
We will need to do a full biodiversity assessment before further comment is given.	Wendy Collinson	Project Executant – Wildlife and Roads Project, The Endangered Wildlife Trust	16 April 2015	Written Comment	Thank you for the comment.
3 Rehabilitation					
Closure and Rehabilitation needs to be done.	JH Spangler	SHE Manager Diamond Engineering and Mining	17 April 2015	Written Comment	Thank you for the comment; a closure and rehabilitation assessment will be completed and will provide details of the impacts together with proposed mitigation measures.

COMMENT RAISED	CONTRIBUTOR	ORGANISATION/ COMMUNITY	DATE	METHOD	RESPONSE
4 Socio-Economic					
I would like to share economic growth with people that does not agree with positivity growth of the land.	JH Spanaler	SHE Manager Diamond Engineering and Mining	17 April 2015	Written Comment	Thank you for the comment; a social impact assessment specialist study will be completed and will provide details of the impacts together with proposed mitigation measures.
4.1 Employment					
For available mining equipment hire or rent information, the same contactable person can be briefed or requested in writing.	Geophrey Mashego	Sotac Transport and Express	17 April 2015	Written Comment	Thank you for the comment and information.
4.2 Community Development					
The proposed project will have a positive impact on all the communities and financial growth.	JH Spangler	SHE Manager Diamond Engineering and Mining	17 April 2015	Written Comment	Thank you for the comment.
5 Transport / Roads					
Roads are integral to the continued development and prosperity of South Africa's economy. However, roads have the potential to destroy and degrade habitat as well as fragment wildlife populations. Traffic, particularly when speeding and careless driving are involved, can have a direct negative	Wendy Collinson	Project Executant – Wildlife and Roads Project, The Endangered Wildlife Trust	16 April 2015	Written Comment	Thank you for the comment; fauna and flora impact assessment specialist studies will be completed and will provide details of the impacts together with proposed mitigation measures.

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Comment and Response Report

Mining Permit Application on Farm De Grootboom



COMMENT RAISED	CONTRIBUTOR	ORGANISATION/ COMMUNITY	DATE	METHOD	RESPONSE
<p>impact on biodiversity with many animal species at risk from wildlife-vehicle-collisions (WVC), often resulting in an animal's death, or 'roadkill'. The same challenges apply to protected areas in South Africa, and with increasing mining activity and traffic volumes populations of many wildlife species are coming under increasing pressure. To date, very little research has been done on the impacts of roads in these areas. Subsequently, there is an urgent need to better quantify and understand the impacts of roads on wildlife in protected areas and to develop methods to manage these.</p>					
<p>The Endangered Wildlife Trust's Wildlife and Roads Project (EWT-WRP) works to address the negative impacts of roads and road users on biodiversity in South Africa. The data that we have collected through our own research, as well as in collaboration with the public (through social media platforms and a cellphone app), are helping to generate a national database of roadkill information. We are now using this data to identify 'roadkill hotspots' in different parts of the country. Working in partnership with several of South Africa's road agencies, the WRP is</p>	<p>Wendy Collinson</p>	<p>Project Executant – Wildlife and Roads Project, The Endangered Wildlife Trust</p>	<p>16 April 2015</p>	<p>Written Comment</p>	<p>Thank you for the comment.</p>

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Comment and Response Report

Mining Permit Application on Farm De Grootboom



COMMENT RAISED	CONTRIBUTOR	ORGANISATION/ COMMUNITY	DATE	METHOD	RESPONSE
designing and implementing measures that reduce wildlife fatalities and improve driver safety.					
Roads are integral to the continued development and prosperity of South Africa's economy. However, roads have the potential to destroy and degrade habitat as well as fragment wildlife populations. Traffic, particularly when speeding and careless driving are involved, can have a direct negative impact on biodiversity with many animal species at risk from wildlife-vehicle-collisions (WVC), often resulting in an animal's death, or 'roadkill'. The same challenges apply to protected areas in South Africa, and with increasing mining activity and traffic volumes populations of many wildlife species are coming under increasing pressure. To date, very little research has been done on the impacts of roads in these areas. Subsequently, there is an urgent need to better quantify and understand the impacts of roads on wildlife in protected areas and to develop methods to manage these.	Wendy Collinson	Project Executant – Wildlife and Roads Project, The Endangered Wildlife Trust	16 April 2015	Written Comment	Thank you for the comment; fauna and flora impact assessment specialist studies will be completed and will provide details of the impacts together with proposed mitigation measures.
Will the proposed development have an impact on the railway?	Mphakiseng Matlala	Transnet	29 April 2015	Written Comment	There are no railway lines near the project area. Data shows that the closest railway is

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Comment and Response Report

Mining Permit Application on Farm De Grooteboom



COMMENT RAISED	CONTRIBUTOR	ORGANISATION/ COMMUNITY	DATE	METHOD	RESPONSE
What is the proximity of the project to the railway on the railway?					approximately 20km north east of the prospecting area. A regional setting map indicating the railway location has been provided.
Can you please provide us with a clear locality map as this one doesn't show exactly where the rail is?					
6 Land Value / Ownership					
We are writing this letter as the community of Bakone Ba Masha Makopole, in response to the above mentioned application as an affected party. It was with concern that we noted the developments to date and this letter seeks to inform you that the land in question namely the farm De Grooteboom 373 KT, is one of the farms that are formally under claim by the community of Bakone Ba Masha Makopole and was duly submitted in accordance with South African Land Restitution and Reform laws under the heading, Bakone ba Masha Makopole Land Claim. It is in this regard that we as a community seek an urgent meeting with you to resolve this issue to the benefit of all stakeholders.	Kgoši Lengwai Aaron Masha	Masha Makopole Traditional Council	39 April 2015	Written Comment	Thank you for your formal letter and the associated information. Digby Wells will convey your request for a meeting to the project team in order to address concerns raised.

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Mining Permit Application on Farm De Grooteboom



COMMENT RAISED	CONTRIBUTOR	ORGANISATION/ COMMUNITY	DATE	METHOD	RESPONSE
7 Project Specific					
How will waste be managed; specifically the sewage plant?	Kennedy Owour	Landowner	29 April 2015	Telephonic Consultation	Majority of the infrastructure will not be permanent. There is no sewage plant as part of this project. Ablution facilities will be portable and remain the responsibility of the contractor for removal of waste. A French drain will be used for ablution facilities.
8 Environmental Impact Assessment					
Comments will be provided after the relevant documents have been reviewed.	Thandiwe Buthelezi	Assmang	24 April 2015	Telephonic Consultation	Thank you for the comment.
9 Public Participation					
Comments will be provided.	Phillimon Maimela	Buffelshoek Community	29 April 2015	Telephonic Consultation	Thank you for the comment.
No specific comments to be provided currently.	Salome Tshehla	Kalkfontein Community	29 April 2015	Telephonic Consultation	Thank you for the comment.
10 General					
Discussions were undertaken with De Groote Boom and no further comment.	Jacob Ryno Le Grange	Landowner	24 April 2015	Telephonic Consultation	Thank you for the comment.
Will send comments through if required.	Charles Mathoma	Samancor	24 April 2015	Telephonic Consultation	Thank you for the comment.
No comments to raise since the project	Piet van Niekerk	Van Niekerk Stene	24 April 2015	Telephonic	Thank you for the comment.

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Comment and Response Report

Mining Permit Application on Farm De Grootboom



COMMENT RAISED	CONTRIBUTOR	ORGANISATION/ COMMUNITY	DATE	METHOD	RESPONSE
doesn't really affect me.				Consultation	
We as the affected and interested stakeholders welcome you to mine at de Grootboom farm 373 KT which is situated in Steelpoort east, the Municipality of Greater Tzaneen Limpopo Province. I came across this information through our local newspaper Steelburger dated 17th April 2015. We as the indigenous black Africans, our ancestors were buried in this farm so we would like to request to be your partners when the mine starts to operate.	David Makola	David and Sons	26 April 2015	Written Comment	Thank you for the comment, it is noted.

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	Hendrik Cornelis Moen
Identity Number	700907 5254 080

- END -