



WRE VENTERSBURG CONSOLIDATED PROSPECTING RIGHT PROJECT

COMMENTS AND RESPONSES REPORT

Submitted in support of the Prospecting Right and Environmental Authorisation Application

Prepared on Behalf of:

**WESTERN ALLEN RIDGE GOLD MINES (PTY) LTD
(Subsidiary of White Rivers Exploration (Pty) Ltd)**

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WRE VENTERSBURG CONSOLIDATED PROSPECTING RIGHT PROJECT

COMMENTS AND RESPONSES REPORT

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Definitions

Abbreviation	Definition
EA	Environmental Authorisation. This constitutes the approval or dismissal of a project as issued by the relevant Competent Authority.
Applicant	The person or party applying for Environmental Authorisation for a listed activity and who is responsible for ensuring the development complies with all relevant legislation whether or not they are the land owner.
BAR and EMPR	Basic Assessment Report and Environmental Management Programme. DMR document for joint BAR and EMP related for mineral applications.
CA	Competent Authority.
DEA	The National Department of Environmental Affairs.
DMR	The Department of Mineral Resources. CA in South Africa for mineral right applications.
DWS	The Department of Water and Sanitation – both national offices and their various regional offices, which are divided across the country on the basis of water catchment areas.
EAR	Environmental Audit Report.
EAP	Environmental Assessment Practitioner.
ECO	Environmental Control Officer.
EIA Regulations	Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations.
EIR and EMP	Environmental Impact Report and Environmental Management Programme. DMR document for joint EIR and EMP related to mineral applications.
Environment	The Environment is defined in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) as the surroundings within which humans exist and that are made up of: The land, water and atmosphere of the earth: micro-organisms, plant and animal life, any part or combination of the first three items and the inter-relationships between them the physical, chemical, aesthetic and cultural properties and conditions of the foregoing that influence human health and wellbeing.
FP	Financial Provision.
FP Regulations	Regulations pertaining to the financial provision for prospecting, exploration, mining or production operations No. 1147 (effective 20 November 2015).
FRDCP	Final Rehabilitation, Decommissioning and Closure Plan.
Fauna	All living biological creatures, usually capable of motion, including insects and predominantly of protein-based consistency.
Fence	A physical barrier in the form of posts and barbed wire or any other concrete construction, ("palisade"-type fencing included), constructed with the purpose of keeping humans and animals within or out of defined boundaries.
Flora	All living plants, grasses, shrubs, trees, etc., usually incapable of easy natural motion and usually capable of photosynthesis.
GN	Government Notice.
HSE	Health, Safety and Environment.
I&AP	Interested and Affected Parties.
MPDRA	Minerals and Petroleum Development Act, No 28 of 2002.
PPP	Public Participation Process in terms of the NEMA and MPRDA.
MPDRA	Minerals and Petroleum Development Act, No 28 of 2002.
MP	Mining Permit in terms of the MPRDA.
MR	Mining Right in terms of the MPRDA.
PR	Prospecting Right in terms of the MPRDA.
SAHRA	South African Heritage and Resources Act, No 25 of 1999.
SAMRAD	The web-based portal for mineral right applications and management – managed by the DMR.

1 INTRODUCTION

This Comments and Responses Report (CRR) has been compiled as an appendix to the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) and Environmental Management Programme (EMPR) for the Ventersburg Consolidated Prospecting Right project in the Free State Province, South Africa. This CRR outlines the Public Participation Process (PPP) followed for an application for a Prospecting Right (PR) and Environmental Authorisation (EA). Shango Solutions was appointed by Western Allen Ridge Gold Mines (Pty) Ltd (Subsidiary of White Rivers Exploration (Pty) Ltd) as an independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to assist in undertaking a PPP, conducting a Basic Assessment (BA), and submitting the BAR and an EMPR in support of the PR and EA application for the Ventersburg Consolidated project.

South Africa, being one of the countries with the most progressive constitutions, enshrined the public's right to be involved in decisions. Section 57(1) of the new Constitution that provides: "The National Assembly may (b) make rules and orders concerning its business, with due regard to representative and participatory democracy, accountability, transparency and public involvement". This provision, along with several others gave rise to many new trends in South African legislation. In environmental legislation, the idea of public participation (or stakeholder engagement) features strongly and especially the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998, NEMA – as amended) and the recent regulations passed under the auspices of this Act make very strict provisions for public participation in environmental decision-making.

Public participation can be defined as..."a process leading to a joint effort by stakeholders, technical specialists, the authorities and the proponent who work together to produce better decisions than if they had acted independently" (Greyling, 1999). From this definition, it can be seen that the input of the public is regarded as very important indeed.

The PPP is designed to provide sufficient and accessible information to Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) in an objective manner to assist them to:

- Raise issues of concern and suggestions for enhanced benefits
- Verify that their issues have been recorded
- Assist in identifying reasonable alternatives
- Contribute relevant local information and knowledge to the environmental assessment
- Comment on the findings of the environmental assessments
- Obtain information on the outcome, i.e. the competent authority's decision, and how and by when the decision can be appealed

This CRR lists all verbal and written issues raised by I&APs and stakeholders during the public participation period undertaken for the BA process. A breakdown of the public participation process is given within the following sections.

2 LEGAL COMPLIANCE

The PPP must comply with the two important sets of legislation that require public participation as part of an application for authorisation or approval; namely:

- The Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act (Act No. 28 of 2002 – MPRDA)
- The National Environmental Management Act (Act No. 107 of 1998 - NEMA)

Adherence to the requirements of the above-mentioned Acts will allow for an Integrated PPP to be conducted, and in so doing, satisfy the requirement for public participation referenced in the Acts. The details of the Integrated PPP are provided below.

3 METHODOLOGY

The PPP follows the requirements of Chapter 6 Regulation 41 of GN R. 326 of the EIA Regulations, (2017), promulgated under Section 24 (5) of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998 - NEMA), as amended.

3.1 IDENTIFICATION OF INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES (I&APS)

An initial I&AP list was compiled using WinDeed searches to determine the registered landowners of the project affected land portions. The I&AP database was compiled containing the following categories of stakeholders:

- National, provincial and local government
- Agricultural sector
- Organised business
- Host and adjacent communities
- Land claimants
- Other organisations, clubs, communities and unions
- Various non-government organisations (NGOs)

Affected and adjacent landowners have been notified about the project via post, fax and/or e-mail and were invited to participate in the BA process. Affected and adjacent landowner contact details were obtained via the following process:

- A WinDeed search was conducted to obtain the contact details of the affected landowners, where available
- Where the property was owned by a company, a google search was carried out to identify the owners and their contact details
- Where the property was owned by a Trust, efforts were made to solicit contact details from the relevant municipalities

3.2 LIST OF AUTHORITIES IDENTIFIED AND NOTIFIED

The following authorities have been identified and notified of the proposed Ventersburg Consolidated Prospecting Right:

- Moqhaka Local Municipality
- Fezile Dabi District Municipality
- Matjhabeng Local Municipality
- Lejweleputswa District Municipality
- Free State Department of Economic Development, Tourism, Environmental Affairs & Small Business
- Free State Department of Mineral Resources
- Free State Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
- Free State Department of Cooperative Governance, Traditional Affairs & Human Settlements
- Free State Department of Police, Roads and Transport
- Free State Department of Public Works
- Free State Department of Water and Sanitation
- National Department of Mineral Resources
- National Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
- National Department of Rural Development and Land Reform
- South African National Roads Agency Ltd (SANRAL)
- South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)
- Catchment Management Agency
- Eskom
- Transnet

3.3 LIST OF KEY STAKEHOLDERS IDENTIFIED AND NOTIFIED

The following key stakeholders have been identified and notified of the proposed Ventersburg Consolidated Prospecting Right:

- Endangered Wildlife Trust
- Birdlife SA
- Agri Free State
- Agricultural Research Council
- SANParks
- Federation for Sustainable Development
- Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA)

3.4 LIST OF SURFACE RIGHTS/LAND OWNERS IDENTIFIED AND NOTIFIED

The following surface rights/landowners of the area under application have been identified and notified of the proposed Ventersburg Consolidated Prospecting Right:

- Margaretha Jacoba Wagner
- Aletta Johanna Jubelius
- Engela Welthagen Erasmus
- Hanmar Trust
- Elizabeth Maria Lubbe
- Waterbron Trust
- Jacoba Margaretha Pienaar
- Erasmus Claassen Ferreira
- Daniel Jacobus Behrens
- H & B Trust
- Christina Maria Wilhelmina Ferreira
- Anna Maria Heyns
- Eendracht Trust
- Mooi Toekoms Trust
- Brakvlei Trust
- Petrus Albertus van Schalkwyk/ JP Verster Saad Produseerders CC
- Johannes Anthonie Pelser
- Luis Johannes Fourie/ Delton Trading CC
- Johan Lodiwicus Klopper Schutte/ Lonel Boerdery CC
- Gustavus Wilhelm Roux Familie Trust/ Gustavus Wilhelm Roux
- Soetamaling Trust
- Francois Delport Familie Trust
- Michiel Ignatius Heyns
- Wikus Marthinus Joubert
- Hendrik Dirk Erasmus
- B Mlambo/ SANRAL/NRA
- Plancius Investments CC

Please refer to Appendix C1 for the I&AP Database which represents the pre-identified I&APs as well as the I&APs that have registered during the course of this PR and EA application.

3.1 NOTIFICATION OF I&APS

This section provides details on the notification that was distributed as part of the BA process to date.

3.1.1 INITIAL NOTIFICATION

The PPP commenced on the 26th January 2018 with an initial notification and call to register period ending on the 26th February 2018. Initial notification was given in the following manner:

3.1.1.1 Registered Letters, Faxes and E-mails

Notification documents were prepared in three dominant languages spoken within the application area, namely: English, Afrikaans and Sesotho. Notification letters, faxes and e-mails were distributed to all pre-identified I&APs including affected and adjacent surface landowners, government organisations, NGOs, relevant municipalities, ward councillors and other organisations that might be affected. The notification letters included the following information:

- List of anticipated activities to be authorised
- Scale and extent of activities to be authorised
- Sufficient detail of the intended operation (to enable I&APs to assess/surmise what impact the activities will have on them or on the use of their land)
- The purpose of the proposed project
- Details of the affected properties (including a locality map)
- Details of the MPRDA and NEMA Regulations that must be adhered to
- Date by which any request to register as an I&AP must be forwarded through to Shango Solutions
- Contact details of the EAP

In addition, a questionnaire was included in the registered letters, e-mails and facsimiles sent and which requested the following information from I&APs:

- Information on any potential impacts from the proposed project
- Suggestions on potential mitigation measures for their anticipated impacts
- Information on current land uses and their location within the area
- Information on the location of any environmental features of note within and in the vicinity of the study area
- Details of the landowner and information (contact details) of lawful property occupiers, if any
- Details of any other I&APs that should be notified

- Details on any land developments proposed in the near future
- Any specific comments or concerns regarding the application

3.1.1.2 Background Information Document (BID)

A Background Information Document (BID) was prepared. The BID included the following information:

- Project name
- Applicant name
- Project location
- Map of affected project area
- Description of the application process
- Information on document review
- Relevant Shango Solutions contact person for the project

Please refer to Appendix C2 for the I&AP initial notification.

3.1.1.3 Newspaper Advertisement

Newspaper advertisements describing the proposed project and BA process were placed in two local newspapers with adequate circulation in the area. The advertisements were placed in the Volksblad (in English and Afrikaans) and the Free State Sun (in Sesotho) on the 26th January 2018. The newspaper adverts included the following information:

- Project name
- Applicant name
- Project location
- Nature of the activity
- Relevant Shango Solutions contact person for the project

Please refer to Appendix C3 for proof of advertisement placement.

3.1.1.4 Site Notice Placement

10 A2 Correx site notices (in English, Afrikaans and Sesotho) were placed along and within the perimeter of the proposed project area on the 26th January 2018. The on-site notices included the following information:

- Project name
- Applicant name

- Project location
- Map of proposed project area
- Project description
- Legislative requirements
- Relevant Shango Solutions contact person for the project

3.1.1.5 Poster Placement

A3 posters were placed at 3 local public gathering places (the local Spar supermarket, local clinic and the Dr Paul Virility Medical Centre) in English, Afrikaans and Sesotho. The notices and written notification afforded all pre-identified I&APs the opportunity to register for the project as well as to submit their issues/queries/concerns and indicate the contact details of any other potential I&APs that should be contacted. The contact person at Shango Solutions, contact number, e-mail and fax were clearly stated on the notification. Comments/concerns and queries were encouraged to be submitted in either of the following manners:

- Electronically (fax, e-mail)
- Telephonically
- Written letters

Please refer to Appendix C4 for proof of site notice and poster placement.

3.1.2 AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT BAR AND EMPR NOTIFICATION

The draft BAR and EMPR will be made available for public review and comment for a total period of 30 days, from the 13th March 2018 to the 16th April 2018. All registered I&APs will be notified of the availability of the BAR and EMPR and where to locate it. I&APs will also be informed of the timeframes for comments to be submitted to Shango Solutions.

Notification regarding the availability of the Draft BAR and EMPR will be given in the following manner:

- Notification letters, faxes and/or e-mails will be distributed to all pre-identified I&APs, I&APs registered during the initial notification period, as well as affected and adjacent surface landowners

The BAR and EMPR will be made available at a public area for perusal and comment by all I&APs. Furthermore, the BAR and EMPR will be made available online (on the Shango Solutions website) for download. Comments received from I&APs during the draft BAR and EMPR review period will be included in the final Comments and Responses Report to be submitted to the DMR for consideration as part of the final BAR and EMPR. Table 1 below summaries the PPP.

Table 1: Opportunities provided for public participation.

Public Participation Phase			
Action	Description	Publication/Place	Date
Initial public notification (announcement of project)	Newspaper advertisement	Newspaper	26/01/2018
	Placement of site notices	A2 site notices within and around the site area (10 locations)	26/01/2018
	Placement of posters	A3 posters were placed at key public places within the site area	26/01/2018
	Notification of landowners and key I&APs	I&APs were notified via advertisement, site notice, e-mail, fax, and/or post	26/01/2018
Announcement for public review of draft BAR and EMPR	Notification of landowners and key I&APs	I&APs will be notified via e-mail, fax, and/or post	12/03/2018

3.1.3 PUBLIC MEETING/OPEN DAY

Due to the scale of the BA process and the inclusion of an invasive prospecting activity in the Prospecting Works Programme, a public meeting is required. The public meeting, where findings of the Basic Assessment will be presented will take place on the 6th April 2018.

4 COMMENTS RAISED

The comments and responses below are those that have been received and addressed to date.

4.1. HOW ISSUES RAISED WERE ADDRESSED

Comments raised were addressed in a transparent manner and included in the compilation of the BAR and EMPR in the following manner:

- Issues raised were used quantitatively to calculate the significance of impacts both real and perceived
- Issues raised were used to provide further suggestions and recommendations with regard to technical management options for impacts

Comments received by Shango Solutions to date have been included in this report as part of the report submission to the DMR (the competent authority). Please refer to Appendix C5 for copies of correspondence.

Table 2: Comments raised by I&APs.

I&AP	Consulted	Date comments received	Comment received	Response issued
Key Stakeholders				
Landowner/s				
Margaretha Jacoba Wagner	X		No comment received to date.	
Aletta Johanna Jubelius	X		No comment received to date.	
Engela Welthagen Erasmus	X		No comment received to date.	
Hanmar Trust	X		No contact details sourced for this landowner.	
Elizabeth Maria Lubbe	X		No comment received to date.	
Waterbron Trust	X		No contact details sourced for this landowner.	
Jacoba Margaretha Pienaar	X		No comment received to date.	
Erasmus "Rassie" Claassen Ferreira	X	27 February 2018	Vir Aandag : Wie dit aangaan Hierby aangeheg is 2 bladsye i.v.m REGISTRASIE VIR BELANGHEBBENDEEN GEAFFETEERDE PARTYE Ms Ferreira filled in the Interested and Affected Party registration form and gave the following comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daar is begrafplaas op plaas (There is a cemetery on the farm) • Bekamerd oor ondergrondse water wat beïnvloed gaan word, baie, belangrik vir beeste 	Beste Rassie Baie dankie vir u korrespondensie en u aangehegte registrasievorm. U opmerkings is genoteer en sal ingesluit word in die Basiese Evalueeringsverslag van die projek. U sorg betreffende ondergrondse water word aangespreek in die Basiese Evalueeringsverslag. Hierdie verslag sal mettertyd beskikbaar gestel word vir resensies en kommentaar. U sal in kennis gestel word van die beskikbaarheid van die verslag.

I&AP	Consulted	Date comments received	Comment received	Response issued
			(melkery) (Concerned regarding underground water that will be influenced. Very important for cattle (diary)).	<p>Indien u enige opmerkings of vrae het in verband hiermee, kan u ons altyd kontak.</p> <p>Dear Rassie,</p> <p>Thank you very much for your correspondence and the attached registration form. Your comments are duly noted and will be included in the Basic Assessment Report for this project.</p> <p>Your concern regarding underground water has been addressed in the Basic Assessment Report.</p> <p>The Basic Assessment Report will be made available in due course for review and comment. You will be notified of the availability of the report.</p> <p>Should you have any further comments/questions in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact us.</p>
Daniel Jacobus Behrens	X		No comment received to date.	
H & B Trust	X		No contact details sourced for this landowner.	
Christina Maria Wilhelmina Ferreira	X		No comment received to date.	
Anna Maria Heyns	X		No comment received to date.	
Eendracht Trust	X		No contact details sourced for this landowner.	
Mooi Toekoms Trust	X		No contact details sourced for this landowner.	
Pelzaan Familie Trust	X		No contact details sourced for this landowner.	
Brakvlei Trust	X		No contact details sourced for this landowner.	

I&AP	Consulted	Date comments received	Comment received	Response issued
Petrus Albertus van Schalkwyk / J P Verster Saad Producers CC	X		No comment received to date.	
Johannes Anthonie Pelser	X		No comment received to date.	
Luis Johannes Fourie / Delton Trading CC	X		No comment received to date.	
Johan Lodiwicus Klopper Schutte / Lonel Boerdery CC	X		No comment received to date.	
Soetamaling Trust	X		No contact details sourced for this landowner.	
Gustavus Wilhelm Roux / Gustavus Wilhelm Roux Familie Trust	X		No comment received to date.	
Francois Delport Familie Trust	X		No contact details sourced for this landowner.	
Michiel Ignatius Heyns	X		No comment received to date.	
Wikus Marthinus Joubert	X		No comment received to date.	
Hendrik Dirk Erasmus	X		No comment received to date.	
B Mlambo/ SANRAL/ NRA	X		No comment received to date.	
Plancius Investments CC	X		No contact details sourced for this landowner.	
Lawful Occupier/s				
	X		No comment received to date.	

I&AP	Consulted	Date comments received	Comment received	Response issued
Local Municipality – Moqhaka Local Municipality				
Executive Mayor(Ms. Motshidisi Koloji)	X		No comment received to date.	
Municipal Manager (Mr. Simon Moqwathi)	X		No comment received to date.	
Speaker (Mr. Mpho Chakane)	X		No comment received to date.	
Ward 2 Councillor (Cllr. Selane Tladi)	X		No comment received to date.	
District Municipality – Fezile Dabi District Municipality				
Municipal Manager (Ms. Oumix Oliphant)	X		No comment received to date.	
Local Municipality – Matjhabeng Local Municipality				
Executive Mayor (Mr. Nkosinjani Wilson Speelman)	X		No comment received to date.	
Municipal Manager (Mr. Thabiso Tsoaeli)	X		No comment received to date.	
Speaker (Bheke Sthofile)	X		No comment received to date.	
Ward 3 Councillor (Cllr. MP Kopela)	X		No comment received to date.	

I&AP	Consulted	Date comments received	Comment received	Response issued
District Municipality – Lejweleputswa District Municipality				
Municipal Manager (Ms. Palesa Kaota)	X		No comment received to date.	
Provincial Environmental Authority				
Head of Department	X		No comment received to date.	
Organs of State				
Free State Department of Mineral Resources	X		No comment received to date.	
Free State Department of Agriculture and Rural Development	X		No comment received to date.	
Free State Department of Cooperative Governance, Traditional Affairs & Human Settlements	X		No comment received to date.	
Free State Department of Police, Roads and Transport	X	19 February 2018	Good day Me. Zizo Siwendu. Please find the attached Departmental letter dated 14 February 2018 pertaining to the Application for a prospecting right and environmental authorization on various farms within the Kroonstad, Ventersburg and Hennenman Magisterial districts, in the Free State Province (Ventersburg Consolidated Prospecting Right). Any enquiries pertaining to this matter can be	Good day, Thank you very much for the correspondence. Please be advised that this is an application for prospecting, not mining. Although the prospecting application area extends over fifty-three (53) farm portions with a total area of 7 943.07 ha, only 0.54 ha of the total area will be affected by invasive prospecting activities.

I&AP	Consulted	Date comments received	Comment received	Response issued
			<p>directed to Mr. Hannes Maree at telephone no. 051-409 8275 or e-mail: MareeH@freetrans.gov.za</p> <p>Dear Me. Zizo Siwendu</p> <p>APPLICATION FOR A PROSPECTING RIGHT AND ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION ON VARIOUS FARMS WITHIN THE KROONSTAD, VENTERSBURG AND HENNENMAN MAGISTERIAL DISTRICTS, IN THE FREE STATE PROVINCE (VENTERSBURG CONSOLIDATED PROSPECTING RIGHT</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Your letter dated 26 January 2018 pertaining to the above-mentioned matter refers. 2. This Department identified two departmental borrow pits as indicated on your list with various farms that will be affected by your application for a prospecting right , namely borrow pit no. 184/1/6/3 situated on the property Eerste Geluk 51 and borrow pit no. 184/1/35/12 situated on the property of Subdivision 3 of Goedgegund 434. 3. This Department reserved these two borrow pits in terms of the provisions of section 17(2) of the Free State Roads Ordinance, 1968 (Ordinance no.4 1968), as amended. The material from these borrow pits will be utilised by the Department for road building or road rehabilitation purposes. Usable material for such purposes are limited in the province. 4. In view of the existing department borrow pits on the properties listed in paragraph 2, this Department has to the proposed mining 	<p>Invasive prospecting activities will involve drilling of six (6) diamond core drill holes. Drilling will consist of six small holes of several centimetres in depth. The establishment of a drill pad will disturb an area of up to 30 x 30 m per site. As such, the total/maximum of 6 drill holes would disturb an area covering approximately 5400 m2 or 0.54 ha. Drill sites will be rehabilitated after drilling and the holes will be capped by means of concrete (as will be specified in the Environmental Management Programme).</p> <p>The properties that will be affected by the 6 proposed drill holes include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Groenkol 2448 (Portion 0) 2. Wonderboom 1100 (Portion R0) 3. Daamleegte 323 (Portion RE) 4. Lekkerleven 2445 (Portion 0) 5. Twistniet 565 (Portion RE) 6. Twistniet 565 (Portion 3) <p>None of the properties indicated by the Department will be affected by the proposed boreholes. Kindly refer to the attached map for the six proposed borehole locations.</p> <p>May you kindly furnish us with the KMZ file for the borrow pits locations, so we can include this information in the sensitivity map for this project?</p>

I&AP	Consulted	Date comments received	Comment received	Response issued
			<p>activities indicated with Surveyor General code FS0350000000005100000 and F02000000000043400003.</p> <p>5. You are welcome to schedule a meeting with this Department's Director: Road Asset Management System, Mr. W. Van Wyk, to discuss the matter and possible solutions to enable you to proceed with the proposed mining activities on the affected properties.</p> <p>6. Any queries pertaining to this matter can be directed to Mr. H Maree at telephone no. 051-409 8275 or e-mai: MareeH@freetrans.gov.za</p>	
Free State Department of Police, Roads and Transport	X	23 February 2018	<p>God day Me. Siwendu.</p> <p>Your e-mail refers. Please find the attached Departmental letter dated 23 February 2018 pertaining to the above mentioned matter.</p> <p>Any enquiries pertaining to this matter can be directed to Mr. Hannes Maree at telephone no. 051-409 8275 or e-mail: MareeH@freetrans.gov.za</p> <p>Dear Me. Zizo Siwendu</p> <p>APPLICATION FOR A PROSPECTING RIGHT AND ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION ON VARIOUS FARMS WITHIN THE KROONSTAD, VENTERSBURG AND HENNENMAN MAGISTERIAL DISTRICTS, IN THE FREE STATE PROVINCE (VENTERSBURG CONSOLIDATED PROSPECTING RIGHT</p> <p>1. Your e-mail dated 19 February 2018 pertaining to the above mentioned matter refers.</p>	<p>Dear Danelle,</p> <p>Thank you for your correspondence.</p> <p>A site visit will not be necessary. We will label the properties with the identified departmental borrow pits in our sensitivity maps.</p>

I&AP	Consulted	Date comments received	Comment received	Response issued
			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="907 314 1476 435">2. The Department takes cognisance of the contents of your e-mail, as well as that none of the two identified departmental borrow pits will be affected by the proposed prospecting. <li data-bbox="907 456 1476 703">3. Please note that the Department cannot provide you with a KMZ file to indicate the locations of the departmental borrow pit no. 184/1/6/3, situated on the property Eerste Geluk 51 and borrow pit no. 184/1/35/12, situated on the property of Subdivision 3 of Goedgegund 434 as the coordinates of these borrow pits are not available. <li data-bbox="907 724 1476 845">4. If, however, you request to see the positions of the afore-mentioned borrow pits in the field, the necessary arrangements can be made with the relevant Departmental officials. <li data-bbox="907 866 1476 1150">5. Also note that a building line of 95.0 meters, measured from the centre line of the road, is applicable to the provincial roads in terms of the provisions of the Advertising on Roads and Ribbon Development Act, 1940 (Act no. 21 of 1941). You therefore need to apply for a way leave approval should the proposed prospecting be done within the building restriction area. An application form is attached hereto. <li data-bbox="907 1171 1476 1262">6. Any enquiries pertaining to this matter can be directed to Mr. H. Maree at telephone no. 051-409 8275 or e-mail: MareeH@freetrans.gov.za 	
Free State Department of Public Works Agency Ltd	X		No comment received to date.	

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Free State Department of Water and Sanitation	X	27 February 2018	<p>Morning,</p> <p>This e-mail serves to request that the Department of Water and Sanitation be registered as an interested and affected party for the Ventersburg Consolidated Prospecting Right.</p> <p>Kindly send all corresponded by post as follows:</p> <p>Department of Water and Sanitation PO Box 528 Bloemfontein 9300 For attention: Mr Willem Grobler</p>	<p>Dear Melato,</p> <p>Thank you for your correspondence.</p> <p>Going forward, all correspondence will be sent to Mr Willem Grobler using the contact information you provided.</p>
National Department of Mineral Resources	X		No comment received to date.	
National Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	X		No comment received to date.	
The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)	X		No comment received to date.	
SANRAL/ NRA	X	20 February 2018	<p>Good day Ms Siwendu</p> <p>Your application received by this office on the 8th of February 2018 has reference.</p> <p>Could you please send me a clear Locality plan in</p>	<p>Dear Jabu,</p> <p>Thank you for your correspondence.</p> <p>As requested, please find herewith attached the locality map (Plan 2(2)) as well as the KMZ file for</p>

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			relation to the National Road so we can finalise our comments on this application.	the Ventersburg Consolidated Prospecting Right Project. Should you have any further questions in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact me.
National Department of Rural Development and Land Reform	X		No comment received to date.	
Catchment Management Agency	X		No contact details sourced for this I&AP.	
Eskom	X		No comment received to date.	
Transnet	X		No comment received to date.	
Other Affected Parties				
Agri Free State	X	29 January 2018	<p>Good day Zizo</p> <p>Kindly find my registration as Interested party attached. I am NOT registering on behalf of commercial farmer land owners and not necessarily all the land owners are our members. I am merely participating as an observer and will participate in the interest of sustainable agriculture and for the resource base on which it depends.</p> <p>I can assist to facilitate meetings via the local Agricultural Associations if needs be – they have meeting halls and facilities available at a reasonable fee.</p> <p>Mr Armour filled in the Interested and Affected Party</p>	<p>Dear Jack</p> <p>Thank you for your correspondence and for showing interest on this project.</p> <p>As requested, you have been registered as an Interested and Affected Party and you will be kept informed as the project progresses.</p> <p>We appreciate your offer to assist in facilitating meetings. We will be scheduling a public meeting to present the findings of the basic assessment in due course and will need to book a venue for the meeting.</p>

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			registration form and gave the following comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roads expanding reserves- SANRAL-along R 30. • Farmer family and farm-worker grave sites. 	
Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa	X		No comment received to date.	
Federation for a Sustainable Development	X		No comment received to date.	
SANParks	X		No comment received to date.	
Birdlife South Africa	X	26 January 2018	Simon Gear left Birdlife South Africa's employ on 10 April 2017. Messages sent to this address will not be auto-forwarded, so please send e-mails to either advocacy@birdlife.org.za or ceo@birdlife.org.za	This correspondence was noted and the relevant documents were sent to the e-mail addresses provided. However, delivery failed.
Agricultural Research Council	X		No comment received to date.	
Endangered Wildlife Trust	X		No comment received to date.	
Registered Interested and Affected Parties				
Cllr. MM. Sebotsa	X	30 January 2018	Cllr. MM Sebotsa completed the Interested and Affected Party registration form. The following comments were raised: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr. Sebotsa provided contact details of the farmer (Wissels). • He mentioned that there are construction works taking place on the N1 route between 	Dear Cllr. MM Sebotsa, Thank you very much for the correspondence and for the completed registration form. With regards to comments raised in the completed registration form, my responses are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We greatly appreciate the contact details of the farmer (Wissels). We will include him to

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			<p>Ventersburg and Kronstad which falls within the application area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He also had an enquiry regarding whether the project is going to benefit the community in terms of job creation. • He requested that the information be extended to the affected communities by placing notices at libraries and shops where people are always found. • He suggested that community meetings be organised so as to inform them about the project. He also went on to emphasise that the community has a high number of unemployed people and that he hopes this project will assist in tackling this issue. 	<p>the project database.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current road construction works along the N1 between Kroonstad and Ventersburg are noted. • The majority of the proposed scope of work as detailed in the Prospecting Work Programme accompanying this Prospecting Right and Environmental Authorisation application requires technical skills and the work will be performed by qualified Geologists. There will be an opportunity for the employment of local, unskilled labourers during invasive prospecting operations (drilling) such as clearance of vegetation and rehabilitation of disturbed sites (revegetation). Due to the limited scope and short duration of the proposed prospecting operations, it is unlikely that the proposed prospecting operations will have any significant impact on employment opportunities as only a limited number of unskilled labourers will be required for the duration of the project. • The public participation process for this project was initiated on the 26th February 2018. 10 x A2 Correx board site notices (in English, Afrikaans and Sesotho) were placed within and around the application area. Background Information Documents were distributed to affected and surrounding landowners. English and Afrikaans notification adverts were placed in the Volksblad newspaper and the Sesotho advert was

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				<p>placed in the Free State Sun newspaper. A3 site notices (in English, Afrikaans and Sesotho) were placed at the local Spar supermarket, at the local clinic and at the Dr Paul Virility Medical Centre in the town of Ventersburg. The public participation process is on-going and will continue throughout the Basic Assessment process. The public participation process is open to any member of the public who is interested or affected and wish to participate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As the ward councillor within the application area, we look forward to working with you on this project.

5 REFERENCES

- Constitution of the Republic of South Africa. 1996. Republic of South Africa.
- Department of Environmental Affairs. 1998. National Environmental Assessment Management Act (Act 107 of 1998). Cape Town, pp. 1-96.
- Department of Mineral Resources. 2002. Minerals and Petroleum Resources Development Act (Act 28 of 2002). Cape Town, pp. 1-62.
- Greyling, T. 1999. Towards environmental dispute resolution: appropriate public participation. Proceedings of conference on environmental dispute resolution. Johannesburg.