

Environmental Management Programme

for

VAL GRAIN CO (PTY) LTD

WITNEK

Prepared by:

Bucandi Environmental Solutions



Project Manager: Dr. H len Prinsloo (D.Tech)  
(Pr.Sci.Nat.) Reg. No. 400108/11 (SACNASP)

February 2023

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## 1. DETAILS OF THE EAP

### a) Contact details of EAP

Name of The Practitioner: Dr.Hélen Prinsloo

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### b) Expertise of the EAP

*The qualifications of the EAP*

D. Tech (Nature Conservation)

*Summary of the EAP's past experience.*

15 years' experience with environmental impact assessments, 3 years in the USA, 12 years in South Africa.

Please see CV attached as Appendix G of the Basic Assessment Report.

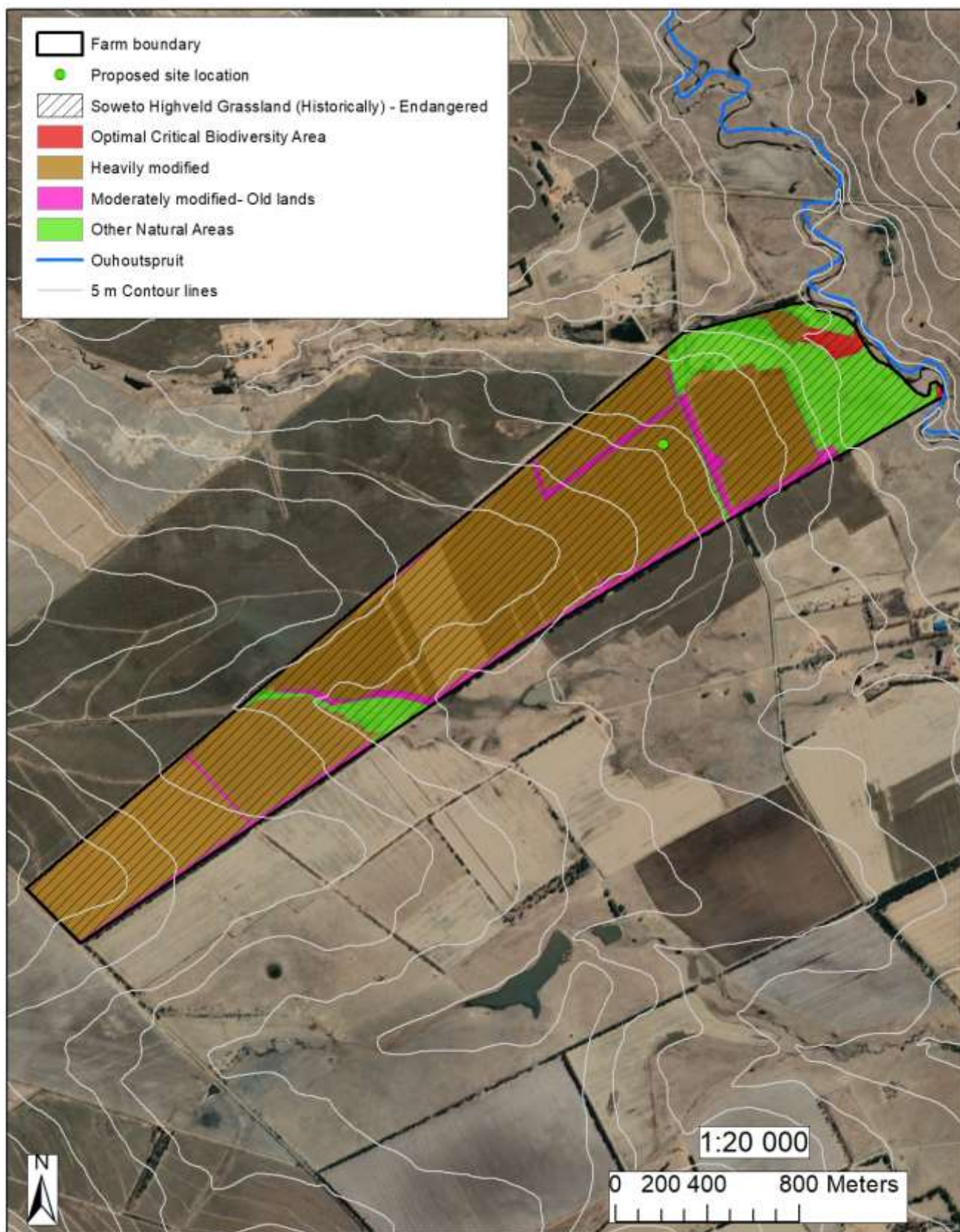
## 2. DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF ASPECTS

### Poultry Houses:

Val Grain Co is proposing the construction of 12 environmentally controlled poultry houses with the capacity for 50 000 chickens per house on Portion 9 of the farm Witnek 581 IR situated near Val within Lekwa Local Municipality area.

Listing Notice 1	
(ACTIVITY NO. 5) The development and related operation of facilities or infrastructure for the concentration of (ii) more than 5 000 poultry per facility situated outside an urban area, excluding chicks younger than 20 days.	The activity will entail the construction of 12 environmentally controlled poultry houses (145 m x 15 m each) with capacity for 50 000 birds per house, totalling 600 000 birds.
(ACTIVITY NO. 28) Residential, mixed, retail, commercial, industrial or institutional development where such land was used for agriculture, game farming, equestrian purposes or afforestation on or after 01 April 1998 and where such development (ii) will occur outside an urban area, where the total land to be developed is bigger than 1 hectare.	The activity will include the utilisation of 7.8 ha of old agricultural land.

### 3. ECOLOGICAL SENSITIVITY MAP OF PREFERRED SITE



Ecological sensitivity map for the proposed development on Portion 9 of the farm Witnek 581 IR

January 2023  
Created by:



#### 4. IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

##### a) Impacts identified for preferred alternative

Activity	Impact summary	Significance		Proposed mitigation
		Before mitigation	After mitigation	
Clearance of agricultural land	Air pollution on a local level.	Low	Low	Dust control by means of watering if necessary. Vehicles to be regularly serviced and well-tuned. Operations to be undertaken during working hours only.
	Contamination of soils, surface water and groundwater due to leakages from vehicles entering and exiting the site.	Low	Low	Machinery must be properly maintained at all times. Servicing of machinery must take place only in specific demarcated and protected areas. Measures must be taken for the proper disposal of oils, grease, oil filters, rags, etc.
	Soil compaction and loss of fertility.	Low	Low	Appropriate measures must be taken to reduce the risk of erosion from unprotected slopes i.e., diversion berms, ponding pools, and not exceeding angles of repose of stockpiled material. All unprotected slopes must be rehabilitated concurrent with construction.
	Disturbance of fauna	Medium	Low	Only the preferred site should be used for construction and operational activities. This site is located on an agricultural land and will contain minimal fauna. No fauna found on the site will be killed.
	Disturbance of flora	High	Medium	Only the preferred site should be used for construction and operation of the facility. The preferred site is located on an agricultural field and utilisation of this site will not have an impact on flora.
	Safety on the construction site	High	Low	Access to the construction site to be controlled at all times.
	Degradation of aesthetics	High	Low	If needed, an additional line of

Activity	Impact summary	Significance		Proposed mitigation
		Before mitigation	After mitigation	
				trees will be planted to minimise visual impact.
	Providing employment opportunities to the local community	High	High	No mitigation proposed.
Utilisation of agricultural land	Air pollution on a local level.	Low	Low	Dust control by means of watering if necessary. Vehicles to be regularly serviced and well-tuned. Operations to be undertaken during working hours only.
	Contamination of soils, surface water and groundwater due to leakages from vehicles entering and exiting the site.	Low	Low	Machinery must be properly maintained at all times. Servicing of machinery must take place only in specific demarcated and protected areas. Measures must be taken for the proper disposal of oils, grease, oil filters, rags, etc.
	Soil compaction and loss of fertility.	Low	Low	Appropriate measures must be taken to reduce the risk of erosion from unprotected slopes i.e., diversion berms, ponding pools, and not exceeding angles of repose of stockpiled material. All unprotected slopes must be rehabilitated concurrent with construction.
	Disturbance of fauna	Medium	Low	Only the preferred site should be used for construction and operational activities. This site is located on an agricultural land and will contain minimal fauna. No fauna found on the site will be killed.
	Disturbance of flora	High	Medium	Only the preferred site should be used for construction and operation of the facility. The preferred site is located on an agricultural field and utilisation of this site will not have an impact on flora.
	Safety on the construction site	High	Low	Access to the construction site to be controlled at all



Activity	Impact summary	Significance		Proposed mitigation
		Before mitigation	After mitigation	
				times.
	Degradation of aesthetics	High	Low	If needed, an additional line of trees will be planted to minimise visual impact.
	Providing employment opportunities to the local community	High	High	No mitigation proposed.
<b>Earthworks</b>				
	Air pollution on a local level.	Low	Low	Dust control by means of watering if necessary. Vehicles to be regularly serviced and well-tuned. Operations to be undertaken during working hours only.
	Contamination of soils, surface water and groundwater due to leakages from vehicles entering and exiting the site.	Low	Low	Machinery must be properly maintained at all times. Servicing of machinery must take place only in specific demarcated and protected areas. Measures must be taken for the proper disposal of oils, grease, oil filters, rags, etc.
	Soil compaction and loss of fertility.	Low	Low	Appropriate measures must be taken to reduce the risk of erosion from unprotected slopes i.e., diversion berms, ponding pools, and not exceeding angles of repose of stockpiled material. All unprotected slopes must be rehabilitated concurrent with construction.
	Increased fire risk	Low	Low	Cooking and heating fires permitted only in designated areas with appropriate safety measures. Adequate firefighting equipment must be available, as prescribed by the relevant safety standards and legislation.
	Disturbance of fauna	Medium	Low	Only the preferred site should be used for construction and operational activities. This site is located on an agricultural land and will contain minimal fauna. No fauna found on the site will be killed.

Activity	Impact summary	Significance		Proposed mitigation
		Before mitigation	After mitigation	
	Disturbance of flora	High	Medium	Only the preferred site should be used for construction and operation of the facility. The preferred site is located on an agricultural field and utilisation of this site will not have an impact on flora.
	Safety on the construction site	High	Low	Access to the construction site to be controlled at all times.
	Degradation of aesthetics	High	Low	If needed, an additional line of trees will be planted to minimise visual impact.
	Providing employment opportunities to the local community	High	High	No mitigation proposed.
Construction of poultry facility	Air pollution on a local level.	Low	Low	Dust control by means of watering if necessary. Vehicles to be regularly serviced and well-tuned. Operations to be undertaken during working hours only.
	Contamination of soils, surface water and groundwater due to leakages from vehicles entering and exiting the site.	Low	Low	Machinery must be properly maintained at all times. Servicing of machinery must take place only in specific demarcated and protected areas. Measures must be taken for the proper disposal of oils, grease, oil filters, rags, etc.
	Pollution of soil, surface water and groundwater due to ineffective management of sewage and general waste management.	Medium	Low	Proper ablution facilities must be provided i.e. chemical toilets at appropriate locations on site if necessary or existing facilities must be used. Workers must be made aware of the risk of soil water contamination. Domestic waste must be disposed of in appropriate containers, and removed to the nearest municipal waste-disposal site as part of existing waste management system.
	Soil compaction and loss of fertility.	Low	Low	Appropriate measures must be taken to reduce the risk of



Activity	Impact summary	Significance		Proposed mitigation
		Before mitigation	After mitigation	
				erosion from unprotected slopes i.e., diversion berms, ponding pools, and not exceeding angles of repose of stockpiled material. All unprotected slopes must be rehabilitated concurrent with construction.
	Increased fire risk	Low	Low	Cooking and heating fires permitted only in designated areas with appropriate safety measures. Adequate firefighting equipment must be available, as prescribed by the relevant safety standards and legislation.
	Disturbance of fauna	Medium	Low	Only the preferred site should be used for construction and operational activities. This site is located on an agricultural land and will contain minimal fauna. No fauna found on the site will be killed.
	Disturbance of flora	High	Medium	Only the preferred site should be used for construction and operation of the facility. The preferred site is located on an agricultural field and utilisation of this site will not have an impact on flora.
	Safety on the construction site	High	Low	Access to the construction site to be controlled at all times.
	Degradation of aesthetics	High	Low	If needed, an additional line of trees will be planted to minimise visual impact.
	Providing employment opportunities to the local community	High	High	No mitigation proposed.
Operation of poultry facility	Pollution of soil, surface water and groundwater due to ineffective management of sewage and general waste management.	Medium	Low	Proper ablution facilities must be provided i.e. chemical toilets at appropriate locations on site if necessary or existing facilities must be used. Workers must be made aware of the risk of soil water contamination. Domestic

Activity	Impact summary	Significance		Proposed mitigation
		Before mitigation	After mitigation	
				waste must be disposed of in appropriate containers, and removed to the nearest municipal waste-disposal site as part of existing waste management system.
	Pollution of soil, surface water and groundwater due to ineffective manure disposal.	Medium	Low	After the completion of each cycle, all chickens are caught and the manure and litter are then scooped up using a bobcat. The manure is loaded onto a closed truck and taken to agricultural fields, owned by the applicant, where it is used as fertiliser. Manure should be handled according to Odour Management Plan (Appendix F2), Waste Management Plan (Appendix F3) and Biosecurity Plan (Appendix F4).
	Pollution of soil, surface water and groundwater due to ineffective disposal of mortalities.	Medium	Low	The mortalities are removed on a daily basis and collected by ZuluCroc to be used as food for crocodiles and other reptiles. Mortalities should be handled according to Odour Management Plan (Appendix F2), Waste Management Plan (Appendix F3) and Biosecurity Plan (Appendix F4).
	Soil compaction and loss of fertility.	Low	Low	Appropriate measures must be taken to reduce the risk of erosion from unprotected slopes i.e., diversion berms, ponding pools, and not exceeding angles of repose of stockpiled material. All unprotected slopes must be rehabilitated concurrent with construction.
	Increased fire risk	Low	Low	Cooking and heating fires permitted only in designated areas with appropriate safety measures. Adequate

Activity	Impact summary	Significance		Proposed mitigation
		Before mitigation	After mitigation	
				firefighting equipment must be available, as prescribed by the relevant safety standards and legislation.
	Disturbance of fauna	Medium	Low	Only the preferred site should be used for construction and operational activities. This site is located on an agricultural land and will contain minimal fauna. No fauna found on the site will be killed.
	Degradation of aesthetics	High	Low	If needed, an additional line of trees will be planted to minimise visual impact.
	Providing employment opportunities to the local community	High	High	No mitigation proposed.

## b) Timeframes and management of mitigation

The table below lists the activities identified, mitigation measures proposed, the person responsible for the management actions, timing of actions and objectives to be reached.

Activities	Environmental Objectives	Auditable Management and Mitigation Measures	√	Person Responsible	Timing	Requirement for "sign-off" report
<b>Planning and Design Phase</b>						
No environmental activity will take place during this phase.						
<b>Construction Phase</b>						
1. Clearance of agricultural land	Maintaining air quality and minimising disturbance caused by noise, dust and emissions.	Dust control by means of watering if necessary.		Norman Kerslake	Ongoing	Confirm compliance and justify emissions
2. Utilisation of agricultural land		Vehicles to be regularly serviced and well-tuned.			Ongoing	
		Operations to be undertaken during working hours only.			Ongoing	
3. Earthworks	Protecting the quality of surface and ground water.	Machinery should be properly maintained at all times.		Norman Kerslake	Ongoing	Initialise water monitoring to take place at least quarterly.
4. Construction of poultry facility		Servicing of machinery should take place only in specific demarcated and protected areas.			Ongoing	
		Measures should be taken for the proper disposal of oils, grease, oil filters, rags, etc.			Ongoing	
	Controlling sewage and domestic waste disposal by workers.	Proper ablution facilities should be provided i.e. chemical toilets at appropriate locations on site if necessary; else existing facilities must be used.		Norman Kerslake	Before onset of construction	Confirm compliance and monitor site to ensure that domestic waste and construction rubble has been removed.
		Workers should be made aware of the risk of soil water contamination.			Before onset of construction	
		Domestic waste should be disposed of in			Weekly	

Activities	Environmental Objectives	Auditable Management and Mitigation Measures	√	Person Responsible	Timing	Requirement for "sign-off" report
		appropriate containers, and removed to the nearest municipal waste-disposal site.				
	Preventing fires.	Cooking and heating fires permitted only in designated areas with appropriate safety measures.		Norman Kerslake	Ongoing	Initialise and monitor a fire prevention and response plan.
		Adequate fire fighting equipment should be available, as prescribed by the relevant safety standards and legislation.			Ongoing	
	Minimising soil compaction, loss of fertility and erosion.	Appropriate measures should be taken to reduce the risk of erosion from unprotected slopes i.e. diversion berms, ponding pools, and not exceeding angles of repose of stockpiled material.		Norman Kerslake	Ongoing	Confirm compliance.
		All unprotected slopes should be rehabilitated concurrent with construction.			Ongoing	
	Controlling the temporary disturbance of fauna.	Only the preferred site should be used for construction and operational activities. This site is located on an agricultural land and will contain minimal fauna.		Norman Kerslake	Ongoing	Confirm compliance.
		No fauna found on the site will be killed.			Ongoing	
	Ensuring the safety of workers and the public.	Access to the construction site to be controlled at all times.		Norman Kerslake	Ongoing	Erection of safety fence and controlled entry points to the site.
	Minimising visual and audible impacts that may occur as a result of vehicle exhausts, dust and noise from machinery.	If needed, an additional line of trees will be planted to minimise visual impact.		Norman Kerslake	Before onset of construction	Establishment of a tree line.
<b>Operational Phase</b>						
1. Operation of	Managing the disposal of sewage, waste and litter.	Sewage from flush-toilets flows to a french drain.		Norman Kerslake	Ongoing	Confirm compliance with

Activities	Environmental Objectives	Auditable Management and Mitigation Measures	√	Person Responsible	Timing	Requirement for "sign-off" report
poultry facility		Household waste is removed to the nearest authorised municipal landfill site.			Weekly	good practice.
		Litter is controlled by good practice.			Ongoing	
	Disposal of chicken manure	After the completion of each cycle, all chickens are caught and the manure and litter are then scooped up using a bobcat. The manure is loaded onto a closed truck and taken to agricultural fields, owned by the applicant, where it is used as fertiliser.		Norman Kerslake	After each cycle	Confirm compliance after each cycle.
	Preventing wash water from contaminating surface and ground water.	Houses are washed after each cycle only after the removal of manure and carcasses.		Norman Kerslake	After each cycle	Water quality to be tested quarterly.
		The houses are washed using a high pressure (16bar) sprayer, minimising the amount of water used.			After each cycle	
		Equipment is not washed with water, but rather using a foam sanitizer (F29) which is applied as dry foam and allowed to evaporate.			After each cycle	
Disposal of mortalities.	The mortalities are removed on a daily basis and collected by ZuluCroc to be used as food for crocodiles and other reptiles.		Norman Kerslake	Daily	Confirm compliance.	
Minimising air pollution.	Manure in houses should be treated regularly to prevent excessive odours and flies. Fly control should include measures for control of adults as well as larvae.		Norman Kerslake	Ongoing	Confirm compliance.	
<b>Decommissioning and Closure Phase</b>						
This phase is not foreseen for this project.						



### **c) Monitoring and reporting**

All activities identified and proposed mitigation measures should be monitored according to the following programme:

- Regular monitoring of all the environmental management measures and components must be carried out by the holder of the ROD in order to ensure that the provisions of this programme are adhered to.
- On-going and regular reporting of the progress of implementation of this programme will be done by the ECO.
- An ECO should be appointed to conduct external environmental audits every two month as long as construction is taking place and every six months once construction has been completed.

#### *Roles and responsibilities for the execution of monitoring programmes*

It is the responsibility of the holder of the ROD to appoint an ECO before any construction takes place. The ECO will then be responsible for environmental training of the contractors and employees, as well as the external environmental auditing according to the timeframe stipulated above.

#### *Environmental Monitoring*

Environmental Monitoring is the continuous evaluation of the status and condition of environmental elements. Its purpose is to detect change that takes place in the environment over time and involves the measuring and recording of physical, social and economic variables associated with development impacts. The purpose of the monitoring programme is not only to ensure conformance with the EMP through the contract/work instruction specifications but also to monitor environmental issues and impacts that have not been accounted for in the EMP that are, or could result in significant environmental impacts for which corrective action is required. Monitoring shall form part of the contract or work instruction.

#### *Internal performance audits*

It is recommended that the site manager undertake regular performance audits in accordance with the approved EMPr in which each environmental management specification will be rated in terms of the following criteria:

- Full Compliance (no action required)
- Satisfactory Performance (Some remedial/preventative actions required)
- Unsatisfactory performance (Remedial actions required)

The performance monitoring report must incorporate all compliance issues as well as corrective actions taken, permits, licenses and all contract documentation's conditions. These reports must be made available to the appointed Environmental Control Officer (ECO).

#### *External Compliance Audits*

An independent qualified ECO must be appointed to monitor the site and operations for compliance in accordance with the approved EMPr. The external compliance audits must be conducted on a two monthly basis during construction and a six monthly basis during operation.

The ultimate aim is that each environmental management specification be checked by means of a system in which a score may be allocated for:

- Full compliance
- Satisfactory performance
- Unsatisfactory performance
- No action

## **d) Environmental Awareness Plan**

### *Environmental awareness training*

Environmental awareness should be done as part of the induction training completed by all personnel working on the site. To ensure the training is always updated, placards containing information about environmental aspects will regularly be updated and distributed. If the ECO in his own discretion or the discretion of the site manager decide to update any environmental awareness training, he/ she will be able to do so at their own discretion.

It is recommended that the environmental awareness training be presented at least every 6 months to ensure the update of environmental goals in relation to current activities is communicated to the personnel.

The ability of the team to contain any environmental incidents is dependent on the management efficiency of the manager on site, and his ability to train and ensure his employees are knowledgeable about environmental impacts.

The contractors and applicant must ensure that adequate environmental training takes place. All employees shall have been given an induction presentation on environmental awareness. Where possible, the presentation needs to be conducted in the language of the employees. The environmental training should, as a minimum, include the following:

- Explanation of the importance of complying with the EMP;
- The construction must take place in ecological sound manner, taking due cognisance of the sensitive ecological areas in close vicinity of the site (i.e. drainage channel/streams).
- The need to protect and preserve the historical and archaeological heritage of the site.
- The importance of conformance with all environmental policies and procedures;
- The significant environmental impacts, actual or potential, as a result of their activities;
- The environmental benefits of improved personal performance;

### *Dealing with risks and accidents*

The solution to the risks involved with prospecting operations is to have all the appropriate information and planning in place before the incident occurs. This is important to ensure the correct procedures and reporting structures are followed, and the appropriate remediation steps are followed. The approved EMP shall be available on site. This EMP contains all the management plans necessary to prevent or mitigate pollution or degradation of the environment. An Incident Register and a Complaints Register should be kept on site and completed in the case of any environmentally detrimental incident happening or complaints are received. These registers should be kept and included in the internal and external reports.