

Appendix E3
BID & Registration/Comment Sheet





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South Africa

Background Information Document

Notification of an application for an Environmental Authorisation Amendment and Waste Management License for the expansion of the Kareerand Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) for Mine Waste Solutions, North-West Province.

October 2019

GCS Project Number: 17-0026

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER: GCS (PTY) LTD

GCS Water and Environment (Pty) Ltd (GCS) is a fully integrated water, environmental, and earth science consulting services company based in the Republic of South Africa. GCS provides a professional consulting service in the fields of environmental, water and earth sciences. GCS has a team of highly trained staff with considerable experience in the fields of environmental and water science.

YOUR COMMENTS ARE IMPORTANT - CONTACT THE GCS PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OFFICE TO REGISTER AS AN INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTY

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Documents for review and comment will be made available at public places and electronically at <http://www.gcs-sa.biz/documents/>



INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this Background Information Document (BID) is to provide all Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) with information in respect of the applications for an Amendment of Environmental Authorisation and Waste Management License for Mine Waste Solutions, also known as Chemwes.

In addition, the BID aims to:

- Introduce and explain the Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (S&EIA) Process, as well as other related parallel environmental processes;
- Introduce and explain how I&APs can participate in the process as prescribed by the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA);
- Invite all I&APs to comment on:
 - The potential for negative and positive biophysical and socio-economic impacts of the project, as well as any other issues of concern;
 - The proposed public participation and environmental assessment process, and
 - Any other comments or suggestions which might be of relevance.

ABBREVIATIONS	
BID	Background Information Document
CRR	Comments and Responses Report
DEIR	Draft Environmental Impact Report
DMR	Department of Mineral Resources
DSR	Draft Scoping Report
EAP	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
EMP	Environmental Management Programme
FEIR	Final Environmental Impact Report
FSR	Final Scoping Report
I&AP	Interested and Affected Party
MWS	Mine Waste Solutions
NEMA	National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998)
NEM:WA	National Waste Management: Waste Act (Act 59 of 2008)
PPP	Public Participation Process
S&EIA	Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment
TSF	Tailings Storage Facility

WHAT IS A S&EIA AND AN ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME (EMP)?

The National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMA) prescribes the processes to be followed when compiling the Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (S&EIA) and the Environmental Management Programme (EMP), in respect of the NEMA listed activities, which forms the legal basis of this authorisation.

The process evaluates the potential environmental impacts of a project, as well as developing appropriate environmental management measures to mitigate these impacts. The purpose of the S&EIA is to assess the current environment in which a proposed activity will take place and assess all potential impacts in terms of its extent, duration, intensity and significance relating to the specific activity. The Environmental Management Programme (EMP) describes the goals and objectives for environmental management:

- to avoid, minimise and manage potential environmental impacts;
- to recommend practical actions or implementation by the mine; and
- to raise awareness of employees and the surrounding community with regards to environmental management.

Specialist assessments are conducted as part of the S&EIA process and the following will be undertaken as part of this application:

- Hydrology
- Hydrogeology
- Air quality
- Noise
- Socio-economic
- Biodiversity
- Soils, land use, land capability
- Wetland and aquatics
- Heritage and palaeontology
- Visual
- Radioactivity

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Mine Waste Solutions (MWS), also known as Chemwes (Pty) Ltd (Chemwes), has been in business since 1964 and conducts its operations over a large area of land to the east of Klerksdorp, within the area of jurisdiction of the City of Matlosana and JB Marks Local Municipalities (LM), which fall within the Dr Kenneth Kaunda District Municipality (DM) in the North-West Province. The MWS Operations are located primarily to the south of the N12, east of the town of Stilfontein. The closest town is Khuma, located about 3km northwest of the Kareerand TSF, and other nearby towns include Stilfontein (10 km from the Kareerand TSF) and Klerksdorp (19 km from Kareerand TSF). The operations at MWS entail the collection and reprocessing of mine tailings that were previously deposited on TSFs in order to extract gold and uranium. High pressure water cannons are used to slurry the tailings on the source TSFs, then the slurry is pumped by a number of pump stations and pipelines to the MWS Processing Plant, and the residues from the Processing Plant are pumped to the Kareerand TSF. Once an old source TSF has been completely reclaimed, its footprint is remediated and rehabilitated. The Kareerand TSF was designed with an operating life of 14 years, for use until 2025 with a total design capacity of 352 million tonnes. Subsequent to the commissioning of the Kareerand TSF, MWS was acquired by AngloGold Ashanti in 2012 and the tailings production target has increased by an additional 485 million tonnes, which will require operation of the TSF to continue until 2042. The additional tailings therefore require extension of the design life of the Kareerand TSF.

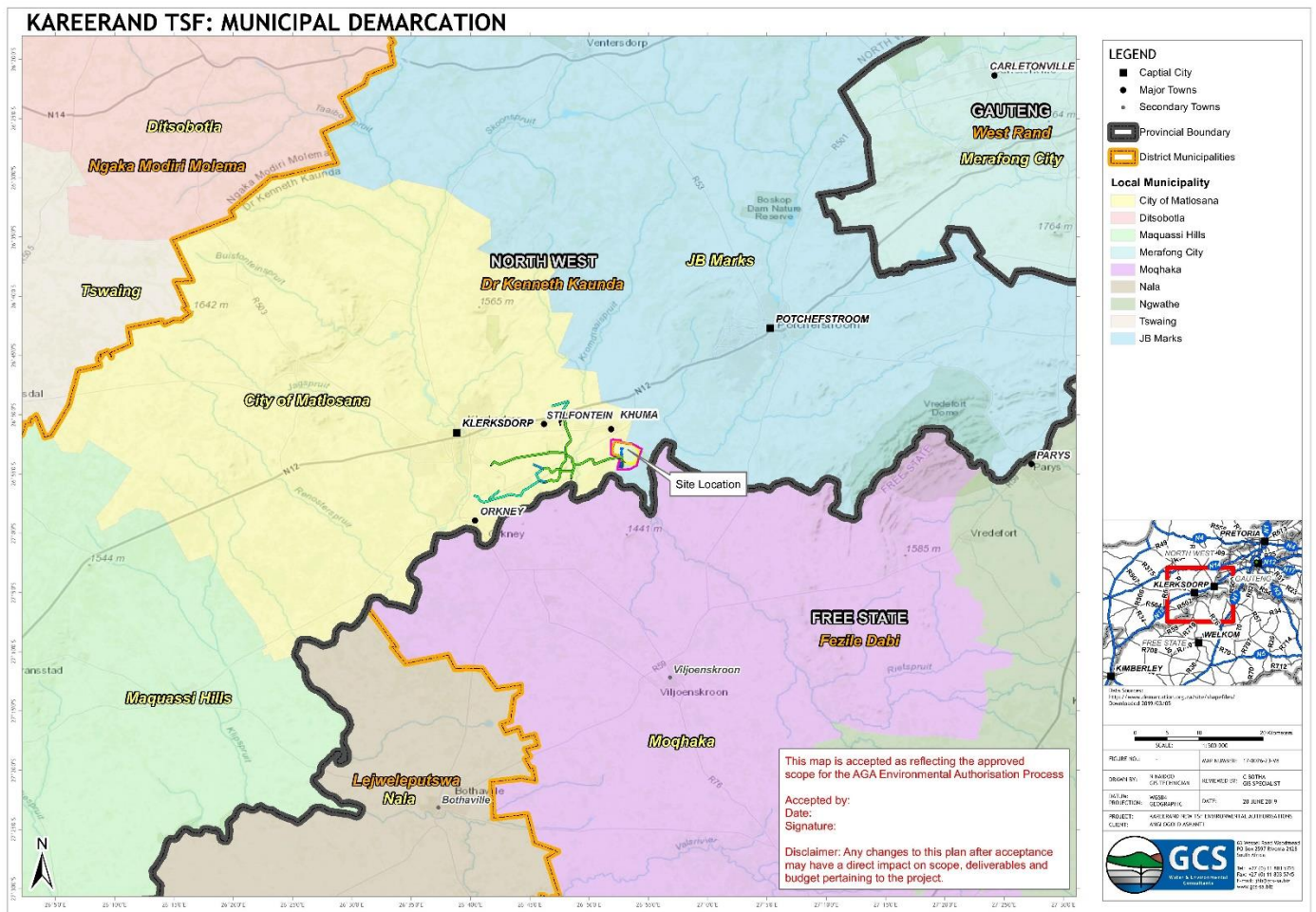


Figure 1: Site Locality Map and Municipal Boundaries.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project entails the expansion of the current Kareerand TSF to accommodate the increased tailings and final design capacity, along with six additional pump stations (three main, three satellite) and approximately 30 km of pipelines. The TSF expansion is proposed on the western edge of the current facility, and the final height of the combined facility (both expansion and current) will be 122m. The expansion footprint will add approximately 380 hectares to the TSF, including support infrastructure. Infrastructure that will be constructed as part of the TSF expansion includes fences, access roads, a topsoil bund wall, stormwater diversion channels, delivery pipelines, solution trenches, collector sump, catchment paddocks, starter wall, drainage system, decant system, catwalk, energy dissipator, silt trap, stormwater dam, return water dams (RWDs), contractor's yard, RWD emergency spillway, pump stations, process water/slurry pipelines and slurry launders.

LOCATION OF THE KAREERAND TSF

Province:	North West
District:	Dr Kenneth Kuanda District Municipality
Local municipality:	City of Matlosana and JB Marks Local Municipalities
Nearest town:	Khuma
Farm, number & portions affected:	Stilfontein 408 IP RE/10, RE/15, RE/21, RE/30, RE/31, RE/33, RE/66 & 140; Zandpan 423 IP 3 & 4; Nooitgedacht 434 IP 22; Witkop 438 IP RE/1, RE/2 & RE/4; Vaalkop 439 IP RE & E/3; Modderfontein 440 IP RE/4; Mapaiskraal 441 IP RE, RE/1, RE/2; Wildebeestpan 442 IP RE, Buffelsfontein 443 IP RE/2, RE/6, 7, 9, 15; Megadam 574 IP, Umfula 567 IP 8 - 19; Umfula 575 IP The surface rights of the study area are largely owned by Chemwes, AngloGold Ashanti and Two Palms Trust.

REGULATORY CONTEXT

For MWS to continue with their proposal to expand the Kareerand TSF and its associated infrastructure, there is a requirement to submit the following applications to obtain authorisations and licences as part of the integrated regulatory process:

- Application for Environmental Authorisation through a Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment Report (S&EIA) process and the compilation of an Environmental Management Programme (EMP) in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998; NEMA) and its Regulations; and
- Waste Management Licence Application (WMLA) in terms of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act 59 of 2008; NEM:WA).

A Heritage Impact Assessment in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act 25 of 1999; NHRA) will also be undertaken.

Environmental Authorisation (EA) application: The proposed Kareerand TSF and associated infrastructure will likely trigger the activities below which are listed under the NEMA 2014 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (GNR 983 and 984 of 2014, as amended). The activities will be confirmed prior to submission of the application, as the final specifications are currently being determined. The EA Application will be submitted in terms of NEMA, for the listed activities in **Table 1**. The list of waste management activities that have, or are likely to have, a detrimental effect on the environment (GN 921, as amended) which may be relevant to the project and will be applied for along with the EA application, are listed in **Table 2**.

Table 1: Identified Listed Activities under NEMA

No.	Activity
Listing Notice 1 (GN R983)	
12	The development of - (i) dams or weirs, where the dam or weir, including infrastructure and water surface area, exceeds 100 square metres; or (ii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more; where such

No.	Activity
	development occurs - (a) within a watercourse; (b) in front of a development setback; or (c) if no development setback exists, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse.
16	The development of a dam where the highest part of the dam wall, as measured from the outside toe of the wall to the highest part of the wall, is 5 metres or higher or where the highwater mark of the dam covers an area of 10 ha or more.
19	The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 10 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock of more than 10 cubic metres from a watercourse
24	The development of a road- (i) for which an environmental authorisation was obtained for the route determination in terms of activity 5 in Government Notice 387 of 2006 or activity 18 in Government Notice 545 of 2010; or (ii) with a reserve wider than 13,5 metres, or where no reserve exists where the road is wider than 8 metres
28	Residential, mixed, retail, commercial, industrial or institutional developments where such land was used for agriculture, game farming, equestrian purposes or afforestation on or after 01 April 1998 and where such development: (i) will occur inside an urban area, where the total land to be developed is bigger than 5 hectares; or (ii) will occur outside an urban area, where the total land to be developed is bigger than 1 hectare; excluding where such land has already been developed for residential, mixed, retail, commercial, industrial or institutional purposes.
31	The decommissioning of existing facilities, structures or infrastructure for - (i) any development and related operation activity or activities listed in this Notice, Listing Notice 2 of 2014 or Listing Notice 3 of 2014; (ii) any expansion and related operation activity or activities listed in this Notice, Listing Notice 2 of 2014 or Listing Notice 3 of 2014; (iii) any phased activity or activities for development and related operation activity or expansion or related operation activities listed in this Notice or Listing Notice 3 of 2014; or (iv) any activity regardless the time the activity was commenced with
46	The expansion and related operation of infrastructure for the bulk transportation of sewage, effluent, process water, wastewater, return water, industrial discharge or slimes where the existing infrastructure - (i) has an internal diameter of 0,36 metres or more; or (ii) has a peak throughput of 120 litres per second or more; and (a) where the facility or infrastructure is expanded by more than 1 000 metres in length; or (b) where the throughput capacity of the facility or infrastructure will be increased by 10% or more; excluding where such expansion - (aa) relates to the bulk transportation of sewage, effluent, process water, wastewater, return water, industrial discharge or slimes within a road reserve or railway line reserve; or (bb) will occur within an urban area.
48	The expansion of - (i) infrastructure or structures where the physical footprint is expanded by 100 square metres or more; or (ii) dams or weirs, where the dam or weir, including infrastructure and water surface area, is expanded by 100 square metres or more; where such expansion occurs- (a) within a watercourse; (b) in front of a development setback; or (c) if no development setback exists, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse; excluding - (aa) the expansion of infrastructure or structures within existing ports or harbours that will not increase the development footprint of the port or harbour; (bb) where such expansion activities are related to the development of a port or harbour, in which case activity 26 in Listing Notice 2 of 2014 applies; (cc) activities listed in activity 14 in Listing Notice 2 of 2014 or activity 23 in Listing Notice 3 of 2014, in which case that activity applies; (dd) where such expansion occurs within an urban area; or (ee) where such expansion occurs within existing roads, road reserves or railway line reserves.
Listing Notice 2 (GN R984)	
15	The clearance of an area of 20 hectares or more of indigenous vegetation, excluding where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for - (i) the undertaking of a linear activity; or (ii) maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.
16	The development of a dam where the highest part of the dam wall, as measured from the outside toe of the wall to the highest part of the wall, is 5 metres or higher or where the high-water mark of the dam covers an area of 10 hectares or more.

Table 2: Identified Waste Activities under NEM:WA

Category	Activity no.	Activity description
B	(3)	The recovery of waste including refining, utilization, or co-processing of the waste at a facility that processes in excess of 100 tons of general waste per day or in excess of 1 ton of hazardous waste per day, excluding recovery that takes place as an integral part of an internal manufacturing process within the same premises.
B	(7)	The disposal of any quantity of hazardous waste to land.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

Public involvement is an essential part of any environmental assessment process. You have been identified as an I&AP who may want to receive information regarding the above-mentioned project. You will be given the opportunity to provide your input into the environmental assessment process and to receive information. All comments will be recorded and presented to the project team and regulatory authorities. You will receive feedback on how your comments have been considered and the outcome of the assessment.

I&APs include any person who will be directly or indirectly interested in and/or affected by the project. To be recognised as an I&AP one must register with GCS to be added to the stakeholder database for the project. You may communicate via fax, email or telephone to obtain further information or comment on the proposed project. All registered I&APs will be kept informed of the decision taken by the DMR. **Table 4** outlines the steps which will be followed in the S&EIA process.

Table 4: S&EIA Process

Step 1: Stakeholder identification and project announcement (October 2019 - January 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notification of project and call for I&AP registration and comments placed in local newspapers; • I&APs are required to register their interest in the project to receive further project information; • Identify any issues/concerns of I&APs; • Provide I&APs with a Background Information Document (BID) (electronically or accessible at community centres) on the project, including a locality map and a Registration and Comment Sheet; and • Development of Comments and Responses Report (CRR) to capture comments and concerns of I&APs.
Step 2: I&AP review of Draft Scoping Report (DSR) (January - March 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues and concerns raised by I&APs contained in CRR to be included in the DSR; • DSR released for a 45-day commenting period; and • All registered I&APs on the project database are notified in writing of the opportunity to comment.
<p><i>To assist I&APs with their understanding of the project, stakeholder meetings or consultations in a similar manner, to which all I&APs will be invited, will be held during the review period of the Draft Scoping Report and Draft EIR.</i></p> <p><i>Copies of the report will be made available for review.</i></p>	
Step 3: Final Scoping Report (FSR) (March - April 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments received from I&APs during the review process are considered in the compilation of the FSR; and • The FSR is submitted to the Competent Authority (North-West DMR).
Step 4: Draft EIR and EMP for I&AP review (May - June 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compilation and release of a Draft EIR (DEIR) for a 45-day review period.
Step 5: Final EIR and Draft EMP (June/July 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Final EIR (FEIR), including the CRR and EMP will be compiled for submission to the Competent Authority (North-West DMR) for decision making.
Step 6: Environmental Authorisation and Appeal Period (August 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All registered I&APs will be notified in writing of the decision by the Competent Authority (North-West DMR) regarding the authorisation, being positive or negative for the project. All I&APs will also be notified of the appeal period, as well as the manner of appeal.

Public Notification	A major part of the public participation component of the application process is to notify members of the public of the proposed activities and the application process, particularly those who may be directly or indirectly affected by the proposed project. This will be achieved via the following means: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The placement of an advertisement in a regional newspaper;• Notices in English will be placed at the proposed site for development;• Distribution of BIDs to landowners and occupiers of land adjacent to the proposed construction area and to I&APs on request; and• Local authorities will be notified in writing and automatically registered as I&APs.
How to comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Should you wish to register as an I&AP in order to be kept informed, please complete the registration form on the overleaf and submit to GCS via fax, post or email.• Any further enquiries can be directed to GCS telephonically, or via fax or email.• It is important that you provide your contact details so that we can respond to your comments or questions.
Kindly note that should you require any other party to be contacted, please provide their contact details as well.	

Approved 29 Oct 2019



NOTIFICATION OF AN APPLICATION FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORIZATION AMENDMENT AND WASTE MANAGEMENT LICENSE FOR THE EXPANSION OF THE KAREERAND TAILINGS STORAGE FACILITY FOR MINE WASTE SOLUTIONS, NORTH-WEST PROVINCE

I&AP Comment and Registration Form
GCS Ref No: 17-0026

Name:		Surname:	
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Organisation / interest:

Postal / Residential address			
	Area:		Code:

Contact details	Tel:	()
	Fax:	()
	Mobile:	()
	Email:	

Please mark with an X to indicate whether you would like to participate in the process:

Yes, I would like to participate in this process and receive periodic updates	<input type="checkbox"/>
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No, I am not interested in participating and do not wish to receive further information	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Preferred method of communication	Email		Fax		Post	
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Date commented	(DD / MM / YYYY)
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Please indicate any issues, comments and concerns with regards to the proposed project

Please indicate in which aspects you would require more information

Please indicate the contact details of any other I&APs whom you think should be contacted

Name:		Surname:	
Tel:	()	Fax:	()
Mobile:	()		
Email:			

In order to be registered as an I&AP for this project, fax, mail, or e-mail the completed registration form to
GCS (Pty) Ltd
Anelle Lötter / Georgina Wilson at:
Tel: (011) 803 5726, Fax: (011) 803 5745
Email: anelle@gcs-sa.biz / georgina@gcs-sa.biz
Post: PO Box 2597, Rivonia, 2128

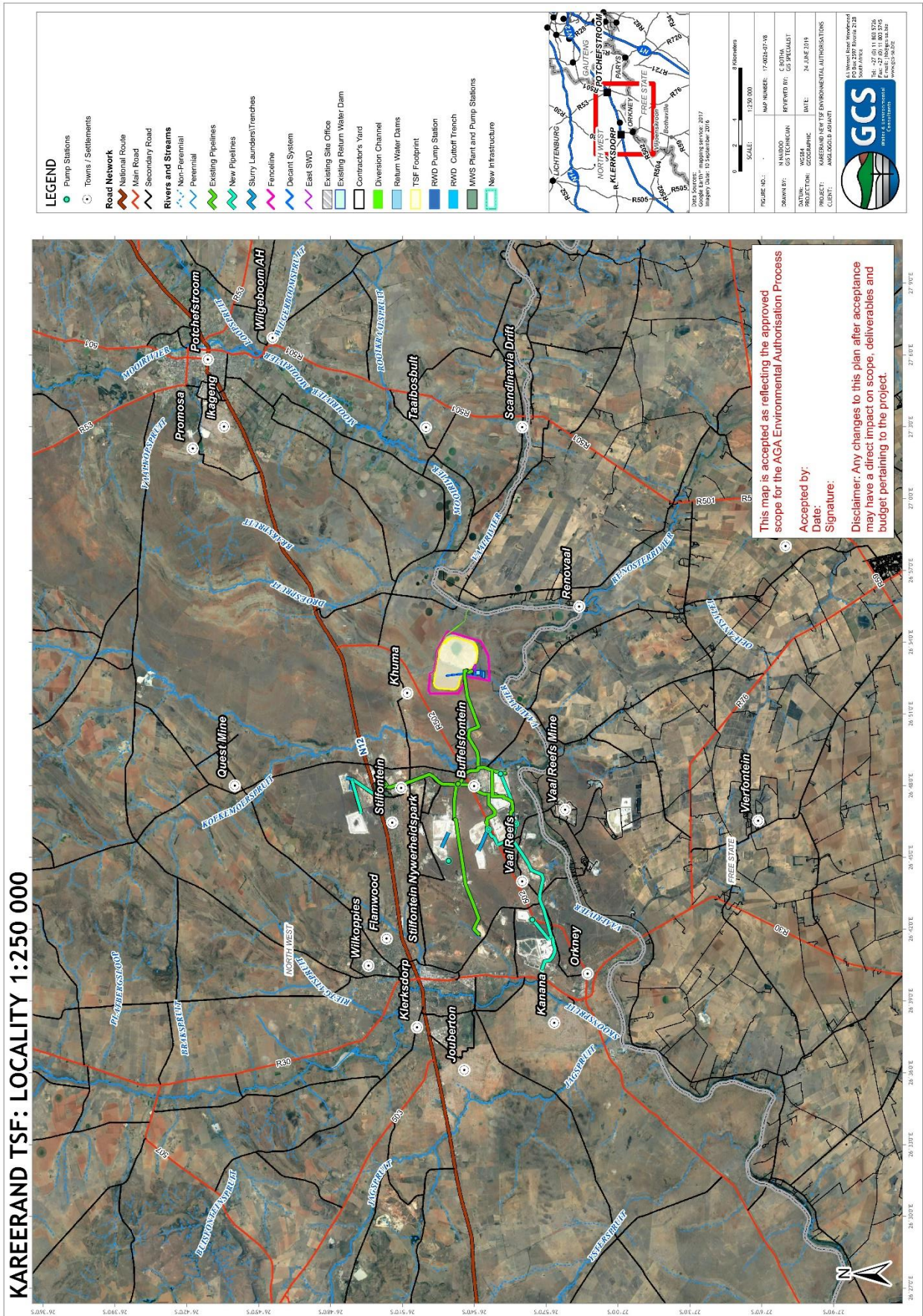


Figure 2: Kareerand Locality Map at 1:250 000.