



**NEW HAUL ROAD AND STORM WATER MANAGEMENT FOR PALINGPAN
MANGANESE MINE
COMMENTS AND RESPONSES REPORT
MARCH 2023**

Issue	Commentator	Date	Response
Transnet Pipelines, a division of Transnet SOC Limited, is not affected by the proposal.	T. Hadebe Transnet Pipelines	01 December 2022 20 January 2023	None required.
No MTN distribution services are affected by this application and MTN has no objection for the proposed application.	S. Hlabisa MTN	05 December 2022	None required.
<p>Please note that all development applications are processed via our online portal, the South African Heritage Resources Information System (SAHRIS) found at the following link: http://sahra.org.za/sahris/. We do not accept emailed, posted, hardcopy, faxed, website links or DropBox links as official submissions.</p> <p>Please create an application on SAHRIS and upload all documents pertaining to the Environmental Authorisation Application Process. As per section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA), an assessment of heritage resources must form part of the process and the assessment must comply with section 38(3) of the NHRA. If a case already exists on SAHRIS regarding the development, please upload the documents to that case.</p> <p>Once all documents including all appendices are uploaded to the case applications, please ensure that the status of the case is changed from DRAFT to SUBMITTED. Please ensure that all documents produced as part of the EA</p>	N. Higgitt SAHRA	01 December 2022 23 January 2023	An Archaeological Impact Assessment and Palaeontological Impact Assessment were conducted and is included in the Final BAR under Appendix D. The Application will be uploaded to SAHRIS.

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process are submitted as part of the application.			
No objection against the application as Sasol Satellite Operations will NOT BE AFFECTED	Rachel Mphofu Sasol	6 February 2023	None required.
<p>1. Please be advised as community of Postmasburg, we hereby raised an objection for PMG mining basic assessment report and their current mining. We are aware that their Mining Right has expired yet the DMR condone them to carry on with Mining activities. PMG Mining has failed in their SLP and for the Community Trust, we want answers. Please consult me to set-up a meeting.</p> <p>2. Based on your assessment report placed at Tsantsabane municipality offices, on your table of contents you made reference to the EAPr</p> <p>3. May you place provide an approved EIA for the proposed site</p> <p>4. Geohydrology report</p> <p>5. 4And the water use licenceFfor further clarity. we find it too salient on various aspect of environmental monitoring, evaluation and rehabilitation secptrum.</p> <p>6. Further the newspaper use advertised is not a local newspaper most people are not aware.</p> <p><u>DMR Response</u> Receipt of your e-mail is hereby acknowledged. Kindly note that in terms of section 24(5) of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act 28 of 2002 as amended, a mining right in respect of which an application for renewal has been lodged shall despite its expiry date remain in force until such time as such application has been granted or refused. Based on the above-mentioned section which is quoted verbatim, the company's operations are not illegal, however, we have noted the compliance issues raised in your e-mail. Our office will attend to your complaint and provide feedback before the end of March 2023.</p> <p>Regarding your objection against the Basic Assessment Report, kindly note that your objection should be addressed</p>	Shimmy	22 February 2023	<p>1. The development (for which authorisation is requested by Lokisa on behalf of PMG Mining) entails the construction of a ±5km new gravel road which will ensure safe transport and hauling from the R325 to the property boundary of the Palingpan Manganese Mine. The Application is therefore not for any current mining activities.</p> <p>The Department of Mineral Resources further provided a response dated 22 February 2023 stating that In terms of section 24(5) of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act 28 of 2002 as amended, the company's operations are not illegal.</p> <p>2. It is unclear what is meant by this statement. An Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) was conducted and is included under Appendix G in the Basic Assessment Report (BAR). The details and expertise of the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) are included under Appendix H in the Basic Assessment Report.</p> <p>3. The current Basic Assessment Process being followed is the application for Environmental Authorisation for the proposed haul road. The Final Basic Assessment Report will be submitted to the Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform for review, after which the Department will grant or refuse environmental authorisation. The Department's decision will be communicated to registered Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) once received. The Final BAR will also be submitted to I&APs for their records.</p> <p>4. The construction of the haul road will have no impact on groundwater, neither will groundwater be extracted and therefore a Geohydrology report is not required for the Basic Assessment Process.</p>

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<p>to the company's Environmental Practitioner (EP). Mr Vincent Muila from our office can assist with the contact details of the Environmental Practitioner, you can contact him on 053 807 1716/ 082 411 1058.</p>			<p>5. The activity does not require a water use authorisation and a Water Use Licence Application will therefore not form part of the application. The Biodiversity Assessment conducted for the proposed project states the following with regards to freshwater features: <i>'No rivers, riparian areas or wetlands are evident along the length of the haul road. There is an area of water drainage which crosses a section of the planned haul road. This water drainage occurs as run off from a small hill to the west of the haul road. Water is expected to drain from this area only occasionally following heavy storm events, the area does not differ in vegetation structure or composition from the adjacent vegetation, and there is no defined channel.'</i></p> <p>6. The proposed project was advertised in the Gemsbok Newspaper. According to the newspaper's website the distribution area for the newspaper includes Postmasburg (Refer to Appendix J for the Gemsbok Newspaper's distribution area).</p>
<p>1. APPLICATION FORM AND BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT. 1.1 Details of the activities applied for in terms of the EIA regulations (2014). a) <u>Lack of consistency with regards to the description of listed activities associated with the project:</u> i. The listed activities cited in the Application form and the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) are not corresponding with the listed activities cited in the newspaper advertisement in the Gemsbok local newspaper. The department therefore requests clarity in this regard. ii. The listed activity 20 of Listing Notice 1 (GNR 327) applied for and cited in the application form and the BAR is not triggered by the above mentioned development. This must be rectified in the final BAR. iii. The description of the listed activity 20 of Listing Notice 1 (GNR 327) as it appears in the application form and the BAR correspond with Activity 24 of Listing Notice 1 (GNR 327) as described in the regulations, not activity 20. This must be correct in</p>	<p>M. Jaola Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform</p>	<p>7 March 2023</p>	<p>1. APPLICATION FORM AND BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT. 1.1 Details of the activities applied for in terms of the EIA regulations (2014). a) <u>Lack of consistency with regards to the description of listed activities associated with the project:</u> i. Public Participation for the project, including advertisement in the Gemsbok Newspaper, was undertaken on 2 December 2022. At the time it was anticipated that the proposed project could impact on watercourses in the area.</p> <p>The Biodiversity Report dated and received during January 2023 concluded that "No rivers, riparian areas or wetlands are evident along the length of the haul road". The listed activities impacting on watercourses, being Activity 19 of Listing Notice 1 (GNR 327) and Activity 14 of Listing Notice 3 (GNR 324) were therefore omitted from the Application Form and the BAR as these activities are not applicable for this application.</p>

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<p>the final BAR.</p> <p>iv. Should it occur that the activities applied for in the application form differ from the activities noted in the final Basic Assessment Report, an amended application form for the above mentioned application must be forwarded to the department.</p>			<p>Activity 12 of Listing Notice 3 (GNR 324) was also omitted from the Application Form and the BAR as the study area is not considered a threatened ecosystem in terms of NEM:BA (as per the Biodiversity Report). The study area further does not fall within critical biodiversity areas or within the littoral active zone or 100 metres inland from high water mark of the sea and the land is not zoned open space, conservation or has an equivalent zoning.</p> <p>ii. & iii. The following activity is included in the Application Form and BAR: Activity 20 of Listing Notice 1 (GNR 327): The development of a road (ii) with a reserve wider than 13,5 meters, or where no reserve exists where the road is wider than 8 metres.</p> <p>Although the number of the listed activity is incorrect the description of the listed activity is correct. The correct number is Activity 24 of Listing Notice 1 (GNR 327). This was corrected in the Application Form and the BAR.</p> <p>iv. The activities applied for in the application form is the same as the activities noted in the Final Basic Assessment Report. The correction made in terms of Activity 24 of Listing Notice 1 (GNR 327) is included in the Application Form and the BAR and the amended application form was forwarded to the department.</p>
<p>2. Basic Assessment Report</p> <p>2.1 <u>Locality Map</u></p> <p>i. Please ensure that the A3 locality map as described on page 5 of the Basic Assessment report is attached as appendix A.</p> <p>2.2 <u>Applicable legislation, policies and/or guidelines</u></p> <p>i. Please list only the legislation, policies and/or guidelines of any sphere of government that are applicable to the application as contemplated in the EIA regulations.</p>			<p>2. Basic Assessment Report</p> <p>2.1 <u>Locality Map</u></p> <p>i. An A3 locality map is included under Appendix A.</p> <p>2.2 <u>Applicable legislation, policies and/or guidelines</u></p> <p>i. Only the legislation, policies and/or guidelines of any sphere of government that are applicable to the application as contemplated in the EIA regulations are listed in the BAR.</p> <p>ii. Public Participation for the project, including advertisement in the Gemsbok Newspaper, was</p>

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<p>ii. Under the heading of “Applicable legislation, policies and/or guidelines”, page 15-17 of the BAR, it is stated that the proposed development does not require a Water Use Licence. However, the public participation advertisement in the local newspaper indicate that the Water Use Licence is being applied for. Please provide clarity in relation to this.</p> <p>iii. Under the heading of “Applicable legislation, policies and/or guidelines”, page 15-17 of the BAR, it is mentioned that the Heritage Impact Assessment will be included in the final Basic Assessment Report. The department will await the Heritage Impact Assessment Report.</p> <p>iv. Under the heading of “Applicable legislation, policies and/or guidelines”, page 15-17 of the BAR Table 1 identified Protected plant species that possibly occur on site; some of the species recorded on the Biodiversity Assessment Report are protected under the Northern Cape Nature Conservation Act, and a permit needs to be acquired for the removal of these plants. Therefore, the Northern Cape Nature Conservation Act should also be listed under the heading “Applicable legislation, policies and/or guidelines” on page 15-17 of the BAR.</p> <p>2.3 Public Participation Process</p> <p>i. The farm names as they appear in the Public Participation newspaper advertisement in the Gemsbok newspaper, dated 02 December 2022 do not correspond with the farm names as they appear in the application form and the BAR. Please ensure uniformity in this regard.</p> <p>ii. The project description in the Public participation newspaper advertisement does not correspond with the project description in the application form and BAR. You are requested to ensure consistency with the project description related to the application. This includes (but not limited to) the length of the proposed development of a road.</p>			<p>undertaken on 2 December 2022. At the time it was anticipated that the proposed project could impact on watercourses in the area.</p> <p>The Biodiversity Report dated and received during January 2023 concluded that “No rivers, riparian areas or wetlands are evident along the length of the haul road”. As the proposed haul road will not impact on watercourses in the area, the project does not require a Water Use Licence.</p> <p>iii. A Heritage Impact Assessment was conducted and is included in the Final BAR under Appendix D</p> <p>iv. The Northern Cape Nature Conservation Act is included under the heading “Applicable legislation, policies and/or guidelines” in the BAR.</p> <p>In order to remove species listed in Schedule 1 & 2 of the NCNCA during site clearing activities, an integrated permit application will have to be made to the DAERL to obtain the required permission to remove and/or translocate these species from site. In order to remove the protected trees a license application will have to be made to the Department of Forestry.</p> <p>2.3 Public Participation Process</p> <p>i. The farm names as per the Application Form and Final BAR is correct.</p> <p>ii. Public Participation was undertaken on 2 December 2022, that preceded the Draft BAR and the submission of the application dated 23 January 2023. The length of the road was extended from 2km to ±5km in order for the road to commence at the R325 and end at the railway crossing. Both the application form and BAR will state the following: ‘The development entails the construction of a ±5km new gravel road that starts at the R325 (14.6 km from Postmasburg), continues in a north-western direction, and ends approximately 130m</p>

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<p>2.4 <u>Alternative site 1 coordinates</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The starting, middle and ending point coordinates on page 6 of the BAR do not correspond with the starting, middle and ending point coordinates as they appear on appendix 4. ii. The department requests clarity or outcome in relation to the negotiated 30m wide right of way servitude with the local community that owns the land where the servitude is still to be registered as mentioned on page 10 of the BAR and other sections of the report. <p>2.5 <u>Specialist Reports</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. All the specialist studies attached under section D of the BAR must comply with Appendix 6 of the 2014 regulations, as amended. ii. The Preliminary Design Report attached under appendix D of the BAR consist of different specifics of the proposed development of a road as compared to those mentioned in the application form and the BAR. 			<p>west of the railway line. The new road will ensure safe transport and hauling from the R325 to the Palingpan Manganese Mine. The new road will be built up in layers of approved material that forms a 10m gravel carriageway for a length of approximately 5km. This material will be sourced from the mine dumps and borrow pits. The design will also include a new intersection on the R325 to accommodate traffic that will use the new service road and a new railway crossing. Stormwater crossings will be placed at regular intervals to accommodate the natural water course and lay of the land.'</p> <p>All registered I&AP's were provided with the Draft BAR, which contained the information that the road is 5km in length, and this will also be stipulated in the Final BAR.</p> <p>2.4 <u>Alternative site 1 coordinates</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The coordinates indicated in the BAR was amended to reflect the correct coordinates as they appear on appendix 4. ii. The Applicant negotiated a 30m wide right of way servitude with the local community that owns the land and an agreement is in place (refer to Appendix J). The servitude is still to be registered and the registration will be made available once received. <p>2.5 <u>Specialist Reports</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Noted ii. The Engineers were appointed to provide a Preliminary Design Report for the initial 2km of the road, from the R325 up to the boundary of the Farm Paling. The additional 3km of the road from the boundary of the farm Paling up to the railway crossing is not included in their scope however the design of the road will be similar and the Design report was used for this purpose.