# BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT ENVIRONMENTAL RELATED AUTHORISATIONS FOR THE PROPOSED VENETIA LIMPOPO NATURE RESERVE LODGE



### **INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND**

De Beers Consolidated Mines (Pty) Ltd (De Beers) is the owner of the Venetia Limpopo Nature Reserve (VLNR) in the Limpopo Province and proposes to develop a lodge facility in the reserve for senior management employees. The proposed Lodge will comprise of 12 rooms and a communal facility.

#### **PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT**

This Background information document (BID) provides potential stakeholders with information about the proposed project, the regulatory processes and how to become involved in this process.

Alta van Dyk Environmental Consultants cc (AVDE) has been appointed as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner for this project to undertake the environmental related authorisations and associated public participation process.

You are invited to register as in Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) for this project and to comment or raise any issue of concern. To register for the proposed project and receive additional notifications, please complete the enclosed registration form, and send to:

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# LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

The VLNR is located in the northern most parts of the Limpopo Province, in the Musina Local and Vhembe District municipalities. The reserve is directly south of Mapungubwe National Park and is bordered by the R572 to the North and the R521 to the West. De Beers' Venetia Mine Mining Rights Area borders the Reserve to the south. The proposed VLNR Lodge is located directly north and adjacent to the Lizzulea Dam, which is situated in the eastern part of the Reserve. Refer to Figure 1 for a location map.

## **DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED VLNR LODGE PROJECT**

The proposed VLNR Lodge will include the following facilities:

- Gravel access road (existing road to be used)
- > 12 rooms (24 people maximum) with parking bays
- Central building (kitchen and dining area)
- Swimming pool and lapa
- > Storeroom
- Electrical boundary fence
- Reception and administrative office
- General storage waste storage facility
- Staff quarters and locker room

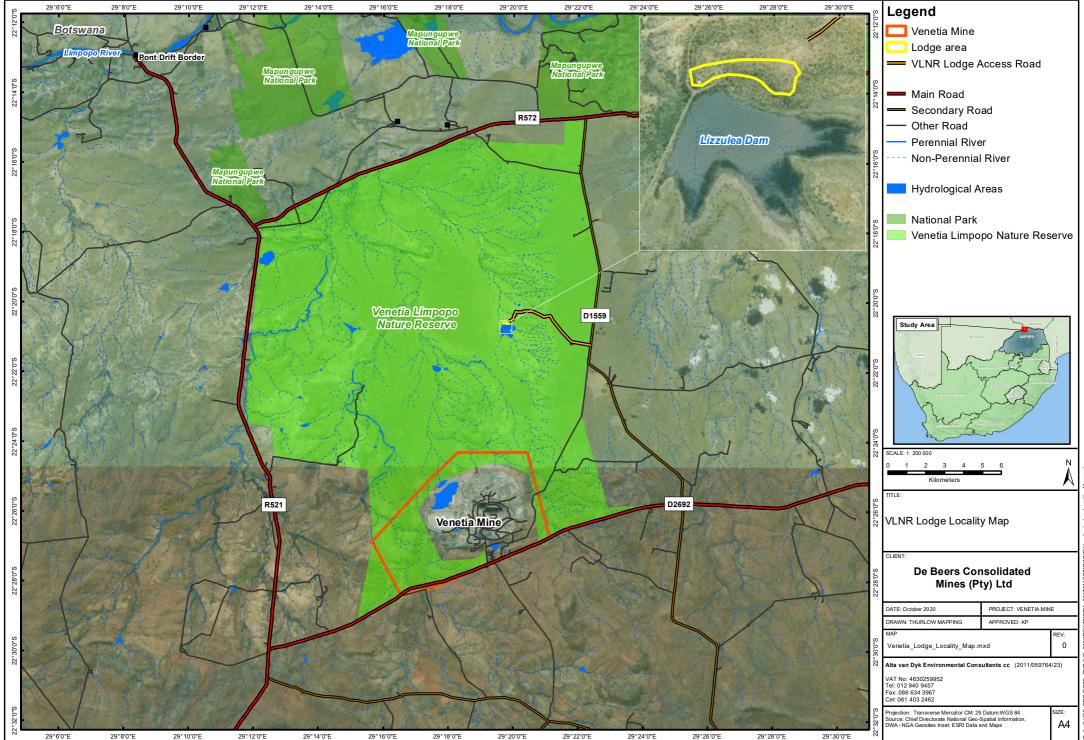
### **LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS**

The environmental related authorisations required for the proposed VLNR Lodge are as follows:

- A Basic Assessment process in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMA) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The competent authority for this process is the Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (LEDET).
- A Water Use Licence Application (WULA) in terms of the National Water Act (NWA, Act 36 of 1998). The competent authority for this process is the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS).

The environmental related authorisation processes are running concurrently and require the involvement of stakeholders. Therefore, a single integrated stakeholder engagement process will be undertaken in compliance with all legislation. The environmental authorisation is illustrated in Figure 2.

During the Basic Assessment process, phase, potential impacts are identified, and management measures are proposed to mitigate negative impacts and enhance positive impacts. A Basic Assessment Report will be compiled and made available for public comment for a period of 30 days. Once the public comment period is concluded, the Basic Assessment Report will be updated with the comments received from stakeholders and will be submitted to LEDET for decision making.



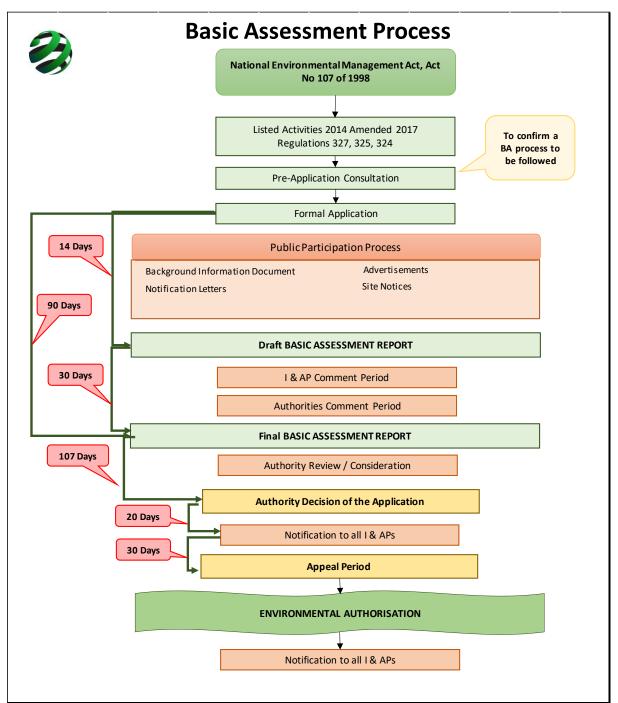
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# **BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

Figure 2 provides a schematic outline of the Basic Assessment process that will be followed.





#### YOUR COMMENT IS IMPORTANT

Your comments and suggestions on any aspect of the proposed project, including the technical and stakeholder engagement processes, will ultimately assist the authorities in their decision-making process. If you wish to receive further notifications and documentation regarding the proposed VLNR Lodge project, kindly complete the attached registration form, and send to Alta van Dyk Environmental Consultants.