

Southern Ambition 1549 (Pty) Ltd

Background Information Document

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS FOR AN APPLICATION FOR A **SECTION 102** FOR MANGANESE IN TERMS OF THE MINERAL AND PETROLEUM RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT, 2002 (ACT 28 OF 2002), THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998 (ACT 107 OF 1998); THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS 2014; THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: WASTE ACT, 2008 (ACT NO. 59 OF 2008) AND THE NATIONAL WATER ACT 1998, (ACT 36 OF 1998).

NC30/5/1/2/2/10137MR

NC-00173-MR/102

**REMAINING EXTENT AND PORTION 1 OF THE FARM EAST NO.270 SITUATED IN THE
MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT OF KURUMAN, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE**

Compiled by Ms. R.H. Oosthuizen

Wadala Mining and Consulting (Pty) Ltd

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

1. INTRODUCTION

We hereby inform you that Southern Ambition 1549 (Pty) Ltd, (“The applicant”) has applied for a Section 102 on Remaining Extent and Portion 1 of the Farm East No.270 Situated in the Magisterial District of Kuruman, Northern Cape Province.

The application was submitted to the Regional Manager, Department of Mineral Resources (“DMR”) situated at 41 Schmidtsdrift Road, Telkom Building, Kimberley, 8301 with contact number 053-807 1700. The mentioned application was submitted on 15 January 2020 and the prescribed Basic Assessment Report and Environmental Management Programme must be submitted within 90 days.

2. PURPOSE OF THE BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

The purpose of this document is:

- To notify potential stakeholders of the application for a Section 102 to amend a Environmental Authorization which was submitted to the Department of Mineral Resources (DMR) with Reference NC30/5/1/2/2/10137MR and NC-00173-MR/102.
- Provide background information regarding the proposed Section 102 application for Southern Ambition 1549 (Pty) Ltd.
- Invite potential stakeholders to register themselves as interested and affected parties and to raise issues of importance, share their input, comments and or concerns which will be incorporated into the Basic Assessment and Environmental Management Programme.
- To inform the Affected and Interested Parties of the requirements in terms of all Governing Legislation applicable to this process.

Southern Ambition seeks to gather comments, suggestions, issues and concerns from all stakeholders.

3. A BRIEF OVERVIEW

Southern Ambition 1549 (Pty) Ltd (“The applicant”) has applied for a section 102 application in terms of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, (Act 28 of 2002) ”MPRDA” to amend their environmental authorization in terms of Regulation 31 and 32 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations 2014 (Chapter 5) with their Water Use Licence on the above-mentioned area situated in the Magisterial District of Kuruman, Northern Cape Province to mine for Manganese.

The farm East is located 10km toward the north of Hotazel and about 60 km toward the north-northwest of the town Kuruman.

Access is via a dirt road branching off the Hotazel-Wessels bitumen road. Electricity supply is from the Eskom network.

3.1 Proposed activity description

The existing and approved Environmental Authorization was approved on 22nd February 2019.

Wadala Mining and Consulting Pty Ltd have been appointed by Southern Ambition 1549 (Pty) Ltd to conduct a Section 102 application to revise their approved Environmental Authorization.

With the application from the mine for their Water Use Licence the Department of Water and Sanitation instructed the Southern Ambition to include the following in terms of the mine infrastructure

- a) to construct a pollution control dam as part of their storm water management plan;
- b) to construct a flood protection berm on the side of the open cast pit excavation within 32m from the 1:100 year flood line to control any 1:100 year flooding events.

This instruction led to the inclusion of two listed activities which had not been included into the original application.

❖ Listing Notice 1 GNR 327, Listed activity 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 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; —

excluding—

(aa) the development of infrastructure or structures within existing ports or harbours that will not increase the development footprint of the port or harbour;

(bb) where such development 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 14 in Listing Notice 3 of 2014, in which case that activity applies;

(dd) where such development occurs within an urban area; [or]

(ee) where such development occurs within existing roads, [or] road reserves or railway line reserves; or

(ff) the development of temporary infrastructure or structures where such infrastructure or structures will be removed within 6 weeks of the commencement of development and where indigenous vegetation will not be cleared.

Open Cast Mine Pit

0,0 Mtr FROM EDGE OF THE WATER COURSE AND WITHIN 32 MTR BUFFER
(**** Please note that the 0,0 Mtr refers to 1:100 year floodline marker)

Flood Protection Berm

0,0 Mtr FROM EDGE OF THE WATER COURSE AND WITHIN 32 MTR BUFFER
(**** Please note that the 0,0 Mtr refers to 1:100 year floodline marker)

Access / Haul Road

18,0 Mtr FROM EDGE OF THE WATER COURSE AND WITHIN 32 MTR BUFFER
(**** Please note that the 0,0 Mtr refers to 1:100 year floodline marker)

❖ Listing Notice 1 GNR 327, Listed activity 13

The development of facilities or infrastructure for the off-stream storage of water, including dams and reservoirs, with a combined capacity of 50 000 cubic metres or more, unless such storage falls within the ambit of activity 16 in Listing Notice 2 of 2014.

PCD: 49,950 M³

Storage Zink DAMS: 160 M³

COMBINED STORAGE: 50,110 M³

The objective of this Section 102 is to apply for a new Environmental Authorization with a Basic Assessment Report process to include the two new listed activities as an additional Environmental Authorization to make provision for the instructions stemming from the Water Use Licence Application process.

3.2 Rehabilitation

On completion of the mining operation, the various surfaces, including the access road, the office area, storage areas and the plant site, will finally be rehabilitated as follows: All material on the surface will be removed to the original topsoil level where possible. This material will then be backfilled into the open excavations. Any compacted area will then be ripped to a depth of 300mm, where possible, the topsoil or growth medium returned and landscaped where possible.

All infrastructures, equipment, plant, and other items used during the operational period will be removed from the site.

On completion of operations, all buildings, structures or objects on the office site will be dealt with in accordance with regulation 44 of the Minerals and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002, which states:

Regulation 44:

1. *When a prospecting right, mining right, retention permit or mining permit lapses, is cancelled or is abandoned or when any prospecting or mining operation comes to an end, the holder of such right or permit may not demolish or remove any building, structure or object-*
 - (a) *which may not be demolished or removed in terms of any other law;*
 - (b) *which has been identified in writing by the Minister for purposes of this section; or*
 - (c) *which is to be retained in terms of an agreement between the holder and the owner or occupier of the land, which agreement has been approved by the Minister in writing.*
2. *The provision of subsection (1) does not apply to bona fide mining equipment, which may be removed.*

○ Rehabilitation of the secured storage areas

On completion of the mining operation, the above areas will be cleared of any remaining contaminated soil which will be placed in acceptable containers and removed with the industrial waste to a recognized disposing facility or by a waste removal company.

All buildings, structures or objects in the secured storage areas shall be dealt with in accordance with regulation 44 of the Minerals and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002.

The surface will be ripped or ploughed to a depth of at least 300 mm, where possible, and the topsoil, previously stored adjacent the site, distributed evenly to its original depth over the whole area. The area will then be fertilized if necessary (based on a soil analysis).

The site will be seeded with a vegetation seed mix adapted to reflect the local indigenous flora if necessary.

Any other disturbed areas will be rehabilitated as described under the relevant activities.

- Mine residue deposits

The objectives pertaining to the effective management and rehabilitation of the Open Pit and Residue Deposits include:

To ensure that the Open Pit and Mine Residue Deposits are stable and that there is an acceptably low risk of failure of the pit or Deposits during the decommissioning phase and following mine closure; To establish self-sustainable vegetation cover on the benches that are not backfilled or sloped so that the visual impact of the Open Pit and Deposits is improved and in order to prevent erosion.

Management principles pertaining to Open Pit and Mine residue Deposits include:

The Open Pit and Deposits will continuously be inspected by a suitable qualified professional engineer to ensure their stability. If they are unstable, the appropriate remedial measures will be implemented.

Inspection and monitoring should continue until a suitable qualified profession engineer has confirmed the long-term stability of the Open Pit and Mine Residue Deposits.

Any infrastructure or facilities that serve the Open pit or Mine Residue Deposits will be maintained to ensure that they are both stable and functional.

- Rehabilitation of dangerous excavations

Due to the removal of surface material, excavations could be created that can be classified as dangerous. All available material will be used during backfilling to avoid the existence of dangerous excavations.

- Final rehabilitation of opencast mine-haul ramps and roads and final voids

After rehabilitation has been completed, all roads will be ripped or ploughed, fertilized and seeded, providing the landowner does not want them to remain that way and with written approval from the Director Mineral Development of the Department of Mineral Resources.

- Submission of information

Reports on rehabilitation and monitoring will be submitted annually to the Department of Mineral Resources - Kimberley, as described in the NEMA regulations published 20 November 2015, Appendix 3.

- Maintenance (Aftercare)

The necessary agreements and arrangement will be made by the Southern Ambition to ensure that all natural physical, chemical and biological processes for which a closure condition were specified are monitored until they reach a

steady state or for three (3) years after closure or as long as deemed necessary at the time.

- Such processes include erosion of the Open Pit, Mine Residue Deposits, rehabilitated surfaces, surface water drainage, air quality, surface water quality, ground water quality, vegetative re-growth, weed encroachment.
 - The closure plan will be reviewed yearly.
 - Rehabilitation of the land will be maintained until a closure certificate is granted or until the land use is regarded as sustainable.
 - All rehabilitated areas will be monitored and main aimed until such time as required to enable the mine to apply for closure of these different areas.
- After-effects following closure
- Acid mine drainage
No potential for bad quality leachate or acid mine drainage development exist after mine closure.
 - Long term impact on ground water.
No after effect on the groundwater yield or quality is expected.
 - Long-term stability of rehabilitated land
One of the main aims of any rehabilitated ground will be to obtain a self-sustaining and stable end result. As the excavations will be mined onto bedrock these areas will have long term stability.

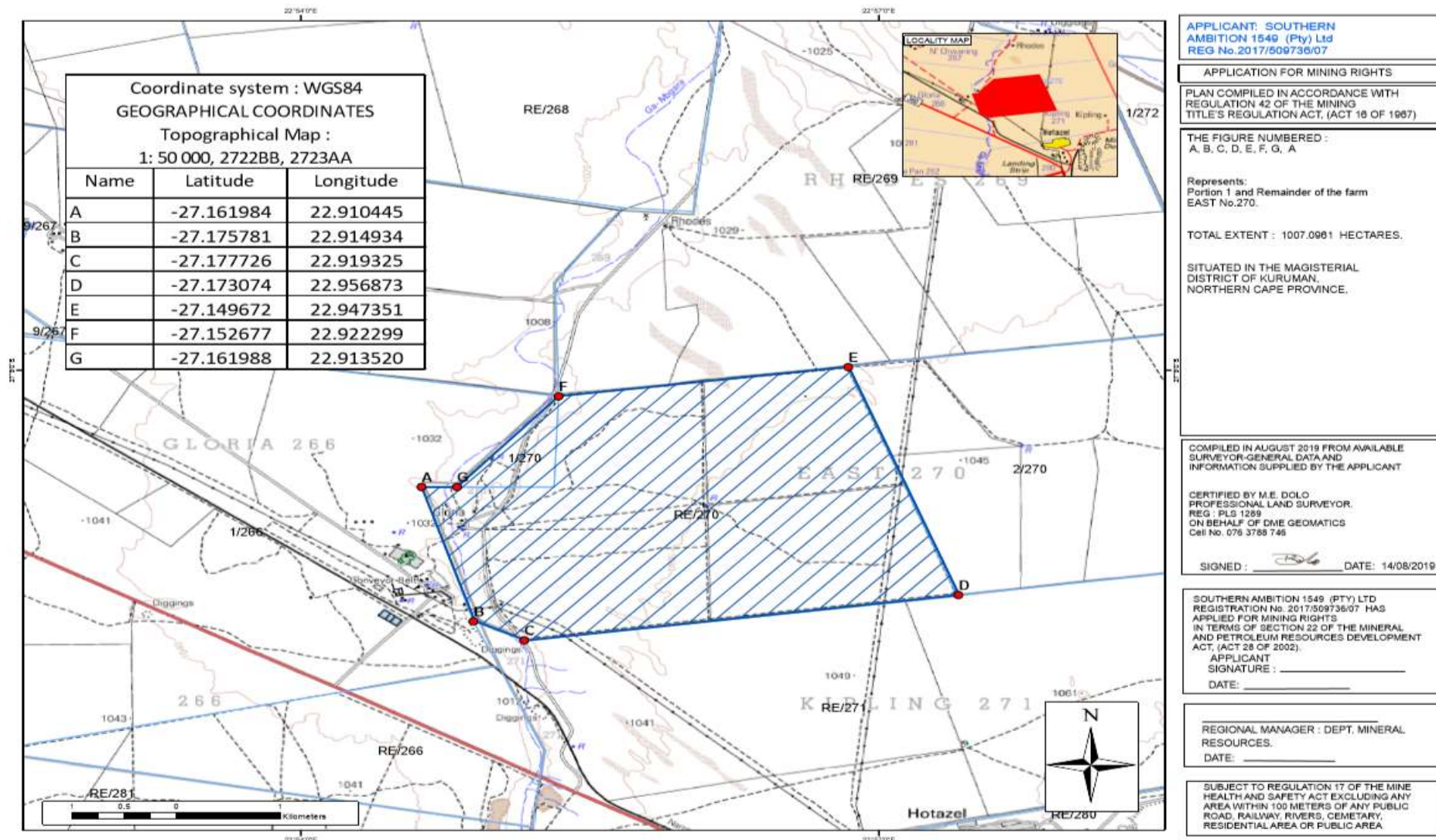


Figure1. The locality of the proposed Section 102 area. The exact outline of the application area (1007.0961 Ha) is indicated in the inserted plan.



Figure 2. General Mine layout.

3.3 Listed Activities applied for in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 Act 107 of 1998 (NEMA)

Table 1: Listed and Specified Activities

NAME OF ACTIVITY (All activities including activities not listed) (e.g. Excavations, blasting, stockpiles, discard dumps or dams, loading, hauling and transport, water supply dams and boreholes, accommodation, offices, ablution, stores, workshops, processing plant, storm water control, berms, roads, pipelines, power lines, conveyors, etc.... etc.... etc....)	Aerial extent of the Activity Ha or m ²	LISTED ACTIVITY Mark with an X where applicable or affected	APPLICABLE LISTING NOTICE (GNR 544, GNR 545 or GNR 546)/NOT LISTED	
<p>Activity 12 of NEMA Listing notice 1 “The development of—</p> <p>(i) canals exceeding 100 square metres in size;</p> <p>(ii) channels exceeding 100 square metres in size;</p> <p>(iii) bridges exceeding 100 square metres in size;</p> <p>(iv) dams, where the dam, including infrastructure and water surface area, exceeds 100 square metres in size;</p> <p>(v) weirs, where the weir, including infrastructure and water surface area, exceeds 100 square metres in size;</p> <p>(vi) bulk storm water outlet structures exceeding 100 square metres in size;</p> <p>(x) buildings exceeding 100 square metres in size;</p> <p>Or</p>	<p>Open Cast Mine Pit 0,0 Mtr FROM EDGE OF THE WATER COURSE AND WITHIN 32 MTR BUFFER (**** Please note that the - 0,0 Mtr refers to 1:100 year floodline marker)</p> <p>Flood Protection Berm 0,0 Mtr FROM EDGE OF THE WATER COURSE AND WITHIN 32 MTR BUFFER (**** Please note that the 0,0 Mtr refers to 1:100 year floodline marker)</p> <p>Access / Haul Road 18,0 Mtr FROM EDGE OF THE WATER COURSE AND WITHIN 32 MTR BUFFER (**** Please note that the 0,0 Mtr refers to 1:100 year floodline marker)</p>	X	GNR 327	

<p>(xii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more; where such development occurs—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (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” <p>Regulation GN R704, published on 4 June 1999 in terms of the National Water Act (Use of water for mining and related activities)</p>				
<p>Activity 13 of NEMA Listing notice 1 The development of facilities or infrastructure for the off-stream storage of water, including dams and reservoirs, with a combined capacity of 50 000 cubic metres or more, unless such storage falls within the ambit of activity 16 in Listing Notice 2 of 2014.</p>	<p>PCD: 49,950 m³ ZINK STORAGE DAMS: 160 m³ COMBINED STORAGE: 50,110 m³</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>GNR 327</p>	

4. CONCLUSION

Wadala Mining and Consulting Pty Ltd have been appointed by Southern Ambition 1549 (Pty) Ltd to conduct a Section 102 application in terms of the MPRDA to obtain an additional Environmental Authorization.

With the application from the mine for their Water Use Licence the Department of Water and Sanitation instructed the Southern Ambition to include the following in terms of the mine infrastructure

- a) to construct a pollution control dam as part of their storm water management plan;
- b) to construct a flood protection berm on the side of the open cast pit excavation within 32m from the 1:100-year flood line to control any 1:100-year flooding events.

This background document is distributed to inform all interested and affected parties of the mine's intention to add the two listed activities which had not been included into the original application and Environmental Authorization for comments and concerns.

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Wadala Mining and Consulting (Pty) Ltd