



TSHIKOVHA GREEN & CLIMATE CHANGE ADVOCATES (PTY) LTD

We Advocate For Environmental Compliance Throughout Business Value Chain

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT (BID)
FOR THE PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF A STORAGE FACILITIES FOR
MINING MACHINERY, OFFICES AND PARKING AREA ON PORTION 20 OF
ELANDSPRUIT 219 JS, EMALAHLENI WITHIN STEVE TSHWETE LOCAL
MUNICIPALITY OF NKANGALA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY MPUMALANGA
PROVINCE
PROPONENT: IZAZI INVESTMENT (PTY) LTD
JANUARY 2018**

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1. PROJECT BACKGROUND

Izazi Investments (Pty) Ltd proposes to develop 2 storage facilities for mining machinery, offices and parking area on Portion 20 of Elandspruit Farm 219 JS along R555 Old Middleburg Road, Steve Tshwete Local Municipality within the jurisdiction of Nkangala District Municipality, Mpumalanga Province. The Environmental Impact Assessment report will be submitted to the Mpumalanga Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA) as the Competent Authority for the approval of the proposed activity.

The proposed development will be undertaken on vacant land within the premises of Izazi Investments (Pty) Ltd, which was previously used as livestock farming, subsistence farming and home to the previous land owners. The area is currently used as office premises for Izazi Investments (Pty) Ltd. The proposed development is expected to take 6 months to complete.

In terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA), and the Steve Tshwete Local Municipality it is required that prior the commencement of any land transforming activities an Environmental Impact Assessment should be undertaken in line with NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (Government Notice (GN) No. R 327) as amended on the 07th April 2017.

2. PROJECT LOCATION

The proposed development is located in Emalahleni on portion 20 of the farm Elandspruit 219 JS, within Steve Tshwete Local Municipality, under Nkangala District Municipality, Mpumalanga Province. The proposed construction site is within a farm covering a total area of 8ha. The proposed site can be accessed using R555 old Middleburg road; it is located approximately 10km from Middelburg, 10km from Witbank and 32km away from Duvha Power Station. Central Coordinates to the proposed site are: 250 49' 12" S 290 20' 5" E

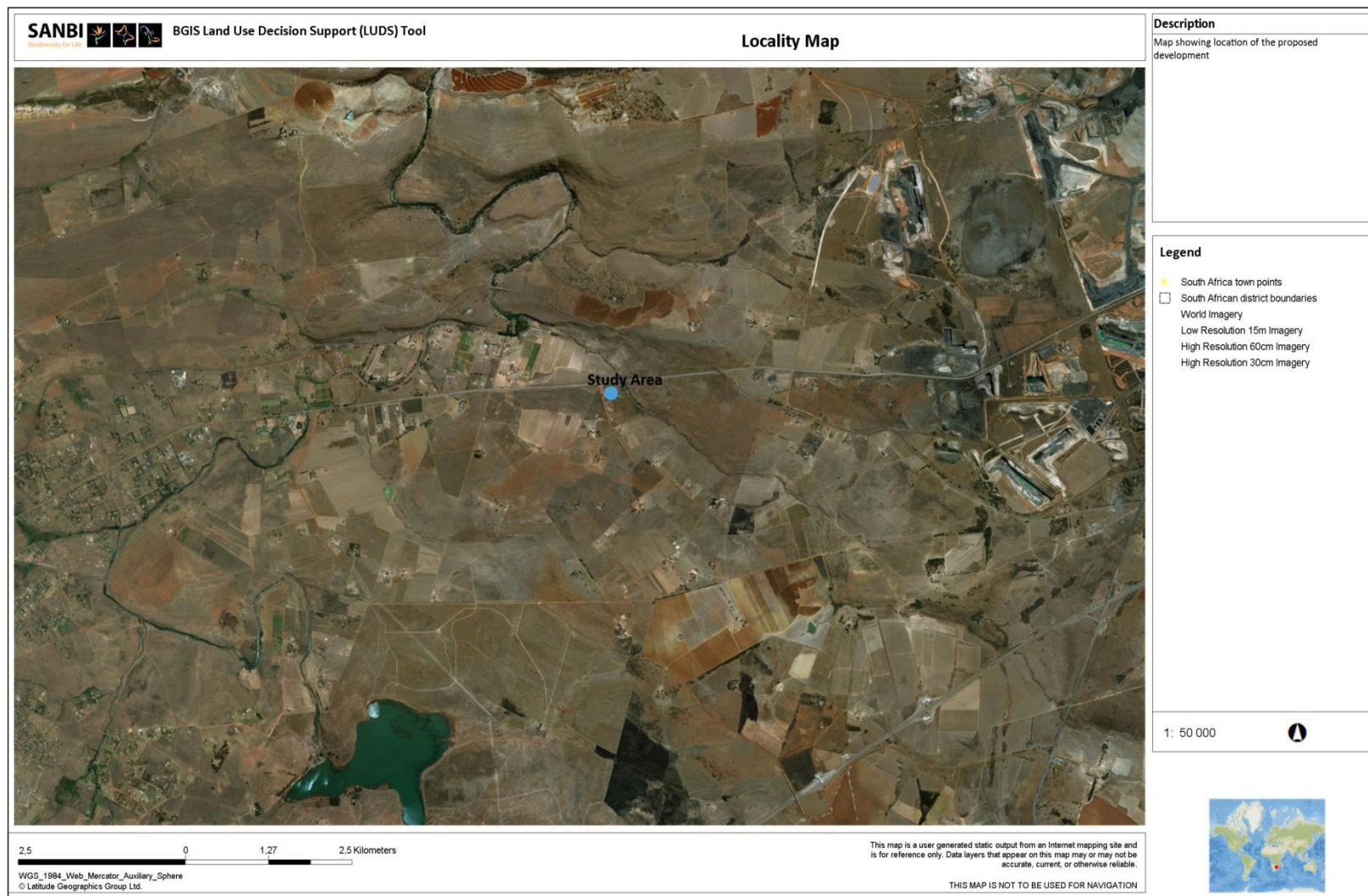


Figure 1: Project locality map

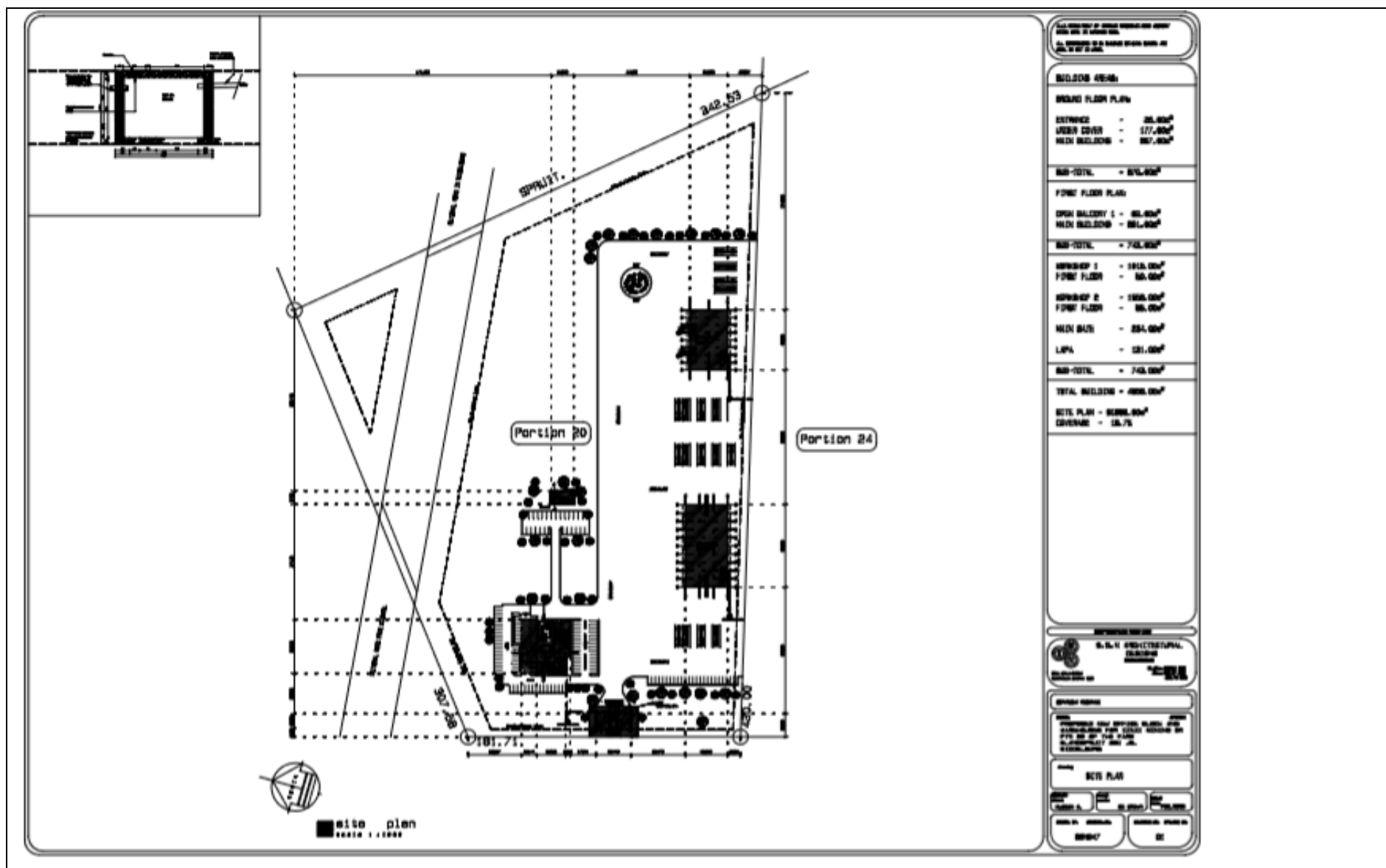


Figure 2: Development Layout Map

3. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Izazi Investment (Pty) Ltd plans to construct two storage facilities for mining machinery, office and parking area on Portion 20 of Elandspruit Farm 219 JS along R555 Old Middleburg Road, Steve Tshwete Local Municipality within the jurisdiction of Nkangala District Municipality, Mpumalanga Province. This entails the rezoning of portion 20 of the farm Elandspruit 291 JS, from “Agriculture” to “Industrial 1” for the purposes of developing storage facilities for mining machinery and offices for non-technical staff.

4. NEED AND DESIRABILITY OF THE PROJECT

From exploration to extraction, there is typically a large surge in employment in the local area as a new mine is brought online. Mpumalanga accounts for 83% of South Africa's coal production, with the Witbank area being the centre of the industry. Middelburg is located about 26 KM from Witbank and forms part of the Witbank, Highveld, Eastern Transvaal, South Rand and KaNgwane coalfields. A number of significant coal seams possessing diverse characteristics are present and have a variety of potential markets in power generation, export, domestic, metallurgical, liquefaction and chemical sectors. This is the most important coal-producing area in South Africa and supports some 65 collieries.

Government's commitment is to halve poverty and reduce unemployment to below 15%. Small businesses have been identified as potential powerhouses with the ability to drive South Africa's economic growth. The National Small Business Act and the Accelerated and Shared Growth Initiative of South Africa (AsgiSA) are some of the strategies developed with the objective of bridging the gap between the first and second economies and addressing the deep rooted inequalities that exist therein. The goals of government strategy are, broadly speaking, to: curb unemployment and facilitate job creation, alleviate poverty and ensure redistribution of wealth, offering financial and non-financial support and accelerate formation of new businesses and ensuring sustainability of existing ones. The then minister of Small Business Development, Lindiwe Sisulu reiterated the commitment by government to support small businesses in 2015 when she said, “Small businesses are key to unlocking economic opportunities and achieving inclusive growth, curbing South Africa's high rate of unemployment, poverty and extreme inequality; calling for bold and far-sighted interventions”. The local municipalities can grow economies by creating new enterprises, attracting investment from outside and growing existing businesses. In this instance, Steve Tshwete Local Municipality can assist the developer by supporting the sustainable growth of an existing business

5. PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

This document, the Background Information Document (BID), is intended to provide information about the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) being undertaken for the proposed activities and provides:

- An overview of the project;
- An overview of the legislative context and a description of the manner in which the EIA will be undertaken;

- An indication of how Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) may become involved in the project; and
- Contact details of the person to whom I&APs may submit their issues and concerns associated with the projects.

6. ANTICIPATED PROJECT ACTIVITIES IN RELATIONS TO LISTED ACTIVES

In terms of EIA Regulations 2014, published in Government Notice no R327 of April 2017 under Section 24 of the National Environmental Management (NEMA) 1998 (Act no 107 of 1998), the application for land transformation from agricultural to industrial based activities is subjected to an Application for Environmental Authorization. Government Notice R327 schedules listed activities which require environmental authorization. The proposed activities trigger the following activity(s) under GNR 327 which is subject to a Basic Assessment Report (or EIA):

Table 1: Triggered activities

Activity	Description
GNR 327 Activity 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (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.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS)

Step 1: Apply for with the Competent Authority which is Department of Agriculture, Rural development, Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA)

Step 2: Notify I&APs and identify issues. The BA process will be announced through an advert in the Diamond Field Newspaper. The advert is to inform Interested & Affected Parties of the proposed project and invite them to register on the database for the Basic Assessment (BA) process. Letters will be sent to Interested and Affected Parties (I&AP) to register and this database will be updated through-out the BA process. I&APs will be provided with a BID of the project, including a locality map and a comment form. I&APs will be provided with opportunity to raise any issues of concern related to the project, for inclusion in the Draft Basic Assessment Report.

Step 3: Prepare a Consultation Basic Assessment Report and release for I&AP review. All issues raised will be investigated and responded to by the BA team, with findings provided in the Consultation Basic Assessment Report. This report will include an issues trail and will be released for a 30 day comment period. All I&APs on the project database will be notified in writing of the opportunity to comment on the report, and provided with a concise summary of the Draft Basic Assessment Report.

Step 4: Compile a Final Basic Assessment Report and submit to authorities. The Final Basic Assessment Report, Comments and Responses Trail, will be compiled for submission to the authorities for decision making. All I&APs on the project database will be notified in writing of the outcome of the application, including reasons for the decision and the appeal process.

7.1 The objectives of the EIA Process

- Determine the policy and legislative context within which the activity is located and note how the proposed activity complies with and responds to the policy and legislative context;
- Describe the need and desirability of the proposed activity, including the need and desirability of the activity in the context of the preferred location;
- Identify the location of the development footprint within the preferred site based on an impact and risk assessment process inclusive of cumulative impacts and a ranking process of all the identified development footprint alternatives focusing on the geographical, physical, biological, social, economic, heritage and cultural aspects of the environment;
- Determine the nature, significance, consequence, extent, duration and probability of the impacts occurring to inform identified preferred alternatives; and the degree to which these impacts (a) can be reversed; (b) may cause irreplaceable loss of resources, and (c) can be avoided, managed or mitigated;
- Identify the most ideal location for the activity within the preferred site based on the lowest level of environmental sensitivity identified during the assessment
- Identify, assess, and rank the impacts the activity will impose on the preferred location through the life of the activity;
- Identify suitable measures to avoid, manage or mitigate identified impacts; and
- Identify residual risks that need to be managed and monitored.

Table 2: Basic Assessment Process Flow

Phase	Task	Timeframe
Application	Submit application and supporting documents (with application fee)	10 DAYS

	Receive acknowledgment of receipt of application (within 10 days)	
Basic Assessment	Submit Basic Assessment Report for Public Review (at least 30 days)	90 DAYS
	Submit Basic Assessment Report to Authorities that reflects incorporation of comments received (within 90 days after submitting application)	
Environmental Authorization	Authorities to grant or refuse environmental authorization (within 107 days of receiving the Basic Assessment Report)	107 DAYS
	Applicant to notify IAPs of EA (within 14 days)	14 DAYS

8. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

The process of public participation seeks to ensure inclusion of stakeholders and interested and affected parties during the process of Environmental Impact Assessment.

Chapter 6, Regulations 40 – 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (amended April 2017), the applicant is required to consult with interested and Affected Parties (I&APs). Comments received from the, I&APs will be recorded and included in the Public Consultation and Disclosure Report which will be submitted to the Department of Agriculture, Rural development, Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA). The public participation aims to ensure that:

- Information that contains all the relevant facts in respect of an application is made available to I&APs for review.
- I&AP participation is facilitated in such a manner that stakeholders are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on a proposed project.
- An adequate review period is provided for I&APs to comment on the findings of the draft Basic Assessment Report.

8.1 Your responsibilities as an I&AP and how to become involved

Your attention is drawn to your responsibilities as I&AP:

- In order to participate in this process, you must register yourself on the project database.
- You must ensure that any comments/queries regarding the proposed project are submitted within the stipulated timeframes.

- In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (amended April 2017) you are required to disclose any direct business, financial, personal or other interest which that you may have in the approval or refusal of the application for the proposed project.

On-going communication with registered parties will ensure that you will be kept informed of the progress of the environmental assessment process. You will be advised when documentation is available for review and comment. As an I&AP, your input is considered an important part of this process, and we urge you to become involved.

8.2 How to comment

- By responding by phone, fax, post or e-mail to the invitation for your involvement/ registration.
- By returning the attached Comments and Registration Sheet to the relevant contact person.
- By contacting the public participation consultants with queries or comments.
- By reviewing and commenting on the draft Basic Assessment Report within the stipulated 30-day public reviews period.

Your input forms a key element of the process. If you consider yourself an I&AP for this proposed project, we urge you to make use of the opportunities created by the public participation process to provide comment, raise issues and concerns which affect and/or interest you or request further information

Tshikovha Green and Climate Change Advocates Public Participation Team:

Table 3: Contact Details

Contact Person	Contact Number	Email Address
Caiphus Mukwevho	082 269 4524	Caiphus.mukwevho@tshikovha.co.za
Office Number	012 111 1912	thulisile@tshikovhacom.co.za
Moudy Mudzielwana	076 431 1016	moudy@tshikovhacom.co.za

STAKEHOLDER REGISTRATION AND COMMENT FORM
FOR THE PROPOSED ESTABLISH OF A STORAGE FACILITY FOR MACHINERY, OFFICE AND PARKING
PARCKING AREA 0N PORTION 20 OF ELANDSPRUIT 219 JS, EMALAHLENI WITHIN STEVE TSHWETE
LOCAL MUNICIPALITY OF NKANGALA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY MPUMALANGA PROVINCE

Please provide your complete contact details:

Name and Surname:	
Organization and Designation:	
Physical Address:	
Postal Address (if differ to the Physical Address):	
Contact Number (Landline and/or Mobile/Cell):	
E-mail Address:	

Would you like to register as an interested and affected party (I&AP)? Yes/No

Note: Please register as an I&AP to receive further correspondence regarding the project, including the notification of the availability of the draft Basic Assessment Report (BAR) which will be made available for commenting for a period of 30 days. Once registered on the project database, your details may be included in public documentation.

Please state your interest in the Proposed Project (insert additional pages if necessary):

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Please list your questions, views or concerns regarding the Proposed Project (insert additional pages if necessary):

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Please provide contact details of other persons who you may regard as a potential I&AP:

Name and Surname:	
Organization and Designation:	
Physical Address:	

Postal Address (if differ to the Physical Address):	
Contact Number (Landline and/or Mobile/Cell):	
E-mail Address:	

PLEASE DIRECT/ SEND YOUR COMPLETED STAKEHOLDER REGISTRATION AND COMMENT FORM TO:

Contact Person	Contact Number	Email Address
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Tshikovha Green and Climate Change Advocates (Pty) Ltd

The company exists to assist companies, organs of state and individuals whose activities may impact the environment, to comply with the required environmental authorizations through applicable studies within regulations. We advocate for compliance throughout the project and we believe in sharing information within context of the legal framework and the objective of the environmental studies. We are guided by science and we drive technology into our work. We always act independent from the client at every opportunity and we adhere to the code of ethics of Natural Scientists

Moudy Mudzielwana: 076 431 1016

