



**DEPARTMENTAL REFERENCE NO: MP 30/5/1/3/2/13080 MP**

**Applicant:**

Inzalo Crushing and Aggregates (Pty) Ltd  
Inzalo c/o B&E Internation  
East Rand  
Johannesburg  
1462  
Tel: 011 966 4300  
E-mail: chris@beinternational.co.za

***BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT***

9 December 2021

To whom it may concern

**RE: NOTICE OF APPLICATION IN TERMS OF SECTION 27 OF THE MINERALS AND PETROLEUM RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT, 2002 (ACT NO 28 OF 2002) AND THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998 (ACT 107 OF 1998 NEMA) AS WELL AS THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS, 2014 (AS AMENDED 2017).**

***BACKGROUND INFORMATION***

Inzalo Crushing and Aggregates (Pty) Ltd (hereinafter referred to as "the Applicant") applied for a mining permit to mine stone aggregate/ gravel on a portion of Portion 15 on Farm Rietspruit 437, IS, Msukaligwa Local Municipality, Mpumalanga Province.

***SITE DESCRIPTION***

The proposed mining footprint will be 4.9 ha and will be developed over an undisturbed area of the farm. The mining method will make use of blasting in order to loosen the hard rock; the material will then be loaded and hauled to the crushing plant where it will be screened to various sized stockpiles. The aggregate will be stockpiled until it is transported from site using tipper trucks. All mining related activities will be contained within the approved mining permit boundaries. The proposed GPS coordinates of the area applied for are as listed below.

**the goal isn't to live forever, it is to protect a planet that will**

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Greenmined Environmental (Pty) Ltd | Tel: 021 851 2673 | Fax: 086 546 0579  
Unit M01, Office No 36, AECI Site, Baker Square, Paardevlei, De Beers Avenue, Somerset West, 7130  
Postnet Suite 62, Private Bag x15, Somerset West, 7129  
Directors: S Smit; R L Shedlock; C Weideman | Reg No: 2012/055565/07 | VAT No. 4040263032

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GPS COORDINATES OF MINING PERMIT AREA	
DEGREES MINUTES SECONDS	DECIMAL DEGREES
A 26°34'0.365"S; 29°55'58.858"E	A 26.566768°S; 29.933016°E
B 26°33'55.008"S; 29°56'5.244"E	B 26.56528°S; 29.93479°E
C 26°33'59.501"S; 29°56'9.92"E	C 26.566528°S; 29.936089°E
D 26°34'5.632"S; 29°56'4.06"E	D 26.568231°S; 29.934461°E



*Figure 1: Satellite view of the proposed mining permit area.*

### LEGAL COMPLIANCE

The proposed project triggers the following listed activities in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations 2014 (as amended 2017) and therefore requires an environmental impact assessment (EIA) (basic assessment process) that assess project



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specific environmental impacts and alternatives, consider public input, and propose mitigation measures, to ultimately culminate in an environmental management programme that informs the competent authority (Department of Mineral Resources and Energy ) when considering the environmental authorisation:

■ GNR 327 Listing Notice 1 of 2017 Activity 21:

*Any activity including the operation of that activity which requires a mining permit in terms of section 27 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No 28 of 2002), including –*

- a) *associated infrastructure, structures and earthworks, directly related to the extraction of a mineral resource; or*
- b) *the primary processing of a mineral resource including winning, extraction, classifying, concentrating, crushing, screening or washing.*

*but excluding the secondary processing of a mineral resource, including the smelting, beneficiation, reduction, refining, calcining or gasification of the mineral resource in which case activity 6 in Listing Notice 2 applies.*

■ GNR 327 Listing Notice 1 of 2017 Activity 27:

*The clearance of an area of 1 hectares or more, but less than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation, except 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.*

■ GNR 327 Listing Notice 1 of 2017 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:*

- (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.*

■ GNR 327 Listing Notice 1 of 2017 Activity 35:

*The expansion of residential, retail, recreational, tourism, commercial or institutional developments on land previously used for mining or heavy industrial purposes, where the increased development footprint will exceed 1 000 square meters; excluding—*

- (i) where such land has been remediated in terms of part 8 of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008) in which case the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 applies; or*



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*(ii) where an environmental authorisation has been obtained for the decommissioning of such a mine or industry in terms of this Notice or any previous NEMA notice; or*

*(iii) where a closure certificate has been issued in terms of section 43 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002) for such land.*

■ GNR 327 Listing Notice 3 of 2017 Activity 4(f)(i)(ee):

*Development of road wider than 4 metres with reserve less than 13.5 metres, in Mpumalanga geographical area, outside an urban area and within a critical biodiversity area as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans;*

### **OTHER LEGISLATION TRIGGERED BY THE PROPOSED PROJECT:**

An application for a Mining Permit in terms of Section 27 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No 28 of 2002) was submitted to the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy – Mpumalanga Province.

### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The Applicant applied for a mining permit to mine stone aggregate/ gravel on a portion of Portion 15 on Farm Rietspruit nr 437, IS, Msukaligwa Local Municipality, Mpumalanga Province.

The proposed mining footprint will be 4.9 ha and will be developed over an undisturbed area of the farm. The mining method will make use of blasting in order to loosen the hard rock; the material will then be loaded and hauled to the crushing plant where it will be screened to various sized stockpiles. The aggregate will be stockpiled until it is transported from site using tipper trucks. All mining related activities will be contained within the approved mining permit boundaries.

The applicant intends to win material from the area for at least 2 years with a possible extension of another 3 years. The aggregate to be removed from the quarry will be used local construction and building projects in the vicinity. The proposed quarry will therefore contribute to the upgrading / maintenance of road infrastructure and building contracts in and around the Ermelo area.

The mining activities will consist out of the following:

- Stripping and stockpiling of topsoil;
- Blasting
- Excavating;

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- Crushing & Screening;
- Stockpiling and transporting;
- Sloping and landscaping upon closure of the site; and
- Replacing the topsoil and vegetation the disturbed area.

The mining site will contain the following:

- Drilling equipment;
- Excavating equipment;
- Earth moving equipment;
- Static crushing and screening plants
- Access Roads;
- Site Office (Containers);
- Site vehicles;
- Parking area for visitors and site vehicles;
- Vehicle service area;
- Wash bay;
- Workshop (Containers);
- Salvage Yard;
- Bunded diesel and oil storage facilities;
- Generator on bunded area;
- Ablution Facilities (Chemical Toilets);
- Weigh Bridge; and
- Demarcated general and hazardous waste area.

### **ACCESS ROUTE:**

Access to the proposed mining area will be via the R39, making use of the new internal/haul roads to access the mining area. Haul roads will be extended as the open cast mining progress, and will be rehabilitated as part of the final reinstatement of the area. Trucks delivering the materials to the destinations will take the R39 provincial route.

### **WATER USE:**

Any water required for the implementation of the project will be bought and transported to site.

### **ELECTRICITY:**

Generators will be used to power the plant on site, if a connection to the existing power infrastructure cannot be secured. Mobile containers will be placed inside the mining footprint that will serve as offices and storage units. A



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weighbridge will be added to the site and the crushing and screening plant will operate within a designated processing area (within the 5 ha permit footprint).

### ***BRIEF SITE DESCRIPTION***

#### **GEOLOGY:**

The geology of the study area is restricted to vertic clay soils derived from dolerite that is intrusive in the Karoo sediments of the Madzaringwe Formation in the north and the Volksrust Formation and the Adelaide Subgroup in the south. Dominant land type Ca, while Ea land type is of subordinate importance.

#### **HYDROLOGY:**

The proposed mining area falls within the C11F quaternary catchment which falls within the upper reaches of the Vaal River primary catchment that is situated in the Upper Vaal Water Management Area which is managed by the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS). No open watercourses or drainage line is located in close proximity of the site according to the National Wetlands and NFEPA map of SANBI. However, there is an artificial wetland about 522m of the earmarked area which causes a high risk for mining and should be regarded as a no go zone.

#### **FAUNA AND FLORA:**

According to Mucina and Rutherford (2012) the area comprises of undulating grassland plains, with small scattered patches of dolerite outcrops in areas. The vegetation is comprised of a short closed grassland cover, largely dominated by a dense *Themeda triandra* sward, often severely grazed to form a short lawn.

#### **LAND USE:**

The project area is located in the jurisdiction of the Msukaligwa Local Municipality, with Ermelo being the nearest town. The land use of the earmarked property is undisturbed area and the surrounding properties are mainly used for a variety of mixed agricultural purposes as well as mining and industrial purposes.

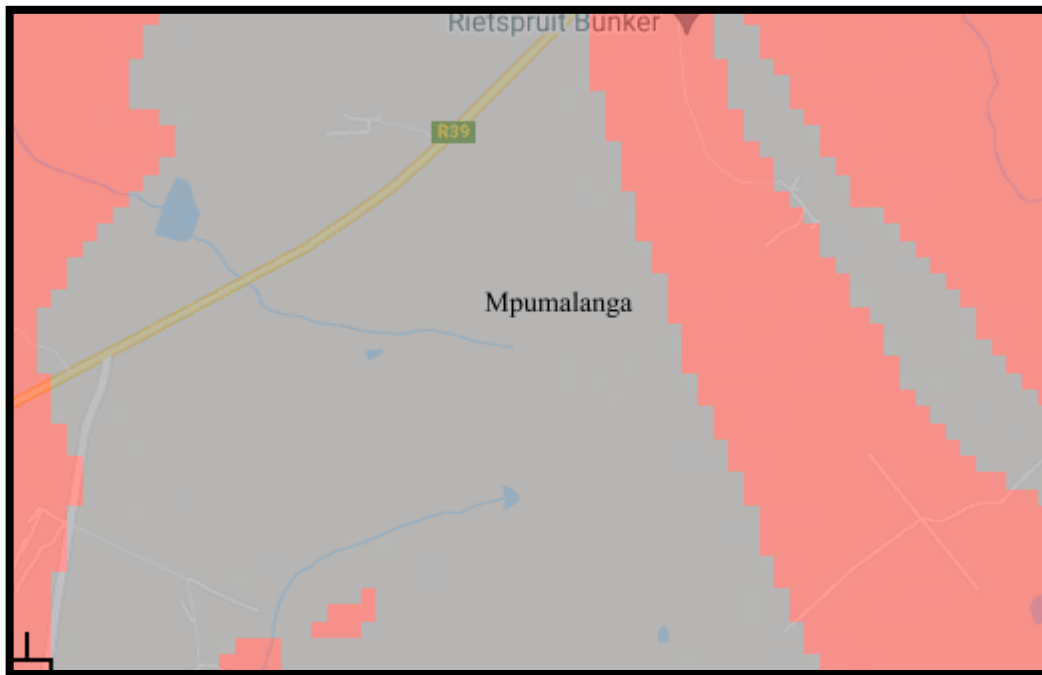
#### **AIR AND NOISE QUALITY:**

The wind patterns in Ermelo are somewhat influenced by seasonal variations. According to worldweatheronline.com strong winds blow between August and December with an average of 12kmph and slowly decreases 7.5kmph between January and June. The ambient noise levels of the surrounding area are low with the noise levels of the greater surrounding area are low representing that of a rural area, with the noise levels of the study area (immediate surroundings) impacted by farming operations and the R39.

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### **HERITAGE:**

The proposed mining footprint extends into an undisturbed area. According to SAHRIS, the PalaeoSensitivity Maps shows that the area has an insignificant/ zero sensitivity (please see map below). However, it is proposed that a chance-find protocol be incorporated in the EMPR to be adhered to for the duration of the site establishment, operational- and decommissioning phases.



**Figure 2:** Map showing the paleontological sensitive areas (image obtained from <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/map/palaeo>)

### **FINAL REHABILITATION**

Upon closure of the mining operation the entire footprint area will be rehabilitated so as to allow the affected area to return to agricultural use. At this stage the following baseline rehabilitation actions are proposed from which a detailed closure plan will be developed:

- Rehabilitation of all the disturbed surface areas shall entail landscaping, levelling, sloping, top dressing, land preparation, seeding (if required), and weed / alien clearing.
- All infrastructures, equipment, and other items used during the mining period will be removed from the site in accordance with section 44 of the MPRDA, 2002.
- Waste material of any description, including receptacles, scrap, rubble and tyres, will be removed entirely from the mining area and disposed of at a recognized landfill facility. It will not be permitted to be buried or burned on the site.



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- The rehabilitation area will be cleared of weeds and invader plant species. Priority will be given to species regarded as Category 1a and 1b invasive species in terms of NEM:BA (National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act 10 of 2004 and regulations applicable thereto).
- Final rehabilitation shall be completed within a period specified by the Regional Manager.

### **APPLICATION FOR CLOSURE**

Once the full mining area was rehabilitated the mining permit holder will submit a closure application to the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy in accordance with section 43(4) of the MPRDA, 2002 that states: *“An application for a closure certificate must be made to the Regional Manager in whose region the land in question is situated within 180 days of the occurrence of the lapsing, abandonment, cancellation, cessation, relinquishment or completion contemplated in subsection (3) and must be accompanied by the prescribed environmental risk report”*. The Closure Application will be submitted in terms of Regulation 62 of the MPRDA, 2002, and Government Notice 940 of NEMA, 1998.

### **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

This document is to inform you about the proposed activity and to determine whether there are any concerns or objections from interested and affected parties (I&AP's) that need to be considered.

As interested and affected party you are kindly requested to complete the comments form and give any comment/concern or input with regard to the current land use of the area, the environment as well as socio-economic conditions that you feel might be affected by the proposed activity. When submitting response please provide suggestions to mitigate the anticipated impact of each identified activity.

Please contact Sonette Smit at the contact details as presented in the letterhead or at [comments@greenmined.co.za](mailto:comments@greenmined.co.za) through any means should you need more information, have additional language requirements, have concerns or comments that need to be considered or if you want to be registered as an interested and/or affected party and would like to receive a copy of the Draft Basic Assessment (DBAR) on or before 31 January 2021. If we do not receive any comments from you on or before 31 January 2021, it will be accepted that you do not have any objections/comments with regard to the project and do not require any further documentation.

A register of interested and affected parties (I&AP's) will be opened and maintained containing the names, contact details and address of all persons who have submitted written comments, attended meetings or have in writing requested to be registered and all organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the activity. Please note that only registered I&AP's and stakeholders will be entitled to comment on reports and plans to be submitted to the





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Department provided that the party provide its name, contact details and address and discloses any direct business, financial, personal or other interest which he/she may have in the approval or refusal of the applications.

Please use MP 30/5/1/3/2/13080 MP as the reference when submitting comments.

The Draft Basic Assessment Report (DBAR) will be submitted to the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy – Mpumalanga (DMRE) for review purposes. This report will also be made available to the public for a 30 days review period. An electronic copy of the report will be published on the Greenmined Environmental website ([www.greenmined.com](http://www.greenmined.com)). All registered I&AP's and stakeholders will be notified of the commenting period in advance as above.

The DBAR will then be updated to reflect the comments received during the public commenting period. Thereafter, the Final Basic Assessment Report (FBAR) will be submitted to DMRE for its consideration as part of the authorization process in terms of the NEMA, 2014 regulations (as amended 2017). A copy of the final report will be made available on the Greenmined Environmental website. All registered I&AP's and stakeholders will be notified in writing within 14 days of the date of the decision of the outcome of the application, including the reasons for the decision and the right of appeal.



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### **CONTACT DETAILS**

<b>Name/Name</b>	
<b>Organisation/Instansie</b>	
<b>Interest/Belange</b>	
<b>Postal Address/Pos Adres</b>	
<b>Tel</b>	
<b>Fax/Faks</b>	
<b>E-mail/E-pos</b>	

### **COMMENTS/ OPMERKINGS**

<b>Object / No Objection:</b>	
<b>Request additional information:</b>	
<b>Concerns:</b>	

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_



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**Are there any other organisations or individuals that you feel should be invited to comment? If so, please provide their contact details:**

Contact name:
Organisation (if applicable):
Address:
Tel:
Fax
E-mail

Your feedback is valued and will be addressed appropriately.

Kind Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Smit', is written over a horizontal dotted line.

Sonette Smit  
Greenmined Environmental