



TURN180
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

REGISTRATION NUMBER: 2018/110720/07

3 July 2019

South African Heritage Resources Agency
111 Harrington Street
Cape Town
8001
021 462 4502 (T)

Attention: Mr. D. Kolwane

THE RECTIFICATION OF THE UNLAWFUL COMMENCEMENT OF A LISTED ACTIVITY: THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ASPHALT PLANT ON THE REMAINING EXTENT OF THE FARM MONTROSE 573, NELSPRUIT DISTRICT, MPUMALANGA.

Notice is given of an application in terms of Section 24(G) and 24(F) of the National Environmental Management Amendment Act (Act No.62 of 2008) for rectification of the unlawful commencement of a listed activity which the Mpumalanga Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs ("**DARDLEA**") is considering the following: the licensing of an existing Asphalt Plant on the remaining extent of the farm Montrose 573, Nelspruit District, Mpumalanga.

A Basic Assessment Process will be undertaken to obtain Environmental Authorisation ("**EA**") as required, as the activity is defined as a listed activity in terms of GN. R. 327 of the National Environmental Management Act ("**NEMA**") (Act No. 107 of 1998). An Asphalt Plant is also scheduled as a Macadam Preparation Process which normally requires an Atmospheric Emission License ("**AEL**") in terms of the National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act ("**NEM:AQA**") (Act No. 39 of 2004). However, a letter was issued by the Ehlanzeni District Municipality (Competent Authority for the AEL) exempting the facility from complying with the provisions of Chapter 5 of NEM:AQA, because the facility is a mobile, temporary emitter that will operate on the site for less than 2 years.

This notification provides stakeholders and / or identified Interested and Affected Parties ("**I&AP**") with the opportunity to comment on the proposed project and to indicate their interest.

Related Activities

The following activities will be applied for:

SUITE 221 | PRIVATE BAG X01 | BRADHOF | 9324

21 DROMEDARIS STREET | DAN PIENAAR | BLOEMFONTEIN | 9301

TEL: 072 967 7962 | E-MAIL: admin@turn180.co.za

GN. R. 327 of the 2014 Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA") Regulations as amended:

- Activity 14 – *"The development and related operation of facilities or infrastructure, for the storage, or storage and handling of a dangerous good, where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity of 80 cubic metres or more but not exceeding 500 cubic metres."*
- Activity 27 - *"The clearance of an area of 1 hectares or more, but less than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation"*

Project Description:

- Turn 180 Environmental Consultants was appointed by the applicant (i.e. Tau-Pele Construction (Pty) Ltd) as Environmental Assessment Practitioner to manage the required authorisation processes on their behalf.
- An application will be submitted to the DARDLEA to obtain EA.
- The project has been exempted from following the AEL process.

Approximately 1.9 ha of indigenous vegetation was cleared for the establishment of a temporary Asphalt Plant. Currently approximately 290 500 L hazardous substances are stored on site in the form of 217 000 L Bitumen, 46 000 L HFO, 23 000 L Diesel and 4500 L Paraffin.

The basic operation of the Asphalt Plant includes heating raw aggregate inside a dryer bin using a diesel burner. This heated aggregate is then screened and separated and stored in different bins according to size. The aggregate then gets weighed and discharged into a mixing unit where it gets mixed with heated bitumen. The final product (asphalt) then gets discharged into silos to be stored or into trucks to be transported to site.

Locality:

The development was established on the remaining extent of the farm Montrose 573, Nelspruit District, Mpumalanga at the following coordinates:

25°27'8.67"S and 30°42'26.67"E

Please refer to the map attached hereto (Figure 1) for an indication on the location of the activities.

Proposed Site Description:

- The farm Montrose 573 is approximately 164 ha in extent. The site is approximately 1.9 ha in extent.
- The farm is currently zoned for agricultural use. The applicant has an agreement with the landowner to use a portion of the property.
- The site is not located close to any wetlands. The closest wetland is located over 1 km from the site. The Crocodile River is located approximately 180 m north of the site.

- The applicant has permission from the Crocodile River Major Irrigation Board for the temporary transfer of 16 000 m³ water per annum for the period of 16 May 2019 to 30 March 2020. This water is abstracted from the Crocodile River on the farm Alkmaar RE/286.
- The site falls within the Legogote Sour Bushveld (SVI 9) vegetation type, which is classified as Vulnerable (VU) according to the National List of Threatened Ecosystems (Notice 1477 of 2009) (National Environmental Management Biodiversity Act, 2004).

Potential Impacts of Proposed Project and Mitigation Measures:

- Operational activities will be kept to the site boundary in order to limit disturbance on natural vegetation.
- Contamination of soil and groundwater resources may occur. However, potentially hazardous substances are stored inside a bunded area with an impermeable surface which has the capacity to store more than 110% of the volume of the substance.
- The plant may have a negative aesthetic impact on passing motorists. The site will always be kept clean and neat through correct housekeeping and waste disposal.
- Operational activities, like movement of vehicles and loading and hauling of aggregate, may lead to noise and dust generation. Appropriate measures have already been taken to minimize this. Activities currently only take place during daylight working hours and dust suppression measures, such as spraying water on dirt roads and operational areas, have been implemented.
- It is not expected that there are any cultural heritage objects or sites and/or paleontological remains present on the property, and none have been observed so far. A Heritage and Paleontological Impact Assessment will be conducted as part of the Basic Assessment process and included in the Basic Assessment Report.
- The project has a positive impact on the socio-economic structure of the area, as jobs were provided to local people.

Invitation to participate

You are requested to send any issues and/or concerns regarding the project to Turn 180 Environmental Consultants at Suite 221, Private Bag X01, Brandhof, 9324 or 072 873 6665 (T) or 072 967 7962/072 838 8189 (C) or ansune@turn180.co.za / admin@turn180.co.za (e-mail) before 2 August 2019.

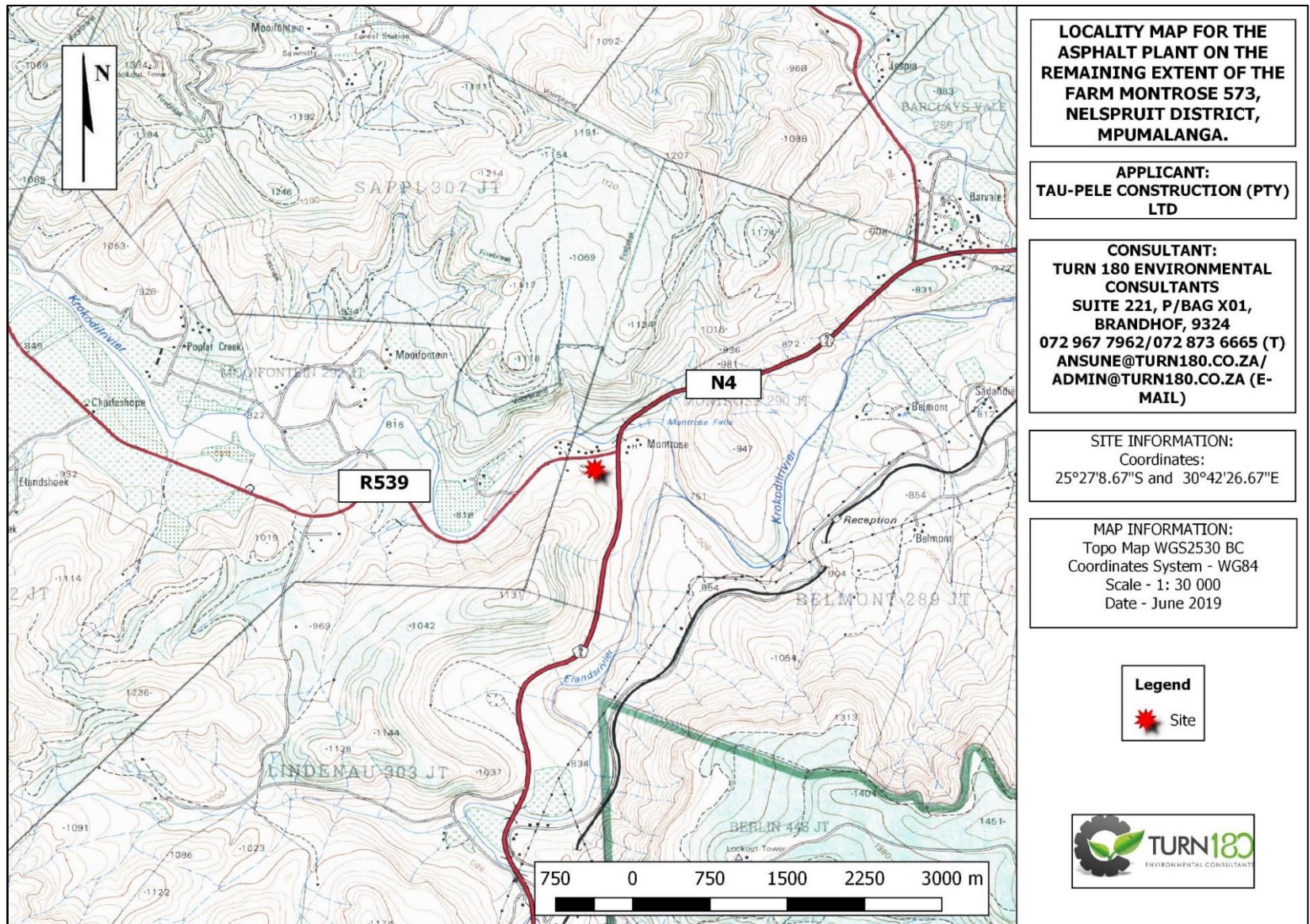


Figure 1: Locality Map for the asphalt plan