

## APPLICANT:



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## INTRODUCTION AND THE PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

Singo Consulting (Pty) Ltd has been appointed as an independent Environmental Consultant by Elispec Mining (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), compile an Environmental Management Programme Report (EMPr) and undertake a Public Participation Process (PPP) for the Section 24G application. The goal of the above mentioned is to acquire an Environmental Authorisation for the established Granite Processing Plant on portion of the remaining extent of the farm Gemsbok 505 JU, situated in the Magisterial District of Magisterial District of Nkomazi in Nkomazi Local Municipality, Mpumalanga Province.

Elispec Mining (Pty) Ltd commenced with an activity within the aforesaid farm portion without an Environmental Authorization (EA). This application is aimed to rectify the unlawful commencement of Granite Processing Plant.

The Purpose of this Background Information Document (BID) is to provide a perfunctory description of the project and outline EIA processes to be followed and contributions from Stakeholders, Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) on the issues related to the project in question, allowing comments and concerns to be raised.

Results of the EIA, both negative and positive will be submitted and made available to the relevant Departments such as the Department of Mineral Resources & Energy and if requested, Environmental Affairs, Water and Sanitation, Landowners, and other interested stakeholders. This Background Information Document therefore requests and invite I&APs to comment on the environmental, physical, social, and economic impacts associated with the aforesaid activity.

Be assured that your comments are of great value as they ensure that relevant issues are taken into consideration. Attached at the end of this document is a registration form, kindly complete it and send it back to consultant details provided on the left of this page.

# PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed activity is on portion of the remaining extent of the farm Gemsbok 505 JU, situated in the Magisterial District of Magisterial District of Nkomazi in Nkomazi Local Municipality, Mpumalanga Province. It accessible via the gravel road extending from the D2951(Road to Mbuzini).

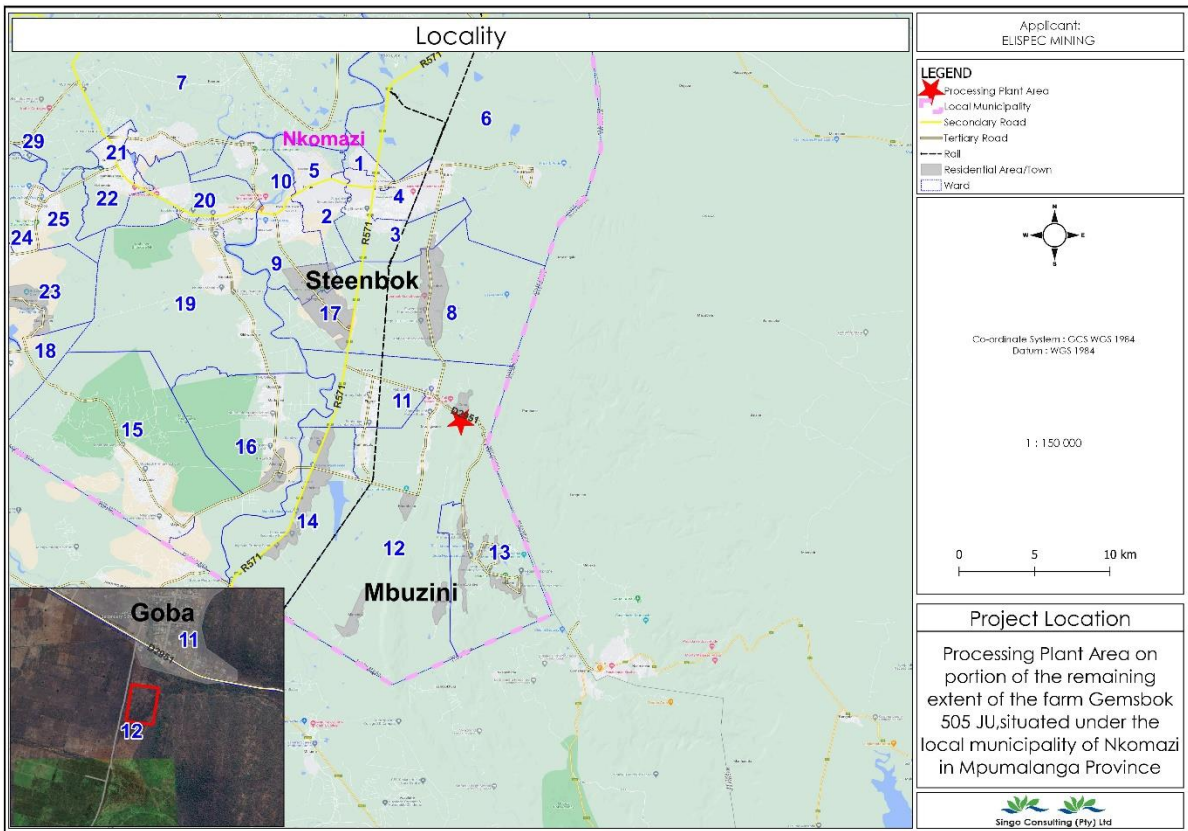


Figure 1: Locality Map

## Type of Activity

This project is about Granite Processing Plant which utilizes a Jig to prepare desired product. Granite preparation plants typically employ several parallel circuits of cleaning and dewatering operations, with each circuit designed to optimally treat a specific size range of granite. Jigging is one of the important techniques used for the washing of granite in coarser size range and is based on the difference in the specific gravity of the solid particles. In the jig, the separation of materials of different specific gravity is accomplished in a bed which is rendered fluid by a pulsating current of water so as to produce stratification. The aim is to dilate the bed of solid particles being treated and to control the dilation so that the heavier, smaller particles can penetrate the interstices of the bed and the larger high specific gravity particles can fall under a condition probably like hindered settling. Particles of different densities are then likely to segregate when they settle. Repeating such an operation makes the lighter particles remain on the top layer and the heavier particles drop down to the bottom layer.



Figure 2: Typical Example of Jig Plant on site

## REGULATORY FRAMEWORK & PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

This application is in terms of S24G of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998). Notice is hereby given in terms of the EIA regulations, under sub-regulation 41 (1) and sub-section 41 (4), published in the Government Gazette No 38282 of December 2014, of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No 107 of 1998) and under Government Gazette No 37083 of 29 November 2013 of the National Environmental Management: Waste Management Act, (Act no 50 of 2008), NWA, Elispec Mining (Pty) Ltd proposes the establishment on the aforesaid property. As part of the EIA process, especially the PPP for the proposed project, Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) will be invited to register and submit any comments or concerns to the Public Participation Process Officer (PPP), **Mr. Ayanda Vilakazi** for the period of 20 days excluding holidays. The draft report and specialist studies will be available for review for 30 days calendar and release date will be announced during the official consultation period. This report will be at the **Mbuzini Library, Malelane Library and Nkomazi Local Municipality** and via emails; Dropbox link; Google drive; WeTransfer, etc and a soft copy upon request from Singo Consulting (Pty) Ltd using the detailed PPP's contact's below, via emails, Dropbox link; Google drive; WeTransfer, etc.

The objective of an EIA is to minimise or if possible, avoid negative environmental impacts rather than mitigate them from the beginning of a project (DEA, 2015:7; Madlome, 2016:6). The commencing of any of the activities before obtaining authorisation by the competent authority concerned is prohibited and it is an offense.

Unauthorised initiation or continuance of activities recognised in terms of the Environment Impact Assessment Regulations may be corrected through an application to the relevant MEC or Minister, depending on who the competent authority will be for such authorization in accordance with the current delegations, in terms of Section 24G of NEMA, read in conjunction with section 7 (Transitional provision) of the National Environmental Management Amendment Act (Act No. 8 of 2004).

As part of the EIA process, more especially the Public Participation Process (PPP) for this proposed project, Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) will be invited to register and kindly submit any comments or concerns to reach **Mr. Ayanda Vilakazi** using the contact details provided below. The public will also be invited to review and comment on the Draft Basic Assessment Report and Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

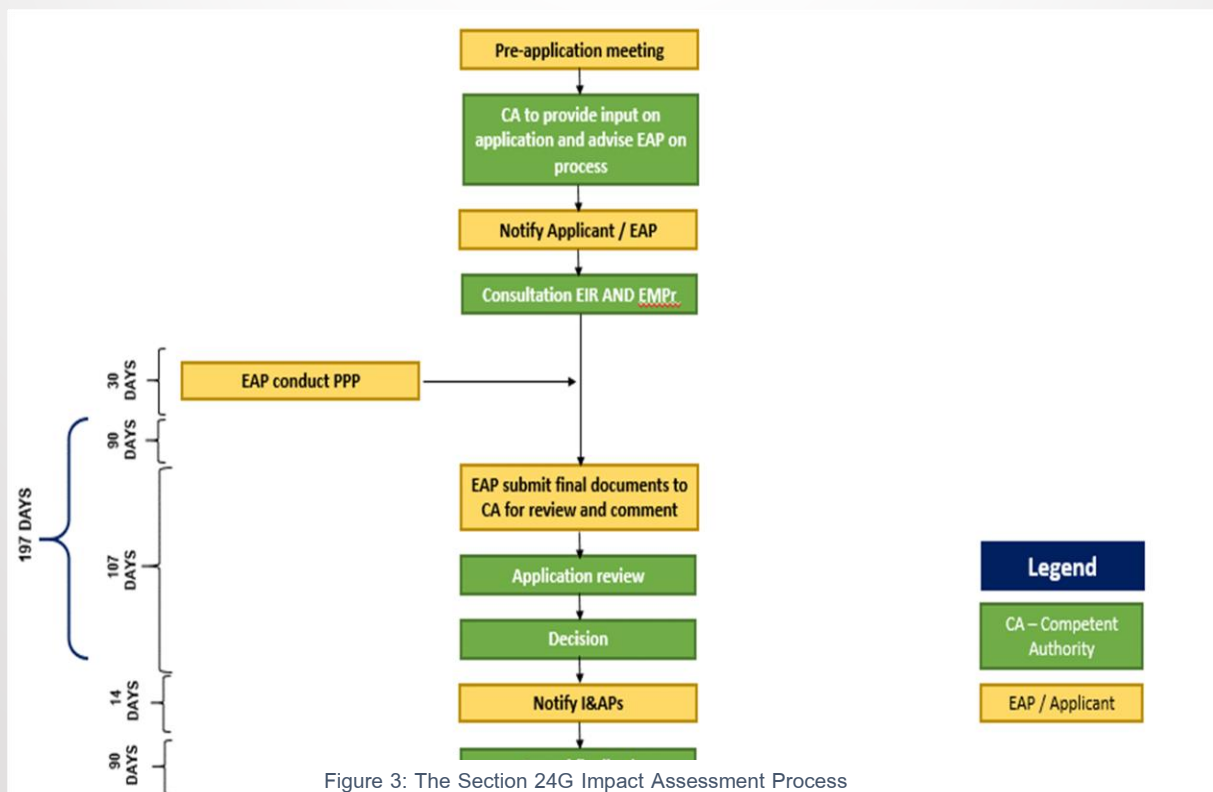


Figure 3: The Section 24G Impact Assessment Process



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**REGISTRATION & COMMENT SHEET**

Title	Name	Surname	
Company			
Designation			
Address			
Tel No.		Fax No.	
E-mail		Cell No.	
I would like to receive my notifications be (mark with "X"):	<input type="checkbox"/>	Post <input type="checkbox"/>	E-mail: <input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>		Fax: <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Please indicate why you would have an interest in the above-mentioned project.</b>			
<b>Please provide your comments and questions here:</b>			
Please feel free to attach a separate document			
<b>Please add any person you think may be interested and affected parties:</b>			
Full name		Company	
Address			
E-mail		Contact No.	