



BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

Applicant:

Kenrau (Pty) Ltd & Dolly Kenney Foundation Trust
1st Floor, Ellen Gabarone Building, c/o
George Lubbe & Moshoeshoe Rd Rocklands,
Bloemfontein, Free State 9301
Tel: 051 4355771

To Whom It May Concern:

26 August 2020

RE: NOTICE OF APPLICATIONS 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 NO 107 OF 1998 NEMA) AS WELL AS THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS OF 2014 (AS AMENDED BY GNR 326 EFFECTIVE 7 APRIL 2017)

Kenrau (Pty) Ltd & Dolly Kenney Foundation Trust (hereafter referred to as the applicant) applied for a mining permit for the mining of gravel, 5 ha on the Remaining Extent of the farm Sydenham 445, Registration Division of Bloemfontein, Free State province.

SITE DESCRIPTION

The Remaining Extent of the farm Sydenham 445, Registration Division of Bloemfontein RD, Free State province is situated approximately ± 10 km south of Bloemfontein. The area earmarked for the proposed mining falls on a section of the farm that was previously used as an existing quarry and the intention of this application is to increase the existing quarry. The GPS coordinates of the proposed mining area are as follows:

Site Coordinates – Decimal Degrees

- A -29.196769°S; 26.195935°E
- B -29.198163°S; 26.197568°E
- C -29.198569°S; 26.196775°E
- D -29.199439°S; 26.196135°E
- E -29.199783°S; 26.195361°E
- F -29.199651°S; 26.19479°E
- G -29.199307°S; 26.194325°E
- A -29.196769°S; 26.195935°E

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

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

LEGAL COMPLIANCE

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) [MPRDA] has been submitted to the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE).

The proposed project triggers the following listed activities in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) [NEMA] and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (as amended by GNR 326 effective 7 April 2017), and therefore requires a basic assessment process to obtain environmental authorisation:

■ **GNR 327 Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations 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 [including activities for which an exemption has been issued in terms of section 106 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002)]*
- (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 Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations Listing Notice 1 of 2017 Activity 22:**

The decommissioning of any activity requiring —

- (i) a closure certificate in terms of section 43 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002); or*
- (ii) a prospecting right, mining right, mining permit, production right or exploration right, where the throughput of the activity has reduced by 90% or more over a period of 5 years excluding where the competent authority has in writing agreed that such reduction in throughput does not constitute closure; but excluding the decommissioning of an activity relating to the secondary processing of a —*
 - (a) mineral resource, including the smelting, beneficiation, reduction, refining, calcining or gasification of the mineral resource; or*
 - (b) petroleum resource, including the refining of gas, beneficiation, oil or petroleum products; —**in which case activity 31 in this Notice applies.*

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

■ GNR 327 Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations Listing Notice 1 of 2014 Activity 27:

The clearance of an area of 1 hectare 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 Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations Listing Notice 1 of 2014 Activity 28:

Commercial and industrial developments where such land was used for agriculture or afforestation on or after 01 April 1998 and where such development (ii) will occur outside an urban area, where the total land to be developed is bigger than 1 hectare.

Other legislation triggered by the proposed project includes:

- 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) submitted to the Department of Mineral Resource and Energy.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed mining site will be an extension of the existing quarry pit previously mined for gravel. The mining method will make use of excavation by means of earth moving equipment. The material is then loaded and hauled to a crushing and screening plant. The gravel will be stockpiled and transported to clients via trucks and trailers. All activities will be contained within the boundaries of the site.

The proposed mining area is approximately 5 ha in extent and the applicant, intends to win material from the area for at least 2 years with a possible extension of another 3 years. The gravel to be removed from the quarry will be used for construction industry in the vicinity. The proposed quarry will therefore contribute to the upgrading / maintenance of road infrastructure and building contracts in and around the Bloemfontein area.

The mining activities will consist out of the following:

- Stripping and stockpiling of topsoil;
- Excavating;
- Crushing;
- Stockpiling and transporting;
- Sloping and landscaping upon closure of the site; and

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

- Replacing the topsoil and vegetation the disturbed area.

The mining site will contain the following:

- Excavating equipment;
- Earth moving equipment;
- Mobile crushing and screening plants;
- Access Roads;
- Site office (Container);
- Site vehicles;
- Parking area for visitors and site vehicles;
- Weighbridge;
- Ablution facilities (Chemical toilet).

DUST:

- Speed on the access road will be limited to 40 km/h to prevent the generation of excess dust.
- Roads will be sprayed with water or an environmentally friendly dust-allaying agent that contains no PCB's (e.g. DAS products) if dust is generated above acceptable limits.
- All disturbed or exposed areas will be re-vegetated as soon as possible during mining to prevent any dust source from being created.

NOISE:

- It will be ensured that employees and staff conduct themselves in an acceptable manner while on site.
- All mining vehicles will be equipped with silencers and maintained in a road worthy condition in terms of the Road Transport Act.
- The noise generated from the mining machinery will be similar to noise generated along the surrounding roads by public vehicles.

ACCESS ROUTE:

- The existing access road to the site will be used. No new roads will be needed for this activity.
- Should any other access roads to the mining area be required it will be established in consultation with the landowner however existing roads will be used as far as practicable.

SURFACE AND GROUND WATER:

- The proposed mining area will be further than 100 m from any natural water source.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

- The proposed activities are not expected to have a negative impact on the surface or ground water of the area.

VEGETATION:

According to Mucina and Rutherford (2012) the vegetation type of the surrounding natural areas are known as the Bloemfontein Dry Grassland (GH5) that is slightly undulating bottomland landscape covered with tall, dense grassland alternating with patches of karroid scrub occurring especially over calcrete.

GEOLOGY & SOILS:

Sedimentary mudstones and layers of sandstone mainly of the Adelaide Subgroup (Beaufort Group, Karoo Supergroup). Volksrust Formation mudstones of the Ecca Group (also Karoo Supergroup) dominate the western part of the area. Deep (>300 mm) layer of red sand (aeolian origin) covers the more clayey B-horizons. Soil forms such as arable Hutton, Bainsvlei and Bloemdal occur here and are typical of the Ca land type. The Ea land type has shallow gravelly soils underlain by dolerite sills. Ca and Ae land types are nearly equally represented.

SITES OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL INTEREST:

No sites of archaeological or cultural importance were identified during the site inspection. As the proposed mining activity will take place within an area previously utilized for mining purposes, the activity is not anticipated to have a negative impact on any archaeological or cultural aspects.

FAUNA:

Various small mammals and reptiles occur on the property. Larger herbivore species are very scarce or absent due to the conflicting land use. The fauna at the site will not be impacted by the proposed mining activity as they will be able to move away or through the site, without being harmed. Workers will be informed and managed to ensure that no fauna at the site is harmed. No poaching or hunting of animals will be allowed. All construction vehicles should adhere to a low speed limit (<40km/h) to avoid collisions with susceptible species such as snakes and tortoises. Trenches and deep excavations should not be left open for extended periods of time as fauna may fall in and become trapped in them. Trenches which are exposed should contain soil ramps allowing fauna to escape the trench.

VISUAL EXPOSURE:

- The mining area was identified to constitute the lowest possible visual impact on the surrounding environment.
- The surrounding area has previously been disturbed by mining activities, and this application entails the extension of the existing mining area.
- The crusher plant and all stockpiling will be done on the area previously disturbed for mining purposes, and no new processing areas will need to be opened.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

- The applicant will however ensure that housekeeping is managed to standard, as this will mitigate the visual impacts during the operational phase of the mine.
- Upon closure the site will be rehabilitated and sloped to ensure that the visual impact on the aesthetic value of the area is kept to a minimum.
- The site will have a neat appearance and be kept in good condition at all times

ABLUTION, WASTE WATER & WASTE DISPOSAL:

- Ablution facilities will consist of chemical toilets hired from a contractor and serviced regularly.
- Any effluents containing oil, grease or other industrial substances will be collected in a suitable receptacle and removed from the site, either for resale or for appropriate disposal at a recognised facility.
- Spills will be cleaned up immediately to the satisfaction of the Regional Manager by removing the spillage together with the polluted soil and by disposing of them at a recognised facility.
- General waste will be disposed at the nearest authorised disposal facility.
- Non-biodegradable refuse such as glass bottles, plastic bags, metal scrap, etc., will be stored in a container at a collecting point and collected on a regular basis and disposed of at a recognised landfill site.
- Biodegradable refuse generated will be handled as indicated above.
- No waste will be burned or buried on site.

FINAL REHABILITATION:

- Rehabilitation of the surface area shall entail landscaping, levelling, 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 (section 44 of the MPRDA).
- Waste material of any description, including receptacles, scrap, rubble and tyres, will be removed entirely from the mining area and disposed of at a recognised landfill facility. It will not be permitted to be buried or burned on the site.
- Weed / Alien clearing will be done in a sporadic manner during the life of the mining activities. Species categorised as weeds according to the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (Act No. 10 of 2004) [NEMBA] Alien and Invasive Species Regulation GNR 598 and 599 of 2014 Species regarded as need to be eradicated from the site on final closure.
- Final rehabilitation shall be completed within a period specified by the Regional Manager.

Kenrau (Pty) Ltd & Dolly Kenney Foundation Trust will make use of temporary office buildings and mobile plants during the mining operations. Workers will be transported to and from the site daily.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

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 an 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 sonette.s@greenmined.co.za through any means should you need more information, 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 Report (DBAR) on or before **28 September 2020**. If we do not receive any comments from you within 30 days of receipt of this notice, it will be accepted that you do not have any objections / comments with regard to the project.

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 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.

Interested and Affected Parties (I&AP's) are invited to attend the public meeting on the 10th of September 2020, I&AP's are requested to RSVP to the consultant's offices no later than the 4th of September 2020 should you wish to attend the meeting.

- 📍 Location: The Remaining Extent of the farm Sydenham 445, (The proposed application area)
- 📍 Time: 11:00

The DBAR will be submitted to the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy(DMRE), Free State, 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)

The DBAR will then be updated to reflect the comments received during the public commenting period. Upon which, the Final Basic Assessment Report (FBAR) will be submitted to the DMRE for its consideration as part of the authorization process in terms of the NEMA regulation. A copy of the final report will be made available on the Greenmined Environmental website (www.greenmined.com). All registered I&AP's and stakeholders will be notified

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

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.

CONTACT DETAILS:

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

COMMENTS/ OPMERKINGS:

No Objection:	
Request additional information:	
Concerns:	

Signature: _____

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

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

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

Your feedback is valued and will be addressed appropriately.

Kind Regards



Sonette Smit

Greenmined Environmental