

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

PREPARED BY

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INTRODUCTION

Leseekha Consulting was appointed by Letsatsi Engineers on behalf of the Department of Public Works and Transport to establish a borrow pit on Townlands Farm No. 301 Mahikeng and Remaining Extend of Farm Molopo Ratshidi Farm 302 (Re/302) Mahikeng, within the jurisdiction of the Mafikeng Local Municipality in the North West Province. The Department of Public Works, Roads and Transport is applying for mining permits for six (6) borrow pits (less than 5ha in extent) to provide aggregate material for the proposed upgrading from Gravel to Surface Standard of Road Z422 from the intersection of Chief Albert Luthuli Road through Lokaleng Village to Tlapeng Village.

PURPOSE OF THE DOCUMENT

The purpose of this background information document is to provide information about the application for a mining permit to establish a borrow pit on the on Townlands Farm No. 301 Mahikeng and Remaining Extend of Farm Molopo Ratshidi Farm 302 (Re/302) Mahikeng, within the jurisdiction of the Mafikeng Local Municipality in the North West Province. This document also aims to invite interested and affected parties (I&AP's) to participate in the process and to obtain comments their inputs for the environmental authorization application.

Your participation will assist in identifying environmental consequences of the proposed project and ensure that they are evaluated in the EIA process. Should you want to participate, you will receive further EIA reports and notification of the decision from the relevant authority

Should you want to participate, please register as an interested and affected party (I&AP) to receive further EIA reports and notification of the decision from the relevant authority.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Department of Public Works, Roads and Transport is applying for a mining permit to establish a borrow pit to mine aggregate material that will be used to pave various roads within the Tlokweng Village. The extent of the area to be cleared of trees and vegetation for mining of the gravel is 4.5 hectares. The EMP will be compiled and submitted to the Department of Mineral Resource North West (NW DMR) branch in Klerksdorp in order to obtain authorization.

AIM OF PARTICIPATION

Identified Interested and Affected Parties (I&APS) on the project are therefore required by the law to participate in the EIA process by submitting issues of concern and suggestion on the proposed project. The purpose of Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) is not merely to assess the impact of a development on the environment. Public Participation also facilitates improved decision making by the competent authority, tasked with either granting or refusing of the incorporation of prospecting rights into the existing mining right for a development to proceed. The EIA Regulations promulgated under section 24 of the National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998 (NEMA), 1 sets out the minimum requirements regarding public participation by interested and affected parties (I&APs).

IMPORTANCE OF YOUR PARTICIPATION

Everyone has the right to be involved in decisions that may affect their livelihood. Participation by Interested and Affected Parties (I&AP's) is in everyone's best interest because:

- It provides opportunities for I&AP's and the authorities to obtain clear, accurate and understandable information about the expected environmental impacts of the proposed project.

- it assists to incorporate views and concerns of I&AP's into the design phase and augment the information requirements to attain an Environmental Authorization (EA) from Department of Mineral Resources and Energy that will facilitate legislative compliance and project inception.
- It provides members of the public with the opportunity to voice their concerns and to raise questions regarding the project.
- It provides affected parties with the opportunity to suggest ways for reducing or mitigating any negative impacts of the project, and for enhancing its benefits.
- It will enable the project proponent to consider the needs, preferences and values of affected parties in their decisions. It provides opportunities for the clearing up of misunderstandings about technical issues, resolving disputes and reconciling conflicting interests.
- It is vital for ensuring transparency and accountability in decision-making.
- It contributes towards maintaining a healthy, vibrant democracy.

Trust you find this in order;

Regards;



Lesego Senna