



BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

WASTE MANAGEMENT LICENSE (WML) APPLICATION FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE "SPITSVALE PROJECT (SPV)" AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE AT SPITSKOP 333 KT (PTN 24, 25, 26 AND 28) AND KENNEDY'S VALE 361 KT (PTN 8 AND 22, SOUTH WEST OF STEELPOORT IN LIMPOPO PROVINCE

PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

The purpose of this document is to provide background information to the proposed project and to obtain comments and contributions from stakeholders with regards to potential environmental impacts – which includes, but not limited to: ecological, social, economic, physical, aesthetic, etc.

When an applicant proposes to undertake a listed activity, an application must be made for environmental authorisation. The application must be supported by a report, which has been compiled as a result of an assessment process. After the competent authority has made a decision on the application, an appeal may be made against the decision, or parts thereof.

Ecoleges, as the independent Environmental Consultant, has been appointed by the EAP (Environmental Assessment Practitioner), **Environmental Management Assistance (EMA) (Pty) Ltd**, to manage the Public Participation Process as part of compiling the Scoping and Environmental Impact Report (EIR). This report serves as part of the application on behalf of the proponent/applicant, **BCR Minerals (Pty) Ltd**, in order to obtain a Waste Management License (WML), which will be reviewed by the relevant competent authority (the Department of Minerals and Resources (DMR).

The aim of the report is to ensure that the environmental impacts are taken into consideration, to ensure stakeholder engagement, and to provide decision makers with sufficient information to make an informed decision on the proposed activities.

The Departments' decision whether to grant or refuse a Waste Management License will be based on information provided in the report.

**YOUR COMMENTS WILL FORM PART OF THE WML
APPLICATION REPORT**

APPLICABLE LEGISLATION

Notice is given in terms of Regulations 21(1) and 40 (1)(b) of GN No. R. 982, 4 December 2014, made under sections 24(5), 24 (5) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), as amended.

➤ Waste Management License (WML) Application

A Waste Management License (**WML**) under the provisions of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act (Act 59 of 2008) (NEMWA), as amended is required as part of the application for environmental authorisation. An application for a WML will be submitted to DMR.

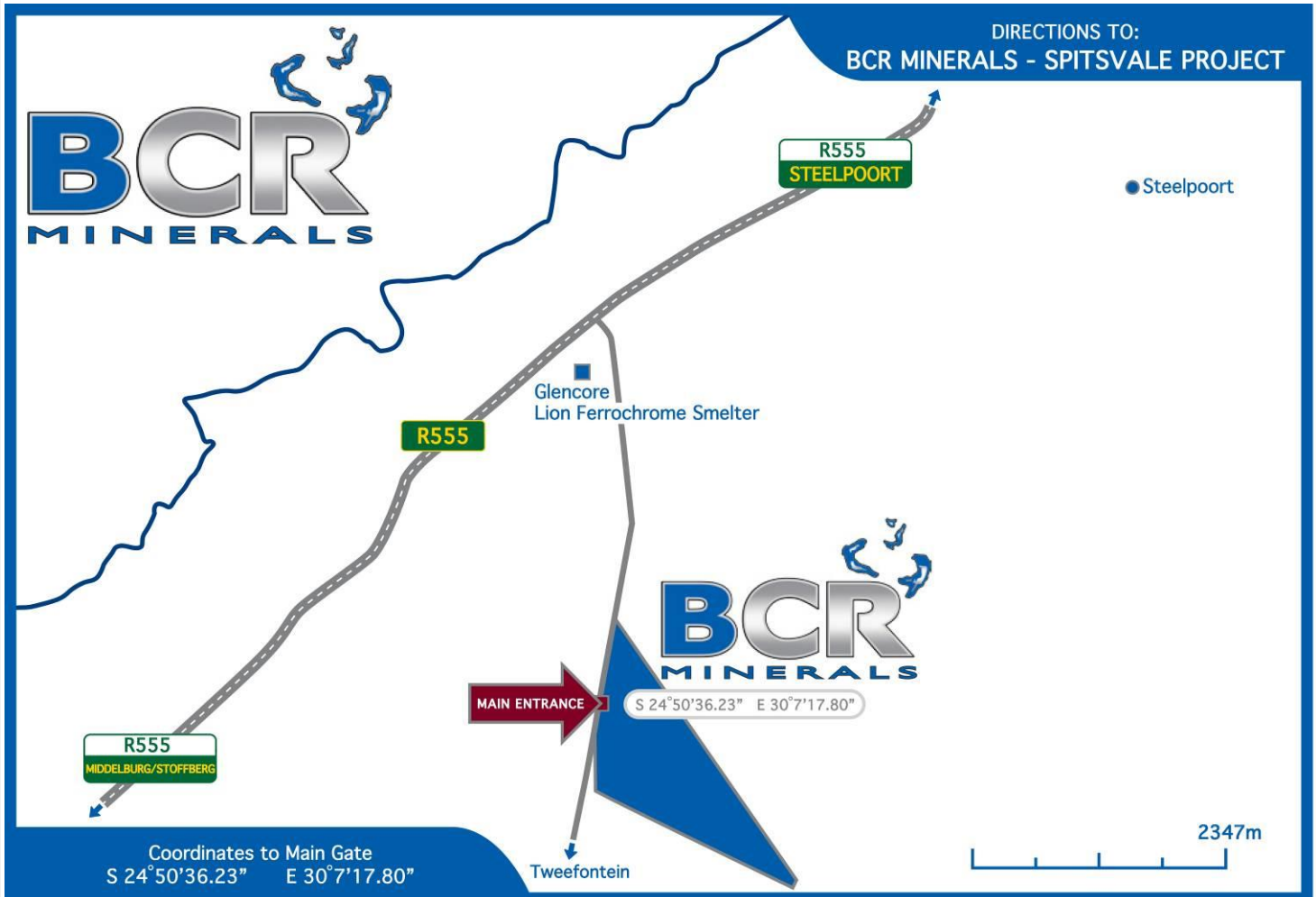
Under section 19 of NEMWA a list of waste management activities which have been published under Government Notice R921 of 29 November 2013 (as amended by Government Notice R332 of 2 May 2014 and as amended by GN R633 of 24 July 2015). GN R633 inserts residue stockpiles as a Category B activity which requires a WML. It is inserted as:

- Listed WML Activity 11 – *“The establishment or reclamation of a residue stockpile or residue deposit resulting from activities which require a mining right in terms of the MPRDA (Act 28 of 2002).”*

OBJECTIVE OF THE PROJECT/PROCESS

The overall objective is to undertake and complete a robust application process that will serve to inform the Department of Mineral and Resources (DMR) and allow for a decision on the environmental acceptability of the proposed development. The proposed development involves the construction, operation and decommissioning/rehabilitation SVP Chrome mining activity managed by BCR Minerals (Pty) Ltd, situated in the Greater Tubatse Local Municipality, Sekhukhune District Municipality, Limpopo Province.

LOCATION



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Currently BCR Minerals (Pty) Ltd operates and manages a prospecting and bulk sampling operation (DMR reference number LP30/5/1/1/2/10624PR and LP30/5/1/1/2/10603PR) situated South West of Steelpoort, Greater Tubatse, Limpopo Province. This application process relates to the application for a Mining right over portions 24, 25, 26, and 28 on farm Spitskop 333 KT and portions 8 and 22 on farm Kennedy's Vale 361 KT. The main purpose of this application is to mine the mineral chromite and associated minerals (in particular the MG0, MG1, MG2, MG3, and MG 4 Package chromite seams) on the properties mentioned.

The associated activities of this opencast Chrome Ore mining operation will entail the following:

- Establishment of associated infrastructure such as access roads, offices, workshops etc;
- Drilling and blasting using a single benching method;
- Processing of ore through screening;
- Stockpiling of residue material;
- Stockpiling of ore material; and
- Bulk road transport of processed ore.

Whilst alternatives are being investigated, no reasonable or feasible alternatives existed at the time of this advertisement.

DESCRIPTION OF TASKS

- An advertisement will be placed in the **Steelburger News**, local newspapers, on 12th August 2016.
- Stakeholders, including adjacent landowners, neighbours within a 100 m radius, and the relevant authorities were notified of the proposed development in writing on the 09th December 2015.
- Notice boards advertising the applications were placed at the site.

ANTICIPATED ISSUES

Issues that will likely be addressed in the Scoping Report include, but are not limited to the following:

- Human health risks associated with the mining activities;
- Impacts on possible Wetlands and/or non-perennial watercourses (including 1:100 yr floodline);
- Impacts on the terrestrial Ecology;
- Bat survey;
- Avifauna survey
- Visual Impact;
- Topographical function including gradient;
- Soil functions and impacts;
- Impact of storm water runoff on areas downstream of the development.
- Impacts on surface water as well as underground hydrology;
- Contributing impacts on the air quality of the mining area and its surroundings; and
- Associated noise impacts.

YOU'RE COMMENTS PLEASE!

Your comments on the proposed projects, the public participation process, and issues needing investigation, will assist the technical studies and the authorities in their consideration of the relevant environmental and social aspects.

You are invited to register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) and to assist us in:

- identifying possible impacts of the proposed developments on the environment,
- making suggestions for mitigation and/or alternatives, and
- considering the “need” and “desirability”.

Mitigations

Mitigation measures will be developed for the anticipated issues. Stakeholders are however welcome to comment on these issues and provide additional observations.

Alternatives

Consideration of Alternatives is one of the most critical elements of the Scoping and EIA process. Its role is to provide a framework for sound decision-making based on the principle of sustainable development.

Alternatives should be identified as early as possible in the project cycle.

Ecoleges not only welcomes stakeholders' input/suggestions, but also urges the public to submit possible alternatives.

It is important to note that an alternative is defined as a different means of meeting the general purpose and requirements of the activity, which may include alternatives to-

- (a) the property on which or location where it is proposed to undertake the activity;
- (b) the type of activity to be undertaken;
- (c) the design or layout of the activity;
- (d) the technology to be used in the activity;
- (e) the operational aspects of the activity; and
- (f) the option of not implementing the activity.

When submitting alternatives, the recommended alternative must be:

- Practicable,
- **Feasible**,
- Relevant,
- **Reasonable** and
- Viable.

Need and Desirability

'Need and desirability' is determined by considering the broader societal/community needs and interests. The general meaning of need and desirability refers to time and place, respectively, i.e. is this the right time and is it the right place for locating the proposed activity.

In order to ensure that you are registered as an interested and/or affected party, please complete the enclosed REGISTRATION AND COMMENT SHEET and forward it to the address, fax or email provided below:

Postal Address:

P.O Box 9005
Nelspruit
1200

OR

P.O. Box 516
Machadodorp
1170

Fax: 086 697 9316

E-mail: justin@ecoleges.co.za

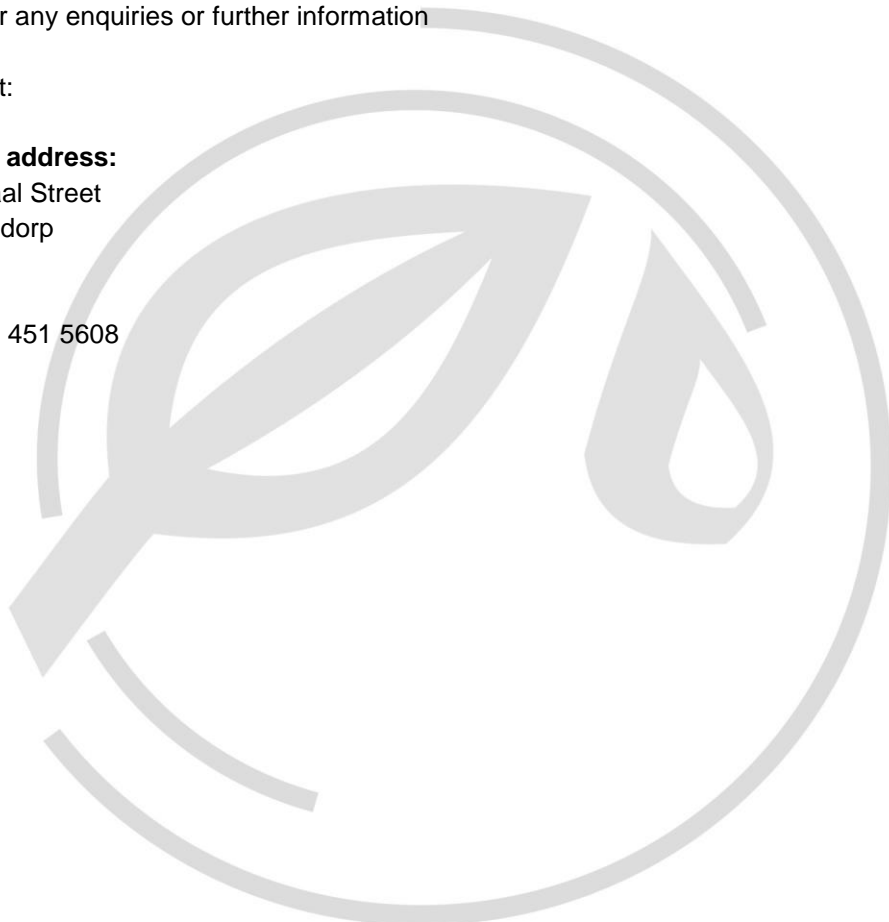
OR For any enquiries or further information

Visit us at:

Physical address:

2 Generaal Street
Machadodorp
1170

Cell: 082 451 5608



REGISTRATION AND COMMENT SHEET

WASTE MANAGEMENT LICENSE (WML) APPLICATION FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE “SPITSVALE PROJECT (SPV)” AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE AT SPITSKOP 333 KT (PTN 24, 25, 26 AND 28) AND KENNEDY’S VALE 361 KT (PTN 8 AND 22, SOUTH WEST OF STEELPOORT IN LIMPOPO PROVINCE. ECOLEGES REFERENCE: 2015_003P

Title _____ Name _____

Surname _____

Company Name / Interest Group _____

Postal or Residential Address _____

Town/City _____

Postal Code _____

Tel () _____

Cell _____

Fax () _____

E-mail address _____

In accordance with EIA Regulations, 2014 – Regulation 56 (1) - A registered interested and affected party is entitled to comment, in writing, on all written submissions including draft reports made to the competent authority... provided that - (c) the interested and affected party discloses any direct business, financial, personal or other interest which that party may have in the approval or refusal of the application. Please supply such information in the space provided below

Please indicate with an **X** whether you would like to be kept informed of the EIA process

YES, I would like to be kept informed	YES
NO, I am not interested	NO

If "YES", how would you like to be informed? (please mark the appropriate block with an "X")

E-mail	
Fax	

COMMENTS: (If you require more space than that which is provided, please attach additional pages)

Thank you for your participation

Please be assured that your comments will form part of the final document to be submitted to the decision-making authority

Please complete and return this Registration and Comment sheet to **JUSTIN BOWERS.**
Address: P.O. Box 9005
Nelspruit
1200
Fax: 086 697 9316
E-mail: justin@ecoleges.co.za

Please feel free to phone us on 082 451 5608, should you not have access to fax or e-mail