

Background Information Document

APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOR THE PROPOSED
PROSPECTING ACTIVITIES ALONG THE R51 ROAD FROM SPRINGS TOWN TO
NIGEL ON FARM GROOTFONTEIN 165 IR, WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF CITY OF
EKURHULENI METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY, OF GAUTENG PROVINCE

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PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

The purpose of this Background Information Document (BID) is to provide you with information about the proposed project, and to obtain comments and contributions from you as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) with regard to potential issues and associated impacts on the environment. You are invited to register as an I&AP and to assist the EIA Team in identifying possible issues and to make suggestions for the mitigation of associated impacts.

This BID document will help I&APs to:

- Determine if they are interested and/or affected by the proposed project.
- Better understand the project in order to be able to provide comment.
- Understand the environmental authorization process so that they are able to participate effectively.

INTRODUCTION

TPR Mining Resources (Pty) Ltd was appointed by Tom Berry Trading Enterprise cc to undertake Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process for the proposed prospecting activities situated along the R51 route from Springs town to Nigel on portion 28 of the farm Grootfontein 165 IR, within the jurisdiction of City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality, Gauteng Province.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Prospecting Phases Activities

Phase 1.

- Desktop studies
- Data collection and analysis

Phase 2.

- Drilling of boreholes on specified locations
- sampling of ore (Coal)

PROJECT LOCALITY

The proposed project is situated along the R51 route from Springs Town to Nigel on portion 28 of the farm Grootfontein 165 IR within the jurisdiction of City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality, Gauteng Province.

The GPS coordinates for the proposed area: **S 26° 22' 01.08" E 28° 28' 10.59"**.

ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION REQUIREMENTS

Regulation 326 (14 April 2017) of the National Environmental Management Act (107 of 1998), provides for the control of identified activities that may have an impact on the environment. This act contains a list of activities that require environmental assessment before these activities can be undertaken. The proposed development is listed in this act and an EIA is therefore necessary. Environmental Authorization by the relevant authorities is required before the proposed activity may be undertaken. A relevant activity is:

R 327 Activity 20

TPR Mining Resources (Pty) Ltd was appointed by Tom Berry Trading Enterprise cc to undertake Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process for the proposed prospecting activities situated along the R51 route from Springs town to Nigel on a portion of portion 28 of the farm Grootfontein 165 IR, within the jurisdiction of City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality, Gauteng Province. This will be done in terms of the legal requirements of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No 107 of 1998) and Government Notices R982 of 2014, read together with the Mineral Petroleum Resource development Act 2002 (Act 28 of 2002). The proposed project will undergo the process of Basic Assessment Process.

Authorization in this case has to be granted by Department of Mineral Resources. An acceptance letter has been received from the competent authority. Consultative Basic Assessment Report will be submitted to the competent authority, and will be available for comments from interested and affected parties and the state Department for comments for 30 Calendar days.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS

- The scope of this application will require Specialists in terms of Regulation 12 of R326 of Environmental impact Assessment regulations, 2017.
- The development will trigger **activity 20** *“the any activity including the operation of that activity which requires a prospecting right in terms of section 16 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002), including associated infrastructure, structures and earthworks directly related to prospecting of a mineral resource, 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)*

PRELIMINARY LIST OF ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

A number of potential environmental issues have already been identified and are listed here to assist I&APs to better understand the investigations to be undertaken as part of the environmental assessment process.

Potential environmental issues are:

- Waste management;
- Impact on water resources
- Impacts on fauna, flora and avi-fauna;
- Loss of current land use capability;
- Benefits of development to the local and regional economy;

- Social and socio-economic impacts;
- Potential employment opportunities for drilling phase ;

I&AP REGISTRATION

In terms of the EIA regulations, this proposed project requires assessment and communication of potential environmental impacts of activities based on the procedures, as described in Chapter 6, Regulations 39-44 of the Regulations R326 of 07 April 2017. I&APs are requested to register to ensure that they are sent all relevant correspondence and are notified of important dates for meetings and when project documents will be available for comment.

INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE

The Assessment Process includes opportunities for you to be involved in the decision-making process. Your comments are important in identifying issues that will help focus the process and enhance decision-making. Your comments will be addressed and included in an Issues and Response Report, which will accompany the Basic Assessment Report. Department of Mineral Resources-Gauteng Region as the decision-making authority will review the reports to check the issues that have been adequately addressed in the assessment process. Please make use of the following opportunities for participation:

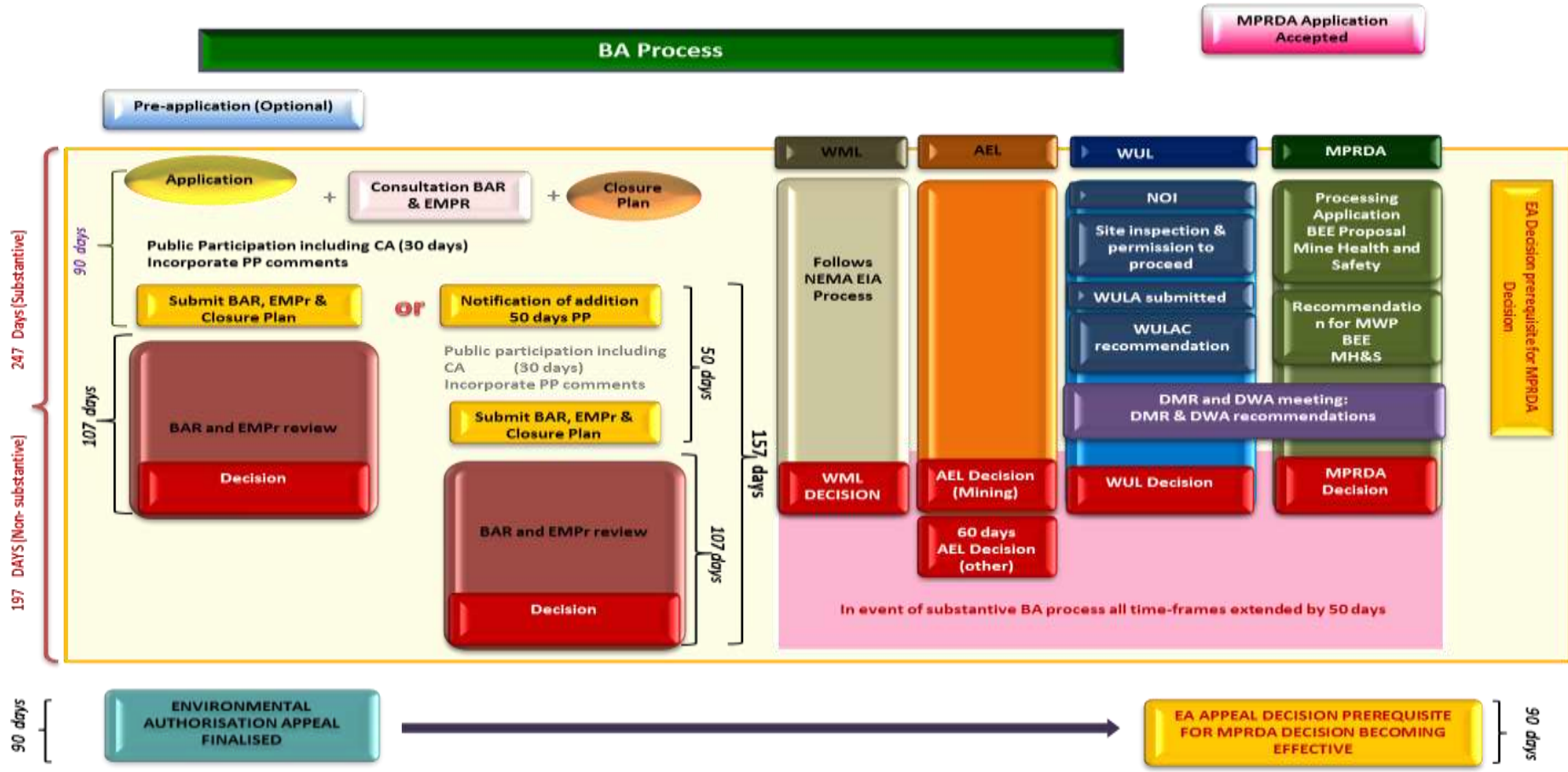
- Examine and respond to information provided in this Background Information Document, at meetings, and in the Consultative Basic Assessment Reports.
- Register as an Interested and Affected Party in order to receive information and to record your comments.
- Complete the Comments Sheet and return by hand, mail, fax or email.
- Attend meetings to obtain further information, interact with the project team and raise issues and concerns. Details of meetings and workshops will be communicated at the appropriate time.
- Contact the EAP to obtain further project information and raise issues and concerns.

It is important that you take note of the deadlines for the submission of comments during the different phases of the assessment process.

I&AP Comment

It is best to submit comment in writing via post, fax or email, either using the Comment Sheets provided or your own format. You may also provide verbal comment at meetings.

Basic Assessment Process



PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OFFICE CONTACT DETAILS

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