

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

Prepared by:



**MINING PERMIT AND ENVIRONMENTAL
AUTHORISATION APPLICATION ON PORTION OF
PORTION 3 OF THE FARM WILDFONTEIN 420 JS.**

Magisterial District of Belfast; Mpumalanga

DMRE REF: MP 30/5/1/1/3/13125 MP.

Prepared for:

**ISIBUSISO SETHU
HOLDINGS**

INTRODUCTION AND THE PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

Singo Consulting (Pty) Ltd has been appointed as an independent Environmental Consultant by **ISIBUSISO SETHU HOLDINGS** to conduct Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), Compile an Environmental Management Programme report (EMPr) and undertake Public Participation Process (PPP). This is done for processes of acquiring Environmental Authorization for the proposed Mining Permit Application within **portion of portion 3 of the Farm Wildfontein 420 JS** in the Magisterial District of Belfast in Mpumalanga Province. (**DMRE Ref: MP 30/5/1/1/3/13125 MP**).

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 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 process through BAR & EMPr, both negative and positive will be submitted and made available to the relevant Departments such as the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy 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 proposed Mining Activities. 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 **Mr Ndimuhulu Shammah Mulaudzi** through given means of communication also attached there.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Mining Permit Application has been submitted for the mining of coal on the property mentioned above. This mining permit area, as seen in figure 1 below, is situated approximately 33.63km East of Middleburg and 24.91 km West of Belfast. The project area is very close to the R104 road, approximately 2.3 km away from the R104.

Mining activities will be undertaken over a period of two (2) years. This project will entail an open cast method of excavation. The mine design will be developed according to the dimension of the applied mineral deposit within the project area, but overall mining activities will be limited to an area of 5 Ha as per mining permit requirements. The topsoil will be stockpiled elsewhere on site preferably next to the farm boundary and will be used during rehabilitation period. Once a box cut has been made, the overburden and mineral resources where necessary will be loosened by blasting. The loosened material will then be loaded onto trucks by excavators. A haul road will be situated at the side of the pit, forming a ramp up which trucks can drive, carrying ore and waste rock. Waste rock will be piled up at the surface, near the edge of the open pit (waste dump). The waste dump will be tiered and stepped, to minimize degradation. All the activities will be guided by the project's EMPr such that the project does not impact the environment negatively.

REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

Therefore, EIA process to be undertaken will be conducted in accordance with the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) and Environmental Impact Assessment regulations as amended (April 2017).

The activity is to extract the existence and occurrence of the applied minerals; therefore, this will be conducted in accordance with Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, (Act 28 of 2002). Other regulatory guidelines to be followed include: National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998), National Air Quality Standards (GN 1210: 2009) and National Dust Control Regulations (GN 875: 2017).

These all will accurately be followed to ensure that identified impacts are assessed and mitigated according to their significance so that the protection of the receiving environment and populations is met.

BASIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

PROCESSES

These are planning and decision-making tools used in identifying potential environmental, economic and social consequences of a proposed activity prior the commencement of the activity.

These together with the public issues and concerns are to be identified sufficiently early so that they can be assessed and incorporated into the final reports when/if necessary.

These tools are regarded crucial because they are utilized in order to demonstrate to the relevant stakeholders about the potential impacts, which in turn leads to the Mining application process being a success or declined.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

Public Participation remains a cornerstone of the Environmental Impact Assessment process. It ensures provision of relevant and enough information with openness and transparency. Public Participation process presents to I&APs, an opportunity to understand what the project is about, and affords them an opportunity to make valuable contributions towards the EIA process on this BAR & EMPR phase.

I&AP can be any person, group of persons or organization interested in or affected by the proposed activity, and any organ of state that may have jurisdiction over any aspect of the activity.

The key objective of PPP is to afford the I&APs with an opportunity to comment and provide valuable inputs during the planning phase of the project.

For this specific proposed project, I&APs will be given a period of 30 days to comment and raise issues/concerns with regards to this BAR & EMPR which will be available at **eMakhazeni Public Library** (-25.692577, 30.035323).

Kindly keep the following dates:

- ❖ Stakeholder engagement and consultation: **03rd of June 2022 – 03rd July 2022**
- ❖ Review of Draft BAR & EMPR: **04th July 2022 – 02nd of August 2022.**
- ❖ Submission of the BAR & EMPR: **03rd of August**

The Draft BAR & EMPR will be available at the Middelburg Public Library, a soft copy upon request from Singo Consulting (Pty) Ltd using the detailed EAP's contact's below, via emails; Dropbox link; Google drive; WeTransfer, etc. Electronic copies will be made available upon request from Singo Consulting (Pty) Ltd, using the detailed EAP contact's below via the platforms above.



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REGISTRATION & COMMENT SHEET

Mining Permit Application on portion of portion 3 of the Farm Wildfontein 420 JS situated in Belfast

Magisterial District, Mpumalanga (DMRE REF: MP 30/5/1/1/3/13125 MP)

Attention: **Ndimuhulu Mulaudzi**

Email: ndimuhulu@singoconsulting.co.za

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"):	Post <input type="checkbox"/>	E-mail: <input type="checkbox"/> Fax: <input type="checkbox"/>
Please indicate why you would have an interest in the above-mentioned project.		
Please provide your comments and questions here:		
<i>Please feel free to attach a separate document</i>		
Please add any person you think may be interested and affected parties:		
Full name	Company	
Address		
E-mail	Contact No.	

