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INTRODUCTION AND THE PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

Singo Consulting (Pty) Ltd has been appointed as an independent Environmental Consultant by **Tornowize (Pty) Ltd** to conduct Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) through Basic Assessment, Compile an Environmental Management Programme report (EMPr) and undertake Public Participation Process (PPP). These are done for processes of acquiring Environmental Authorization and Mining Permit for extraction of **Coal** on a **portion of the Remaining Extent** of the farm **Reserve 3 15822**, situated in the Magisterial District of **uMkhanyakude** in **Kwa-Zulu Natal Province (DMRE Ref: KZN 30/5/1/3/2/10876 MP)**.

Notice is hereby given in terms of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act (MPRDA) (Act 28 of 2002) and EIA regulations 2014, published under Government Notice No. 982 in Gazette No. 3822 of 8 December 2014, amended on 7 April 2017 and by GN 517 on 11 June 2021, that **Tornowize (Pty) Ltd** has an intention to mine **Coal** on the above-mentioned property.

The Purpose of this Background Information Document (BID) is to provide a brief description of the project and outline EIA processes to be followed and get 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 through basic assessment, both negative and positive will be consolidated into the Basic Assessment Report and be submitted and made available to the relevant Departments such as the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy and if requested, The Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment, Department of Water and Sanitation, Landowners, and other interested stakeholders. The compiled reports will undergo public review for a period of at least 30 days.

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 the Public Participation Process (PPP) Officer **Ms Boitumelo Moholola** through the given means of communication attached there.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Mining Permit Application has been submitted for the extraction of **Coal** resource on the property mentioned above. The Mining Permit application area is situated in Myeki Settlements, approximately 14.2 Km northwest of Mtubatuba town, approximately 27.7 km southeast of Hlabisa and approximately 2.2 Km east of Tendele coal mine-Somkhele. Please refer to figure 2 and figure 3 below for the project location visual.

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 on the boundary of the application area 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 as shown in the figure 1 below. A haul road will be situated at the side of the open cast, forming a ramp up which trucks can drive, carrying coal and waste rock. Waste rock will be piled up at the surface, near the edge of the open cast (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.



Figure 1: Simplified Coal extraction process

REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

The EIA process through BAR & EMPr 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) and by GN 517 on 11 June 2021.

The activity is to extract the existing applied mineral and this will be conducted in accordance with Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, (Act 28 of 2002) and in compliance to other regulatory guidelines. Guidelines to be followed include the National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998), National Air Quality Standards (GN 1210: 2009) and National Dust Control Regulations (GN No. 827 of 2013).

All the mentioned legislation will be accurately followed to ensure that identified impacts are assessed and mitigated according to their significance to meet the protection of the receiving environment and populations standards.

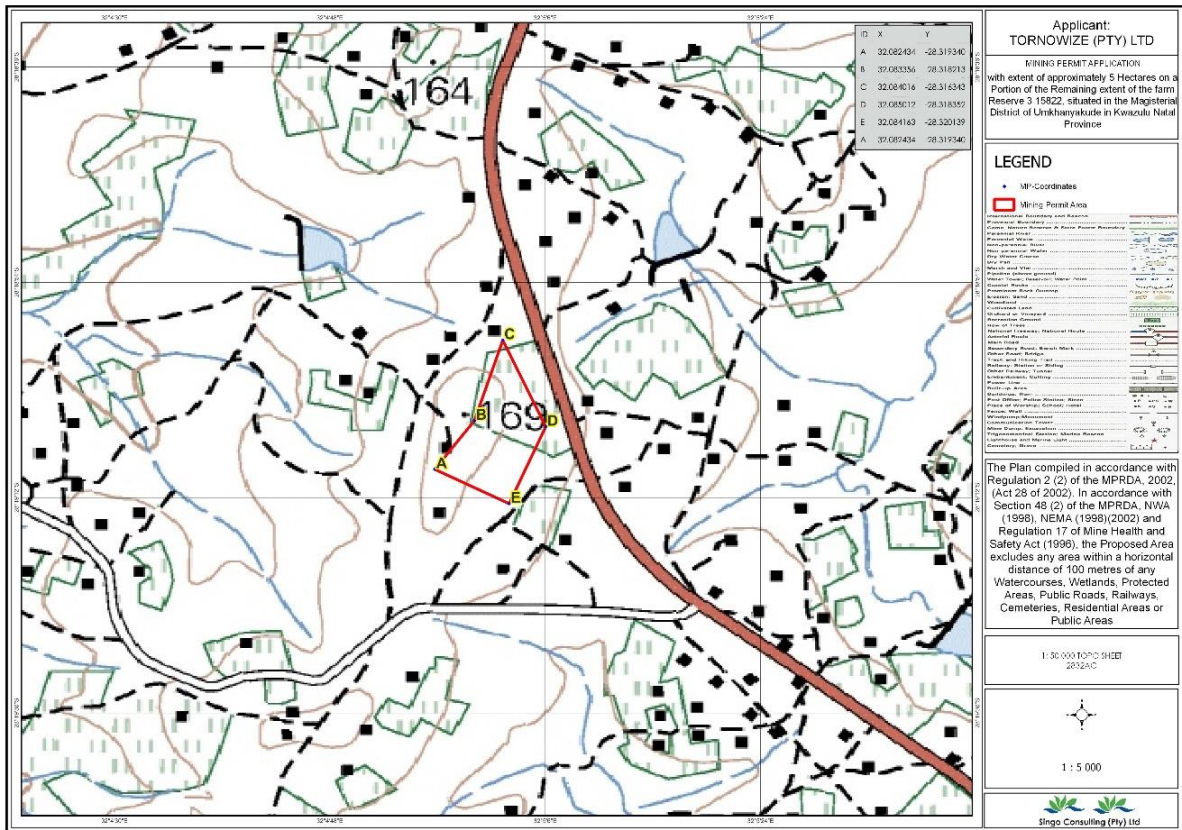


Figure 2: Regulation 2.2 map

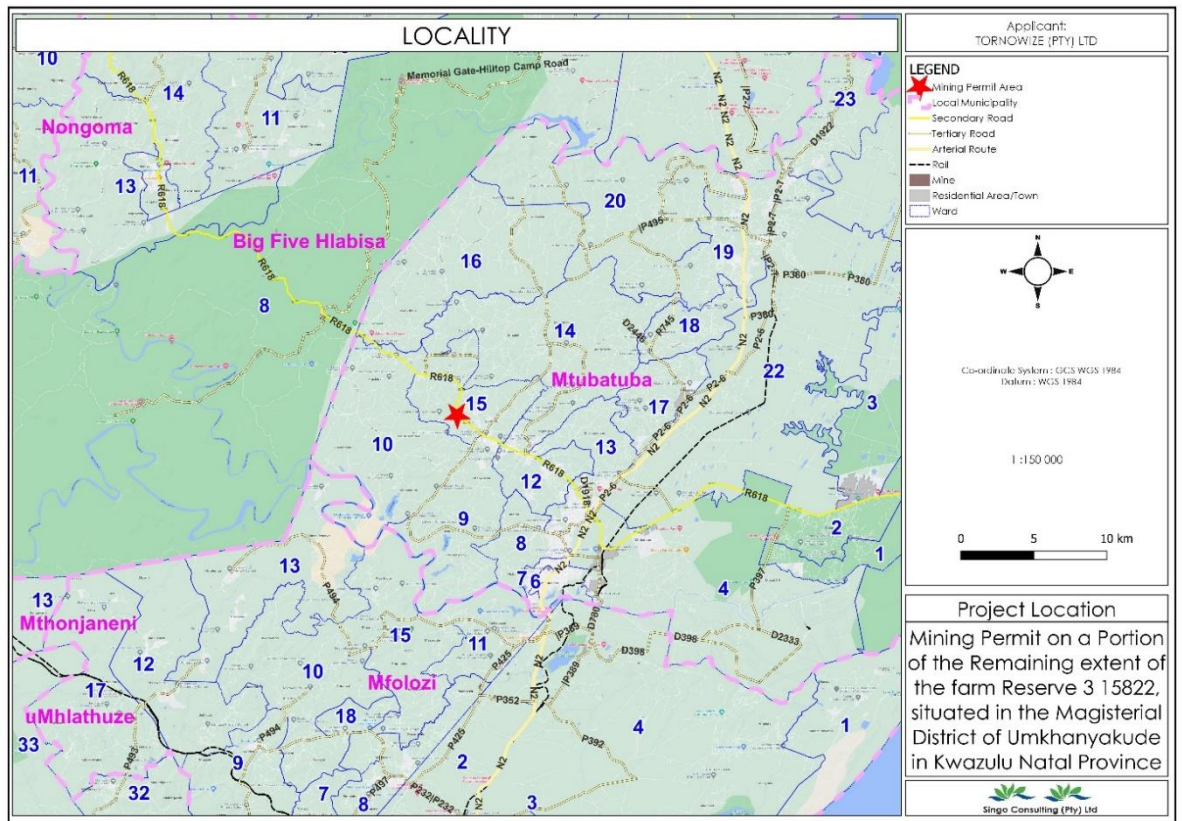


Figure 3: Locality Map

BASIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT & PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

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 to demonstrate the potential impacts to the relevant stakeholders, which in turn leads to the mining application being granted or rejected.

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.

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 timeframes for conducting the EIA Process for Mining Permit are indicated in figure 4 below.

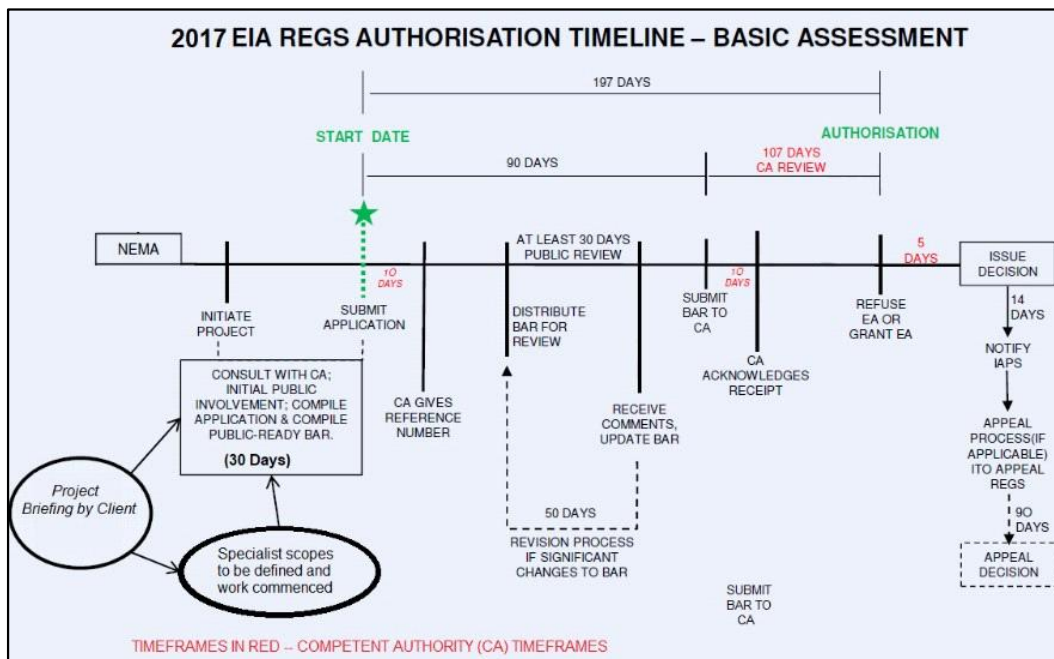


Figure 4: Basic Assessment Process and timelines

For this proposed project, I&APs will be given a period of 30 days to comment and raise issues/concerns with regards to this BID. Kindly take note of the following:

- A Newspaper Notice was published in the **Zululand Observer on the 2nd of June 2023**
- Site notices will be placed around the **farm boundary, local libraries and municipality** notice boards and **identified public spaces**.
- The BAR & EMP_r will be available at **KwaMsane Public Library** (KwaMsane Township, Nomathiya Street, Mtubatuba, 3935) and **Mtubatuba Public Library** (108 Bouganvilla road, Mtubatuba, 3935) and a soft copy will be made available upon request from Singo Consulting (Pty) Ltd using the contact details provided on this document.
- Review period of the draft BAR & EMP_r: **Monday the 3rd of July 2023 to Tuesday the 1st of August 2023 (Excluding public holidays)**.

