

## APPLICANT DETAILS:

### Geolight (Pty) Ltd

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## ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER (EAP) & ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNICIAN (ENVIR. TECH)'S DETAILS:



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**Envir. Tech.: Ms Boitumelo Moholola**

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## INTRODUCTION AND THE PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

Singo Consulting (Pty) Ltd has been appointed as an independent Environmental Consultant by **Geolight (Pty) Ltd** to conduct Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) through Basic Assessment, compile a Basic Assessment Report (BAR) and 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 on **portion of Portion 24** of the **Farm Hartbeestpruit 281 JS**, situated in the **Magisterial District of eMalahleni in Mpumalanga Province with DMRE Ref: MP 30/5/1/3/2/13906 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 through basic assessment, both negative and positive, will 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 the Environment, Department of Water and Sanitation, Landowners, and other interested stakeholders.

This Background Information Document therefore requests and invites 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 **Ms Boitumelo Moholola** through given means of communication also attached there.

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Mining Permit Application has been submitted for the extraction of **Coal** resource on the property mentioned above. The Mining Permit area as seen in figure 2 and figure 3 is situated within eMalahleni Local Municipality, approximately 24 km northwest of **eMalahleni** town and approximately 14.5 km northwest of Klarinet.

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 at the permit area 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 open cast, forming a ramp up which trucks can drive, carrying waste rock and coal. 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. The diagram in figure 1 below depicts a simplified sequence of events in open-cast mining.



**Figure 1: Process for open cast mining**

## 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).

The activity is to extract the applied mineral, and this will be conducted in accordance with the 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 827: 2013).

These will all be accurately 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.

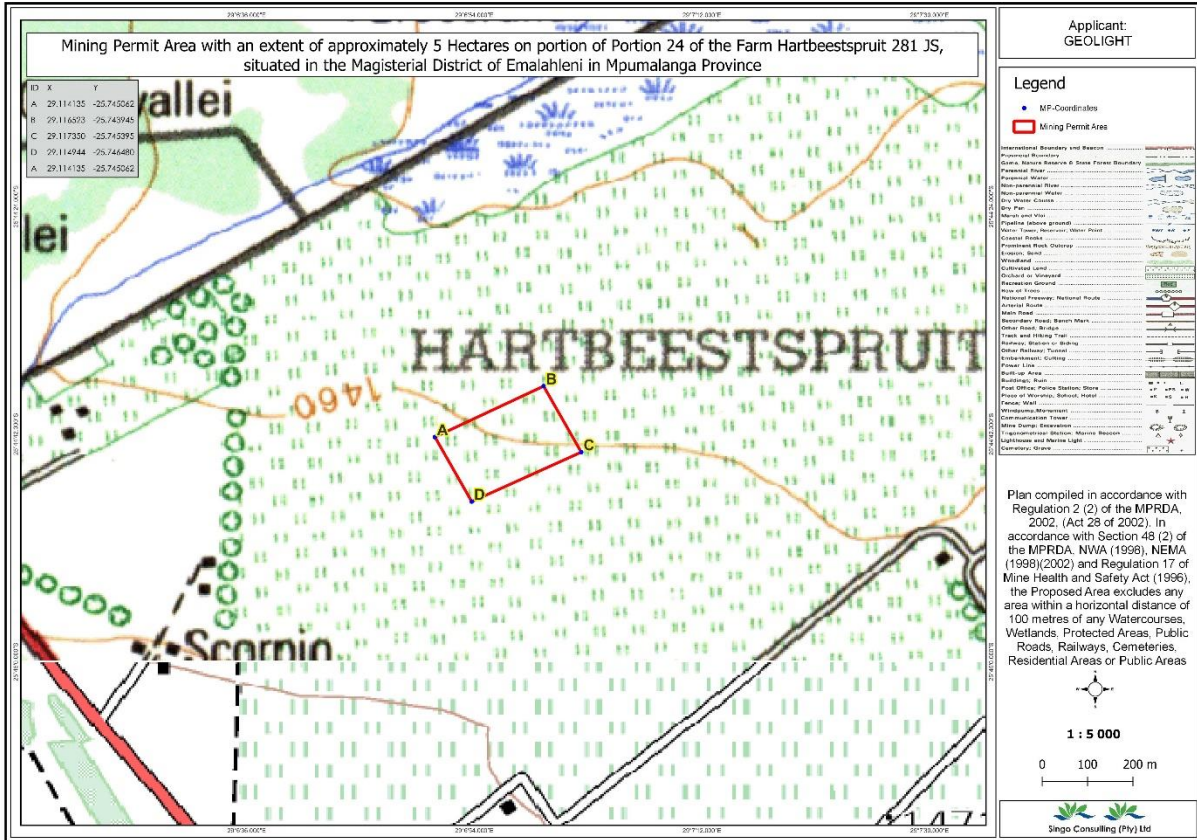


Figure 2: Regulation 2.2 map (A.-25.745062, 29.114135)

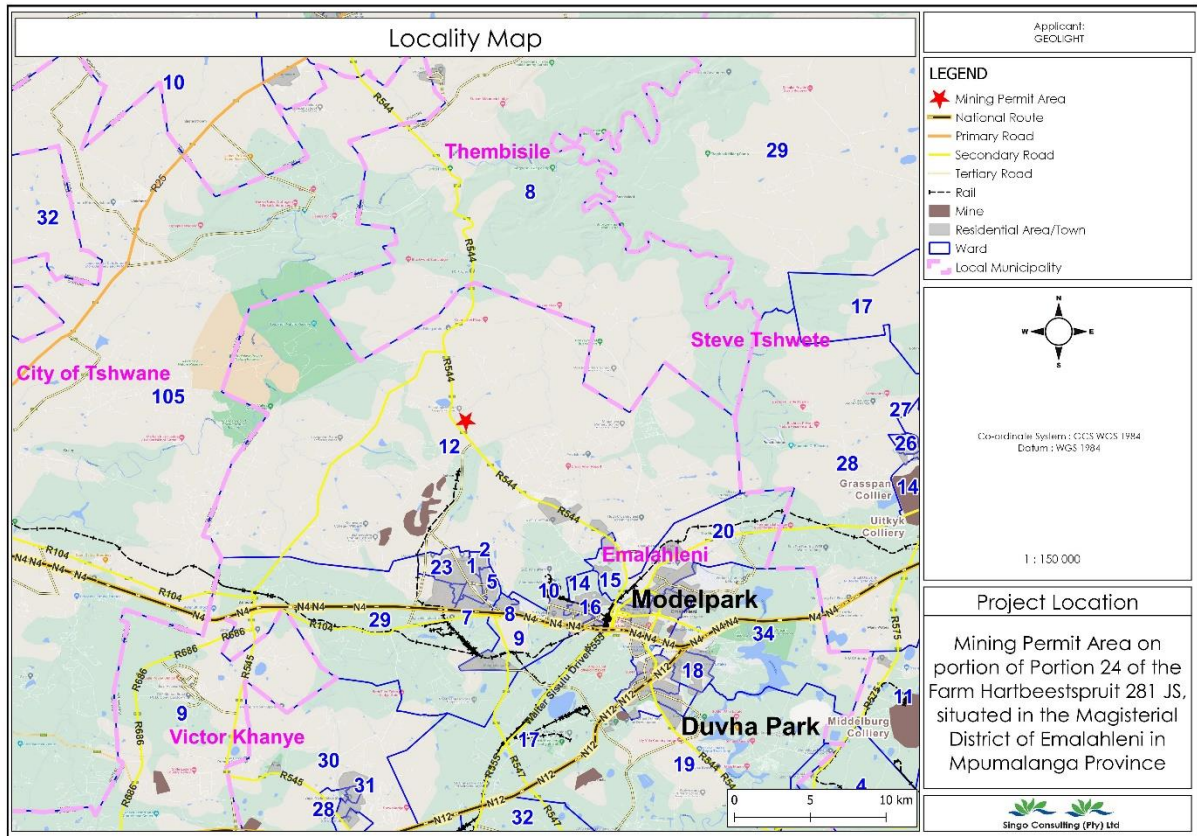


Figure 3: Locality Map

## 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 process being a success or declined.

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 (PPP) 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.

Kindly keep the following dates:

- Stakeholder engagement and consultation: **Ongoing Process**
- Review period of the draft BAR & EMPr: **Thursday the 9<sup>th</sup> of February 2023 – Friday the 10<sup>th</sup> of March 2023**

Hard copies of the BAR & EMPr will be available at **Klarinet Public Library (Blesboklaagte 296-JS, eMalahleni)**, soft copies (via emails) upon request from the Environmental Technician (**Boitumelo Moholola**).

**All comments, concerns and issues raised need to be submitted by no later than the 10<sup>th</sup> of March 2023 so that they can be addressed and incorporated in the final BAR and EMPr.**



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**REGISTRATION & COMMENT SHEET- (MINING PERMIT DMRE REF.: MP 30/5/1/3/2/13906 MP.)**

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

