

**MINING PERMIT APPLICATION ON PORTION 14 OF THE FARM KLIPBANKFONTEIN ALIAS
MANANA 26 IP IN THE MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT OF DITSOBOTLA, NORTH WEST PROVINCE**



BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT & INVITATION TO COMMENT

June 2019

Introduction

Terra Africa Consult has been appointed by Arthur Robert Lummis to undertake the Public Participation Process and assist in preparing and submitting a Basic Assessment Report (BAR) and Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) relevant to the Mining Permit Application (REF: NW 30/5/1/3/2/10680MP), as required in terms of Section 25(5)(b), read with regulation 52(2)(g) of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act (Act 28 of 2002) (MPRDA) as amended and Section 24(j) of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA), read with Regulation 40 to 44 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations GNR 326 of 2017.

Locality

The proposed site for the mining permit is situated in the Ditsobotla magisterial district 27 km Northeast of Coligny and 8 km East of Lichtenburg in the Northwest Province. Mining for Diamonds Alluvial, Diamonds General and Aggregate stone is proposed on Portion 14 of the farm Klipbankfontein alias Manana 26 IP. The proposed site covers 2.5290 hectares.

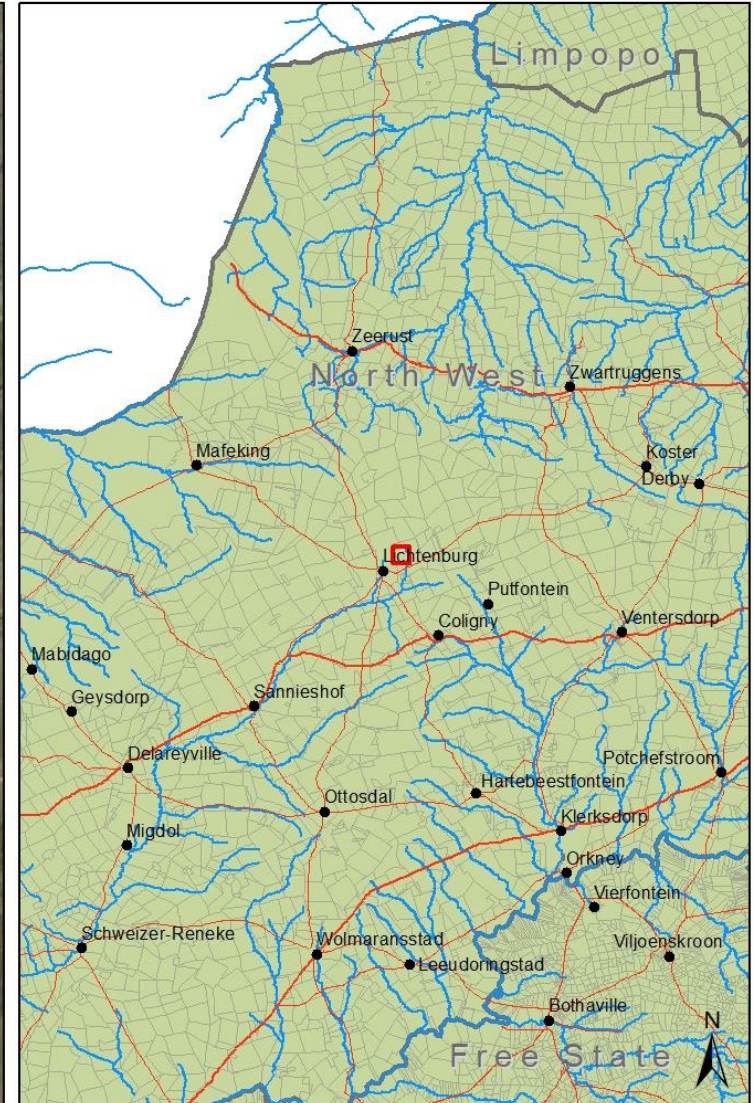
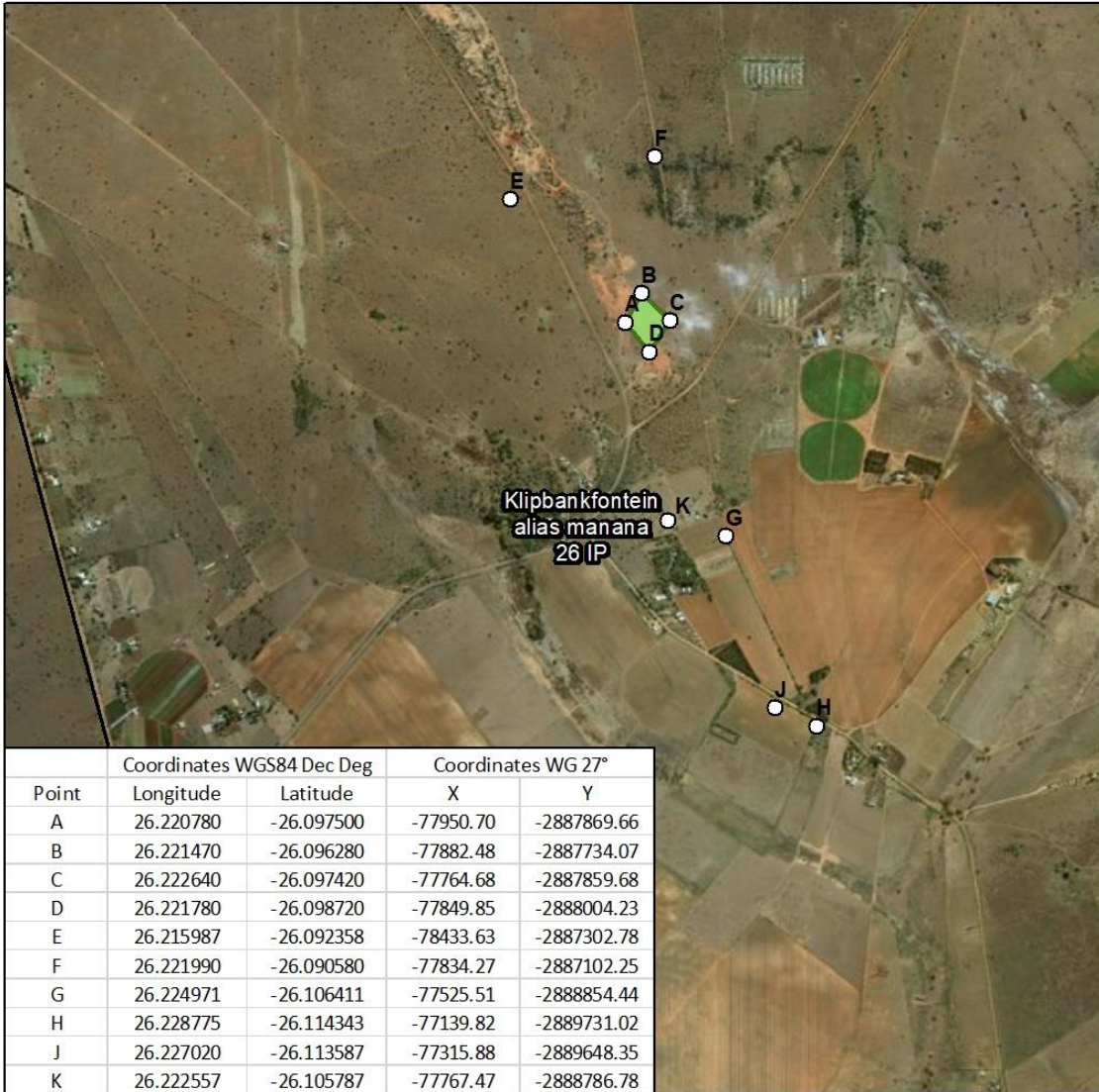
Project Overview

It is envisaged that the mining activities will include a site clearing followed by strip mining techniques for shallow alluvial diamond deposits.

The topsoil and overburden (if occurring above the diamond gravel) will be removed with a front end loader prior to extraction of diamond-containing gravel. The gravel will be screened for diamonds and then backfilled into the open trenches before topsoil will be replaced for land rehabilitation.

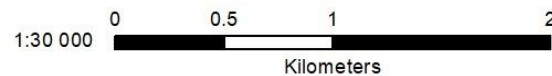
A rotary pan will be used for concentration of diamonds once the gravel has been washed. The mining activities will not be near a waterway or riparian zone and will disturb only grazing field. No crop fields are present in the proposed mining permit footprint area. Part of the footprint area consist of unrehabilitated historic mining areas.

Locality map for mining permit application of A.R. Lummis



Legend

- Study area (2.529 ha)
- Farms



Applicant:
A.R. Lummis



TerraAfrica
SOIL. AGRICULTURE. ENVIRONMENT.

Legislative framework

A mining permit triggers Activity 21, Activity 27 and Activity 28 contained in Listing Notice 1 (GNR 327) of the EIA Regulations as amended (2017) as well as Category A, Activity 15 of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act no 59 of 2008) (GNR 332). The competent authority for the application of a mining permit as well as the application for environmental authorisation (Basic Assessment and Environmental Management Programme) is the Department of Mineral Resources (DMR) in the North West Province.

According to the Minerals and Petroleum Resource Development Act (Act No 28 of 2002), a “mining permit” is defined as follows:

“Mining permit” means a permit issued in terms of section 27(6)

Other relevant legislation includes the following:

- National Environmental Management Act, (Act 107 of 1998) as amended;
- National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act no 59 of 2008);
- National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act (Act 39 of 2004) as amended;
- National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (Act 10 of 2004)
- National Heritage Resources Act, (Act 25 of 1999);
- National Veld and Forest Fire Act, (Act 101 of 1998);
- National Water Act, (Act 36 of 1998);
- Occupational Health and safety Act (Act 85 of 1993).

Public Consultation, Basic Assessment Report and Environmental Management Programme Report process

Public consultation

The purpose of the public consultation process is to enable land owners, lawful occupiers, directly affected individuals, and / or other Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) to raise any issues, concerns and / or comments regarding the proposed mining activities. The proposed project will be advertised in a locally distributed newspaper to inform the public about the project and request them to identify environmental issues. Notices will also be erected on site.

Details of the Public Participation Process followed will be compiled and submitted to the Department of Mineral resources (DMR) as part of the Basic Assessment Report. It should be noted that the Comments and Responses report does not include detailed verifications of issues of concern but provides recommendations with regard to any fatal flaws that may restrict and / or limit any mining activities.

Basic Assessment Report and Environmental Management Programme

The Basic Assessment Report and Environmental Management Programme will be developed according to the DMR Guideline document ensuring that all the relevant aspects pertaining to the environment will be addressed. The potential impacts associated with the proposed mining activities will be quantified as part of this assessment. The report will provide an overview of the anticipated impacts from the proposed mining activities and whether feasible alternatives and / or mitigations could be implemented to minimise such impacts to acceptable standards.

The Basic Assessment Report as well as the Environmental Management Programme will be submitted to DMR for review and assessment of the contents and findings, prior to the issuing of an Environmental Authorisation (EA) regarding the mining permit application.

Public Participation is legislated according to NEMA. All Registered I&APs will be informed of the availability of the draft Basic Assessment Report and be afforded 30 days to comment on the reports. All comments will be included in the Final reports submitted to DMR.

Potential Environmental Impacts

The following preliminary list of potential impacts has been identified and will be investigated during the mining permit application process

Safety: The proposed project has the potential to alter the topography and present excavations which may be potential safety risks for both people and animals.

Soil and land capability: The mining activities has the potential to compromise soil resources through physical disturbance (excavation and compaction) and / or pollution. Loss of soil resources has a direct impact on the natural capability of the land.

Biodiversity: The placement of infrastructure and mining activities has the potential to disturb and / or destroy natural vegetation, habitat units and related ecosystem functionality.

Surface water: The proposed project has the potential to alter surface drainage patterns through excavations and the placement of stockpiles, but the pollution of surface water resources is unlikely since it is not near any wetlands, pans, waterways or preferential flow paths.

Groundwater: Water will be extracted from nearby existing boreholes and brought to the site either by pipeline or water cart. The mineral processing operation will require 1000 – 10000 litres of water per day.

Air: The proposed project has the potential to contribute additional air pollution.

Noise: The mining activities has the potential to cause noise pollution.

Visual: The excavation and associated stockpiles has the potential to create visual impacts through topographical changes.

Heritage / cultural resources: The proposed project has the potential to damage heritage resources should any heritage / cultural resources be identified.

Land use: The proposed project has the potential to impact on surrounding land uses such as livestock grazing.

The Mining Permit Application process.

As per the regulations, a Mining Permit application and the Environmental Authorisation (EA) application has been lodged simultaneously with the Department of Mineral Resources (DMR) and was acknowledged on 23 April 2019.

The acknowledgement of the application requires the applicant to consult with interested and affected parties and submit the results thereof to the DMR together with a Basic Assessment Report, and where applicable a closure plan, within 90 days from the acceptance of the application.

Once DMR reviews the submissions (BAR & EMPPr) and either accepts or rejects the mining permit application depending on its merits, a mining permit is issued or rejected.

Invitation to comment

Should you wish to express your views regarding this proposed project, please send us your completed registration and response form attached to this background information document. A draft Basic Assessment report is available on request from Terra Africa Consult.

The names of all registered I&APs, together with the comments received will be incorporated into the Comments and Responses Reports and will be submitted to DMR.

