

**PROPOSED MINING OF WEATHERED SANDSTONE,
FAWN LEAS IN KWAZULU-NATAL
BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT**



1. INTRODUCTION

Terratest (Pty) Ltd (Terratest) has been appointed by City Sand Suppliers (Pty) Ltd, to undertake the Mining Permit Application and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process required for the mining of weathered sandstone near Fawn Leas in KwaZulu-Natal.

2. SITE DESCRIPTION AND LOCALITY

The site is located approximately 25km north east of the town of Dalton on the farm Fawn Leas, the property is approximately 0.65 hectares in extent

Co-ordinates for the site are noted in Table 1:

TABLE 1: CO-ORDINATES FOR THE PROPOSED FAWN LEAS BORROW SITE.

LATITUDE (S):	LONGITUDE (E):
29°13'9.13"S	29°13'9.13"S

Figure 1 illustrates the proposed location of the Fawn Leas Borrow Site.

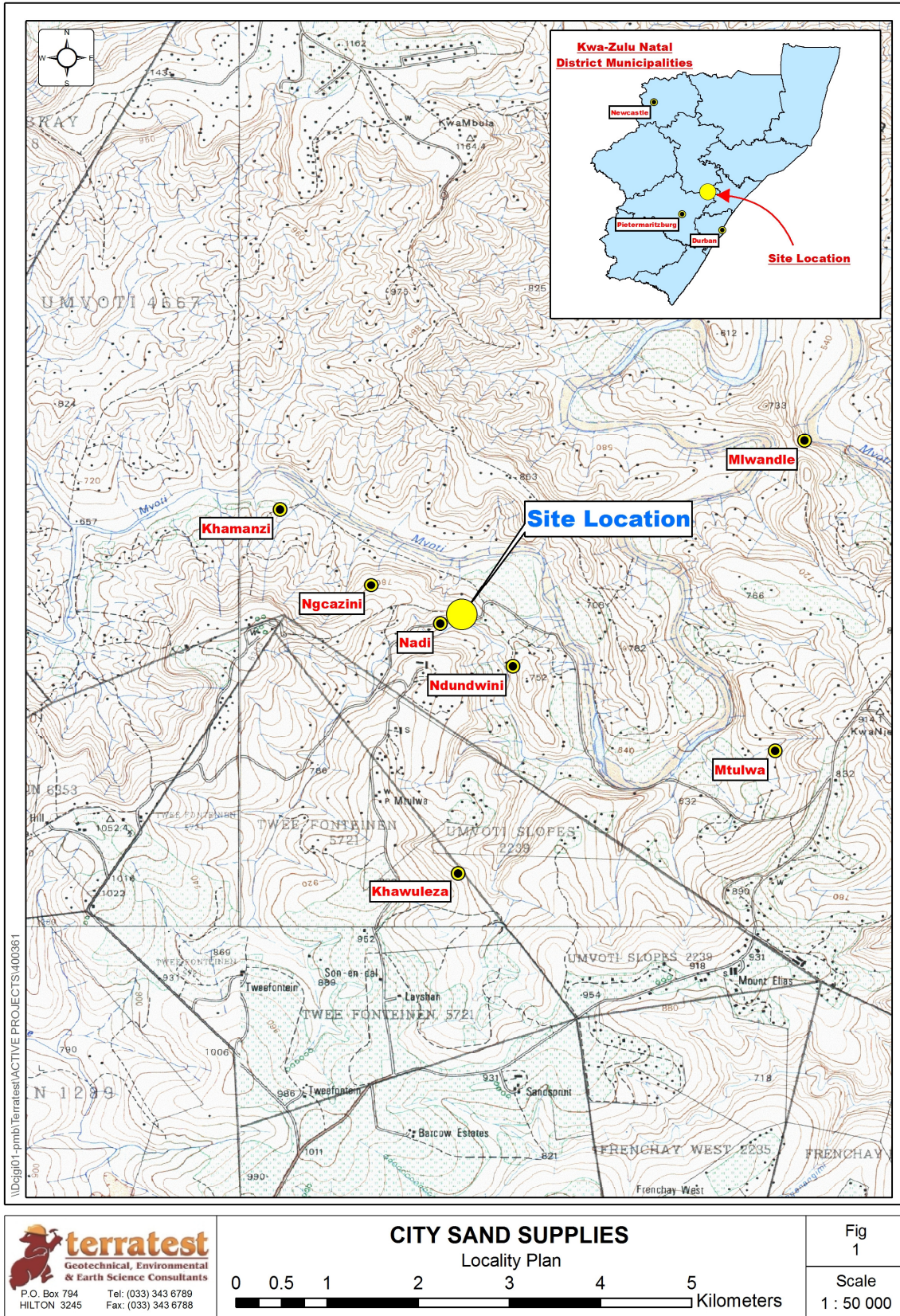


FIGURE 1: PROPOSED LOCATION OF FAWN LEAS BORROW SITE

According to Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife dataset, the vegetation surrounding the site, classified as KwaZulu-Natal Coast Hinterland Thornveld, and the critical biodiversity of the area is considered of low significance.

3. PROPOSED PROJECT

3.1 Fawn Leas Borrow Site

City Sand Suppliers has applied for a mining permit for the borrowing of weathered sandstone.

The project involves the construction and operation of a finished product blending and bagging facility.

The operation of a site borrow pit for the sourcing of weathered sandstone. The mining will be done in stages.

The establishment, operation, and closure of the site will require:

- Clearing and grubbing of the vegetative matter;
- Collection and stockpiling of topsoil;
- Collection and stockpiling of overburden; (if any);
- Excavation of the weathered sandstone using an excavator and if necessary temporarily stockpiling;
- Loading the excavated material into a truck for transport to site. Loading will be done using a payload.
- The use of a container as a stores; and
- The provision of a potable chemical toilet.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

In terms of the Regulation 983 of the National Environmental Management Act, Act 107 of 1998 (NEMA) Regulations, published in November 2014, requiring a Basic Assessment (BA) Process will be applicable to the proposed construction:

GNR 983 December 2014 (21)

“Any activity including the operation of that activity which requires a mining permit in terms of section 27 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002, including associated infrastructure, structures and earthworks directly related to the extraction 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)”

The operation of a site a borrow pit for the sourcing of weathered sandstone.

As such, a BA Process is required before any construction may commence. The aim of the BA Process is to obtain Environmental Authorisation from the Competent Authority, the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (EDTEA), which is a legally binding document, giving permission for the Applicant to undertake the proposed activities under certain conditions of establishment.

4.1 Public Participation Process

Chapter 6 of the EIA Regulations outlines the Public Participation Process (PPP) required to inform Interested and Affected Parties (IAPs) of the Application for Environmental Authorisation. This process is implemented in order to ensure that all IAPs are afforded a fair opportunity to be notified of the proposed project, and to submit comments and concerns to the EAP, such that they can be captured in, considered and attended to, during the BA Process. The PPP requirements include:

- a) Fixing a notice board at a place conspicuous to the public, on the boundary of the property proposed for development;
- b) Giving notice to the owners and occupiers of the property proposed for development, as well as adjacent landowners, the municipal councillor, local municipality and any other organ of state having jurisdiction in respect of the activity. The notice should direct the recipient to additional information.
- c) Placing an advertisement in one local paper;
- d) Using reasonable alternatives, such as Public Meetings (should it be required), to ensure inclusion of those IAPs desiring but unable to participate due to illiteracy, disability or any other disadvantages.

Based on the above methods of project notification, all potential IAPs should be afforded ample opportunity to register with the EAP, contact details as per Appendix 1, and engage with the BA Process going forward.

5. INVITATION TO REGISTER IN THE BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS

All IAPs are invited to register in the BA Process and be kept informed of progress, as and when, developments occur. In this regard, please provide the EAP with your contact details, including name, surname, contact telephone and fax number, email address and reason for interest in the BA Process, as is provided in the attached IAP Registration Form (Appendix 1).

6. INVITATION TO COMMENT ON THE DRAFT BA REPORT

Upon assessment of the proposed Fawn Leas Borrow Site, the EAP will compile a Draft BA Report, which will contain detailed information on the bridge design, the surrounding environment (including the biological, social, economic and cultural environments), and possible impacts as a result of construction and mitigation measures that can be adopted to lessen these impacts, if any.

The Draft BA Report will then be circulated for comment to all identified Key Stakeholders such as the Department of Water Affairs, Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, Amafa Heritage and the Local and District Municipalities. Furthermore, all registered IAPs will be notified of the availability of the Draft BA for their review and comment, via email, telephone, post or fax.

In order to register as an IAP in the BA Process, please complete the attached IAP Registration Form (Appendix 1) and return to Terratest.

APPENDIX 1: IAP REGISTRATION FORM

PROPOSED MINING OF WEATHERED SANDSTONE, FAWN LEAS IN KWAZULU-NATAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT		 terratest Geotechnical, Environmental & Earth Science Consultants	
COMPLETE AND RETURN TO THE DESIGNATED EAP:		Mrs Tarin Strydom Terratest (Pty) Ltd PO Box 794, Hilton, 3245 Fax: (033) 343 6788 Email: strydomt@terratest.co.za	
NAME OF IAP:			
CONTACT NUMBER:			
FAX NUMBER:			
EMAIL ADDRESS:			
POSTAL ADDRESS:			
Reason for interest in the proposed project:			
.....			
.....			
.....			
.....			
.....			
.....			
OTHER IAPS THAT SHOULD BE CONTACTED WITH REGARDS TO THIS PROJECT:			
Name:		Name:	
Contact Number:		Contact Number:	
Email Address:		Email Address:	