

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

Application:		Prepared by:	Prepared for:
Mining Permit for Coal on portion of portion 2 of the farm Couwenburg 300 IR		 Singo Consulting (Pty) Ltd	NGWANALEHUMO (PTY) LTD
Magisterial District:	Victor Khanye		

INTRODUCTION AND THE PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

Singo Consulting (Pty) Ltd has been appointed as an independent Environmental Consultant by **Ngwanalehumo (Pty) Ltd** 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 **on portion of portion 2 of the farm Couwenburg 300 IR**, within the Magisterial District of Victor Khanye in Mpumalanga Province with **DMRE Ref: MP 30/5/1/3/2/13425 MP**.

The Purpose of this Background Information Document (BID) is to provide a perfunctory description of the project and outline EIA processes through the compilation of a Basic Assessment Report & Environmental Management Plan report (BAR & EMPr) 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 the compilation of a 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, Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, Department of Water and Sanitation, landowners, and other interested stakeholders.

This BID, therefore, requests and invites I&APs to comment on the environmental, physical, social and economic impacts associated with the proposed prospecting 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 Mazithi Mangcu** through the given means of communication also attached on page 5.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Mining Permit Application has been submitted for the extraction of **Coal** resource on the property mentioned above. This proposed mining permit area, as seen in figure 1 and 2 below is situated approximately 17.05 km southeast of Delmas and approximately 9.37 km north of Devon. It is situated on the R548.

REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

Therefore, EIA process, through the compilation of a 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 to be conducted is to mine for Coal therefore, 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 the 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.

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 established, the overburden and mineral resources where necessary will be loosened by blasting with nonconventional explosives. 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 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.

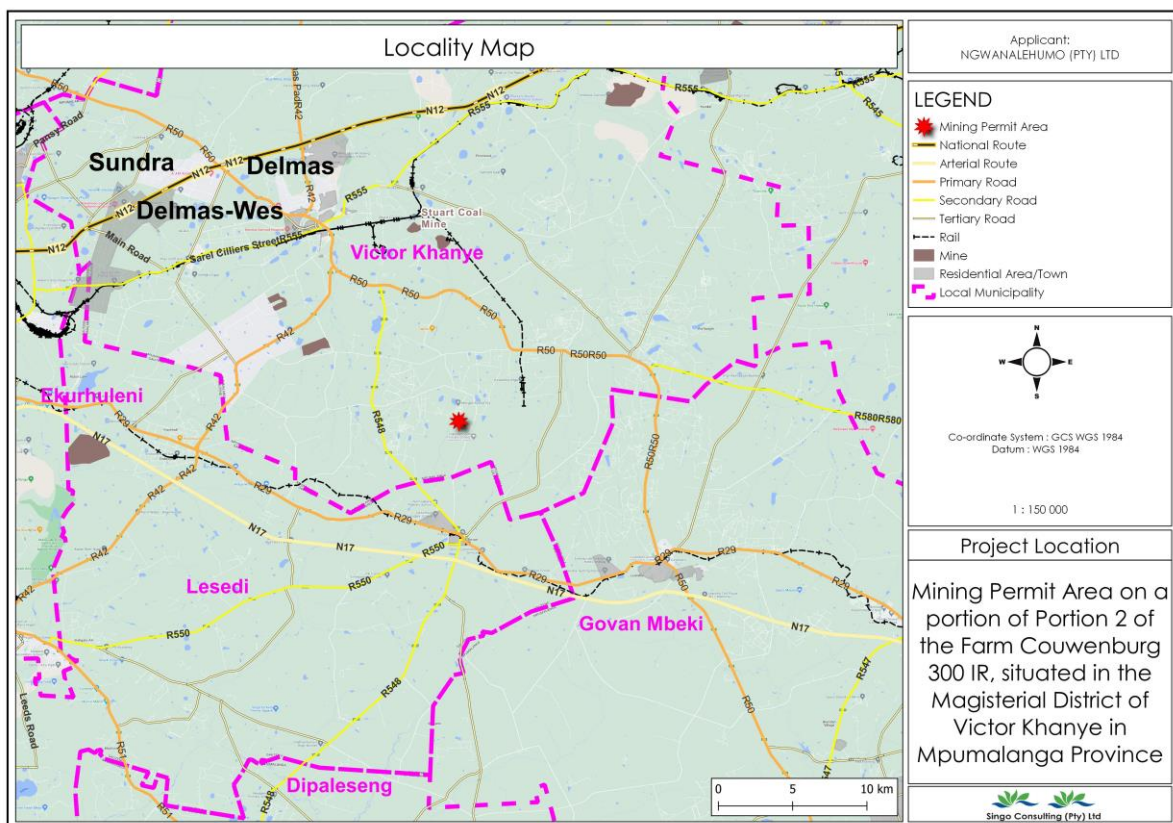


Figure 1: Locality map of the proposed project

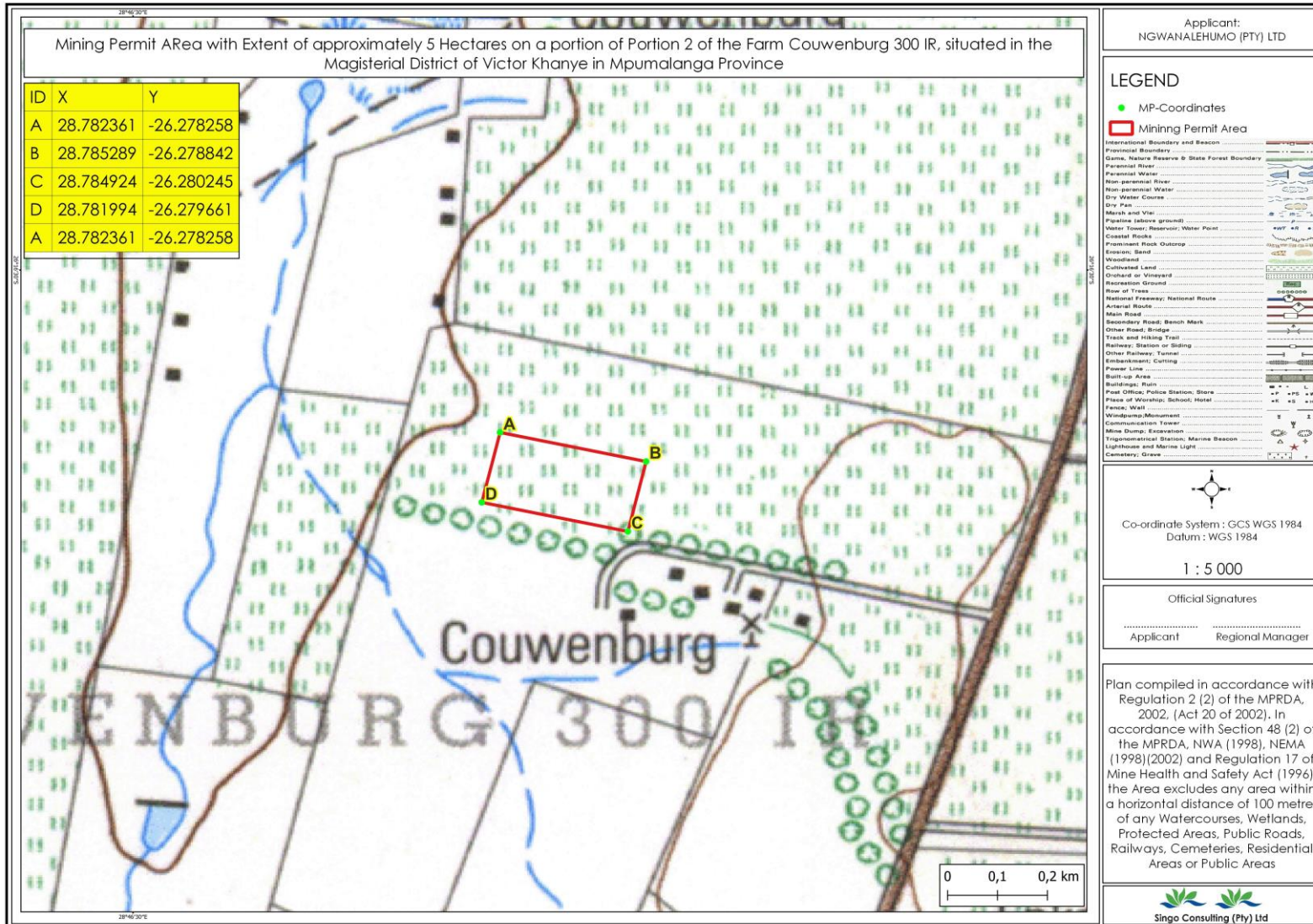


Figure 2: REG 2.2 Map of the proposed project area (A-26.278258,28.782361)

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 Prospecting Right 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. The key objectives of the Public Participation Process (PPP) during the EIA Process are to afford I&APs an opportunity to understand the proposed project and to provide valuable contributions during the planning 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.

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 keep the following dates:

- ❖ Stakeholder engagement and consultation: **On-going throughout the process of compiling the BAR & EMPr.**
- ❖ Review of Draft Basic Assessment Report (BAR) and Environmental Management Programme report (EMPr): **Wednesday the 1st of November 2023 –Thursday the 30th of November 2023.**
- ❖ The BAR & EMPr will be **available at Delmas public library (-26.1502,28.6832) and Victor Khanye Local Municipality (Corner Van Der Walt Street and Samuel Road Delmas 2210).**
- ❖ Furthermore, electronic copies will be made available (via email; Google drive; We Transfer, etc.) upon request from Singo Consulting (Pty) Ltd, using the contact details of the Candidate Environmental Assessment Practitioner (Cand. EAP) Ms Mazithi Mangcu below. **Comments on the DBAR & EMPr must be submitted no later than 30th of November 2023.**



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REGISTRATION & COMMENT SHEET

**Mining Permit for Coal on portion of portion 2 of the Farm Couwenburg 300 IR,
 situated in the Magisterial District of Victor Khanye (DMRE Ref: MP 30/5/1/3/2/13425
 MP)**

Attention: **Ms Mazithi Mangcu** Email: mazithi@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.	

