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ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNICIAN:



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INTRODUCTION AND THE PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

Singo Consulting (Pty) Ltd has been appointed as an independent Environmental Consultant by **Elispec Mining (Pty) Ltd** for the purpose of Prospecting for **Coal** on all portions of the Farm **Berg-en dal 378 JT** situated under the Magisterial District of **eMakhazeni**, Mpumalanga Province, (**DMRE Ref.: MP 30/5/1/1/2/17337 PR**).

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 Stakeholders, 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 in the form of Basic Assessment Report and Environmental Management Programme report (BAR & EMPr), both negative and positive will be submitted and made available to the relevant departments such as the Department of Mineral Resources & Energy and 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 the Environmental Technician (Envir. Tech.) using the details provided on the left of this page.

PROJECT LOCATION

The prospecting area, as seen in Figure 1 and Figure 3 below, is situated approximately 5 km South-East of Belfast, about 15.51 km South of Emakhazeni and approximately 13.59 km South-West of Machadodorp.

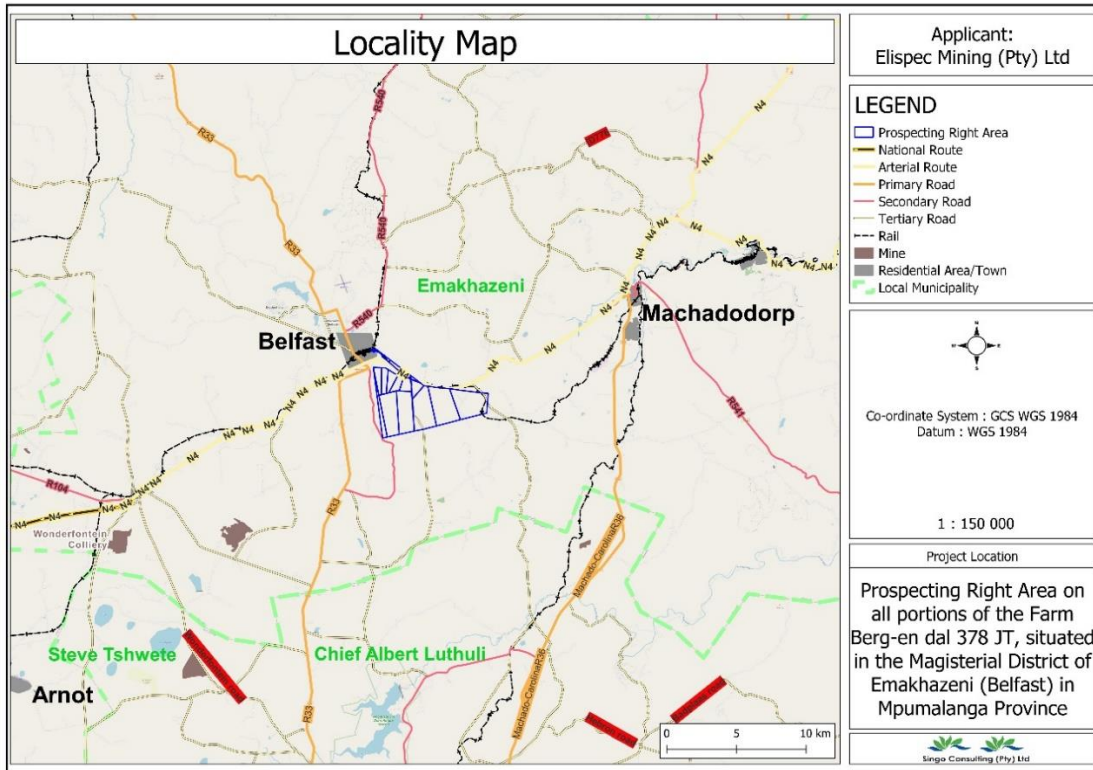


Figure 1: Locality map of the area.

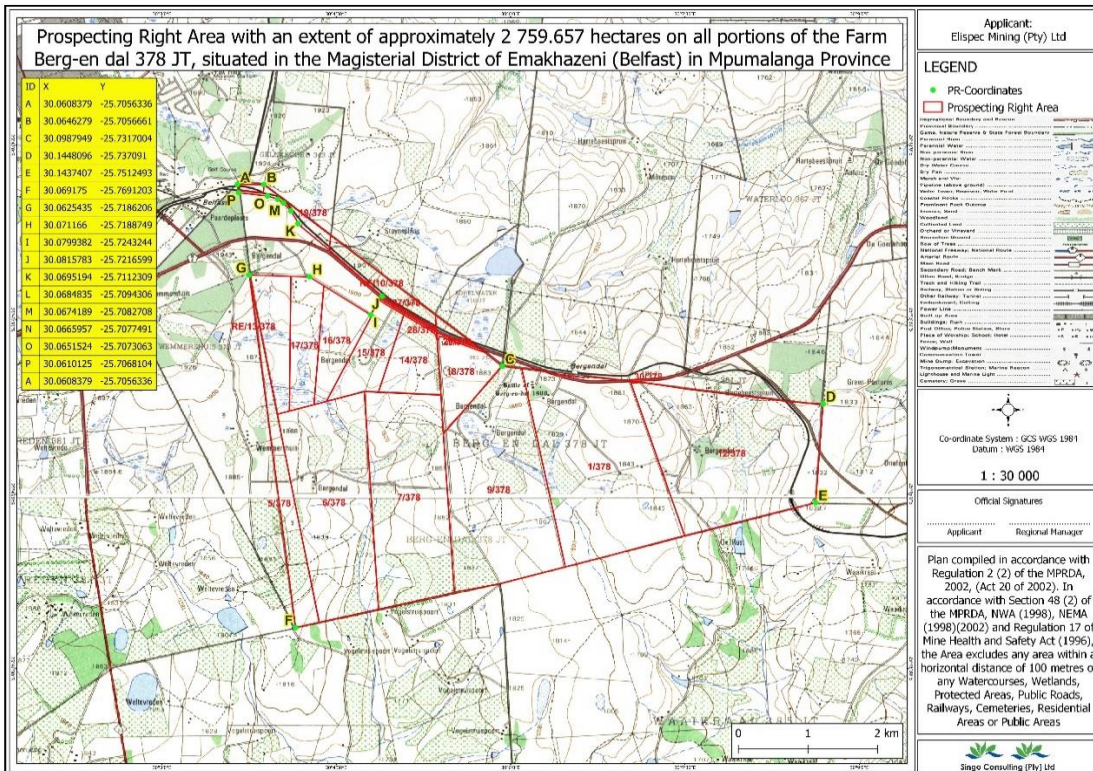


Figure 2: Reg. 2.2 map of the area.

Type of Activity to be undertaken

Prospecting activities will be undertaken over a period of five (5) years and are designed in phases, each phase is conditional on the success of the previous phase. Both invasive and non-invasive methods will be implemented. Invasive are those activities which have footprint or cause harm (if not mitigated or managed properly) or those that have a physical impact on the environment, while non-invasive do not cause any harm or effects on the environment.

Non-invasive: Desktop study of the area has commenced, and this incorporates desktop geographical and geological mapping. This will be followed by detailed geochemical and geotechnical surveys. In turn, this is followed by detailed geophysical studies.

Invasive: A detailed drilling, sampling, assaying and mineralogical study will be carried out. Diamond drilling method will be utilised to prospect for Coal deposits. To ensure or minimise impacts on the receiving environment, All the activities will be guided by the project's BAR & EMPr.



Photo 1: Typical examples of activities to be undertaken

REGULATORY FRAMEWORK & PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

The EIA process 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 prospect the existence and occurrence of the above-mentioned mineral therefore, this will be conducted in accordance with 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 Dust Control Regulations (GN 827:2013) and National Air Quality Standards (GN 1210: 2009).

These all will accurately be 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. 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 to the relevant stakeholders about the potential impacts, 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.

The key objective of PPP is to afford the I&APs with an opportunity to comment and provide valuable inputs during the planning phase of the project. For this specific proposed project, I&APs will be given a period of 30 days to comment and raise issues/concerns with regards to this BID.

As part of the EIA process, more especially the PPP for this proposed project, Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are invited to register and kindly submit any comments or concerns to reach **Ms. Boitumelo Moholola** using the contact details provided below. The public is also invited to review and comment on the Draft Basic Assessment Report and Environmental Management Programme (BAR & EMPr)

Kindly keep the following dates:

- ❖ Announcement of the application: **23rd of September 2022-Ongoing**
- ❖ Stakeholder engagement and consultation: **23rd of September 2022– Ongoing**
- ❖ Review of Draft BAR & EMPr: **24th of October 2022 – 22nd of November 2022**

The Draft BAR & EMPr will be available at **eMakhazeni Public Library** (-25.692577, 30.035323) as well as **eMakhazeni Local Municipality** (1086 Scheeper St, Belfast, 1100) and a soft copy upon request from **Singo Consulting (Pty) Ltd**, using the Envir. Tech.'s contact details above.

Comments on the Draft BAR & EMPr should be submitted to Ms. Boitumelo Moholola by no later than the **22nd of November 2022**.



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REGISTRATION & COMMENT SHEET-(DMRE REF: MP 30/5/1/1/2/17337 PR).

Attention: **Boitumelo Moholola**

Email: boitumelo@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:		
Please feel free to attach a separate document		
Please add any person you think may be interested and affected parties:		
Full name	Company	
Address		
E-mail	Contact No.	