

APPLICANT:

VERNEX HOLDINGS (Pty) Ltd

Physical address: 4695 Monyai
Street, Ackerville, Witbank
Mpumalanga
1039

Contact person: Mr. William Sindane

Tel: +27 63 342 6983

Email: wlmprojects2@gmail.com

DMRE Ref: MP 30/5/1/1/3/13020 MP

CONSULTANT:



Singo Consulting (Pty) Ltd

P/Bag X7297, Postnet Suite 87,
Witbank, 1035
Office 870
05 Balalaika St
Tasbet Part Ext 2
Witbank
1040

Environmental Technician: Zwivhuya
Tshabuse

Tel: +27 13 6920 041

Cell: +27 67 904 7475

Email: admin@singoconsulting.co.za
zwivhuya@singoconsulting.co.za



INTRODUCTION AND THE PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

Singo Consulting (Pty) Ltd has been appointed as an independent Environmental Consultant by **Vernex Holdings (Pty) Ltd** to conduct Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) through Basic Assessment, compile a Basic Assessment Report and an Environmental Management Programme report (BAR & EMPr) and undertake Public Participation Process (PPP). This is done for processes of acquiring Environmental Authorization for the proposed Mining Permit Application within **portion of the Remaining Extent of the Farm Klipspruit 138 HT**, under the **Magisterial District of Mkhondo (Wakkerstroom), Mpumalanga Province (DMRE Ref: MP 30/5/1/1/3/13020 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, 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 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 Zwivhuya Tshabuse** through given means of communication also attached there.

Notice is hereby given in terms of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act (MPRDA) (Act 28 of 2002) and EIA regulations 2014, published under Government Notice No. 982 in Gazette No. 3822 of 8 December 2014, amended on 7 April 2017, that **Vernex Holdings (Pty) Ltd** has an intention to mine coal on the aforementioned portion.

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

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 1 and figure 2 is situated approximately 23,67 km West of Piet Retief along R543 towards Dirkiesdorp, which is located approximately 17.75 km south west of the project area.

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 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 ore 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.

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 existence and occurrence of the applied 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 Air Quality Standards (GN 1210: 2009) and National Dust Control Regulations (GN 827: 2013).

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.

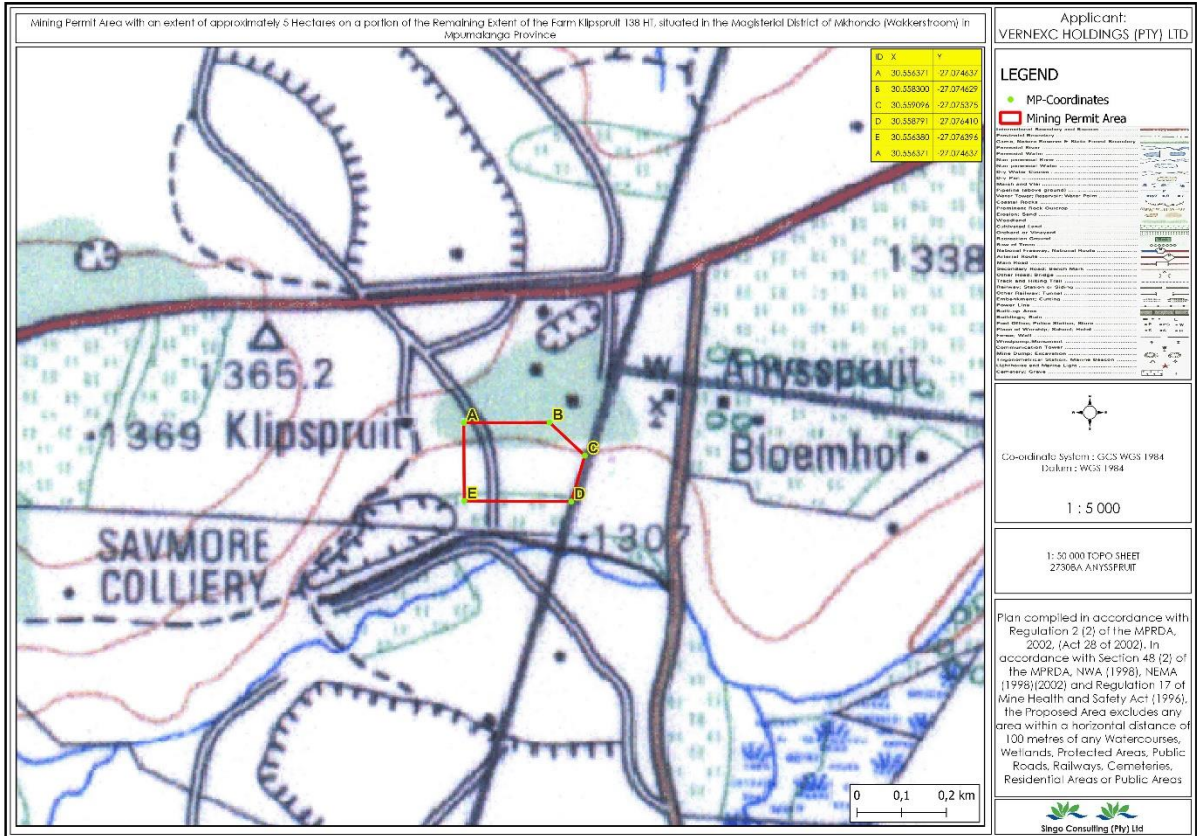


Figure 1: Regulation 2.2 map A (-27.074637, 30.556371)

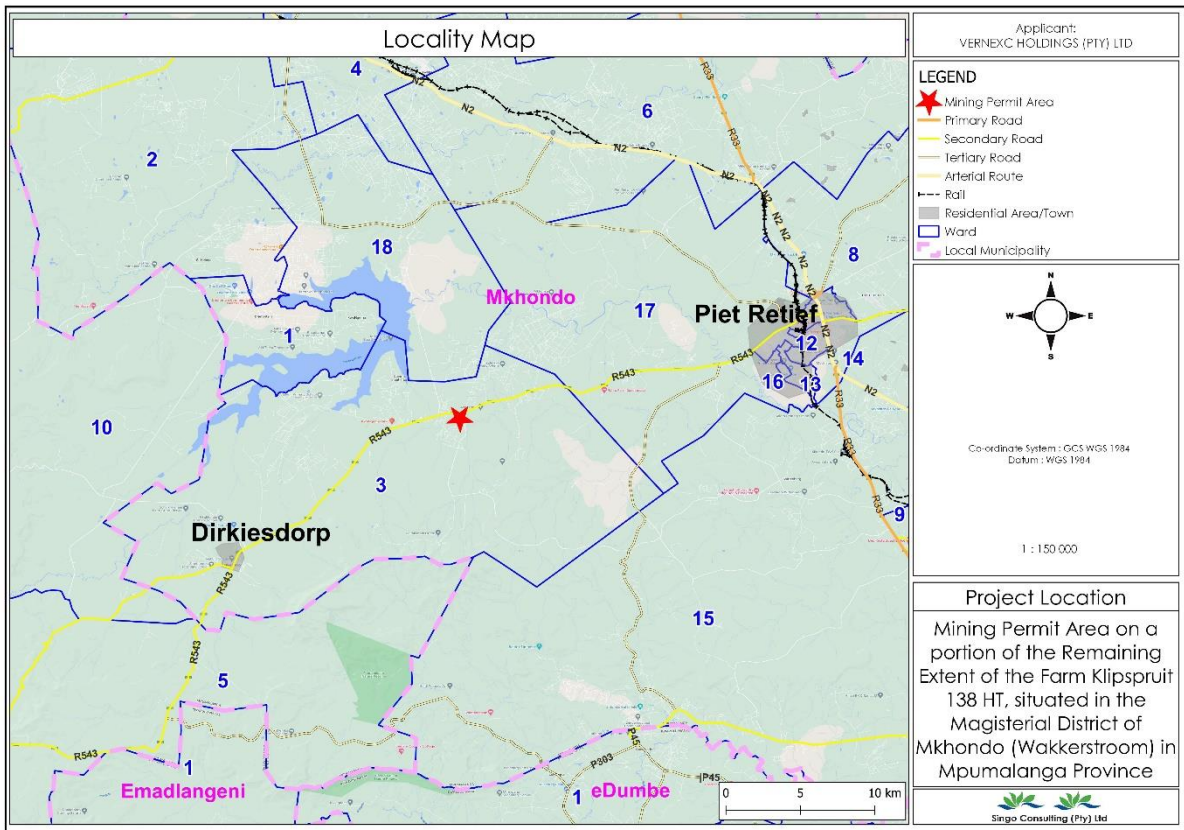


Figure 2: Locality Map

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 in order 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. 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:

- Announcement of the project: **14th October 2022- ongoing through the BAR & EMPr period**
- Review period of the draft BAR & EMPr: **13th November- 12th December 2022**

The BAR & EMPr will be available at **Mkhondo public library** and a soft copy (via emails; Dropbox link; Google drive; WeTransfer, etc.) upon request from Singo Consulting (Pty) Ltd using the contact details of the Environmental Technician below.



Singo Consulting (Pty) Ltd

Address: Office 870, 5 Balalaika Street,
Tasbet Park Ext 2, Witbank
1040

Tel: +27 13 692 0041

Cell: +27 67 904 7475

Email: [zwivhuya@singoconsulting.co.za/](mailto:zwivhuya@singoconsulting.co.za)

admin@singoconsulting.co.za

REGISTRATION & COMMENT SHEET-(MINING PERMIT REF MP 30/5/1/1/3/13020 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"/>
		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.	