

Applicant: Mrs. Gertruida Johanna Burden P.O.Box 271 Springbok 8240 Tel: 072 310 2776 Fax: 027 752 5966 pnboumark@nashuaisp.co.za

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

Dear Sirs/Madam

16 December 2016

RE: NOTICE OF APPLICATION IN TERMS OF SECTION 27 OF THE MINERALS AND PETROLEUM RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT, 2002 (ACT NO 28 OF 2002) AND THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998 (ACT 107 OF 1998 NEMA) AS WELL AS THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS OF 2014

Gertruida Johanna Burden ("the Applicant") intends applying for a mining permit to mine 4.9 ha on a portion of portion 1 of the farm Biesjesfontein 218, Springbok, Northern Cape Province.

SITE DESCRIPTION

Portion 1 of the farm Biesjesfontein 218, Springbok, Northern Cape Province is situated approximately 10 km from Springbok. The site below being the area earmarked for the proposed mining falls on a section of the farm previously used for aggregate mining purposes. The GPS coordinates of the proposed mining site is the following:

DD (S)	DD (E)	DMS (S)	DMS (E)
29.757908°S	17.878461°E	29°45'28.469"S	17°52'42.46"E
29.757136°S;	17.88018°E	29°45'25.69"S	17°52'48.648"E
29.754852°S;	17.879569°E	29°45'17.467"S	17°52'46.448"E
29.756017°S;	17.877626°E	29°45'21.661"S	17°52'39.454"E
29.757908°S;	17.878461°E	29°45'28.469"S	17°52'42.46"E

the goal isn't to live forever, it is to protect a planet that will

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LEGAL COMPLIANCE

An application for a mining permit in terms of Section 27 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No 28 of 2002) will be submitted to the Department of Mineral Resources.

The proposed project triggers the following listed activities in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations as amended 2014 and therefore requires a full environmental impact assessment to be carried out in order to obtain environmental authorisation:

GNR 983 Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations Listing Notice 1 of 2014 Activity 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).

- <u>GNR 983 Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations Listing Notice 1 of 2014 Activity 22:</u> The decommissioning of any activity requiring a closure certificate in terms of section 43 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No 28 of 2002).
- <u>GNR 983 Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations Listing Notice 1 of 2014 Activity 26:</u> Commercial developments of 1000m² or more, on land previously used for mining or heavy industrial purposes.
- <u>GNR 983 Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations Listing Notice 1 of 2014 Activity 27:</u> The clearance of an area of 1 hectare or more, but less than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation.
- <u>GNR 983 Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations Listing Notice 1 of 2014 Activity 28:</u> Commercial and industrial developments where such land was used for agriculture or afforestation on or after 01 April 1998 and where such development (ii) will occur outside an urban area, where the total land to be developed is bigger than 1 hectare.
- <u>GNR 983 Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations Listing Notice 1 of 2014 Activity 35:</u> The expansion of residential, retail, recreational, tourism, commercial or institutional developments on land previously used for mining or heavy industrial purposes, where the increased development footprint will exceed 1000 square meters;
- <u>Government Notice (GN) No. 984 Listing No. 2 Activities 21:</u> Any activity including the operation of that activity associated with the primary processing of a mineral resource including winning, reduction, extraction, classifying, concentrating, crushing, screening and washing but excluding the smelting, beneficiation, refining, calcining or gasification of the mineral resource in which case activity 6 in this Notice applies.
- Other legislation triggered by the proposed project:

An application for a Mining Permit in terms of Section 27 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No 28 of 2002) has been submitted to the Department of Mineral Resources.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The applicant intends mining the proposed area for granite by blasting using explosives in order to loosen the hard rock. The material will be loaded and hauled to the mobile crushing, screening and washing plants. The granite will be then be stockpiled whereafter it will be transported to clients using trucks and trailers via the existing access road linking the farm to the N7. All activities will be contained within the boundaries of the site.

The proposed mining area is approximately 4.9ha and the applicant intends winning granite from the area for minimum of two years with a possibility of a three year extension. The granite to be removed from the mining area will be supplied to the construction industry within the area situated between Aggeneys and Garies. The proposed mining project will contribute to the upgrading/maintenance of road infrastructure and/or the construction industry in and around the aforesaid area.

The mining activities will consist of the following:

- Site establishment
- Upgrading of the existing access road which will entail tarring of the road
- Stripping and stockpiling of topsoil
- Blasting
- Excavating
- Crushing
- Screening
- Nashing
- Stockpiling of mined material
- Loading and transportation of mineral to clients
- Sloping and landscaping upon closure of the site
- Replacing the topsoil and vegetating the disturbed area.

The mining site will contain the following:

- Solution States States
- Excavating equipment
- Earth moving equipment
- Crushing and screening infrastructure
- Site vehicles
- Parking area for site vehicles and visitors
- Temporary vehicle service area

- Site storage containers
- Bunded diesel and oil storage facilities
- Generator on bunded area
- Chemical Ablution facilities
- Weighbridge
- General and hazardous waste area
- Explosives store.

Dust:

- Speed on the access road will be limited to 40km/h to prevent the generation of excess dust.
- Roads will be sprayed with water or an environmentally friendly dust-allaying agent that contains no PCB's (e.g. DAS products) if dust is generated above acceptable limits.

Noise:

- The site will ensure that employees and staff conduct themselves in an acceptable manner while on site.
- All mining vehicles will be equipped with silencers and maintained in a road worthy condition in terms of the Road Transport Act.

Access Route:

- The existing farm road to the area from the N7 will be used to provide the applicant with access to the site.
- The existing access road will be upgraded by tarring of the road.
- Haul roads will be extended into the mining area as mining progresses.

Surface and ground water:

- The proposed activities are not expected to have a negative impact on any surface and ground water of the area.
- The proposed activities will not be conducted within 100m of any watercourse.

Vegetation:

- The site earmarked for the proposed mining activity has previously been used for aggregate mining purposes.
- Level to slightly undulating sedimentary surfaces between rocky granitic hills and mountains, such as wide plains and broad valleys with dry channels of intermittent water courses. Sparse dwarf shrubs with

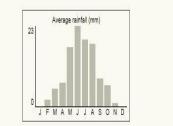
succulent or ericoid leaves dominate these shrublands. Geophytes and ephemeral herbs in places also low, spreading, leaf-succulents show spectacular flower displays in wet years.

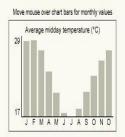
Geology & Soils

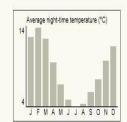
- Underlain by granite-gneisses and metasediments of Mokolian age, affected by the Namaqualand Metamorphic Event.
- Supporting relatively deep, yellow-brown, fine to coarse loamy sand derived through weathering of the granite rocks.
- Ag and Ae land types make up almost 80% of the area followed by Fc land type accounting for a further 15%.

Climate:

Springbok normally receives about 106mm of rain per year and because it receives most of its rainfall during winter it has a Mediterranean climate. The chart below (lower left) shows the average rainfall values for Springbok per month. It receives the lowest rainfall (mm) in January and the highest (23mm) in June. The monthly distribution of average daily maximum temperatures (centre chart below) shows that the average midday temperatures for Springbok range from 16.5°C in July to 28.3°C in February. The region is the coldest during July when the mercury drops to 3.8°C on average during the night. Consult the chart below (lower right) for an indication of the monthly variation of average minimum daily temperatures.







Sensitive Landscapes:

No sensitive landscapes occur on site.

Sites of Archaeological and Cultural Interest:

No sites of archaeological or cultural importance were identified during the site inspection as the site has been extensively used for mining purposes.

Fauna:

- No fauna were observed on site however any potential fauna will not impacted by the proposed mining activity as they will be able to move away or through the site, without being harmed.
- The extent of habitat loss resulting from the development would be low and there do not appear to be any significant impacts which would propagate beyond the immediate vicinity of the site.
- The potential impact on fauna can be mitigated by the removal of fauna such as snakes or fauna threatened by maintenance or operational activities to a safe location alternatively the fauna will move off on their own, maintaining fences around the work area to ensure that larger fauna do not enter the site, and proper handling of all litter and rubbish and ensure storage thereof in closed bins to ensure that it does not attract fauna.
- Workers should be educated and managed to ensure that no fauna at the site is harmed.

Visual Exposure:

- The preferred site was identified to constitute the lowest possible visual impact on the surrounding environment.
- The preferred site is an extension of an area that has previously been disturbed by mining activities, and this application entails the mechanical winning of granite from the area.
- The mining area will consist of excavation machinery, crushing, screening and washing infrastructure and hauling trucks.
- The applicant should however ensure that housekeeping is managed to standard as this will mitigate the visual impacts during the operational phase of the mine.
- Upon closure the site will be rehabilitated and sloped to ensure that the visual impact on the aesthetic value of the area is kept to a minimum.
- The site will have a neat appearance and be kept in good condition at all times.

Ablution, Waste Water & Waste Disposal:

- Ablution facilities will consist of chemical toilets hired from a contractor and serviced regularly.
- Any effluents containing oil, grease or other industrial substances will be collected in a suitable receptacle and removed from the site, either for resale or for appropriate disposal at a recognised facility.
- Spills will be cleaned up immediately to the satisfaction of the Regional Manager by removing the spillage together with the polluted soil and by disposing of it at a recognised facility.
- Non-biodegradable refuse such as glass bottles, plastic bags, metal scrap, etc., will be stored in a container at a collecting point and collected on a regular basis and disposed of at a recognised landfill site.
- Biodegradable refuse generated will be handled as indicated above.

No waste will be burned or buried on site.

Final Rehabilitation:

- Rehabilitation of the surface area shall entail landscaping, levelling, top dressing, land preparation, seeding (if required), and weed / alien clearing.
- All infrastructure, equipment, and other items used during the mining period will be removed from the site (Section 44 of the MPRDA).
- Waste material of any description, including receptacles, scrap, rubble and tyres, will be removed from the mining area and disposed of at a recognized landfill facility. It will not be permitted to be buried or burned on the site.
- Weed / Alien clearing will be done in a sporadic manner during the life of the mining activities. Species regarded as Category 1 weeds according to CARA (Conservation of Agricultural Recourses Act, 1983 Act 43; Regulations 15 & 16 (as amended in March 2001)) need to be eradicated from the site upon final closure.
- Final rehabilitation shall be completed within a period specified by the Regional Manager.

The applicant will make use of temporary infrastructure during the mining operations. Workers will be transported to and from the site daily.

Public Involvement

This document is to inform you about the proposed activity and to determine whether there are any concerns or objections from interested and affected parties (I&AP's) that need to be considered.

As an interested and affected party you are kindly requested to complete the comments form and provide any comment/concern or input with regard to the current land use of the area, the environment as well as socioeconomic conditions that you feel might be affected by the proposed activity. When submitting your comments kindly provide suggestions to mitigate the anticipated impact of each identified activity.

Please contact Jemma Bowles (contact details appear on the first page of this letter) or by email, jemma.b@greenmined.co.za on or before 6 February 2017 should you require further information, or have concerns or comments that need to be considered or if you want to be registered as an interested and/or affected party and receive additional information. If we do not receive any comments from you on or before 6 February 2017, it will be accepted that you do not have any objections/comments with regard to the project and do not require any further documentation.

A register of interested and affected parties (I&AP's) will be opened and maintained containing the names, contact details and addresses of all persons who have submitted written comments, attended meetings or have in writing requested to be registered and all organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the activity. Please note that only registered I&AP's and stakeholders will be entitled to comment on reports and plans to be submitted to the Department provided that the party provides its name, contact details and address and discloses any direct business, financial, personal or other interest which he/she may have in the approval or refusal of the applications.

The Draft Scoping Report (DSR) will be submitted to the Department of Mineral Resources (DMR) – Springbok Northern Cape for review purposes. This report will also be made available to the public for a 30 days review period. An electronic copy of the report will be published on the Greenmined Environmental website (<u>www.greenmined.com</u>). All registered I&AP's and stakeholders will be notified of the commenting period in advance as above.

The DSR will then be updated to reflect the comments received during the public commenting period. Thereafter, the Final Scoping Report (FSR) will be submitted to the DMR for its consideration as part of the authorization process in terms of the NEMA 2014 regulations. A copy of the final report will be made available on the Greenmined Environmental website. Once the Final Scoping Report has been accepted by the DMR, the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (DEIAR) will be prepared and also made available to the public for a 30 day commenting period. An electronic copy of the DEIAR report will also be published on the Greenmined Environmental website. All registered I&AP's and stakeholders will be notified of the commenting period in advance.

Upon expiry of the commenting period the DEIAR will be updated to reflect the comments received during the public commenting period. Thereafter, the Final EIAR will be submitted to the DMR for its consideration as part of the authorization process in terms of the NEMA 2014 regulations. A copy of the final report will be made available on the Greenmined Environmental website. All registered I&AP's and stakeholders will be notified in writing within 14 days of the date of the decision of the outcome of the application, including the reasons for the decision and the right of appeal.

CONTACT DETAILS:

Name/Name	
Organisation/Instansie	
Interest/Belange	
Postal Address/Pos	
Adres	
Tel	
Fax/Faks	
E-mail/E-pos	

COMMENTS/ OPMERKINGS:

No Objection:	
Request additional information:	
Concerns:	

Signature:

Are there any other organisations or individuals that you feel should be invited to comment? If so, please provide their contact details:

Contact name:
Organisation (if applicable):
Address:
Tel:
Fax
E-mail

Your feedback is valued and will be addressed appropriately.

Kind Regards

Jemma Bowles Greenmined Environmental