

UMCEBO MINING (PTY) LTD.

PUBLIC NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION AND A WATER USE LICENSE - WATER PIPELINE FOR THE WONDERFONTEIN MINE (MDEDET REF: 17/2/3 GS-238; SMS REF: KOR-WON-12-10-03)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

Notice is hereby given that an application for environmental authorisation in terms of the EIA Regulations of 2010 (Regulations in terms of Chapter 5 of the National Environmental Management Act of 1998, as amended) has been lodged with the Mpumalanga Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (MDEDET). A Water Use License application will also be submitted to the Department of Water Affairs in terms of Chapter 4 of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998).

1 Project Name

Water Pipeline for the Wonderfontein Mine.

2 Legislation

In accordance with the regulations published in R. 544 and R.546 of 18 June 2010, in terms of section 24(2) and 24D of the National Environment Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), the applicant is required to carry out a Basic Environmental Assessment (BA) for the following activities:

Application for Environmental Authorisation submitted to the Mpumalanga Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism

Listing notice 1, R.544 of 18 June 2010, Activity No. 11:

The construction of:

- (i) canals;
- (ii) channels;
- (iii) bridges;
- (iv) dams;
- (v) weirs;
- (vi) bulk storm water outlet structures;
- (vii) marinas;
- (viii) jetties exceeding 50 square metres in size;
- (ix) slipways exceeding 50 square metres in size;
- (x) buildings exceeding 50 square metres in size; or
- (xi) infrastructure or structures covering 50 square metres or more

where such construction occurs within a watercourse or within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse, excluding where such construction will occur behind the development setback line.

Listing notice 3, R.546 of 18 June 2010, Activity No. 16:

The construction of:

- (i) jetties exceeding 10 square metres in size;
- (ii) slipways exceeding 10 square metres in size;
- (iii) buildings with a footprint exceeding 10 square metres in size; or
- (iv) infrastructure covering 10 square metres or more

where such construction occurs within a watercourse or within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse, excluding where such construction will occur behind the development setback line.

(a) In Eastern Cape, Free State, KwaZulu-Natal, Limpopo, Mpumalanga and Northern Cape:

- i. In an estuary;
- ii. Outside urban areas, in:
 - (aa) A protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA, excluding conservancies;
 - (bb) National Protected Area Expansion Strategy Focus areas;
 - (cc) World Heritage Sites;
 - (dd) Sensitive areas as identified in an environmental management framework as contemplated in chapter 5 of the Act and as adopted by the competent authority;
 - (ee) Sites or areas identified in terms of an International Convention;
 - (ff) Critical biodiversity areas or ecosystem service areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans;

- (gg) Core areas in biosphere reserves;
 - (hh) Areas within 10 kilometres from national parks or world heritage sites or 5 kilometres from any other protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA or from the core area of a biosphere reserve;
 - (ii) Areas seawards of the development setback line or within 1 kilometre from the high-water mark of the sea if no such development setback line is determined.
- iii. In urban areas:
- (aa) Areas zoned for use as public open space;
 - (bb) Areas designated for conservation use in Spatial Development Frameworks adopted by the competent authority, zoned for a conservation purpose; or
 - (cc) Areas seawards of the development setback line.

Application for a Water Use License to be submitted to the Department of Water Affairs

Application will be made to the Department of Water Affairs for an Integrated Water Use License for the following water uses:

Section 21 (c): Impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse; and

Section 21 (i): Altering the bed, banks, course or characteristics of a watercourse.

3 Applicant

Umcebo Mining (Pty) Ltd

4 Location

The project site is road P15-1 (between Wonderfontein and Carolina) (Road servitude) in the Mpumalanga Province. GPS coordinates for the pipeline are as follows:

Alternative 1 - Start point: 25°57'8.199"S 29°57'12.472"E. Middle: 25°56'18.654"S 29°56'28.873"E; 25°56'2.139"S 29°56'28.873"E; and 25°52'54.529"S 29°54'53.746"E. End point: 25°52'30.747"S 29°54'24.019"E.

Alternative 2 – Start point: 25°57'8.199"S 29°57'12.472"E. Middle: 25°56'18.654"S 29°56'28.873"E; 25°56'2.139"S 29°56'28.873"E; 25°53'26.238"S 29°55'32.722"E; 25°52'47.262"S 29°55'15.546"E; and 25°52' 54.529"S 29°54'53.746"E. End point: 25°52'30.747"S 29°54'24.019"E.



Figure 1: Google earth image of route Alternatives (Red – Alternative 1; Blue – Alternative 2)

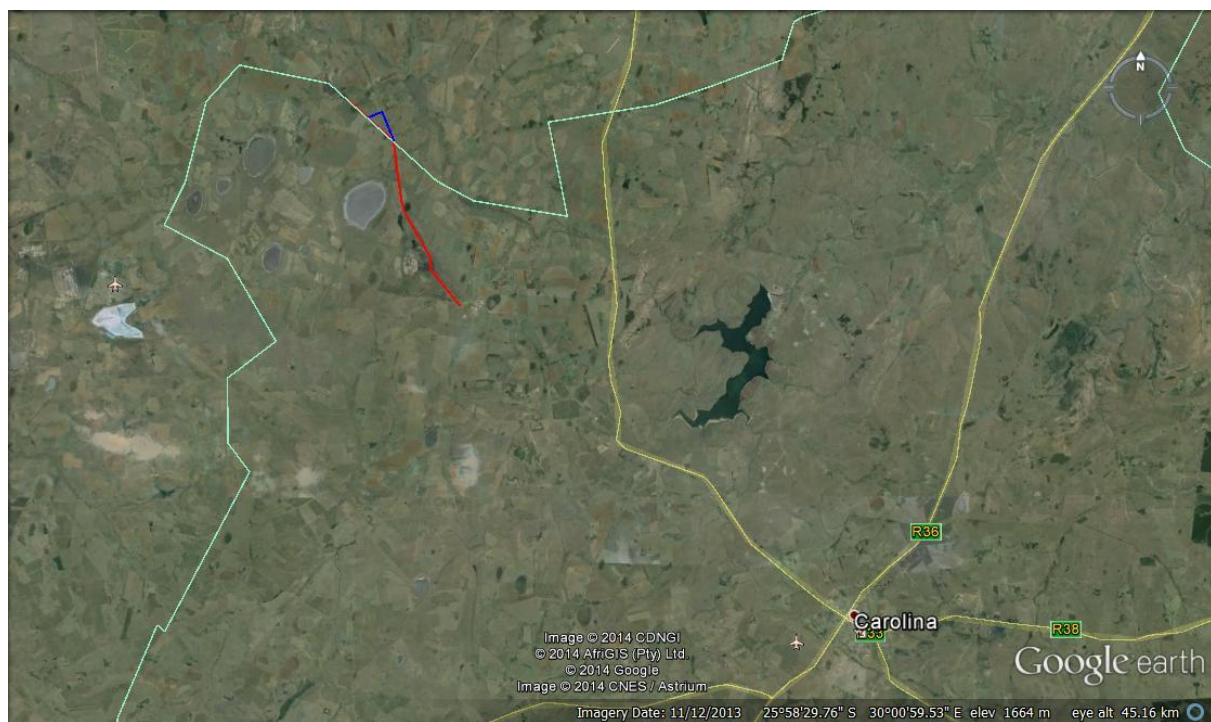


Figure 2: Google earth image of the areas surrounding the pipeline route

5 Environmental Consultants

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6 Project Coordinator

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7 Official – EIA Application in terms of NEMA, 1998

Mpumalanga Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism

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8 Activity Description

Umcebo Mining (Pty) Ltd wishes to construct a 200-300mm diameter pipeline in order to supply water to the Wonderfontein Mine. The pipeline will be approximately 16km long and will be situated within 32 meters of the edge of a watercourse. The pipeline will also be situated within 10km of the Nooitgedacht Dam Nature Reserve and falls within a Critical Biodiversity Area in terms of the Mpumalanga Biodiversity Conservation Plan.

9 Public Participation Process

Public participation is an integral part of the Basic Environmental Impact Assessment and Water Use Licensing processes, and will include the following components:

First part of the Public Participation:

The primary purpose of this phase is to give potential interested and affected parties (I&APs) an opportunity to register as an interested or affected party.

Comment on the Basic Assessment Report:

The draft Basic Assessment Report will be made available to registered I&APs to provide them with an opportunity to comment, in writing, on this document before it is submitted to the competent authority.

All comments received will be included in a comments and responses report compiled by the Environmental Assessment Practitioner. This report will describe the issue raised, the date it was raised and by whom, and how the issue will be, or has been dealt with.

The comments that are received on the draft Basic Assessment Report are included in the final Basic Assessment Report prior to submission to the Mpumalanga Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (MDEDET) together with the draft Environmental Management Programme.

Invitation to Participate

Should you require any further information or wish to register as I&AP and/or inform us of any other I&APs and/or organisation and/or organ of state who should be notified, please contact Lizette Crous before the closure date on **2 July 2014**.