

# BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

**Application for Prospecting Right: Jaments (Pty) Ltd** has received an Acceptance Letter, (**DMRE Ref: MP 30/5//1/1/2/16437 PR**) for the purpose of prospecting of **Coal** on **portions 3,7,10,11,16,17,18 and 20** of the Farm **Bekkerspruit 423 IS**, situated in Govan Mbeki Local Municipality under Gert Sibande District Municipality, Mpumalanga Province



## INTRODUCTION

**Singo Consulting (Pty) Ltd** has been appointed as an independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) by **Jaments (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 Prospecting Right Application of **Coal** on **portions 3,7,10,11,16,17,18 and 20** the Farm **Bekkerspruit 423 IS**, situated in Govan Mbeki local Municipality under Gert Sibande District Municipality, Mpumalanga Province. **DMRE REF: MP 30/5/1/1/2/16437 PR.**

## PURPOSE OF THE DOCUMENT

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 (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, Environmental Affairs, Water and Sanitation, Landowners and other interested stakeholders.

This Background Information Document therefore requests and invite I&APs to comment on the environmental, physical,

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 Vhumatshelo Phosa** using the contacts details provided.

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Prospecting Right Application has been accepted for **Coal** on the above-mentioned property.

This Prospecting Area with reference to Figure 1 below is located Approximately 37.74 km Southwest of Ermelo and 39.78 km North- West of Secunda.

Prospecting activities will be undertaken over a period of five (5) years and are designed in phases, each phase conditional on the success of the previous phase. Both invasive and non-invasive methods will be implemented. 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 and later, a detailed drilling, sampling, assaying and mineralogical study. Diamond methods and/or Percussion drilling will be utilised for the prospecting of the minerals sought for. To ensure or minimise impacts on the receiving environment, All the activities will be guided by the project's EMPr.

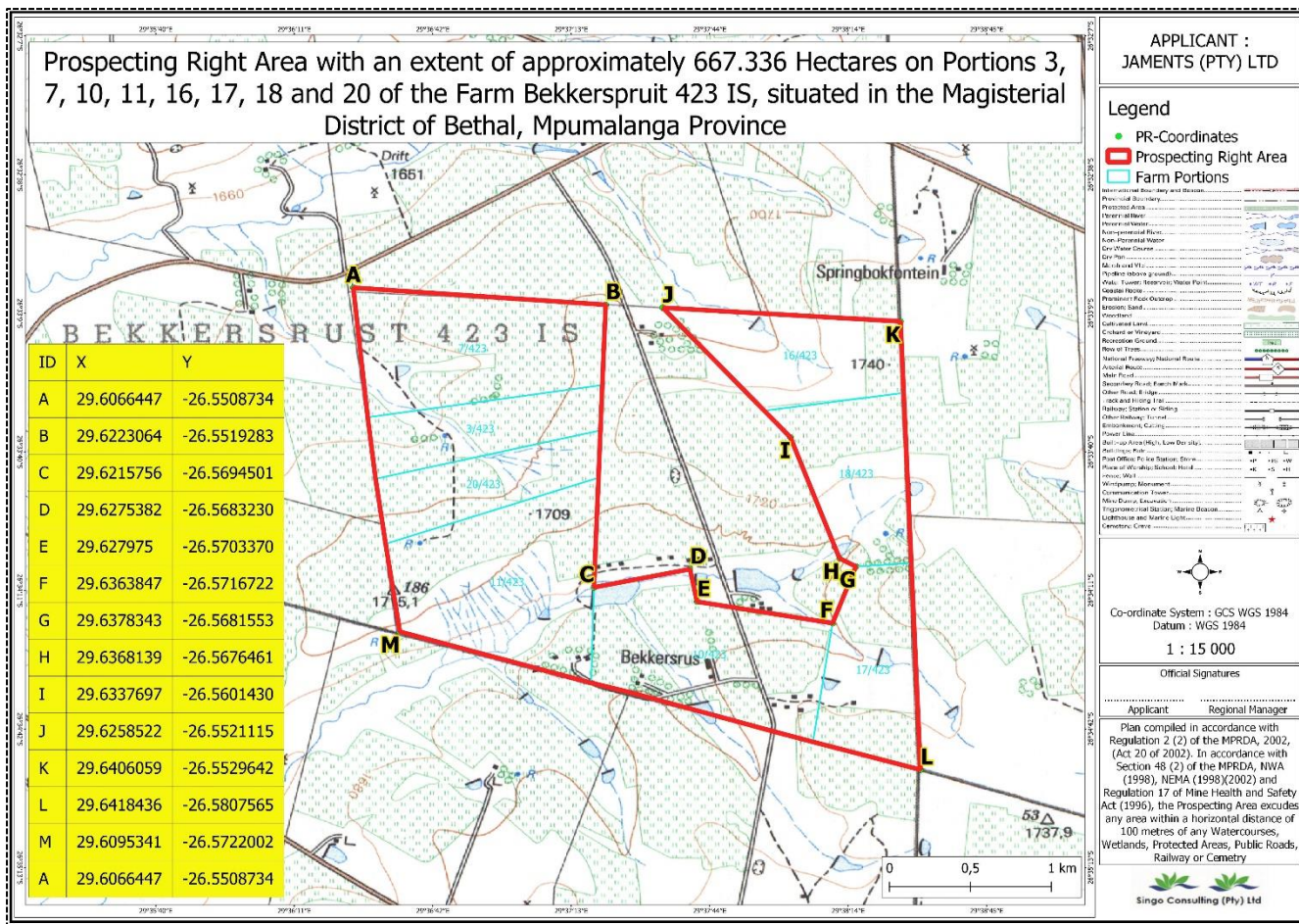


Figure 1: Regulation 2(2) Map of the Proposed Project Area.

## REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

The following relevant legislation will be followed for this project: Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002, (Act 28 of 2002) (MPRDA), National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998), EIA regulation, as amended (April 2017), National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998), National Air Quality Standards (GN 1210:2009) and National Dust Control regulations (GN 275:2017). In terms of the MPRDA, it is required to consult with Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs). Comments received from I&APs will be recorded and included in the EMPr for the project which will be submitted to the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE). The EMPr will be compiled and implemented to ensure that potential impacts of the proposed prospecting activities are mitigated and managed. According to the MPRDA, the EMPr needs to include the following activities but is not limited to:

- ❖ Describing the environment that is likely to be affected by the proposed prospecting; and identifying potential impacts.
- ❖ Assessing the significance of the potential impacts of the proposed project on the environment, socio economic conditions and cultural heritage; and evaluating the proposed mitigation measures to minimize negative impacts.

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 PROCESS

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 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 (BAR & EMPr) 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.

Kindly keep the following dates:

- ❖ Announcement of the Prospecting Right Application: **August 2021**
- ❖ Stakeholder engagement and consultation:
- ❖ **Monday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of August 2021 – Wednesday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September**
- ❖ Review of draft Basic Assessment Report (BAR) and Environmental Management Programme report (EMPr): **23<sup>rd</sup> of September 2021 to 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2021**
- ❖ Submission of the Final BAR & EMPr: **Monday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of November 2021**

The Draft BAR & EMPr will be available at **Bethal Public Library (2302, Secunda, South Africa)** and a soft copy upon request from Singo Consulting (Pty) Ltd using the detailed EAP's Contacts below via email, Dropbox link, google drive, We Transfer etc



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**REGISTRATION & COMMENT SHEET- (DMRE REF: MP 30/5/1/1/2/16437 PR).**

Attention: **Vhumatshelo Phosa**

Email: [vhumatshelo@singoconsulting.co.za](mailto:vhumatshelo@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"/>
<b>Please indicate why you would have an interest in the above-mentioned project.</b>		
<b>Please provide your comments and questions here:</b>		
<i>Please feel free to attach a separate document</i>		
<b>Please add any person you think may be interested and affected parties:</b>		
Full name	Company	
Address		
E-mail	Contact No.	