



## Postnet Faerie Glen

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**From:** Lourens [lourens@myezo.co.za]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2016 16:48  
**To:** Postnet Faerie Glen; Sicelo Jebe  
**Subject:** FW: Notification to Diamond Coast Abalone of Aquaculture Study  
**Attachments:** WKSCE-PI-EIA notif Ltr to DCA R5(13-SEP-16).doc

Communication with Gert Le Roux (DCA) on 14 September 2016

Kind Regards,

**Lourens van der Merwe**  
**Environmental Consultant**  
M +27 82 692 9707 | T +27 12 998 7642 | F + 27 12 998 7641  
E [lourens@myezo.co.za](mailto:lourens@myezo.co.za) | [www.myezo.co.za](http://www.myezo.co.za) |



**From:** Lourens  
**Sent:** 14 September 2016 09:42 AM  
**To:** 'glr@sun.ac.za' <glr@sun.ac.za>  
**Cc:** Babalwa Fatyi <Babalwa@myezo.co.za>; Tiisetso Koko <Tiisetso@myezo.co.za>  
**Subject:** Notification to Diamond Coast Abalone of Aquaculture Study

Dear Mr. Le Roux

Subsequent to the Aquaculture Study that was sent to you yesterday, please find attached the correct notification letter which is meant to be read in conjunction with this specialist report.

Kind Regards,

**Lourens van der Merwe**  
M +27 82 692 9707 | T +27 12 998 7642 | F + 27 12 998 7641  
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# MYEZO ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES

*Environmental Stewardship*

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Postnet Suite B165, Private Bag X18, Lynnwood  
Ridge, 0040, Pretoria, South Africa

645 Jacqueline Drive, Garstontein, 0081  
Pretoria, South Africa

44 Oxford Street  
Durbanville  
Western Cape  
0081

13 September 2016

**Attention:** Gert Le Roux

## **WEST COAST RESOURCES-KOINGNAAS AND SAMSONS BAK COMPLEXES-ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

**NOTIFICATION TO DIAMOND COAST ABALONE OF THE AQUACULTURE STUDY FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT  
ASSESSMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME REPORT, WHICH HAS BEEN COMPILED AS PART OF  
AN APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION, IN SUPPORT OF A MINING RIGHT HELD BY WEST COAST  
RESOURCES (PTY) LTD, OVER THE KOINGNAAS AND SAMSONS BAK COMPLEXES**

**Document Name: WKSCE-PI-Communication with Diamond Coast Abalone (DCA)**

**Date: 13 September 2016**

**Myezo Ref No: WKSCE/2015/02/NL**

**DMR Ref No: NC0043-MR/102 and NC0044-MR/102**

Dear Mr. Gert Le Roux

Subsequent to our meeting held on 23 May 2016, and your review of the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the aquaculture study, we hereby provide you with a copy of this specialist study that has since been conducted for the West Coast Resources (Pty) Ltd (WCR) project by Capricorn Marine Environmental (Pty) Ltd (CapMarine).

The study has been incorporated into the Environmental Impact Assessment report (EIAR) and will be made available to stakeholders for review by 20 September 2016.

Yours faithfully

PP: 

Babalwa Fatyi *Pr.Sci.Nat*  
**Director**

## Postnet Faerie Glen

---

**Subject:** FW: Notification to Diamond Coast Abalone of Aquaculture Study

**From:** Lourens  
**Sent:** 21 September 2016 08:49 AM  
**To:** 'glr@sun.ac.za' <glr@sun.ac.za>  
**Cc:** Babalwa Fatyi <Babalwa@myezo.co.za>; Tiisetso Koko <Tiisetso@myezo.co.za>  
**Subject:** RE: Notification to Diamond Coast Abalone of Aquaculture Study

Dear Mr. Le Roux

Subsequent to the e-mail that was sent to you on 13 September 2016, indicating that the Environmental Impact Assessment report (EIAR) will be made available to stakeholders for review on the 20 September, this e-mail serves as notification to inform you that we are experiencing some unforeseen circumstances. Said circumstances are, unfortunately, creating a delay in the delivery of the EIAR.

We are, however, positive that the report will be made available and sent to you by no later than Friday, 23 September 2016.

Kind Regards,

**Lourens van der Merwe**  
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**From:** Lourens  
**Sent:** 14 September 2016 09:42 AM  
**To:** 'glr@sun.ac.za' <[glr@sun.ac.za](mailto:glr@sun.ac.za)>  
**Cc:** Babalwa Fatyi <[Babalwa@myezo.co.za](mailto:Babalwa@myezo.co.za)>; Tiisetso Koko <[Tiisetso@myezo.co.za](mailto:Tiisetso@myezo.co.za)>  
**Subject:** Notification to Diamond Coast Abalone of Aquaculture Study

Dear Mr. Le Roux

Subsequent to the Aquaculture Study that was sent to you yesterday, please find attached the correct notification letter which is meant to be read in conjunction with this specialist report.

Kind Regards,

**Lourens van der Merwe**  
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**Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (Mr Jonker)**

## Postnet Faerie Glen

---

**Subject:** FW: Notification of communication document  
**Attachments:** WKSCE-PI-EIA r IAP notif Ltr Ver1 250916 Engl.pdf

**From:** Lourens  
**Sent:** 25 September 2016 07:09 PM  
**To:** 'tjonker@ncpg.gov.za' <tjonker@ncpg.gov.za>  
**Cc:** Babalwa Fatyi <Babalwa@myezo.co.za>  
**Subject:** RE: Notification of communication document

Good afternoon Mr Jonker

***WEST COAST RESOURCES-KOINGNAAS AND SAMSONS BAK COMPLEXES-ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT  
NOTIFICATION TO INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES ABOUT THE REVIEW PERIOD FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL  
IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME REPORT, WHICH HAS BEEN COMPILED AS  
PART OF AN APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION, IN SUPPORT OF A MINING RIGHT HELD BY WEST  
COAST RESOURCES (PTY) LTD, OVER THE KOINGNAAS AND SAMSONS BAK COMPLEXES***

***Document Name: WKSCE-PI-EIA report authorities notific Letter***

**Date: 25 September 2016**

***Myezo Ref No: WKSCE/2015/02/NL***

***DMR Ref No: NC0043-MR/102 and NC0044-MR/102***

Subsequent to the below e-mail and in reference to the mentioned document mentioned in that e-mail (WKSCE-PI-EIA notif Ltr to Mr Jonker 19092016) that was sent to you on 19 September 2016 via WeTransfer Big Files, this communication serves to notify you, for the above mentioned project, that the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Environmental Management Programme report (EMPr) is now available for review.

A copy of the EIA report can be viewed at:

1. Koingnaas Mine offices (30° 12' 38.64"S, 17° 16'25.34E);
2. Springbok Library (04 Namakwa Street, Springbok, Northern Cape, 8240); and
3. West Coast Resources head office at (405 Voortrekker Road, Parrow, 7500).

An electronic version of the EIA report, along with its indexes can be downloaded from the following link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/zzwp7szxxidin9z/WCR%20EIAr.rar?dl=0>

On receipt of the EIA report, please note that it is divided into four volumes:

- Volume 1- (Environmental Impact Assessment report and Environmental Management Programme report (Part A, Section 1 - Sub-Section iv);
- Volume 2- (Environmental Impact Assessment report and Environmental Management Programme report (Part A, Sub-Section v - Part B);
- Volume 3- (Public participation and supporting documentation (Appendices 1-h-6 including Appendix 2.19.1-2);
- Volume 4- Specialist investigations.

Kindly note that Volume 2, part B and Volume 4, Part 3 are, unfortunately, not currently attached to the report. It will be attached and sent as early in the week as possible.

The details regarding the commenting period time frames is indicated in the letter, which is attached in this email. For ease of reference the comments should be submitted by 29 October 2016 in writing and sent to the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) on the following details:

Attention: Ms. B. Fatyi  
Address: Postnet Suite B165, Private Bag X18, Lynnwood Ridge, 0040, Pretoria

Telephone: 012 998 7642  
Cell-phone no: 082 772 2418  
Email: [babalwa@myezo.co.za](mailto:babalwa@myezo.co.za)  
Fax to email: 086 543 1698

Yours faithfully

Kind Regards,

**Lourens van der Merwe**

**M +27 82 692 9707 | T +27 12 998 7642 | F + 27 12 998 7641**

**E [lourens@myezo.co.za](mailto:lourens@myezo.co.za) | [www.myezo.co.za](http://www.myezo.co.za) |**



**From:** Lourens

**Sent:** 19 September 2016 12:13 PM

**To:** 'tjonker@ncpg.gov.za' <[tjonker@ncpg.gov.za](mailto:tjonker@ncpg.gov.za)>

**Cc:** Babalwa Fatyi <[Babalwa@myezo.co.za](mailto:Babalwa@myezo.co.za)>

**Subject:** Notification of communication document

Good morning Mr Jonker

We are sending you this e-mail as a notification that is to precede a document we are going to send you. The said document will serve as communication with regards to notification to Interested and Affected Parties (IAPs) about the review period for an Environmental Impact Assessment and Environmental Management Programme report, which has been compiled as part of an application for environmental authorisation, in support of a mining right held by West Coast Resources (Pty) Ltd, over the Koingnaas and Samsons Bak complexes.

The document is in excess of 10mb in size and it is being sent via WeTransfer Big Files.

Please notify us when you have received the document in good order.

Kind Regards,

**Lourens van der Merwe**

**M +27 82 692 9707 | T +27 12 998 7642 | F + 27 12 998 7641**

**E [lourens@myezo.co.za](mailto:lourens@myezo.co.za) | [www.myezo.co.za](http://www.myezo.co.za) |**







25 September 2016

**Attention:** Interested and Affected Parties (IAPs)

**WEST COAST RESOURCES-KOINGNAAS AND SAMSONS BAK COMPLEXES-ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT  
ASSESSMENT**

**NOTIFICATION TO INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES ABOUT THE REVIEW PERIOD FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL  
IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME REPORT, WHICH HAS BEEN COMPILED AS  
PART OF AN APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION, IN SUPPORT OF A MINING RIGHT HELD BY WEST  
COAST RESOURCES (PTY) LTD, OVER THE KOINGNAAS AND SAMSONS BAK COMPLEXES**

*Document Name: WKSCE-PI-EIA report notific Letter*

**Date: 25 September 2016**

**Myezo Ref No: WKSCE/2015/02/NL**

**DMR Ref No: NC0043-MR/102 and NC0044-MR/102**

**Background**

This communique is presented, subsequent to a notice, which was given to interested and affected parties (IAPs), regarding the above mentioned project on 11 March, 2016. This said notice was given in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA): Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014 R982 (2014 EIA Regulations), Section 41 (2) (a) (b) (c) (d) (e) and (3) published in Government Notices No. R982, under Sections 24 (5) and 44 of NEMA. It was a notice informing the stakeholders of West Coast Resources' (WCR) intention to re-visit and mine certain areas of on the Namaqualand Coast. WCR are re-establishing diamond mining operations in the existing mining rights areas on the Namaqualand coast, previously mined by De Beers and under the existing mining rights of July 2012, i.e. Koingnaas Mining Right (522MRC) and Samsons Bak Mining Right (525MRC). As part of their operations, WCR intend to mine deposits that are located on land, as well as on the beach and extend seaward, potentially for several hundred meters.

WCR wants to continue with mining on the areas covered by these rights i.e. areas within the existing mining rights authorization, with immediate target being the Langklip and Koingnaas Complex. The immediate targeted areas, are those that will not trigger new listed activities in terms of NEMA.

**Application for environmental authorisation**

The notice mentioned above, also alerted the stakeholders that an application for environmental authorisation was submitted to the Department of Mineral Resources (DMR), in terms of NEMA and National environmental Management Waste Act (No. 59 of 2008) (NEM:WA), in respect of listed activities that have been triggered by applications lodged by WCR in terms of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act (No. 28 of 2002)(MPRDA). The applications that were submitted in terms of the MPRDA are an amendment of the mining right in terms of Section 102 of MPRDA.

Therefore, scoping and EIA report procedures are being applied to this application. As a reminder, a map showing the locality of the mining area, with respect to the proposed project, is included as Appendix 3 of the EIA report (See details below, regarding availability of the EIA report) and included as Attachment 1 of this letter. In addition, to provide a memory trail regarding this project journey, the EIA project milestones are outlined as Attachment 2 of this letter.

**Scoping Report and EIA report Review**

Myezo Environmental Management Services Pty Ltd (Myezo), has thus been appointed by WCR as an environmental assessment Practitioner (EAP), to undertake EIA for the activities that would require environmental authorization.

The project finished scoping stage, and a notice for the review of such scoping report was advertised on the Namakwalander Newspaper, on 04 April 2016. All comments on the scoping report or issues that had to be covered on the succeeding EIA stage were due for submission to the EAP by 18 April 2016.

Consequently, please be advised that this notice serves to invite registered IAPs to now participate in the EIA report review stage. A copy of the EIA report can be viewed at Koingnaas Mine offices (30° 12' 38.64"S, 17° 16' 25.34E), Springbok Library (04 Namakwa Street, Springbok, Northern Cape, 8240) and at West Coast Resources head office at (405 Voortrekker Road, Parrow, 7500).

To submit your comments on the EIA report, kindly contact Myezo using the details shown below. The submissions must all be done formally and in writing by either email or fax and should be submitted by 29 October 2016, which signifies the end of the commenting period. In the submissions of comments, the IAPs, must disclose any direct business, financial, personal or other interest which they have in the approval or refusal of the application.

**Contacts :Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP)**

Myezo Environmental Management Services (Pty) Ltd

Contact person: Ms Babalwa Fatyi

Tel: (012) 998 7642

Fax: 086 543 1698

Cell: (082) 7722 418 (Babalwa)

E-mail: [babalwa@myezo.co.za](mailto:babalwa@myezo.co.za)

Address: Postnet Suite B165, Private Bag X 18, Lynwood Ridge, 0040, Pretoria, South Africa

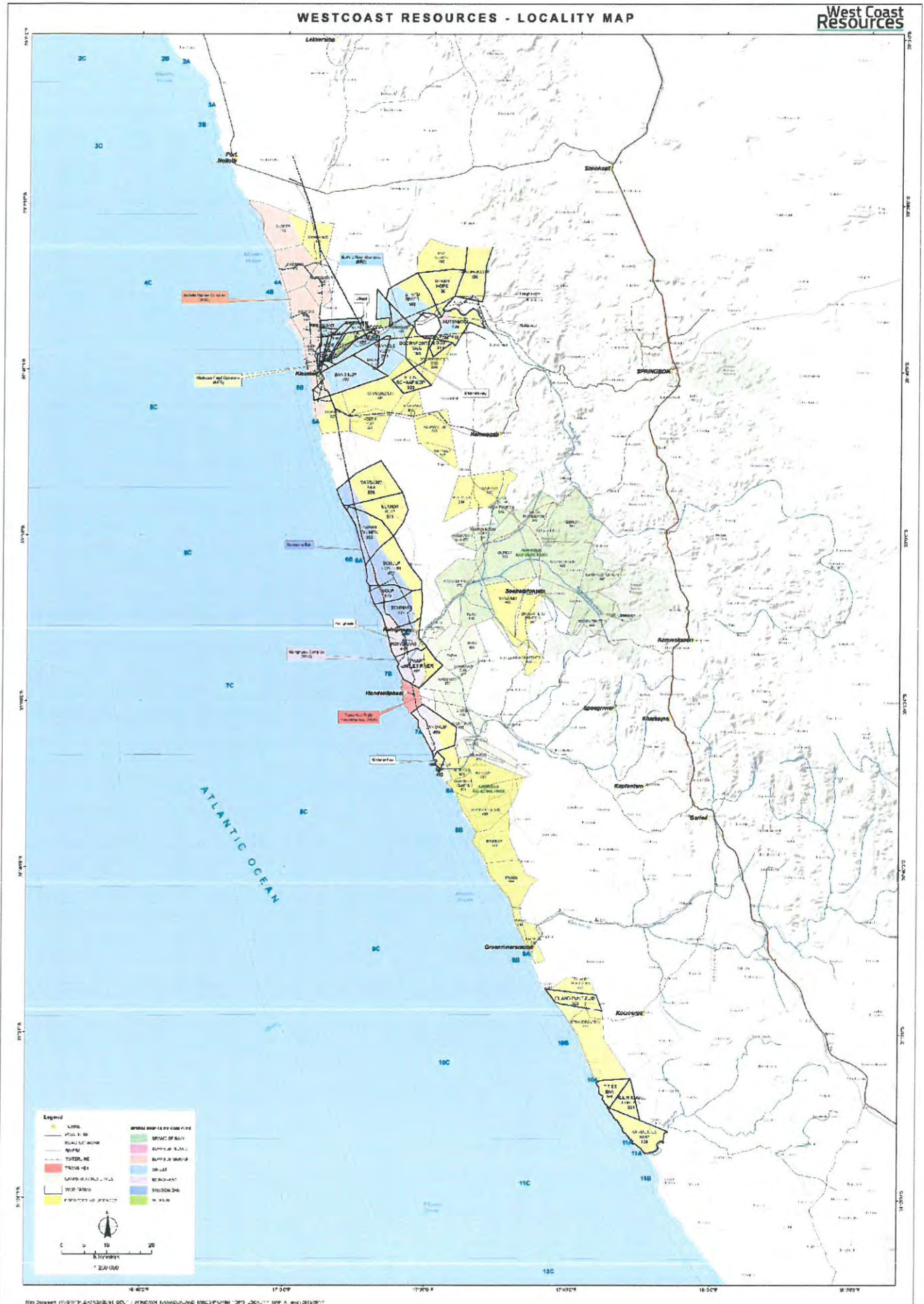
Furthermore, on receipt of the EIA report, please note that it is divided into four volumes:

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- Volume 2- (Environmental Impact Assessment report and Environmental Management Programme report (Part A, Sub-Section v - Part B);
- Volume 3- (Public participation and supporting documentation (Appendices 1-h-6 including Appendix 2.19.1-2);
- Volume 4- Specialist investigations

Yours faithfully

Babalwa Fatyi *Pr.Sci.Nat*  
**Director**

## Attachment 1: Locality Plan



## Attachment 2: Project Milestones



## Postnet Faerie Glen

---

**Subject:** FW: Thanks for using WeTransfer - file sent to tjonker@ncpg.gov.za (and 1 other)

**From:** Lourens [mailto:lourens@myezo.co.za]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2016 04:47 PM  
**To:** Postnet Faerie Glen; Sicelo Jebe  
**Subject:** FW: Thanks for using WeTransfer - file sent to tjonker@ncpg.gov.za (and 1 other)

Wetransfer notification of the below-standing document (As sent on 19 September) being delivered to Mr Jonker

Kind Regards,

**Lourens van der Merwe**  
**Environmental Consultant**  
M +27 82 692 9707 | T +27 12 998 7642 | F + 27 12 998 7641  
E [lourens@myezo.co.za](mailto:lourens@myezo.co.za) | [www.myezo.co.za](http://www.myezo.co.za) |



**From:** WeTransfer [mailto:noreply@wetransfer.com]  
**Sent:** 19 September 2016 12:23 PM  
**To:** Lourens <lourens@myezo.co.za>  
**Subject:** Thanks for using WeTransfer - file sent to tjonker@ncpg.gov.za (and 1 other)

### Files successfully sent to 2 recipients

'Good afternoon Mr Jonker

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Kind regards

Lourens van der Merwe  
Myezo Environmental Management Services'

As soon as a recipient has downloaded your file, you will receive a confirmation email.



**Recipients**

[tjonker@ncpg.gov.za](mailto:tjonker@ncpg.gov.za)  
[babalwa@myezo.co.za](mailto:babalwa@myezo.co.za)

**Files (10.8 MB total)**

WKSCE-PI-EIA notif Ltrr to Mr Jonker 19092016.pdf

**Will be deleted on**

26 September, 2016

**Download link**

<https://we.tl/o6KLmtpEBM>

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To make sure you can receive our emails, please add [noreply@wetransfer.com](mailto:noreply@wetransfer.com) to your [trusted contacts](#)



## Postnet Faerie Glen

---

**Subject:** FW: Notification of communication document

**From:** Lourens  
**Sent:** 19 September 2016 12:13 PM  
**To:** 'tjonker@ncpg.gov.za' <tjonker@ncpg.gov.za>  
**Cc:** Babalwa Fatyi <Babalwa@myezo.co.za>  
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The document is in excess of 10mb in size and it is being sent via WeTransfer Big Files.

Please notify us when you have received the document in good order.

Kind Regards,

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**E** [lourens@myezo.co.za](mailto:lourens@myezo.co.za) | [www.myezo.co.za](http://www.myezo.co.za) |



**Appendix h-7: Reply slip**



# MYEZO ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES

*Environmental Stewardship*

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Park Garsfontein, Pretoria, 0081

## WEST COAST RESOURCES-KOINGNAAS AND SAMSONS BAK COMPLEXES-ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

**REPLY SLIP FOR THE INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME REPORT (EMPR) UPDATE PROCESS FOR PROPOSED MINING ACTIVITIES, OVER THE EXISTING MINING RIGHT AREAS, UNDER THE KOINGNAAS RIGHT (522MRC) AND SAMSONS BAK RIGHT (525MRC), WITHIN THE ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT OF NAMAQUALAND, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE**

Document Name: WKSCE-PI-Reply Slip

Document Status: Rev. 1

Date: 11 March 2016

Myezo Ref. No: WKSCE 2015/03/RS  
DMR Ref No: NC0043-MR/102 and NC0044-MR/102

ATTENTION: Ms. BABALWA FATYI

TEL: 012 998 7642

FAX: 086 543 1698

Email: [babalwa@myezo.co.za](mailto:babalwa@myezo.co.za) and copy [athi@myezo.co.za](mailto:athi@myezo.co.za)

Name	Surname	Organisation and address (include postal and street address)	
Telephone	Fax	E-Mail	Cell

Record your concern, comment or suggestion about the EIA/EMP update process here *(you are welcome to add as many lines as you wish according to your points of submission):*

Any particular alternative you would rather choose and why:

Interest in the project (disclose any direct business, financial, personal or other interest which they have in the approval or refusal of the application).

Signature:

**Details of another person whom you think should be consulted**

Name and surname

Address

Tel and Fax



# MYEZO ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES

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Ridge, 0040, Pretoria, South Africa

645 Jacqueline Street, Unit 17 Garsfontein Office  
Park Garsfontein, Pretoria, 0081

## WEST COAST RESOURCES-KOINGNAAS EN SAMSONSBAKKOMPLEKSE-OMGEWINGSIMPAKSTUDIE

ANTWOORDSTROKIE OM DEEL TE NEEM AAN 'N BYWERKINGSPROSES VAN 'N OMGEWINGSIMPAKSTUDIE EN  
OMGEWINGSBESTUURSPROGRAMVERSLAG (OBPV) VIR BEOOGDE MYNAKTIVITEITE OOR DIE BESTAANDE  
MYNREGGEBIEDE INGEVOLGE DIE KOINGNAAS REG (522MRC) EN SAMSONS BAK REG (525MRC) IN DIE  
ADMINISTRATIEWE DISTRIK VAN NAMAKWALAND, NOORD-KAAP

Dokumentnaam: WKSCE-PI-Reply Slip

Dokumentstatus: Hers. 1

Datum: 11 Maart 2016

Myezo-verw. no.: WKSCE 2015/03/RS

DMR-verw. no.: NC0043-MR/102 en NC0044-MR/102

AANDAG: Me. BABALWA FATYI

TEL.: 012 998 7642

FAKS: 086 543 1698

E-pos: [babalwa@myezo.co.za](mailto:babalwa@myezo.co.za) en stuur ook (CC) aan [athi@myezo.co.za](mailto:athi@myezo.co.za)

Naam	Van	Organisasie en adres (sluit pos- en straatadres in)	
Telefoon	Faks	E-pos	Sel
Teken u bekommernis, kommentaar of voorstel oor die OIS/EBP-bywerkingsproses hier aan ( <i>u is welkom om soveel lyntjies as wat u wil by te voeg volgens u voorleggingspunte</i> ):			
Enige spesifieke alternatiewe wat u eerder sal kies, en waarom:			

Belang by die projek (maak enige direkte besigheids-, finansiële, persoonlike of ander belange bekend wat hulle het in die goedkeuring of afkeuring van die aansoek).

Handtekening:

Besonderhede van 'n ander persoon wat na u mening geraadpleeg moet word

Naam en van

Adres

Tel en faks

**Appendix 2.19.1: Socio-economic investigation and social and labour plan (Included as part of the EIAr (Section 10))**

**SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT  
FOR  
KOINGNAAS AND SAMSONS BAK COMPLEX  
DIAMOND MINING PROJECT  
NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE**

**SEPTEMBER 2016**

**Prepared for**

**MYEZO ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES**

**By**

**Tony Barbour**

---

**Tony Barbour**

**ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTING AND RESEARCH**

10 Firs Avenue, Claremont, South Africa

(Tel) 27-21-761 2355 - (Fax) 27-21-761 2355 - (Cell) 082 600 8266

(E-Mail) [tbarbour@telkomsa.net](mailto:tbarbour@telkomsa.net)

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

### **INTRODUCTION AND LOCATION**

West Coast Resources (Pty) Ltd (WCR) is a private company owned by Trans Hex Operations (Pty) Ltd (Trans Hex), RE:CM and Calible Limited (RAC), the Government of South Africa, Dinoka Investment Holdings (Pty) Ltd and the Namaqualand Diamond Trust Fund, a broad based community trust representing historically disadvantaged persons from the Namaqualand community. WCR has existing converted mining rights and prospecting rights over the area, including a number of properties situated approximately 50 kilometres west of Kamieskroon and extending north and south of Hondeklip Bay on the West Coast of the Northern Cape Province, South Africa.

Trans Hex has entered into an agreement with the other shareholders of WCR to oversee and manage the operations of WCR. WCR is re-establishing a diamond mining operations in the Koingnaas area on the Namaqualand coast, which was previously mined by De Beers and under the existing mining environmental authorisation of July 2012. As part of their operations, WCR intend to mine deposits that are located on land as well as specific deposits that extend seaward from the land for potentially for several hundred metres. The focus of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is on the mining relate activities that are proposed and the associated processing activities. Myezo Environmental Management Services were appointed by WCR to manage the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process.

Tony Barbour was appointed by Myezo Environmental Management Services to undertake a specialist Social Impact Assessment (SIA) as part of the EIA process.

### **SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS**

The key findings of the study are summarised under the following sections:

- Fit with policy and planning;
- Operational phase impacts;
- No-development option.

As indicated in Section 1, in the case of the proposed Koingnaas-Samsons Bak mining project there is no clear distinction between the construction and operational phase of the project. The project involves mining new areas associated with an already established mining area. The key activities associated with establishment (construction phase) of the mining operation, such as infrastructure, access roads, housing, processing plant etc. were undertaken by De Beers. The focus of the SIA is therefore on the operational and decommissioning phase.

### **POLICY AND PLANNING FIT**

For the purposes of the meeting the objectives of the SIA the following national, provincial and local level policy and planning documents were reviewed, namely:

#### ***National***

- Mining Charter (2010);
- New Growth Path Framework (2010);

### **Provincial**

- Northern Cape Provincial Growth and Development Strategy (2004-2014);
- Northern Cape Spatial Development Framework.

### **District and local**

- Namakwa District Municipality Integrated Development Plan (Review 2014/15);
- Hantam Local Municipality Integrated Development Plan (Review 2014/15).

Based on the findings of the review the development of mining is supported as key investment sector in the New Growth Plan, Northern Cape Provincial Growth and Development Strategy (NCPGDS) and the Northern Cape Spatial Development Framework (NCSDF). In terms of supporting development in the mining sector the PGDS identifies a number of strategic interventions, including:

- Promote the development of synergies between the mining and other economic activities;
- Promote the role mines play in terms of rural economic development;
- Promote further large-scale mining development;
- Support small-scale mining development;
- Enhancing logistics for minerals development;
- Develop opportunities for black business development in the minerals sector.

Support for investment and creation of opportunities for job creation and economic development are also highlighted as key objectives in the Integrated Development Plans prepared by the Nama Knoi and Kamiesberg Local Municipalities.

Based on the findings of the review the proposed Koingnaas-Samsons Bak mining project is supported at a national, provincial and local planning and policy level.

## **OPERATIONAL PHASE SOCIAL IMPACTS**

The key social issues associated with the operational phase include:

### **Potential positive impacts**

- Creation of employment opportunities;
- Creation of skills development and training opportunities;
- Creation of business opportunities;
- Creation of opportunities to revitalise Koingnaas and Kleinzee;
- Support for local community initiatives and developments.

### **Employment**

The current operations employ ~ 100 permanent staff, of which 93 (93%) are historically disadvantaged individuals (HDIs). In terms of employees from the local area, 93 (93%) of the total workforce comes from local towns in the area (Table 4.1). All of these workers are HDIs.

At full production the total workforce will number 250-300. As in the case of the current breakdown, more than 90% of this workforce will be HDIs. The proposed mining development will therefore create significant employment opportunities for HDIs. Although the employment opportunities will be limited to the life of mine, which is currently estimated to be between 10 and 15 years, this will represent a significant benefit and opportunity for the local economy in the KLM and NKLM.

The total annual wage bill associated with the current operations which employs ~ 100 staff is R 31 million (2016 rand values). The annual total wage bill associated with a workforce of between 250 and 300 will be in the region of R 90 million (2016 rand values). The total wage bill (excluding annual increases) over the 10 to 15 life of mine would therefore be in the region of R 900 million to R 1.35 billion (2016 rand values).

As indicated above, 93% of the current employees are HDIs and live in local towns in the study area. These figures are also likely to apply to the full production workforce of 250-300. A significant portion of the annual wage bill is and will be earned by HD members from the area and will be spent in local towns in the area. The injection of wage income over the 10 and 15 year life of mine (R 900 million to R 1.35 billion) will represent a significant socio-economic benefit and opportunity for the local economy and business in the KLM and NKLM.

### ***Training and skills development***

86 out of the current total of 100 current employees have undergone some form of training and skills development within the first 12 months of being employed. All of the recipients are HDIs. Similar on-going training and skills development opportunities will be provided for the additional workers employed when full production is achieved (250-300). As is currently the case, the majority of the beneficiaries will be HDIs from local communities in the NKLM and KLM. The proposed mining development will therefore create significant training and skills development opportunities for HDIs. Although these opportunities will be limited to the life of mine, which is currently estimated to be between 10 and 15 years, this will represent a significant benefit and opportunity for the workers and will increase their chances of finding alternative employment when the mining operations stop.

### ***Creation of business opportunities***

The creation of business opportunities will be linked to capital expenditure and procurement expenditure by WRC and wage spend by employees in the local economy.

WRCs capital expenditure associated with start-up activities amounts to ~ R 26 million (2016 rand values) for the first year of operations. The capital expenditure for the remaining 10 -15 years life of mine is estimated to be region of R 128 million (2016 rand values). This expenditure creates business opportunities for local companies involved in the mining sector.

In addition to capital expenditure WCR outsource a number of their operations to mining, service and security contractors etc. The total expenditure by WCR for period 2015/16 was therefore in the region of R 55 million (2016 rand values). This, like the annual wage bill, will increase when mining operations move into full production and will create opportunities for local businesses in the NKLM and KLM. WCRs are committed to the implementation of a preferential procurement plan as per the requirements set out in the Social Labour Plan (April 2015).

In addition to the business opportunities associated with the mining related expenditure a percentage of the annual wage bill (R90 million at full employment) will be spent in the towns where the workers live. As indicated above the total wage bill over the 10-15 life of mine will be in the region of R 900 million to R 1.34 billion. The local spend of a percentage of this wage income will represent a significant socio-economic benefit and opportunity for the local economy and business in the KLM and NKLM.

### ***Creation of opportunities to revitalise Koingnaas and Kleinzee***

Given the limited economic opportunities in the area the mining operations proposed by WRCs provide an opportunity to act as catalyst to revitalise the towns of Koingnaas and Kleinzee. In this regard the presence of WCRs employees in these towns will create demand for services, such as doctors, pharmacists, etc. and facilities, such as supermarkets, sports facilities and restaurants. Friends and family members of WCR employees will also visit the towns, thereby increasing the demand for services and facilities and also increasing the exposure of these towns to the public.

In the absence of the potential opportunities created by the proposed mining there is a very real risk that the towns of Koingnaas and Kleinzee would deteriorate and become dysfunctional, run-down towns. If this happens it will pose a financial burden on the NKLM and KLM.

### ***Support for community initiatives***

In discussions with representatives from the NKLM and KLM WCRs have identified a number of community initiatives to support, including up-grading school facilities and covering salaries for school teachers and the establishment of play parks and internet cafes. A budget of ~ R 10 million has been allocated to supporting community initiatives over the next five years.

However, based on the feedback from the local community one of the key challenges facing the communities in Hondeklip Bay and Soebatsfontein was access to affordable public transport. There is no bus service that services the local small towns in the area and transport costs associated with travelling to towns such as Springbok, Garies and Kamieskroon are high. One of the key costs that local parents are faced is the cost of transporting children to the high school in Garies. Due to the high transport costs a number of families cannot afford to send their children to high school. As a result they do not complete school and this places them at a disadvantage in later life. The other issue identified by representatives from Hondeklip Bay was the lack of sports facilities for the youth. The only sport facility is the rugby field, which has not ablution facilities or change rooms. The cost associated with hiring transport for away games was also raised as an issue.

### **Potential negative impacts**

- Risks to local communities posed by workers;
- Risk to abalone and crayfish operations<sup>1</sup>;
- Noise, dust and safety impacts associated with mining related activities and the movement of heavy vehicles.

The significance of the potential negative impacts with mitigation was assessed to be of **Low Negative** significance. All of the potential negative impacts can therefore be effectively mitigated if the recommended mitigation measures are implemented.

Table 5.1 summarises the significance of the impacts associated with the operational phase.

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<sup>1</sup> The potential risk to abalone and crayfish operations along the coast has been assessed as part of the specialist marine assessment

**Table 5.1: Summary of social impacts during construction phase**

<b>Impact</b>	<b>Significance No Mitigation</b>	<b>Significance With Enhancement /Mitigation</b>
<b>Creation of employment opportunities</b>	Medium (Positive impact)	High (Positive impact)
<b>Creation of training and skills development opportunities</b>	Medium (Positive impact)	High (Positive impact)
Creation of business opportunities	Medium (Positive impact)	High (Positive impact)
<b>Revitalisation of Koingnaas and Kleinzee</b>	High <sup>2</sup> (Negative impact)	High (Positive impact)
<b>Support for community initiatives</b>	High	High
<b>Risk to local communities posed by workers</b>	Low (Negative impact)	Low (Negative impact)
<b>Dust, noise and safety impacts associated with mining related activities</b>	Low (Negative impact)	Low (Negative impact)

## **CLOSURE AND DECOMMISSIONING**

In terms of South Africa the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002, (Act No 28 of 2002) (MPRDA), the potential impacts associated with closure and decommissioning must be addressed in the SLP. In this regard one of the objectives of the SLP is to provide mine workers with additional skills, save jobs and manage downscaling and/or closure.

In the case of the proposed project, the WCRs employees are aware that the life of mine is 10-15 years. In addition, unlike the previous De Beers operations, employees will not be provided with free housing, services and schooling for children etc. This created a dependency mentality which exacerbated the impact on workers and families when the De Beers operations were closed down.

## **RISK TO ABALONE FARMING OPERATIONS**

The potential risk to abalone operations along the coast has been assessed as part of the specialist marine assessment undertaken by Capricorn Marine Environmental (July 2016). Based in the key findings the risk to the current abalone operations is an issue that will need to be addressed as part of the mining programme. It is also worth noting that mining operations are temporary in nature. The opportunity to resume abalone farming once marine mining operations have ceased is therefore likely. This feasibility of this should be confirmed by the marine specialists.

## **NO-DEVELOPMENT OPTION**

The no-development alternative would result in a lost opportunity to create employment and business opportunities associated with the proposed mining operations. The no-development option would also result lost opportunity to support local community initiatives in the area and act as a catalyst to revitalise the towns of Koingnaas and Kleinzee. The no-development option is therefore not supported.

<sup>2</sup> Assumes that mining does not proceed

## **CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

### ***Conclusions***

The findings of the SIA indicate that the Koingnaas-Samsons Bak mining project will create a number of positive social and economic opportunities for the local community and the area as a whole. These include the creation of employment, training and skills development and business opportunities. In addition the mining operations will create opportunities to support local community initiatives and revitalise the towns of Koingnaas and Kleinzee. The proposed project also supports a number of key objectives contained in the NKLM and KLM IDPs, specifically employment creation and economic development. The establishment of the proposed Koingnaas-Samsons Bak mining project is therefore supported by the findings of the SIA.

### ***Recommendations***

The following recommendations are made:

- WCRs should seek to increase the number of workers employed from Hondeklip Bay and Soenbatsfontein, specifically given their proximity to the mining area. Likewise, training and skills development opportunities should also be provided for members from these communities to enable them to apply for jobs on the mine;
- As part of its community support programme, WCRs should investigate the opportunity for providing free and or subsidized transport for school children in the area, specifically high school children that attend boarding school. Support for local sports clubs should also be investigated.
- WCRs, in consultation with the NKLM, KLM, Northern Cape Provincial Government and relevant institutions, such as the South African Development Bank, should develop a strategy and plan aimed at promoting the development of Koingnaas and Kleinzee as sustainable, coastal towns.

## **IMPACT STATEMENT**

The findings of the SIA indicate that the Koingnaas-Samsons Bak mining project will create a number of positive social and economic opportunities for the local community and the area as a whole. The majority of the employment opportunities are likely to benefit HD members from the community. The findings of the SIA also indicate that all of the potential negative impacts can be effectively mitigated. It is therefore recommended that the proposed Koingnaas-Samsons Bak be supported, subject to the implementation of the recommended enhancement and mitigation measures contained in the SIA report.

## ACRONYMS

DEA	Department of Environmental Affairs
DM	District Municipality
HDI	Historically Disadvantaged Individual
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
IDP	Integrated Development Plan
KLM	Kamiesberg Local Municipality
LED	Local Economic Development
LM	Local Municipality
NDM	Namakwa District Municipality
NKLM	Nama Khoi Local Municipality
NDP	National Development Plan
NCP	Northern Cape Province
PGDS	Provincial Growth and Development Strategy
PSDF	Provincial Spatial Development Framework
SDF	Spatial Development Framework
SIA	Social Impact Assessment
WCRs	West Coast Resources

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## **SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION**

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### **1.1 INTRODUCTION**

West Coast Resources (Pty) Ltd (WCR) is a private company owned by Trans Hex Operations (Pty) Ltd (Trans Hex), RE:CM and Calible Limited (RAC), the Government of South Africa, Dinoka Investment Holdings (Pty) Ltd and the Namaqualand Diamond Trust Fund, a broad based community trust representing historically disadvantaged persons from the Namaqualand community. WCR has existing converted mining rights and prospecting rights over the area, including a number of properties situated approximately 50 kilometres west of Kamieskroon and extending north and south of Hondeklip Bay on the West Coast of the Northern Cape Province, South Africa (Figure 1.1). The mining rights comprise of the existing rights, covering the Koingnaas Complex (KNC) and Samsons Bak Complex (SBC), which were converted in July 2012 (under File No. SNC 522 MRC and SNC 525 MRC), respectively, and several farms of the existing prospecting right area, which includes the Namaqualand Prospecting Right (NPR) (File No. SNC 672 PRC).

Trans Hex has entered into an agreement with the other shareholders of WCR to oversee and manage the operations of WCR. WCR is re-establishing a diamond mining operations in the Koingnaas area on the Namaqualand coast, which was previously mined by De Beers and under the existing mining environmental authorisation of July 2012. As part of their operations, WCR intend to mine deposits that are located on land as well as specific deposits that extend seaward from the land for potentially for several hundred metres. The focus of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is on the mining relate activities that are proposed and the associated processing activities. Myezo Environmental Management Services were appointed by WCR to manage the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process.

Tony Barbour was appointed by Myezo Environmental Management Services to undertake a specialist Social Impact Assessment (SIA) as part of the EIA process. This report contains the findings of the SIA undertaken as part of the EIA process.

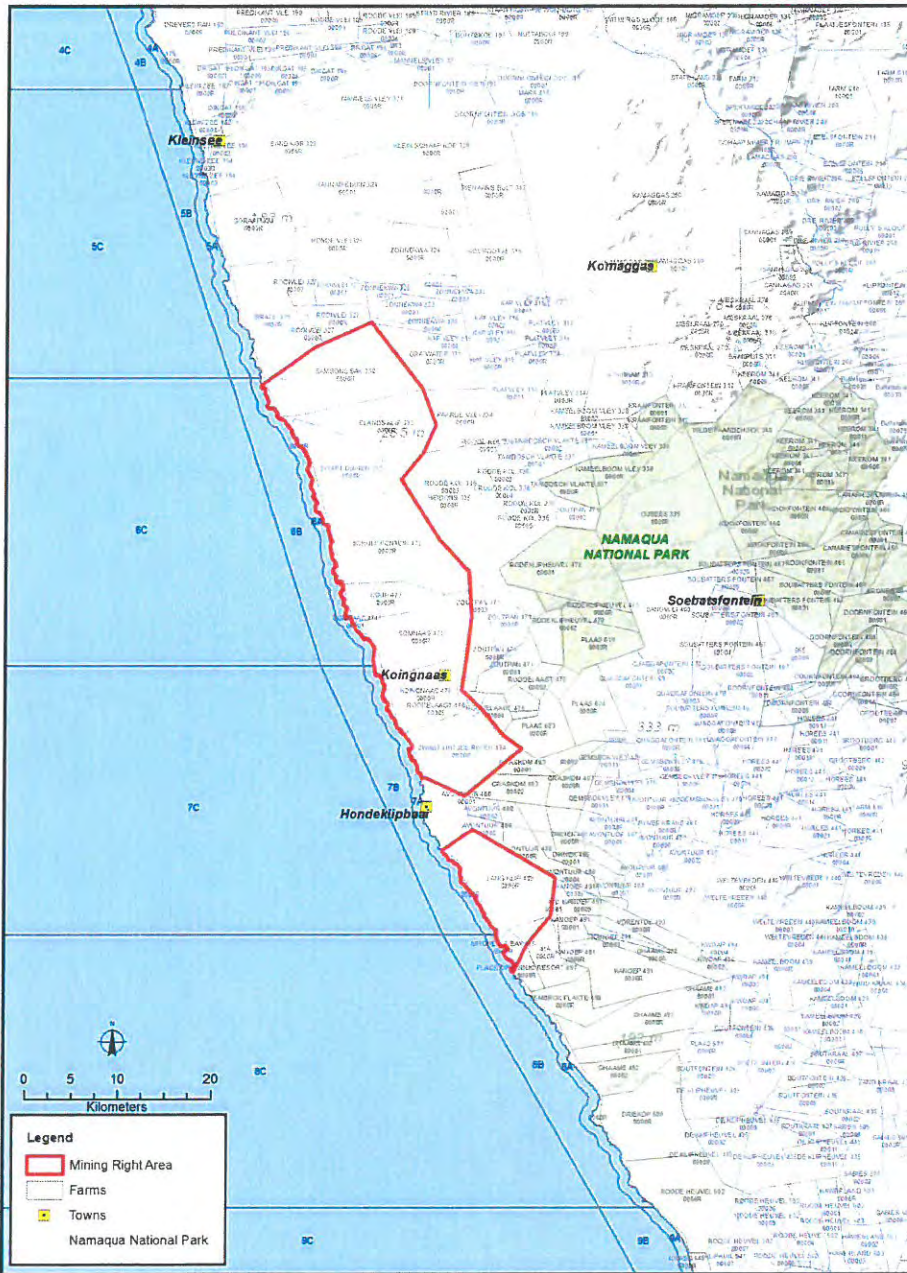


Figure 1.1: Location of study area and mining rights area

## **1.2 TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The terms of reference for the SIA require:

- A description of the environment that may be affected by the activity and the manner in which the environment may be affected by the proposed road upgrade;
- A description and assessment of the potential social issues associated with the proposed development and the associated alternatives;
- Identification of enhancement and mitigation measures aimed at maximizing opportunities and avoiding and or reducing negative impacts.

One of the key challenges facing SIA, therefore, does not necessarily involve the physical disruption of human populations, but understanding the meanings, perceptions and/or social significance of these changes. The social construction of reality is a characteristic of all social groups, including the agencies that attempt to implement changes, as well as the communities that are affected (Guidelines and Principles for Social Impact Assessment, 1994). The tendency of development agencies and proponents to dismiss the concerns of others as being merely imagined and perceived is therefore a key issue that needs to be addressed by social impact assessments.

SIA's should enable the authorities, project proponents, individuals, communities and organizations to understand and be in a position to identify and anticipate the potential social consequences of the implementation of a proposed policy, programme, plan or project. The SIA process should also alert communities and individuals to the proposed project and possible social impacts, while at the same time allowing them to assess the implications and identify potential alternatives. The assessment process should also alert proponents and planners to the likelihood and nature of social impacts and enable them to anticipate and predict these impacts in advance so that the findings and recommendations of the assessment are incorporated into and inform the planning and decision-making process (Barbour, 2007).

## **1.3 PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

### **1.3.1 Need and desirability of the proposed activities**

WCR concluded a transaction with De Beers in October 2014 whereby WCR acquired, amongst others, the KNC and SBC mining rights. Both these rights have been exploited by De Beers for over 60 years and the diamond resources on land are largely depleted. What remains are very low grade or buried under thick overburden. The key remaining high value diamond resources remaining are those that DBCM could not access due to:

- Its proximity to the Trans Hex owned marine concessions; and
- Deposits that DBCM discovered towards the end of the life of their operation. The majority of these deposits are located directly adjacent to the coast, on the beaches or in the shallow marine environment.

The shareholders of WCR together with the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) has invested over R250 million to date to recapitalize the operations at Koingnaas. This investment has resulted in the creation of 166 permanent

employment opportunities, the majority of which has been filled by people from the nearby towns and the broader Namaqualand community. An additional 54 jobs were created over the past 12-month period, during construction operations of the first Plant. The Life of Mine of the operation is in excess of 10 years provided the key diamond resources can be accessed.

Mining using the proposed mining techniques involving coffer dams, berms and accretion in the selected areas is regarded critical to the sustainability of the operation currently established at Koingnaas. Without access to the resources in the coastal zone mining will only be sustained on a very small scale for a short period of time.

The applicable activities for which environmental authorisation will be applied for are part of an amendment of an existing mining right, for mining of diamonds over certain properties, situated approximately 50 km west of Kamieskroom and extending north and south of Honderklip Bay on the West Coast of the Northern Cape Province.

The current mining operations currently being undertaken by WCR are covered by the existing EMPR. These activities include:

- On-shore land based mining and processing operations;
- Surf-zone mining operations;
- Beach mining operations.

In addition to these activities, a number of mining activities are proposed for the surf zone and offshore channel areas located below the low water mark. These proposed activities are not covered under the current EMP and therefore require an EIA.

A description of the current and proposed mining activities is provided below.

### **1.3.2 Current mining operations**

The current mining operations consist of land based mining, surf zone mining and beach mining above the low water mark. All of these operations are approved under the current EMP. These operations are therefore not subject to the current EIA.

#### ***Onshore land based mining and processing operations***

The land mining will be based on basic open cast mining method that involves the following sequence of activities:

- Overburden stripping;
- Mechanical extraction of ore;
- Bedrock cleaning.

Once the diamond bearing gravels have been extracted they are processed at a processing facility and the mined out areas are rehabilitated. Onshore mining activities therefore involves: mining, processing, disposal of processing residue (slimes) to slimes dams and rehabilitation of mined areas.

Over the history of the Koingnaas mine slimes generated by the processing plants was disposed either to slimes dams constructed on surface, or was backfilled into selected mining voids in the vicinity of the plants. The historic slimes facilities that were created on surface by the previous owners, have a negative impact on the

environment due to wind-blown dust that is generated. Placement of future slimes facilities should therefore take cognisance of this fact and attempt to minimize the negative impact of wind-blown dust and sand.

Rehabilitation is conducted concurrent to mining activities. Rehabilitation is generally carried out by back-dumping into mined-out areas, flattening steep-sided overburden dumps and dangerous benches, and covering the resulting surface with topsoil. The general philosophy that WCR has adopted is that any material excavated, moved or processed as part of any new mining or plant activity should be placed in such a way that it is part of the final rehabilitation solution. This will ensure that all operations are aligned with good environmental practice and will reduce the final closure liabilities. Backfilling existing mining voids with slimes generated from the processing plants is seen as the most effective and environmentally friendly way of disposing of slimes material.

### ***Surf zone mining***

Surf zone mining activities are typically small-scale operations and have been ongoing in the KNC and SBC areas for many years and are approved under the current mining authorizations. Surf zone mining is undertaken by diver-operated suction hoses which feed the diamondiferous gravels to shore-based pumping units. These operations are confined to small bays at depths of <10 m. The diamond-bearing gravel is bagged and transported on a daily basis to the nearest processing facility for diamond extraction. A shore-based operation typically consists of two to four divers, their assistants and the necessary equipment.

Only once a bedrock feature yielding a viable reserve has been identified, would operations take on a larger, more permanent scale by sequentially mining the blocks following the feature. The *modus operandi* and scale of operation largely depends on the depth of overburden that needs to be removed before the target gravels can be accessed.

### ***Beach mining***

Beach mining operations of mineralized gravel deposits found in various places between the low and high water marks along the coast has also been on-going for many years. These operations are also covered by the current authorisations. WCR are currently continuing with these approved activities above the low water mark on a limited scale.

### **1.3.3 Proposed new mining operations**

The proposed mining operations are located below the low water mark and focus on beach and off-shore channel mining. These operations are not covered under the current EMP and are therefore subject to the EIA.

### ***Beach and offshore channel mining***

Beach and offshore channel mining operations of mineralized gravel deposits found in various places between the low and high water marks along the coast has been on-going for many years. Apart from mining favorable sandy beaches the focus will be particularly on the extensions of high-grade fluvial channels crossing the surf-zone to deeper water environments. Previous mining, drilling and sampling of these channels to the beach zone by DBCM provide confirmation of the economic viability of these channel deposits. Their presence, dimensions and positions on the beaches have been confirmed by means of beach-resistivity surveys. Exploration and past mining results indicate that these deposits extend offshore to as yet undetermined extent

and current planning is for these channels to be mined by means of coffer dam mining techniques to the 250 m water mark and beyond as determined by circumstances. Surf-zone, beach and offshore channel mining will be both in-house and partly contract-based.

Two alternative approaches have been identified to access and mine the diamond resources seaward of the low water mark, namely:

- Temporary accretion of the beach in the immediate vicinity of the mining target using overburden material available on the beach or from adjacent onland mining sites; or;
- The construction of a rock berm or coffer dam using non-native rocks and boulders sourced from rock stockpiles near Koingnaas. This approach offers the only technically feasible approach for mining the area of the coastline that is exposed to high energy wave action. As indicated the area protected by the berm would extend up to 250-300m into the sea below the low water mark. Once the berm is in place and the mining block is enclosed overburden stripping and gravel extraction can be undertaken using conventional open-cast mining approaches. Once the area has been mined out, the rock berm would be progressively extended offshore to enclose the next mining block, potentially enabling mining up to 300 m seawards of the low water mark. The design-life of such berms is typically 1-2 years and they can thus be considered temporary structures.

Similar beach mining operations have previously been successfully undertaken near the Olifant's River, to the south, and along the coastline near Alexander Bay, to the north. For the current project, WCR is intending to implement this mining approach at the sandy beach target sites known as Koingnaas 68/69, Somnaas and Langklip Central.

In addition to these areas off-shore mining is also proposed for Mitchells Bay. Mitchell's Bay (Rooiwal Bay) is a small protected bay located north of the Spoeg River. The mouth of the bay is some 700 m across. The bay hosts a narrow sandy beach backed by steep soil cliff and a shallow reef in the mouth. Two alternative approaches have been proposed for off-shore mining in Mitchells Bay.

The first approach involves accretion of the beach using overburden sands stripped from adjacent onland mine operations (block LKB-04). Using this approach, three stages of beach accretion are being considered, with the shoreline moving seawards by 150 m during each successive stage. While this alternative for Mitchell's Bay is considered feasible from an engineering perspective, it is dependent on the mining of the inland deposits for a source of the accretion material.

The second approach involves the construction of a dynamically stable rock berm across the mouth of the bay and perpendicular to the predominant wave action. This would require a berm crest of 14 m in height to protect the mining area from extreme wave conditions. While considered technically feasible, this alternative has high costs associated with it and the high loss rate of material off the partly completed berm during construction may result in the structure being impossible to build.

In addition, a more generic design involving either statistically stable rock berms, or these in combination with dynamically stable berms, is being considered for other potential mining sites characterised by either a rocky shoreline or a shoreline of mixed sand and rock. The generic design is proposed for the Noup, Visbeen,

Koingnaas, Langklip Central and Langklip target areas. The generic designs assume an initial mining area of 200 x 200 m, with sequential extension into adjacent blocks as mining progresses and the resource in a block is mined out. The type of design applied is determined largely by the depth of the seabed at the seaward extreme of the shore parallel berm.

For each site, the most economically and technically viable concept/s will be selected bearing in mind the temporary nature of the mining, the quantity and characteristics of available construction materials (rock, sand and clay), possible phasing of the mining to facilitate recovery of diamonds at an early stage, the need to minimise seepage into the mining area and the costs of protective measures.

### ***Processing Infrastructure***

The processing infrastructure associated with the proposed beach and off-shore channel mining will include the construction of a new 200 tonne per hour (tph) screening and scrubbing plant at Michell's Bay. Concentrate from the Michell's Bay Dense Media Separator (DMS) will be treated through the Kleinzee Final Recovery (KFR) at Kleinzee. A second 200 tph screening plant may be deployed as and if required. Additional mobile scalping screens and Finlay type screens may also be required and will be deployed as necessary. At beach mining sites Articulated Dump Trucks (ADT's) will transport the gravel to a nearby scalping and screening plant, fed by seawater, where the gravel may be fed directly to the feeding screen or stockpiled and fed by front-end loader to the screen. Sand and seawater will be released back to the sea. The screened material is transported to the nearest DMS plant.

## **1.4 PROJECT LOCATION AND SURROUNDING LAND USES**

The study area is located in Namaqualand, on the west coast of South Africa. Diamond mining started in Namaqualand in 1926 and after a brief pause during World War II, De Beers bought out the struggling Cape Coast Exploration Company and scaled up operations until they were extracting a million carats a year. As part of the mining operations the mining towns of Kleinzee and Koingnaas were established by De Beers in 1927 and 1970 respectively. The towns were located adjacent to the processing plants that were established as part of the mining operations (Photograph 1.1).





**Photograph 1.1: Mine processing dump at Koingnaas**

At its peak in the 1980's more than 3 000 people were employed at Kleinzee Mine, and the town's population was close to 7 000. In 1989 Kleinzee had three full functional schools that accommodated 651 pupils. A thousand people lived in Koingnaas and children were bussed to and from the schools in Kleinzee on a daily basis<sup>3</sup>. However, in 2007, as diamond yields began to fall, De Beers began retrenching workers. In 2008 mining operations in the area were halted and, in May 2011 De Beers announced the sale of Namaqualand Mines to Trans Hex. By the end of 2011 the majority of the 370 houses in Kleinzee were empty and the population had dwindled to less than 1 000. The population of Kleinzee and Koingnaas is now in the region of 450 and 110 respectively and the towns have been handed over to the local municipalities of Nama Khoi (Kleinzee) and Kamiesberg (Koingnaas).

The majority of houses in Kleinzee appear to be empty. The facilities established by De Beers, such as sports facilities and shopping centres etc., are no longer functional (Photograph 1.2 and 1.3). However, these facilities and structures have not been vandalised as yet. The golf course in Kleinzee is still in use, however, there are currently only 18 members (Photograph 1.4). The processing plant is located on the northern bank of the Buffels River, above the golf course.

<sup>3</sup> <http://mg.co.za/article/2011-11-18-diamond-mines-are-not-forever/>



**Photograph 1.2: Abandoned sports complex in Kleinzee**



**Photograph 1.3: Closed Spar Shopping Centre in Kleinzee**



**Photograph 1.4: Kleinzee golf course with processing plant in background**

As indicated in Figure 1.1, the KNC and SBC mining areas are located along and inland of the section of the coast that stretches from south of the small town of Hondeklip Bay northwards towards Kleinzee. A 60 km tar road links Koingnaas and Kleinsee (Photograph 1.5). The topography along the coastal section consists of rolling, coastal plains that run down to the coast from the mountainous area located approximately 80-100 km inland. Access to the town of Hondeklip Bay and Koingnaas is via a gravel road that intersects with the N7 approximately 5 km north of the town of Garies, which serves as the administrative seat of the Kammiesberg Local Municipality (Photograph 1.6).



**Photograph 1.5: Tarred road between Kleinzee and Koingnaas**



**Photograph 1.6: Town of Garies located adjacent to N7**

Hondeklip Bay was originally established as a harbour to export copper ore from the mines around Springbok (Photograph 1.7). However, these operations were later moved to Port Nolloth, which had a safer harbour as well as a railway line. The port was established by Thomas Grace (a ship's captain) 1846 and established a trading station. He named the town after a gneiss rock in the area which vaguely resembles a dog. The first eleven tons of copper ore was shipped out in 1852. The harbour in Hondeklipbaai now serves as a port for crayfish fishing and diamond boats. The Oceana Group used to operate a crayfish processing operation, but this was closed in the mid 2000's (Photograph 1.6).



**Photograph 1.7: Hondeklip Bay with old Oceana crayfish factory in the background**

The town is now a popular holiday destination. The facilities in the town include a clinic, primary school, and a police station (Photograph 1.8). The local rugby field is located on the outskirts of the town and illustrates the poor recreational facilities available in the town (1.9). WCR resources have initiated a number of community projects in the town, including provision of a play area (Photograph 1.10).

Other settlements in the area include Kommaggas, which is located in the Nama Khoil LM, and Soebatsfontein, located in the Kammiesberg LM. Access to these small towns is via gravel roads. A number of the mine employees live in Hondeklip Bay, Koingnaas, Kleinzee, Kommaggas and Soebatsfontein.