

NOTICE

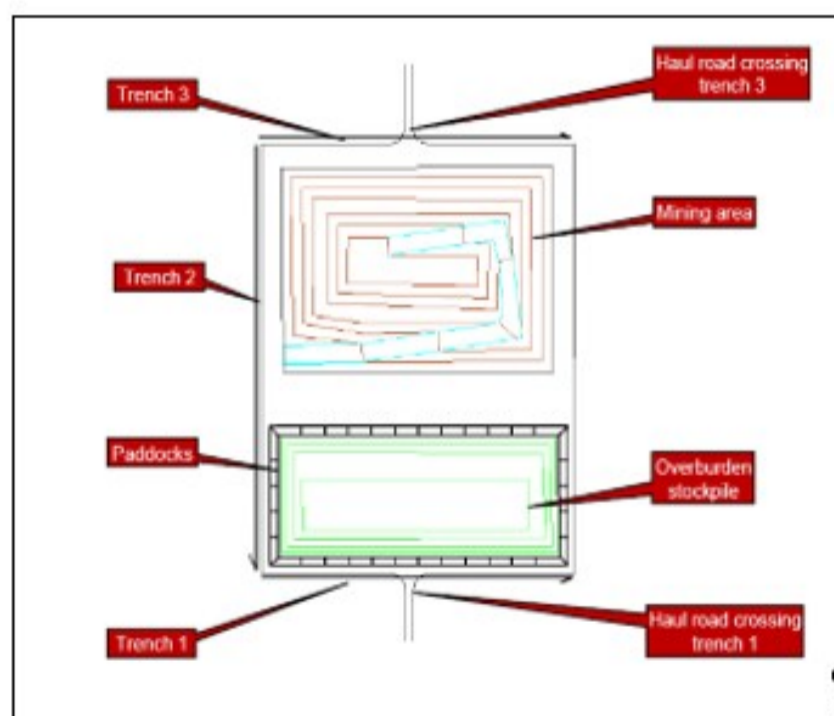
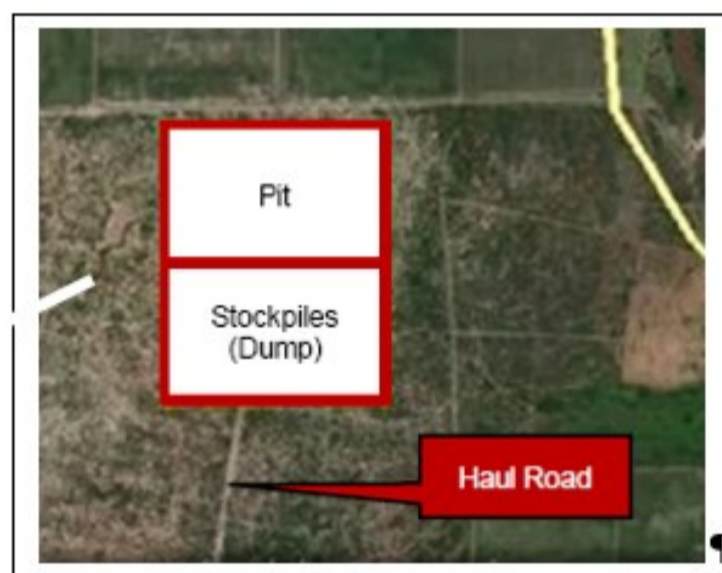
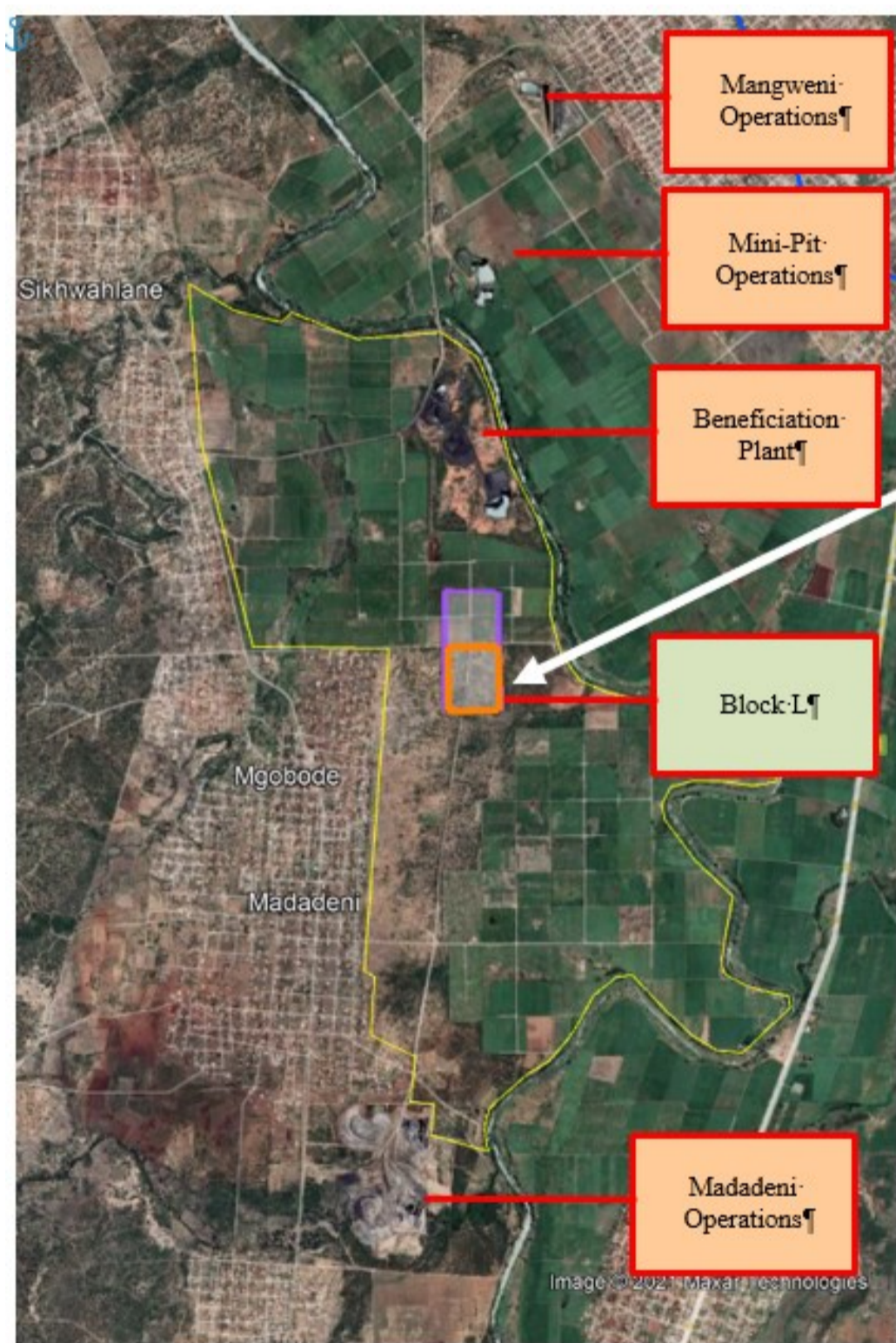
N’Komati Anthracite Mine (DMR Ref: MP 30/5/1/2/2/89 MR) Basic Assessment, Environmental Management Plan (EMP) Amendment, and Water Use License (WUL) Amendment—Block L

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The N’Komati Anthracite Mine (N’Komati) Is an existing anthracite mine located 50km South of Komatipoort, 10km West of the Mozambique border and 6,6km North of the town of Tonga, Mpumalanga Province.

N’Komati has an existing mining right (MP30/5/1/2/2/89 MR), which was renewed on 26 January 2022 and is valid for another 30 years allowing for both open cast and underground mining to take place. The operational area of the mine is divided into Mangweni (Opencasts (Mini-Pit) and Underground sections and Beneficiation Plant) and Madadeni (Opencast and underground sections). Ore is hauled via trucks to the existing Beneficiation Plant, where it is washed and sorted and transported to clients.

Notice is hereby given in terms of the regulations promulgated under Section 102 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Act No.28 of 2002 (MPRDA) as well as Section 39 of the MPRDA that it is the intention of N’Komati to undertake a Basic Assessment Process as stipulated in Section 22(4)(a) of the MPRDA in support of the development of a new opencast mining area (Block L) and amend the current Mangweni 2020 Environmental Management Programme Report (EMPr) accordingly. The development of the proposed Block L Mining Area will also require a Water Use License Application in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998).



Block L open pit mining area is indicated in the Figure above (orange block). An area of less than 20 Ha of natural indigenous vegetation will be impacted upon. To reach the anthracite reserves, the overburden material will be stripped through “cuts” will be stored on the side of the pit. “Fill” will be undertaken through the roll-over method of mining ensuring the backfilling of the overburden material to the pit as to allow for continuous rehabilitation. Should there be any overburden material in excess, this material will be temporary placed on the purple block located within the sugar cane fields to the north.

The Run-of-Mine (ROM) material will be hauled to the existing Processing Plant located to the north of the proposed open pit mining area for processing. The haul road that connects the Madadeni Open Pit mining area with the processing plant will be re-aligned slightly to the west of the proposed Block L operations to ensure continual mining at the Madadeni Operations.

Block L has an anticipated Life of Mine (LoM) of 5 years. It is the plan of N’Komati Mine to apply during the mining period, through a different regulatory approval process (S&EIA), to develop the remainder of the mine within the Mining Rights Area. The resource quantification process is currently in progress in order to inform mine planning and design.

APPLICABLE LEGISLATION

Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No.28 of 2002)(MPRDA)

In terms of Sections 39 and 102 (as amended 21 April 2009) of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 ((MPRDA), a mine may not amend a Mining Right, a Mining Works Programme (MWP), Environmental Management Programme (EMP) or an Environmental Authorisation issued in terms of the MPRDA, without the written approval from the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE). Any significant changes made to an EMP and/or MWP will result in the need for an Impact Assessment. This process allows for interested and affected parties as well as government departments to raise issues and concerns and provide comments/ input/ grievances on the documentation before the final documents are submitted to the competent authorities for approval .

National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998)

N'Komati Anthracite Mine is the holder of a valid Water Use Licence, Licence No 05/X13J/ACGIJ/1864 dated 22 February 2022. Any additional possible water uses or amendments to the existing licence will be confirmed during the impact assessment process. The following water uses have been identified based on the current Block L mine plan:

- Section 21(c) and (i) – Impeding or diverting the flow of water in a water course and altering the bed, banks, course or characteristics of a watercourse – Block L is located in close proximity of a drainage line and delineated wetland areas
- Section 21(j) – Removing, discharging, or disposing of water found underground if it is necessary for the efficient continuation of an activity or for the safety of people – removing of fissure water from the open pit for storage in the existing approved Void 2 area

National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998)

The National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMA) gives effect to the rights contained under section 24 of the constitution which states that “*everyone has the right to an environment that is not harmful to their health or well-being; and to have the environment protected, for the benefit of present and future generations*”.

NEMA provides for the publishing of listed activities that require either a Basic Assessment (BA) or a full Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (S&EIA) process pending the listed activities being triggered by the proposed development. In terms of the section 24(5) read with section 44 of the Act, Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations have been published that provides a list of activities that may require either BA or S&EIA process to be followed.

- Government Notice No. 983 in Gazette No. 38282 on 4 December 2014, as amended on 7 April 2017 in Gazette No. 40772 as Government Notice No. 327 - Listing Notice 1;
 - Basic Assessment Process
- Government Notice No. 984 in Gazette No. 38282 on 4 December 2014, as amended on 7 April 2017 in Gazette No. 40772 as Government Notice No. 325 – Listing Notice 2;
 - Scoping and Impact Assessment Process
- Government Notice No. 985 in Gazette No. 38282 on 4 December 2014, as amended on 7 April 2017 in Gazette No. 40772 as Government Notice No. 324 – Listing Notice 3;
 - Basic Assessment Process

The following listed activities are being triggered by the development of the proposed Block L Opencast Operations:

- GNR 983 (Listing Notice 1) as amended on 7 April 2017 in Gazette N0 40772 as Government Notice No 327 Listing Notice 1;
 - *Activity 27* - The clearance of an area of 1 hectare or more, but less than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation, except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for— (i) the undertaking of a linear activity; or (ii) maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan;
 - ◊ More than 1 Ha of indigenous vegetation will be cleared
 - *Activity 56* - The widening of a road by more than 6 metres, or the lengthening of a road by more than 1 kilometre—
 - ⇒ (i) where the existing reserve is wider than 13,5 meters; or
 - ⇒ (ii) where no reserve exists, where the existing road is wider than 8 metres;
 - ◊ Re-alignment of the existing haul road between the Madadeni Mining area and the beneficiation plant allowing for the development of Block L;

Based on the Listed Activities triggered, a Basic Assessment Process is being undertaken.

HOW TO REGISTER AS AN INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTY (I&AP)

Availability of Reports

The Draft Basic Assessment Report (BAR) will be made available to Registered Interested and Affected Parties from **7 March 2022 to 8 April 2022** for comment at the following places.

N'Komati Anthracite Mine Security Office, Madadeni, Mpumalanga;

Malelane Public Library, Park Street, Malelane;

Offices of Alta van Dyk Environmental Consultants (4 Garcia Peak, Midlands Estate, Centurion, Gauteng);

Website: www.altavandykenvironmental.co.za

Public Participation

To receive further information regarding this project, to make comments or to raise concerns please register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP). All correspondence must quote the DMR reference number for this project. To register as an I&AP, please contact:

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