

Dear Mr. Sidu

Environmental Authorisation Application for the ARMMDW – Basic Assessment Report for Proposed MnSO₄ Processing Plant at ARM Machadodorp Works

ARM Machadodorp Works (ARM MDW) has been operating before under a 2011 Atmospheric Emissions Licence (AEL), which were reviewed by the Nkangala District Municipality (Licensing Authority) and issued on 28 June 2019 under Ref 17/04/AEL/MP314/11/01. Although the operation has initiated temporary cessation, the investigations in identifying more suitable, practical, and economically viable options for the running of the operation have not ceased. It is the aim of the operation to ensure that optimal production can continue in the future and that employment opportunities can be reinvested in. Current studies have raised the potential for an alternative technology to the current process used by the Furnaces. As part of the process an Atmospheric Emission Impact Assessment will be conducted by EScience (the appointed specialist).

The application for the Environmental Authorisation Process was submitted to the DARDLEA on 5 June 2023 however acknowledged by the Competent Authority has not as yet been received. In the interim the Department relocated offices and requested the EAP to resubmit the application during a telephonic follow upon 5 July 2023. The DARDLEA provided the new address on 13 July 2023 and the application was resubmitted on 14 July 2023.

Applicable Legislation:

1. National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA); and the
2. National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act, 2004 (Act No. 39 of 2004) (NEM:AQA).

Identified Activities:

1. NEMA Government Notice 983, Listing Notice 1:
 - o Activity 14 and Activity 34:
2. NEMA Government Notice 983, Listing Notice 3:
 - o Activity 4, Activity 10: and Activity 12

NEM:AQA Listed Activities: Subcategory 7.2: Production of Acids; Subcategory 7.1: Production and or Use in Manufacturing of Ammonia, Fluorine, Fluorine Compounds, Chlorine, and Hydrogen Cyanide; Subcategory 4.1: Drying and Calcining; Subcategory 5.2: Drying. ; Subcategory 4.20: Slag Processes.

To this end, **one hard copy and an electronic copy** of this draft Basic Assessment Report and EMPr for stakeholder review.

All registered stakeholders were informed of the availability of the draft BAR on 25 July 2023 for the opportunity to review this document. The draft BAR was made available to stakeholders from 25 July 2023 to 23 August 2023 for review. All comments received have been captured and are presented in Section 6.8. It should be noted that a formal application will be lodged with the Nkangala District Municipality for the AEL, once the outcomes of this BAR Process have been finalised.

Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned should you require any additional information.

Best Wishes



Tanja Bekker

Director; MSc. Environmental Management; EAP. Reg. 306/2019; PrSci. Reg. 400198/09

