

APPENDIX G

**Comment and Response Report
(CRR)**



GOLDER

REPORT

Application for Environmental Authorisation and Water Use Licence for the proposed Turfvlakte Open Pit Mine Project at Grootegeeluk Coal Mine near Lephalale, Limpopo Province

Comment and Response Report

Submitted to:

Exxaro Grootegeeluk Mine

Submitted by:

Golder Associates Africa (Pty) Ltd.

Building 1, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand, 1685, South Africa

P.O. Box 6001, Halfway House, 1685

+27 11 254 4800

1784950

March 2020

Distribution List

1 x electronic copy [Exxaro Grootegeeluk Mine]

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PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

Exxaro Coal (Pty) Ltd (Exxaro) is applying for environmental authorisation to undertake several listed activities and water uses at its existing opencast mining operations at the Grootegeluk Coal Mine (Grootegeluk). Grootegeluk is situated within the jurisdiction of the Lephalale Local Municipality, and the Waterberg District Municipality, about 13.5 km north-west of the town of Lephalale on the farms Mc Cabesvley 331, Goedehoop 457, Vooruit 449, Leeuwdrift 312, Daarby 458, Appelvlakte 448, Grootegeluk 459, Enkelbult 462, Nelsonskop 464 and Hieromtrent 460. The proposed project will extend existing opencast mining operations onto the farms Enkelbult 462 LQ and Turfvlakte 463 LQ (Turfvlakte), which form part of the existing mining right area. Applications for environmental authorisation and a water use licence are required before extended mining activities may commence on the Turfvlakte site.

The proposed extension to the existing opencast operations will consist of two pits, namely Pit 1 and Pit 2 on the farm Turfvlakte, which is located within the existing Grootegeluk Coal Mine's Mining Right, LP 46 MRC. Pit 1 will be 158 ha in size and will be 88 m deep, while Pit 2 will be 64 ha and 109 m deep.

The preferred option is to mine Pit 1 and then Pit 2 to produce 1.5 million tonnes per annum run of mine (ROM) coal over a period of 12 years. The alternative option is to first mine Pit 2 and then Pit 1 to produce 3 million tonnes per annum run of mine (ROM) coal over a period of seven years. The interburden and coal mined from Pit 1 and Pit 2 will be transported to and handled at the existing Grootegeluk Coal Mine plants. The mining operations will be undertaken 24 hours per day, six days a week.

The proposed infrastructure to be established at surface in support of the coal mining operation includes haul roads connecting the proposed pits to the existing Grootegeluk Coal Mine operations; a laydown area for the mine equipment and offices; water management infrastructure (sumps and pipelines); a waste management area (waste skips); and a sub-station.

It is anticipated that the coal produced from the proposed Turfvlakte Coal Mine will supplement the coal feed to the Grootegeluk Coal Mine plants and contribute to its current supply to Eskom and other clients in the domestic market.

The Draft Scoping Report was available for public review and comment for a period of 30 days, from **Monday, 27 January 2020** to **Tuesday, 25 February 2020**. Subsequent to unrest in the town of Lephalale that prevented the public meetings from proceeding on the scheduled dates, the meetings were postponed, and the public comment period was extended to **Monday, 9 March 2020**. All public documents associated with the EIA will be made available on the following website: <https://www.golder.com/global-locations/africa/south-africa-public-documents/> and at the following public places during the course of the EIA process:

Public Place	Contact Person	Contact Number
Lephalale Public Library, corner Joe Slovo and Douwater Roads, Lephalale	Ms Hazel Mashaba	014 762 1453
Lephalale Police Station (SAPS), 3 Herman Street, Lephalale	Colonel Ramakgwakgwa	014 762 1000
Marapong Public Library, 916 Phukubye Street Marapong	Mr Sophonia Petja	014 762 1617
Golder Associates Africa, Midrand, Building 1, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand	Ms Mabel Qinisile	011 254 4800

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

This document records the issues and concerns, questions and suggestions for enhanced benefits raised by stakeholders during the scoping phase of the project. The comments reflected have been provided by email, comment sheets and at the public meetings held respectively at the Mogol Club in Lephalale, and the Mogolo Academy in Marapong on Tuesday 25 February 2020 and a focus group meeting with Lephalale Local Municipality held on 26 February 2020. The comments have been categorised and responded to by members of the EIA Team and the proponent.

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FIGURES

No table of figures entries found.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

Written submissions received

APPENDIX B

Document Limitations

Table 1: Comments and responses

ISSUE/COMMENT	COMMENTATOR	REFERENCE	RESPONSE
1.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION			
What are the project values and timelines?	Mr Kgopotso Mabitsela Trans-Caledon Tunnel Authority (TCTA)	Public meeting at Mogol Club, 25 February 2020	The project is envisioned to take place in the next five to ten years.
2.0 WATER			
What is the occurrence of the excess water that will be pumped and piped to the Grootegeeluk (GG) operation as well as the water uses (as listed in Section 21 of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998) (NWA)) that will be applied for?	Mr Atang Segodi Seleka Community	Public meeting at Mogol Club, 25 February 2020	The groundwater and rainwater that will accumulate in the pit will be pumped out and used as process water and for dust suppression. No other sources of water will be needed for this project. The water uses being applied for are Section 21 (a), (c & i), (g), and (j).
There was a request for clarity on the tonnage of the material that will be mined as well as the larger water use impacts as a result of the water uses to be undertaken by the mine.	Mr Kgopotso Mabitsela Trans-Caledon Tunnel Authority (TCTA)	Public meeting at Mogol Club, 25 February 2020	The water from the pit will be mainly used for dust suppression and Grootegeeluk is not applying for an increase in its water allocation as part of this project.

ISSUE/COMMENT	COMMENTATOR	REFERENCE	RESPONSE
Is the amount of groundwater enough for the operations at the Grootegeeluk mine?	Mr Kgopotso Mabitsela Trans-Caledon Tunnel Authority (TCTA)	Public meeting at Mogol Club, 25 February 2020	Dewatering of the new pits, necessitated by groundwater ingress, is expected to provide enough water to meet the needs of this project.
What are the measures that the mine has in place to manage groundwater contamination?	Mr Kgopotso Mabitsela Trans-Caledon Tunnel Authority (TCTA)	Public meeting at Mogol Club, 25 February 2020	The geochemistry and groundwater studies are being undertaken and the reports will contain recommendations on how to manage future groundwater contamination. Also, according to Grootegeeluk Mine's groundwater investigations, the current pit acts as a sink (due to its depth) where contaminated collects. The project is still in the scoping phase
Is the increase in salt in the surface water a natural occurrence or impacted on by the mining operations?	Ms Sophia Tlale Trans-Caledon Tunnel Authority (TCTA)	Public meeting at Mogol club, 25 February 2020	The natural process of water interaction with the geology and the high evaporation rate results in high salt levels in the pan systems. At Turvflakte, the groundwater has a propensity for high salt content, and this is linked to the geology of the area. The groundwater studies will investigate any additional or cumulative impacts that may result in salt levels increasing due to the proposed activities

ISSUE/COMMENT	COMMENTATOR	REFERENCE	RESPONSE
What is the extent of the impact on groundwater users in the area?	Ms Melinda Rodgers Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (LEDET)	Public meeting at Mogol club, 25 February 2020	A hydro-census is being undertaken and the results will be incorporated in the EIA report. This question will also be forwarded to the groundwater specialists to inform their studies and the results will be included in the groundwater report.
Were the agricultural and farming unions consulted as they have previously raised concerns about groundwater? A meeting with the Agricultural Union and Water Users Association to understand their concerns is proposed.	Ms Maria Cocguyt Municipal Manager Lephalale Local Municipality	Focus Group Meeting 26 February 2020	The unions referred to are part of the Interested and Affected Parties (I&AP) database and have been notified of the project. This project is not expected to require an increase in the Grootegeeluk Mine's water allocation.
What will be the impact of the project on the allocated water to Lephalale Municipality?	Ms Maria Cocguyt, Municipal Manager, Lephalale Local Municipality	Focus Group Meeting 26 February 2020	The current water supply agreement will not be impacted by the proposed development.
What is the progress on success of the rehabilitation of pans at Sandloop as well as relocation of baboon spiders?	Mr Pieter Ackerman Chief landscape Architect and Mr Wietsche Roets	Email, dated 24 January 2020	The licence applicable to this issue was only issued in October 2019. Grootegeeluk Coal Mine is currently in the process of finalising the relocation plan for the baboon spiders and the other species of importance. Grootegeeluk is also in the process of finalising the final offset study, including a monitoring plan for the offset area that was

ISSUE/COMMENT	COMMENTATOR	REFERENCE	RESPONSE
	Department of Water and Sanitation		<p>identified to the north of the mine. This offset area includes areas around a drainage line that forms a seasonal tributary of the Sandloop Spruit. The Proof of Concept Study, for the relocation of the pans, is also being finalised.</p> <p>The above-mentioned studies/plans will be submitted no later than 18 April 2020, as per the Licence conditions</p>
Environmental audit to be submitted on existing operations must highlight impacts to characteristics of watercourse and proposed mitigation.	<p>Mr Pieter Ackerman Chief landscape Architect and Mr Wietsche Roets</p> <p>Department of Water and Sanitation</p>	Email, dated 24 January 2020	<p>The proposed Grootegeluk Mine expansion into the wetland areas has not been initiated and it is only planned for Quarter 2 of 2020. Current mining activities are still more than 500m from the closest pans. The anticipated impacts as indicated in the original wetland study and associated application are still the same.</p> <p>Included in the above-mentioned licence, issued in October 2019, is the authorisation for the destruction of the pans in front of the pit and included in the 30-year LOM plan and thereafter. The mitigation for this impact is the proposed offset. Supporting this offset is the Offset Management Plan and Proof of Concept Study (both are being finalised). The intent is to kick-off the Proof of Concept Study to confirm if the pans can be successfully relocated/ recreated in the 2nd</p>

ISSUE/COMMENT	COMMENTATOR	REFERENCE	RESPONSE
			<p>Quarter of 2020. The outcome of this process will be refined and included in the final rehabilitation plans for Grootegeeluk. As mentioned above, all these reports will be submitted to the Department before 18 April 2020.</p> <p>The first external audit for the above mentioned WUL will be conducted in May 2020 as part of the larger Grootegeeluk IWUL audit.</p> <p>Regarding the proposed Turfvlakte Open Pit project, the scenario will be different since not all pans within the project area will be impacted. The impacts will be assessed, and mitigation measures will be formulated during the impact assessment phase of the project.</p>
<p>There is a request to see a water use authorisation.</p>	<p>Mr Pieter Ackerman Chief landscape Architect</p>	<p>Email, dated 24 January 2020</p>	<p>An application for a Water Use Licence will be submitted to the Department of Water and Sanitation as part of the Turfvlakte project.</p> <p>The following NWA sections will be applicable to the application:</p> <p>Section 21(c) and Section 21(i):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Removal of pans within mining area; and - Proximity of mine infrastructure to wetlands/pans within the area.

ISSUE/COMMENT	COMMENTATOR	REFERENCE	RESPONSE
			<p>Section 21(g):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dust suppression. <p>Section 21(j):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dewatering of pit areas to continue mining. <p>More detail on the WUL application will be presented to the stakeholders during the impact assessment phase of the project.</p>
3.0 REHABILITATION AND CLOSURE PLAN			
How thick is the coal seam to be mined? The reason for the question is to determine whether the end land use has been considered as well as the thickness of the topsoil to be stockpiled.	Mr Shaun Davis Trans-Caledon Tunnel Authority (TCTA)	Public meeting at Mogol club, 25 February 2020	Soil studies are being undertaken that will estimate the quantity of topsoil to be stockpiled, and the closure planning report will include the probable end land use.
<p>With rehabilitation and especially re-creation of pans, it is essential to make full use of the rainy season so that mine should consider updating/changing its programme.</p> <p>If I am not mistaken the rehabilitation and relocation should have taken place in Nov/Dec 2019 already.</p>	Mr Pieter Ackerman Chief landscape Architect	Emailed, dated 31 January 2020	<p>Please note that the methodology for the re-creation and relocation of the pans indicates:</p> <p><i>"The harvesting and creation of the pans should be carried out in winter (June-October) when the area is driest";</i> Ground Truth, Non-perennial pan creation draft report.</p>

ISSUE/COMMENT	COMMENTATOR	REFERENCE	RESPONSE
			<p>Thus Grootegeluk intends kicking off the harvesting of the donor pans for the “Proof of Concept Study” towards June 2020, which is in line with the preliminary Methodology proposal that was submitted with the Section 21 c & i WUL application as well as the final methodology document which is being finalised.</p> <p>As indicated, the mine intends to submit the final Methodology Report to DWS early in April as per the requirements of the Section 21 c & i WUL.</p>
4.0 ECOLOGY			
What is the impact on the baboon spiders in the area?	Mr Kgopotso Mabitsela Trans-Caledon Tunnel Authority (TCTA)	Public meeting at Mogol club, 25 February 2020	They would have to be relocated and a specialist study is being undertaken.
Has the Medupi baboon spider study been considered?	Mr Kgopotso Mabitsela Trans-Caledon Tunnel Authority (TCTA)	Public meeting at Mogol club, 25 February 2020	The study is in progress. The intent is to relocate the spiders to an area that has a low baboon spider population.
5.0 SOCIAL			
What is the economic impact in the area?	Ms Sophia Tlale	Public meeting at Mogol club, 25 February 2020	The project is an extension of the Grootegeluk Mine and the current workforce will be utilised.

ISSUE/COMMENT	COMMENTATOR	REFERENCE	RESPONSE
	Trans-Caledon Tunnel Authority (TCTA)		Should additional staff be required, the established recruitment process will be followed.
6.0 IMPACT ASSESSMENT			
We recommend the use of the most recent social and economic impact/assessment figures.	Mr Kgopotso Mabitsela Trans-Caledon Tunnel Authority (TCTA)	Public meeting at Mogol club, 25 February 2020	The latest 2019 Socioeconomic Impact Assessment Report conducted by Mac Consulting was received on the 5 March 2020 and the Scoping report has been updated accordingly.
Has the Grootegeluk Mine undertaken any Climate Change studies?	Mr Kgopotso Mabitsela Trans-Caledon Tunnel Authority (TCTA)	Public meeting at Mogol club, 25 February 2020	A climate change study is not a part of this EIA as the proposed project is an extension of the existing mine. Grootegeluk Mine keeps track of its scope 1 and scope 2 emissions and the mine is looking at climate change on a larger strategic level. It would be very difficult to quantify the level of impact this project will have, as there are many factors and industries involved. Climate change studies are done on a much larger scale than a single relatively small project.
Environmental lobby groups are looking for climate change studies in water use license applications as well.	Mr Kgopotso Mabitsela Trans-Caledon Tunnel Authority (TCTA)	Public meeting at Mogol club, 25 February 2020	Noted – see response above.

ISSUE/COMMENT	COMMENTATOR	REFERENCE	RESPONSE
7.0 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION			
Clarity on whether an environmental authorisation application can occur at the same time as the commencement of the public review period.	Ms Melinda Rodgers Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (LEDET)	Public meeting at Mogol club, 25 February 2020	The regulations are not prescriptive on the timing, i.e. they allow for the two to happen concurrently or reasonably close together. Once receipt of the application has been acknowledged, the proponent has 44 days to submit the final scoping report, which includes a 30-day public review period of the draft document. Due to this tight timeframe it is not prudent to submit the application before commencing with the public participation process. The regulated process is being followed.
All the questions raised in the meeting should be answered as Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) may raise them and it could lead to appeals.	Ms Sophia Tiale Trans-Caledon Tunnel Authority (TCTA)	Public meeting at Mogol club, 25 February 2020	Noted.
The council should be consulted as it is representing the community and the councillors may be valuable conveyors of the message.	Ms Maria Cocguyt Municipal Manager Lephalale Local Municipality	Focus Group Meeting 26 February 2020	Noted. Golder and Exxaro have been requested to present the project at the next Lephalale Municipal Council Meeting where all community leaders would be present. Golder has sent a request to present and is awaiting a date and time for the meeting from the Municipal Manager.

ISSUE/COMMENT	COMMENTATOR	REFERENCE	RESPONSE
It is important to inform the Municipal Manager's office before scheduling meetings as they may have community meetings scheduled at the same time or local events. The lack of consultation may lead to little or no attendance at public meetings.	Mr Delani Ngcobo Exxaro	Focus Group Meeting 26 February 2020	Noted. Please see section 3.9.2 of the Final Scoping Report for a detailed account of the level of effort made to notify and contact the Lephalale Local Municipality with regard to the proposed project and public meetings.
The project should be presented at the next council meeting as all members will be present.	Mr Delani Ngcobo Exxaro	Focus Group Meeting 26 February 2020	Noted.
Aurecon was involved in the infrastructure design and would like to be registered as an interested and affected party.	Mr Reghardt Steenkamp Aurecon	Email, dated 28 January 2020	Thank you for your email. Golder confirms that you have been registered as an interested and affected party. We will keep you informed regarding progress.
8.0 AIR QUALITY			
There are other tools and mechanisms available in terms of the Air Quality Act, such as the Local Municipality's tools and regulations. Further, the District Municipality's Environmental Management Framework must be considered to arrive at an informed decision.	Stanley Madumeya Waterberg District	Public meeting at Mogol club, 25 February 2020	Noted, Golder will consider the Municipal Regulations and Frameworks in the EIA.

ISSUE/COMMENT	COMMENTATOR	REFERENCE	RESPONSE
The presentation states that there was a recent exceedance of the dust levels in 2018.	Mr Vincent Raphunga Waterberg District Municipality	Public meeting at Mogol club, 25 February 2020	There were two more incidences in 2019 and they are related to the activities on the Northern side of the Grootegeeluk operations. Grootegeeluk is aware of the likely increase in dust levels as a result of the activities being applied for. These will be addressed in the specialist studies, and the resulting recommendations will be implemented.
9.0 GENERAL			
Medupi power station is currently undertaking a project that ensures that they obtain recent statistics on socio-economic factors. Communication should be established with people undertaking projects in the area that may benefit the Turfvlakte project.	Mr Kgopotso Mabitsela Trans-Caledon Tunnel Authority (TCTA)	Public meeting at Mogol club, 25 February 2020	The latest 2019 Socioeconomic Impact Assessment Report compiled by Mac Consulting was received on the 5 March 2020 and the Scoping report has been updated.

Signature Page

Golder Associates Africa (Pty) Ltd.



Marie Schlechter
Senior Environmental Consultant



Antoinette Pietersen
Senior Stakeholder Engagement Lead

MS/AP

Reg. No. 2002/007104/07

Directors: RGM Heath, MQ Mokulubete, SC Naidoo, GYW Ngoma

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APPENDIX A

Written submissions received

From: [PPOffice](#)
To: [Qinisile, Mabel Sesi](#)
Cc: [Pietersen, Antoinette](#)
Subject: FW: Exxaro Coal (Pty) Ltd Grootegeluk Coal Mine: Notice of a Scoping and Environmental Assessment and Water Use Licence Application for proposed expansion activities within the Grootegeluk Coal Mine's existing mining right area
Date: Friday, January 24, 2020 10:52:00 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

From: Ackerman Pieter <AckermanP@dws.gov.za>
Sent: 24 January 2020 10:24
To: PPOffice <PP@golder.co.za>
Cc: Mulaudzi Nkhumbudzeni <MulaudziN@dws.gov.za>; Roets Wietsche <RoetsW@dws.gov.za>; Meulenbeld Paul <MeulenbeldP@dws.gov.za>; Khosa Tsunduka <KhosaT@dws.gov.za>; Tonjeni Mzuvukile <TonjeniM@dws.gov.za>; Naidoo Bronwyn Roxanne <NaidooB@dws.gov.za>; Dhlamini Nthabiseng <DhlaminiN@dws.gov.za>
Subject: RE: Exxaro Coal (Pty) Ltd Grootegeluk Coal Mine: Notice of a Scoping and Environmental Assessment and Water Use Licence Application for proposed expansion activities within the Grootegeluk Coal Mine's existing mining right area

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Hi

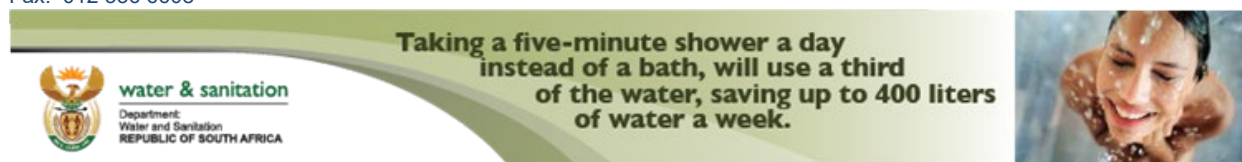
Water use authorisation required.

Progress on success of rehabilitation of pans at Sandloop to be submitted as well as relocation of baboon spiders.

Environmental audit to be submitted on existing operations highlighting impacts to characteristics of watercourses and proposed mitigation.

Regards

Pieter Ackerman (PrLArch)
Chief Landscape Architect
Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), South Africa
Sub Directorate Instream Water Use
Tel: 012 336 8217
Cell: 082 807 3512
Fax: 012 336 6608



From: PPOffice [<mailto:PP@golder.co.za>]
Sent: 24 January 2020 10:00 AM
To: Ackerman Pieter
Subject: Exxaro Coal (Pty) Ltd Grootegeluk Coal Mine: Notice of a Scoping and Environmental Assessment and Water Use Licence Application for proposed expansion activities within the Grootegeluk Coal Mine's existing mining right area

- Draft Scoping Report available for public review: **27 January until Tuesday 25 February 2020**

Dear Mr Pieter Ackerman

Please see attached the Background Information letter, locality map, registration and comment sheet of the abovementioned project for your perusal. Please complete and return the registration and comment sheet should you wish to register as an interested and affected party and/or comment. Please also indicate whether you would like to attend one of the public meetings, and to be kept informed about progress during the environmental authorisation process.

■ **Public meeting dates:**

- Wednesday 12 February 2020, 10:00am - 12:00pm, at the Mogol Club, George Wells Street, Lephalale;
- OR**
- Wednesday 12 February 2020, 14:00 - 16:00, at the Mogolo Academy, 175 Mosethla Street, Marapong.

Should you wish to obtain more information or comment, please contact me at (011) 254 4800, fax 086 582 1561 or email: PPoffice@golder.co.za

Kind regards,

Mabel Sesi Qinisile

Stakeholder Engagement Specialist

Golder Associates Africa (Pty) Ltd

Building 1, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand, 1685 P.O. Box 6001, Halfway House, 1685

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From: [PPOffice](#)
To: [Qinisile, Mabel Sesi](#)
Cc: [Pietersen, Antoinette](#)
Subject: FW: Exxaro Coal (Pty) Ltd Grootegeluk Coal Mine: Notice of a Scoping and Environmental Assessment and Water Use Licence Application for proposed expansion activities within the Grootegeluk Coal Mine's existing mining right area
Date: Friday, January 24, 2020 10:52:05 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

From: Roets Wietsche <RoetsW@dws.gov.za>

Sent: 24 January 2020 10:39

To: Ackerman Pieter <AckermanP@dws.gov.za>; PPOffice <PP@golder.co.za>

Cc: Mulaudzi Nkhumbudzeni <MulaudziN@dws.gov.za>; Meulenbeld Paul <MeulenbeldP@dws.gov.za>; Khosa Tsunduka <KhosaT@dws.gov.za>; Tonjeni Mzuvukile <TonjeniM@dws.gov.za>; Naidoo Bronwyn Roxanne <NaidooB@dws.gov.za>; Dhlamini Nthabiseng <DhlaminiN@dws.gov.za>

Subject: RE: Exxaro Coal (Pty) Ltd Grootegeluk Coal Mine: Notice of a Scoping and Environmental Assessment and Water Use Licence Application for proposed expansion activities within the Grootegeluk Coal Mine's existing mining right area

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Fully support Pieter Ackerman's comments and the audit must make recommendations on additional mitigation that may be required.

Kind regards
Wietsche

From: Ackerman Pieter

Sent: 24 January 2020 10:23 AM

To: PPOffice

Cc: Mulaudzi Nkhumbudzeni; Roets Wietsche; Meulenbeld Paul; Khosa Tsunduka; Tonjeni Mzuvukile; Naidoo Bronwyn Roxanne; Dhlamini Nthabiseng

Subject: RE: Exxaro Coal (Pty) Ltd Grootegeluk Coal Mine: Notice of a Scoping and Environmental Assessment and Water Use Licence Application for proposed expansion activities within the Grootegeluk Coal Mine's existing mining right area

Hi

Water use authorisation required.

Progress on success of rehabilitation of pans at Sandloop to be submitted as well as relocation of baboon spiders.

Environmental audit to be submitted on existing operations highlighting impacts to characteristics of watercourses and proposed mitigation.

Regards

Pieter Ackerman (PrLArch)
Chief Landscape Architect
Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), South Africa
Sub Directorate Instream Water Use
Tel: 012 336 8217
Cell: 082 807 3512
Fax: 012 336 6608



water & sanitation
Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**Taking a five-minute shower a day
instead of a bath, will use a third
of the water, saving up to 400 liters
of water a week.**



From: PPOffice [<mailto:PP@golder.co.za>]

Sent: 24 January 2020 10:00 AM

To: Ackerman Pieter

Subject: Exxaro Coal (Pty) Ltd Grootegeluk Coal Mine: Notice of a Scoping and Environmental Assessment and Water Use Licence Application for proposed expansion activities within the Grootegeluk Coal Mine's existing mining right area

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Should you wish to obtain more information or comment, please contact me at (011) 254 4800, fax 086 582 1561 or email: PPoffice@golder.co.za

Kind regards,

Mabel Sesi Qinisile

Stakeholder Engagement Specialist

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From: [Ackerman Pieter](#)
To: [Qinisile, Mabel Sesi](#); [Roets Wietsche](#)
Cc: [Pietersen, Antoinette](#); [Schlechter, Marie](#); [Mulaudzi Nkhumbudzeni](#); [Meulenbeld Paul](#); [Khosa Tsunduka](#); [Tonjeni Mzuvukile](#); [Naidoo Bronwyn Roxanne](#); [Dhlamini Nthabiseng](#)
Subject: RE: Exxaro Coal (Pty) Ltd Grootegeluk Coal Mine: Notice of a Scoping and Environmental Assessment and Water Use Licence Application for proposed expansion activities within the Grootegeluk Coal Mine's existing mining right area
Date: Friday, January 31, 2020 11:33:11 AM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)

EXTERNAL EMAIL

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Hi Mabel

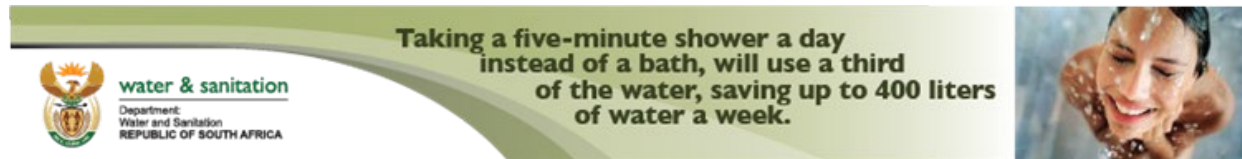
Thank you for the feedback

With rehabilitation and especially re- creation of pans it is essential to make full use of the rainy season so the mine should consider updating/ changing its programme.

If I am not mistaken the rehabilitation and relocation should have taken place Nov/ Dec 2019 already.

Regards

Pieter Ackerman (PrLArch)
Chief Landscape Architect
Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), South Africa
Sub Directorate Instream Water Use
Tel: 012 336 8217
Cell: 082 807 3512
Fax: 012 336 6608



From: Qinisile, Mabel Sesi [mailto:MQinisile@golder.co.za]
Sent: 30 January 2020 03:41 PM
To: Ackerman Pieter; Roets Wietsche
Cc: Pietersen, Antoinette; Schlechter, Marie; Mulaudzi Nkhumbudzeni; Meulenbeld Paul; Khosa Tsunduka; Tonjeni Mzuvukile; Naidoo Bronwyn Roxanne; Dhlamini Nthabiseng
Subject: RE: Exxaro Coal (Pty) Ltd Grootegeluk Coal Mine: Notice of a Scoping and Environmental Assessment and Water Use Licence Application for proposed expansion activities within the Grootegeluk Coal Mine's existing mining right area

Good day Messrs Ackerman and Roets

Thank you very much for your comments received on the announcement of the proposed Exxaro Turfvlakte project at the Grootegeluk Coal Mine near Lephalale.

Kindly find herewith a response to each of the points raised.

- Water use authorisation required:

An application for a Water Use Licence will be submitted to the DWS as part of the Turfvlakte project.

The following NWA sections will be applicable to the application:

- Section 21(c) and Section 21(i):
 - Removal of pans within mining area; and
 - Proximity of mine infrastructure to wetlands/pans within the area.
- Section 21(g):
 - Dust suppression.

- Section 21(j):
 - Dewatering of pit areas to continue mining.

More detail on the WUL application will be presented to the stakeholders during the impact assessment phase of the project.

- Progress on success of rehabilitation of pans at Sandloop to be submitted as well as relocation of baboon spiders:

The licence applicable to this issue was only issued in October 2019. Grootegeluk Coal Mine is currently in the process of finalising the relocation plan for the baboon spiders and the other species of importance. Grootegeluk is also in the process of finalising the final offset study, including a monitoring plan for the offset area that was identified to the north of the mine. This offset area includes areas around a drainage line that forms a seasonal tributary of the Sandloop Spruit. The Proof of Concept Study, for the relocation of the pans, is also being finalised.

The above mentioned studies/plans will be submitted no later than 18 April 2020, as per the Licence conditions.

- Environmental audit to be submitted on existing operations highlighting impacts to characteristics of water courses and proposed mitigation:

The proposed Grootegeluk Mine expansion into the wetland areas has not been initiated and it is only planned for quarter 2 of 2020. Current mining activities is still more than 500m from the closest pans. The anticipated impacts as indicated in the original wetland study and associated application are still the same.

Included in the above mentioned licence, issued in October 2019, is the authorisation for the destruction of the pans in front of the pit and included in the 30-year LOM plan and thereafter. The mitigation for this impact is the proposed offset. Supporting this offset is the Offset Management Plan and Proof of Concept Study (both are being finalised). The intent is to kick-off the Proof of Concept Study to confirm if the pans can be successfully relocated / recreated in the 2nd Quarter of 2020. The outcome of this process will be refined and included in the final rehabilitation plans for Grootegeluk. As mentioned above, all these reports will be submitted to the Department before 18 April 2020.

The first external audit for the above mentioned WUL will be conducted in May 2020 as part of the larger Grootegeluk IWUL audit.

With regard to the proposed Turfvlakte Open Pit project, the scenario will be different since not all pans within the project area will be impacted. The impacts will be assessed and mitigation measures will be formulated during the impact assessment phase of the project. We will keep you informed and your comments welcomed.

I trust that you will find the above response in order. Kindly let us know if you require any additional information.

Kind regards

Mabel Sesi Qinisile

Stakeholder Engagement Specialist

Golder Associates Africa (Pty) Ltd.

Building 1, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand, 1685 P.O. Box 6001, Halfway House, 1685

T: +27 11 254 4800 | **D:** +27 11 254 4873 | **C:** +27 72 800 4491 | golder.com

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Please consider the environment before printing this email.

From: Roets Wietsche <RoetsW@dws.gov.za>

Sent: 24 January 2020 10:39

To: Ackerman Pieter <AckermanP@dws.gov.za>; PPOffice <PP@golder.co.za>

Cc: Mulaudzi Nkhumbudzeni <MulaudziN@dws.gov.za>; Meulenbeld Paul <MeulenbeldP@dws.gov.za>; Khosa Tsunduka

<KhosaT@dws.gov.za>; Tonjeni Mzuvukile <TonjeniM@dws.gov.za>; Naidoo Bronwyn Roxanne <NaidooB@dws.gov.za>;
Dhlamini Nthabiseng <DhlaminiN@dws.gov.za>

Subject: RE: Exxaro Coal (Pty) Ltd Grootegeluk Coal Mine: Notice of a Scoping and Environmental Assessment and Water Use Licence Application for proposed expansion activities within the Grootegeluk Coal Mine's existing mining right area

EXTERNAL EMAIL

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Fully support Pieter Ackerman's comments and the audit must make recommendations on additional mitigation that may be required.

Kind regards
Wietsche

From: Ackerman Pieter
Sent: 24 January 2020 10:23 AM
To: PPOffice
Cc: Mulaudzi Nkhumbudzeni; Roets Wietsche; Meulenbeld Paul; Khosa Tsunduka; Tonjeni Mzuvukile; Naidoo Bronwyn Roxanne; Dhlamini Nthabiseng
Subject: RE: Exxaro Coal (Pty) Ltd Grootegeluk Coal Mine: Notice of a Scoping and Environmental Assessment and Water Use Licence Application for proposed expansion activities within the Grootegeluk Coal Mine's existing mining right area

Hi

Water use authorisation required.

Progress on success of rehabilitation of pans at Sandloop to be submitted as well as relocation of baboon spiders.

Environmental audit to be submitted on existing operations highlighting impacts to characteristics of watercourses and proposed mitigation.

Regards

Pieter Ackerman (PrLArch)
Chief Landscape Architect
Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), South Africa
Sub Directorate Instream Water Use
Tel: 012 336 8217
Cell: 082 807 3512
Fax: 012 336 6608



**Taking a five-minute shower a day
instead of a bath, will use a third
of the water, saving up to 400 liters
of water a week.**



From: PPOffice [<mailto:PP@golder.co.za>]
Sent: 24 January 2020 10:00 AM
To: Ackerman Pieter
Subject: Exxaro Coal (Pty) Ltd Grootegeluk Coal Mine: Notice of a Scoping and Environmental Assessment and Water Use Licence Application for proposed expansion activities within the Grootegeluk Coal Mine's existing mining right area

- Draft Scoping Report available for public review: **27 January until Tuesday 25 February 2020**

Dear Mr Pieter Ackerman

Please see attached the Background Information letter, locality map, registration and comment sheet of the abovementioned project for your perusal. Please complete and return the registration and comment sheet should you wish to register as an interested and affected party and/or comment. Please also indicate whether you would like to attend one of the public meetings, and to be kept informed about

progress during the environmental authorisation process.

▪ **Public meeting dates:**

- Wednesday 12 February 2020, 10:00am - 12:00pm, at the Mogol Club, George Wells Street, Lephale;
- OR**
- Wednesday 12 February 2020, 14:00 - 16:00, at the Mogolo Academy, 175 Mosethla Street, Marapong.

Should you wish to obtain more information or comment, please contact me at (011) 254 4800, fax 086 582 1561 or email: PPoffice@golder.co.za

Kind regards,

Mabel Sesi Qinisile

Stakeholder Engagement Specialist

Golder Associates Africa (Pty) Ltd

Building 1, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand, 1685 P.O. Box 6001, Halfway House, 1685

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From: [PPOffice](#)
To: [Qinisile, Mabel Sesi](#)
Cc: [Pietersen, Antoinette](#)
Subject: FW: Exxaro Coal (Pty) Ltd Grootegeluk Coal Mine: Notice of a Scoping and Environmental Assessment and Water Use Licence Application for proposed expansion activities within the Grootegeluk Coal Mine's existing mining right area
Date: Tuesday, January 28, 2020 11:53:14 AM
Attachments: [1784950 Exxaro Turfvlakte EIA WULA AnnLetter..pdf](#)

From: Reghardt Steenkamp <Reghardt.Steenkamp@aurecongroup.com>
Sent: 28 January 2020 11:50
To: PPOffice <PP@golder.co.za>
Cc: Kholiwe Mbatha [HQP] <Kholiwe.Mbatha@exxaro.com>; Liandi De Lange <Liangi.DeLange@aurecongroup.com>
Subject: FW: Exxaro Coal (Pty) Ltd Grootegeluk Coal Mine: Notice of a Scoping and Environmental Assessment and Water Use Licence Application for proposed expansion activities within the Grootegeluk Coal Mine's existing mining right area

EXTERNAL EMAIL

Hi Mabel

Aurecon was involved in the infrastructure design and would like to be registered as an Interested Party. Please use this email address as a contact for this project.

Kind regards

Reghardt Steenkamp Pr Eng, BEng Civil
Professional Engineer (Civil), Aurecon
T +27 12 4272710 F +27 86 6053863 M +27 82 8999005
Reghardt.Steenkamp@aurecongroup.com

DISCLAIMER

From: Kgopotso Mabitsela <kmabitsela@tcta.co.za>
Sent: Friday, 24 January 2020 10:20 AM
To: Ntshavheni Phidza <nphidza@gibb.co.za>; Ntsoli Maiketso <NMaiketso@tcta.co.za>; Sean Renecke <srenecke@gibb.co.za>; Willem Scholtz (Pretoria) <willem.s@ixengineers.co.za>; Lebo Leshabane (Pretoria) <lebo.l@ixengineers.co.za>; Johan Pienaar <Johan.Pienaar@aurecongroup.com>
Subject: FW: Exxaro Coal (Pty) Ltd Grootegeluk Coal Mine: Notice of a Scoping and Environmental Assessment and Water Use Licence Application for proposed expansion activities within the Grootegeluk Coal Mine's existing mining right area

FYA

From: PPOffice <PP@golder.co.za>

Sent: Friday, 24 January 2020 10:17

To: Kgopotso Mabitsela <kmabitsela@tcta.co.za>

Subject: Exxaro Coal (Pty) Ltd Grootegeeluk Coal Mine: Notice of a Scoping and Environmental Assessment and Water Use Licence Application for proposed expansion activities within the Grootegeeluk Coal Mine's existing mining right area

- Draft Scoping Report available for public review: **27 January until Tuesday 25 February 2020**

Dear Mr Kgopotso Mabitsela

Please see attached the Background Information letter, locality map, registration and comment sheet of the abovementioned project for your perusal. Please complete and return the registration and comment sheet should you wish to register as an interested and affected party and/or comment. Please also indicate whether you would like to attend one of the public meetings, and to be kept informed about progress during the environmental authorisation process.

■ **Public meeting dates:**

- Wednesday 12 February 2020, 10:00am - 12:00pm, at the Mogol Club, George Wells Street, Lephalale;
OR
- Wednesday 12 February 2020, 14:00 - 16:00, at the Mogolo Academy, 175 Mosethla Street, Marapong.

Should you wish to obtain more information or comment, please contact me at (011) 254 4800, fax 086 582 1561 or email: PPoffice@golder.co.za

Kind regards,

Mabel Sesi Qinisile

Stakeholder Engagement Specialist

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**SCOPING AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS AND
WATER USE LICENCE APPLICATION FOR PROPOSED EXPANSION ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE
EXISTING MINING RIGHT AREA OF THE EXXARO COAL (PTY) LIMITED GROOTEDELUK COAL
MINE LOCATED ON THE FARMS ENKELBULT 462 LQ AND TURFVLAKTE 463 LQ, LEPHALALE
LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, LIMPOPO PROVINCE**



Registration and Comment Sheet

Draft Scoping Report Monday, 27 January 2020 to Tuesday, 25 February 2020

Your comments are an important contribution into these permitting processes. We would like to interact directly with you and encourage you to register as a stakeholder so that we can keep you updated as this project moves forward and respond to any questions or concerns that you may wish to raise.

PERSONAL DETAILS				
Name	Surname	Title	Organisation / Department /Community (If applicable)	
Mathews	Sebonego	Mr	Eskom Medupi	
CONTACT INFORMATION				
Mobile Number	Land Line Contact Number		Fax Number	
082 973 0733	014 762 2456	Office		
		Home		
Email	Postal Address			Postal code
SeboneM@eskom.co.za				0555
LANDOWNERS				
If your property is adjacent to Grootegeeluk Coal Mine, please tell us your farm name and erf/portion number		EEN ZAAMHEED NAAKW ONTKOMEN 509		
WOULD YOU LIKE TO REGISTER AS AN INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTY?				
Please register me as an interested and affected party (I&AP) for this project so that I may receive further information and notifications as the project develops			YES	NO
Preferred Method of Communication (Mark with an X)	Post	Email	Fax	
I would like to attend the public meeting on Wednesday 12 February 2020 at the Mogol Club in Lephalale from 10:00 to 12:00		YES	NO	
I would like to attend the public meeting on Wednesday 12 February 2020 at the Mogolo Academy in Marapong from 14:00 to 16:00.		YES	NO	
In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), I disclose below any direct business, financial, personal or other interest that I may have in the approval or refusal of the application:	Date	27 Jan 2020		
	Signature			

For internal use to confirm capture of stakeholder details into the stakeholder database

Stakeholder database reference number

Signature of data capturer

COMMENT(S)

You are welcome to use different pages should you so wish.

I have the following comments to make regarding the proposed project and/or the public consultation process:

Please ask the following of my colleagues / friends to register as Interested and Affected Persons for this environmental authorisation and water use licence application process:

NAME	CONTACT DETAILS
Sabelo Lindi	061 4358940

PLEASE RETURN THE REGISTRATION AND COMMENT SHEET TO:

Golder Associates Africa

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OFFICE

Mabel Qinisile / Antoinette Pietersen
P O Box 6001, Halfway House, 1685

Tel +27(11) 254 4800

Fax (086) 582 1561

E-mail PPOffice@golder.co.za

THANK YOU

From: [PPOffice](#)
To: [Qinisile, Mabel Sesi](#)
Subject: FW: Exxaro Turfvlakte EA & WULA
Date: Wednesday, February 26, 2020 2:27:44 PM

From: Elana <bububush@lantic.net>
Sent: 26 February 2020 13:55
To: PPOffice <PP@golder.co.za>
Subject: Exxaro Turfvlakte EA & WULA

EXTERNAL EMAIL

Hi,

I am in so much trouble. I mixed up my dates and places. I so wanted to attend the public meeting at Mogol Club, and found out just now, it was yesterday.

Could you please register me as an I&AP and send me the BID?

And don't 'skinder' about my scatter brain!

Regards

Elana Greyling

Concerned Citizens of Lephalale

Cell: 082 863 8696

E-mail: bububush@lantic.net

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

APPENDIX B

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