

- South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA);

IAPs:

- landowners in and surrounding the project site (Republic of South Africa, DRDLR and the Bakoni Ba-Phetla Tribal Authority);
- farmers in the immediate area (i.e. Mr Nel, Mr van Vuuren, Mr Blake, Ms Groenewald, Ms Riechert)
- land occupiers and community in and surrounding the project area (falling under the Bakoni Ba-Phetla Tribal Authority);
- downstream mines and industries;
- non-government organisations and associations;
- local authorities (district authorities and local municipality) (Thaba Chewu); and
- mine employees.

A public involvement database has been developed for the project and is provided in Appendix B.

3.2.2 STEPS IN THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

Steps in the consultation process that has been conducted to date are set out in Table 3-1 below.

TABLE 3-1: CONSULTATION PROCESS WITH IAPS AND AUTHORITIES

Task	Description	Date
Notification - regulatory authorities and IAPs		
Application to MDEDET	Formal application was submitted by Metago to MEDET on 02 March 2010. A copy of the relevant parts of the application and the responses are attached in Appendix A.	02 March 2010
Social scan	<p>A social scan of the Hoogland project sites was conducted by Metago. The purpose of the social scan was:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to identify relevant municipal ward councillors, landowners, land occupiers, and other interested and affected parties; • to obtain updated contact details for IAPs; • to identify appropriate communication structures; and • inform IAPs of the project, upcoming public consultation process and associated scoping and EIA/EMP processes. <p>As part of the social scan, direct consultation with landowners took place through informal discussions, focussed meetings and/or telephonic discussions. Issues raised during the social scan have been included in the issues table.</p> <p>One output of the social scan is an IAP database (Appendix B). The IAP database will be updated as required.</p>	April/May 2010

Task	Description	Date
Distribution of background information document (BID)	BIDs were distributed to IAPs by email, post and fax using the mine's IAP database and contact details obtained during the social scan, at the public scoping meetings and by fax and/or e-mail to authorities on the project's public involvement database. A copy of the BID (in English) used is attached in Appendix C. The purpose of the BID was to formally inform IAPs and authorities about the project, the environmental assessment process, possible environmental impacts and means of inputting into the environmental assessment process. Attached to the BID was a registration and response form, which provided IAPs with an opportunity to submit their names, contact details and comments on the project to Metago	20 – 26 May 2010
Site notices	Laminated A2 site notices in English and SePedi were placed at key conspicuous positions in and around the project sites. An English version of the advertisement/site notice used is attached in Appendix C.	20 May 2010
Newspaper advertisements	Block advertisements were placed in the Highlands Panorama and the Steelburger/Lydenburg News) (see copies in Appendix C).	20 and 21 May 2010
Scoping stage meetings		
Information-sharing scoping meeting(s)	Information-sharing scoping meetings were held. The purpose of the meetings was to provide IAPs with an outline of the project and environmental assessment process, identify potential issues to be investigated further, provide input into the terms of reference for specialist studies and agree on the way forward. Minutes of the meetings are included in Appendix C.	21-23 July 2010
Regulatory authority scoping meeting	A scoping meeting was held with the regulatory authorities on site. The purpose of the meeting was similar to that of the public scoping meeting, that is to provide regulatory authorities with an outline of the project and environmental assessment process, obtain input into the legal process being followed, identify potential issues to be investigated further, provide input into the terms of reference for specialist studies and agree on the way forward. Minutes of the meeting are included in Appendix C.	14 July 2010
Review of scoping report		
Public review of scoping report	Copies of the scoping report will be made available for public review as outlined in Section Error! Reference source not found.	April 2011
Regulatory authority review of scoping report	Regulatory authority review of the scoping report will take place as outlined in Section Error! Reference source not found.	April –June 2011

3.2.3 SUMMARY OF ISSUES RAISED

A list of issues that have been raised to date by authorities and IAPs is given below. The full summary is in Appendix D. Issues raised pertain to:

- procedural issues;
- technical questions on the project;
- land use issues;
- heritage and cultural issues;
- surface water (impacts on quantity and quality);

- blasting and vibrations;
- groundwater (impacts on quantity and quality);
- biodiversity issues (disturbance/loss of fauna and flora);
- traffic implications;
- air pollution (increase in dust generation);
- noise disturbance;
- rehabilitation and closure;
- objections to the project;
- negative visual issues; and
- negative socio-economic issues (i.e. work employment, land values, increase in crime, quality of life).

This list will be updated following the scoping consultation process.

4 IDENTIFICATION OF THE ANTICIPATED IMPACTS

Potential environmental, social or cultural impacts, including the cumulative impacts where applicable, that were identified during the scoping process are discussed under environmental component headings in this section. These discussions should be read with the corresponding descriptions of the baseline environment in Section 2 of the scoping report.

Against the above background, the potential impacts associated with all the phases (construction, operations, decommissioning and closure) have been conceptually identified and described and reference has been made to the studies/investigations that are required to provide the necessary additional information.

The information in this section was provided to Metago by the AQPSA project team. This section provides conceptual information to give readers an overview of the project components and related project scale. It should however be noted that this conceptual information will be refined in the EIA/EMP amendment phase.

At this stage in project planning a number of alternatives are still under consideration and are listed in Section 5 of the scoping report.

The main aim of the proposed project is to extend the current mining operations at the mine by:

- mining the two outlying ore bodies that are located to the south of the mine;
- extending existing support services and networks at the mine to service the mining extensions

The design life of the project is 5.5 years. The scoping report and EIA/EMP amendment report covers this 5.5 year period.

4.1 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

A description of the proposed project including a map showing the spatial locality of infrastructure, extraction area and any associated activities is given in the section below.

The main aim of the project is to access additional platinum group metals bearing ore. The proposed project components will include the establishment of two open cast pits with associated infrastructure associated residue disposal facilities, water management facilities and various support infrastructure, linear infrastructure and services.

Information that provides perspective on the scale of the project is presented in Table 4-1. It should however be noted that this information may be refined further during the EIA phase.

TABLE 4-1 PROJECT DATA THAT PROVIDES PERSPECTIVE ON THE SCALE OF THE PROJECT

Features		Statistics
Group	Specific	
Mining	Target mineral	Platinum group metals (PGMs) and other associated minerals
	Resource estimation	A minimum of 3.6 million tonnes
	Rate	Approximately 600 000 tonnes run of mine per annum
	Dimensions of pits	South pit conceptual area of 20ha and having a zone of influence of 25ha, north th pit conceptual area of 28ha and having a zone of influence of 36ha
	Volume of overburden	22.5 million m ³
Resource use	Water demand	Approximately 540 million litres per annum
	Power demand	Between XX and XXX MW
Employment	Staff: construction	No additional staff will be employed, current staff re-deployed
	Staff: operational	No additional staff will be employed, current staff re-deployed
	Operating times	24 hrs a day, 6 days a week
Revenue generation	Capital investment	Approximately 125 million Rands
	Annual cost to operate	Approximately 560 Rands per tonne of crushed ore

4.2 CONSTRUCTION PHASE

4.2.1 CONSTRUCTION PHASE FACILITIES

The layout of existing surface infrastructure at the mine is illustrated in Figure 4-1. Surface infrastructure proposed for the project is illustrated conceptually in Figure 4-1 and listed below:

- two new opencast pits (north and south pits)
- temporary overburden, ore and topsoil stockpiles;
- temporary storm water management settler ponds at the pits;
- extending existing power lines and haul roads to the open pits
- access road for administration and management vehicles

