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South African Heritage Resources Agency
P.O. Box 4637
Cape Town
8000

Dear Sir/Madam

APPLICATION FOR SECTION 21 (C) & (I) GENERAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF SECTION 21 OF THE NATIONAL WATER ACT (ACT 36 OF 1998) FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A WETLAND REHABILITATION PLAN ON PORTION 5 THE FARM MOOIFONTEIN 448 JS

It is brought to your attention that Exxaro Coal (Pty) Ltd, Arnot Coal Mine is planning the implementation of a wetland rehabilitation plan on Portion 5 of the Farm Mooifontein 448 JS. Exxaro Coal (Pty) Ltd, Arnot Coal Mine through its operations have impacted on wetlands by means of the construction of a haul road crossing across a channelled valley bottom wetland on Portion 5 of the farm Mooifontein 448 JS. This stream crossing was constructed with carbonaceous material which resulted in the contamination of the wetland and surface water bodies. In addition, trenches were created within the channelled valley bottom wetlands that need to be rehabilitated. The intention of this application is to allow rehabilitation of the impacted areas. A detailed wetland rehabilitation plan and rehabilitation interventions for the rehabilitation of the channelled valley bottom wetland situated on Portion 5 of the farm Mooifontein was compiled by Ground Truth. The proposed activity within the watercourse triggers the need for an application of a Water Use Authorisation and therefore a Section 21 c & i General Authorization under the National Water Act (Act No. 36 of 1998) is required from the Department of Water Affairs and Sanitation. This is a legal requirement as any activity which is planned and which will impact on the wetlands/watercourses within the study area is subject to authorisation under Section 21 of the National Water Act (Act 36, 1998).

Applicant: Exxaro Coal (Pty) Ltd.

Quaternary Catchment: B12C

Name of the water resource: Upper reaches of the tributaries of the Klein Olifants River.

exxaro

ARNOT | COAL

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A division of Exxaro Coal Mpumalanga (Pty) Ltd, Reg No. 1999/010289/07 | Directors: MDM Mgojo PE Venter MR Walker
Company Secretary: CLS Consulting Services (Pty) Ltd

The proposed wetland area to be rehabilitated is situated within a farm where mining rights belong to Exxaro Coal (Pty) Ltd, and the property is situated approximately midway between the towns of Middelburg and Carolina in the Mpumalanga Province within and around Arnot Coal Mine. As the proposed rehabilitation interventions are within the wetland area, it is therefore the intention of Exxaro Coal (Pty) Ltd. to apply for general authorisation to implement rehabilitation measures and improve the ecological status of the affected wetland area on site. An assessment of the risks associated with undertaking such rehabilitation measures was undertaken by Wetland Consulting Services (Pty) Ltd. and the actual rehabilitation plan was compiled by Ground Truth.

The outcomes of the risk assessment indicated moderate short term risks to surrounding watercourses given that the proposed interventions will be implemented within the wetland. However, the assessment indicated no long term risk to the ecological condition of the wetland system, as the implementation of rehabilitation will improve the overall functioning of the wetland system. Further information regarding the location of rehabilitation interventions in relation to the wetland areas, risk assessment document and further rehabilitation and mitigation measures can be obtained from the Arnot Coal Mine and/or Wetland Consulting Services (Pty) Ltd. from the following contact persons:

Arnot Coal Mine

Contact Person: Simphiwe Mthiyane
Telephone Number: 013 297 8141
Email: Simphiwe.Mthiyane@Exxaro.com

Wetland Consulting Services (Pty) Ltd

Shavaughn Davis
012 349 2699/ 084 927 4130
ShavaughnD@wetcs.co.za

Should you have any objections/comments, these should be submitted to either the Department of Water Affairs and/or Wetland Consulting Services (Pty) Ltd., who is handling this application, before the 31st of October 2014. Written submission can further be made to the following details:

Contact details are as follows:

Chief Director: Mpumalanga Regional Office
Department of Water Affairs
Private Bag X11259
Nelspruit
1200
Attention: Sam Maliage
Tel: 013 932 2061
Email: maliagas@dwa.gov.za

AND/OR

The Director
Wetland Consulting Services (Pty) Ltd.
P.O. Box 72295
Lynnwood Ridge
0040

Attention: Bhuti Dlamini
Tel: 012 349 2699/ 072 410 8931
Email: BhutiD@wetcs.co.za

Yours Faithful

p.p. *D. Mlase*

Mr Chris Silver

Mine Manager: Exxaro Arnot Coal