

6 January 2021

SAHRA

DMR File Ref Nr: (NC) 30/5/1/1/2/12721 PR

**RE: NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR PROSPECTING RIGHT BY
ORION EXPLORATION NO. 4 (PTY) LTD**

Orion Exploration No. 4 (Pty) Ltd (OE4) has applied for a Prospecting Right to prospect for various minerals over Portion 1 (Neeldale) of the Farm Eyerdop Pan 58, Remaining Extent of Portion 2 (Witkop) of the Farm Eyerdop Pan 58, Portion 3 (a portion of Portion 2 – Eijerdop Put) of the Farm Eyerdop Pan 58 and Portion 4 (a portion of Portion 2 – Rooipan) of the Farm Eyerdop Pan 58, situated in the Prieska District, Northern Cape Province (hereinafter referred to as 'the Application Area).

The application for the Prospecting Right has been accepted by the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE) under application reference number (NC) 30/5/1/1/2/12721 PR.

Application background:

- Rich Rewards Trading 437 (Pty) Ltd (RRT), a subsidiary company to Orion Minerals, held a Prospecting Right under DMRE reference numbers (NC) 1917 PR and (NC) 10244 PR (Renewal) over the Application Area. This Prospecting Right Renewal lapsed on 28 February 2020.
- RRT submitted, on the 25th of February 2020, an application for a Mining Right (MR) over the Application Area, with DMRE reference number (NC) 10174 MR. This MR application was accepted on the 7th of August 2020.
- OE4 applied for a Prospecting Right over the Application Area under DMRE reference number (NC) 30/5/1/1/2/12567 PR, which application was accepted on 7 August 2020. This application was submitted as a safeguard in the instance that the MR application would be rejected / refused by the DMRE. This application is referenced to as OE4-1 PR further in this letter.
- The RRT MR application included various commodities, all of which were included in the DMRE acceptance letter.
- The OE4-1 PR application included a more comprehensive list of commodities; however the commodities accepted under the RRT MR were excluded in the DMRE acceptance letter.
- In order to rationalise the applications given the prevailing economic circumstances OE4 lodged a second Prospecting Right application under DMRE reference number (NC) 12721 PR including all the minerals covered by the RRT MR and OE4-1 PR applications. This application was accepted by the DMRE on the 14th of December 2020. This application is referenced to as OE4-2 PR further in this letter.

- Upon acceptance of the OE4-2 PR application, RRT withdrew the MR application over the Application Area.
- Furthermore, upon acceptance of the OE4-2 PR application, OE4 withdrew the OE4-1 PR application over the Application Area.
- Thus, after the above applications were withdrawn, the only application currently in process at the DMRE over the Application Area is the OE4-2 PR application.

Timeframes:

As per NEMA Regulations the following due dates have to be honoured for the OE4-2 PR application:

- MPRDA Consultation Report: 4 February 2021
- Basic Assessment Report: 9 April 2021

Notification:

M and S Consulting (Pty) Ltd (M&S) has been appointed by OE4, as an independent consultant, to conduct the OE4-2 PR application process on their behalf. The prospecting right application has been compiled and submitted in terms of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (No. 28 of 2002) as amended and in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (No. 107 of 1998) as amended.

In terms of Sections 42 to 47 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 and in terms of Section 16(4) and Regulation 3 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act 28 of 2002) Interested and / or Affected Parties must be notified and consulted with regard to the proposed activity.

You are hereby notified, as an interested and/or affected party, of the intent to prospect on the Application Area.

Basic Assessment Report and Environmental Management Programme Report (BAR/EMPr):

OE4 will where necessary appoint relevant specialists to conduct assessments of the Application Area and provide relevant Specialist Reports for inclusion in the final BAR/EMPr document.

The final draft BAR/EMPr shall be provided to you for perusal and comment within the legislated timeframes.

If you have any other questions or need some more information please feel free to contact us.

Yours faithfully



Ms. T. Jooste