

Icebo Enviro Projects



Minutes of mining permit application at Eston for proposed quarry mining on ptn of farm Fairview 15282, within UMkhambathini local Municipality, UMgungundlovu district.

HELD ON

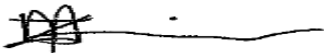
02 December 2021 Meeting was held on site at Eston Farm House

ENQUIRIES

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Signature

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1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS & APOLOGIES

Attendees: Brendon Crookes(BC) from BEFA; Dave Field(DF) from BEFA; Paul Nordo(PN) from Amaqamu ;Gary Fyvie(GF) from BEFA; Pete St*** (PS) from BEFA; Wynne Smith(WS) from BEFA; Andre' Dippenaar (AD) from BEFA; Robyn Armstrong(RA) from BEFA ; Elaine D***(ED) from UMkhambathini municipality; Phelalni Duma(PD) from Nkumbuleni agri projects; Louis *** (L*) from EECOH; Mthunzi Ndela(MN) from Ndwedwe road quarry; Suzy Memela(SM) from Icebo Enviro Projects; Monica Shange(MS) from Icebo Enviro Projects.

Apologies: none

MS: introduces herself and her colleague. MS then present to the team what the project entails, etc.

2. THE PRESENTATION

MS: Introduction

Provide Key Stakeholders and interested and affected parties with information regarding the proposed mining activity. Provide an overview of the Environmental basic assessment (BA) & Public Participation Process (PPP) being followed for the proposed project. Provide an opportunity for key stakeholders, I&AP's to seek clarity and provide input into the project. To record comments raised and include them in the Final BA report.

Ndwedwe Road Quarry intends to obtain a mining permit for mining aggregate material at Eston Fairview farm 1, 15155 and REM of Fairview 15155. Therefore the client needs to comply to the Mineral Petroleum Resource Act (MPRDA) and National Environmental Act (NEMA) (Act 107 of 1998) in order to obtain an environmental authorization and subsequently a mining permit.

The scope of works is a quarry mining of aggregate material (grade blend single size). The proposed mining area will be 4.9HA, with an estimated depth of 36m. It is proposed that 75000³ per year.

The proposed site is situated 5km from Eston town.

An advert was placed and published in the Mercury news paper November 2020. Onsite notices were placed along the proposed mining site. Public and stakeholder meetings were conducted (Including the current one). Background information documents were distributed to all interested and affected parties. Minutes will be drafted and incorporated into the BA. Mining permits validity is for a period of 2 years and renewed thereafter for the next 3 years=5 years

DMRE has made it compulsory for rehabilitation fees to be in their possession prior to issuing the mining permit therefore its mandatory to rehabilitate the mine. Annual assessment audits are also conducted by DMRE in all mines to assess compliance. Ndwedwe quarry plans to donate the land after it has been rehabilitated for a good course to be reused. Therefore after 5 years of mining the land will be reinstated for further use by the locals etc.

3. DISCUSSION SESSION

Following the presentations, the discussion session was opened and went on to guide the application process and pre-application meeting.

The issues raised have been grouped for ease of reference in the table below:

Issue Raised	Response	Outcome / Way Forward
<p>AD-We cannot consider the meeting that we had with Ndwedwe Road quarry prior to this meeting as a public meeting. So we need to be clear that was not a public meeting, as some of our neighbouring farmers were not consulted. So, the meeting that was held with Ndwedwe quarry previously was strictly based on them informing us of what they are proposing to do. So we do not consider that as a public meeting. Therefore, we shouldn't call it a public meeting, as there was no formal invitation that was done to call it that.</p>	<p>MS- The reason for Icebo enviro to be present at this meeting, as much as EECOH are the main EAP of this project, we are here to ensure that the public participation process is conducted in accordance to the National environmental management act (Act 107 of 1998) Therefore Icebo Enviro Projects is basically here to bridge any gap that may have not been created adequately in terms of the public participation process, hence we are having this public participation meeting. Therefore we will be taking over in terms of the public participation process only, and EECOH will resume in conducting the environmental impact assessment process. So, we are there to assist and show every aspect of the public participation process (PPP) in compliance to NEMA and transparently.</p>	<p>Icebo Enviro Projects will be taking over all of the PPP related to the proposed Quarry mining on ptn of Fairview 15282, within MKHAMBATHINI Local municipality. UMgungundlovu district.</p>
<p>WS-We will therefore request that another meeting be conducted as part pf the PPP as we still don't believe that all the interested and affected parties are present / available for this meeting. We want to know what kind of invitation was conducted to ensure that all the I&AP's are invited for this public meeting. So clearly we do need to invite all other I&AP's properly and conduct another PPP. So should we not then call this a public meeting as not all the I&AP's are available at this meeting.</p>	<p>MS- We cannot say that this is not a public meeting because it is and strictly because the client has already adhered to all the aspects of the NEMA PPP to ensure that all the I&APs are invited. I.e. on site notices were placed along the site, there was also an advert placed in the Mercury newspaper and background information documents were distributed to all the I&AP's. So, in principle the client has complied with the NEMA PPP requirements. We have reviewed the proof the PPP documentation that has already been conducted and are satisfied</p>	<p>Icebo Enviro Project will facilitate a second public participation meeting in January 2022 in order to satisfy the I&AP's requirement. But this meeting will still be considered as a public meeting as issues were raised, reordered and minuted so the second meeting will form part of this public meeting or call it phase 2.but we cannot ignore issues raised by i&AP at this meeting</p>

	<p>with it. However, we do not have a challenge if you insist that we conducted another public participation process in order to ensure that all the I&AP's are present for the meeting. So, we will consider this as a public meeting, and the upcoming meeting we will still be consider it as a second public/ stakeholders meeting. I do not see any harm in doing that to have 2 meetings in order to satisfy your requirements. Just to note that there is nothing hidden about this project, hence we ensure that we comply with the NEMA PPP. Everything is made transparent; hence we invite all the relevant I&AP's via different sources of invitations such as advert, onsite notices BID etc.</p> <p>Again, it would be unfair for all those I&AP who came today and participated and will not make for the second meeting for their comments not to be recorded and minuted as they are valid to0</p>	
<p>GF- Enquired on the fact that not all the I&AP's were available for this meeting. How would we then ensure that we have all the I&AP's and that they were invited and how do we know if they were adequately invited.</p>	<p>MS- As part of the PPP regulated process by NEMA,1998 an EAP is required to place an advert in the local newspaper, place onsite notices around the site and where people can reach and see the onsite notices. It doesn't have to be necessarily be onsite only, especially if an area is remote and where people necessarily access that area. We would normally put in on site, and place it along areas where people normally go to. It could be local country club, tuckshop, shop, local shopping centre etc. As the main purpose of an onsite notice is to make people</p>	<p>Majority of PPP documentation that was conducted by EECOH was in line with EIA requirements however there has been a request that the public meeting to be done again for transparency of project. This conducted meeting on the 02/12/21 is also valid so we will have 2 public meetings to ensure that all the NEMA PPP is compiled to and all I&AP are satisfied.</p>

	<p>aware of project and bring transparency about it. In all the site notices and adverts a 30-day period is given to all I&As which gives them enough time if they can't attend the meeting but they are still able to comment after seeing the notice. We ensure that BIDs are distributed to all relevant I&A's. So, all those PPP methods are a crucial part and component of the EIA process. In order ensure that all I&A's have been consulted. As mentioned above we have reviewed the PPP documentation and we are satisfied that majority of the PPP was conducted adequately and in compliance to EIA regulations in terms of onsite notices placed around the site, advert, distribution of the background information document. We can however admit that maybe the public meeting be enhanced to document all I&As comments adequately, of which we are trying to rectify as I am standing here in front of you now. We are engaging all the I&A's hearing your views and opinions and addressing them. All your comments will be recorded and minuted and those minutes will be sent Department of mineral resources and energy (DMRE). All decisions made by DMRE are based upon on review of all aspects of the basic assessment report i.e., technical information, public participation process that was conducted, specialist studies that will be conducted etc.</p>	
<p>PD-He is very keen on the project as he believes there will be business opportunities besides the</p>	<p>MD- As much as there will be local employment in terms of labour during operations; there will also</p>	<p>Ndwedwe road quarry will provide business opportunities to the local business men during the operation</p>

community employment opportunities that will be created by the proposed quarry mining. He is a business man and would be very keen on what he can offer for the project in terms of business opportunities.	be a requirement in terms of local businesses who will be supplying e.g., Diesel, transport and office supplies.	of the mine and job opportunities local communities.
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<p>ED- Would like to emphasize the PPP of the BA is regulated by EIA regulations in order to ensure compliance with NEMA .Therefore you must note that every opinion and view addressed in this meeting will be incorporated into the final report .The competent authority will make a decision based on various issues, not just the PPP. I.e., the specialist reports carry a lot of weight and the impact and mitigation measures related to this project. Therefore, I think that it is vital for the EAP to ensure that the impact and mitigation are stipulated within the specialist studies that will be conducted, as that will be very crucial in order to identify all the impacts and mitigation during operation oof mine</p>	<p>MS- Thank you very much for that input Elaine. That is a very crucial point too. The specialist provides the mitigations and impacts so that all the competent authority can be able to identify and see how the developer plans to overcome any challenges that this project may come with. Specialist studies have not yet been conducted and will be part of the final submission of the BA.</p>	<p>Specialist studies need to have been conducted before we have the second public participation, so that all the I&AP's can be informed of the impact and mitigations of this proposed mine.</p>
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<p>PS- Who employed Icebo Enviro project and EECOH. How independent are they in this project. Are they being paid by the client to come in and inform us on what they plan to do?</p>	<p>PN- Indicated that he has been involved in similar projects and is aware that all consultants are normally independent because no government can do an EIA for a client as that would be conflict of interest. So, he is fully aware that all EAP's are fully independent and its regulated. So, he doesn't see any problem that today we are visited by independent EAP because that it is the process that is followed in order to ensure that there is no biased between the government and clients. We have seen a lot of corruption that happens in South Africa that is why it is regulated to have independent EPAs. Every project needs independent consultants. So that what is happening now, we are familiar with it. We are in support of private consultants who are independent that are coming to inform us of the development.</p> <p>MS- We are an independent environmental practitioner and so is EECOH. We do not favour for the government nor do we work for the client. We give you views and opinions based on our environmental assessment. So, that we are not biased to any situation regarding this development.</p>	<p>All EAP that have been engaged in this project are independent and are accredited with relevant environmental associations.</p>
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4. THE WAY FORWARD

Icebo Enviro Projects are to draft minutes of the meeting and submit to Ndwedwe Road Quarry for their review and approval and subsequently attach to the BAR. Second public meeting will be scheduled by Icebo enviro project as per I&Aps request

5. CLOSURE

MS thanked everyone for their attendance and contributions.