

15 August 2012

Attention:

RE: NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORIZATION

Notice is hereby given that an application for environmental authorization in terms of the EIA Regulations of 2010 (Regulations in terms of Chapter 5 of the National Environmental Management Act of 1998, as amended) has been lodged with the Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (LEDET). The activity requires an application subject to a Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment Process as required by Sections 26 to 35 of Government Notice R. 543 of the EIA Regulations of December 2010.

Ref. Number: 12/1/9/2-W26 & NEAS reference number: LIM/EIA/0000399/2012.

Applicant: Sishen Iron Ore Company (Pty) Ltd

Project Name: Thabazimbi Mine extension project.

Project Location: Mining Property including the following farms: Donkerpoort 344 KQ remainder of portion 10, Kwaggashoek 345 KQ remaining extent, Wachteenbietjesdraai 350 KQ remainder of portion 1-3 & 5, 12, Wachteenbietjesdraai 350 KQ portion 4 & 9, 13, 40, 46, Buffelshoek 351 KQ the remainder, Buffelshoek 351 KQ remainder of portion 1, Buffelshoek 351 KQ portion 2 & 3, Grootfontein 352 KQ remainder of portion 1, Mooivallei 342 KQ portion 12.

Project Description: Kumba is investigating possibilities to extend the LOM by at least 20 years by exploiting the large low grade iron ore resources in the form of banded ironstone formations (BIF). The current operational plant at Thabazimbi is not equipped to treat the banded iron stone earmarked for the Phoenix Plant.

The project - includes the following activities: Underground exploration, two open pit areas (current Vanderbijl pit and Sovereign Hill), additional waste rock dumps & plant discard dump(s), bulk sampling (total of ±750 000t – overburden and ore included), maintenance workshop, fuel storage, pilot plants, access and haul roads, power lines, new slimes dam, slimes and return water pipelines, return water dam (review of WUL), possible construction of bridge over national road to link the eastern and western side, new load-out station, new siding, product beds and storm water management system. All of the above mentioned activities will take place within the existing mining license area.

Activities applied for:

R545, 18 June 2010	5	Pipelines consisting of two slimes and one return water pipelines with diameter of 150mm (each) and length of ±6 kilometers for the purpose of delivering slimes from the new plant to the slimes dam and return water from the slimes dam which will cross the Rooikuispruit resulting in impediment and diversion of the flow of water and
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		alteration of the bed and banks in the Rooikuispruit. Construction of slimes dam number 5.
R544, 18 June 2010	9	Construction of ±6 kilometers, two 150mm diameter (each) slimes pipelines delivering slimes from the new plant to the slimes dam and one 150mm diameter return water pipeline with a combined throughput of more than 120l per second.
R545, 18 June 2010	5	Conveyor structures crossing the Rooikuispruit transporting ore from the plant load out station approximately 1 kilometer and crossing Rooikuispruit from the crusher to the plant approximately 4 kilometres in length resulting in impediment and diversion of the flow of water and alteration of the bed and banks in the Rooikuispruit.
R545, 18 June 2010	5	Levelling (altering) of the Rooikuispruit bed to improve the water flow, and lining of the Rooikuispruit to prevent seepage from the spruit into Van der Bijl pit.
R544, 18 June 2010	18	
R544, 18 June 2010	10	Construction of 132Kv power line crossing over the Rooikuispruit. The support structures of the power line can result in impediment and diversion of the flow of water and alteration of the bed and banks in the Rooikuispruit. The route, length and servitude width will be a subject of alternative assessment.
R545, 18 June 2010	5	Bridge support structures crossing over the R510 Thabazimbi northern road to provide access from Van der Bijl pit to Donkerpoort crossing the Rooikuispruit resulting in impediment and diversion of the flow of water and alteration of the bed and banks in the Rooikuispruit.
R544, 18 June 2010	11	
R544, June 2010	53	Construction of an additional railway siding to accommodate the new ore beds.
R544, 18 June 2010	47	Construction of 6, 5 km haul roads within the mining area with a width of 23 meters.
R545, 18 June 2010	5	Various existing and future infrastructure e.g. haul roads, waste rock dumps and slimes dam facilities that alter storm water drainage lines originating in the Kwaggashoek, Van der Bijl, Bobbejaanwater, Donkerpoort, Buffelshoek and Meyer mine areas that require a water use license.

The above processes will partly be informed by:

(1) *Environmental Impact Assessments to be conducted;*

The results of which will be used to

(2) *Amend the mine's Environmental Management Programme, current mine closure plan, rehabilitation plan and financial provision.*

Invitation to participate: Should you wish to be included in the register of Interested and Affected Parties or comment on this application, please submit your name, contact information, and interest in the matter **in writing** to the above address not later than **17th September 2012**.

Public Meetings: A public meeting will be held at the Kumba Cinema Hall on **4th September 2012 at 17:00**. Please R.S.V.P before the 31st of August 2012.

Independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner:

Shangoni Management Services (Pty) Ltd.

PO Box 74726, Lynnwood Ridge, Pretoria, 0040.

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Lee-Anne Fellowes

Senior Environmental Consultant

Shangoni Management Services