

4 December 2013

Dear Sir/Madam,

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF FINAL SCOPING REPORT OF THE SISHEN IRON ORE COMPANY (PTY) LTD: THABAZIMBI MINE – PROJECT INFINITY

Notice is hereby given that an application for environmental authorisation 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: Project Infinity

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: Thabazimbi Mine - Project Phoenix was placed on ice end 31 May 2013 due to different reasons (opportunity for improved business case and timing of the project development). Project Phoenix entailed the development of a new project which included a new plant, slimes dam, open pit development, bridge etc. During negotiations with AMSA an opportunity to better utilise the existing asset was identified. The project was therefore redefined.

Thabazimbi Low Grade Retrofit (TLGR) project was defined as the retrofitting of the existing Thabazimbi Plant and associated infrastructure to optimise the processing of the low grade resource. One component of the project entails removal of the discard dump adjacent of the Rooikuispruit to facilitate additional infrastructure placement close to the existing plant. The project was officially named Project Infinity on the 29 August 2013.

The project consists of two main components namely the Retrofit and Stand-alone Plant.

The Retrofit Plant:

- 1) The following activities are associated with the Processing Plant:
 - (a) Removing old and fitting new 3-way chute between 1° & 2° crushing and washing & screening,
 - (b) Changing current 32mm top decks to 25mm top decks at 1° Screening,
 - (c) Removing old and fitting new 1mm classification circuit to existing washing and screening building,
 - (d) Changing current 8mm decks to 5mm decks at 3° screening,
 - (e) Upgrading of existing DMS Plant equipment for same throughput & media recovery from 2.8 t/m³ to 4.1 t/m³ circuit medium density,
 - (f) Installing new 1mm beneficiation circuit into existing refurbished structural steel above existing plant civils,
 - (g) Increasing existing fines product stockpiling capacity for increased fines: lump ratio from low grade run of mine.

The following infrastructure is associated with the Retrofit Plant:

- 2) (a) Upgrading existing plant discard system for increase Solid waste output from maximum future high & low grade beneficiation circuits,
- (b) Construction of a new slimes dam 5 and associated storm water management infrastructure before existing run out of capacity,
- (c) Upgraded slimes handling system.

Stand-alone Plant:

- (1) The following activities are associated with the Stand-alone plant:
 - (a) Stockpiling of 2014 unbeneficiated Low grade lump material,
 - (b) Constructing new stand Alone liberation, classification & beneficiation circuit for future Low grade lump material,
 - (c) Installing fines product blending ability to increased fines product stockpiling.

The following infrastructure is associated with the Stand-alone plant;

- (a) Upgrade/lengthening of the existing Thabazimbi rail yard to ensure a less than 12 hours turnaround time.

Possible construction of new 2° crushing circuit for partial feed to low grade circuit.

The following listed activities were applied for:

Listing Notice	Activity number	Activity description
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.
R544, 18 June 2010	11 (ii)	Stormwater canals or channels around the Slimes dam to collect all runoff water from the surrounding areas. Transportation of dirty water via a channel from the mine to the Slimes dam.
R544, 18 June 2010	11 (xi)	The construction of infrastructure structures (upgrading of the existing conveyor) covering 50m ² or more within a water course or within 32 meters of a watercourse.
R544, 18 June 2010	18 (i)	Removal of more than 5 cubic meters of soil from a watercourse for the construction of stormwater canals or channels around the Slimes dam to collect all runoff water from the surrounding areas.
R544, 18 June 2010	47	Construction of haul roads 10-20km in length within the mining area with a width of 30 meters.
R544, 18 June 2010	23	Stockpiling of low grade ore at various localities on the mining area (Buffelshoek west B1 & B2).
R545, 18 June 2010	5	Construction of slimes dam number 5.
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 Section 21 (c) (impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse & (i) (altering the bed, banks, course or characteristics of a watercourse).
Activity No (s) (in the notice) :	No. of Geographical	Describe each listed activity as per project description:

	Area and Description as per project	
R546, 18 June 2010	14	<p>Slimes dam disturbance larger than 20ha.</p> <p>Disturbance of 6 and 4 ha of stockpile storage areas at the primary crushers.</p> <p>Expansion of the plant discard dump and construction of the modular plant.</p> <p>Stockpiling of low grade ore at various localities on the mining area (Buffelshoek west B1 & B2).</p>

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.*

Availability of the final Scoping Report in terms of NEMA,1998:

The final scoping report will be made available to the public for review for a period of thirty (30) days, from 4 December 2013 – 22 January 2014. Hard copies of the mentioned final document have been made available at the Thabazimbi Public Library. A register and comment sheet accompanies the hard copies at the public viewing stations. An electronic copy of the final scoping report has also be posted on the Shangani Management Service's website (www.shangani.co.za) for public comment for the same period of thirty days.

Please complete the register subsequent to reviewing the final scoping report and provide your comments no later than 22 January 2014 to the details provided below.

Independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner:

EAP contact details: Mrs Lee-Anne Fellowes, Shangani Management Services, P.O. Box 74726, Lynnwood Ridge, 0040, Cell: 082 456 3208 Tel: 012 807 7036 Fax 012 807 1014 , e-mail: leeanne@shangani.co.za.

For Online Participation go to www.shangani.co.za and click on Public Participation.



Lee-Anne Fellowes
Senior Environmental Consultant
Shangani Management Services