



**CONSULTANTS**

8 Atkinson Street • Cassandra • Kimberley  
PO Box 3226 • Kimberley • 8300  
Tel: 072 141 4164 • Fax: 086 606 6315  
lindiewiehn@gmail.com

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

11 May 2016

PER ON-LINE SUBMISSION

Dear Sir/Madam

**NOTIFICATION OF THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS REGARDING AN APPLICATION FOR A PROSPECTING RIGHT ON THE REMAINDER AND PORTION 1 OF THE FARM QUAGGA KOP 213, FARM 214 AND THE FARM ZANDKRAAL C 96, DISTRICT OF VAN RHYNSDORP , PROVINCE WESTERN CAPE.**

**REFERENCE: WC 30/5/1/1/2/10239 PR**

Notice is hereby given of the intent of Meera Diamonds (Pty) Ltd (applicant), to prospect for diamonds on the above mentioned properties. An application for a Prospecting Right has been submitted at the Regional Manager, Department Mineral Resources, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Atterbury House, Cnr Lower Burg and Riebeeck Street, Cape Town, with contact number 021 427 1000 on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2016.

Kindly refer to attached documentation for information on the location and extent of the area and the activities that will form part of the proposed prospecting operation.

According to Section 16(4)(b) of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, (Act No. 28 of 2002)(as amended) and in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, the National Environmental Management Waste Act, 2008, and Section 40 to 43 of the National environmental Act, 1998 and the environmental Assessment Regulation 2014 the landowner or lawful occupier of the land, as well as any other interested and/or affected party must be notified and consulted with regarding the proposed project.

You are hereby invited to register as an affected or interested party, provide comments and/or concerns in writing regarding the proposed prospecting operation to LW Consultants on or before 11 June 2016. If no correspondence is received from you within the stated period, it will be accepted that you have no objections against the proposed prospecting operation.

The prescribed Environmental Reports must be submitted on or before 11 July 2016 2016. Where after it will be available for insight at the consultants' offices.

Please feel free to contact the undersigned on 072 141 4164 should you require any further information in this regard.

Yours faithfully

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**REGISTRATION AND COMMENT FORM FOR THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS.**

**PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN TO:**

LW Consultants. P.O. Box 3226 Kimberley 8300	Tel: 053 831 7634 Fax: 086 606 6315 Cell: 072 141 4164 e-mail: <a href="mailto:lindiewiehahn@gmail.com">lindiewiehahn@gmail.com</a>
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**PERSONAL DETAILS:**

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Initials \_\_\_\_\_ First name: \_\_\_\_\_

Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization(if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Capacity(member, etc) \_\_\_\_\_

PostalAddress: \_ \_\_\_\_\_

Town/City: \_\_\_\_\_ Code: \_\_\_\_\_

**COMMENTS / OBJECTIONS:**

1. What is your interest in the proposed project?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Please provide a description on the current land use and location within the area under consideration.

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\_\_\_\_\_  
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3. Please provide information on how you consider the proposed activities will have an impact on you or your socio-economic condition.

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4. Please make proposals as to how the potential impacts can be managed, avoided or remedied.

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5. Please provide information on the location of the environmental features on site that may be impacted by the proposed activities.

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6. Please provide information on how you regard the existing status of the biophysical, socio-economic, cultural and heritage environment.

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7. Is there to your opinion any concern regarding the socio-economic, biophysical, heritage or cultural environment that may be impacted during the proposed activities.

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8. Please make proposals as to how and to what standard the impacts on site can be remedied, managed or avoided.

[Type text]

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9. Is the project area to your knowledge subjected to any land claims or developments

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10. Please state suggestions to mitigate the anticipated impacts of each activity.

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11. Please indicate whether or not you have an objection, comment or approval in regard to the proposed project.

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12. Are there, in your opinion, any other interested and/or affected parties that should be contacted in connection with the proposed project?

YES / NO

If "YES", please list the relevant names and contact numbers:

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Completed on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature.

[Type text]

# SUMMARY OF THE PROPOSED PROSPECTING OPERATION.

## 1. List of activities applied for

All prospecting and prospecting related activities for the reprocessing of dumps including:

• Geological Survey	–	NEMA GNR 983, Listed 1, Activity 20
• RC Drilling	–	NEMA GNR 983, Listed 1, Activity 20
• Excavations	–	NEMA GNR 984, Listed 2, Activity 19
• Stock piles	–	NEMA GNR 984, Listed 2, Activity 19
• Waste dumps	–	NEMA GNR 984, Listed 2, Activity 19
• Settling dams	–	NEMA GNR 984, Listed 2, Activity 19
• Office site	–	NEMA GNR 983, Listed 1, Activity 20
• Plant site	–	NEMA GNR 984, Listed 2, Activity 21
• Ablution facility	–	NEMA GNR 983, Listed 1, Activity 20
• Vehicle storage	–	NEMA GNR 983, Listed 1, Activity 20
• Chemical storage	–	NEMA GNR 984, Listed 2, Activity 19
• Diesel storage	–	NEMA GNR 984, Listed 2, Activity 19
• Domestic waste facility	–	NEMA GNR 983, Listed 1, Activity 20
• Access road	–	NEMA GNR 983, Listed 1, Activity 20
• Mine roads	–	NEMA GNR 983, Listed 1, Activity 20

## 2. Scale and extent of activities

• Geological Survey	–	over extent of the farm
• RC Drilling	–	± 0.0336 ha
• Excavations	–	± 100 000 m <sup>3</sup>
• Stock piles	–	± 0.04 ha
• Waste dumps	–	± 0.04 ha
• Evaporation dams	–	± 1 ha
• Office site	–	± 0.0025 ha
• Plant site	–	± 0.04 ha
• Ablution facility	–	± 0.0008 ha
• Vehicle storage	–	± 0.0025 ha
• Chemical storage	–	± 0.0025 ha
• Diesel storage	–	± 0.0008 ha
• Domestic waste facility	–	± 0.0008 ha
• Access road	–	± 0.4 ha
• Mine roads	–	-

### **3. Typical impacts of activities**

- Vegetation loss – a total area of 10 800 m<sup>2</sup> will be cleared prospecting related structures (stock piles, waste dumps and evaporation dams) and 499 m<sup>2</sup> for plant, and office site establishment. The impact can be regarded as low to medium, with no long term effects. If rehabilitation of these areas is done correctly full recovery of the environment is possible.
- Noise disturbance – during excavation, hauling and mineral processing activities is noise generated by the machinery. Again the noise will be much localized and should have no impact on the surrounding environment.
- Air quality loss – dust will be generated during the excavating and hauling activities. The dust generated may have an impact on the air quality, but with localized effects and should not have an effect on the surrounding environment. For this the impact can be regarded as low.
- Soil pollution – chemical soil pollution is always a possibility during mechanical prospecting operations. Working machinery and storage facilities bears a risk for chemical spillage and the impact thereof may be very severe.
- Soil compaction – heavy vehicles driving off-road bears a great risk to the trampling of vegetation and the compaction of the soil. The plant site area will also become compacted during the duration of the mine. If not rehabilitated vegetation re-growth is unforeseen and poses a medium risk to the environment.
- Littering pollution – littering during the prospecting activities can happen and may have a low to medium impact on the environment depending on the type of littering and the remediation thereof.
- Water pollution – chemical contaminated water from the mineral processing plant and storage facilities bears a risk to the environment. This impact should always be regarded as high and proper mitigation and/or remediation measures should be in place.

### **4. Duration of each activity**

All of the listed activities will be occurring concurrently and the time frame applied for at the Department of Mineral Resources is 2 years where after it can be renewed for another year.

## 5. Details regarding intended operation

### RC Drilling

The drilling programme is proposed to demarcate the diamondiferous gravel body with its boundaries. 336 Holes are proposed along demarcated lines with an estimated average depth of 15 meters each.

Drilling will be conducted by means of standard hydraulic percussion drilling (Rotary air blast) and the rock chips obtained captured within plastic tubes for logging and sampling.

When each hole is completely drilled it will be fully rehabilitated before moving to the next drill hole location. Rehabilitation will be done by the backfilling of the rock chip material in their respective manner.

### Bulk Sampling.

During the prospecting activities a bulk sample are excavated and processed to remove all possible diamonds. The following methodological process has been implemented to ensure cost effective prospecting as well as successful rehabilitation:

- The bulk sample is excavated and loaded on a dumper truck to be transported to the recovery plant
- The possible topsoil and overburden removed will be stored next to the excavation for final rehabilitation purposes.
- At the processing plant the gravel is washed in a rotating pan to obtain a concentrate of heavy material. The lighter material is discarded with the puddle, which is a by-product of diamond recovery processes and treated with a dewatering screen. The 'dry mud' will be used to fill the existing open excavations, while the excess water is recycled and stored within the mentioned evaporation dam.
- The concentrate obtained for the washing plant is now being treated at the sorting/recovery plant where all diamond are recovered and the surplus used for further filling purposes.
- The waste material from the plant and the dry material from the evaporation dams will be used to fill the open excavation. Once completed the overburden and topsoil will be spread evenly over the area in the correct order and re-vegetated.

- Once the entire area applied for has been prospected the mine will apply for a mining right if the project proves viable, if not it will start with the decommissioning and closure phase. During such will all infrastructure and equipment be removed and the compacted ground ripped and rehabilitated. Also will all the mine roads and trampled areas be ripped, rehabilitated and inspected for vegetation re-growth.

Continuous inspections to the rehabilitated area will be conducted to monitor the re-vegetation rate as well as to remove all invader/pioneer plant species that may also establish themselves in the area.