## Trentra (Pty) Limited

## **Wolvenfontein Prospecting Project**

## **DRAFT**

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

Compiled in terms of Appendix 1 and Appendix 4 of the amended Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (Government Notice 982) (EIA Regulations, 2014) and submitted as contemplated in Regulation 19 of Chapter 4 of the EIA Regulations, 2014

#### For

The application for an Environmental Authorization in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), Amended Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations 2014, Government Notice 983 - Listing Notice 1 of 2014

DMRE Reference No.: MP 30/5/1/1/2/17492 PR

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### **CONTENTS PAGE**

EXECU	TIVE S	UMMARY		1
1.	INTR	ODUCTIO	NN	4
	1.1.	Who is E	Developing the BAR and EMPR?	4
		1.1.1.	Name and contact details of the EAP who prepared the BAR and EMPR	4
		1.1.2.	Expertise of the EAP who prepared the BAR and EMPR	4
	1.2.	Who will	Evaluate and Approve the BAR and EMPR?	5
	1.3.	DETAILS	S OF THE APPLICANT	6
		1.3.1.	Name of the Applicant	6
		1.3.2.	Name of the Project	6
		1.3.3.	Postal Address of Applicant	6
		1.3.4.	Responsible Person	6
		1.3.5.	Contact Person	6
	1.4.	DESCRI	PTION OF THE PROPERTY (LOCATION OF THE PROJECT)	6
		1.4.1.	Regional Setting	6
		1.4.2.	Physical Address and Farm Name of the prospecting project	8
		1.4.3.	Magisterial District & Regional Services Council	8
		1.4.4.	Direction and Distance to Nearest Towns	8
		1.4.5.	Locality Plan	8
		1.4.6.	Land Tenure and Use of Immediate and Adjacent Land	10
2.	DES	CRIPTION	OF THE SCOPE OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT	13
	2.1.	Listed Ad	ctivities and Specified Activities	13
	2.2.	Descripti	on of the proposed Project	13
		2.2.1.	Target Minerals	15
		2.2.2.	Prospecting method to be used at the Wolvenfontein Prospecting Project	15
		2.2.3.	Planned Life of Project	15
	2.3.	Wolvenfo	ontein Prospecting Area Surface Infrastructure Description	15
		2.3.1.	Access	15
		2.3.2.	Power Supply	15
		2.3.3.	Water Supply	15
		2.3.4.	Workshops and Buildings	16
		2.3.5.	Waste Management	16
	2.4.	Wolvenfo	ontein Prospecting Project- Method Statement	16

		2.4.1.	Phase One	16
		2.4.2.	Phase Two	17
		2.4.3.	Decommissioning phase	18
		2.4.4.	Pre-feasibility study	18
		2.4.5.	Mining feasibility study	19
		2.4.6.	After Closure Phase	19
3.	POL	ICY AND I	LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT	21
	3.1.	Constitu	tion of the Republic of South Africa (Act No. 108 of 1996)	21
	3.2.	National	Environmental Management Act	21
	3.3.	National	Environmental Management Air Quality Act	22
	3.4.	The Nat	ional Heritage Resources Act	22
	3.5.	National	Environmental Management Biodiversity Act (Act 10 of 2004) (NEMBA)	22
	3.6.	Mpumal	anga Nature Conservation Act (Act 10 Of 1998)	23
	3.7.	Mineral	and Petroleum Resources Development Act (MPRDA): Act 28 of 2002	23
	3.8.	National	Water Act (NWA): Act No. 36 of 1998	24
	3.9.	National	Environmental Management: Waste Act (Act No. 59 of 2008)	24
	3.10.	EIA Guid	delines	24
4.	NEE	D AND DE	ESIRABILITY OF THE PROPOSED ACTIVITIES	26
	4.1.	Motivation	on for the Need and desirability of the Project	26
5.	МОТ	IVATION	FOR THE PREFERRED DEVELOPMENT FOOTPRINT	28
	5.1.	Conside	eration of Alternatives	28
		5.1.1.	Location Alternatives	28
		5.1.2.	Prospecting Sites	28
		5.1.3.	Access Routes/Transport alternatives	28
		5.1.4.	Campsite Location	28
		5.1.5.	Design/ Layout Alternatives	28
		5.1.6.	Technology Alternatives	29
		5.1.7.	Input Material Alternatives	29
		5.1.8.	Exploration Drilling Methods	29
		5.1.9.	No Go Option	29
		5.1.10.	Concluding Statement	30
	5.2.	Details 0	Of The Public Participation Process Followed and Results Thereof	30
		5.2.1.	Registration and BAR Phase	31

		5.2.2.	Draft Basic Assessment Report	32	
	5.3.	Environr	mental Attributes (Baseline Information)	33	
		5.3.1.	Geology	33	
		5.3.2.	Climate	35	
		5.3.3.	Topography	37	
		5.3.4.	Land Use	37	
		5.3.5.	Natural Vegetation/Plant Life	39	
		5.3.6.	Animal Life	41	
		5.3.7.	Surface Water	41	
		5.3.8.	Groundwater	43	
		5.3.9.	Sensitive Landscapes	45	
		5.3.10.	Air Quality	49	
		5.3.11.	Noise	50	
		5.3.12.	Socio-Economic Status	50	
6.	ENV	IRONMEN	ITAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT	52	
	6.1.	Environr	mental Impact Assessment Process Followed	52	
		6.1.1.	Approach to Environmental Impact Assessment	52	
		6.1.2.	Environmental Impact Assessment Process Followed	52	
	6.2.	Environr	mental Impact Assessment Methodology	53	
	6.3.	Results	of the Environmental Impact Assessment	55	
		6.3.1.	Assessment of the Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area impacts/risks	55	
	6.4.	Summar	ry of Specialist Reports	66	
	6.5.	Environr	mental Impact Statement	66	
		6.5.1.	Description of affected environment	66	
		6.5.2.	Summary of key findings of the environmental impact assessment	66	
		6.5.3.	Final Master Layout Plan	67	
	6.6.	Aspects	for Inclusion as conditions of the Environmental Authorisation	67	
	6.7.	Descript	ion of Assumptions, Uncertainties and Gaps in Knowledge	67	
	6.8.	Reasone	ed Opinion as to Whether the Proposed Project should or should not Con	tinue68	
		6.8.1.	Reason why the activity should be authorised or not	68	
		6.8.2.	Conditions that must be included in the authorisation	68	
	6.9.	Period for which the Environmental Authorisation6			
	6.10.	Undertaking			
	6.11.	Financia	l Provision	68	

	6.12.	Other Information Required by the Competent Authority	69
	6.13.	Other Matters Required in Terms of Section 24 (4) (a) and (b) of the Act	69
1.	DET	AILS OF THE EAP	71
	1.1.	Expertise of the EAP who prepared the BAR and EMPR	71
2.	DES	CRIPTION OF THE ASPECTS OF THE ACTIVITY	72
	2.1.	Data Gathering	72
	2.2.	Field Mapping	72
	2.3.	Detailed site survey and investigation	72
	2.4.	Geophysical surveys and data interpretation	72
	2.5.	Pegging of drill sites	72
	2.6.	Establishment of access	72
	2.7.	Establishment of caravan site	72
	2.8.	Diamond drilling for boreholes and sump Construction	72
	2.9.	Topsoil storage site	73
	2.10.	Logging and sampling of the Core	73
	2.11.	Site Rehabilitation	73
	2.12.	Final Rehabilitation	73
	2.13.	After Closure Phase	73
3.	COM	IPOSITE MAP	73
2	4. STA	DESCRIPTION OF THE MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES INCLUDING MANAGEM	
	4.1.	General Closure Principles and Objectives	73
	4.2.	Management of Environmental Damage, Environmental Pollution and degradation caused by THE Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area Activities	_
		4.2.1. Infrastructure Areas	74
	4.3.	Potential Risk of Acid Mine Drainage	74
	4.4.	Steps taken to Investigate, Assess and Evaluate the Impacts of the Acid Mine Dra	ainage.74
	4.5.	Engineering and designs Solutions to be Implemented to Avoid or Remedy /	
	4.6.	Measures to Remedy Residual or Cumulative Impacts from Acid Mine Drainage	75
	4.7.	Volumes and Rates of Water Use Required for the Proposed Project	75
	4.8	Water Use Licence Application	75
5.	ENV	IRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME	76

6.	FINA	ANCIAL PF	ROVISION	86
	6.1	-	ion of Closure Objectives and Extent to which they have been aligne ed Baseline Environment	
	6.2		ation that the Environmental Objectives in relation to Closure have been C ndowners and Interested and Affected Parties	
	6.3	Rehabili	tation Plan for the Proposed Project	86
		6.3.1	Prospecting Borehole Layout	87
		6.3.2	Rehabilitation Standards	87
		6.3.3	Decommissioning of The Prospecting Operation	87
	6.4	Compati	bility of the Rehabilitation Plan with the Closure Objectives	90
	6.5		nation of the Quantum of the Financial Provision Required to Manalitate the Environment	•
	6.6	Method	of Providing for the Financial Provision	90
7.		AGAINST	FOR MONITORING COMPLIANCE WITH AND PERFOMAMCE ASSEST THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME AND REPORT	ING
	7.1	Inspection	ons and Monitoring	92
	7.2		ng compliance with and performance assessment against the environment programme and reporting thereof	
	7.3		DURE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RELATED EMERGENCIES AND REMEI	
		7.3.1	Introduction	93
		7.3.2	What is an Environmental Emergency?	93
		7.3.3	Purpose of the procedure	93
		7.3.4	Who should use these procedures?	93
		7.3.5	Responsibilities	93
		7.3.6	Notification process	94
		7.3.7	Emergency equipment and supplies	94
		7.3.8	Communication systems	94
		7.3.9	Training	94
		7.3.10	Review of procedure	94
		7.3.11	Emergency Response flowchart for Trentra (Pty) Limited	94
	7.4	ENVIRO	NMENTAL AWARENESS PLAN	95
		7.4.1	Objectives and Legal Requirements	96
		7.4.2	Manner of informing employees of risks to avoid pollution and degradation	

	7.4.3	Induction for all employees, including contractors	99
	7.4.4	General environmental awareness training	99
	7.4.5	Provision for job specific environmental awareness training	99
	7.4.6	Competency training	99
	7.4.7	Review of awareness and training material	100
	7.4.8	Roles and responsibilities	100
7.5	Undertal	king to Comply	101

### **TABLES**

Table # Table Description Page
Table 1: Direction and Distance from nearest towns to the proposed
prospecting project8
Table 2: Schedule of properties listing surface ownership within and
surrounding Wolvenfontein Prospecting Project10
Table 3: Proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area Listed Activities 14
Table 4: Climatic conditions in the vicinity of Wolvenfontein Prospecting
Area-Delmas36
Table 5: List of Vegetation types that occur within the Eastern Highveld
Grassland vegetation ecosystem39
Table 6: Summary of the Quaternary Catchments associated with the
proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Project43
Table 13: The above criteria are expressed for each impact in tabular form
according to the following definitions:53
Table 14: Results of the Environmental Impact Assessment for Wolvenfontein
Prospecting Area55
Table 15: Environmental Management Programme for the proposed
Wolvenfontein Prospecting Project76
Table 16: Rehabilitation Schedule
Table 17: Financial Provision for the proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting
Area91
Table 18: Responsibilities
Table 19: Environmental Awareness Matrix 97

## **FIGURES**

Figure 1:Regional setting
Figure 2: Locality Plan9
Figure 3: Land Tenure Plan for the proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area 11
Figure 4: GSM-19T Proton Precession system in action
Figure 5: Drill rig operation
Figure 6:Coalfields of South Africa
Figure 7: Average rainfall for Delmas, Mpumalanga
Figure 8: Current land-use map
Figure 9: National Vegetation types in the vicinity of the proposed Wolvenfontein  Prospecting Project
Figure 10: Quaternary catchment area of the proposed Wolvenfontein prospecting area
Figure 11: National Threatened Ecosystems in the vicinity of the proposed  Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area
Figure 12: Strategic Water Sources associated with the proposed Wolvenfontein  Prospecting Area
Figure 13: National Wetland Types in the vicinity of the proposed Wolvenfontein  Prospecting Area
Figure 14: National Wetland Vegetation Types in the vicinity of the proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area
Figure 15: Mpumalanga Biodiversity Sector Plan Terrestrial Assessment for the proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area
Figure 16: Mpumalanga Biodiversity Sector Plan Freshwater Assessment for the proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area
Figure 17:Emergency response95

## **APPENDICES**

Appendix A Regulation 2 (2) plan

Appendix B Deed's list of the direct farms

Appendix C National Web Based Environmental Screening Tool Report

Appendix D Layout plan

Appendix E EAP's curriculum vitae

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Project Title: Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area

Compiled for: Trentra (Pty) Limited

Compiled by: T. Shakwane, B.Sc. Hons. Pr. Sci.Nat and Registered EAP

Version: Draft

Date: January 2023

#### Disclaimer:

The results and conclusions of this report are limited to the Scope of Work agreed between Geovicon Environmental (Pty) Limited and Trentra (Pty) Limited for whom this report/ investigation has been conducted. All assumptions made and all information contained within this report and its attachments depend on the accessibility to and reliability of relevant information, including maps, previous reports and laboratory results, from the Client and Contractors. All work conducted by Geovicon Environmental (Pty) Limited is done in accordance with the Geovicon Standard Operating Procedures.

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#### **Declaration:**

I hereby declare:

- 1. I have no vested interest (present or prospective) in the project that is the subject of this report as well as its attachments. I have no personal interest with respect to the parties involved in this project.
- 2. I have no bias with regard to this project or towards the various stakeholders involved in this project.
- 3. I have not received, nor have I been offered, any significant form of inappropriate reward for compiling this report.

(Electronic Signature) T. Shakwane, B.Sc. Hons. (Professional Natural Scientist no: 117080)

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Trentra (Pty) Limited has lodged an application for a prospecting right in terms of section 16 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2004 (Act 28 of 2004). Trentra (Pty) Limited proposes to prospect for coal and pseudocoal on a portion of portion 4, of the farm Wolvenfontein 244 IR, situated within the Magisterial District of Delmas.

Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area will be undertaken in different phases i.e., literature review (available data interpretation and deciding whether to commence with drilling), field mapping and geophysical survey, positioning of drilling sites, diamond core drilling, logging/sampling of borehole cores and rehabilitation of the drilling site.

The commencement of the proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area will result in the undertaking of activities that are considered as listed activities in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998) as amended (NEMA). In terms of the above-mentioned legislation, an application for an environmental authorisation must be submitted to the competent authority which application must be granted before the commencement of the proposed listed activities. In addition to the above, an environmental impact assessment must be undertaken in support of the environmental authorisation application for the proposed listed activities. In view of the above, Trentra (Pty) Limited appointed Geovicon Environmental (Pty) Limited, an independent environmental consulting company, to undertake and manage the environmental authorisation application and the environmental impact assessment for the proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area. An application for an environmental authorisation for the proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area was submitted to the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE), Mpumalanga Regional Office (Competent Authority) for their consideration. The application has ever since been received by the Department and a Basic Assessment Report (BAR) together with an EMPr must be compiled and submitted in terms of the requirements of the EIA Regulations, 2014.

This document (BAR and EMPr), which concerns assessment of environmental impacts and a programme for management of the impacts for the proposed activities at the Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area, was compiled in terms of the amended EIA Regulations, 2014 for review by interested and affected parties including the competent authority.

Environmental baseline data used in this report has been obtained through desktop-based assessments for surface water, topographical analyses, vegetation composition, wetland occurrence and geological conditions and the socio-economic aspects. Weather data was acquired from World weather online. Historic land use has been determined through available google satellite image data. The data accumulated and analysed is; therefore, deemed sufficient to gain a baseline indication of the present state of the environment. The use of this baseline data for impact assessments are thus justified, and reliable conclusions could be made. The impacts that could arise during and after the proposed activities at the Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area were determined and ranked according to their significance. Based on the impact assessment, recommendations were made for the mitigation of significant negative environmental impacts that will result from the proposed area.

TRENTRA (PTY) LIMITED: WOLVENFONTEIN PROSPECTING RIGHT PROJECT-BAR AND EMPR			
ART A			

BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

## **SECTION ONE**

INTRODUCTION

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1. WHO IS DEVELOPING THE BAR AND EMPR?

#### 1.1.1. Name and contact details of the EAP who prepared the BAR and EMPR

EAP: Mr. Ornassis Tshepo Shakwane

Professional registration:

**SACNASP**: 117080 **EAPASA**: 2019/1763 **IAIA Membership No**.: 3847

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Cell No.: 082 498 1847

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#### 1.1.2. Expertise of the EAP who prepared the BAR and EMPR

Geovicon Environmental (Pty) Limited is a geological and environmental consulting company. The company was formed during 1996, and currently has more than 20 years' experience in the geological and environmental consulting field. Geovicon Environmental (Pty) Limited has successfully completed consulting work in the Mining sector (coal, gold, base metal and diamond), Quarrying sector (sand, aggregate and dimension stone), Industrial sector and housing sector. Geovicon Environmental (Pty) Limited has undertaken contracts within all the provinces of South Africa, Swaziland, Botswana and Zambia. During 2001 Geovicon Environmental (Pty) Limited entered the field of mine environmental management and water monitoring.

Geovicon Environmental (Pty) Limited is a Black Economically Empowered Company with the BEE component owning 60% of the company. Geovicon Environmental (Pty) Limited has three directors i.e., O.T Shakwane, J.M. Bate and T.G Tefu.

Mr. O. T Shakwane obtained his BSc (Microbiology and Biochemistry) from the University of Durban Westville in 1994, and completed his honours degree in Microbiology in 1995. Mr O.T Shakwane has also completed short courses on environmental law and environmental impact assessment with the University of Mpumalanga's Centre for Environmental Management. He has worked with the three state departments tasked with mining and environmental management i.e., Department of Water and Sanitation (Gauteng and Mpumalanga Region), Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (Mpumalanga Region) and Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Environment (Gauteng Region). Mr. Shakwane has been in the consulting field since 2004 and has completed various areas similar to the proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area as an environmental assessment practitioner.

Mr Shakwane is the environmental assessment practitioner for the environmental impact assessment for the proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area.

Over the past years Geovicon Environmental (Pty) Limited has formalised working relationships with companies that offer expertise in the following fields i.e., Geohydrology, Civil and Geotechnical Engineering, Geotechnical Consultancy, Survey and Mine Planning and Soil & Land Use Consultancy. Geovicon Environmental (Pty) Limited is an independent consulting company, which has no interest in the outcome of the decision regarding the Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area basic assessment process.

#### 1.2. WHO WILL EVALUATE AND APPROVE THE BAR AND EMPR?

Before the proposed project can proceed, an Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) must compile an application for an Environmental Authorisation for the proposed project. An impact assessment (basic assessment process) must be undertaken in support of the application for an environmental authorisation. The basic assessment process will determine the potential environmental impacts that may result from the proposed project and an environmental management programme will be compiled to provide measures for mitigation against the identified impacts. The above-mentioned application must be made to the competent authority and in terms of section 24D (1) of NEMA, the Minister responsible for mineral resources is the responsible competent authority for this application. In view of the above, the application for the environmental authorisation for the proposed project was submitted to the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE), Mpumalanga Regional Office for their consideration and decision making.

In the spirit of co-operative governance and in compliance with the requirements of NEMA and the MPRDA, the competent authority may, during the processing for the environmental authorisation application, consult with other organs of state that administers laws that relate to matters affecting the environment relevant to this application. Note that during the public participation process for the proposed project, the EAP will also consult with the below listed state authorities.

The organs of state that are to be consulted may include the following:

- Department of Mineral Resources and Energy, Mpumalanga Regional Office (Competent Authority).
- Department Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs
- South African Heritage Resources Agency
- Department of Water and Sanitation.
- SANRAL

Note however that this list is not exhaustive as more organs of state may be identified by the competent authority and EAP during the public participation process.

#### 1.3. DETAILS OF THE APPLICANT

#### 1.3.1. Name of the Applicant

Trentra (Pty) Limited

#### 1.3.2. Name of the Project

Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area

#### 1.3.3. Postal Address of Applicant

Trentra (Pty) Limited

P.O. Box 213

Waterkloof

Pretoria

0181

### 1.3.4. Responsible Person

Mongwe Mojalefa

#### 1.3.5. Contact Person

Mongwe Mojalefa

Cell No: 0745489726

Fax: (086) 5751718

E-mail: douglas@xakwa.com

#### 1.4. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY (LOCATION OF THE PROJECT)

#### 1.4.1. Regional Setting

The proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area is situated approximately 7 kilometres south east of Delmas in the Victor Khanye Local Municipality. Refer to Figure 1 for the regional setting and Table 1 for the distance and directions of towns to the proposed Wolvenfontein prospecting area.

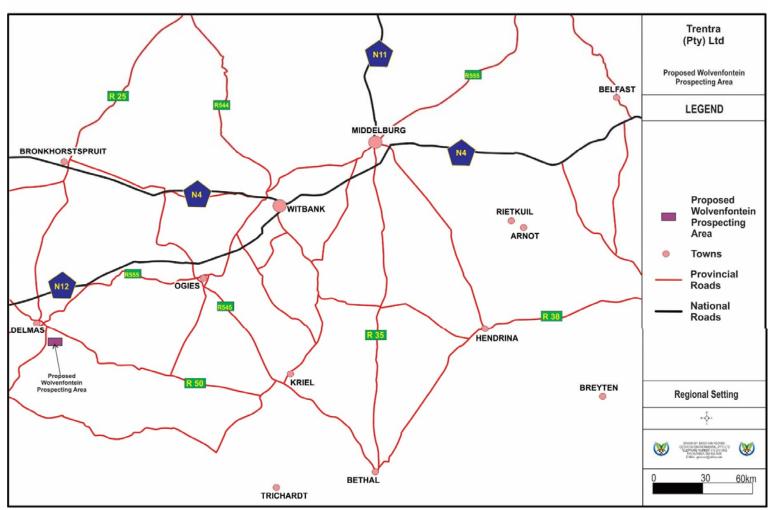


Figure 1:Regional setting

### 1.4.2. Physical Address and Farm Name of the prospecting project

Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area is situated on a portion of portion 4 of the farm Wolvenfontein 407 JS, situated within the magisterial district of Delmas, Mpumalanga province.

### 1.4.3. Magisterial District & Regional Services Council

• Magisterial District: Delmas, Mpumalanga

District Municipality: NkangalaLocal Municipality: Victor Khanye

#### 1.4.4. Direction and Distance to Nearest Towns

Table 1: Direction and Distance from nearest towns to the proposed prospecting project.

TOWN	DIRECTION	DISTANCE (KM)	
Delmas Springs	South East East	7 km 24 km	

#### 1.4.5. Locality Plan

Refer to Figure 2 for the locality plan of the Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area.



Figure 2: Locality Plan.

### 1.4.6. Land Tenure and Use of Immediate and Adjacent Land

Land tenure for the properties within and immediately around the proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area is indicated on Table 2 and Figure 3 below.

Table 2: Schedule of properties listing surface ownership within and surrounding Wolvenfontein Prospecting Project.

FARM NAME AND NUMBER	21 DIGIT SURVEYOR GENERAL CODE	DESCRIPTION OF SUB- DIVISION	SURFACE OWNER
	DIRECT SURFA	CE OWNERS	
Wolvenfontein 244 IR	T0IR00000000024400004	Portion 4	Jacobus Johannes Oosterhuis
	IMMEDIATELY ADJACEN	T SURFACE OWN	ERS
Wolvenfontein 244 IR	T0IR00000000024400000	Remaining	Schoeman Group Properties
		Extent	(Pty) Ltd
	T0IR00000000024400002	Portion 2	Schoeman Group Properties
			(Pty) Ltd
	T0IR00000000024400005	Portion 5	Willem Oosterhuis Boerdery cc
	T0IR00000000024400006	Portion 6	Schoeman Group Properties
			(Pty) Ltd
	T0IR00000000024400011	Portion 11	Wolwefontein Chicks
Leeuwpan 246 IR	T0IR00000000024600002	Portion 2	Hendrik Schoeman & Seuns (Moabsvelden) (Pty) Ltd
	T0IR00000000024600005	Portion 5	Hendrik Schoeman & Seuns (Moabsvelden) (Pty) Ltd
Weilaagte 271 IR	T0IR00000000027100009	Portion 9	Tshedza Mining Resources (Pty) Ltd

<sup>\*</sup>Portion on which the prospecting project is applied for, also refer to **Appendix A** regulation 2(2) plan and **Appendix B** Deed's list of direct farm owners.

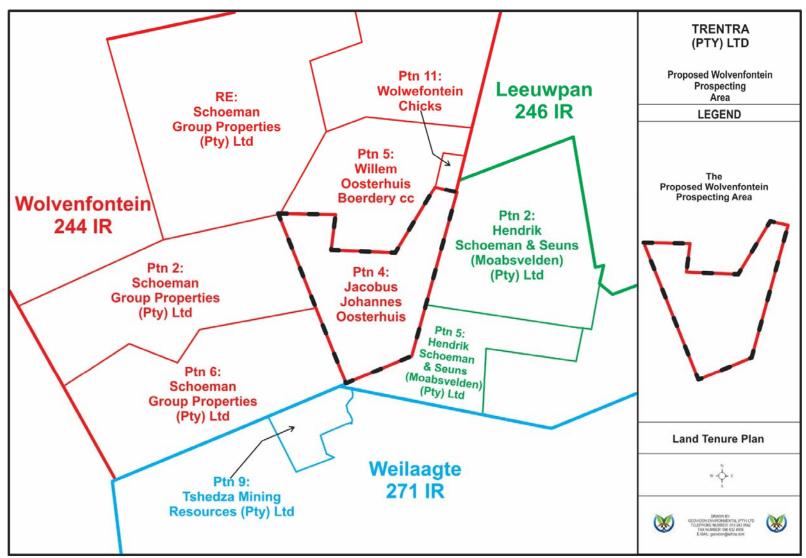


Figure 3: Land Tenure Plan for the proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area.

## **SECTION TWO**

DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

#### 2. DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

#### 2.1. LISTED ACTIVITIES AND SPECIFIED ACTIVITIES

In terms of the NEMA, the proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area will result in activities that are considered as listed activities. In terms of the above-mentioned legislation, none of the above-mentioned listed activities can be conducted without an environmental authorisation. In view of the above, Trentra (Pty) Limited has applied for an environmental authorisation for all listed activities to be conducted at the proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area to the competent authority (DMRE). This section will give a description of the listed activities that will be included in the application for an environmental authorisation. Table 3 is compiled as prescribed by the DMRE, EIR and EMPr template and reflects all project activities applied for.

#### 2.2. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

Trentra (Pty) Limited proposes to prospect for coal and pseudocoal over Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area. This activity will be undertaken on a portion of portion 4 of the farm Wolvenfontein 244 IR.

**Table 3: Proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area Listed Activities.** 

LISTED ACTIVITY	NAME OF ACTIVITY	AERIAL EXTENT OF THE ACTIVITY	APPLICABLE LISTING NOTICE				
PROPOSED WOLVENFONTEIN PROSPECTING AREA LISTED AND SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES							
NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT							
Activity 20 of Listing Notice 1:  Any activity including the operation of that activity which requires a prospecting right in terms of section 16 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002), including associated infrastructure, structures and earthworks, directly related to prospecting of a mineral resource, including activities for which an exemption has been issued in terms of section 106 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002).	Conducting prospecting activities within the Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area for minerals applied for These include site establishment (access to site and a campsite), pegging of drilling sites, drilling of exploration boreholes, logging and sampling of drilled cores and site rehabilitation.	300 ha	GN983				

#### 2.2.1. Target Minerals

Coal and pseudocoal.

## 2.2.2. Prospecting method to be used at the Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area.

The proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area will be explored in three phases i.e., literature review, field mapping and drilling of boreholes. Drilling phase has a potential to impact on the environmental, hence, drilling will be described in this section of the report.

Geologic field maps are tools portraying interpretive, three-dimensional views of rock, sediment, and soil units that depict their distribution and age relationships. They provide information on Earth's structure and other features at and below Earth's surface and offer baseline data for mineral and energy resources.

Field mapping include the description of the structural setting of the area, simultaneously conducting geophysical survey. A geological map will be produced and subsequent to that boreholes will be positioned.

Drilling phase will involve the drilling of the sited boreholes by diamond core drilling machine. A sump will be constructed at each drilling site, for the storage and recycling of water for the cooling of the drill rods during the drilling operation. The sump will be constructed to be one square meter in size and have a maximum depth of 1 meter. Any soils removed from the sump (approximately one cubic meters) will be placed adjacent to the drilling site and used for rehabilitation of the site.

Boreholes will be drilled at pre-planned sites. The boreholes will be drilled to intersect all the expected reserves and will be logged by a geologist. The samples will be sent to a laboratory for quality determination. This data will form the basis for the geological modelling and financial evaluation.

Trentra (Pty) Limited proposes to drill 10 boreholes in total throughout the life of the prospecting project.

#### 2.2.3. Planned Life of Project

The estimated life of the proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area is three (3) years.

## 2.3. WOLVENFONTEIN PROSPECTING AREA SURFACE INFRASTRUCTURE DESCRIPTION

#### 2.3.1. Access

There is a good network of both tarred and gravel roads connecting the proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area with surrounding towns. Existing roads to be used for the proposed area include the R42 Provincial Road.

#### 2.3.2. Power Supply

Diesel powered vehicles and machinery will be used for the proposed project.

#### 2.3.3. Water Supply

Water will be required at the proposed prospecting project for the purpose of process water and potable water. Process water will be required for cooling of the drill rods and potable water supply will be required for domestic water use within the campsite (caravans) and drilling sites. A water tank will be used for the storage of water at the proposed prospecting project.

#### 2.3.4. Workshops and Buildings

No workshops and office buildings will be required for this project. All machinery will be maintained at an offsite workshop. Should emergency repairs be required the repairs will be conducted on areas covered with tarpaulins.

#### 2.3.5. Waste Management

#### 2.3.5.1. Waste Identification and Management

#### Hazardous Waste

Hazardous waste to be generated includes hydrocarbon wastes (oil and liquid fuel wastes) and sewage waste.

#### **General Waste**

General waste to be generated from the proposed area is domestic waste. Domestic waste will include papers, containers, food waste, stationary and discarded PPE generated from the drilling and campsites.

#### 2.3.5.2. Waste Management Facilities

#### Hazardous Waste

Hydrocarbon waste will be collected in drums for storage. The removal of the drums or any other appropriate receptacle will be undertaken by a waste disposal company, for disposal at a registered licensed waste disposal site. The drums will be placed on protected ground.

Chemical toilets will be used for the management of sewage waste generated on site.

#### **General Waste**

General waste will be collected in wheeled bins or refuse bags. The removal of this waste will be disposed at a registered landfill site.

#### 2.4. WOLVENFONTEIN PROSPECTING PROJECT- METHOD STATEMENT

In terms of the DMRE BAR and EMPr template, Trentra (Pty) Limited must describe the methods and technology to be employed for the proposed project. In view of the above, a method statement for each phase of the proposed project has been provided. This identifies all actions, activities or processes associated with the proposed prospecting operation.

#### 2.4.1. Phase One

#### 2.4.1.1. Data gathering

Relevant information regarding the potential of the identified prospecting project will be sourced from institutions like the Council for Geoscience. This information will be analysed and interpreted through computer modelling of existing data.

The interpretation of the said data will result in compilation of a literature review report. The said report will give indication as to what processes (in order of priority) to follow to complete the prospecting activities.

#### 2.4.1.2. Field Mapping

Geologic field maps are tools portraying interpretive, three-dimensional views of rock, sediment, and soil units that depict their distribution and age relationships. They provide information on Earth's structure and other features at and below Earth's surface and offer baseline data for mineral and energy resources.

#### 2.4.1.3. Detailed site survey and investigation

Demarcation of sensitive and protected areas will be conducted by a suitable qualified person. This should be done before establishment of access to the site and drilling of exploration boreholes.

#### 2.4.1.4. Geophysical surveys and data interpretation

A Handheld proton Magnetometer will be used to perform the magnetic survey over the proposed prospecting site. Please refer to Figure 4 below.



Figure 4: GSM-19T Proton Precession system in action.

#### 2.4.1.5 Pegging of drill sites

All exploration borehole sites will be staked by a suitably qualified person. The sites will; thereafter be plotted on a plan drawn to an appropriate scale.

#### 2.4.1.6 Decision to commence with prospecting activities

Once all factors are gathered, a physical inspection of the terrain will be conducted to verify certain aspects, such as, type of the terrain involved, type of methods to be used, etc. The important point to note is that a decision on whether or not to proceed with prospecting depends not only on the scientific and reliability of the methods under consideration, but also upon many fewer tangible factors, such as restrictions that might be imposed by the relevant Department when granting a prospecting right.

#### 2.4.2. Phase Two

#### 2.4.2.1. Diamond core drilling and sump construction

Geological boreholes will be drilled on a predetermined grid. During drilling of each borehole, a sump of approximately 1.0 x 1.0 x 1.0 m will be excavated for storage and recycling of water for the cooling of drill rot during drilling operation. Refer to Figure 5 below, a typical drill rig.

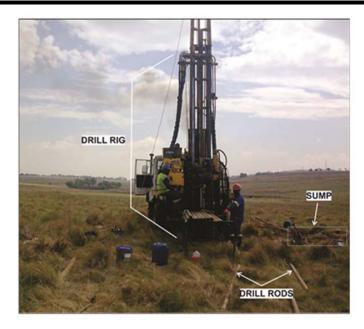


Figure 5: Drill rig operation

#### 2.4.2.2. Topsoil storage site

The top and sub soils removed from the sump and drilling boreholes will be stockpiled in close proximity to the sump. The sumps will be backfilled manually by spade, once drilling and sampling of boreholes is completed.

#### 2.4.2.3. Logging and sampling of the Core

This involves the physical description of the rocks intersected by the drilling process. The interpretation of these rock descriptions will assist in establishing the general stratigraphy of the area. Sampling will be taken at the desired horizons and samples sent to the laboratory for analyses.

#### 2.4.2.4. Site Rehabilitation

Concurrent rehabilitation (Plugging and reseeding) of disturbed areas will be undertaken as drilling progresses.

### 2.4.3. Decommissioning phase

#### 2.4.4.1. Final Rehabilitation

The sumps will be rehabilitated in such a manner to return the area to as close as possible to its predrilling environment.

Post closure, the prospecting project will consist of re-vegetated areas with vegetation cover comparable to the surrounding areas. No prospecting related infrastructure will remain on the prospecting site. The area will conform to the pre-prospecting topography. The areas affected by prospecting will be stable and erosion free.

#### 2.4.4. Pre-feasibility study

This involves the compilation of a final geological report, reserve determination and pre-feasibility studies.

### 2.4.5. Mining feasibility study

This involves the conducting of a mining feasibility study, market research, sales agreements etc.

#### 2.4.6. After Closure Phase

The rehabilitated area will be monitored on a quarterly basis to ensure that the site returns to an acceptable state, in the event that is not happening naturally, the area will be seeded. After the decommissioning of the site and if it can be determined that the site is stable, an environmental authorisation for the decommissioning of the site and a closure certificate will be applied for in terms of the relevant laws.

## **SECTION THREE**

POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT

#### 3. POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT

## 3.1. Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (Act No. 108 of 1996)

Section 24 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (Act No.108 of 1996) states that everyone has the right:

- a) to an environment that is not harmful to their health or well-being; and
- b) to have the environment protected, for the benefit of present and future generations, through reasonable legislative and other measures that;
- (i) prevent pollution and ecological degradation;
- (ii) promote conservation; and
- (iii) secure ecologically sustainable development and use of natural resources while promoting justifiable economic and social development.

In terms of Section 24 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (Act No.108 of 1996), everyone has the right to an environment that is not harmful to their health or well-being. In addition, people have the right to have the environment protected, for the benefit of present and future generations, through applicable legislations and other measures that prevent pollution, ecological degradation and promote conservation and secure ecological sustainable development through the use of natural resources while prompting justifiable economic and social development. The needs of the environment, as well as affected parties, should thus be integrated into the overall project in order to fulfil the requirements of Section 24 of the Constitution. In view of the above, a number of laws pertaining to environmental management were promulgated to give guidance on how the principles set out in section 24 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (Act No.108 of 1996) would be met. Below are laws applicable to the proposed project that were promulgated to ensure that section 24 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (Act No.108 of 1996) is complied with.

#### 3.2. NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT

Section 24(1) of the NEMA states:

"In order to give effect to the general objectives of integrated environmental management laid down in this Chapter [Chapter 5], the potential consequences for or impacts on the environment of listed activities or specified activities must be considered, investigated, assessed and reported on to the competent authority or the Minister of the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy, as the case may be, except in respect of those activities that may commence without having to obtain an environmental authorisation in terms of this Act."

In order to regulate the procedure and criteria as contemplated in Chapter 5 of NEMA relating to the preparation, evaluation, submission, processing and consideration of, and decision on, applications for environmental authorisations for the commencement of activities, subjected to environmental impact assessment, in order to avoid or mitigate detrimental impacts on the environment, and to optimise positive environmental impacts, and for matters pertaining thereto, Regulations (EIA Regulations, 2014) were promulgated. These Regulations took effect from the 4<sup>th</sup> of December 2014.

In addition to the above, Section 28 of the NEMA includes a general "Duty of Care" whereby care must be taken to prevent, control and remedy the effect of significant pollution and environmental degradation. This section stipulates the importance to protect the environment from degradation and

pollution irrespective of the operations taking places or activities triggered / not triggered under GN982, GN984 and GN985.

In view of the above, an environmental impact assessment is being undertaken to comply with the requirements of the NEMA and the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014. The NEMA EIA Regulations of December 2014 determines requirements to be met in order to obtain an environmental authorisation. This report has; therefore, been compiled in compliance with the above regulations.

#### 3.3. NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AIR QUALITY ACT

The National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act (Act No.39 of 2004) (NEM: AQA) focuses on reforming the law regulating air quality in South Africa in order to protect the environment through the provision of reasonable measures protecting the environment against air pollution and ecological degradation and securing ecological sustainable development while promoting justifiable economic and social developments. This Act provides national norms and standards regulating air quality management and control by all spheres of government. These include the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and the National Dust Control Regulations (NDCR). The standards are defined for different air pollutants with different limits based on the toxicity of the pollutants to the environment and humans, number of allowable exceedances and the date of compliance of the specific standard.

On 22 November 2013 the list of activities which result in atmospheric emissions which have or may have a significant detrimental effect on the environment, including health, social conditions, economic conditions, ecological conditions or cultural heritage was published under GN R893 in Governmental Gazette No 37054, in terms of Section 21(1)(b) of the NEM: AQA.

The proposed project will not trigger any of the activities listed under the above-mentioned Regulations; however, Trentra (Pty) Limited must ensure that emissions from their activities complies with the standards as set in the above-mentioned regulations.

#### 3.4. THE NATIONAL HERITAGE RESOURCES ACT

The National Heritage Resources Act (Act No. 25 of 1999) (NHRA) focuses on the protection and management of South Africa's heritage resources. The governing authority for this act is the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA). In terms of the NHRA, historically important features such as graves, trees, archaeology and fossil beds are protected as well as culturally significant symbols, spaces and landscapes. Section 38 of the NHRA stipulates the requirements a developer must undertake prior to development. In terms of Section 38 of the NHRA, SAHRA can call for a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) where certain categories of development are proposed.

A Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) is the process to be followed in order to determine whether any heritage resources are located within the area to be developed as well as the possible impact of the proposed development thereon.

The Act also makes provision for the assessment of heritage impacts as part of an EIA process and indicates that if such an assessment is deemed adequate, a separate HIA is not required. An assessment of the proposed area will be done during the drilling programme to determine if there are any sites that require protection. Any sites identified will be marked and no drilling will be undertaken in close proximity of such a site.

# 3.5. NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT BIODIVERSITY ACT (ACT 10 OF 2004) (NEMBA)

The National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (Act No. 10 of 2004) (NEMBA) provides for the management and protection of South Africa's biodiversity within the framework established by

NEMA. The Act aims to legally provide for biodiversity conservation, sustainable, equitable access and benefit sharing and provides for the management and control of alien and invasive species to prevent or minimize harm to the environment and indigenous biodiversity. The Act imposes obligations on landowners (state or private) governing alien invasive species as well as regulates the introduction of genetically modified organisms. The Act encourages the eradication of alien species that may harm indigenous ecosystems or habitats. The NEMBA ensures that provision is made by the site developer to remove any aliens which have been introduced to the site or are present on the site.

The NEMBA also provides for listing of threatened or protected ecosystems, in one of four categories: critically endangered, endangered, vulnerable or protected. The purpose of listing protected ecosystems is primarily to conserve sites of exceptionally high conservation value.

The Act supports South Africa's obligations under sanctioned international agreements regulating international trade in specimens of endangered species, and ensures that the utilization of biodiversity is managed in an ecological sustainable way.

The BAR and EMPr has been complied to ensure that all applicable requirements prescribed in the NEMBA are complied with.

#### 3.6. MPUMALANGA NATURE CONSERVATION ACT (ACT 10 OF 1998)

The Mpumalanga Nature Conservation Act, No. 10 of 1998, aims to consolidate and amend the laws relating to nature conservation within the province and to provide for matters connected therewith. Provincial legislation relevant to biodiversity conservation comprises of two Provincial Acts, the Mpumalanga Nature Conservation Act (Act 10 of 1998) and the Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency Act (Act 5 of 2005). In relation to nature conservation, the province has developed the Mpumalanga Biodiversity Sector Plan (MBSP). This plan has been jointly developed by the Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency (MTPA) and the Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA). The MBSP takes its mandate from the South African Constitution, the National Biodiversity Act (10 of 2004) and the Mpumalanga Nature Conservation Act 10 of 1998. Areas identified under the MBSP as sensitive were identified and where applicable measures will be proposed for ensuring that the areas are not degrade by the proposed project activities.

The BAR and EMPr has been compiled to ensure that all applicable requirements prescribed in the Act are complied with.

## 3.7. MINERAL AND PETROLEUM RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT (MPRDA): ACT 28 OF 2002

The Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE) is responsible for regulating the mining and minerals industry to achieve equitable access to the country's resources and contribute to sustainable development. The Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act 28 of 2002) (MPRDA) requires that an EIA be conducted and that the EMP be drafted for the mitigation of impacts identified during the environmental impact assessment for a prospecting project. During December 2014, the "One Environmental System" was implemented by Government which initiated the streamlining of the licensing processes for mining, environmental authorisations and water use. Under the One Environmental System, The Minister of Mineral Resources, will issue environmental authorisations and waste management licences in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA), and the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008) (NEMWA), respectively, for mining and related activities. The Minister of Environmental Affairs will be the appeal authority for these authorisations. In view of the above the application for the

environmental authorisation for the proposed project was submitted to the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy as the competent authority.

#### 3.8. NATIONAL WATER ACT (NWA): ACT No. 36 OF 1998

The National Water Act (Act No. 36 of 1998) (NWA) is the primary regulatory legislation, controlling and managing the use of water resources as well as the pollution thereof in South Africa. The NWA recognises that the ultimate aim of water resource management is to achieve sustainable use of water for the benefit of all users and that the protection of the quality of water resources is necessary to ensure sustainability of the nation's water resources in the interests of all water users. The NWA presents strategies to facilitate sound management of water resources, provides for the protection of water resources, and regulates use of water by means of Catchment Management Agencies, Water User Associations, Advisory Committees and International Water Management. The National Government has overall responsibility for and authority over water resource management, including the equitable allocation and beneficial use of water in the public interest. Further, an industry can only be entitled to use water if the use is permissible under the NWA. The enforcing authority on water users is the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS).

No water use licence application was submitted to the Department of Water and Sanitation for their consideration. However, should the drilling activities be undertaken within 500 meters from the edge of any wetlands and should abstraction be conducted from the dams or streams, an application (general authorisation or water use licence) will be submitted and obtained before commencement of such water use activities. In addition to the above, measures will be undertaken to ensure that requirements in terms of the NWA and the GN 704 are complied with where necessary.

## 3.9. NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: WASTE ACT (ACT No. 59 OF 2008)

The National Environmental Management: Waste Act (NEMWA) requires that all waste management activities must be licensed. According to Section 44 of the NEMWA, the licensing procedure must be integrated with an EIA process in terms of the NEMA.

The objectives of NEMWA involve the protection of health, wellbeing and the environment. The NEMWA provides measures for the minimisation of natural resource consumption, avoiding and minimising the generation of waste, reducing, recycling and recovering waste, and treating and safely disposing of waste.

Waste management activities are not triggered by the proposed project, hence no application in terms of the NEMWA was submitted to the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy.

#### 3.10. EIA GUIDELINES

A number of national and provincial EIA guidelines were published by different departments. These guidelines are mainly aimed at assisting relevant stakeholders by providing information and guidance and giving recommendations on a number of aspects relating to the environmental impact assessment process. The guidelines can be used by the competent authority, applicant and the EAP during the EIA process. It is therefore important that the EAP and the person compiling a specialist report must have relevant expertise when conducting the environmental impact assessments.

A number of guidelines were consulted during the compilation of this report and these include amongst them the following i.e., Guidelines on the Need and Desirability, Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism Integrated Environmental Management Guidelines, Department of Water and Sanitation's Best Practice Guidelines and the Western Cape Provincial Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning Guidelines on Public Participation.

NEED AND DESIRABILITY OF THE PROPOSED ACTIVITIES

## 4. NEED AND DESIRABILITY OF THE PROPOSED ACTIVITIES

#### 4.1. MOTIVATION FOR THE NEED AND DESIRABILITY OF THE PROJECT

In terms of the EIA Regulations the need and desirability of any development must be considered by the relevant competent authority when reviewing an application. The need and desirability must be included in the reports to be submitted during the environmental authorisation application processes.

The section of the BAR and EMPr will indicate the need and desirability for the approval of the proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area.

Assessment of the geological information available has determined that the area in question may have coal and pseudocoal reserves. In order to ascertain the above and determine the nature, location and extent of the above-mentioned mineral within the proposed prospecting project, it will be necessary for prospecting to be undertaken. The prospecting will also determine if there are any features that may have an impact on the economic extraction of the above-mentioned mineral.

The information that will be obtained from the proposed prospecting project will be necessary to determine where the mineral is located, how it can be viably extracted and the economic value of the total reserve within the prospecting project.

Trentra (Pty) Limited predicts that substantial benefits from the area (should a viable reserve be found) will accrue to the immediate area, the sub-region and the province of Mpumalanga. These benefits must be offset against the costs of the area, including the impacts to land owners.

The potential benefits of the proposed project are:

- Potential reduction in crime because of short-term job creation during construction (providing farm safety and security measures), and also in the long-run as a result of job creation.
- Local growth in the economy of the host community and surrounding areas, and for local businesses including those that supply accommodation, transport etc.
- Economic benefits for contractors and other suppliers of goods and services.
- Economic opportunities and other potential benefits for land owners from compensation for impacts.
- Based on the environmental assessment conducted as described in this report, there are no
  environmental impacts associated with the proposed area that cannot be mitigated.

# **SECTION FIVE**

MOTIVATION FOR THE PREFERRED DEVELOPMENT FOOTPRINT

## 5. MOTIVATION FOR THE PREFERRED DEVELOPMENT FOOTPRINT

#### 5.1. CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES

The National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998, Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 requires a BAR and EMPr to identify alternatives for areas applied for. In terms of the above-mentioned regulations an alternative in relation to a proposed activity, means different means of meeting the general purpose and requirements of the activity, which may include alternatives to (a) the property on which or location where it is proposed to undertake the activity; (b) the type of activity to be undertaken; (c) the design or layout of the activity;(d) the technology to be used in the activity;(e) the operational aspects of the activity; and (f) the option of not implementing the activity.

Trentra (Pty) Limited intends to undertake prospecting of coal and pseudocoal on a portion of portion 6 of the farm Wolvenfontein 244 IR, situated within the Magisterial District of Delmas to determine whether or not the area consist of coal and pseudocoal and to also determine if the available reserves have economic value.

Therefore, a number of alternatives were considered for the proposed prospecting project. This section of the report will highlight the alternatives considered for the proposed prospecting activities.

#### 5.1.1. Location Alternatives

The location alternative considered for the proposed project include the prospecting sites and associated campsite location and access routes. The location alternatives were selected based on a number of criteria, which include the environmental considerations (how sensitive is the area in terms of soils, wetlands, groundwater, etc.), sensitive receptors (proximity to communities and farmsteads) and the dependency of the area to the required infrastructure.

## 5.1.2. Prospecting Sites

The prospecting project was selected based on published relevant literature; therefore, no alternatives were considered since the anticipated minerals could be located on a on a portion of portion 4 of the farm Wolvenfontein 244 IR.

# 5.1.3. Access Routes/Transport alternatives

Two alternatives were considered i.e., existing road and a new road. Since the proponent would like to limit their pollution footprint, the existing access road was decided upon.

## 5.1.4. Campsite Location

Regarding the location of the campsite, three alternatives were considered. These locations included a static campsite close to the prospecting site, mobile caravans and an offsite campsite.

A static campsite close to the prospecting project or mobile caravans are preferred; however, it will depend on the requirement of the landowner. If the landowner does not allow the preferred options an offsite campsite will be used.

# 5.1.5. Design/ Layout Alternatives

Since no complicated surface infrastructure will be required for this area no design and layout alternatives for the proposed area were determined. The plan depicting all possible drilling sites will be

compiled in consultation with the landowner and submitted with the progress report to the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE).

# 5.1.6. Technology Alternatives

The minerals applied for are less cumbersome; hence the normal exploration technologies will be used. In view of the above, no technology alternatives were considered for this project.

## 5.1.7. Input Material Alternatives

No in-put material alternatives were considered for this area.

# 5.1.8. Exploration Drilling Methods

Drilling is used to determine the depth, thickness and quality of the mineral in question at any point across a prospecting project. Drilling is also used to determine the actual local geology of the area.

## Non-Core Drilling Methods

Non-core drilling techniques mostly uses the rotary drilling methods. In this technique, a string of metal rods is rotated axially and a bit at the base of the string is forced downwards, under controlled pressure, breaking up the ground and advancing the depth of the hole. Cuttings are swept away from the bit and lifted to the surface either by means of pumped circulating water or by jets of compressed air.

Logging of the hole drilled by non-core drilling methods is mainly based on the cuttings obtained as the drill progresses. In view for the difficulty and error bound logging, this method of drilling was discarded and may be used only for infill drilling wherever necessary.

## Core-Drilling Methods

Core drilling techniques uses diamond drilling methods. In this technique, a hollow cylindrical drill bit impregnated with industrial diamonds is attached to a series of metal drill rods and rotated under controlled downward pressure.

Core drilling is the only satisfactory means of obtaining representative samples of seams at depth for quality determination. In view of the above, the preferred drilling methods is the core drilling technique using the diamond drill.

## 5.1.8.1. Transportation

There is a good network of both tarred and gravel roads connecting the prospecting project with surrounding towns. Existing roads to be used for the proposed prospecting project including the R42 Provincial Road, and number of private farm roads. Where no roads exist, tracks will be used to access the drilling sites. No clearing of natural vegetation will be undertaken.

# 5.1.9. No Go Option

Trentra (Pty) Limited intends to prospect for coal and pseudocoal. Should the project not commence, the following will result i.e.

The reserve's economic value will not be known and no mining will commence. This will result in the potential labour force losing employment opportunity. Should the reserve be proven, the mine will boost the economy of the country.

Potential mining operations will also assist with the establishment of small and medium businesses and infrastructure development, community development and poverty eradication. Since the proposed prospecting process itself will have very low environmental impacts, as detailed in the EMPr, investigating the feasibility of future mining operations should be considered.

# 5.1.10. Concluding Statement

Should the prospecting results indicate that a good reserve exists on the prospecting project, feasibility studies relating to mining will commence

# 5.2. DETAILS OF THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS FOLLOWED AND RESULTS THEREOF

Public participation is the cornerstone of any EIA process. The principles of the NEMA govern many aspects of EIA's, including public participation. The general objectives of integrated environmental management laid down in the NEMA include to "ensure adequate and appropriate opportunity for public participation in decisions that may affect the environment". The National Environmental Management Principles include the principle that "The participation of all interested and affected parties in environmental governance must be promoted, and all people must have the opportunity to develop the understanding, skills and capacity necessary to achieve equitable and effective participation, and participation by vulnerable and disadvantaged persons must be ensured", which basically means that the person responsible for the application (EAP) must ensure that provision of sufficient and transparent information on an ongoing basis to stakeholders are made to allow them to comment, and to ensure that the participation of previously disadvantaged people like women and the youth are undertaken.

In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, when applying for environmental authorisation, the Environmental Assessment Practitioner managing the application must conduct at least a public participation process where all potential and registered interested and affected parties, including the competent authority, are given a period of at least 30 days to submit comments on each of the basic assessment reports, environmental management programme, scoping report and environmental impact assessment report, and where applicable the closure plan. In this case a Basic Assessment Report (BAR) is considered.

This section of the BAR and EMPr will give an explanation of the public participation process taken in order to comply with the above-mentioned requirements. A number of public participation guidelines were published in a bid to assist persons responsible for the environmental authorisation applications. As much of the available guidelines were used in determining the public participation process, in guiding the public participation process of the proposed project.

Geovicon Environmental (Pty) Limited on behalf of Trentra (Pty) Limited is applying for an environmental authorisation for the proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area. The application for the environmental authorisation is undertaken in terms of the process as laid out in part 2 of Chapter 4 under the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014. The above-mentioned regulations require that an applicant for an environmental authorisation submit a BAR and EMPr to the competent authority after having subjected the reports to a public participation process.

In view of the above, a public participation process was initiated for the proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area. The public participation process for the proposed project was designed to provide sufficient and accessible information to interested and affected parties (I&APs) in an objective manner to assist them to:

- raise issues of concern and make suggestions for enhanced benefits;
- contribute local knowledge and experience;
- verify that their issues have been captured;
- · verify that their issues have been considered in the technical investigations; and

· comment on the findings of the EIA.

The following will be conducted in the undertaking of the public participation process for the proposed project.

# 5.2.1. Registration and BAR Phase

The public participation process commenced with the provision of potential Interested and affected parties (I&AP's) 30 days to register as interested and affected parties and to comment on the draft BAR and EMPr. The registration and commenting process starts on the 20<sup>th</sup> of January 2023 and ends on the 20<sup>th</sup> of February 2023.

## 5.2.1.1. Notification of potential interested and affected parties

The following methods of notification were used to notify the potential interested and affected parties of the opportunity to register during the public participation process for the proposed project:

- On the 20<sup>th</sup> of January 2023, notices were posted in the Streek Nuus Newspaper which is
  distributed in host and surrounding town of the proposed prospecting project, informing the
  public that the BAR is in the Delmas public library. The notices were compiled in compliance
  with the requirements of Regulation 41(3) of the EIA Regulations, 2014.
- Written notices were sent to all surface owners and lawful occupiers of the land on which the proposed prospecting project will be undertaken.
- Site notices inviting the public to register as interested and affected parties were also used to invite comments on the BAR and EMPr from the public.
- The draft BAR and EMPr was also submitted to all the commenting authorities for their comments.
- A copy of the draft BAR and EMPr was placed in the Delmas public library.

# 5.2.1.2. Registered Interested and Affected Parties

The following are currently registered as interested and affected parties for the proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area:

- Department of Mineral Resources and Energy, Mpumalanga Regional Office (Competent Authority).
- Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency (Commenting Authority)
- Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs
- South African Heritage Resources Agency (Commenting Authority).
- Department of Water and Sanitation.
- Ward Councillor (Victor Khanye Local Municipality).
- SANRAL
- Victor Khanhye Local Municipality.
- Land owners and lawful occupiers within the Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area.
- Land owners and lawful occupiers immediately adjacent to the project's area.

## 5.2.1.3. Proof of Consultation

Proof of the above-mentioned consultation and results; thereof, will be included in the final BAR and EMPr.

## 5.2.1.4. Finalisation of Interested and Affected Party Database

On expiry of registration period, the database of interested and affected parties will be finalised. All parties who indicated the interest of being registered as interested and affected parties will be added to the list of interested and affected parties.

Note: All organs of state, which have jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the proposed project and the competent authority are automatically registered as interested and affected parties.

## 5.2.2. Draft Basic Assessment Report

The draft BAR and EMPr is made available for commenting to all relevant stakeholders during the above-mentioned registration phase of the proposed project's public participation process.

# 5.2.2.1. Comments, Issues and Responses on the Draft Basic Assessment Report

The comments and issues that will be raised by the interested and affected parties will be addressed and included in the final BAR and EMPr.

# 5.3. ENVIRONMENTAL ATTRIBUTES (BASELINE INFORMATION)

# 5.3.1. Geology

# 5.3.1.1. Regional Geology

The Wolvenfontein prospecting area falls within the Ermelo Coalfield of the well-known Middle Ecca stage Coal Province. Several coalmines have been, or are operating within this coalfield. The Bankfontein Mining Permit area is situated in close proximity to current operating collieries, which have an impressive history of exploration and mining activities, associated with them. The geology, sedimentary deposition and mineralogy of the coal seams within the Ermelo Coalfield are well understood.

## **Ermelo Coalfield**

The Ermelo coalfield extends from Carolina in the north to Dirkiesdorp in the south and includes the districts of Hendrina, Breyten, Davel, Ermelo, and Morgenzon encompassing a surface area of approximately 11 250 km2. The Ermelo Coalfield has a somewhat arbitrary boundary with the nWitbank and Highveld coalfields to the west, and the Klipriver and Utrecht coalfields to the south, whilst the eastern and northern boundaries are delineated by pre-Karoo basement outcrop. The coal seams present within the Carolina – Breyten sector are alphabetically numbered from the top as follows; A, B, C, D and E seams. The A and D seams are generally too thin (< 0,6 meters) to be of economic importance. The B seam generally attains a thickness of between 2,0 – 3.7 m and consists of alternating layers of poor and good quality coal with generally high ash content. The C seam can attain a thickness of between 0,6 and 2,0 meters and is generally the target seam within the

Ermelo area. The E seam is generally well developed in the Carolina – Breyten sector of the Coal Province and may attain a thickness of 3 meters.

## Description and distribution of the coal seams within the Ermelo sector.

There are two major factors which control the aerial distribution of the coal seams within the Carolina

- Breyten sector of the Ermelo Coalfield. The first is the topography of the pre-Karoo basement which

affects the distribution of the lower seams, whilst the present-day erosional surface has effected the distribution of the upper seams, and occasionally the entire coal measure package. The influence of pre-Karoo ridges may also propagate their effects upwards due to differential compaction of the sediments within the valleys and ridge areas resulting in a thinning or nondeposition of the coal seams. On a local scale, fluvial channels have given rise to erosion (during sediment formation), nondeposition, and thinning of the coal seam. The host rocks of the coal seams vary from fine-grained laminated and micaceous to coarse and gritty sandstones with alternating zones of shale and shaly sandstone. The total thickness of the Middle Ecca is up to 170 meters and the main coal zone within it, up to 85 meters. The thickness of the partings between seams A and B, B and C, and C and D are 30 – 60 meters, 6 – 9 meters, and about 12 meters respectively.

Ermelo consist of the following coal seam

## The A seam

The A seam occurs in isolated outliers in the sector. Although of moderate quality, it has no reported economic importance. It occurs usually as an interbanded shally coal seam with a thickness of 1 meter.

#### The B seam

The B seam may be split into in seam bands and occurs as three discrete leaves. These are designated as the BX, B and B1 seams (also locally known as the B upper, B, and B1 seams).

The BX seam (B Upper) attains a thickness of approximately 1 meter and is separated from the B seam by a thin shale or sandstone ( $\sim 0.4$  m) parting. This seam consists of dull coal with occasional bright bands. The B seam varies in thickness from 1 – 2,7 meters. This seam consists of a bright banded coal of good quality and low ash content within the Carolina area.

#### The C seam

The C seam is a complex seam, consisting of several plies separated by partings of variable thickness. Traditionally the C seam group is subdivided into the C Upper and C Lower seams. The C Upper seam may be split into two seams.

## The C Upper seam

This seam is well developed over the sector. However, it is usually a complex seam of two or three plies, split by in seam sandstones, siltstones or mudstones of variable extent and thickness. In the Carolina – Breyten sector, the seam is more complex, due to the proximity of large channel fill sandstones. A further complication is the occurrence of a thin, although laterally persistent seam (locally known as the B1). This thin seam may either be separated from the C Upper by a thin parting, or may gradually migrate up the sequence to the base of the B seam. The upper portion of the C Upper seam is typically of poor quality and may be torbanitic over large areas. The lower portion of the seam is of good quality coal and consists of vitrain and durain bands.

## The C Lower seam

The C Lower seam is usually thin and seldom greater than 0.6 m in thickness. The floor of the seam is usually sandstone or interbedded sandstone and shale, whilst the roof is generally interbedded carbonaceous shale. The upper portion of the seam is generally of good quality, with interbanded vitrain and durain bands. The lower portion of the seam normally becomes more torbanitic towards the base.

## The D seam

The D seam seldom attains a thickness greater than 0.6 m and thus is usually to thin to be of economic importance. The overlying and underlying sediments are predominantly sandstones withminor siltstone intercalations. The coal is vitrainitic with occasional durain bands.

# E seam

The E seam is well developed and is of economic significance. It attains a thickness of over three meters (although thinning to a maximum thickness of 1.2 meters within the Carolina area). The roof and floor of the seam are generally composed of competent sandstone. The seam consists of predominantly bright banded (vitrainitic) coal



Coalfields of South Africa

Figure 6:Coalfields of South Africa

## Climate

# 5.3.1.2. Mean Monthly Rainfall and Evaporation

The proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area is within the summer rainfall region of South Africa, which is warm temperate, with cold dry winters and moderate summers. The summer rainfall is sporadic, with frequent thunderstorms, associated with high-intensity rainfall events. The mean annual precipitation of the site is 706 mm, with the high rainfall months between November and April. The mean annual evaporation of the site is 1700 mm (S-Pan).

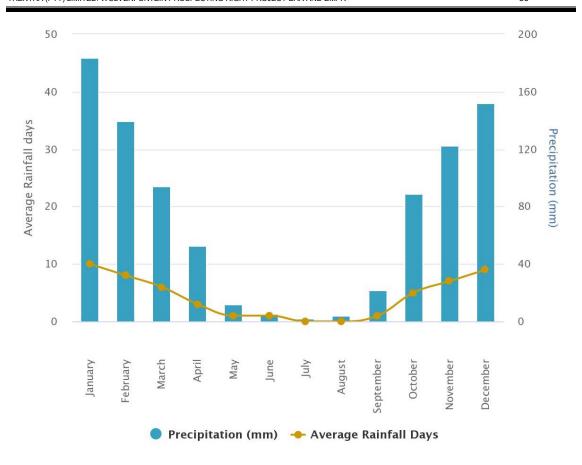


Figure 7: Average rainfall for Delmas, Mpumalanga

Table 4: Climatic conditions in the vicinity of Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area-Delmas.

Month	Rainfall (mm)	Temper	A-pan Evaporation	
	(******)	Mean max	Mean min	(mm)
January	131.2	27.2	13.7	251
February	109.7	26.8	13.4	199
March	89.6	26.0	11.4	183
April	39.3	23.9	7.4	147
May	20.7	21.3	2.2	121
June	6.7	18.5	-1.8	102
July	9.0	18.4	-1.7	127
August	9.8	21.4	0.8	146
September	22.9	24.0	5.3	195
October	66.3	26.0	10.1	223
November	117.4	26.2	11.8	210
December	119.7	27.1	13.2	223
Total	742.3			2127
Average		23.9	7.1	

# **Monthly Mean Wind Direction and Speed**

No data on the wind patterns is available for the mine. Owing to the location of the site, the gentle undulating topography and the non-existence of mountain ranges, no localised wind systems (topographically induced) will be generated.

## **Extreme weather conditions**

The area is prone to host extreme events on a regular basis. These events include the following:

- The area is prone to drought conditions.
- Regular frost occurs during the winter months.
- Rainfall occurs as scattered thunderstorms.

Strong gusty winds prior to and during thunderstorms.

# 5.3.2. Topography

The elevation of the surrounding area ranges from 1500 metres above sea level to 1600 metres above sea level. The surrounding area is considered undulating and consists of hills and valleys, often with streams in the valleys and pans in the hills.

## 5.3.3. Land Use

The land in the area is mainly used for grazing, crop production and has farmsteads. Adjacent land is used for crop production, grazing and farmsteads as well as mining. Refer to figure 8..

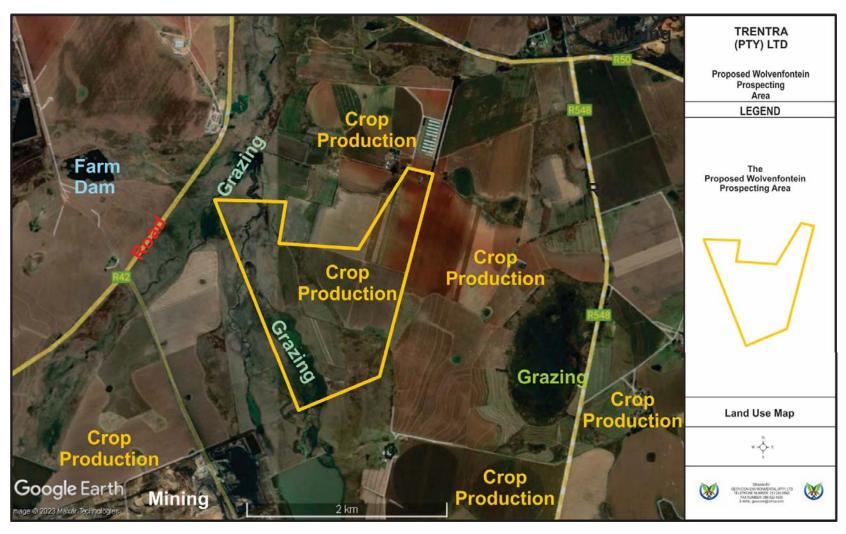


Figure 8: Current land-use map.

# 5.3.4. Natural Vegetation/Plant Life

The proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area is situated the Eastern Highveld Grassland vegetation type/ ecosystem (Gm 12), as well as the Soweto Highveld Grassland vegetation type/ ecosystem (Gm 8) of the Mesic Highveld Grassland bioregion in the Grassland Biome of South Africa. See Figure 10 for a visual indication (South African National Biodiversity Institute – SANBI; VEGMAP 2018).

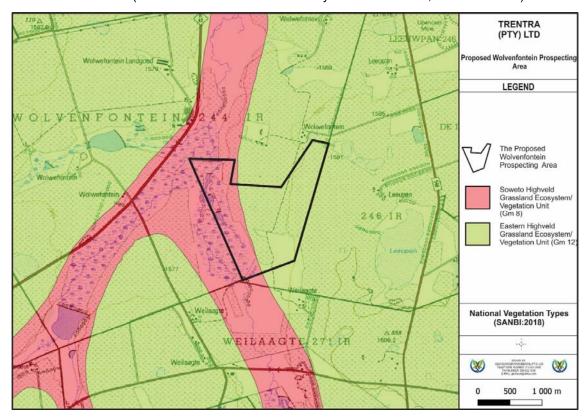


Figure 9: National Vegetation types in the vicinity of the proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Project.

Mucina & Rutherford (2006) describes the vegetation that represent the above-mentioned vegetation types.

The list of the dominant taxa in the Eastern Highveld Grassland vegetation unit / ecosystem is shown in table 5 below.

Table 5: List of Vegetation types that occur within the Eastern Highveld Grassland vegetation ecosystem

Graminoids (Grass like plants)						
Aristida aequiglumis	Three-awn					
Aristida congesta	Tassel three-awn					
Aristida junciformis	Gongoni three-awn					
Brachiaria serrata	Velvet signal grass					
Cynodon dactylon	Couch grass					
Digitaria monodactyla	One finger grass					
Digitaria tricholaenoides	Purple finger grass					
Elionurus muticus	Wire grass					
Eragrostis chloromelas	Narrow curly leaf					
Eragrostis curvula	Weeping love grass					

	[ ·
Eragrostis plana	Tough love grass
Eragrostis racemosa	Narrow heart love grass
Eragrostis sclerantha	Love grass
Heteropogon contortus	Spear grass
Loudetia simplex	Common russet grass
Microchloa caffra	Pincushion grass
Monocymbium ceresiiforme	Boat grass
Setaria sphacelata	Bristle grass
Sporobolus africanus	Ratstail dropseed
Sporobolus pectinatus	Dropseed
Themeda triandra	Red grass
Trachypogon spicatus	Giant spear grass
Tristachya leucothrix	Trident grass
Tristachya rehmannii	Trident grass
Herbs (For	bs, plants)
Berkheya setifera	Rasperdissedoring
Haplocarpa scaposa	Tonteldoosbossie
Justicia anagalloides	
Pelargonium Iuridum	
Acalypha angustata	Copper leaf
Chamaecrista mimosoides	Fishbone cassia
Dicoma anomala	Maagbitterwortel
Euryops gilfillanii	
Euryops transvaalensis	
Helichrysum aureonitens	
Helichrysum caespititium	Speelwonderboom
Helichrysum calicomum	
Helichrysum oreophilum	
Helichrysum rugulosum	
Ipomoea crassipes	
Geophy	tic herbs
Gladiolus crassifolius	
Haemanthus humilis	
Hypoxis rigidula	Kaffertulp
Ledebouria ovatifolia	
Succule	nt herbs
Aloe ecklonis	Ecklone's aloe
	chrubs
Anthospermum rigidum	
Stoebe plumose	

The following vegetation types are associated with the Soweto Highveld Grassland ecosystem/ vegetation unit (Gm 8)

Graminoids: Andropogon appendiculatus (d), Brachiaria serrata (d), Cymbopogon pospischilii (d), Cynodon dactylon (d), Elionurus muticus (d), Eragrostis capensis (d), E. chloromelas (d), E. curvula (d), E. plana (d), E. planiculmis (d), E. racemosa (d), Heteropogon contortus (d), Hyparrhenia hirta (d), Setaria nigrirostris (d), S. sphacelata (d), Themeda triandra (d), Tristachya leucothrix (d), Andropogon schirensis, Aristida adscensionis, A. bipartita, A. congesta, A. junciformis subsp. galpinii, Cymbopogon

caesius, Digitaria diagonalis, Diheteropogon amplectens, Eragrostis micrantha, E. superba, Harpochloa falx, Microchloa caffra, Paspalum dilatatum.

Herbs: Hermannia depressa (d), Acalypha angustata, Berkheya setifera, Dicoma anomala, Euryops gilfillanii, Geigeria aspera var. aspera, Graderia subintegra, Haplocarpha scaposa, Helichrysum miconiifolium, H. nudifolium var. nudifolium, H. rugulosum, Hibiscus pusillus, Justicia anagalloides, Lippia scaberrima, Rhynchosia effusa, Schistostephium crataegifolium, Selago densiflora, Senecio coronatus, Vernonia oligocephala, Wahlenbergia undulata.

Geophytic Herbs: *Haemanthus humilis* subsp. *hirsutus*, *H. montanus*. Herbaceous Climber: *Rhynchosia totta*.

Low Shrubs: Anthospermum hispidulum, A. rigidum subsp. pumilum, Berkheya annectens, Felicia muricata, Ziziphus zeyheriana.

## 5.3.5. Animal Life

The proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area is situated in both the Eastern Highveld Grassland ecosystem and the Soweto Highveld Grassland ecosystems, therefore the animal species that are likely to occur within the ecosystems, primarily inhabits the grassland habitat. In accordance with the abovementioned land uses certain species can occur within and in the surrounding areas of the proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Project.

#### 5.3.6. Surface Water

In terms of the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry demarcations, Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area is situated in the Upper Olifants Sub-Catchment Area of the Olifants Water Management area (WMA), in quaternary catchments B20A. The Olifants WMA is divided into four sub-catchments, namely, Upper Olifants, Middle Olifants, Lower Olifants and Steelpoort Sub-Catchment areas. The catchment within which the proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area is found, is drained by the Bronkhorstspruit. Figure 11 depicts the location of Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area in relation to the quaternary drainage regions within the Olifants— Water Management area.

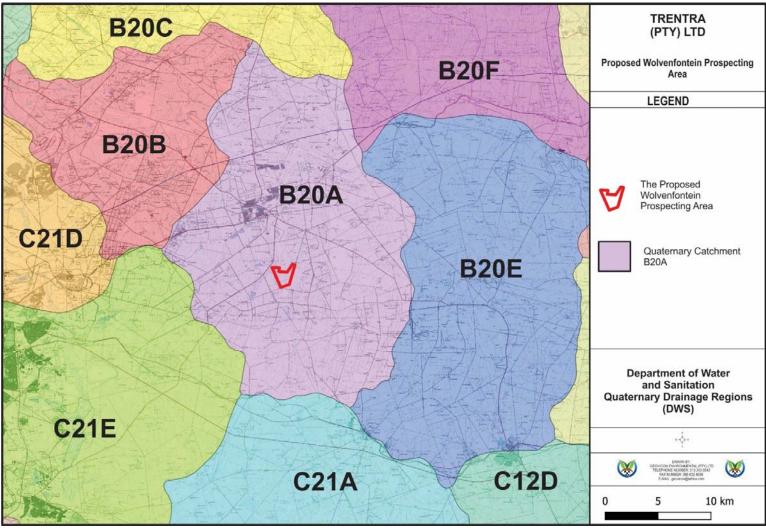


Figure 10: Quaternary catchment area of the proposed Wolvenfontein prospecting area

Table 6: Summary of the Quaternary Catchments associated with the proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Project

Quaternary Catchment	B20A
Drains into	Olifants River
Size in km²	577
Mean annual precipitation (mm)	661,40
Evaporation (mm)	2088,70
Mean annual surface runoff (mm)	34,30

#### River diversions

No river diversions are planned for the prospecting activities covered by this report.

#### **Water Use**

The likely downstream users were determined by examining aerial photography and literature surveys.

The downstream users were therefore considered in the stream. The downstream usage classes are evaluated below:

- Domestic users –local inhabitants may consume this river water and will likely also use the water for laundry.
- Recreational users it is likely that local inhabitants will swim in the streams.
- Aquatic users fishing.
- Irrigation users the river water is might to be used for small-scale or informal irrigation.
- Livestock the river water is likely to be used for drinking by livestock.

# **Water Authority**

The catchment area is government water-controlled catchment. The authority in charge is the Department of Water and Sanitation (Mpumalanga Regional Office).

## 5.3.7. Groundwater

## 5.3.7.1. Aquifer classification.

According to literature the Karoo Supergroup sediments typically act as secondary aquifers (intergranular and fractured rock aquifers). However, the multi-layered weathering system present on these rocks could prove to have up to two aquifer systems present in the form of a shallow, regolith aquifer with a weathered, intergranular soft rock base associated with the contact of fresh bedrock and the weathering zone; and a fractured bedrock aquifer. These aquifer systems are discussed below.

## **Saturated Zone**

In the saturated zone, at least four aquifer types may be inferred from knowledge of the geology of the area:

- A shallow aquifer formed in the weathered zone, perched on the fresh bedrock.
- An intermediate aquifer formed by fracturing of the Karoo sediments.
- Aquifers formed within the more permeable coal seams and sandstone layers.
- Aquifers associated with the contact zones of the dolerite intrusives.

Although these aquifers vary considerably regarding geohydrological characteristics, they are seldom observed as isolated units. Usually, they would be highly interconnected by means of fractures and intrusions. Groundwater will thus flow through the system by means of the path of least resistance in a complicated manner that might include any of these components.

## Shallow perched aquifer

A near surface weathered zone is comprised of transported colluvium and *in-situ* weathered sediments and is underlain by consolidated sedimentary rocks (sandstone, shale and coal). Groundwater flow patterns usually follow the topography, often coming very close to surface in topographic lows, sometimes even forming natural springs. Experience of Karoo geohydrology indicates that recharge to the perched groundwater aquifer is relatively high, up to 3% of the Mean Annual Precipitation (MAP).

## Fractured Karoo rock aquifers

The host geology of the area consists of consolidated sediments of the Karoo Supergroup and consists mainly of sandstone, shale and coal beds of the Vryheid Formation of the Ecca Group. Most of the groundwater flow will be along the fracture zones that occur in the relatively competent host rock. The geology map does not indicate any major fractures zones in this area, but from experience it can be assumed that numerous major and minor fractures do exist in the host rock. These conductive zones effectively interconnect the strata of the Karoo sediments, both vertically and horizontally into a single, but highly heterogeneous and anisotropic unit.

## Aquifers associated with coal seams

The coal seam forms a layered sequence within the hard rock sedimentary units. The margins of coal seams or plastic partings within coal seams are often associated with groundwater. The coal itself tends to act as an aquitard allowing the flow of groundwater at the margins.

## Aguifers associated with dolerite intrusives

Dolerite intrusions in the form of dykes and sills are common in the Karoo Supergroup, and are often encountered in this area. These intrusions can serve both as aquifers and aquifuges. Thick, unbroken dykes inhibit the flow of water, while the baked and cracked contact zones can be highly conductive. These conductive zones effectively interconnect the strata of the Ecca sediments both vertically and horizontally into a single, but highly heterogeneous and anisotropic unit on the scale of mining. These structures thus tend to dominate the flow of groundwater. Unfortunately, their location and properties are rather unpredictable. Their influence on the flow of groundwater is incorporated by using higher than usual flow parameters for the sedimentary rocks of the aquifer.

#### Unsaturated zone

Although a detailed characterization of the unsaturated zone is beyond the scope of this study, a brief description thereof is supplied.

The unsaturated zone in the proposed mining area is in the order of between 1 and 20 meters thick and consists of colluvial sediments at the top, underlain by residual sandstone/siltstone/mudstone of the Ecca Group that becomes less weathered with depth.

According to the Parsons Classification system, the aquifer could be regarded as a minor aquifer system, but also a sole aquifer system in some cases where groundwater is the only source of domestic water

# 5.3.8. Sensitive Landscapes

The proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area is situated within a vulnerable ecosystem. According to Government Notice 1002, (Government Gazette No. 34809 9 December 2011), vulnerable ecosystems are considered threatened ecosystems since it is ecosystems that have a high risk of undergoing significant degradation of ecological structure, function or composition as a result of human intervention, although they are not critically endangered ecosystems or endangered ecosystems. See **Appendix C** for the National Web Based Environmental Screening Tool Report.

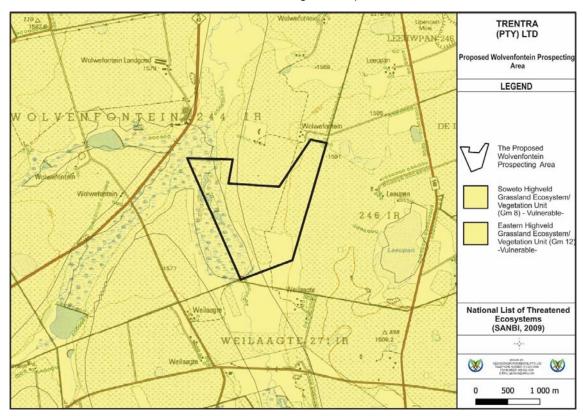


Figure 11: National Threatened Ecosystems in the vicinity of the proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area.

The proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area is situated in the vicinity of a strategic water source area of South Africa, namely the Eastern Karst Belt, groundwater source. Refer to Figure 12 for a visual indication.

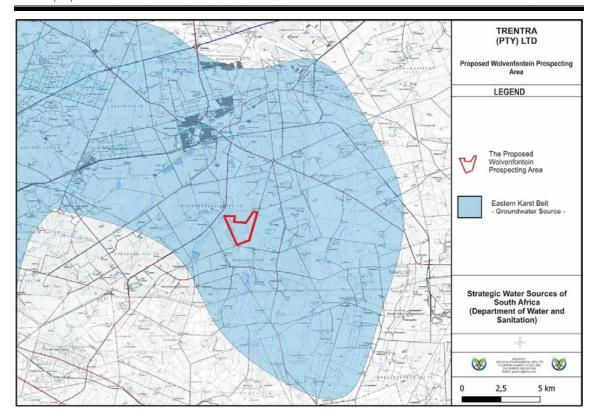


Figure 12: Strategic Water Sources associated with the proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area

The proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area is situated in the vicinity of National River Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Areas

The proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area is not in the vicinity of any National Wetland areas (Figure 13). The proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area falls into the Mesic Highveld Grassland Group 3 and the Mesic Highveld Grassland Group 4 wetland vegetation type (SANBI). See Figure 14 for a visual indication of the proposed prospecting project area in relation to the Mesic Highveld Grassland Group 4 wetland vegetation type/ ecosystem.

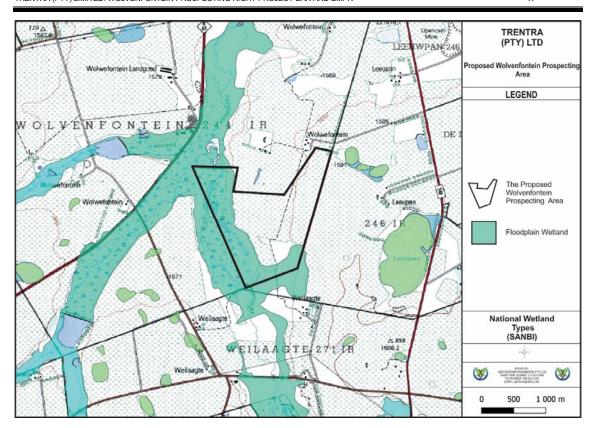


Figure 13: National Wetland Types in the vicinity of the proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area.

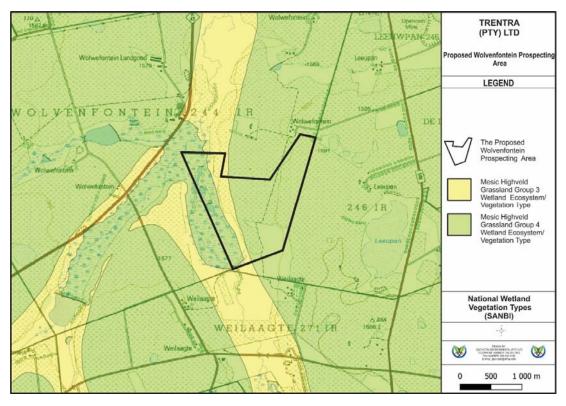


Figure 14: National Wetland Vegetation Types in the vicinity of the proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area.

According to the Mpumalanga Biodiversity Sector Plan GIS based electronic application (MTPA, 2019), the proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area is situated over terrestrial assessment categories of heavily modified areas, moderately modified old lands, and other natural areas. See Figure 15 for a visual indication.

The proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area is situated over heavily modified areas and moderately modified old lands. **Heavily modified areas** are described as areas that are currently transformed and where biodiversity and ecological function has been lost to the point that it is not worth considering for conservation at all.

**Moderately Modified – Old lands** are areas which were modified within the last 80 years but were at some point abandoned, including old mines and old cultivated lands, collectively termed "old lands"; and "Heavily Modified", meaning areas that are currently transformed and where biodiversity and ecological function has been lost to the point that it is not worth considering for conservation at all.

**Other Natural Areas** are defined as areas that have not been identified as a priority in the current systematic biodiversity plan but retain most of their natural character and perform a range of biodiversity and ecological infrastructural functions.

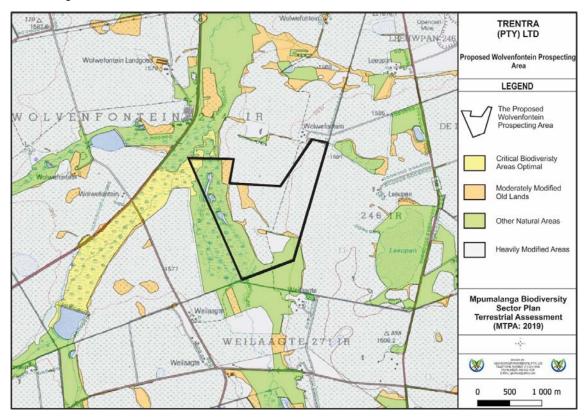


Figure 15: Mpumalanga Biodiversity Sector Plan Terrestrial Assessment for the proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area.

According to the Mpumalanga Biodiversity Sector Plan GIS -based electronic application the proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area is situated over the following freshwater assessment categories:

The proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area is primarily situated over freshwater assessment categories heavily modified areas, other natural areas and Ecological Support Area wetlands.

**Heavily modified** areas are described as areas in which significant or complete loss of natural habitat and ecological function has taken place due to activities such as ploughing, building of dams, hardening of surfaces, open-cast mining, cultivation, and so on.

**Other Natural Areas** are defined as areas that have not been identified as a priority in the current systematic biodiversity plan but retain most of their natural character and perform a range of biodiversity

According to the MBSP handbook, Ecological Support Areas are defined as areas that are not essential for meeting targets, but that play an important role in supporting the functioning of CBAs and that deliver important ecosystem services. Ecological Support Area Wetlands are described as all non-FEPA wetlands. Although not classed as FEPAs, these wetlands support the hydrological functioning of rivers, water tables and freshwater biodiversity, as well as providing a host of ecosystem services through the ecological infrastructure that they provide. (Figure 16).

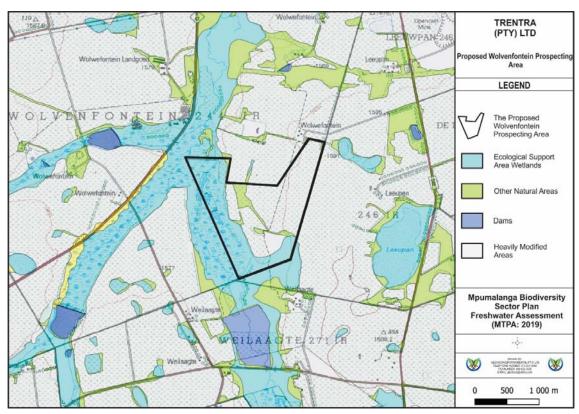


Figure 16: Mpumalanga Biodiversity Sector Plan Freshwater Assessment for the proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area.

The proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area is not situated in the vicinity of either South African Conservation Areas or South African Protected Areas.

## 5.3.9. Air Quality

Potentially air pollution from human activities may arise as a result of particulates entering the atmosphere. The sources of air pollution from human activities comprise of three broad categories i.e., stationary sources (agriculture, mining, quarrying, manufacturing, mineral products, industries and power generation), community sources (homes or buildings, municipal waste and sewage sludge incinerators, fireplaces, cooking facilities, laundry services and cleaning plants) and mobile sources combustion-engine vehicles and fugitive emissions from vehicle traffic). Air pollutants are generally

classified into suspended particulate matter (dust, fumes, mists and smokes), gaseous pollutants (gases and vapours) and odours.

Assessment of the proposed prospecting right area has determined that all three categories of air pollution sources are found at the proposed area.

## 5.3.10. Noise

The proposed project area is predominantly a farming area. Noise from the area is mainly from farming activities with use of associated infrastructure and land use activities. Potential noise sources from the area may therefore be emanating from the following sources i.e.: roads and surrounding land uses.

## 5.3.11. Socio-Economic Status

The proposed project is situated in the Victor Khanye Local Municipality part of the Nkangala District Municipality, which is one of the three districts in Mpumalanga province. The Victor Khanye Local Municipality is situated in Mpumalanga province, within the Nkangala District Municipality. It is located in the Western Highveld of the Nkangala District Municipality.

## Population density, growth and location

The total population of Victor Khanye Local Municipality is approximately 75 452 persons, which amounts to 5,8% of the total Nkangala District Municipality population of 1 308 129 and 1,8% of the Mpumalanga province population of 4039 939.

The Victor Khanye Local Municipality has a growth rate of 2,92%.

The racial make up of the above-mentioned local municipality is as follows: Black Africans Constitutes of 82,3% of the total population, whereas White people constitute of 16% of the total population in the Municipality, with Coloured people and Indian or Asian people constituting of the remaining percentage that make-up the entire racial composition

# Major economic activities and sources of employment

Farming is the most dominant economic activity in Victor Khanye Local Municipality, occupying approximately 60% of the total physical area. However, in terms of output and proportional contribution to the local economy, the largest sector is trade, followed by agriculture and mining sectors. (Stats SA, 2011).

TRENTRA (PTY) LIMITED: WOLVENFONTEIN PROSPECTING RIGHT PROJECT-BAR AND EMPR	51
SECTION SIX	
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT	

## 6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

#### 6.1. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOLLOWED

## 6.1.1. Approach to Environmental Impact Assessment

The term 'environment' is used in the broadest sense in an EIA.lt covers the physical, biological, social, economic, cultural, historical, institutional and political environments.

An Environmental Impact Assessment is a good planning tool. It identifies the environmental consequences of a proposed project from the beginning and helps to ensure that the project, over its life cycle, will be environmentally acceptable and integrated into the surrounding environment in a sustainable way.

# 6.1.2. Environmental Impact Assessment Process Followed

Under Section 24 of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), the Minister promulgated the regulations pertaining to environmental impact assessments (EIA Regulations, 2014) under Government Notice No. 326 in Government Gazette 38282 of 4 December 2014. These EIA regulations repealed the 2010 EIA regulations and therefore any process relating to environmental authorisations must be undertaken under the EIA Regulations, 2014.

Chapter 4 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 deals with the provisions for application for environmental authorisation. In view of the above, Trentra (Pty) Limited is obliged to comply with provisions of Chapter 4 for the intended environmental authorisation application for the activities (listed activities) within the proposed project.

Part 2 of chapter 4 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 contemplate process to be undertaken for the application for environmental authorisation for the proposed project, which is the BAR process. The process to be followed is describe below.

## 6.1.2.1. Pre-application consultation with the Competent Authority

In terms of section 24D (1) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998), the Minister responsible for mineral resources is the competent authority for environmental matters relating to mining and associated activities. In view of the above, the application for the environmental authorisation for the proposed project was submitted to the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE), Mpumalanga Regional Office for their consideration and decision making.

## 6.1.2.2. BAR Phase

In compliance with Regulation 19 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, the draft and final BAR and EMPr will be submitted to the competent authority within 90 days after the acknowledgement of the environmental authorisation application.

As part of the public participation, the draft BAR and EMPr is made available to the competent authority, potential and registered interested and affected parties for their comment for a period of 30 days during the EIA phase.

# 6.1.2.3. Information Gathering

Environmental baseline data has been obtained via desktop studies, pertaining to surface water, geohydrological data, topographical analyses, soil surveys, vegetation surveys, wetland surveys and geological conditions. The data accumulated and analysed is sufficient to gain a baseline indication of the present state of the environment. The use of this baseline study for impact assessments is thus justified and reliable conclusions could be made.

# 6.1.2.4. Decision on the BAR application

In compliance with Regulation 20 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, the competent authority will within 107 days of receipt of the final BAR and EMPr grant or refuse the environmental authorisation.

## 6.2. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

The following prediction and evaluation of impacts is based on the proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area and associated activities.

The evaluation distinguishes between significantly adverse and beneficial impacts and allocates significance against national regulations, standards and quality objectives governing:

- · Health & Safety;
- Protection of Environmentally Sensitive Areas;
- Land use; and
- Pollution levels.

Irreversible impacts are also identified. See Table 8 for the results.

The significance of the impacts is determined through the consideration of the following criteria:

Probability : likelihood of the impact occurring

Area (Extent) : the extent over which the impact will be experienced.

Duration : the period over which the impact will be experienced.

Intensity : the degree to which the impact affects the health and welfare of humans

and the environment (includes the consideration of unknown risks, reversibility of the impact, violation of laws, precedents for future actions

and cumulative effects).

Table 7: The above criteria are expressed for each impact in tabular form according to the following definitions:

Probability	Definition
Low	There is a slight possibility $(0 - 30\%)$ that the impact will occur.
Medium	There is a 30 –70% possibility that the impact will occur.
High	The impact is definitely expected to occur (70% +) or is already occurring.
Area (Extent)	Definition
Small	0 – 40 ha
Medium	40 – 200 ha
Large	200 + ha
Duration	Definition
Short	0–5 years
Medium	5–50 years
Long	51–200 years

Permanent	200+years
Intensity	Definition
Low	Does not contravene any laws. Is within environmental standards or objectives. Will not constitute a precedent for future actions. Is reversible. Will have a slight impact on the health and welfare of humans or the environment.
Medium	Does not contravene any laws.  Will not constitute a precedent for future actions.  Is not within environmental standards or objectives.  Is not irreversible.  Will have a moderate impact on the health and welfare of humans or the environment.
High	Contravene laws.  May constitute a precedent for future actions.  Is not within environmental standards or objectives.  Is irreversible.  Will have a significant impact on the health and welfare of humans or the environment.
Significance an Risk Category	d Definition
Negligible	The impact/risk is insubstantial and does not require management
Low	The impact/risk is of little importance, but requires management
Medium	The impact/risk is important; management is required to reduce negative impacts to acceptable levels
High	The impact/risk is of great importance, negative impacts could render options or the entire project unacceptable if they cannot be reduced or counteracted by significantly positive impacts, and management of these impacts is essential
Positive (No ris	The impact, although having no significant negative impacts, may in fact contribute to environmental or economical health

# 6.3. RESULTS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

# 6.3.1. Assessment of the Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area impacts/risks

# 6.3.1.1. Construction Phase

Table 8: Results of the Environmental Impact Assessment for Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area.

NATURE OF THE IMPACT	ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECT		IMPACT ASSESSMENT								7 10 1			MITIGATION MEASURES
		E	Р	D	I	s								
CONSTRUCTION PHASES		•	-	-										
Site Establishment: Establishment of the access (tracks) to	the prospecting site, E	stab	lishn	nent	of the	e cai	mpsite, e physical surveying and Pegging of drilling sites							
The establishment of access and campsite may result in the stripping of soils if the site establishment of not properly		Without mitigation					Ensure minimal disturbance of soil when establishing access and							
conducted.	Soil/Land capability	S	L	s	М	М	campsites.  All construction vehicles will be well maintained and inspected for							
During site establishment, hydrocarbon leakages from machinery may result in the contamination of the soils within the		Witl	h miti	igatio	n		hydrocarbon leaks weekly.							
access and campsite.		S	L	s	L	L	All spills will be cleaned up immediately to the satisfaction of the Regional Manager by removing the spillage together with the polluted							
							soil and by disposing of them at a recognised facility							
Current land use over the area to be used for site establishment will cease completely. This may have an impact on the land		Witl	hout	mitiga	ation		Use sites that are unused and that are degraded. This will be done in consultation with the land owner.							
owners' livelihood.	Land capability	S	М	S	М	М	Soficial and the family of the							
		Witl	h miti	igatio	n									

NATURE OF THE IMPACT	ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECT	IMPACT ASSESSMENT			NT		MITIGATION MEASURES			
		E	Р	D	I	s				
CONSTRUCTION PHASES										
		S	L	S	L	L				
The establishment of the site (access and campsite) may result		With	nout	mitiga	ation		Use sites with most disturbed vegetation cover for the development.			
in the removal of vegetation cover if the establishment is not done correctly.	Natural vegetation	S	L	S	L	L	Minimal stripping of topsoil and vegetation will be allowed during site establishment.			
This may render the land unusable to the land owners after completion of the project.		With	n miti	igatio	n	ı				
33p. 3		S	L	s	L	N				
Animal burrows and habitats may be destroyed during		With	nout	mitiga	ation	•	Use sites with most degraded environment for the site development.			
construction. This may result in the migration of remaining animal life away from the affected areas.	Animal Life	S	L	S	L	L	Poaching will be prohibited at the prospecting site.			
Poaching of wild animals and livestock by the labourers will result in the loss of wild live and livestock to the land owner.		With	n miti	igatio	n	<u> </u>				
result in the loss of who live and livestock to the land owner.		S	L	s	L	N				
Exposure of soils during construction by the stripping of vegetation and soils may cause erosion, which may lead to		With	nout :	mitiga	ation		Site establishment will not be undertaken within sensitive landscapes.  These areas will be avoided. A distance of 32 meters will be created			
increased silt loads in surface water runoff. This may result in		S	L	s	М	М	between the sites and the sensitive landscapes.			
the contamination of the clean water environment.		With	n miti	igatio	n	<u> </u>	Proper waste management facilities will be put in place at the campsite.			

NATURE OF THE IMPACT	ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECT	IMPACT ASSESSMENT					MITIGATION MEASURES
		Е	Р	D	I	s	
CONSTRUCTION PHASES	•			-		•	
Waste generated from the site may result in the contamination of surface and ground water should not management of such waste be undertaken.		S	L	S	L	L	Suitable covered receptacles will be available at all times and conveniently placed for the disposal of waste.  All used oils, grease or hydraulic fluids shall be placed therein and these receptacles will be removed from the site on a regular basis for disposal at a registered or licensed disposal facility.  All spills will be cleaned up immediately to the satisfaction of the Regional Manager by removing the spillage together with the polluted soil and by disposing of them at a recognised facility
Construction activities during the establishment of the site will		With	nout	mitig	ation		The speed of haul trucks and other vehicles will be strictly controlled to
include material loading and hauling. These activities will result in dust emissions.	Air Quality	S	L	s	L	L	avoid dangerous conditions, excessive dust or excessive deterioration of the road being used.
		With	n miti	igatio	n		
		S	L	s	L	N	
The noise level generated from the construction activities may		With	nout	mitig	ation		Noise disturbance or any other form of disturbance that may have an
exceed the SANS 10103 Levels for Residential areas and may exceed the maximum rating levels for ambient noise indoors.	Noise	S	L	s	L	L	effect on the landowner/tenant/persons lawfully living in the vicinity will be kept to a minimum.
		With	nout	mitig	ation	1	

NATURE OF THE IMPACT	ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECT	IMPACT ASSESSMENT					MITIGATION MEASURES
		E	Р	D	I	s	
CONSTRUCTION PHASES			-	-	_	-	
This may have an impact in the surrounding residents and employees using/delivering the machinery.		S	L	S	L	N	
The campsite may be visible to the landowner and workers.		Witl	hout	mitig	ation		Inform the land owner on the type of machinery and equipment to be used at the prospecting site.
	Visual Aspects	s	L	s	L	L	Ensure that lighting is conducted in manner that will reduce the impacts
		Witl	h mit	igatic	n		on visual aspects at night times.
		S	L	s	L	N	
The site may be located in close proximity to a heritage site and		Witl	hout	mitig	ation		A buffer of more than fifty meters will be created between the grave
may result in the destruction of the identified heritage site.	Sites of Archaeological and Cultural Importance	S	М	s	Н	Н	yards and the proposed site development.  A management plan will be drafted for the sustainable preservation of
		Witl	With mitigation				the grave yard should graveyards be identified on site.
		S	L	S	L	L	Any grave site must have access for descendants.
	Socio economic	Witl	hout	t mitigation		ı	Recruitment will not be undertaken on site.
	aspects	S	L	S	L	L	

NATURE OF THE IMPACT	ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECT		IMPACT ASSESSMENT				MITIGATION MEASURES	
		E	P	D	I	s		
CONSTRUCTION PHASES	CONSTRUCTION PHASES							
The commencement of the proposed project may result in an influx of 'outsiders' seeking jobs. This may result in the have		With	n mit	igatio	n		Farm labourers will not employed unless agreed to with the farm owners.	
potential increase in crime.		S	L	s	L	N		

# 6.3.1.2. Operational Phase

NATURE OF THE IMPACT	ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECT	IMPA	CT AS	SSES	SMEN	IT	MITIGATION MEASURES			
		E	Р	D	I	s				
OPERATIONAL PHASE										
Drilling and rehabilitation of the exploration boreholes										
Topsoil removal during the excavation of the sumps may result in the disruption of the soil profile.		Witho	out miti	gation	l		Strip topsoil clean from underlying non-topsoil material such as weathered sandstone  Make contingency plans to manage spills that may occur			
	Soils	s	М	S	L	L				
		With mitigation								
		s	L	S	L	N				
The use of vehicles during the siting, pegging and		Without mitigation					Ensure that the drilling of the exploration boreholes are done in			
drilling of the exploration boreholes may result in the spillages of hydrocarbon liquids from the vehicles and machinery. This will result in the contamination of the vegetation cover and soils.		s	М	S	М	М	such a manner that the environment is protected from probable spillages and contamination by carbonaceous material.			
	Natural Vegetation	With mitigation					Tarpaulins will be placed on the ground to prevent oil, grease, hydraulic fluid and diesel spills during emergency repairs. All oil			
The material removed from the drilling exercises will contain carbonaceous material, which has a potential for pollution should it be allowed stay for a prolonged period at the drilling site. The above material, if not properly managed, may result in the contamination of the surrounding soils and vegetation cover, which may render the land not usable after the backfilling operation.	and Soils	S	L	S	L	L	spills will be remedied using approved methodologies. The contaminated soils will be removed and disposed of at a license waste disposal facility.  All waste generated from the drilling sires and the campsite waste collected in proper receptacles and disposed at registered disposal facilities.			

NATURE OF THE IMPACT	ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECT	IMPA	CT AS	SSESS	SMEN	IT	MITIGATION MEASURES		
		E	Р	D	I	s			
OPERATIONAL PHASE									
Animal burrows and habitats will be destroyed by the preparation of the backfilling sites. This will further result in the migration of animals away from these areas of disturbance.	Animal Life	Witho	out miti	gation			The rehabilitation of the disturbed areas must be conducted such that the rehabilitated areas will encourage the migration of animals back into the rehabilitated areas.		
		s	L	S	L	L			
		Without mitigation					Poaching of wild animals and livestock will be prohibited.		
		s	L	s	L	N			
The drilling operations may result in the generation of surface water runoff contaminated with drilling muds and fluids should spillages occur.	Surface Water	Without mitigation					No prospecting operations will be undertaken within 100 metres		
		s	L	s	М	L	from the nearby steams and 32 meters from the nearby wetland areas.		
		With mitigation					The sumps will be excavated for the collection mud and fluids from the drilling sites. The sump will be sized such that it will be		
		s	L	s	L	L	able to contain the water and mud that will be generated during the prospecting operation.		
		s	L	S	L	L			
		With	mitigat	ion					
		s	L	s	L	N			
The prospecting operation will require vehicular movement. This will result in the generation of dust by movement of vehicles and due to blowing winds.	Air Quality	Witho	out miti	gation			Correct speed will be maintained at the proposed project site.		
		S	L	s	L	L			

NATURE OF THE IMPACT	ENVIRONMENTAL	IMPA	CT AS	SES	SMEN	IT	MITIGATION MEASURES
	ASPECT	E	Р	D	I	s	
OPERATIONAL PHASE							
Vehicles and machinery will also be generated diesel or petrol fumes.		With	mitigati	on			Vehicle maintenance must be conducted regularly to avoid excessive diesel fumes.
		S	L	s	L	N	
Noise generated from prospecting operations activities may add to the current noise levels. This may have		Witho	out miti	gation			Ensure that proper management measures as well as technical changes are undertaken to reduce the impacts on surrounding
impacts on surrounding property owners and occupiers.		S	L	S	М	L	residents and employees.
	Noise						Correct speed will be maintained at the proposed project site.
		With mitigation					Limit operation of machinery and vehicle movement between sunrise and sunset.
		S	L	s	L	L	
The drill rigs and towers used during the drilling	Visual Aspects	Witho	out miti	gation			Ensure that the period used for the drill rigs is optimised to ensure
operations will be visible from the nearby residents and properties.		S	L	s	L	L	that the drill rigs are moved from one site to another over short periods.
		With	mitigat	on			
		S	L	S	L	N	
	Socio economic aspects	Without Mitigation					Ensure that all safety measures are implemented to prevent the impacts on the property owners.
	аэрсою	Ø	L	S	L	L	impacts on the property owners.

NATURE OF THE IMPACT	ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECT	IMPA	CT AS	SSESS	SMEN	IT	MITIGATION MEASURES
	ASPECT	Е	Р	D	ı	s	
OPERATIONAL PHASE							
Operation may affect the day to day operation of the		With	Mitigat	ion			Ensure that negotiations on compensation are undertaken before the drilling programme can commence. This will include any
land owners hence result in direct impact on their livelihood.	on their S L		S	L	N	other conditions that the landowner may deem necessary for the prospecting operation.	
Operation will result in the employment of locals and support on local businesses.	Socio economic aspects	Posit	ive				The applicant will ensure that as far as possible locals will be used during the operation of the prospecting project.
The drilling operation may result in the destruction of graves and any other heritage sites during operational	Sites of archaeological and	Witho	out Miti	gation			Locate exploration borehole more than one hundred meters from the identified heritage sites.
phase of the project.	cultural importance	S	М	S	Н	Н	the identified heritage sites.
		With Mitigation					
		S	S	s	L	L	

# 6.3.1.3. Decommissioning and Closure Phases

NATURE OF THE IMPACT	ENVIRONMENTA	IMP	ACT A	SSES	SMEN	T	MITIGATION MEASURES
	L ASPECT	Е	Р	D	I	S	
DECOMMISSIONING AND CLOSURE PHASES			<u> </u>	_ <del>_</del>		<del>-</del>	
Decommissioning of prospecting site (Site Re	habilitation)						
The removal of the campsite equipment and the rehabilitation of the drilling sites and associated access infrastructure will result in the affected soil and land use being restored. This will also result in the resumption of the use of the land since the infrastructure would have been removed.	Soils, Land Capability and Land Use	Posit	tive im	npact			Ensure that rehabilitation is conducted in accordance with a rehabilitation method statements approved by the company management. See description of the rehabilitation plan and management actions in the EMPr.  Ensure that contamination of the rehabilitate area by
Positive impacts will result due to the reduction in areas of disturbance and the return of land use of the affected areas and making available an area that was covered by the campsite and drilling sites.	Land Use	Positive impact					carbonaceous material and hydrocarbon liquids are prevented.
The use of vehicles/machinery during the rehabilitation of the exploration sites may result compaction of soils and in the spillages of hydrocarbon liquids from the vehicles and machinery. This will result in the contamination and destruction of the vegetation cover and soils.	Soils and Natural Vegetation	Without mitigation S M S M M With mitigation S L S L L				1	Ensure that the rehabilitation work is done in such a manner that the environment is protected from probable spillages and contamination by carbonaceous material.  All boreholes and sumps will be rehabilitated to pre-drilling conditions.  Tarpaulins will be placed on the ground to prevent oil, grease, hydraulic fluid and diesel spills during emergency repairs. All oil spills will be remedied using approved methodologies. The

NATURE OF THE IMPACT	ENVIRONMENTA	IMP	ACT A	SSES	SMEN	IT	MITIGATION MEASURES			
	L ASPECT	Е	Р	D	I	S				
DECOMMISSIONING AND CLOSURE PHASES					'					
							contaminated soils will be removed and disposed of at a licensed waste disposal facility.  All waste generated from the rehabilitation sites will be collected in proper receptacles and removed to registered disposal facilities.			
During the decommissioning and closure phases		With	out mit	igatio	n		Ensure that water leaving the site do not have elevated silt load.			
equipment will be removed, stockpiled soils will		S	L	S	L	L	Ensure that the rehabilitated areas are free draining and that water			
be used for rehabilitation, remaining sumps will		With	mitiga	tion	•	•	from these areas is clean.			
be backfilled, levelled, topsoiled and the area reseeded.  During the process of rehabilitation surface water runoff from the rehabilitation site may have elevated silt load, which may cause pollution of the nearby water environment.	Surface Water	S	L	S	L	N				
Rehabilitation and removal of the prospecting		\\/ith	out mit	igatio	n		Correct speed will be maintained at the proposed project			
sites and equipment will require vehicular		Without mitigation S L S L L				L	rehabilitation sites.			
movement. This will result in the generation of		_	nitiga				Vehicle maintenance must be conducted regularly to avoid			
dust by movement of vehicles and due to blowing winds. Vehicles and machinery will also generate diesel or petrol fumes.  Generated dust will migrate towards the predominant wind direction and may settle on surrounding properties including nearby vegetation.	Air Quality	S	L	S	L	N	excessive diesel fumes.			
Noise will be generated during the removal of	Wi		out mit	igatio	n	1	Where necessary, provide employees with ear plugs and			
equipment and rehabilitation of the sites. This		S	L	S	L	L	employees must be instructed to use the ear plugs.			
noise is not expected to exceed occupational	Noise	With	mitiga	tion	1	-1	Ensure that equipment is well maintained and fitted with the			
noise limits and will be short lived.		S	L	S	L	N	correct and appropriate noise abatement measures.			

### 6.4. SUMMARY OF SPECIALIST REPORTS

For this basic assessment report, only the desktop study was conducted hence no specialist reports are summarized.

# 6.5. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Trentra (Pty) Limited has applied for a prospecting right over the Wolvenfontein Prospecting Project. The prospecting operation will involve the systematic removal of coal and pseudocoal. The prospecting operation will involve the exploration for the above-mentioned minerals within the prospecting right area. Diamond core drilling will be used or the exploration and a campsite will be established on site. Each drilling site will have an access route in the form of a track and a sump for the collection of waste water generated during the drilling operation.

## 6.5.1. Description of affected environment

The proposed project is situated within the Steve Thswete Local Municipality situated in an area characterised by elevated undulating plateau with streams such as the Klein Olifants. A variety of soil types were identified within the project area, which include recharge, interflow and responsive soils. The land uses over the project area correspond to the soils found in the area and include mainly mining and agricultural activities (crop production and grazing).

# 6.5.2. Summary of key findings of the environmental impact assessment

During the proposed prospecting operation impacts may occur on soils, natural vegetation, surface water, groundwater, sensitive landscapes, air quality, noise, visual aspects, and sites of archaeological and cultural importance should the prospecting method statement not be adhered to. Alternatives considered for the location campsite and drilling sites has shown that the selected locations would be the most favourable. Trentra (Pty) Limited will undertake measures to ensure that the identified impacts are minimised. Assessment of the impacts with the proposed mitigation measures has shown the significance of the impacts on all affected environmental aspects to be reduced from low and negligible significance.

Land use will not change. Several landowners and land occupiers within the proposed area may be affected although on a temporary basis due to the need to access the sites and establishment and use of the campsite. Measures such as safety along the roads and dust suppression will be undertaken to ensure that the impacts on the land owners and land occupiers are minimised.

Assessment of the vegetation within the footprint (proposed boreholes) of the development area has shown limited presence of natural vegetation.

Storm water runoff from the dirty water areas of the drilling sites, its associated surface infrastructure (campsite) may have a detrimental impact on the surrounding water environment should this water be released to the environment. In order to prevent the occurrence of the above-mentioned impacts, dirty water collection sump will be used to collect all dirty water from the drilling sites. The water collected from the sump will be re-used for dust suppression, evaporated and the sump will be rehabilitated once the drilling is finished. Sediments will be created from the site during the construction, operational and decommissioning phase, which may impact negatively on the surrounding water environment, but will be treated should they contain hydrocarbon waste.

All workers will be housed in the campsite to be established on site. The employees will be given strict instruction not to undertake activities that will affect the environment and that may have an impact on the landowner. Waste generated from the site will be collected in proper receptacle and disposed of in registered waste disposal sites.

# 6.5.3. Final Master Layout Plan

The final maps showing the layouts of the proposed area will be submitted to the DMRE on granting of the prospecting project. The map will be developed to superimpose the proposed prospecting project together and associated infrastructure with the environmental sensitivities within the proposed area site, however a proposed draft layout plan is attached as **Appendix D**.

# 6.6. ASPECTS FOR INCLUSION AS CONDITIONS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

In authorising the proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area; the following conditions form part of the environmental authorisation:

- Trentra (Pty) Limited may not alter the location of any of the project activities included in this
  environmental impact assessment without obtaining the required environmental authorisation
  to do so under NEMA.
- Trentra (Pty) Limited will not undertake any new activity/ies that was not part of this environmental impact assessment and that will trigger a need for an environmental authorisation without proper authorisation.
- The EMPr must be implemented fully at all stages of the proposed project
- Trentra (Pty) Limited must limit night-time operations. This would be relevant for all work taking
  place at night within 150 m from the closest receptors in this community. If night work is
  conducted, such must be conducted in agreement with the land owners and affected parties
  (lawful land occupier and labours).

# 6.7. DESCRIPTION OF ASSUMPTIONS, UNCERTAINTIES AND GAPS IN KNOWLEDGE

The EIA Regulations, 2014 outline specific requirements that a description of any assumptions, uncertainties and gaps in knowledge which relate to the assessment and mitigation measures must be provided in the BAR.

The assessments undertaken are based on conservative methodologies and these methods attempts to determine potential negative impacts that could occur on the affected environmental aspects. These impacts may however be of smaller magnitude than predicted, while benefits could be of a larger extent than predicted.

This section outlines various limitations to the specialist studies that have been undertaken and indicates, where appropriate, the adequacy of predictive methods used for the assessment. This has been done to provide the authorities and interested and affected parties with an understanding of how much confidence can be placed in this impact assessment.

The impact assessment has investigated the potential impact on key environmental media relating to the specific environmental setting for the site. A number of desktop assessment were undertaken and result thereof and are presented in this report under baseline information in section five above.

The information provided in this BAR and EMPr is therefore considered sufficient for decision-making purposes.

# 6.8. REASONED OPINION AS TO WHETHER THE PROPOSED PROJECT SHOULD OR SHOULD NOT CONTINUE

# 6.8.1. Reason why the activity should be authorised or not

According to the impact assessment undertaken for the proposed area, the key impacts of the area are on soils, natural vegetation and land owners/occupiers.

The area will also have positive impacts due to the employment to be created although it will be for a short-term period.

The public will also be requested for their comments. All comments to be received during Public Participation Process will be included in the final BAR and EMPr. These comments will be addressed the as far as possible to the satisfaction of the interested and affected parties.

The management of the impacts identified in the impact assessment for all phases of the proposed area will be undertaken through a range of programmes and plans contained in the EMPr. In consideration of the programmes and plans contained within the EMPr, layouts and method statements compiled for the area, which is assumed will be effectively implemented, there will be significant reduction in the significance of potential impacts.

Based on the above, it is; therefore, the opinion of the EAP that the activity should be authorised.

### 6.8.2. Conditions that must be included in the authorisation

In authorising the proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area; the following conditions should form part of the environmental authorisation:

- Trentra (Pty) Limited may not alter the location of any of the project activities included in this environmental impact assessment without obtaining the required environmental authorisation to do so under NEMA.
- Trentra (Pty) Limited will not undertake any new activity that was not part of this environmental impact assessment and that will trigger a need for an environmental authorisation without proper authorisation.
- The EMPr must be implemented fully at all stages of the proposed project.
- Trentra (Pty) Limited must limit night-time operations. This would be relevant for all work taking place at night within 150 m from the closest receptors in this community. If night work is conducted, such must be conducted in agreement with the land owners and affected parties (lawful land occupier and labours).

# 6.9. PERIOD FOR WHICH THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

Based on the prospecting method statement, the environmental authorisation should be given for three (3) years.

# 6.10. UNDERTAKING

The signed undertaking will be presented to the DMRE on execution of the Wolvenfontein Prospecting Project.

# 6.11. FINANCIAL PROVISION

According to Appendix 3 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, where applicable, details of any financial provisions for the rehabilitation, closure, and ongoing post decommissioning management of negative

environmental impacts must be provided in the BAR and EMPr. In order to avoid duplication, the financial provision for the proposed area has only been provided under the relevant section of the EMPr.

# 6.12. OTHER INFORMATION REQUIRED BY THE COMPETENT AUTHORITY

Aside from the BAR and EMPr no other information has been requested by the competent authority.

# 6.13. OTHER MATTERS REQUIRED IN TERMS OF SECTION 24 (4) (A) AND (B) OF THE ACT

Any matter required in terms of the above section of the Act will be complied together by Trentra (Pty) Limited.

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME

### 1. DETAILS OF THE EAP

EAP: Mr. Ornassis Tshepo Shakwane

Professional registration:

SACNASP: 117080

EAPASA: 2019/1763

IAIA Membership No.: 3847

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### 1.1. EXPERTISE OF THE EAP WHO PREPARED THE BAR AND EMPR

Geovicon Environmental (Pty) Limited is a geological and environmental consulting company. The company was formed during 1996, and currently has more than 20 years' experience in the geological and environmental consulting field. Geovicon Environmental (Pty) Limited has successfully completed consulting areas in the Mining sector (coal, coal, gold, base metal and diamond), Quarrying sector (sand, aggregate and dimension stone), Industrial sector and housing sector. Geovicon Environmental (Pty) Limited has undertaken contracts within all the provinces of South Africa, Swaziland, Botswana and Zambia. During 2001 Geovicon Environmental (Pty) Limited entered the field of mine environmental management and water monitoring.

Geovicon Environmental (Pty) Limited is a Black Economically Empowered Company with the BEE component owning 60% of the company. Geovicon Environmental (Pty) Limited has three directors i.e., O.T Shakwane, J.M. Bate and T.G Tefu.

Mr. O.T Shakwane obtained his BSc (Microbiology and Biochemistry) from the University of Durban Westville in 1994, and completed his honours degree in Microbiology in 1995. Mr O.T Shakwane has also completed short courses on environmental law and environmental impact assessment with the University of Mpumalanga's Centre for Environmental Management. He has worked with the three state departments tasked with mining and environmental management i.e., Department of Water and Sanitation (Gauteng and Mpumalanga Region), Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (Mpumalanga Region) and Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Environment (Gauteng Region). Mr. Shakwane has been in the consulting field since 2004 and has completed various areas similar to the proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Areaas an environmental assessment practitioner. Mr Shakwane is the environmental assessment practitioner for the environmental impact assessment for the proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Project.

Over the past years Geovicon Environmental (Pty) Limited has formalised working relationships with companies that offer expertise in the following fields i.e., Geohydrology, Civil and Geotechnical

Engineering, Geotechnical Consultancy, Survey and Mine Planning and Soil & Land Use Consultancy. Geovicon Environmental (Pty) Limited is an independent consulting company, which has no interest in the outcome of the decision regarding the Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area basic assessment process.

The curriculum vitae of the EAP is attached as Appendix E.

### 2. DESCRIPTION OF THE ASPECTS OF THE ACTIVITY

### 2.1. DATA GATHERING

Relevant information regarding the potential of the identified prospecting project area will be sourced from institutions like the Council for Geoscience. This information will be analysed and interpreted through computer modelling of existing data.

The interpretation of the said data will result in compiling literature review report. The said report will give indication as to what processes (in order of priority) to follow to complete the prospecting activities.

### 2.2. FIELD MAPPING

The field mapping will include field surveying (to determine sensitive areas), geophysical surveys and pegging of the drilling sites.

### 2.3. DETAILED SITE SURVEY AND INVESTIGATION

Demarcation of sensitive and protected areas will be conducted by a physical survey of the proposed area by a suitability qualified person. This should be done before establishment of access to the site, caravan structure and drilling of exploration boreholes.

# 2.4. GEOPHYSICAL SURVEYS AND DATA INTERPRETATION

Geophysical surveys will be used over the proposed prospecting site.

# 2.5. PEGGING OF DRILL SITES

All exploration borehole sites will be staked by a suitably qualified person. The sites will thereafter be plotted on a plan drawn to an appropriate scale.

# 2.6. ESTABLISHMENT OF ACCESS

There is a good network of both tarred and gravel roads connecting the prospecting project with surrounding towns. Existing roads to be used for the proposed area include the R545 Provincial Road, and an unnamed tarred road that passes directly through the proposed prospecting right area Where necessity, arise for access to the drilling sites, tracks will be established as access to the drilling site. These, tracks will be established to be more than a hundred meters away from any sensitive landscapes. The tracks will also be sited away from protected areas. Vegetation clearance will be avoided during the establishment of the access roads.

# 2.7. ESTABLISHMENT OF CARAVAN SITE

Caravans, ablution facilities (chemical toilets) and waste storage facilities will be provided for employees. Clearing of vegetation will be avoided during the establishment of the caravan site.

### 2.8. DIAMOND DRILLING FOR BOREHOLES AND SUMP CONSTRUCTION

Geological boreholes will be drilled on a predetermined grid. During drilling of each borehole, a sump of approximately  $1.0 \times 1.0 \times 1.0$ 

# 2.9. TOPSOIL STORAGE SITE

The top and sub soils removed from the sump and drilling boreholes will be stockpiled in close proximity to the sumps. The sumps will be backfilled manually by spades, once drilling and sampling of boreholes is completed.

### 2.10. LOGGING AND SAMPLING OF THE CORE

This involves the physical description of the rocks intersected by the drilling process. The interpretation of these rock descriptions will assist in establishing the general stratigraphy of the area. Sampling will be taken at the desired horizons and sent to the laboratory for analyses.

### 2.11. SITE REHABILITATION

Concurrent rehabilitation (Plugging and reseeding) of disturbed areas will be undertaken as drilling continues.

### 2.12. FINAL REHABILITATION

Except for farm roads, no tracks and infrastructure related to the prospecting operation will remain in place after the decommissioning phase. Where tracks have resulted in more damage, such tracks will be ripped and allowed to return to the natural state, and seeding is not done as experience has shown that the natural process returns the site to its former state within a seasonal cycle. The sumps will be rehabilitated in such a manner to return the area to as close as possible to its pre-drilling environment.

Post closure, the prospecting right area will consist of re-vegetated areas with vegetation cover comparable to the surrounding areas. This will be unaffected by the prospecting activities. No prospecting related infrastructure will remain on the prospecting site. The area will conform to the pre-prospecting topography. The areas affected by prospecting will be stable and erosion free.

### 2.13. AFTER CLOSURE PHASE

The rehabilitated area will be monitored on a quarterly basis to ensure that the site returns to an acceptable state, in the event that is not happening naturally, the area will be seeded. After the decommissioning of the site and if it can be determined that the site is stable, an Environmental Authorisation for the decommissioning of the site and a closure certificate will be applied for in terms of the relevant laws.

Please note that the final borehole layout can only be determined once the prospecting right is granted, thereafter it will be sent to the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE).

#### COMPOSITE MAP

The map superimposing the proposed project, its associated structures and infrastructure on the environmental sensitivities of the preferred site will be provided on approval of the EMPr.

# 4. DESCRIPTION OF THE MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES INCLUDING MANAGEMENT STATEMENTS

# 4.1. GENERAL CLOSURE PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES

The following are the closure objectives, general principles and objectives guiding closure of the Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area closure planning:

 Rehabilitation of areas disturbed as a consequence of prospecting to a land capability that will support and sustain a predetermined post-closure land use;

- Removal of all infrastructure/equipment that cannot be beneficially re-used, as per agreements established, and returning the associated disturbed land to the planned final land use;
- · Removal of existing contaminated material from affected areas;
- Establishment of final landforms that are stable and safe in the long run;
- Establishment and implementation of measures that meet specific closure related performance objectives;
- Monitoring and maintenance of rehabilitated areas forming part of site closure to ensure the long-term effectiveness and sustainability of measures implemented.

# 4.2. MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE, ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION AND ECOLOGICAL DEGRADATION CAUSED BY THE WOLVENFONTEIN PROSPECTING AREA ACTIVITIES

The following actions will be undertaken by Trentra (Pty) Limited to ensure that the closure objectives are attained.

### 4.2.1. Infrastructure Areas

- All infrastructure and equipment used during the prospecting operation will be removed from the site.
- All haul roads that were used for access during prospecting will be allowed to re-establish to its
  pre-prospecting condition. Should unsatisfactory results be noted, the area will be physically
  rehabilitated.
- All rehabilitated areas will be maintained for a period of 2 years, where after the frequency will be reassessed. Where necessary, vegetation cover will be maintained by annual application of fertiliser.
- Maintenance with respect to erosion will be conducted on a minimum three-monthly basis if and where required.

# 4.2.1.1. Buildings (Offices, Workshops and Stores)

Mobile structures will be used and such structures will be removed from the sites during decommissioning of the site.

# 4.3. POTENTIAL RISK OF ACID MINE DRAINAGE

No potential risk of acid mine drainage.

# 4.4. Steps taken to Investigate, Assess and Evaluate the Impacts of the Acid Mine Drainage

Since there is no risk of acid mine drainage, there will be no need for steps to be taken to investigate, assess and evaluate the impacts of acid mine drainage.

# 4.5. ENGINEERING AND DESIGNS SOLUTIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED TO AVOID OR REMEDY ACID MINE DRAINAGE

Since there is no risk of acid mine drainage, there will be no need for measures to remedy residual or cumulative impacts from acid mine drainage.

# 4.6. MEASURES TO REMEDY RESIDUAL OR CUMULATIVE IMPACTS FROM ACID MINE DRAINAGE

Since there is no risk of acid mine drainage, there will be no need for measures to remedy residual or cumulative impacts from acid mine drainage.

# 4.7. VOLUMES AND RATES OF WATER USE REQUIRED FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT

Since there is no risk of acid mine drainage, this section will not applicable.

# 4.8 WATER USE LICENCE APPLICATION

No water use activities will be undertaken during the proposed prospecting operation; hence no water use licence will be applied for.

# 5. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME

Table 9: Environmental Management Programme for the proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Project.

Immorat A. 41-14	For the construct of	r		Programme for the proposed Wolver	<u>.                                      </u>		Decrease in the control of	Time medical
Impact Activity Reference	Environmental Attribute	Impact Management Objectives	•	Management Actions and Interventions	Responsibility For Actions/Intervention	Monitoring Action	Responsibility and Frequency For Monitoring	Time period for Management Action
CONSTRUCTION PH	ASE	<u> </u>					·	
		ites, establishment of the campsi	te. physical surveying of the	e site and pegging of drilling boreholes				
	3 ·	To ensure that the activities in the		Establishment of the site will be	Appointed contractor	Visual monitoring	Environmental	During construction phase.
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		infrastructure do not have	undertaken in accordance				construction.	
		detrimental impacts on the soils,	with the approved EMPR.					
		land use and land capability.						
			Buffer zones will be	No soil stripping will be allowed during	Appointed contractor.	Visual monitoring	ECO monthly.	During construction phase.
				site establishment. Should it be		and inspections		
			-	necessary to conduct geophysical				
			, , ,	surveys and geological mapping, ensure				
			, , , , , ,	minimal disturbance of soil.				
			activities will be	Any area that may result into the		_	ECO monthly.	During construction phase.
			undertaken within the		· ·	and inspections.		
			instituted buffer zones.	rehabilitated immediately on discovery.	manager.	N. Constanting of the constanting of	F00	Di.
				Machinery to be used for the operation	Appointed contractor.	Visual monitoring	ECO monthly.	During construction phase.
				will be of good working conditions. Any hydrocarbon spill from the site		and inspections.		
Loss of soils, erosion				establishment will be remediated as				
of the soils and	Soils, Land Use and			soon as possible.				
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owner's livelihood.				the degraded state for the proposed	, appointed contactor.	and inspections	200 11101111119.	Daning concardence: pridee.
				development. This must be done in		'		
				agreement with the land owner. The				
				sitting of the boreholes must be				
				conducted such that ensure that rocky				
				ridges, sensitive grass lands, indigenous				
				trees and shrubs, sites of geological				
				importance and farmlands actively used				
				for crop farming are avoided.				
				No management to the state of the	Ammainta di control to	I los de ideles en en en e	F00	Doning a section of the contract
				No-go zones will be instituted around	Appointed contractor	Undertake regular	ECO monthly.	During construction phase.
				farm dwellers, existing infrastructure and any operation immediately and adjacent		inspections.		
				to the prospecting projects. No				
				prospecting activities will be undertaken				
				within the instituted no-go zones.				
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obtaining firewood. The outbreak of any	
uncontrolled fire shall be reported to the	
site manager immediately and the	
necessary steps shall be taken to control and extinguish the fire. Smoking shall be	
prohibited in the vicinity of flammable	
substances.	
Ensure that the animal life within Maintenance of the current Establishment of the site will be Appointed contractor Visual monitoring ECO monthly.	During construction phase.
in the area is not affected by the status on animal life within undertaken according to the prospecting and site manager.	
Migration of animal proposed area the area method statement.	
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result into the disturbance of the soils	

Impact Activity Reference	Environmental Attribute	Impact Management Objectives	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	Management Actions and Interventions	Responsibility For Actions/Intervention	Monitoring Action	Responsibility and Frequency For Monitoring	Time period for Management Action
				must be rehabilitated immediately on discovery.				
				Use sites with most degraded environment for the site development.	Appointed contractor and site manager.	Visual monitoring and inspections.	ECO monthly.	During construction phase.
				Poaching will be prohibited at the prospecting site. Before the drilling activities can commence, a biodiversity specialist must do a site inspection on the proposed marked drilling sites (proposed boreholes) to assess if there are no animal burrows and habitats. If any burrows or habitat exist, the location of the proposed boreholes must be changed	Appointed contractor and site manager.	Visual monitoring and inspections.	ECO monthly.	During construction phase.
Deterioration of water quality in in the		Ensure that the establishment of the area and its associated infrastructure does not have detrimental impact on nearby stream and the groundwater regime.	groundwater within the site will comply with the target DWS target water quality objectives.  Construction will be in compliance with the regulations under the	of 100 meters will be created between the sites and the sensitive landscapes. The applicant must also apply for a GA before drilling within 100m of nearby streams and/or wetlands Avoid stripping of areas within the	and site manager.  Appointed contractor	Regular inspections  Regular inspections	ECO monthly.	During construction phase.  During construction phase
nearby steams and within the groundwater regime.	Surface and Ground Water.		GN704.	construction sites.  Rehabilitate areas that may have been mistakenly stripped.  Storm water upslope of the campsite	and site manager.  Appointed contractor and site manager.  Appointed contractor		ECO monthly.  ECO monthly.	During construction phase  During construction phase
				and drill sites should be diverted around these areas.  Proper waste management facilities will be put in place at the campsite and drilling site. Any hydrocarbon spill from the site establishment will be remediated as soon as possible.	Appointed contractor	Regular inspections	ECO monthly.	During construction phase.
Wetland destruction and loss of habitat.	Sensitive Landscapes.	Ensure that the construction activities do not have detrimental impacts on the sensitive landscapes.	Maintain the current state of the sensitive landscapes within the area (farm dams and seepage zone).	Construction activities will be limited to be more than hundred meters from the edge of the dams and seepage zone. The applicant must also apply for a GA before drilling within 100m of nearby streams and/or wetlands  Should prospecting activities be planned within sensitive areas, relevant environmental investigations will be	'''	Inspection to ensure compliance with the action plan will be conducted at the construction site.	ECO will conduct the inspections monthly.	Whenever construction is undertaken near the sensitive landscapes.

Impact Activity Reference	Environmental Attribute	Impact Management Objectives	Targets (Impact Management Outcomes)	Management Actions and Interventions	Responsibility For Actions/Intervention	Monitoring Action	Responsibility and Frequency For Monitoring	Time period for Management Action
				conducted in order to define already disturbed areas, for drilling activities.				
Air pollution through air pollutants' emissions, from the	Air quality.	Ensure that all operations during the construction phase do not result in detrimental air quality impacts.	The construction will be undertaken such that the ambient air quality does not exceed the National Air Quality Standards.	·	Appointed contractor and site manager.	Visual inspections of areas with possible dust emissions. Regular	ECO monthly.	Throughout the construction phase.
construction site.				Traffic will be restricted to demarcated areas and traffic volumes and speeds within the construction site will be controlled.		inspections.	ECO monthly.	Throughout the construction phase.
Increased noise levels.	Noise aspects.	Ensure that the noise levels emanating from the construction sites will not have detrimental effects on the mine employees and surrounding communities/land owners.	The noise levels from the construction sites will be managed and measures will be taken to ensure that noise levels are below the National Noise Control Regulations, SANS10103:2008 guidelines.	Limit the maximum speed to 60 km/h or less, subject to risk assessment. Less noisy equipment will be used, the equipment will be kept in good working order and the equipment will be fitted with correct and appropriate noise abatement measures. This will reduce the impact of noise to the surrounding community	''	Undertake site checks on speeds used.	Site manager.	Throughout the construction phase.
lovoid.				Ensure that the employees are issued with earplugs and that they are instructed to use them.	Site manager.	Speed checking will be conducted.	Site manager checking as regularly as possible.	Throughout the duration of the construction phase
				Educate employees on the dangers of hearing loss due to mine machinery noise.	Site manager.	Use of earplugs will be checked and reported.		Throughout the duration of the construction phase.
Visual impacts on the surrounding communities and	Vigual genera	Ensure that all operations during the construction phase do not result in detrimental visual impacts on surrounding properties, communities and	Measures will be undertaken by the mine to ensure that the visual aspects from the site are complying with the relevant	The land owner will be informed on the type of machinery and equipment to be used at the prospecting sites.	Applicant and site manager.	The constructed perimeter berms will be inspected for compliance with the design	Mine Engineer on a monthly basis.	Throughout the construction phase.
communities and road users from the construction.	Visual aspects.	road users.	visual standards and objectives.	Lighting will be conducted in manner that will reduce the impacts on visual aspects at night times.	Appointed contractor.	specifications.  Night time inspection of the site will be undertaken.	The site manager once	During construction phase.
Damage or destruction of sites with archaeological and cultural significance.		Ensure that the construction activities do not have detrimental impacts on the heritage sites.	The construction will be undertaken in compliance with the requirements of the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act	The establishment of the sites will be away from any identified grave site or heritage sites. A buffer of hundred meters will be created between the sites	''	The site will be monitored for any damages on a regular basis.	ECO monthly	Throughout the construction phase when activities are in close proximity to the heritage sites.

Impact Activity Reference	Environmental Attribute	Impact Management Objectives	Targets (Impact Management Outcomes)	Management Actions and Interventions	Responsibility For Actions/Intervention	Monitoring Action	Responsibility and Frequency For Monitoring	Time period for Management Action
			,	and the proposed camp and drilling				
			recommendations from the specialist.	sites.				
Impact from the		Ensure that measures are taken		Recruitment will not be undertaken on	Appointed contractor	Visual monitoring.	Site manager	Throughout the pre-
influx of job seekers		to discourage influx of job		site.	and site manager.			construction and construction
and employment of	aspects.	seekers and employment of farm	recruitment policies.					phase.
farm labourers.		labourers.						
OPERATIONAL PHA								
	<u> </u>	oreholes, use of campsite and rel		<del>r</del>	T		<u> </u>	
Soil profile		·		Ensure that the drilling of the exploration	• •	Regular inspections	ECO monthly.	During the operational phase
disruption,	•		· •	boreholes is done in such a manner that	and site manager.			of the area.
contamination of	Use and Land	and rehabilitation of drilling site	· ·	the environment is protected from				
soils, destruction of	Capability.	do not have detrimental impacts		probable spillages and contamination by				
natural vegetation		on the soils, natural vegetation		carbonaceous material. Before the				
and loss of land use.		and current land use.	proposed area.	drilling activities can commence in areas				
				where vegetation will be affected, a				
				biodiversity specialist must do a site				
				inspection on the proposed marked				
				drilling sites (proposed boreholes) to				
				assess if there are no protected and/or				
				critical natural vegetation. If any				
				protected and/or critical natural				
				vegetation occurs, the location of the				
				proposed boreholes must be changed.	A	Dt	F00	Di
				Pictures of possible plant species of	Appointed contractor.	Regular inspections	ECO monthly.	During the operational phase
				conservation concern that may be				of the area.
				present in the prospecting right area will				
				be made available to the drilling crew for				
				easy identification and avoidance.				
				All boreholes and sumps will be	Appointed contractor	Regular	ECO monthly.	During the operational phase
				rehabilitated to pre-drilling conditions.	, ppointed contractor.	inspections.	200 monany.	of the area.
				Tarpaulins will be placed on the ground	Appointed contractor.	•	ECO monthly.	During the operational phase
				to prevent oil, grease, hydraulic fluid and		site will be		of the area.
				diesel spills during emergency repairs.		conducted.		
				All oil spills will be remedied using				
				approved methodologies. The				
				contaminated soils will be removed and				
				disposed of at a licensed waste disposal facility.				
						Inspection of the	ECO monthly.	During the operational phase
				All waste generated from the drilling	Appointed contractor.	site will be		of the area.
				sires and the campsite will be collected		conducted.		

Impact Activity Reference	Environmental Attribute	Impact Management Objectives	Targets (Impact Management Outcomes)	Interventions	Responsibility For Actions/Intervention	Monitoring Action	Responsibility and Frequency For Monitoring	Time period for Management Action
				in proper receptacles and removed top registered disposal facilities e.g., sewage treatment plant, sold waste disposal site or hydrocarbon recycling or treatment facilities.  No trees or shrubs will be felled or damaged for the purpose of obtaining firewood. The outbreak of any uncontrolled fire shall be reported to the site manager immediately and the	Appointed contractor.	Inspection of the site will be conducted.	ECO monthly.	During the operational phase of the area.
				necessary steps shall be taken to control and extinguish the fire. Smoking shall be prohibited in the vicinity of flammable substances.  Use sites that are unused and that are in	Appointed contractor.	Inspection of the	ECO monthly.	During the operational phase
				the degraded state for the proposed development. This must be done in agreement with the land owner. The sitting of the boreholes must be conducted such that rocky ridges, sensitive grass lands, indigenous trees and shrubs and sites of geological		site will be conducted.		of the area.
				importance are avoided. No-go zones will be instituted around farm dwellers, existing infrastructure and any operation immediately and adjacent to the prospecting projects. No prospecting activities will be undertaken within the				
				instituted no-go zones.				
		Ensure that the animal life within in the area is not affected by the proposed area	Maintenance of the current status on animal life within the area	Sites will be operated according to the prospecting method statement.	Appointed contractor and site manager.	Visual monitoring and inspections.	ECO monthly.	During operational phase.
				As much as possible sites with degraded environment will be used or the drilling purposes.	• •	Visual monitoring and inspections.	ECO monthly.	During operational phase.
Migration of animal life due to disturbance caused proposed area	Animal Life			Poaching will be prohibited at the prospecting site. Before the drilling activities can commence, a biodiversity specialist must do a site inspection on the proposed marked drilling sites (proposed boreholes) to assess if there are no animal burrows and habitats. If any burrows or habitat exist, the location of the proposed boreholes must be	and site manager.	Visual monitoring and inspections.	ECO monthly.	During operational phase.

Impact Activity Reference	Environmental Attribute	Impact Management Objectives	Targets (Impact Management Outcomes)	Management Actions and Interventions	Responsibility For Actions/Intervention	Monitoring Action	Responsibility and Frequency For Monitoring	Time period for Management Action
The drilling operation and use of campsite may result in the generation of surface water runoff contaminated with		Ensure that the drilling operation does not have detrimental impacts on the surface and ground water environment.	Clean surface and ground water environment/regime will not be affected.	No prospecting operations will be undertaken within 100 metres from the nearby steams and 100 meters from the nearby wetland areas. The applicant must also apply for a GA before drilling within 100m of nearby streams and/or wetlands.	• •	Visual monitoring and inspections.	ECO monthly.	During operational phase.
silt (sedimentation) and possibly hydrocarbon fluids should spillages occur.				wetlands The sumps will be excavated for the collection mud and excess water from the drilling sites. The sump will be sized such that it will be able to contain the water and mud that will be generated during the prospecting operation.		Visual monitoring and inspections.	ECO monthly.	During operational phase.
	Surface and Ground Water.			Storm water generated around the drilling site will be diverted away to the clean water environment. No concrete mixing and vehicle maintenance will be allowed on site. All hydrocarbons will be stored on protected storage areas away from the streams.		Visual monitoring and inspections.	ECO monthly.	During operational phase.
		Ensure that drilling operation does not have a detrimental impact on the number of aquifers underlain by the site.	Aquifers will not be affected.	Ensure that the land owners' borehole yield is observed during the drilling operation. Should it be proven that the operation is indeed affecting the quantity and quality of groundwater available to users and surrounding water resources, the affected parties must be compensated.	• •	Regular meetings with landowners.	Site manager.	During operational phase.
				Ensure minimum distance as per legislation is kept from the waste disposal site. Ensure that an experienced geologist must oversee the drilling process.		Visual monitoring and inspections.	ECO monthly.	During operational phase.
Generation of dust and fuel fumes by vehicular movement.		Ensure that the air quality in the vicinity of the prospecting sites and sites' access routes are not detrimentally altered.	sites' access routes will be maintained to stay within the national air quality	•	Appointed contractor	Visual inspections of areas with possible dust emissions.  Regular speed	ECO monthly.  Site manager	Throughout the operational phase.  Throughout the operational
	Air quality.		standards.	Proposed area site.  Vehicle maintenance must be conducted regularly to avoid excessive diesel fumes.	and site manager.  Appointed contractor and site manager.	checks.  Regular inspections.	monthly.  ECO monthly.	phase.  During operational phase.

Impact Activity Reference	Environmental Attribute	Impact Management Objectives	Targets (Impact Management Outcomes)	Management Actions and Interventions	Responsibility For Actions/Intervention	Monitoring Action	Responsibility and Frequency For Monitoring	Time period for Management Action
Wetland destruction and loss of habitat.	Sensitive Landscapes.	Ensure that the drilling operation does not have detrimental impacts on the farms dams and identified seepage zone.	Maintain the current state of the wetlands within the area.	Operation of the drilling site will be limited to be more than hundred meters from the edge of the sensitive landscapes. The applicant must also apply for a GA before drilling within 100m of nearby streams and/or wetlands  Drilling activities will, as far as possible, not be undertaken within the sensitive areas. Should prospecting activities be planned within sensitive areas, relevant environmental investigations will be conducted in order to define already disturbed areas, for drilling activities.		Inspection to ensure compliance with the action plan.  Inspection to ensure compliance with the action plan	ECO monthly.	During operational phase.  During operational phase.
Increased noise levels.	Noise aspects.	Ensure that the noise levels emanating from the operational sites will not have detrimental effects on the mine employees and surrounding communities/land owners.	The noise levels from the sites will be managed and measures will be taken to ensure that noise levels are below the National Noise Control Regulations, SANS10103:2008 guidelines.	-	• •	Site checks regularly.	Site manager.	During operational phase.
				Ensure that the employees are issued with earplugs and that they are instructed to use them.	Site manager.	Regular monitoring and site check.	Site manager.	During operational phase.
				Educate employees on the dangers of hearing loss due to mine machinery noise.		Use of earplugs will be checked and reported.	Site manager.	During operational phase.
Visual impacts on the surrounding communities and road users from the	Visual aspects.	Ensure that the drilling operations do not result in detrimental visual impacts on surrounding properties, communities and road users.	Measures will be undertaken by the mine to ensure that the visual aspects from the site are complying with the relevant visual standards and	type of machinery and equipment to be used at the prospecting sites.		The constructed perimeter berms will be inspected for compliance with the design specifications.	Mine Engineer on a monthly basis.	During operational phase.
construction.			objectives.	Lighting will be conducted in manner that will reduce the impacts on visual aspects at night times.	Appointed contractor.	Night time inspection of the site will be undertaken.	The site manager once	During operational phase.

Impact Activity	Environmental	Impact Management	Targets (Impact	Management Actions and	Responsibility For	Monitoring Action	Responsibility and	Time period for
Reference	Attribute	Objectives	Management Outcomes)	Interventions	Actions/Intervention			Management Action
		= " " " " "					Monitoring	<del></del>
		T	• .	The drilling sites will be away from any	Appointed contractor.	The site will be	ECO monthly.	Throughout the operational
D		activities does not have		identified grave site or heritage sites. A		monitored for any		phase.
Damage or	O'the state of	detrimental impacts on the	•	hundred-meter buffer will be created		prospecting related		
destruction of sites	Sites of	heritage sites.	requirements of the	between the sites and the proposed		damages on a		
with archaeological	_		National Heritage	camp and drilling sites.		regular basis.		
and cultural	cultural importance.		Resources Act, 1999 (Act					
significance.			25 of 1999) and recommendations from the					
			specialist.					
Safety, intrusion and		Ensure that the drilling operation	The mine will ensure that	Announce any road closures and other	Appointed contractor	Liaison with	Site manager as and	Throughout the operational
livelihood impacts on		does not significantly disrupt the	all safety standards are	disruptions and maintain roads used for	and site manager.	affected parties.	when necessary.	phase.
the landowners and		daily living and movements of the	•	the operation in good order.		•		·
occupiers.		land owners and occupiers.	landowners and occupiers					
		·	are not detrimentally	Keep communication with land owners	Applicant and site	Meetings with the	Site manager as and	Throughout the operational
			affected.	and land occupiers open during the	manager.	landowners.	when meetings are	phase.
				operational phase of the area. Ensure		Minutes of any	held.	
	Socio-economic			that negotiations on compensation are		meeting held with		
	aspects.			undertaken before the drilling		landowners and		
	aspects.			programme can commence. This will		agreements will be		
				include any other conditions that the		recorded and filed.		
				landowner may deem necessary for the				
				prospecting operation.				Throughout the operational
					0''	_	Site manager.	phase.
				Ensure that safety measures are	Site manager.	and inspections.		
				implemented to prevent impacts on land owners and occupiers.				
DECOMMISSIONING	AND CLOSURE PHAS	SE		owners and occupiers.				
		itation of disturbed areas						
	Soils.	Ensure that the soils in the	Rehabilitated areas will be	All vehicles and machinery used at the	Appointed contractor	Vehicles and	Site manager will	Throughout the
contamination of	30110.	vicinity of the rehabilitation site is		rehabilitation site will be kept in good	Appointed contractor.	machinery will be	_	decommissioning and closure
soils within the		not detrimentally impacted.	the closure objectives.	working order.		inspected regularly	inspections monthly.	phases.
rehabilitation site.		, ,	j	3		and any oil	,	'
						incidences will be		
						reported.		
				No repairs of vehicles or machinery will	Appointed contractor.	All incidents of	Site manager.	Throughout the
				be conducted at the rehabilitation site		emergency repairs		decommissioning and closure
				unless it is emergency repairs, which will		will be inspected		phases.
				be conducted on protected ground.		and occurrence		
						recorded.		
				Movement of mine vehicles and	Appointed contractor.	Rehabilitation site	ECO will conduct the	Throughout the
				machinery will be limited to demarcated		will be inspected to	inspections monthly.	decommissioning and closure
				routes, which will be rehabilitated when		monitor areas with		phases.
				no longer in use.		compaction or		

Impact Activity Reference	Environmental Attribute	Impact Management Objectives	Targets (Impact Management Outcomes)	Management Actions and Interventions	Responsibility For Actions/Intervention	Monitoring Action	,	Time period Management Action	for
						hydrocarbon contamination.			
Re-instatement of soil productivity, land capability, land use and topographical patterns.	Soils, Land Capability, Land Use and Topography.	Ensure that the rehabilitation of the sites re-instate the soil productivity, land capability, land use and topographical patterns	Rehabilitated areas will be maintained to comply with the closure objectives.	All infrastructure will be removed from the site in accordance to the rehabilitation plan. Ensure that there is no infestation of alien invasive plant species.	Appointed contractor.	Removal of the infrastructure will be inspected.	Site manager will conduct the inspections.	During decommission phase.	ning
Pollution of surface water environment.	Surface Water.	Ensure that the rehabilitation of the site does not have detrimental impacts on the surface water environment.	The surface water leaving the rehabilitation site will comply with the DWS target water quality parameters.	The site area will be rehabilitated to be free draining.  Erosion protection measures such as the use of contour berms and repair of gullies will be undertaken until such time that the rehabilitated surfaces can be shown to be sustainable.  Existing roads should be used where possible and new disturbed areas	Appointed contractor.	Progress of rehabilitation will be monitored.  Areas where grass has not yet been established will be monitored for excessive erosion.  Rehabilitation site will be inspected for	ECO will conduct monitoring of the rehabilitation annually.	Throughout decommissioning and clo phases.	the osure
Air pollution from	Air quality	Ensure that rehabilitation do not	Decommissioning and	should be minimised.	Appointed contractor	misuse.	ECO will conduct	Throughout	the
Air pollution from rehabilitation site.	Air quality.	have detrimental impacts on air quality.	Decommissioning and rehabilitation of the site will be conducted in such a manner that the ambient air quality does not exceed	Where necessary, wet suppression will be conducted at areas with excessive dust emissions. Vehicles and machinery will be well maintained.	Appointed contractor.	Visual inspections of areas with possible dust emissions will be conducted	inspections monthly.	Throughout decommissioning phase.	
			the air quality standards.	The traffic volumes and speed within the rehabilitation site will be controlled.	Site manager and appointed contractor.	Site inspections will be conducted.	Site manager will conduct inspections monthly.	Throughout decommissioning phase.	the
Generated noise from the rehabilitation site.	Noise.	Ensure that the rehabilitation activities do not have detrimental impacts on people.	Ensure that the noise from the rehabilitation activities do not exceed the SANS 10103 Rating Level.	Smaller or less noisy equipment should where possible be used when working near receptors.	Appointed contractor and site manager.	Regular site check.	Site manager.	Throughout decommissioning phase.	the
				Equipment will be well maintained and fitted with the correct and appropriate noise abatement measures.	Site manager and appointed contractor.	Regular site check.	Site manager.	Throughout decommissioning phase.	the
Damage or destruction of sites with archaeological and cultural significance.	Sites of archaeological and cultural importance.	Ensure that the rehabilitation does not have detrimental impacts on heritage sites.	Should heritage sites be identified, rehabilitation in close proximity to the sites will not be damaged or destroyed by the rehabilitation activities.	A hundred-meter buffer will be maintained between any site and the rehabilitation site.	Appointed contractor and the site manager.	The sites will be monitored for any rehabilitation related damages.		Throughout decommissioning phase.	the

# 6. FINANCIAL PROVISION

Section 24 P of NEMA requires an applicant applying for an environmental authorisation related to mining to comply with the prescribed financial provision for the rehabilitation, closure and ongoing post decommissioning management of negative environmental impacts before the Minister responsible for mineral resources issues the environmental authorisation. The above-mentioned financial provision may be in the form of an insurance, bank guarantee, trust fund or cash.

Regulations pertaining to the financial provision for prospecting, exploration, mining or production operations (GNR 1147) were promulgated on the 20<sup>th</sup> of November 2015. Trentra (Pty) Limited has undertaken the financial provision determination in line with the requirements of section 11 of the Regulations pertaining to the Financial Provision for prospecting, Exploration, Mining or Production Operations (GNR 1147). The financial provision determination for the proposed area is submitted to the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE) for their consideration.

# 6.1 DESCRIPTION OF CLOSURE OBJECTIVES AND EXTENT TO WHICH THEY HAVE BEEN ALIGNED TO THE DESCRIBED BASELINE ENVIRONMENT

The closure objectives for the proposed project as detailed under section 4.1 of the EMPr, were determined in consideration of physical (infrastructure), biophysical (environmental) and socioeconomic measures as well as alignment to the closure components provided by the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE). See section 4.1 for the closure objectives.

# 6.2 CONFIRMATION THAT THE ENVIRONMENTAL OBJECTIVES IN RELATION TO CLOSURE HAVE BEEN CONSULTED WITH LANDOWNERS AND INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES

The draft BAR and EMPr is made available to the interested and affected parties during the public participation process for the proposed project. Note that the consultation of interested and affected parties included the owners of the properties directly affected by the proposed project and owners of land immediately adjacent to the proposed project area.

The above confirms that the land owners and interested and affected parties will be consulted regarding the environmental objectives in relation to the closure of the proposed project.

# 6.3 REHABILITATION PLAN FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT

In terms of NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, a Basic Assessment Report and EMPr must indicate the impact management measures. One of the impact management measures for the proposed prospecting activity is the rehabilitation of the disturbance caused by the prospecting activities. For the purpose of this report, the rehabilitation measures for the proposed prospecting project will be provided in the form of a rehabilitation plan, described below.

The rehabilitation plan for the proposed projects describes the physical activities that will be undertaken to implement the closure plan during the course of the prospecting activities. The plan will include the following that are discussed below i.e.:

- Prospecting borehole layout
- Detail rehabilitation standards; and
- Detail the rehabilitation schedule.

# 6.3.1 Prospecting Borehole Layout

The prospecting layout for the proposed prospecting project will be developed to minimise negative impacts on the environment such that after land use is achieved. This layout will be developed to be in line with the closure objectives provided in this report.

The development of the prospecting layout for the proposed prospecting project will take into consideration all identified no-go areas within the prospecting right area.

In view of the above the layout plan has been developed such that the following is achieved i.e.:

- Minimise the disturbed area;
- · Avoid impacts on identified sensitive areas; and
- Views of affected communities and interested and affected parties to be considered

# 6.3.2 Rehabilitation Standards

The following rehabilitation standards have been developed for the proposed prospecting project. These have been developed to ensure that rehabilitation will achieve the following at the project area i.e., preserve the environment, protect against environmental damage and repair any disturbance caused during the prospecting activities.

- Rehabilitation plans will be developed before commencement of the prospecting project
- All legal requirements will be met before commencement of the prospecting project
- All disturbed areas will be rehabilitated to restore the affected environment
- Disturbed areas will be maintained for the duration of the prospecting activities such that no secondary impacts results
- All possible source of contaminants will be identified and measures taken to prevent and manage spillages
- Adequate monitoring programme must be developed and implemented
- Ensure communication with affected communities and interested and affected parties

# 6.3.3 Decommissioning of The Prospecting Operation

# 6.3.3.1 Contractor Campsite

No permanent structures will be constructed at the campsite, rather mobile structures will be used. Since these are mobile, all structures (tents or caravans, solid waste receptacles, water tanks, chemical toilet, additional storage area etc.) will be removed. Waste stored on site will be disposed of in an appropriate manner. Any industrial waste from the site will be recycled (sold) or disposed of properly. In view of the above no demolishing will be undertaken.

# 6.3.3.2 Roads

All constructed roads that will no longer be required by the landowner/tenant, shall be removed and/or rehabilitated to the satisfaction of the Regional Manager.

Any gate or fence erected by the holder which is not required by the landowner/tenant, shall be removed and the situation restored to the pre-prospecting situation.

### 6.3.3.3 Drilling site

# **Drilling Sump**

The sumps will be backfilled and covered with topsoil.

#### **Borehole**

The borehole logs will be removed from site and the borehole plugged and covered with topsoil.

Drill Rig, Drill Rod Stand and Drill Rig stockpile.

The rods and stand will be placed in the drill rig that will be driven away from site.

# Geologist sampling area

This area will have a tent/gazebo, sampling equipment and waste collection receptacles that will be placed at the LDV and taken away from the site.

# 6.3.3.4 Post Closure Land Use

Post closure, the prospecting project will consist of re-vegetated areas with vegetation cover comparable to the surrounding areas. No prospecting related infrastructure will remain on the prospecting site. The land use after prospecting will conform to the pre-prospecting topography. After rehabilitation, the areas affected by prospecting will be stable and erosion free.

# 6.3.3.5 Rehabilitation Schedule

Table 10 below provides the schedule of actions for rehabilitation, decommissioning and closure of the prospecting project, which will ensure avoidance, minimisation and management of residual or latent impacts from the proposed prospecting activities linked to the prospecting works programme including assumptions and schedule drivers.

A campsite will only be used if the applicant cannot find a suitable accommodation nearby the prospecting project.

Roads will not ideally be constructed however should the existing roads not provide the required access; tracks will be used.

Concurrent rehabilitation of disturbed areas will be undertaken as drilling continues. In view of the above, the schedule provides rehabilitation of a campsites and roads.

**Table 10: Rehabilitation Schedule** 

Rehabilitation Actions	Assumptions and Schedule drivers						
Rehabilitation, Decommissioning and Closure							
Activity/Area: Contractor Campsite							
Areas within the camp sites where vegetation has been removed and where the site has been compacted must be scarified and ripped.	All spills and waste material from the site would have been removed before rehabilitation.						

Rehabilitation Actions	Assumptions and Schedule drivers
Before and during the prospecting operation and after rehabilitation photographs of the camp sites will be taken and kept on record.	Monitoring of the rehabilitated area will be conducted to ensure that the area maintains a sustainable environment.
Activity/Area: Roads	
Any foreign material (used to construct roads) will be removed and disposed of in an approved manner prior to rehabilitation.	All spills and waste material from the site would have been removed before rehabilitation.  Monitoring of the rehabilitated area will be
Roads and tracks with significant damage will be ripped or ploughed. Where necessary, fertilizer will be applied over the area.	conducted to ensure that the area maintains a sustainable environment.  Except for farm roads, no tracks and infrastructure
Should the revegetation show to be slow, soil	related to the prospecting operation will remain in place after the decommissioning phase.
analyses will be conducted and the seeding be done in accordance top the results of the analyses.	Ripping shall be at 90° to the inherent slope
Activity/Area: Drill Site	
Drill site sumps	
Sumps will either be emptied of the water or allowed water to evaporate.	Rehabilitation of the drilling site will commence immediately after completion of the drilling.
The sumps will be backfilled with subsoils and thereafter topsoil removed from the sump.	The area disturbed is small – approximately 1 m x 1 m x1 m per sump per drill site.
Where necessary, fertilizer will be applied over the area.	All spills and waste material from the site would have been removed before rehabilitation.
The area will be allowed to seed naturally. Should the revegetation show to be slow, soil analyses will	Monitoring of the rehabilitated area will be conducted to ensure that the area maintains a sustainable environment.
be conducted and the seeding be done in accordance top the results of the analyses.	The sumps will be rehabilitated in such a manner to return the area to as close as possible to its predrilling environment.
Drill site boreholes	
All unused borehole logs will be removed from site and disposed of in an appropriate manner.	Rehabilitation of the drilling site will commence immediately after completion of the drilling.
The borehole plug must be placed at least 0.5 m below surface.	All spills and waste material from the site would have been removed before rehabilitation.
The borehole will then be covered and levelled with topsoil.	

Rehabilitation Actions	Assumptions and Schedule drivers					
Where necessary, fertilizer will be applied over the area.	Monitoring of the rehabilitated area will be conducted to ensure that the area maintains a sustainable environment.					
Post Site Closure						
Activity/Area: Entire Prospecting Right Area (Care, Maintenance and Monitoring)						
Visual inspection of all rehabilitated areas will be conducted (ad hoc inspections will be conducted).	A dedicated manager will be employed for ensuring that the area is inspected and all areas requiring attention will be identified and issues addressed.					
Follow up erosion control and seeding over areas showing erosion gullies and significantly slow revegetation will be conducted.	Post closure, the prospecting project will consist of re-vegetated areas with vegetation cover comparable to the surrounding areas. The area will conform to the pre-prospecting topography. The areas affected by prospecting will be stable and erosion free.					

# 6.4 COMPATIBILITY OF THE REHABILITATION PLAN WITH THE CLOSURE OBJECTIVES

The rehabilitation plan was drafted to be compatible with the closure objectives.

# 6.5 DETERMINATION OF THE QUANTUM OF THE FINANCIAL PROVISION REQUIRED TO MANAGE AND REHABILITATE THE ENVIRONMENT

The financial pecuniary provision for Wolvenfontein Prospecting Areawill be determined based on the requirements of Chapter 2.4.1 of the Guideline document for the evaluation of the quantum of closure-related financial provision provided by a Mine, revision 1.6, September 2004, DMRE. The financial provision for the first year is determined to the value of **R 59 564,52**, see Table 11 below.

# 6.6 METHOD OF PROVIDING FOR THE FINANCIAL PROVISION

According to Regulation 8 of the Regulations pertaining to the financial provision for prospecting, exploration, mining or production operations (GNR 1147), an applicant or holder of a right or permit must make financial provision by one or a combination of the following:

- financial guarantee from a bank registered in terms of the Banks Act, 1990 (Act No. 94 of 1990) or from a financial institution registered by the Financial Services Board as an insurer or underwriter;
- deposit into an account administered by the Minister responsible for mineral resources; or,
- contribution to a trust fund established in terms of applicable legislation.

Trentra (Pty) Limited has opted to use a financial guarantee to provide for the determined quantum for financial provision.

Table 11: Financial Provision for the proposed Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area

	"Rules-based" assessment of	the quant	um for fin	ancial provis	ion		
		•					
	CALCULATION	OF THE QL	JANTUM				
Mine:	Trentra (Pty) Ltd	Location		Wolven	fontein Prospecti	ng Area	
Evaluators	O.T Shakwane of Geovicon Environmental (Pty) Limited	Date:			19-Jan-23		
			Α	В	С	D	E=A*B*C*D
No.:	Description:	Unit:	Quantity	Master rate	Multiplication		Amount
					factor	factor 1	(Rands)
			Step 4.5	Step 4.3	Step 4.3	Step 4.4	
1	Dismantling of processing plant & related structures	m <sup>3</sup>	0.00	R 18.36	1.00	1.10	R 0.00
2 (A)	Demolition of steel buildings & Structures	m <sup>2</sup>	0.00	R 255.82	1.00	1.10	R 0.00
2 (B)	Demolition of reinforced concrete buildings & structures	m <sup>2</sup>	0.00	R 376.99	1.00	1.10	R 0.00
3	Rehabilitation of access roads	m <sup>2</sup>	0.00	R 45.78	1.00	1.10	R 0.00
4 (A)	Demolition & rehabilitation of electrified railw ay lines	m	0.00	R 444.30	1.00	1.10	R 0.00
4 (B)	Demolition & rehabilitation of non electrified railw ay lines	m	0.00	R 242.34	1.00	1.10	R 0.00
5	Demolition of housing &/or administration facilities	m <sup>2</sup>	0.00	R 511.63	1.00	1.10	R 0.00
6	Opencast rehabilitation including final voids & ramps(Plugging of 10 boreholes)	ha	0.00	R 268 200.17	1.00	1.10	R 0.00
7	Sealing of shafts, adits & inclines	m <sup>3</sup>	0.00	R 137.33	1.00	1.10	R 0.00
8 (A)	Rehabilitation of overburden & spoils	ha	0.40	R 178 800.11	0.80	0.50	R 28 608.02
8 (B)	Rehabilitation of processing waste deposits & evaporation ponds (basic)	ha	0.00	R 222 692.31	0.80	1.10	R 0.00
8 (C)	Rehabilitation of processing waste deposits & evaporation ponds (acidic)	ha	0.00	R 646 804.03	0.80	1.10	R 0.00
9	Rehabilitation of subsidised areas	ha	0.00	R 149 733.48		1.10	R 0.00
10	General surface rehabilitation	ha	0.02	R 141 639.86			R 2 337.06
11	River diversions	ha	0.00	R 141 639.86			R 0.00
12	Fencing	ha	0.00	R 161.56		-	R 0.00
13	Water management	ha	0.00	R 53 855.46		-	R 0.00
14	2 to 3 years of maintenance & aftercare	ha	0.40	R 18 849.42	1.00	-	R 8 293.74
15 (A)	Specialist study	SUM	0.00	R 200 000.00			R 0.00
15 (B)	Specialist study	SUM	0.00	R 0.00			R 0.00
						ub Total 1	
					Sum of items 1 to	15 Above)	<b>R 39 238.82</b> R 3 923.88
Multiply by Weighting factor 2 1.1 R 3 923.88							
1	Preliminary and general	A		ototal 1 is less th	, ,	0.00	R 4 708.66
2	Contingencies			Add 10% of subt			R 3 923.88
			(0.11.1.		_	ub Total 2	D #4 #05 5 :
	(Subtotal 1 plus sum of management & contingencies)						R 51 795.24
		(Cubtet-1	O milio VAT		ODAND TOTAL	VAT (15%)	R 7 769.29
		(Subtotal	2 plus VAT)		GRAND TOTAL	-	R 59 564.52

# 7. MECHANISM FOR MONITORING COMPLIANCE WITH AND PERFOMANCE ASSESSMENT AGAINST THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME AND REPORTING THEREOF

### 7.1 INSPECTIONS AND MONITORING

During the impact assessment, potential impacts on the environment were identified. Mitigation measures were also specified for prevention and management of the impacts so as to minimise their effect on the environment. This section will describe how the mine intends to ensure that the mitigation measures are being undertaken and that their effectiveness is proven.

A monitoring programme has been developed for the identified impacts and their mitigation measures. This monitoring programme will be undertaken and results thereof used to determine the effectiveness of the mitigation measures. The ECO will have an overall responsibility for ensuring that all monitoring is conducted according to the approved EMPr.

# 7.2 MONITORING COMPLIANCE WITH AND PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT AGAINST THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME AND REPORTING THEREOF

As part of the general terms and conditions for a prospecting right, and in order to ensure compliance with the environmental management programme and to assess the continued appropriateness and adequacy of the environmental management programme, Trentra (Pty) Limited will:

- Conduct monitoring on a continuous basis (see EMPr)
- Conduct performance assessments of the environmental management programme annually
- Compile and submit a performance assessment report to the minister in which compliance with the approved environmental management programme is demonstrated

The performance assessment report will as a minimum contain the following:

- Information regarding the period applicable to the performance assessment
- The scope of the assessment
- The procedure used for the assessment
- The interpreted information gained from monitoring the approved environmental management programme
- The evaluation criteria used during the assessment
- The results of the assessment

Recommendations on how and when non-compliance and deficiencies will be rectified

# 7.3 PROCEDURE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RELATED EMERGENCIES AND REMEDIATION

Trentra (Pty) Limited has developed procedures for environmental related emergencies for Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area which is explained in more detail below.

Note that these procedures will be revised by the responsible person. The date of commencement of the revised procedures will always be indicated to prevent confusion

### 7.3.1 Introduction

An effective, comprehensive, well considered and tested environmental emergency preparedness and response plan has the potential to save lives, prevent unnecessary damage to the company and other property and to manage environmental risk. The aim is to identify potential for and respond to accidents and emergency situations, and for preventing and mitigating the environmental impacts that may be associated with them. However, the emergency preparedness and response should be reviewed and revised where necessary.

# 7.3.2 What is an Environmental Emergency?

An environmental emergency is an unplanned event, which has the potential to result in a significant adverse environmental impact and/or could result in legal liability to Trentra (Pty) Limited in terms of environmental legislation requirements. The following define most likely potential environmental emergencies:

- · Hydrocarbon spills or leaks
- · Surface fires, including veld fires
- A chemical spill
- Transportation accidents
- Other environmental emergencies requiring special services

# 7.3.3 Purpose of the procedure

To provide guidance to all mine employees and contractors in the event of an environmental emergency at Wolvenfontein Prospecting Areaand related to its activities.

This procedure is developed so as to provide guidance to ensure that:

Danger to the environment, personnel, contractors and the non-employee is minimised.

- Legal liability is managed and minimised.
- Public relations are effectively managed during and following emergencies.
- Reporting is effective and corrective/follow-up actions are implemented.

# 7.3.4 Who should use these procedures?

This procedure contains information relevant to all employees and contractors of the mine. It is the responsibility of all employees to familiarise themselves with the contents of this procedure. Furthermore, mine management should ensure that all contractors have access to this procedure and the requirements contained herein (See Table 12).

# 7.3.5 Responsibilities

# Table 12: Responsibilities

Mine Management	Trentra (Pty) Limited is responsible for the safety and well-being of employees working at Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area as well as
	the protection of the environment from unnecessary negative impacts. The management of the prospecting project has a
	responsibility to initiate a warning process should an emergency occur or should something at the prospecting project deteriorate in

94

	an uncontrolled manner presenting a risk to employees, the public or the environment.
Local Government(s)	Local governments have the responsibility to warn residents of a hazardous situation, these warnings must be based on information provided by the prospecting project.
All employees, contractors and other relevant parties	All employees, contractors and other relevant parties should ensure that they are familiar with this procedure.

## 7.3.6 Notification process

There are six main steps in managing an emergency, from the identification of the situation to final close off. They are as follows:

- · Find and identify
- · Ensure human safety
- Reporting
- · Containment and clean-up
- Corrective action
- Monitoring

# 7.3.7 Emergency equipment and supplies

There is a directory of emergency equipment and other supplies on site as well as person/s responsible for the equipment.

# 7.3.8 Communication systems

Communication is critical during an emergency on site so that efforts to manage the situation are coordinated to produce the desired results. The communication channels that are available on site include:

- Internal phone line system
- Hand held radios
- Cellular phones

# 7.3.9 Training

The mine management ensures that employees are trained regarding potential emergencies that may occur at Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area.

# 7.3.10 Review of procedure

To ensure that the procedure is adequate, management will review the procedure at any time deemed necessary and change the emergency procedures at Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area.

The emergency response at Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area is undertaken, as shown in Figure 17.

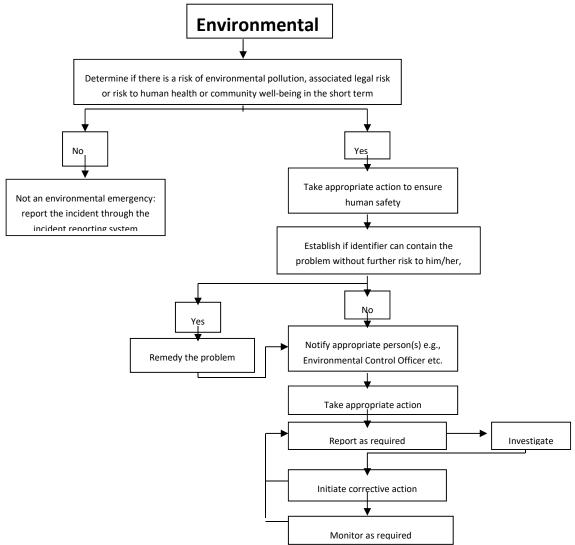


Figure 17:Emergency response.

# 7.4 ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS PLAN

In terms of section 39(3)(c) of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act 28 of 2002), Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area must compile and implement an environmental awareness plan. The above-mentioned environmental awareness plan must describe the manner in which the site manager (in this case Wolvenfontein Prospecting Project) will inform their employees of any environmental risk which may result from their work and the manner in which the environmental risks will be addressed to avoid pollution or/and degradation of the environment. This document, therefore concerns the details of the environmental awareness plan for Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area as required by the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act 28 of 2002).

# 7.4.1 Objectives and Legal Requirements

The following are the objectives of the environmental awareness plan

- To identify the necessary training needs for different categories of employees in the mine
- To train all employees on environmental issues on the mine

The following legislation apply to this environmental awareness plan

- Employment Equity Act, 1998 (Act 55 of 1998)
- National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 77 of 1998)
- Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act 28 of 2002).

# 7.4.2 Manner of informing employees of risks to avoid pollution and degradation of the environment

The identification of environmental training and environmental awareness needs are derived from an analysis of the type of role different categories of employees play at Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area. The following categories are considered, *viz*:

- Senior Management
- Middle management (Environmental Officers)
- Supervisors
- Operators
- Visitors and contractors

Each of these categories have different responsibilities and therefore have different knowledge requirements and environmental awareness training needs, to obtain that knowledge.

The different categories and environmental awareness and training needs are summarised below in Table 13:

**Table 13: Environmental Awareness Matrix.** 

Occupation Category	EMP Responsibility	Required knowledge and output	Training required	Interval
Senior management	Managing	Understand the EMP objectives	Induction and post-leave awareness/training	Annually
		Knowledge of the prospecting project's significant impacts and risks.	EMP Workshops	Once off
		Review the EMP actions	EMP objectives and actions /Management reviews	Annually
		Knowledge of EMP Procedures (awareness and emergency)	Specific training program on EMP	Once off, refresh annually
Middle and Junior management	Implementing and daily management	Knowledge of prospecting project's significant environmental impacts	EMP Review workshops	Annually
		Setting of EMP objectives for environmental improvement	EMP Review workshops	Annually
		Knowledge of EMP procedures (awareness and emergencies)	Specific training programmes on EMP	Once off, refresh annually
	Adhering to procedures to control impacts	Understand EMP objectives Knowledge of significant	Induction and post-leave training Induction and post-leave training	Annually Annually
		impacts Knowledge of procedures (awareness and emergency)	EMP Review workshop	Annually
Plant and machine operators, assemblers and elementary occupations	Executing assigned EMP actions  Controlling work activities to prevent impacts.	General awareness of EMP impacts and objectives.	Induction and post-leave training	Continuously

Occupation Category	EMP Responsibility	Required knowledge and output	Training required	Interval
		Understand environmental requirements relating to work activities and consequences of not following requirements	Induction and post-leave training	Annually
		Knowledge of procedures	Training and information sharing	Continuously
Visitors and contractor	Managing and controlling daily actions to prevent or	Basic awareness of EMP	Induction or specific modules/ awareness programme	Once off, annual review if applicable
	control impacts	Environmental requirements of work activities	Induction or specific awareness programme	Once off, annual review if applicable
		Knowledge of procedures	Training and information sharing	Continuously
		Understanding environmental consequences of personal actions and performance.	Induction or specific modules/ awareness programme	Once off, annual review if applicable
		Compliance to procedures	Induction or specific awareness programmes.	
Personnel requiring specific training and awareness identified on site by management, Environmental Officer, training department, etc.	Managing and controlling daily actions to prevent impacts	Examples include but are not limited to: Waste management Hazardous chemical handling	Specific training programme on EMP procedures.	As required

#### 7.4.3 Induction for all employees, including contractors

All employees (including contractor employees) undergo induction. Wolvenfontein Prospecting Area's induction includes training and awareness on environmental issues on the prospecting project and is compulsory for all new employees. The induction programme as mentioned above, have an environmental management component. On an annual basis the environmental section of the induction gets updated. Consideration is given to the following:

- Significant environmental impacts as identified in the EMP
- Procedures: environmental awareness and emergency procedures
- Trends in incidents
- Trends in audit findings

#### 7.4.4 General environmental awareness training

General awareness training is offered to operators, processors and the other various sections of the mine during the safety toolbox talks. This is conducted on rotational basis. New environmental awareness topics are determined and new topics are introduced after all the shifts have received training/awareness on the current topic. The following is undertaken to ensure that the above awareness training is conducted.

- A monthly environmental awareness topic for discussion is distributed to all mine sections.
   These topics are discussed at the safety toolbox talks, by SHE (Safety, Health and Environmental) representative and environmental officers if available.
- The topics are displayed on the notice boards of all mine sections.
- Ad hoc environmental awareness sessions to various departments/sections are conducted on request. The presentations focus on the environmental issues relevant to individual tasks.

### 7.4.5 Provision for job specific environmental awareness training

Job specific training is developed to address urgent training needs as identified /required. The training material focus on the following:

- Waste prevention and control (implementation of the waste management procedure).
- Water management (Leaking pipes and taps)
- Hydrocarbon and chemical spill reporting and clean-up
- Storing and handling of chemicals
- Rehabilitation
- Dust management on the mine

Supervisory staff within specific mine sections are equipped with the necessary knowledge and information to guide their employees on environmental aspects applicable in performing a specific task.

#### 7.4.6 Competency training

Management (training official/environmental officer) is responsible for the environmental awareness training of middle management and supervisors. This training is conducted through workshops. If

required, external organisations may be requested to provide training to selected employees (e.g., EMP auditing).

Competence and the effectiveness of training and development initiatives as described in the matrix, are determined through the following:

- Trend analysis and reporting
- · Analysis of work areas during visits and audits
- Trend analysis of monthly incidents (or zero tolerance if available) as recorded per mine section.

#### 7.4.7 Review of awareness and training material

The content of all awareness and training material will be updated at least once a year.

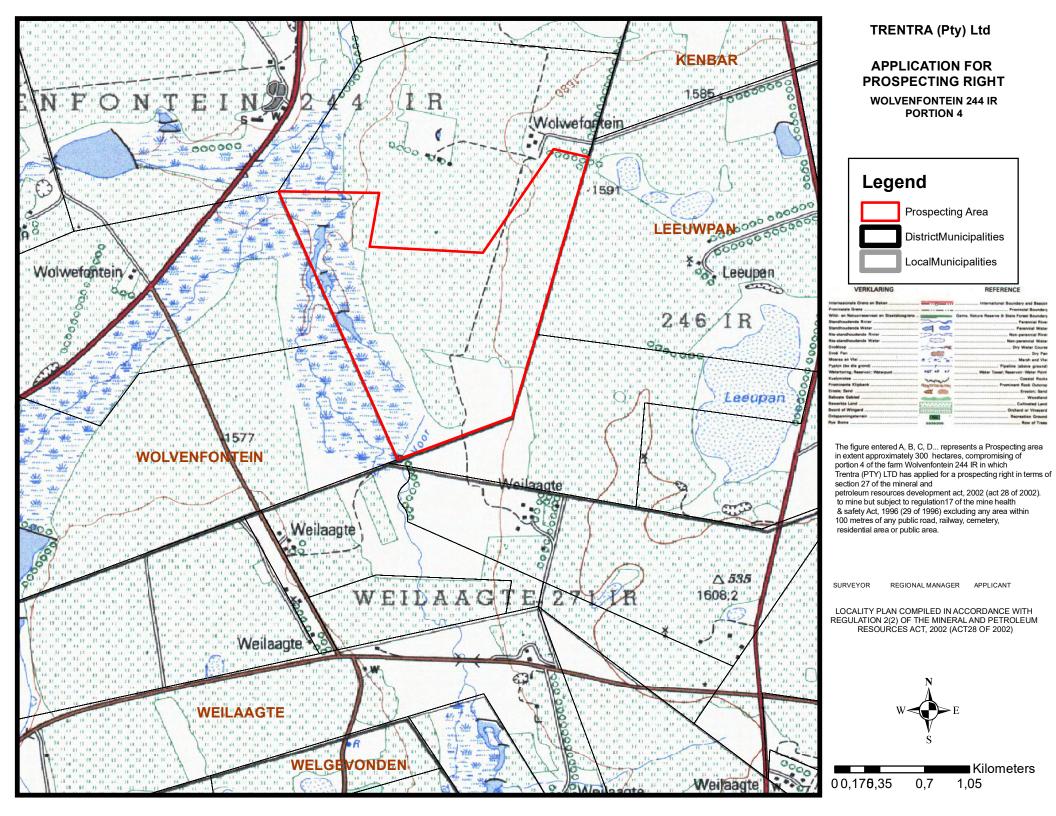
#### 7.4.8 Roles and responsibilities

In the case where there is no training department on site, a responsible person should be identified (Mine manager, Environmental Officer or Consultant) to ensure that the objective of this procedure is met.

7.5	UNDERTAKING TO COMPLY		
have st	, the unde udied and understand the contents to the conditions as set out ther er.	of this document in its entir	rety and hereby duly undertake to
Signed	at this	day of	20
Signat	ure of applicant	Des	ignation
APPR	OVAL		
	ed in terms of Section 39(4) of the of 2002)	Mineral and Petroleum Re	esources Development Act, 2002
0: 1			
Signed	atthis	da	ay of20
REGIO	NAL MANAGER		

REGION:....

## Appendix A Regulation 2 (2) plan



# Appendix B Deed's list of the direct farms

## WinDeed Database D/O Property - List IR, 244, A, MPUMALANGA

SEARCH CRITERIA			
Search Date	2023/01/17 11:37	Farm Number	244
Reference	-	Registration Division	IR
Report Print Date	2023/01/17 11:37	Portion Number	А
Farm Name	-	Remaining Extent	NO
Deeds Office	Mpumalanga	Search Source	WinDeed Database

PORTIO	N LIST			
Portion	Owner	Title Deed	Registration Date	Purchase Price (R)
0	SCHOEMAN GROUP PROP PTY LTD	T7026/2022	2022/06/28	
1	UNIVERSAL COAL DEV 1 PTY LTD	T5918/2013	2013/06/18	
2	SCHOEMAN GROUP PROP PTY LTD	T7030/2022	2022/06/28	
3	** FOR INFO REFER TO REGISTRAR OF DEEDS **	REPLACED	-	-
4	OOSTERHUIS JACOBUS JOHANNES	T14063/2010	2010/11/03	
5	WILLEM OOSTERHUIS BOERDERY CC	T24702/1990	1990/04/20	-
6	SCHOEMAN GROUP PROP PTY LTD	T7034/2022	2022/06/28	
7	** FOR INFO REFER TO REGISTRAR OF DEEDS **	REPLACED	-	-
8	EXXARO COAL PTY LTD	T9659/2002	2002/01/30	
9	EXXARO COAL PTY LTD	T162298/2004	2004/11/19	
10	EXXARO COAL PTY LTD	T162298/2004	2004/11/19	
11	WOLWEFONTEIN CHICKS CC	T10337/2013	2013/10/03	
30	** FOR INFO REFER TO REGISTRAR OF DEEDS **	REPLACED	-	-

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# Appendix C National Web Based Environmental Screening Tool Report

# SCREENING REPORT FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORIZATION AS REQUIRED BY THE 2014 EIA REGULATIONS – PROPOSED SITE ENVIRONMENTAL SENSITIVITY

**EIA Reference number:** 

**Project name:** Wolvenfontein Prospecting Project **Project title:** Wolvenfontein Prospecting Project

Date screening report generated: 19/01/2023 10:03:43

Applicant: Trentra (Pty) Ltd

Compiler: Geovicon Environmental (Pty) Ltd

**Compiler signature:** 

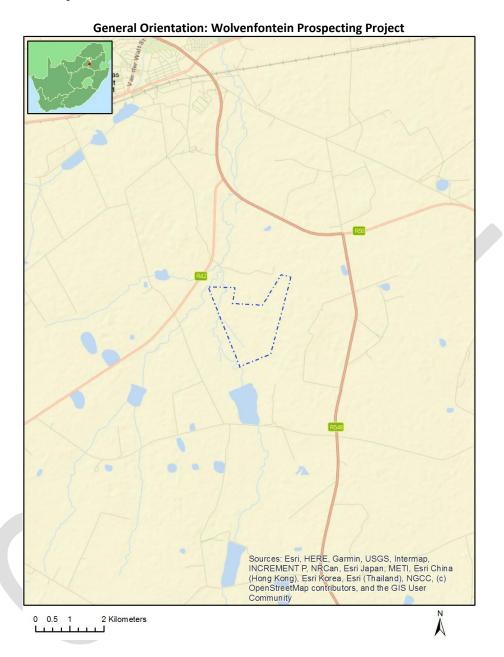
**Application Category:** Mining | Prospecting rights

#### **Table of Contents**

Proposed Project Location	3
Orientation map 1: General location	3
Map of proposed site and relevant area(s)	4
Cadastral details of the proposed site	4
Wind and Solar developments with an approved Environmental Authorisation or applications under consideration within 30 km of the proposed area	4
Environmental Management Frameworks relevant to the application	5
Environmental screening results and assessment outcomes	5
Relevant development incentives, restrictions, exclusions or prohibitions	5
Map indicating proposed development footprint within applicable development incentive, restriction, exclusion or prohibition zones	
Proposed Development Area Environmental Sensitivity	
Specialist assessments identified	8
Results of the environmental sensitivity of the proposed area	
MAP OF RELATIVE AGRICULTURE THEME SENSITIVITY	
MAP OF RELATIVE ANIMAL SPECIES THEME SENSITIVITY	11
MAP OF RELATIVE AQUATIC BIODIVERSITY THEME SENSITIVITY	12
MAP OF RELATIVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE THEME SENSITIVITY	13
MAP OF RELATIVE CIVIL AVIATION THEME SENSITIVITY	14
MAP OF RELATIVE DEFENCE THEME SENSITIVITY	15
MAP OF RELATIVE PALEONTOLOGY THEME SENSITIVITY	16
MAP OF RELATIVE PLANT SPECIES THEME SENSITIVITY	17
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#### **Proposed Project Location**

#### Orientation map 1: General location



#### Map of proposed site and relevant area(s)



#### Cadastral details of the proposed site

#### Property details:

No	Farm Name	Farm/ Erf No	Portion	Latitude	Longitude	Property Type
1	WOLVENFONTEIN	244	0	26°11'53.5S	28°41'21.52E	Farm
2	WOLVENFONTEIN	244	4	26°12'29.14S	28°42'21.29E	Farm Portion

Development footprint<sup>1</sup> vertices: No development footprint(s) specified.

Wind and Solar developments with an approved Environmental Authorisation or applications under consideration within 30 km of the proposed area

No	EIA Reference No	Classification	Status of application	Distance from proposed area (km)
1	14/12/16/3/3/2/706	Solar CSP	Approved	21.5

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> "development footprint", means the area within the site on which the development will take place and incudes all ancillary developments for example roads, power lines, boundary walls, paving etc. which require vegetation clearance or which will be disturbed and for which the application has been submitted.

#### Environmental Management Frameworks relevant to the application



Environm ental Managem ent Framewor	LINK
k	
Olifants EMF	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/EMF/Zone 46, 67, 78, 80, 92, 103, 122, 129.pdf

#### Environmental screening results and assessment outcomes

The following sections contain a summary of any development incentives, restrictions, exclusions or prohibitions that apply to the proposed development site as well as the most environmental sensitive features on the site based on the site sensitivity screening results for the application classification that was selected. The application classification selected for this report is:

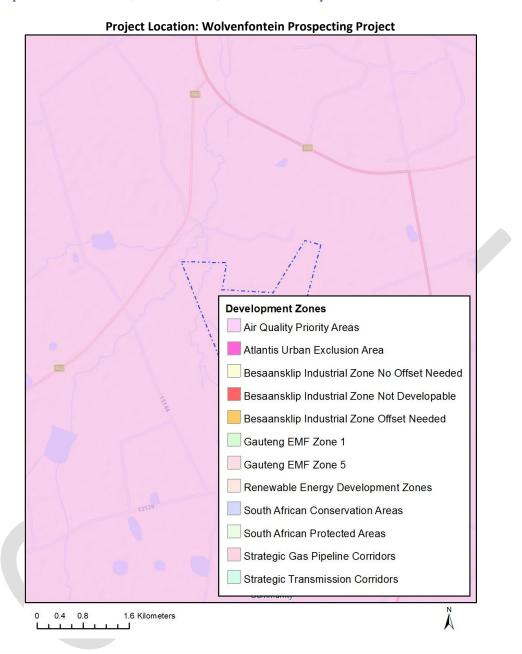
Mining | Prospecting rights.

#### Relevant development incentives, restrictions, exclusions or prohibitions

The following development incentives, restrictions, exclusions or prohibitions and their implications that apply to this site are indicated below.

Incenti ve, restrict ion or prohibi tion	Implication
Strategic Transmis sion Corridor- Internati onal corridor	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/DevelopmentZones/Combined_EGI.pdf
Air Quality- Highveld Priority Area	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/DevelopmentZones/HIGH VELD PRIORITY AREA AQMP.pdf

#### Map indicating proposed development footprint within applicable development incentive, restriction, exclusion or prohibition zones



#### Proposed Development Area Environmental Sensitivity

The following summary of the development site environmental sensitivities is identified. Only the highest environmental sensitivity is indicated. The footprint environmental sensitivities for the proposed development footprint as identified, are indicative only and must be verified on site by a suitably qualified person before the specialist assessments identified below can be confirmed.

Theme	Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
Agriculture Theme		X		
Animal Species Theme		Х		

Page 7 of 18

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19/01/2023

Aquatic Biodiversity Theme	X			
Archaeological and Cultural				Χ
Heritage Theme				
Civil Aviation Theme		Х		
Defence Theme				Χ
Paleontology Theme	Х			
Plant Species Theme			Х	
Terrestrial Biodiversity Theme	Х			

#### Specialist assessments identified

Based on the selected classification, and the environmental sensitivities of the proposed development footprint, the following list of specialist assessments have been identified for inclusion in the assessment report. It is the responsibility of the EAP to confirm this list and to motivate in the assessment report, the reason for not including any of the identified specialist study including the provision of photographic evidence of the site situation.

N 0	Speci alist asses	Assessment Protocol
	smen	
	t	
1	Agricul tural Impact Assess ment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/ Gazetted General Agriculture Assessment Protocols.pdf
2	Archae ologica I and Cultura I Heritag e Impact Assess ment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/ Gazetted General Requirement Assessment Protocols.pdf
3	Palaeo ntology Impact Assess ment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/ Gazetted General Requirement Assessment Protocols.pdf
4	Terrest rial Biodive rsity Impact Assess ment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/ Gazetted Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment Protocols.pdf
5	Aquati c Biodive rsity Impact Assess ment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/ Gazetted Aquatic Biodiversity Assessment Protocols.pdf
6	Noise Impact Assess	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/ Gazetted Noise Impacts Assessment Protocol.pdf

Page 8 of 18

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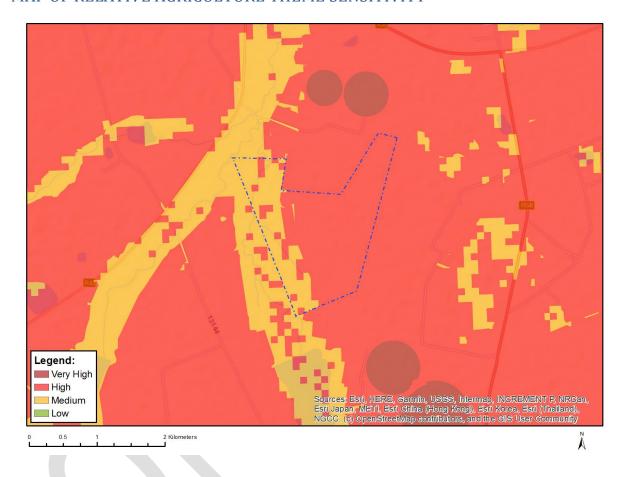
	ment	
7	Radioa ctivity Impact Assess ment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/ Gazetted General Requirement Assessment Protocols.pdf
8	Plant Species Assess ment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/ Gazetted Plant Species Assessment Protocols.pdf
9	Animal Species Assess ment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/ Gazetted Animal Species Assessment Protocols.pdf



#### Results of the environmental sensitivity of the proposed area.

The following section represents the results of the screening for environmental sensitivity of the proposed site for relevant environmental themes associated with the project classification. It is the duty of the EAP to ensure that the environmental themes provided by the screening tool are comprehensive and complete for the project. Refer to the disclaimer.

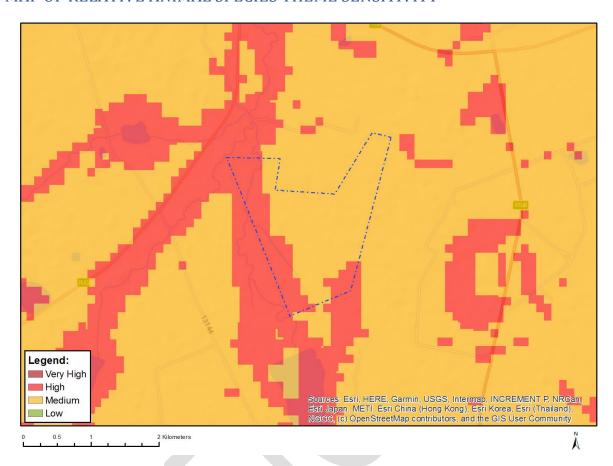
#### MAP OF RELATIVE AGRICULTURE THEME SENSITIVITY



Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
	X		

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
High	Land capability;09. Moderate-High/10. Moderate-High
High	Old Fields;Land capability;09. Moderate-High/10. Moderate-High
High	Annual Crop Cultivation / Planted Pastures Rotation; Land capability; 09. Moderate-High/10. Moderate-
	High
High	Annual Crop Cultivation / Planted Pastures Rotation;Land capability;06. Low-Moderate/07. Low-
	Moderate/08. Moderate
Medium	Land capability;06. Low-Moderate/07. Low-Moderate/08. Moderate

#### MAP OF RELATIVE ANIMAL SPECIES THEME SENSITIVITY



Where only a sensitive plant unique number or sensitive animal unique number is provided in the screening report and an assessment is required, the environmental assessment practitioner (EAP) or specialist is required to email SANBI at <a href="mailto:eiadatarequests@sanbi.org.za">eiadatarequests@sanbi.org.za</a> listing all sensitive species with their unique identifiers for which information is required. The name has been withheld as the species may be prone to illegal harvesting and must be protected. SANBI will release the actual species name after the details of the EAP or specialist have been documented.

Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
	X		

Sensitivity	Feature(s)			
High	Aves-Tyto capensis			
High	Aves-Circus ranivorus			
High	Aves-Mycteria ibis			
Medium	Aves-Hydroprogne caspia			
Medium	Aves-Eupodotis senegalensis			
Medium	Insecta-Aloeides dentatis dentatis			
Medium	Insecta-Lepidochrysops procera			
Medium	Mammalia-Chrysospalax villosus			
Medium	Mammalia-Crocidura maquassiensis			
Medium	Mammalia-Dasymys robertsii			
Medium	Mammalia-Hydrictis maculicollis			
Medium	Mammalia-Ourebia ourebi ourebi			

#### MAP OF RELATIVE AQUATIC BIODIVERSITY THEME SENSITIVITY



Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
X			

Sensitivity	Feature(s)		
Very High	Strategic water source area		
Very High	Wetlands and Estuaries		

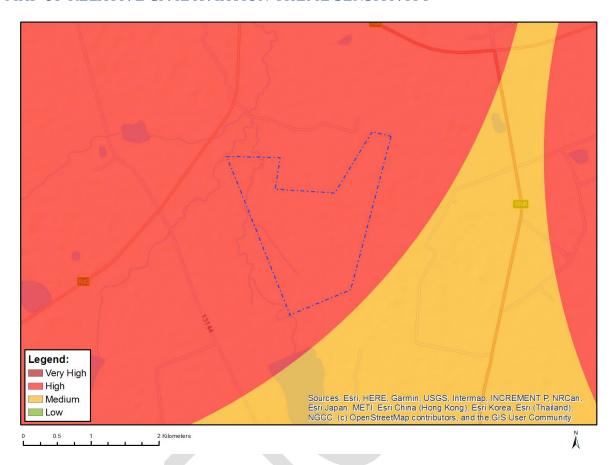
## MAP OF RELATIVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE THEME SENSITIVITY



Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
			Χ

Sensitivity	Feature(s)	
Low	Low sensitivity	

#### MAP OF RELATIVE CIVIL AVIATION THEME SENSITIVITY



Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
	X		

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
High	Within 8 km of other civil aviation aerodrome

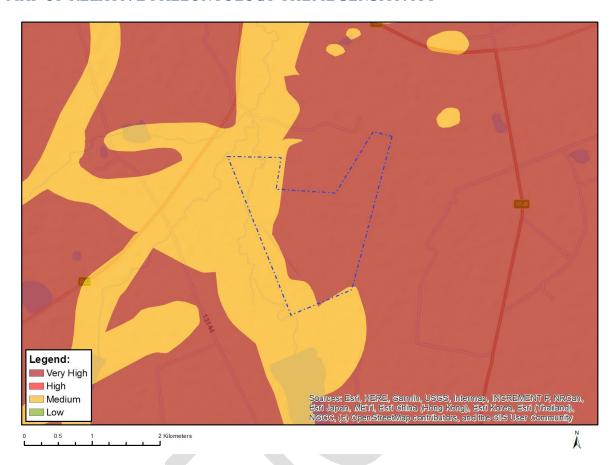
#### MAP OF RELATIVE DEFENCE THEME SENSITIVITY



Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
			Χ

Sensitivity	Feature(s)	
Low	Low Sensitivity	

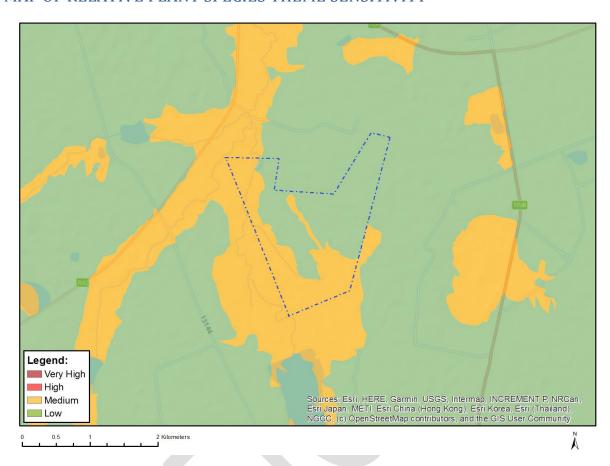
#### MAP OF RELATIVE PALEONTOLOGY THEME SENSITIVITY



Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
X			

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Low	Features with a Low paleontological sensitivity
Medium	Features with a Medium paleontological sensitivity
Very High	Features with a Very High paleontological sensitivity

#### MAP OF RELATIVE PLANT SPECIES THEME SENSITIVITY

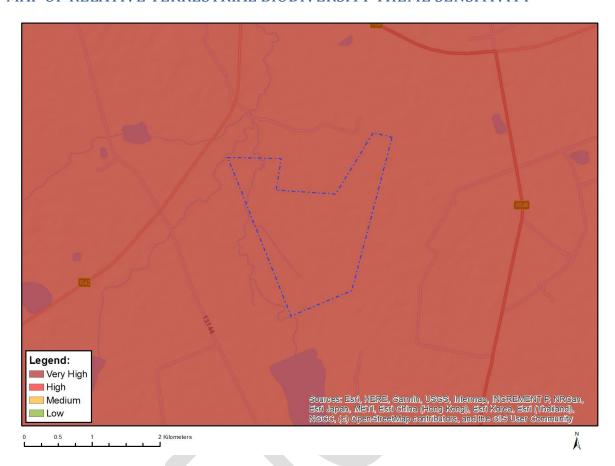


Where only a sensitive plant unique number or sensitive animal unique number is provided in the screening report and an assessment is required, the environmental assessment practitioner (EAP) or specialist is required to email SANBI at <a href="mailto:eiadatarequests@sanbi.org.za">eiadatarequests@sanbi.org.za</a> listing all sensitive species with their unique identifiers for which information is required. The name has been withheld as the species may be prone to illegal harvesting and must be protected. SANBI will release the actual species name after the details of the EAP or specialist have been documented.

Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
		Х	

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Low	Low Sensitivity
Medium	Sensitive species 1252
Medium	Sensitive species 691
Medium	Pachycarpus suaveolens
Medium	Brachycorythis conica subsp. transvaalensis

#### MAP OF RELATIVE TERRESTRIAL BIODIVERSITY THEME SENSITIVITY



Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
X			

Sensitivity	Feature(s)	
Very High	Critical biodiveristy area 2	
Very High	Vulnerable ecosystem	

Appendix D Layout plan

