


# BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

<b>Applications:</b>		<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Prepared for:</b>
<b>Water Use License (WU17631) and Environmental Authorization (DARDLEA REF 1/3/16/1N-239) Applications to establish a Coal Processing Plant (CPP)</b>		 <b>Singo Consulting (Pty) Ltd</b>	<b>Business Zone 532 (Pty) Ltd</b>
<b>District:</b>	<b>Witbank</b>		

## INTRODUCTION AND THE PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

Singo Consulting (Pty) Ltd has been appointed as an independent Environmental Consultant by **Business Zone 532 (Pty) Ltd** to carry out Water Use License Application (WULA) in terms of chapter 4 of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998), conduct Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), compile a Basic Assessment & Environmental Management Programme Reports (BAR & EMPR) and undertake Public Participation Process (PPP) in terms of National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), as amended and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (as amended). This is done for processes of acquiring Environmental Authorization and Water Use License for the establishment of a **Coal Processing Plant (CPP)** where Crushing & Screening of the commodity will be undertaken in the farm **Naauwpoort 335 JS on plot 49 (Portion of Portion 49)**, eMalahleni, Mpumalanga Province.

The Purpose of this Background Information Document (BID) is to provide a perfunctory description of the project and outline EIA processes to be followed and contributions from Interested and Affected Parties (IAPs) on the issues related to the project in question, allowing comments and concerns to be raised.

Results of the EIA, both negative and positive will be submitted and made available to the relevant Departments such as the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy, Environmental Affairs, Water and Sanitation, Landowners and other interested stakeholders.

This Background Information Document therefore requests and invite IAPs to comment on the environmental, physical, social and economic impacts associated with the proposed Processing Plant development. Be assured that your comments are of great value as they ensure that relevant issues are taken into consideration. Attached at the end of this document is a registration form, kindly complete it and send it back to Mr **Netshiavha Owen** through given means of communication also attached there.

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed Coal Processing Plant (CPP) will utilise only Crushing & Screening of the commodity in the farm Naauwpoort 335 JS on plot 49 (Portion of Portion 49), eMalahleni, Mpumalanga Province. The area of interest is 11 hectares however only 5 hectares will be developed. The project area is about 7.5 km South East of eMalahleni and approximately 30 km South West of Middelburg.

Development will be done by trenching, placement of site offices and erecting of coal processing unit within 5 hectares. The coal delivered from the mine that reports to the coal processing plant is called run-of-mine, or ROM, coal. This is the raw material for the CPP and consists of coal and rocks. ROM will be delivered from different mines in close proximity to the CPP where large pieces will be crushed or pulverized to a useful size. First the coal is crushed in a feeder breaker, which breaks the biggest lumps, and then through a roll crusher, which breaks it down to a smaller size. Screens in screening plant are used to group processed particles into range of sizes using mechanical vibration.

## REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

This project will be carried out in terms of National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), as amended and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (as amended) read together with regulation 40-43 of the Act. The triggered activities as reflected on Government Notice R983 (as amended) Activity No. will be; LN 1 Activity 21,56 & 27.

Chapter 4 of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998) to comply with Section 21 of the National Water Act No. 36 of 1998. Triggered sections are; Section 21 (a), Section 21 (g), Section 21 (f) and Section 21 (j). Any additional triggered sections that can be discussed during meetings with DWS officials and site visits will be added or deleted. These all will accurately be followed to ensure that identified impacts are assessed and mitigated according to their significance so that the protection of the receiving environment and populations is met.

# Business Zone 532 (Pty) Ltd-Processing Plant

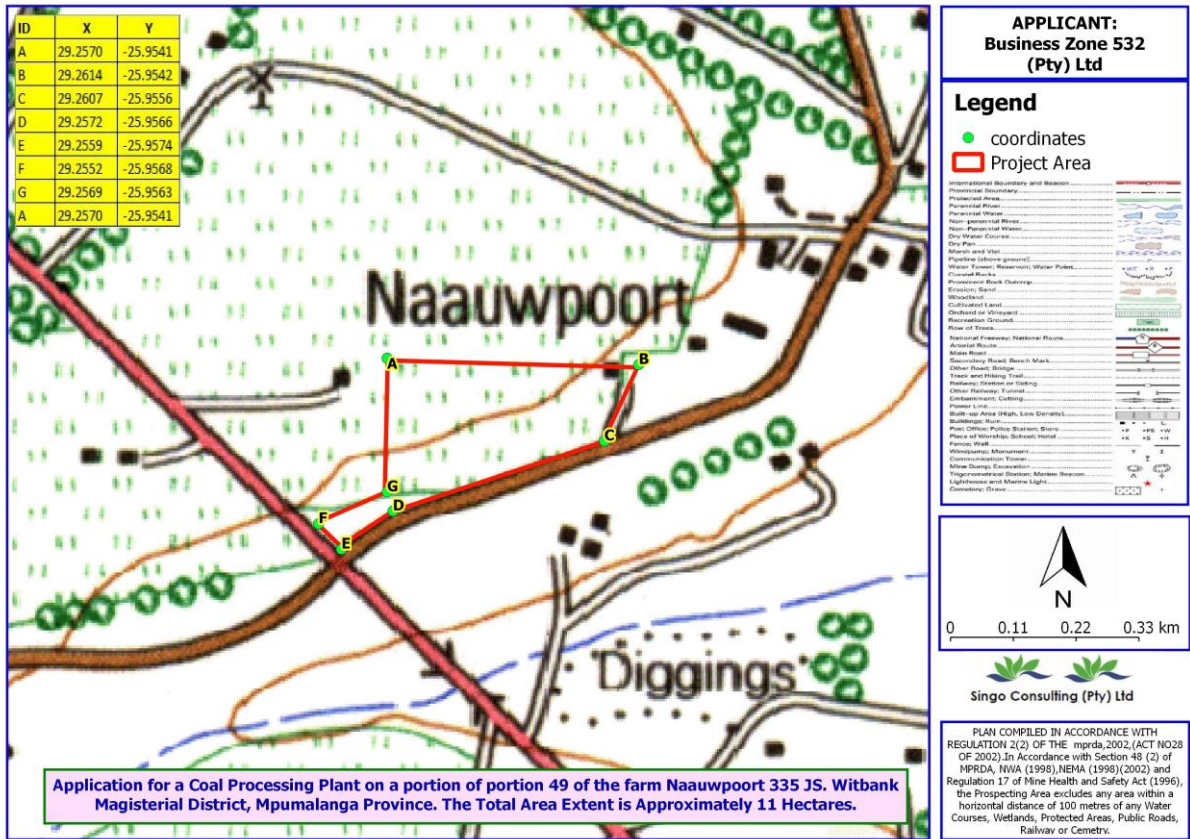


Figure 1: Regulation Map of the project area



Figure 2: Locality Map of The Proposed Project (Google View)



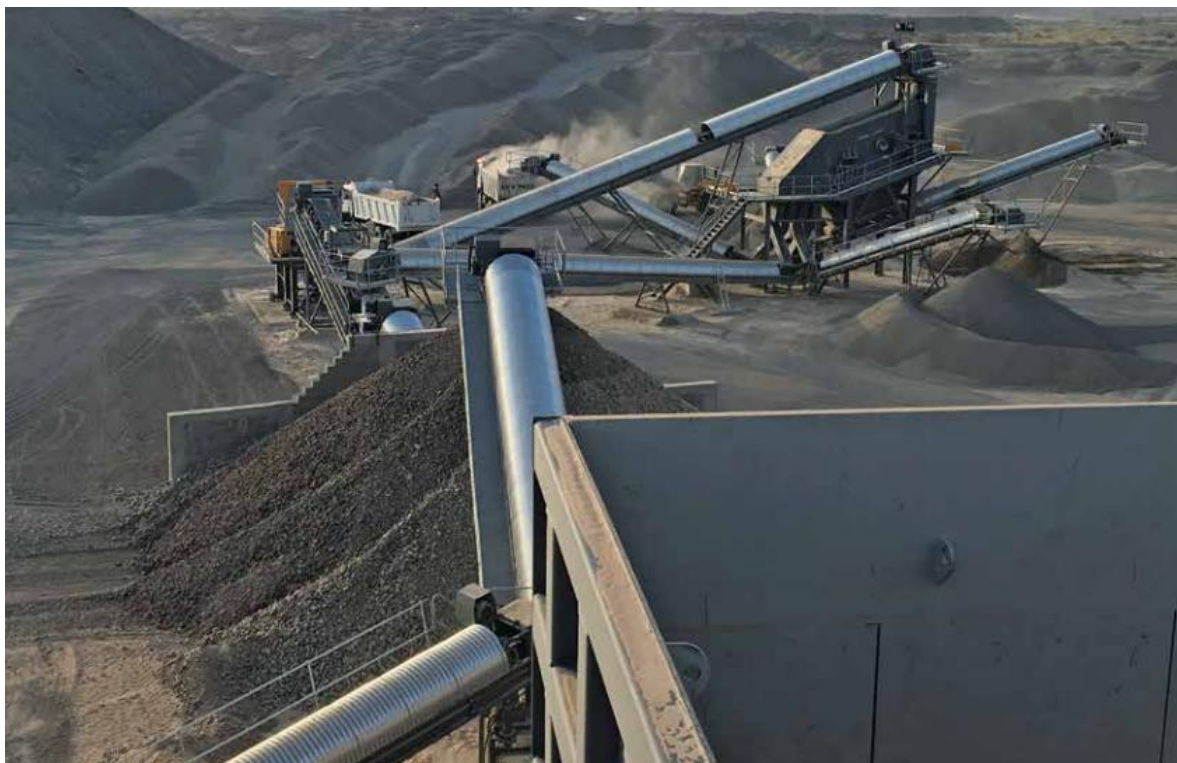


Figure 3: Typical Example of a Coal Processing Plant

#### **BASIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESSES**

These are planning and decision-making tools used in identifying potential environmental, economic and social consequences of a proposed activity prior the commencement of the activity.

These together with the public issues and concerns are to be identified sufficiently early so that they can be assessed and incorporated into the final reports when/if necessary.

These tools are regarded crucial because they are utilized in order to demonstrate to the relevant stakeholders about the potential impacts.

#### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS**

Public Participation remains a cornerstone of the Environmental Impact Assessment process. It ensures provision of relevant and enough information with openness and transparency. Public Participation process presents to IAPs, an opportunity to understand what the project is about, and affords them an opportunity to make valuable contributions towards the EIA process.

IAP can be any person, group of persons or organization interested in or affected by the proposed activity, and any organ of state that may have jurisdiction over any aspect of the activity.

The key objective of PPP during the consultation phase is to afford the IAPs with an opportunity to comment and provide valuable inputs during the planning phase of the project.

For this specific proposed project, IAPs will be given a period of 30 days to comment and raise issues/concerns with regards to this BID. Due to risks associated with Covid-19 mass meeting will not be held, hard copies reports may not be made available at any public place or premises closed to the public, as contemplated in the regulation (Section 27(2) of the Disaster Management Act). Electronic copies will be made available upon request from Singo Consulting (Pty) Ltd, using the detailed EAP'S contact's below, via emails; Dropbox link; Google drive; WeTransfer, etc

Kindly keep the following dates:

- ❖ Announcement of the Application: **11 September 2020**
- ❖ Stakeholder engagement and consultation: **11 September 2020– 10 October 2020**
- ❖ Review of Draft Basic Assessment Report: **11 October 2020 to 09 November 2020**
- ❖ Submission of the Final BAR & EMPr: **13 November 2020**

**Business Zone 532 (Pty) Ltd-Processing Plant**



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                   : [admin@singoconsulting.co.za](mailto:admin@singoconsulting.co.za)

**REGISTRATION & COMMENT SHEET**

Attention: **Netshivha Owen**

Email: [owen@singoconsulting.co.za](mailto:owen@singoconsulting.co.za)

Title	Name	Surname
Company		
Designation		
Address		
Tel No.	Fax No.	
E-mail	Cell No.	
I would like to receive my notifications be (mark with "X"):	Post <input type="checkbox"/>	E-mail: <input type="checkbox"/> Fax: <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Please indicate why you would have an interest in the above-mentioned project.</b>		
<b>Please provide your comments and questions here:</b>		
<i>Please feel free to attach a separate document</i>		
<b>Please add any person you think may be interested and affected parties:</b>		
Full name	Company	
Address		
E-mail	Contact No.	