



DIGBY WELLS
ENVIRONMENTAL



Environmental Authorisation for the Establishment of Five Borrow Pits near Lephalale, Limpopo Province

Notification of Intent to Develop

Project Number:

LED4349

Prepared for:

Ledjadja Coal (Pty) Ltd

March 2017


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Report Type:	Notification of Intent to Develop
Project Name:	Environmental Authorisation for the Establishment of Five Borrow Pits near Lephalale, Limpopo Province
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Name	Responsibility	Signature	Date
Justin du Piesanie Manager: HRM ASAPA Member: 270	Pre-disturbance survey NID Compilation		March 2017

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1 Introduction

The establishment of five borrow pits triggers Listed Activities in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (2014), which were promulgated under the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act no. 107 of 1998) (NEMA). As such, Ledjadja Coal (Pty) Ltd (hereinafter Ledjadja Coal) is required to obtain Environmental Authorisation (EA). To this effect, Ledjadja Coal has employed the services of Digby Wells Environmental (hereinafter Digby Wells) to complete the necessary Basic Assessment (BA) process and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) in support of EA application in accordance with the regulatory requirements. Commensurately the Project must demonstrate compliance to the provisions of the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999) (NHRA) in terms of Section 38(8).

2 Project details

Ledjadja Coal intend to establish five borrow pits in support of construction of the approved railway line and road diversion as part of the Boikarabelo Coal Mine. The proposed locations of the various borrow pits occur outside of the approved Mining Right Area on properties owned by Resgen South Africa (Pty) Ltd (hereinafter Resgen) and lawfully occupied by Ledjadja Coal. Both Ledjadja Coal and Resgen form part of the group of companies under Resource Generation Limited.

The Project is located within the Waterberg Coalfield, some 72 km north-west of Lephalale in the Limpopo Province. The Boikarabelo Coal Mine and associated infrastructures fall within the Lephalale Local Municipality within the Waterberg District.

Location details of are presented in the following tables:

Table 2-1: Project location summary

Province	Limpopo
District Municipality	Waterberg District Municipality (WDM)
Local Municipality	Lephalale Local Municipality (LLM)
Nearest town	Steenbokpan / Lephalale
Name of property/ies	Bitterfontein 272 LQ; Kamiesbult 291 LQ, Ptn RE Loopleegte 302 LQ Vlughtkraal 273 LQ, Ptn1
Maximum extent of proposed development	BP 3 = 5 ha BP 5 = 1.5 ha BRD 1 = 3.5 ha BRD 3 = 5 ha BRD 5 = 5 ha



Current use	Agriculture / game farming
Predominant land use/s of surrounding properties	Agriculture / game farming / mining

Table 2-2: Proposed borrow pit locations

Name	Total Footprint Size	Location
Rail borrow pit		
BP 3	5 ha	Loopleegte 302 LQ
BP 5	1.5 ha	Bitterfontein 272 LQ
Road borrow pits		
BRD 1	3.5 ha	Bitterfontein 272 LQ
BRD 3	5 ha	Vlughtkraal 273 LQ, Ptn1
BRD 5	5 ha	Kamiesbult 291 LQ, Ptn RE

Table 2-3: Landowner details

Name	Property	Notified
Resgen South Africa (Pty) Ltd	Bitterfontein 272 LQ; Kamiesbult 291 LQ, Ptn RE Loopleegte 302 LQ Vlughtkraal 273 LQ, Ptn1	N/A

3 Assessment processes

The following impact assessment processes are currently being conducted for the proposed project.


Table 3-1: Current assessment processes

Legislation (e.g. NEMA, MPRDA, etc.)	Current phase of assessment process (e.g. Scoping, EIA, etc.)	Authorities who has / will receive information	Capacity of Authorities
NEMA	Application for Environmental Authorisation	Department of Mineral Resources (DMR)	Consenting
NHRA	Notification of Intent to Develop	SAHRA	Commenting
	Notification of Intent to Develop & Request for Exemption	Limpopo Provincial Heritage Resources Authority (LIHRA)	Noting ¹

These assessments are required in terms of legislated and / or regulated activities outlined in Sections 3.1 to 0 below.

3.1 EIA Regulations listed activities

The proposed development will include the following activities listed in the EIA Regulations, which generally require impact assessments.

Table 3-2: Identified listed activities

NEMA Activity No. (GN R 983)	NHRA Trigger	Description	Expected duration/phase
Not Listed	Section 38(1)(a)	Establishment of access roads / tracks	Pre-construction
X – Activity 27	Section 38(1)(c)(i)	Site clearance and vegetation removal	Establishment
Not Listed	N/A	Topsoil stockpiling	Establishment
Not Listed	N/A	Covering borrow pit footprint with topsoil	Decommissioning
Not Listed	N/A	Rehabilitation (topsoil cover, ripping and vegetation establishment)	Decommissioning

¹ The NID and RfE will be submitted to the PHRA-G via email for noting only, as no heritage resources will be impacted on that fall within the PHRA-G's competency, i.e. NHRA Section 34 protected structures.



3.2 NHRA Section 38(1) activities

The proposed development will include the following activities listed in Section 38(1) of the NHRA, which generally require heritage assessments to be undertaken.

Table 3-3: NHRA Section 38 triggers

		NHRA Section 38 (1) Activities / Triggers	Summary description (e.g. 500 m conveyor belt, open cast pit, etc.)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	a	Any linear development or barrier >300 m	Establishment of access roads / tracks
<input type="checkbox"/>	b	Any bridge or similar structure >50 m	-
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	c	Any development or activity that will change the character of a site:	-
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> i	≥5 000m ² in extent	Each borrow pit will be 5 ha in extent.
	<input type="checkbox"/> ii	Involving ≥3 existing erven/ subdivisions	-
	<input type="checkbox"/> iii	Involving ≥3 or more erven/ divisions consolidated within past 5 years.	-
<input type="checkbox"/>	d	Rezoning of a site ≥10 000m ² in extent.	-
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	e	Other triggers, e.g.: in terms of other legislation, (i.e.: National Environment Management Act, etc.)	MPRDA NEMA

3.3 Identified / known heritage resources and potential impacts

Certain categories of heritage resources, if identified / existing, generally require heritage assessments to be conducted before any development may take place. These categories may also be formally or generally protected in terms of the NHRA:

Table 3-4: Identified heritage resources in terms of Section 3 of the NHRA

	Section	Description
<input type="checkbox"/>	3(2)(a)	Places, buildings, structures and equipment of cultural significance Description of resource: None identified Potential impact: None
<input type="checkbox"/>	3(2)(b)	Places to which oral traditions are attached or which are associated with living Description of resource: None identified Potential impact: None
<input type="checkbox"/>	3(2)(c)	Historical settlements and townscapes Description of resource: None identified Potential impact: None



	Section	Description
<input type="checkbox"/>	3(2)(d)	Landscapes and natural features of cultural significance Description of resource: None identified Potential impact: None
<input type="checkbox"/>	3(2)(e)	Geological resources of scientific or cultural importance Description of resource: A review of the geological context demonstrated that the site-specific study area of Loopleegte 302 LQ is underlain by lithostratigraphy that has a high palaeontological sensitivity rating. These sensitivities notwithstanding, and considering the nature of the Project, potential palaeontological impacts are considered to be low risk that can be managed through implementation of the approved Boikarabelo Coal Mine Chance Find Protocols (CFPs) Potential impact: Damage
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3(2)(f)	Archaeology and/or palaeontology (Including archaeological sites and material, fossils, rock art, battlefields & wrecks) Description of resource: Archaeological finds were limited to surface find spots associated with the Middle Stone Age and Late Farming Community Periods. These resources were designated with a negligible cultural significance. Potential impact: Damage and / or destruction
<input type="checkbox"/>	3(2)(g)	Graves and burial grounds (e.g. ancestral graves, graves of victims of conflict, historical graves & cemeteries) Description of resource: None identified Potential impact: None
<input type="checkbox"/>	3(2)(h)	Other human remains Description of resource: None identified Potential impact: None
<input type="checkbox"/>	3(2)(i)	Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa Description of resource: None identified Potential impact: None
<input type="checkbox"/>	3(2)(j)	Movable objects Description of resource: None identified Potential impact: None

4 Illustrative Material

Illustrative material is provided in the Heritage Basic Assessment Report. The illustrative material demonstrates the general Project locality, and the site specific study area that was assessed as part of the pre-disturbance survey.

5 Recommendation

A summary and motivation of the specialist recommendations is provided in Table 5-1:



Table 5-1: Specialist heritage recommendations

Is a Heritage Impact Assessment required?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If NO, provide motivation:			
If YES, provide suggested components that may be required or undertaken during HIA.			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Archaeology	<input type="checkbox"/>	Architecture
<input type="checkbox"/>	Built Environment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Burial Grounds and Graves
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Palaeontology	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Participation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Townscapes	<input type="checkbox"/>	Visual Impact
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:		
Recommendation made by:			
Name: Justin du Piesanie			
Capacity: Manager: HRM			