



mineral resources

Department:
Mineral Resources
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 9467, Polokwane, 0700, Tel: 015 287 4761, Fax: 015 287 4729
DMR Building, 101 Dorp Street, Polokwane, 0699

Enquiries: Mr T.C Ref: LP30/5/1/2/3/2/1(10151) EM
E-Mail Address: Thivhulawi.Kolani@dmr.gov.za
Sub-Directorate: Mine Environmental Management

BY HAND

De Grooteboom Minerals (Pty) Ltd
Postnet Suite 320
P/ Bag x 06
WATERKLOOF
0145

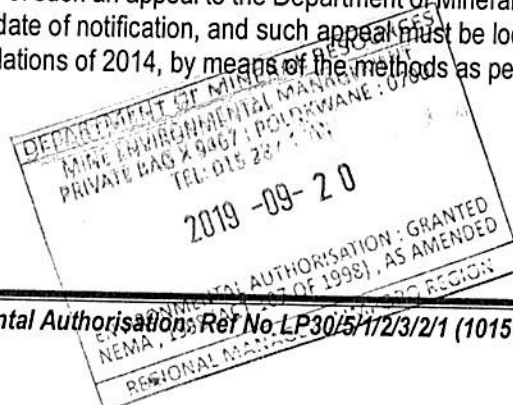
Attention: Mr. Henk Moon

ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998 (NEMA) AS AMENDED, AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) REGULATIONS, 2014 FOR MINING RIGHT FOR CHROME, GOLD AND PGM THROUGH UNDERGROUND AND OPENCAST MINING ON THE FARM DE GROOTEBOOM 373 KT WITHIN FETAKGOMO-TUBATSE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY OF LIMPOPO REGION.

With reference to the abovementioned application, please be advised that the Department has decided to **grant** Environmental Authorisation in terms of National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998). The Environmental Authorisation and reasons for the decision are attached herewith.

In terms of regulation 4 (2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations of 2014, you are instructed to notify all registered interested and affected parties, in writing within 14 (Fourteen) calendar days, from the date of the Department's decision in respect of your application and the relevant provisions regarding the lodgement of appeal must be provided for in terms of the National Appeal Regulations of 2014.

Should you wish to appeal any aspect of the decision, you must submit the appeal to the Minister of Environmental Affairs and a courtesy copy of such an appeal to the Department of Mineral Resources (Limpopo Regional Office), within 20 days from the date of notification, and such appeal must be lodged as prescribed in by Chapter 2 of the National Appeal Regulations of 2014, by means of the methods as per prescribed below:



Decision for the Granting of an Environmental Authorisation, Ref No LP30/5/1/2/3/2/1 (10151) EM Page 1 of 17

Appeal to the Department of Environmental Affairs

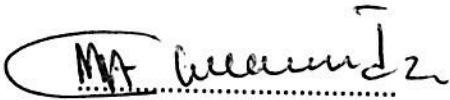
Attention : Directorate Appeals and Legal Review
Email : appealsdirector@environment.gov.za
By post : Private Bag X 447, **PRETORIA**, 0001
By hand : Environmental House, Corner Steve Biko and Soutpansberg Street, Arcadia, **Pretoria**, 0083

Copy of the lodged appeal to the Department of Mineral Resources

Attention : Regional Manager: Limpopo Region
By facsimile : (015) 297 7230
E-mail : tebogo.mangaba@dmr.gov.za
By post : Private Bag X 9467, **POLOKWANE**, 0700
By hand : DMR Building, 101 Dorp Street, **Polokwane**, 0699

Should you decide to appeal, you must comply with the National Appeal Regulation of 2014 in relation to notification of all registered interested and affected, and a copy of the official appeal form can be obtained from the Department of Environmental Affairs.

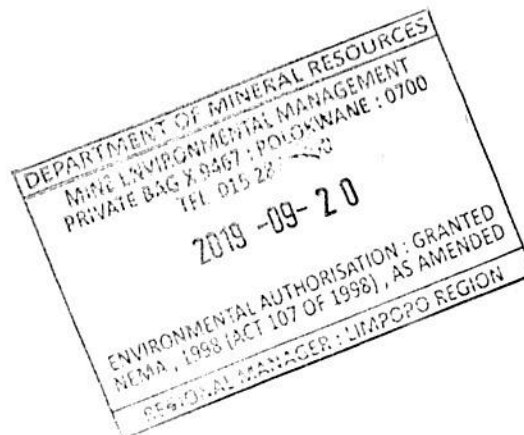
Kind Regards



REGIONAL MANAGER: MINERAL REGULATION

LIMPOPO REGIONAL OFFICE

DATE: 20/09/2019





mineral resources

Department:
Mineral Resources
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 9467, Polokwane, 0700, Tel: 015 287 4761, Fax: 015 287 4729
DMR Building, 101 Dorp Street, Polokwane, 0699

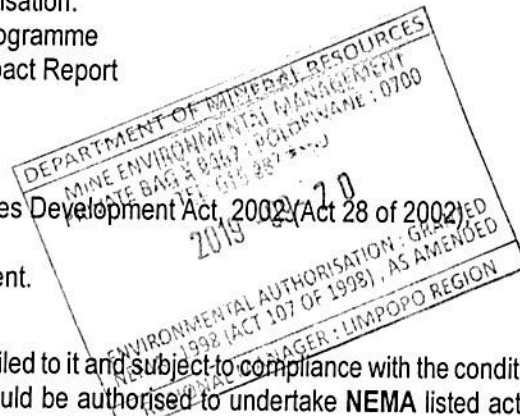
INTERGRATED ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

Reference number:	LP30/5/1/2/3/2/1(10151) EM
Last amended:	First issue
Holder of authorisation:	De Grootboom Minerals (Pty) Ltd
Location of activity:	De Grootboom 373 KT

DECISION

ACRONYMS

NEMA:	The National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998), as amended
DEPARTMENT:	Department of Mineral Resources.
EA:	Environmental Authorisation.
EA	Integrated Environmental Authorisation.
EMPr:	Environmental Management Programme
S&EIR:	Scoping and Environmental Impact Report
I&AP:	Interested and Affected Parties
ECO:	Environmental Control Officer
EIA REGULATIONS:	EIA Regulations, 2014
MPRDA:	Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act 28 of 2002) as amended
EIA:	Environmental Impact Assessment.



The Department is satisfied, on the basis of information availed to it and subject to compliance with the conditions of this Environmental Authorisation, that the applicant should be authorised to undertake **NEMA** listed activity (ies) specified below. Details regarding the basis on which the Department reached this granting decision are set out in **Annexure "1"** and **2** of the Environmental Authorisation.

ACTIVITY APPLIED FOR

By virtue of the powers conferred on it by NEMA, the Department hereby Grant an application for EA by De Grootboom Minerals (Pty) Ltd the following contact details –

Mr. Henk Moon
 Postnet Suite 320
 P/ Bag x 06
WATERKLOOF
 0145

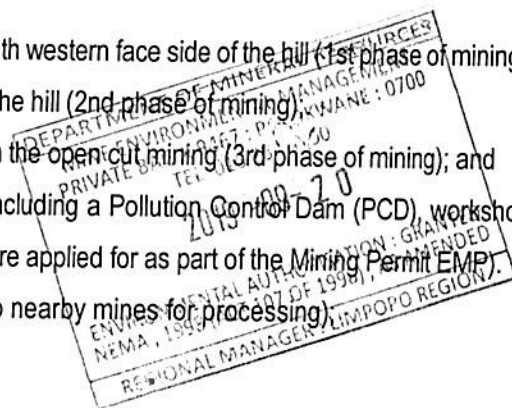
to undertake the following activities listed in the NEMA EIA Regulation.

NEMA: LISTED ACTIVITIES:

NAME OF ACTIVITY	Aerial extent of the Activity Ha or m ²	APPLICABLE LISTING NOTICE <i>(GNR 983, GNR 984 or GNR 985)</i>
Pollution Control Dam (dirty water)	2.5 ha	GNR 984 Activity 5
Storm Water Runoff Storage Dam (dirty water)		GNR 984 Activity 5
Roads (according to new layout)		GNR 983 Activity 56
Opencast Pits		GNR 984 Activity 21
Product Storage area and loading terminal		GNR 984 Activity 5
Alteration of undeveloped land 20 ha or more	30 ha	GNR 984 Activity 15
Administrative Complex		GNR 983 Activity 17

The proposed mining activities will entails the following:

- Continuation of open cut mining activities along the south western face side of the hill (1st phase of mining);
- Open cut mining of the southern and eastern faces of the hill (2nd phase of mining);
- Possible underground mining of the hill continuing from the open cut mining (3rd phase of mining); and
- Construction and development of new infrastructure including a Pollution Control Dam (PCD), workshop and stockpile area (These associated Infrastructure were applied for as part of the Mining Permit EMP);
- Access and haul roads (transporting mined chrome to nearby mines for processing);
- Power lines and associated service roads;
- Crusher;
- Water Treatment Plant;



- Product stockpiles;
- Offices, workshops and ancillary buildings; and
- Diesel storage.

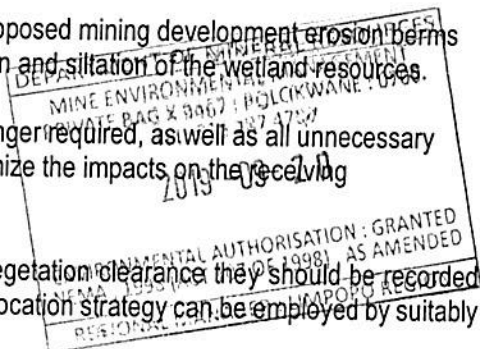
Detailed specifications of the activity are as follows:

Application area (Ha)	The application area is 2917ha; Mining area is 40 ha
-----------------------	---

The granting of this EA is subject to the conditions set out below (site specific) and in **Annexure 2** (Departmental standard conditions). The Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Environmental Management Plan (EMPr) attached as part of reports for the above development submitted as part of the application for an EA is hereby approved and must be adhered to throughout the life cycle of the operation.

EA SITE SPECIFIC CONDITIONS

1. All development footprint areas and areas affected by the proposed development must remain as small as possible and must not encroach onto the surrounding sensitive areas and the associated buffer zones.
2. The air Blast limit must be 134 dBI as recommended by the Blast impact assessment contained on the submitted EIR
3. This EA is only applicable for mining Chrome, Gold, PGM through underground and open cast mining
4. No activities should take place which will form a cone of depression which will significantly impact the in stream flows of the Sandloop River. The groundwater study should be consulted for guidance in this regard;
5. No dirty water runoff must be permitted to reach the wetland and riverine resources during the entire life of mine;
6. All overburden stockpiles and waste stockpiles must have berms and/catchment paddocks at their toe to contain runoff from the facilities;
7. All areas of increased ecological sensitivity near to mining operations should be clearly marked as no go areas;
8. During the construction and operational phases of the proposed mining development erosion berms should be installed on roadways to prevent gully formation and siltation of the wetland resources.
9. During mining all haul and access roads which are no longer required, as well as all unnecessary mining infrastructure should be removed in order to minimize the impacts on the receiving environment
10. If any species of critical concerns are identified during vegetation clearance they should be recorded with the GPS and reported to this department so that a relocation strategy can be employed by suitably



qualified botanical specialist and no species of critical concerns must be destroyed as a results of the proposed development project.

11. Species of critical important must be marked with biodegradable tape and none of them must be destroyed or removed without any permit in terms of National biodiversity Act
12. Culverts and Gabions structures must be constructed at road crossing through temporary drainage areas where those areas cannot be avoided rom the mine and infrastructure plan.
13. Biodiversity monitoring plan must be done as recommended by the biodiversity studies summited as part of the application for environmental authorisation
14. Any waste activities listed in terms of National Environmental Management Waste Act must not commence without a Waste Management License issued by this Department.

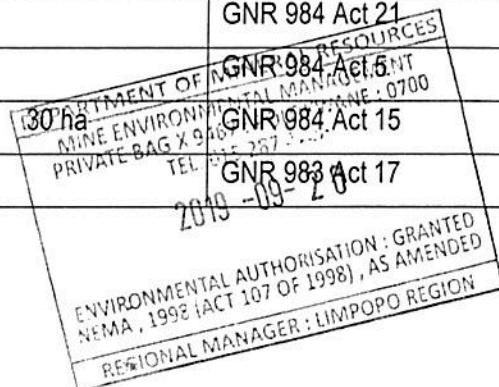
ANNEXURE 1: REASONS FOR THE DECISION

1. Background

De Grootboom Minerals (Pty) submitted an EIA and EMPr for approval for activities listed in the EIA Regulations of 2014 as:

Listed in the EIA Regulations of 2014 as:-

NAME OF ACTIVITY	Aerial extent of the Activity Ha or m ²	APPLICABLE LISTING NOTICE <i>(GNR 983, GNR 984 or GNR 985)</i>
Pollution Control Dam (dirty water)	2.5 ha	GNR 984 Activity 5
Storm Water Runoff Storage Dam (dirty water)		GNR 984 Act 5
Roads (according to new layout)		GNR 983 Act 56
Opencast Pits		GNR 984 Act 21
Product Storage area and loading terminal		GNR 984 Act 5
Alteration of undeveloped land 20 ha or more	130 ha	GNR 984 Act 15
Administrative Complex		GNR 983 Act 17



1. **De Grooteboom Minerals (Pty)** appointed **Fatima Matlou** as **EAP** to undertake the EIA process as required by Regulation 20 of the EIA Regulations

2. Information considered in making the decision

In reaching its decision, the Department took, *inter alia*, the following into consideration -

- a) The information contained in the EIA and EMPr received by the Department on 12 August 2019;
- b) The objectives and requirements of the applicable and relevant legislation, policies and guidelines and the EIA Regulations of 2014;
- c) Public Participation Process (PPP) attached as on the Scoping Report and EMPr;
- d) The Environmental Awareness Plan included on the EMPr
- e) The proposed development projects will pose no serious impact on the environment because some of the footprint are already been disturbed by the mining permit activities.

3. Key factors considered in making the decision

All the information presented to the Department was taken into account upon the Department's consideration of the application. A summary of the issues which, in the Department's view, were of the most significance are set out below.

- 1) A sufficient Public Participation Process (PPP) was undertaken and the applicant has satisfied the minimum requirements as prescribed in the EIA Regulations R 982 of 2014 for public involvement;
- 2) The environmental impacts associated with the proposed activity will be addressed by the implementation of proposed mitigation measures outlined in the EIA and EMPr compiled by Fatima Matlou as EAP
- 3) The Closure and Rehabilitation Plan included in the EIA/EMPr; compiled by Fatima Matlou as EAP
- 4) The financial provision to be submitted before execution of the mining right
- 5) The specialist studied attached to the EIR
- 6) Comments received from other government departments
- 7) Need and desirability of the projects
- 8) the proposed development area already been disturbed



- 9) A commitment from the applicant indicating that a financial provision will be provided before the execution of the mining right in terms of MPRDA.

4. Findings

After consideration of the information and factors listed above, the Department made the following findings –

- a) The potential impacts on the proposed site were clearly investigated and mitigation measures outlined.
- b) Public Participation Process complied with Chapter 6 of the EIA Regulations R.982 of 2014. The Public Participation Process included, *inter-alia*, the following:
- A copy of a newspaper advert
 - site notices
 - Letters and minutes of the meeting

ANNEXURE 2:

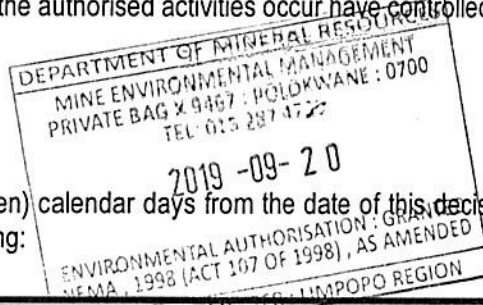
DEPARTMENTAL STANDARD CONDITIONS

1. SCOPE OF AUTHORISATION

- 1.1 The holder of EA shall be responsible for ensuring compliance with the conditions contained in the EA. This includes any person acting on the holder's behalf, including but not limited to an agent, servant, contractor, subcontractor, employee, consultant or any person rendering a service to the holder of EA.
- 1.2 Any changes to, or deviation from the project description set out in this EA must be approved in writing by this Department before such changes or deviation may be effected. In assessing whether to grant such approval or not, the Department may request such information as is deems necessary to evaluate the significance and impacts of such changes or deviation and it may be necessary for the holder of the EA to apply for further authorisation in terms of the EIA Regulations.
- 1.3 The activities, which are authorised, may only be carried out at the property (ies) indicated in the EA and or on the approved EMPr.
- 1.4 Where any of the holder of the EA contact details change including name of the responsible person, physical or postal address/ or telephonic details, the holder of the EA must notify the Department as soon as the new details become known to the holder of the EA.
- 1.5 The EA does not negate the responsibility of the holder to comply with any other statutory requirements that may be applicable to the undertaking of such activity (ies).
- 1.6 The holder of EA must ensure that all areas where the authorised activities occur have controlled access to ensure safety of people and animals.

2. APPEAL OF AUTHORISATION

- 2.1 The holder of EA must in writing, within 14 (fourteen) calendar days from the date of this decision and in accordance with EIA Regulation 4(2) do the following:



2.2 Notify all registered I&APs of –

- 2.2.1 The outcome of the application;
- 2.2.2. The date of the decision;
- 2.2.3. The date of issue of the decision and;
- 2.2.4 The reasons for the decision as included in Annexure 1 and Departmental Standard Conditions in Annexure 2.

2.3 Draw the attention of all registered I&APs to the fact that an appeal may be lodged against the decision in terms of the National Appeals Regulations,

2.4 Draw the attention of all registered I&APs to the manner in which they may access the decision.

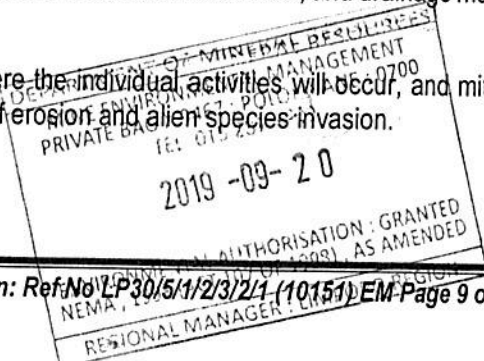
2.5 Provide the registered I&APs with:

- 2.5.1 Name of the holder (entity) of this EA
- 2.5.2 Name of the responsible person for this EA
- 2.5.3 Postal address of the holder;
- 2.5.4 Telephonic and fax details of the holder and
- 2.5.5 E-mail address of the holder if any.

2.6 The holder of the EA must ensure that proof of notification referred to above is submitted to this department for easy reference.

3 COMMENCEMENT OF THE ACTIVITY (IES)

- 3.1 In order to ensure safety, all employees must be given the necessary personnel protective equipment (PPE).
- 3.2 This EA must be provided to the site operator and the requirements thereof must be made fully known to him or her.
- 3.3 Hauling routes for construction vehicles and machinery must be clearly marked and appropriate signalling must be posted to that effect. Furthermore, movement of construction vehicles and machinery must be restricted to areas outside of the drainage line or wet areas.
- 3.4 Appropriate notification sign must be erected at the construction site, warning the public (residents, visitors etc.) about the hazard around the construction site and presence of heavy vehicles and machinery.
- 3.5 Construction must include design measures that allow surface and subsurface movement of water along the drainage lines so as not to impede natural surface and subsurface water flow, and drainage measures must promote the dissipation of storm water runoff.
- 3.6 Vegetation clearance must be limited on areas where the individual activities will occur, and mitigation measures must be implemented to reduce the risk of erosion and alien species invasion.



- 3.7 The holder of EA must note that in terms of the National Forest Act (Act No.84 of 1998) protected plant species, also listed in Limpopo Environmental Management Act (Act no.7 of 2003) must not be cut, disturbed, damaged, destroyed and their products must not be possessed, collected, removed, transported, exported, donated, purchased or sold unless permission is granted by the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and fisheries.
- 3.8 Construction areas (e.g. material lay down areas), topsoil and subsoil must be protected from contamination or pollution. Stockpiling must not take place in drainage lines or areas where it will impede surface water runoff.
- 3.9 If any soil contamination is noted at any phase of the proposed activity (ies), the contaminated soil must be removed to a licensed waste disposal facility and the site must be rehabilitated to the satisfaction of the Department and Department of Water and Sanitation. The opportunity for the onsite remediation and re-use of contaminated soil must be investigated prior to the disposal and this Department must be informed in this regard.
- 3.10 An integrated waste management approach must be implemented that is based on waste minimization and must incorporate avoidance, reduction, recycling, treat, reuse and disposal where appropriate. Uncontaminated rubble generated on the premises can be re-used as back filling material on site. Ensure that no refuse or rubble generated on the premises is placed, dumped or deposited on the adjacent properties or public places and open space.
- 3.11 In terms of sections 28 and 30 of NEMA, and sections 19 and 20 of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998), any costs incurred to remedy environmental damage must be borne by the person responsible for the damage. It is therefore imperative that the holder of the EA reads through and understand the legislative requirements pertaining to the project. It is the holder of EA responsibility to take reasonable measures which include informing and educating contractors and employees about environmental risks of their work and training them to operate in an environmentally acceptable manner.
- 3.12 Construction vehicle must be serviced and maintained in the manner whereby no excessive smokes and noise production is reduced to acceptable levels, and to prevent oil leaks. Contaminated soil must be remediated on site or removed to an authorised landfill site.
- 3.14 Residents (if any) on the property (ies) and surrounding areas must be informed if any unusually noisy activities are planned.
- 3.15 Dust suppression measures must be implemented on all exposed surface to minimize and control airborne dust.
- 3.16 Mixing of cement, concrete, paints, solvent, sealants and adhesive must be done in specified areas on concrete aprons or on protected plastic linings to contain spillage or overflow onto soil to avoid contamination of underground water and environmental damage.
- 3.17 Should any heritage remains be exposed during operation or any actions on the site, these must immediately be reported to the South African Heritage Resource Agency (SAHRA) and or Limpopo Heritage Resource Agency (LIHRA) (in accordance with the applicable legislation). Heritage remains uncovered or disturbed during earthworks must not be further disturbed until the necessary approval has been obtained from the South African Heritage Resource Agency (SAHRA) and or Limpopo Heritage Resource Agency (LIHRA).

