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BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT (BID)

APPLICATION FOR PROSPECTING RIGHT AND ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION ON PORTIONS 3, 9 & 10 OF THE FARM STERKSTROOM 250 GU AND FARM STEDHAM 867 GU. IT IS SITUATED IN THE MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT OF ZULULAND IN KWAZULU NATAL PROVINCE. DMRE REF: KZN 30/5/1/1/2/11214 PR.



PREPARED BY:



Singo Consulting (Pty) Ltd

**Office 870,
5 Balalaika Street Tasbet Park Ext
2, Witbank 1035.**

PREPARED ON BEHALF OF:



**Herford Office Park, Building D, Vorna
Valley, Midrand, Gauteng, 1682**

1. INTRODUCTION

First Pole Investments (Pty) Ltd has applied for a Prospecting Right in terms of the Minerals and Petroleum Resources Development Act (Act No.28 of 2002) (MPRDA) (as amended) on **Portions 3, 9 & 10** of the farm **Sterkstroom 250 GU** and farm **Stedham 867 GU**. It is situated in the Magisterial District of **Zululand** in **KwaZulu Natal Province**. DMRE ref number: **KZN 30/5/1/1/2/11214 PR**.

First Pole Investments (Pty) Ltd appointed Singo Consulting (Pty) Ltd as an independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to conduct Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), Compile an Environmental Management Programme report (EMPr) and undertake Public Participation Process (PPP).

2. LOCATION

The Prospecting Right area falls in Ulundi Local Municipality under the Zululand District Municipality, KZN Province. The Prospecting Right application is within the Farms Stedham 867 GU and Sterkstroom 250 GU, an extent of 2 848,2 hectares. It is approximately 19.2 km northwest of Ulundi and accessible via the R66 road to the east. Please refer to Figure 1 and Figure 2 on page 4.

3. PURPOSE OF THE BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

➤ ***The purpose of this document is to:***

- Provide background information to landowners and interested and affected parties (I&APs) on the proposed prospecting activities
- Consult stakeholders and provide them the opportunity to register as I&APs
- Announce the availability of a draft BAR & EMPr available for public review and comment
- Obtain I&AP comments and contributions to incorporate these into the BAR & EMPr.

Please complete the attached Comments and Registration Form if you wish to register as an I&AP or contribute comments. Register / comment and return the form to Singo Consulting (Pty) Ltd **by the 13th of May 2022.**

➤ **THE ROLE OF I&AP's**

Communities, neighbors, government representatives, stakeholders such as community leaders, non-governmental organizations (NGO) are being invited to participate in the EIA process by means of published advertisements, site notices and written correspondence. I&APs are invited to assist in:

- Identifying issues of concern to be investigated, as well as possible impacts of the project on the natural & social environment.
- Suggesting alternative means in which to mitigate possible negative impacts and enhance positive impacts.

You are hereby invited to participate freely and submit any questions or information you feel may contribute to the process. All comments received will be recorded and addressed as part of the environmental impact assessment process. Please complete the attached comment form.

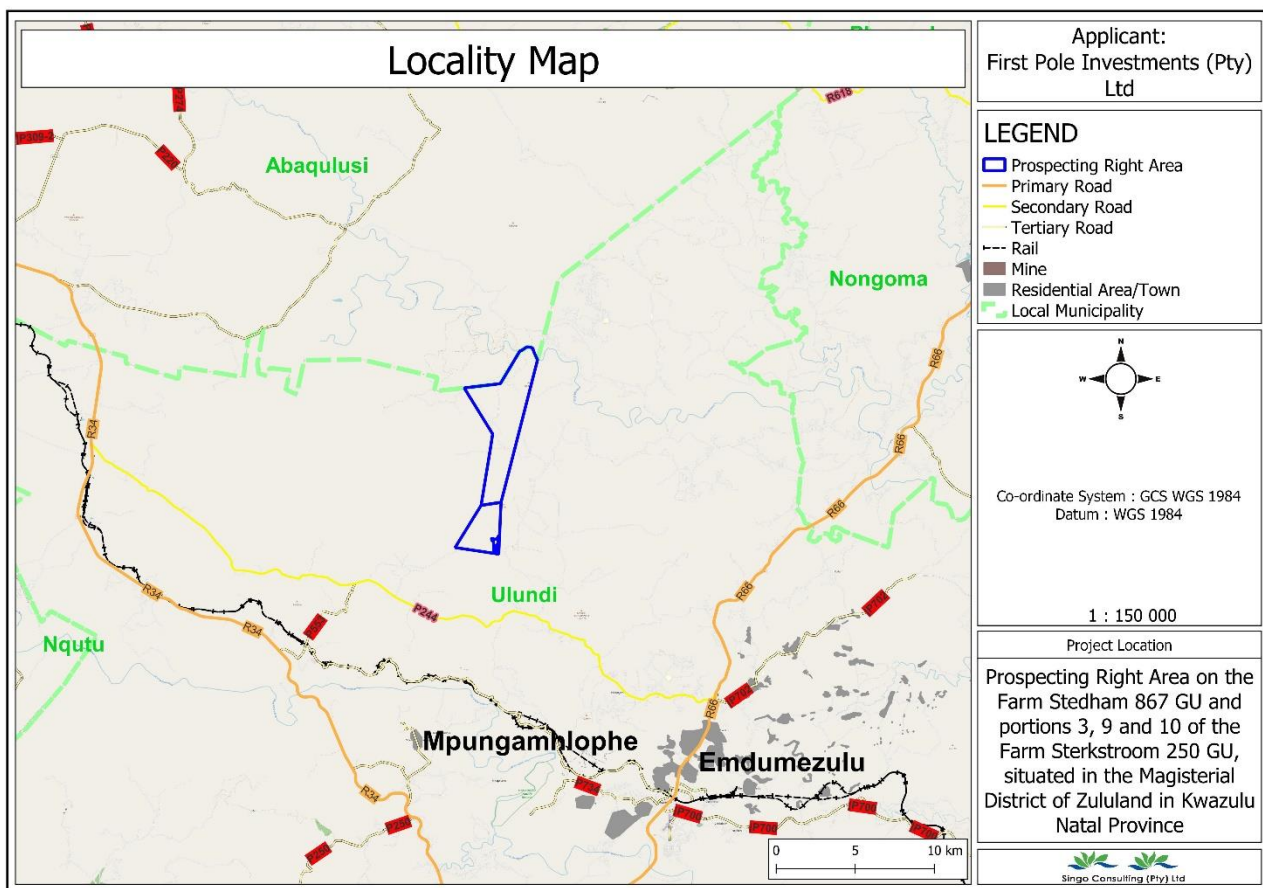


Figure 1: Locality Map of the project area.

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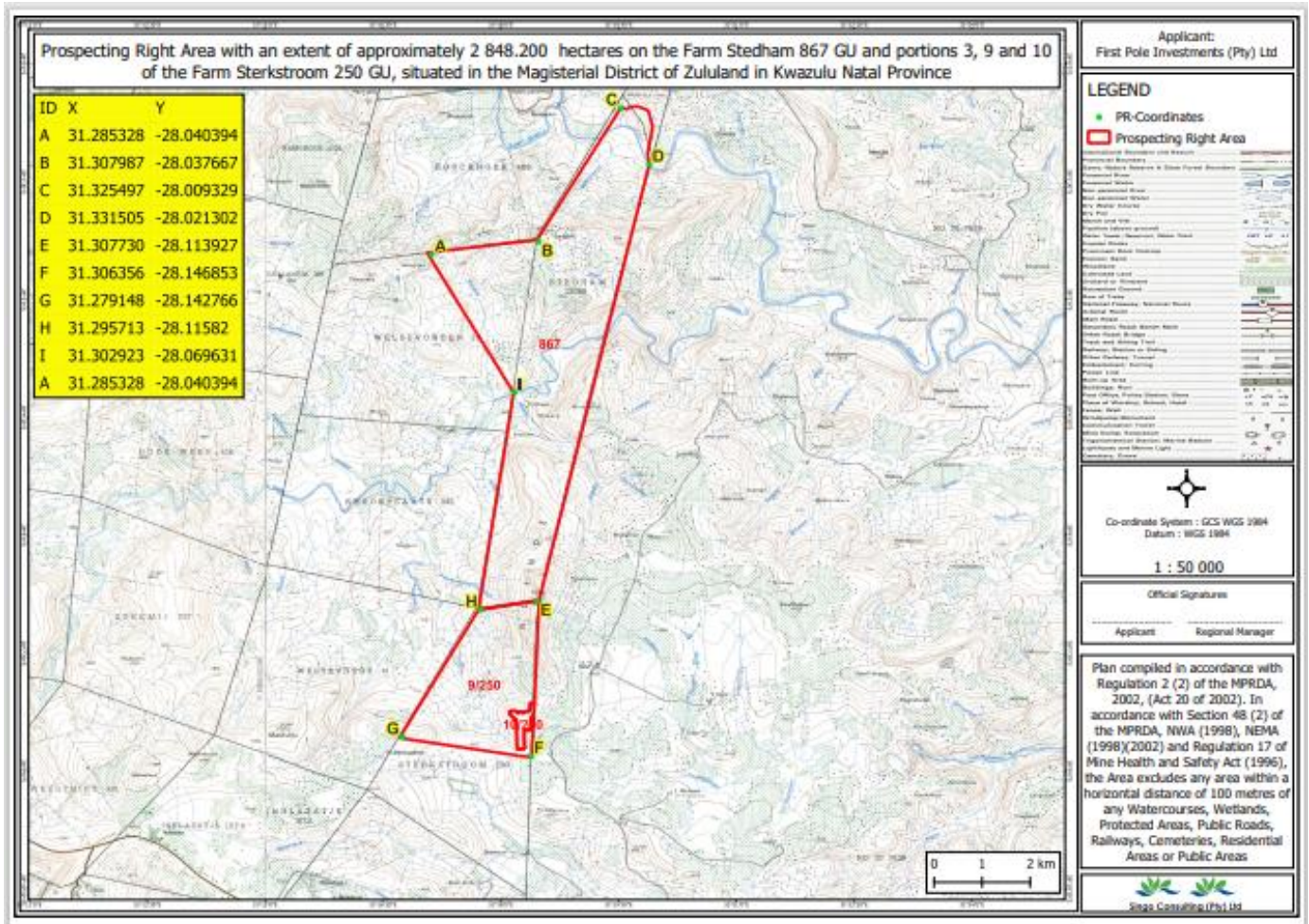


Figure 2: Regulation Map of the project area.

4. Project Description

Minerals Applied For:

Coal, Pseudocoal and Torbanite/oil Shale

Prospecting Activities

Prospecting activities will be undertaken over a period of five (5) years and are designed in phases, each phase conditional on the success of the previous phase. Both invasive and non-invasive methods will be implemented. Desktop study of the area has commenced, and this incorporates desktop geographical and geological mapping. This will be followed by detailed geochemical and geotechnical surveys. In turn, this is followed by detailed geophysical studies and later, a detailed drilling, sampling, assaying and mineralogical study. Diamond core drilling methods will be utilized to prospect in situ ore deposits. To ensure or minimize impacts on the receiving environment, All the activities will be guided by the project's EMPr.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS (PPP)

5.1 OBJECTIVES OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- Provides Interested and Affected parties (I&APs) with an opportunity to voice their support, concerns and questions regarding the project, application or decision.
- Provides an opportunity for I&APs, EAP and the Competent Authority (CA) to obtain clear, accurate and understandable information about the environmental, social and economic impacts of the proposed activity or implications of a decision.
- Provides I&APs with the opportunity of suggesting ways of reducing or mitigating negative impacts of an activity and for enhancing positive impacts.
- Enables the applicant to incorporate the needs, preferences and values of affected parties into the application.

5.2 IDENTIFICATION OF I&APS

An Interested and Affected Parties (I&AP) database will be created to register and record comments of the key stakeholders and I&APs. The I&AP database includes, amongst others, landowners, communities, regulatory authorities and other specialist interest groups. I&APs are notified of the proposed project through site notices, public notices and newspaper advertisements. Where contact information is available for them to send their comments and concerns.

5.3 NOTIFICATION AND REGISTER OF I&APS

The PPP commencement is on 8th of April 2022 where I&AP's are encouraged to send through their concerns or comments and call to **register for a period of 30 days, ending on the 13th of May 2022**. The notification procedure includes:

- Newspaper advertisement.
- Site Notices.
- Public Notices; and
- Letters and emails.

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REGISTRATION AND COMMENT FORM SHEET

APPLICATION FOR PROSPECTING RIGHT AND ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION ON PORTIONS 3, 9 & 10 OF THE FARM STERKSTROOM 250 GU AND FARM STEDHAM 867 GU. IT IS SITUATED IN THE MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT OF ZULULAND IN KWAZULU NATAL PROVINCE. DMRE REF: KZN 30/5/1/1/2/11214 PR.

Please complete this form and return it to **Singo Consulting (Pty) Ltd** to ensure that you are registered as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP).

By answering the questions below you will help us to develop a better understanding of the project area and the community surrounding the area. Additional pages may be attached.

I&AP Details:

Full Names and Surname:							
Contact Details:							
Tel(w):		Tel(h):		Fax No:		Cell No:	
Email:							
Physical Address:							
Postal Address:							
Preferred method of communication: <input type="checkbox"/> fax <input type="checkbox"/> e-mail <input type="checkbox"/> post							
Preferred telephonic communication: <input type="checkbox"/> cell <input type="checkbox"/> home <input type="checkbox"/> work							
Organization/Representative:							
Farm name, number and subdivision or Street Address (if applicable):							

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Questions(s):

1. Where did you get information about the project?

Newspaper advertisement ☐ notice board ☐ flyer ☐ other (please specify)

2. Do you represent a company/organization or on behalf of yourself?

3. Do you know of anyone that is affected by the proposed activity who was not informed of the project? (Please provide contact details)

Name:		Organization:
Contact details		
Address:		
Tel No:	Fax No:	Cell No:
Email address:		

Do you have any specific concerns or comments regarding the project?

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YES

NO

If yes, please indicate what the comments are?

.....
Signed

.....
Date