

**Integrated Water Use Licence Application for the Pit BE Coal Mining Project
located in the eMakhazeni Local Municipality,
Mpumalanga Province
DWS Reference Number: WU33289**

Background Information Document

Purpose of the Document

This Background Information Document aims to provide you with information regarding:

- Project background of the Pit BE Coal Mining Project (“the Project”), located in the eMakhazeni Local Municipality, Mpumalanga Province;
- Water Use Licence (WUL) approval requirements;
- The Public Participation Process (PPP) that will be undertaken as part of the Integrated Water Use Licence Application (IWULA);
- How you can register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) and be kept informed about the Project’s developments; and
- The public review and comment period for the Draft Integrated Water and Waste Management Plan (IWWMP).

Project Background

Umsimbithi Mining (Pty) Ltd (Umsimbithi) has applied for a Mining Right (MR) for coal over numerous farm portions in Mpumalanga. As part of the MR application, an application for the Environmental Authorisation (EA) for the proposed Umsimbithi eMakhazeni Coal Mining Project, was submitted in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, (EIA 2014 Regulations). The EA was granted by the Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources (DMPR) on 01 August 2023 ((MP) 30/5/1/2/2 (10188) EA).

In addition to the NEMA process, a Water Use Licence (WUL) is also required in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) (NWA). Therefore, Kongiwe Environmental (Pty) Ltd (“Kongiwe”) has been appointed by Umsimbithi to undertake the Integrated Water Use Licence Application (IWULA) for the Pit BE Coal Mining Project (the “Project”).

Six mining areas form part of the approved Life of Mine (LoM), namely Pit BE, BF, BG, BD, BA and AA. Umsimbithi has decided to start its operations on the western-most mining area, namely Pit BE hence the Project. This IWULA being applied for is for proposed activities to take place at the Pit BE area only. The remaining areas will be applied for in the future as the project progresses.

The Pit BE mining area will consist of an open pit. The open pit operation is proposed to be mined using the rollover truck and shovel method allowing for concurrent rehabilitation. The mined-out coal will be trucked to Umsimbithi’s nearby Wonderfontein mine for crushing and washing. The discard is then proposed to be trucked back to Pit BE for in-pit disposal.

Project Location

The Project is proposed to be situated in Wonderfontein within Ward 1 of the eMakhazeni Local Municipality (ELM) in the Mpumalanga province. The N4 is situated to the south of the Project and the R104 is situated to the north. Refer to Figure 1 for the local orientation map.

The Project infrastructure is to be located on Portions 2 and 10 of the Farm Leeuwfontein 431 JS, with an extent of approximately 185 ha (excluding associated infrastructure).

Infrastructure for the Project

The following infrastructure will be utilised on site:

- Offices, workshops, change houses, storehouses, warehouses, explosives magazine, sewage management solution, fuel storage facilities;
- Internal roads and haul roads including a stream crossing;
- Open mining pit;
- Water supply network, stormwater separation network and a pollution control dam; and
- Topsoil stockpiles, waste rock dumps, and Run of Mine (ROM) stockpiles.

Refer to Figure 2 for the infrastructure map.

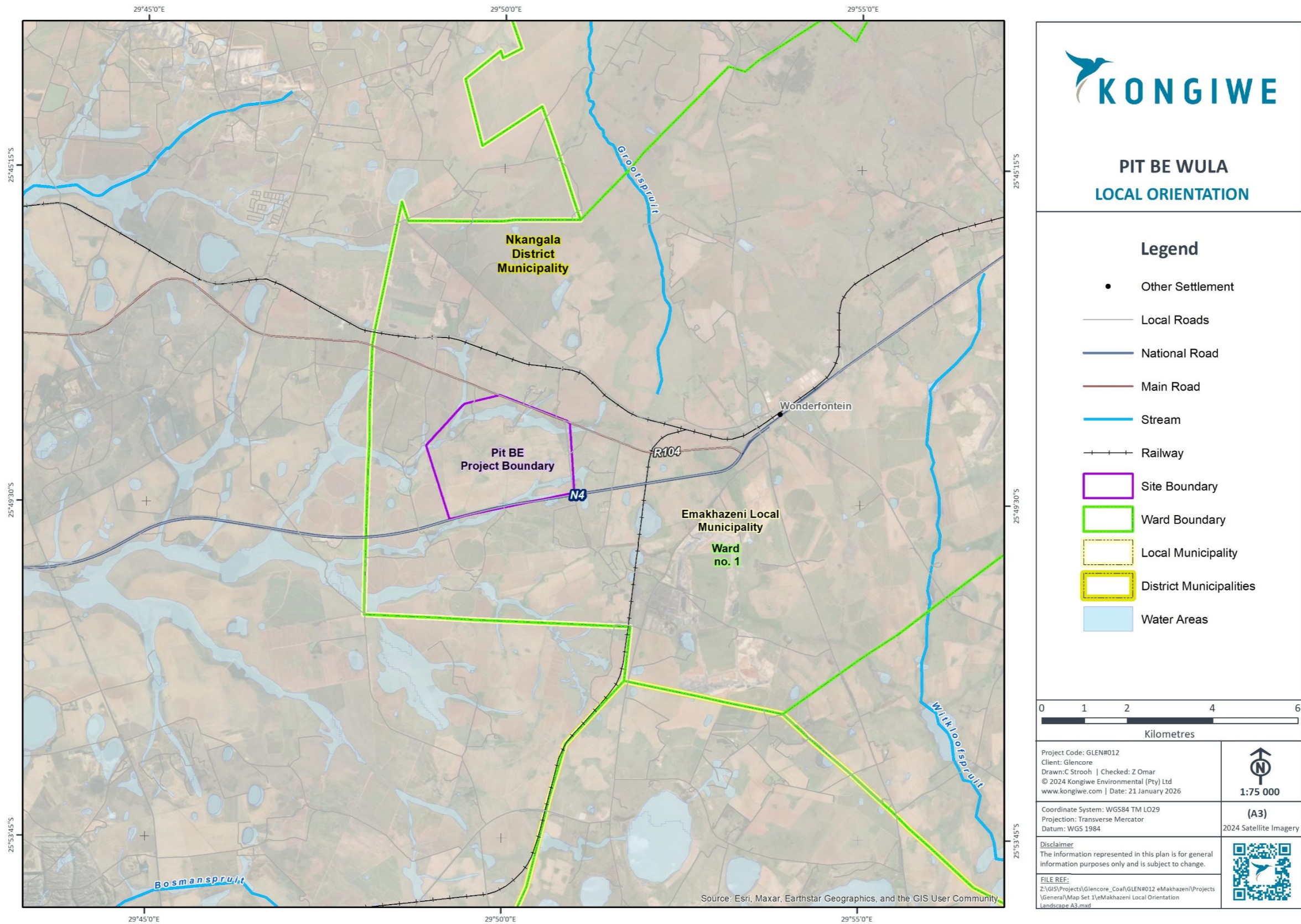
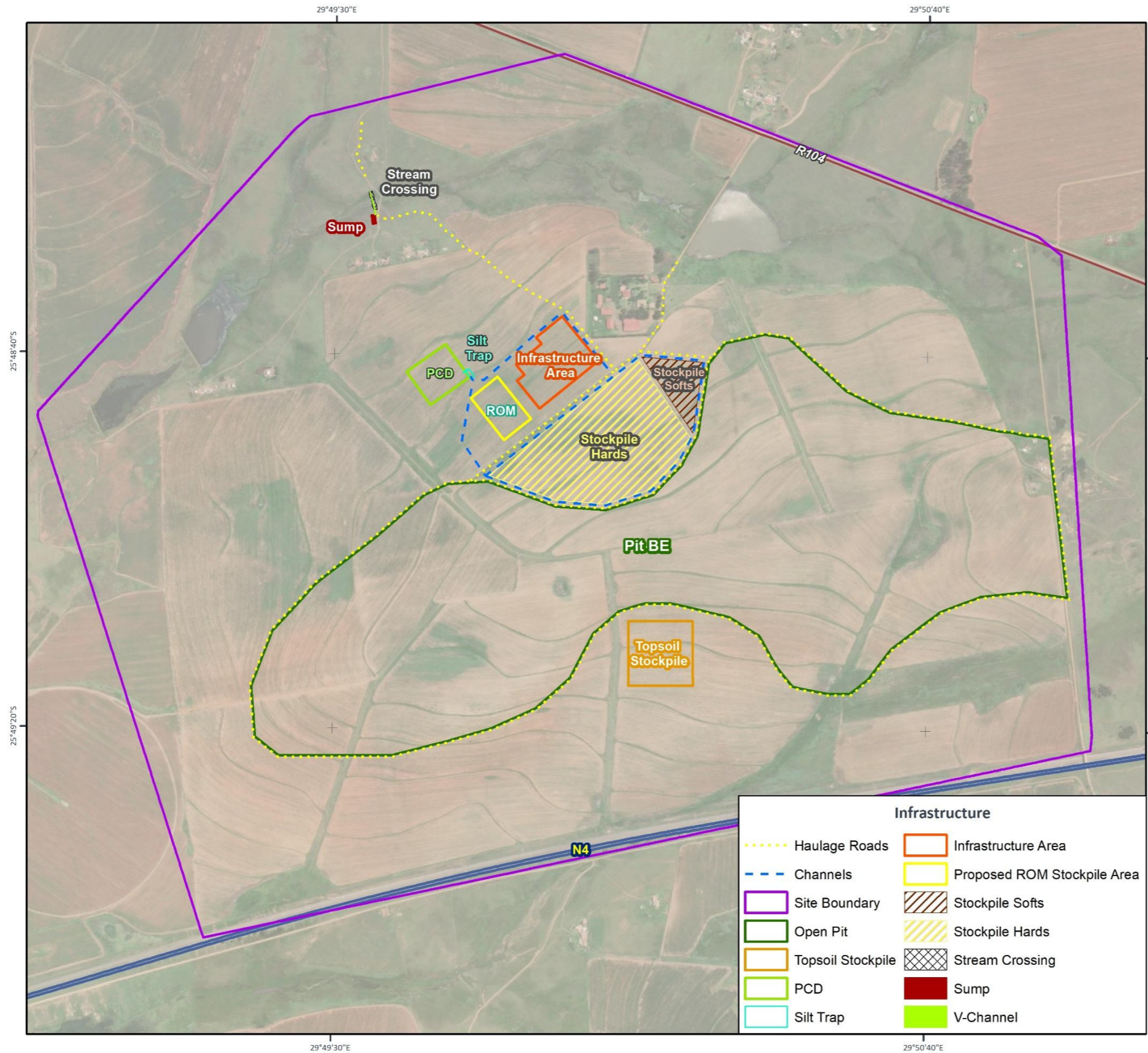


Figure 1: Locality



**PIT BE WULA
 INFRASTRUCTURE**

Legend

- National Road
- Main Road



Project Code: NDRE#002
 Client: Ndalamo Resources
 Drawn: C Strooh | Checked: Z Omar
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 www.kongiwe.com | Date: 16 April 2026



Coordinate System: WGS84 TM LO29
 Projection: Transverse Mercator
 Datum: WGS 1984

(A3)
 2024 Satellite Imagery

Disclaimer
 The information represented in this plan is for general information purposes only and is subject to change.



FILE REF:
 Z:\GIS\Projects\Ndalamo_Resources\Projects\
 NDRE#002\Pit BE Site Infrastructure Landscape A3.mxd

Figure 2: Proposed Infrastructure

Purpose of an IWWMP

An IWWMP is a comprehensive plan which is used to manage and protect water resources while effectively managing waste within mining or industrial projects. It can be considered a living document that will continue to be revised and updated as and when there are fundamental changes, or as stipulated by the DWS throughout the life of a project. The purpose of updates is to accommodate any additional information and improved technology to ensure that water and waste management is continually optimised and adapted to the changing needs of the water management area, thereby reducing the risks of project activities to the environment and humans.

The IWWMP for the Project will follow the content list as stipulated in the Regulations Regarding the Procedural Requirements for Water Use Licence Applications and Appeals, GN R267, Government Gazette 40713 24 March 2017.

From a legal perspective, an approved IWWMP fulfils the requirement of an IWULA and provide a comprehensive plan for managing water uses, as outlined in Section 21 of the National Water Act No. 36 of 1998 (NWA).

From a best management practice perspective, an IWWMP provides the mine with a consolidated approach for the implementation of Best Practice Guidelines (BPGs) (DWAF, 2006, 2008) to integrate mine water management while protecting surrounding water resources.

Life of Operation

Pit BE's Life of Assets (LoA) is anticipated to be 20 years, with an anticipated production of Run of Mine (ROM) of 2 Mt/pa. The operation breakdown is anticipated as follows:

- 3 years ramp up;
- 8 years mining;
- 5 years rehabilitation; and
- 4 years post closure monitoring.

The coal will be supplied to Eskom and/or other domestic coal consumers.

Rehabilitation

Roll over mining will be undertaken and concurrent rehabilitation will be implemented.

The overburden will initially be hauled to above-ground hards and softs stockpile areas and later returned to the mined-out void. Once the stockpile areas have reached maximum capacity and there is sufficient mined-out volume in the pit, the overburden will be hauled directly to an adjacent mined-out void. As far as possible, preference will be given to backfilling due to the cost and time implications of hauling material. Backfilling of material will focus on the shattered rock below the softer weathered material, as this will isolate the potentially acid-generating rock formations within the unweathered horizons.

The backfilled box cuts and voids will follow the natural surrounding topographical features and ensure minimised slopes, to restore the capability of land to support agriculture and reduce erosion risks - as far as possible.

Topsoil materials that were stripped prior to construction and mining will then be replaced, fertilised and seeded. Rehabilitated areas will be re-vegetated as soon after top soiling as possible, to limit raindrop and wind energy, as well as to slow and trap runoff.

All infrastructure will be decommissioned and demolished and the footprints rehabilitated for the establishment of vegetation. Portions of the existing infrastructure which can be used beneficially after closure (for example, offices and workshops) will be identified and reused where possible. Infrastructure where there is a third-party use will be legally transferred to these relevant parties.

Legislative Requirements

For a water user to acquire a WUL, an IWULA must be submitted in accordance with the Water Use Licence Application and Appeals Regulations 2017, to the DWS.

The steps involved in the IWULA process are outlined in Figure 3.

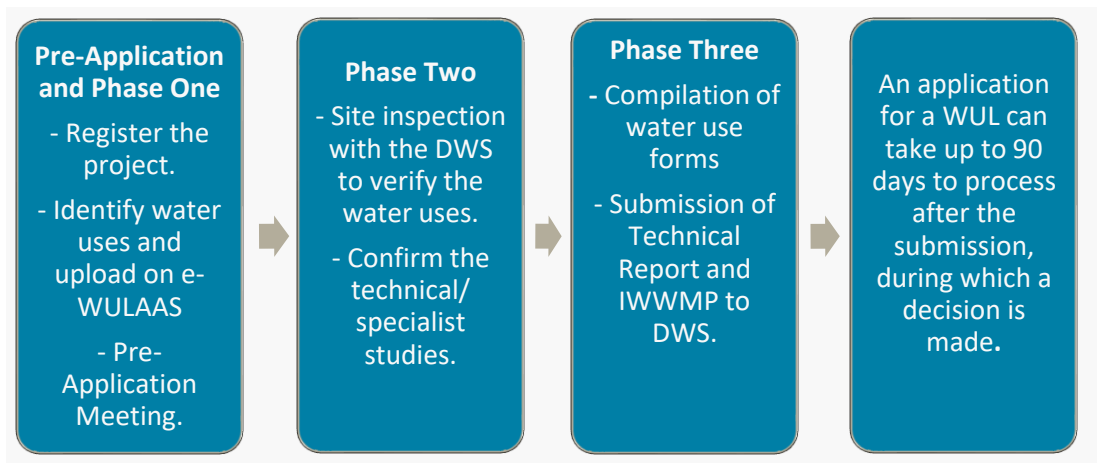


Figure 3: IWULA Process

Specialist Studies

Specialist studies that will be submitted to support the IWULA are listed below:

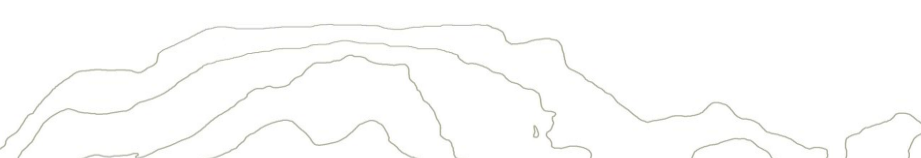
- Groundwater;
- Hydrogeology;
- Surface water and Stormwater Management Plan;
- Wetlands;
- Wetland Offset Strategy; and
- Closure and Rehabilitation.

The findings of the specialist studies will be incorporated into the IWWMP.

Public Participation Process

The Public Participation Process (PPP) will form part of the IWULA process. The PPP offers stakeholders an opportunity to be informed about the Project, to raise issues and to make suggestions for enhanced Project benefits. It also outlines the ways in which the Project team will communicate with stakeholders.

The PPP has been developed to ensure compliance with the relevant legislation and facilitate meaningful stakeholder engagement for the IWULA process.



Availability of the Draft IWWMP for Public Review and Comment

The Draft IWWMP for the Project will be made available for public review and comment for 60 days, from **Tuesday, 12 May 2026 to Monday, 13 July 2026**.

A notification of the availability of the Draft IWWMPs for public review and comment has been distributed on **Tuesday, 5 May 2026** to all stakeholders on the database.

The Draft IWWMP will be made available as follows:

- An electronic copy on Kongiwe’s website: <https://kongiwe.com/projects/>
- A Hard copy of the Draft IWWMP at the eMakhazeni Main Public Library. Contact details are shown in Table 1.
- Hard copies of the Background Information Document (BID) will be available at the Morelig Combined School Contact details are shown in Table 1.
- Table 1.

Table 1: Public Places where Hard Copies of the Draft IWWMP will be available

Location	Physical Address	Contact Person
Draft IWWMP available at:		
eMakhazeni Main Public Library.	Scheeper Street Belfast 1100	Mr Siphso Hlatshwayo, Librarian Phone: (082) 877 2415 Monday - Friday Open: 09H00 Close: 17H00
Background Information Document (BID) available at:		
Morelig Combined School	Plot 2, Farm Generaalsdraai, Wonderfontein	Mr Mathibela, Phone: (073) 143 7635 Monday – Friday Open: 08H00 Close: 15H00

Stakeholder Engagement Meetings

A Consultation meeting will be held using platform Microsoft Teams (Online Meeting). The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the Project and the contents of the Draft IWWMP, and to provide Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) with the opportunity to raise their comments and interact with the Project team.

Table 2 provides details of the proposed stakeholder meeting. Please confirm your attendance for the meeting.

Table 2: Stakeholder Meeting

Proposed Dates	Available Time Slot	Method of Engagement
Online Meeting		
Tuesday, 19 May 2026	10H00 – 11H00	Microsoft Teams

Invitation to be Involved as a Stakeholder

Kongwiwe has put measures in place to ensure that all stakeholders are meaningfully consulted by using a wide range of media, documents and online tools. The proposed methods of engagement for the Project are as follows:

- Telephonic consultations.
- Short Message Services (SMSes).
- Email correspondence:
 - Stakeholders with access to emails are encouraged to send their comments/queries via email.
- Online engagements:
 - Project information will be timeously uploaded on Kongwiwe's website.
 - Microsoft Teams meetings.
 - One-on-one consultation meetings.

The purpose of the above-mentioned methods of engagement is to encourage dialogue with stakeholders, and provide stakeholders with opportunities to raise their comments. Minutes of all meetings with stakeholders will be compiled and recorded in the Comments and Responses Report (CRR). **Stakeholders are encouraged to indicate their preferred method of engagement on the Registration Form attached to the BID.**

POPIA Disclaimer: Safeguarding Registered Person's Personal Information

In terms of Section 19 of the Protection of Personal Information Act (POPIA), a responsible party must, subject to Sections 9 and 11 of the Act, ensure the integrity and confidentiality of personal information in its possession or under its control by taking appropriate, reasonable technical and organisational measures to prevent loss of, damage to or unauthorised destruction of personal information, unlawful access to or processing of personal information. POPIA requires that personal information should be adequately protected to avoid unauthorised access. Therefore, Kongwiwe continuously reviews security controls and procedures to ensure that personal information is secured. It should be noted that in terms of Section 11, personal information may be processed to the extent that this is necessary for pursuing the legitimate interests of the responsible party to whom the information is supplied.

For consultation to be Inclusive, it is the Responsibility of Stakeholders to:

- Register as an I&AP;
- Inform others whom you think may be interested and/or affected by the Project;
- Provide comments on the Project;
- Ensure comments are submitted within the allowed timeframes;
- Contribute information and/or knowledge of the Project area's environment; and
- Attend meetings that are scheduled throughout the process to participate and access information.

Comments, Objections and Queries

For any comments, objections or queries, an I&AP is encouraged to complete the *Registration and Comments Form* attached to this BID. Stakeholders and I&AP may submit their completed Registration and Comment Form via email. For further information regarding the Project, the consultation process or submission of comments, please contact a Kongiwe representative, as shown in **Error! Reference source not found.**

Table 3: Kongiwe Contact Details

Ms Jean-Mari Williams	+27 (10) 140 1726	stakeholders@kongiwe.com
Ms Vanessa Viljoen	+27 (10) 140 1725	

**Our team welcomes your participation and looks forward
to your involvement throughout this process**