



Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd

Reclamation of 6L14 Tailings
Storage Facility in the East Rand,
Gauteng Province

Final Scoping Report

Thursday, 18 June 2026

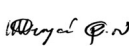
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Report Information

Project	The Reclamation of the 6L14 TSF
Report Title	Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) in the City of Ekurhuleni Municipality, Gauteng Province
Client	Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd (Ergo)
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Approval

Verification	Capacity	Name	Signature	Date
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Important Notice

In terms of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act 28 of 2002), as amended (MPRDA), the Minister must grant a prospecting or mining right if among others the mining “will not result in unacceptable pollution, ecological degradation or damage to the environment”.

Unless an Environmental Authorisation can be granted following the evaluation of an Environmental Impact Assessment and an Environmental Management Programme report in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMA), it cannot be concluded that the said activities will not result in unacceptable pollution, ecological degradation or damage to the environment.

In terms of Regulation 16(3) (b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations 2014, as amended, any report submitted as part of an application must be prepared in a format that may be determined by the Competent Authority and in terms of Regulation 17(1)(c) the Competent Authority must check whether the application has considered any minimum requirements applicable, or instructions or guidance provided by the Competent Authority to the submission of applications.

It is therefore an instruction that the prescribed reports required in respect of applications for an Environmental Authorisation for listed activities triggered by an application for a right or permit are submitted in the exact format of, and provide all the information required in terms of, this template. Furthermore, please be advised that failure to submit the information required in the format provided in this template will be regarded as a failure to meet the requirements of the Regulations and will lead to the EA being refused.

It is furthermore an instruction that the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) must process and interpret his/her research and analysis and use the findings thereof to compile the information required herein. (Unprocessed supporting information may be attached as appendices). The EAP must ensure that the information required is placed correctly in the relevant sections of the Report, in the order, and under the provided headings as set out below, and ensure that the report is not cluttered with un-interpreted information and that it unambiguously represents the interpretation of the applicant.

Objective of the Scoping Process

The objective of the scoping process is to, through a consultative process —

- Identify the relevant policies and legislation relevant to the activity.
- Motivate the need and desirability of the proposed activity, including the need and desirability of the activity in the context of the preferred location,
- Identify and confirm the preferred activity and technology alternative through an impact and risk assessment and ranking process.
- Identify and confirm the preferred site, through a detailed site selection process, which includes an impact and risk assessment process inclusive of cumulative impacts and a ranking process of all the identified alternatives focusing on the geographical, physical, biological, social, economic, and cultural aspects of the environment.
- Identify the key issues to be addressed in the assessment phase.
- Agree on the level of assessment to be undertaken, including the methodology to be applied, the expertise required as well as the extent of further consultation to be undertaken to determine the impacts and risks the activity will impose on the preferred site through the life of the activity, including the nature, significance, consequence, extent, duration and probability of the impacts to inform the location of the development footprint within the preferred site.
- Identify suitable measures to avoid, manage, or mitigate identified impacts and to determine the extent of the residual risks that need to be managed and monitored.

Public Review Period for the Draft Scoping Report

The Draft Scoping Report (DSR) was available to stakeholders on the Kongiwe Environmental (Pty) Ltd (Kongiwe) website and in public venues for a 30-day comment period from **Wednesday, 06 April 2026** until **Thursday, 04 June 2026**. Notification of the availability of the documentation for review was distributed on **Wednesday, 29 April 2026**. The DSR was available at the following locations:

Location	Physical Address	Contact Person
DSR Hard Copies		
Bakerton Public Library	Cnr 1st Avenue and Teabush Avenue, Bakerton	Ms Sive Gaqa, Librarian (011) 999 8826 Monday-Friday: (08H00-15H30)
Springs Public Library	55 5 th St, Springs New, Springs, 1560	Ms Tebogo Kekana Librarian (011) 999 8814 Monday-Friday: (08H00-16H30)
A Non-Technical Summary (NTS) of the Draft Scoping Report was compiled and distributed through community representatives and couriered to stakeholders who send a request to the stakeholder engagement team.		
Website Name	Website Address	Contact Person
Electronic Copies		
Kongiwe Environmental website	http://www.kongiwe.com/publications-view/public-documents/	Vanessa Viljoen/ Jean-Mari Williams
An electronic copy of the DSR was available upon a request directed to the stakeholder engagement team. Stakeholders were encouraged to contact the stakeholder engagement team (Vanessa Viljoen/Jean-Mari Williams, Tel: (012) 003 6627, Email: stakeholders@kongiwe.com should they require assistance with accessing the DSR or have queries regarding the Proposed Project.		

Comments received from the public throughout the public review process have been addressed and are included in this Final Scoping Report (FSR).

Executive Summary

Kongwiwe Environmental (Pty) Ltd (“Kongwiwe”) has been appointed by Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd (the “Applicant”), as the independent Environmental Service Provider and tasked with conducting the Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (S&EIA) process which is aimed at critically evaluating the potential environmental and social impacts of the proposed **Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF)** (“Proposed Project”).

The application for an Environmental Authorisation (EA) was submitted to the Department of Mineral Petroleum and Resources (DMPR), which is the Competent Authority (CA) for the Proposed Project on **Wednesday, 06 May 2026**. The Draft Scoping Report (DSR) was available for public review from **Wednesday, 06 May 2026 to Friday, 04 June 2026**.

Project Introduction and Background

Ergo a wholly owned subsidiary of DRDGOOLD - within which the Group’s Eastern surface retreatment assets are consolidated, is a major surface gold tailings retreatment operation that focuses on old and abandoned TSFs.

Ergo Mining (Pty) Limited (Ergo) is the largest gold tailings retreatment company in South Africa. The surface deposits controlled by Ergo are waste products created from the historical processing of gold and uranium ores of the Witwatersrand Supergroup. Ergo has Mining Right (ERGO-GP158MR) over the dump, this facility was historically used previously as a mining waste deposition site and has been dormant for some time.

The dump will be reprocessed via the existing pipeline route to the 5L27 Transfer Pumpstation to the Ergo Beneficiation Plant (Ergo Plant) which is currently in operation, with ultimate residue deposition taking place on the Brakpan/Withok TSF and /or Daggafontein TSF. The existing pipeline route is already secured through Surface Right Permits (SRPs), wayleaves, and servitudes held by Ergo.

As part of Ergo’s rehabilitation strategy, the removal of TSF’s like this will allow repurposing of the land in a more sustainable manner and ultimate offsetting of environmental impacts. The reclamation projects are in line with the objectives of the Gauteng Mine Residue Area Strategy (2012), which are to reclaim and/or rehabilitate TSFs to the point where they become safe for adjacent communities and land can be made available for other purposes.

Ergo aims to reclaim and reprocess the 6L14 TSF with the objective of recovering gold using hydraulic reclamation. Hydraulic reclamation is a largely mechanised process with a risk profile that is significantly lower than that of conventional mining. During hydraulic reclamation, a water monitor blasts the sides of the TSF, the process water mixes with the unconsolidated material, resulting in what is known as a ‘slurry’. The slurry will report to a pumpstation, located at the lowest point of a TSF, where it will then be pumped and conveyed to Ergo Plant for reprocessing. Project’s Technical Description.

This section describes the project infrastructure to be included in the proposed 6L14 TSF. A summary of the associated infrastructure is provided below, while detailed descriptions of each infrastructure component are presented in Section 2.6.1:

- Slurry sump;
- Vibrating Screen;

- Water tank;
- Motor control centre;
- Pumpstation;
- Stormwater systems;
- Slurry and associated Pumps;
- Pollution control paddock;
- Powerline; and
- Temporary facilities such as offices, and Contractors yard.

Project Alternatives

In accordance with the requirements outlined in Appendix 2 of the EIA 2014 Regulations, as amended, a consideration of reasonable and feasible alternatives, including site location, layout, operational, technology alternatives and the “do-nothing” alternative must be undertaken. No alternatives have been investigated in terms of location due to 6L14 TSF being an existing site and is earmarked to be reclaimed as part of various other reclamation projects currently undertaken by Ergo.

The Proposed Project will be processed via the existing pipeline route which will be used to transport slurry through the 5L27 Transfer Pumpstation to the Ergo Beneficiation Plant (Ergo Plant) which is currently in operation, with ultimate residue deposition taking place on the Brakpan/Withok TSF and /or Daggafontein TSF.

The reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) constitutes the preferred activity, and no activity alternatives are proposed. The TSF will be reclaimed using top-down hydraulic reclamation method. Additional technology-related considerations by Ergo include recycling initiatives, water conservation measures, and alternative electricity supply options, which will be assessed as part of the project design and implementation.

The current layout plan for the Proposed Project is regarded as the preferred layout option, as the layout is constrained by the existing location of the TSF and its associated infrastructure. Detailed layout options for ancillary infrastructure for the Proposed Project will be assessed during EIA Phase; their location and will be informed by the findings and recommendations of the specialist assessments.

The No-Project Alternative is not preferred, given the anticipated environmental, socio-economic, and operational benefits associated with the proposed reclamation project.

All alternatives considered are discussed in greater detail in Section 6 of this report.

Environmental Impact Process

The Proposed Project requires an EA in terms of the NEMA and the NEM:WA and will follow a Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (S&EIA) process in terms of the EIA 2014 Regulations, as amended. The aforesaid regulations enforce a strict timeframe and require a decision by the competent authority, the DMPR, within **300 days** from submission of the EA application.

This S&EIA for the Proposed Project has been compiled in terms of the provisions of Appendix 2 and 3 of the EIA 2014 Regulations, published under (Government Notice No 982 in Gazette No.3822 of 4 December 2014) as amended to support the EA for the Proposed Project.

Applications for EA for activities listed under Listing Notices 1 and 3 are generally subject to a Basic Assessment (BA) process, while activities listed under Listing Notice 2 require a full S&EIA process. Where an application includes two or more listed activities forming part of the same development, and at least one of those activities requires a S&EIA, the entire application must follow the full S&EIA process.

A integrated Water Use Licence (IWUL) will be necessary for the implementation of the Proposed Project. The corresponding Integrated Water Use Licence Application (IWULA) will be submitted to the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS). It is important to note that the IWULA will be undertaken by Kongiwe together with the EIA Process.

The nature and extent of the Proposed Project, as well as the potential environmental impacts associated with the construction, operation, decommissioning and rehabilitation of a facility of this nature is assessed and presented in this FSR.

Legal Background and Requirements

This FSR has been compiled in terms of the provisions of Appendix 2 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, and the Directive set out in the template prescribed by the DMPP. Table 13-1 cross-references the various sections in this report with these requirements.

Table 13-1: Structure of the Scoping Report in line with the Appendix 2 of the EIA 2014 Regulations, as Amended

No.	Regulation Requirement	Report Section
(a)	Details of -	Section 1.6
(i)	The EAP who prepared the report and	Section 1.6.1
(ii)	The expertise of the EAP including a CV	
(b)	The location of the activity, including –	Section 2.1
(i)	The 21-digit Surveyor General code of each cadastral land parcel	N/A
(ii)	Where available, the physical address and farm name	
(iii)	Where the required information in terms of (i) and (ii) is not available, the coordinates of the boundary of the property or properties	
(c)	A plan which locates the proposed activity or activities applied for at an appropriate scale, or, if it is –	Section 2.1
(i)	A linear activity, a description and coordinates of the corridor in which the proposed activity or activities is to be undertaken	Section 2.1
(ii)	On land where the property has not been defined, the coordinates within which the activity is to be undertaken	
(d)	A description of the scope of the proposed activity, including –	Section 2.4
(i)	All listed and specified activities triggered	Section 2.5
(ii)	A description of the activities to be undertaken, including associated structures	Section 2.6

No.	Regulation Requirement	Report Section
	and infrastructure	
(e)	A description of the policy and legislative context within which the development is proposed including an identification of all legislation, policies, plans, guidelines, spatial tools, municipal development planning frameworks and instruments that are applicable to this activity and are to be considered in the assessment process	Section 3
(f)	A motivation for the need and desirability for the proposed development including the need and desirability of the activity in the context of the preferred location	Section 4
(g)	Period of environmental authorisation	Section 5
(h)	A full description of the process followed to reach the proposed preferred activity, site and location within the site, including -	Section 6
(i)	Details of the alternatives considered	Section 6.1
(ii)	Details of the public participation process undertaken in terms of regulation 41 of the Regulations, including copies of the supporting documents and inputs	Section 7
(iii)	A summary of the issues raised by interested and affected parties, and an indication of the manner in which the issues were incorporated, or the reasons for not including them.	Appendix C
(iv)	The environmental attributes associated with the alternatives focusing on the geographical, physical, biological, social, economic, heritage and cultural aspects	Section 8
(v)	The impacts and risks identified for each alternative, including the nature, significance, consequence, extent, duration and probability of the impacts, including the degree to which these impacts – (aa) can be reversed. (bb) may cause irreplaceable loss of resources. (cc) can be avoided, managed or mitigated	Section 9
(vi)	The methodology used in determining and ranking the nature, significance, consequences, extent, duration and probability of potential environmental impacts and risks associated with the alternatives	Section 9.1
(vii)	Positive and negative impacts that the proposed activity and alternatives will have on the environment and on the community that may be affected focusing on the geographical, physical, biological, social, economic, heritage and cultural aspects	Section 9.2
(viii)	The possible mitigation measures that could be applied and level of residual risk	Section 9.4
(ix)	The outcome of the selection matrix	Section 9.5
(x)	If no alternatives, including alternative locations for the activity were investigated, the motivation for no considering such	Section 9.6
(xi)	A concluding statement indicating the preferred alternatives, including preferred locations of the activity	Section 9.7

No.	Regulation Requirement	Report Section
(i)	A plan of study for undertaking the environmental impact assessment process to be undertaken, including -	Section 10
(i)	A description of the alternatives to be considered and assessed within the preferred site	Section 10.1
(ii)	A description of the aspects to be assessed as part of the environmental impact assessment process	Section 10.2
(iii)	Aspects to be assessed by specialists	Section 10.3
(iv)	A description of the proposed method of assessing the environmental aspects, including aspects to be assessed by specialists	Section 10.4
(v)	A description of the proposed method assessing duration significance	Section 10.4.1
(vi)	An indication of the stages at which the competent authority will be consulted	Section 10.4.2
(vii)	Particulars of the public participation process that will be conducted during the environmental impact assessment process	Section 10.4.3
(viii)	A description of the tasks that will be undertaken as part of the environmental impact assessment process	Section 10.4.4
(ix)	Identify suitable measures to avoid, reverse, mitigate or manage identified impacts and to determine the extent of the residual risks that need to be managed and monitored	Section 10.4.5
(j)	An undertaking under oath or affirmation by the EAP in relation to – (i) The correctness of the information provided in the report. (ii) The inclusion of comments and inputs from stakeholders and interested and affected parties. (iii) Any information provided by the EAP to interested and affected parties and any responses by the EAP to comments or inputs made by interested or affected parties	Section 11.1
(k)	An undertaking under oath or affirmation by the EAP in relation to the level of agreement between the EAP and interested and affected parties on the plan of study for undertaking the environmental impact assessment	Section 11
(l)	Where applicable, any specific information required by the competent authority	N/A
(m)	Any other matter required in terms of section 24(4)(a) and (b) of the Act	N/A

Environmental Considerations

The Proposed Project will adopt the standards as set out in the Ergo's Environmental Policy and align with the Global Industry Standards on Tailings Management (GISTM) where appropriate. The Policy states that Ergo is committed to the responsible management of the environment in which it operates, adopting and implementing environmental practice as outlined in the NEMA. Recognising that the environment is held in trust for the people, the policy commits to:

- Complying with relevant environmental legislation as a minimum, and adopting and applying the best practicable environmental option with respect to current activities as well as prospective projects;
- Evaluating, through a process of monitoring, auditing and reviewing by management, the success of the management and mitigation measures applied; and
- Ensuring that environmental risks and potential emergencies are identified and managed through effective controls and procedures as identified in the applicable Environmental Management Programmes.

Key Findings of the Scoping Report

This report provides a scoping-level identification of potential environmental impacts (physical, biological and social) associated with the Proposed Project, as well as a strategy for how these impacts will be investigated and assessed further in the EIA Phase. The baseline environmental information provided in this FSR was compiled as a high-level desktop investigation, and the project information is sourced from existing background information relevant to the Proposed Project. The preliminary environmental impacts identified in Table 13-2 will be further refined, calculated and assessed for all the feasible alternatives identified. Mitigation and management measures will also be suggested by the specialists for all impacts identified. The potential positive and negative impacts which may arise because of the Proposed Project have also been summarised in the Table 13-2 overleaf.

Table 13-2: Potential impacts associated with the Proposed Project

Environmental Component	Component Type	Potential Impact (positive or negative)	Specialist Study Planned for EIA
Physical Environment (non-living)	Hydrology (including wetlands, surface water and ground water);	• Potential for further acid mine drainage (AMD), increased heavy metal concentrations and increased sulphate concentrations in local surface water and groundwater if runoff from operations is not adequately managed through efficient storm water management structures; • Water and ground contamination due to pipeline leaks/spillages if inadequate preventative measures are not implemented; • Improved surface and ground water quality around the project area due to the removal of the TSF; • Changes in natural surface water flow parameters as a result of the removal of the TSF; • Potential impact on drainage lines from access runoff during the operational phase of the project; and • Improved visual aesthetics of the area after the removal of the TSF.	Groundwater Impact Assessment Surface water Impact Assessment Wetland Impact Assessment
Biological Environment (living)	Ecology and Biodiversity (including fauna and flora)	• Displacement of animal habitat by removing the TSF; • Removal of invasive species from the TSF; • Long-term improvement of ecosystem health and functioning of the project area following rehabilitation; and • Loss of migration corridors, and access to nesting and refuge areas, watering points, food supplies for faunal species.	Biodiversity Impact Assessment
Cultural Environment	Heritage Resources	• Since the footprint was a TSF previously, it is unlikely for there to be any heritage resources on site; and	Heritage Impact Assessment

Environmental Component	Component Type	Potential Impact (positive or negative)	Specialist Study Planned for EIA
		Should heritage resources be present in the area, the reclamation project could potentially impact these.	
Social and Economic Environment	Land use	- Land use will change to an active reclamation site; - Restoration and unlocking of land for future land uses; - Better management and control of the area against illegal/informal mining.	Social Impact Assessment
	Noise	- Noise associated with the reclamation project mainly originates from construction activities of required infrastructure as well as noises from motors, pumps and increased vehicular travel during the operational phase as well as processing activities; and - Noise associated with the mechanical and hydraulic reclamation.	Noise Impact Assessment
	Transport and traffic	- Temporary increase in heavy vehicle traffic during the construction phase due to mobilisation of equipment, and material deliveries. - Increased pressure on existing public and access roads, potentially accelerating road surface wear and degradation. - Elevated road safety risks for other road users, particularly along local and access roads used by construction vehicles. - Short-term traffic delays or congestion during peak construction activities.	Traffic Impact Assessment

Environmental Component	Component Type	Potential Impact (positive or negative)	Specialist Study Planned for EIA
		- Reduced reliance on road-based haulage during the operational phase, as slurry and process water will be transported via existing pipelines. - Long-term reduction in heavy vehicle movements on public roads, improving traffic flow and road safety. - Potential improvements to access roads as a result of maintenance or upgrades undertaken for project needs. - Implementation of traffic management measures (e.g. signage, speed control, designated routes), which may enhance overall road safety. - Improved compliance with municipal traffic and road safety requirements through project-related monitoring and management	
	Employment	- Continued employment and job security; - Continued investment in local economy; - Removal of the TSF could eliminate the attraction of illegal/informal miners who seek gold.	Social Impact Assessment
	Air Quality	- Possible increase in dust levels in some areas during operations; - Overall removal of an air pollution source after the removal of the TSF; and - Health impacts on livestock and people in proximity to the Proposed Project due to fine particulate emissions during construction and operational phases.	Air Quality Impact Assessment

Environmental Component	Component Type	Potential Impact (positive or negative)	Specialist Study Planned for EIA
	Geology, Soil, Ground stability, Surface water, Groundwater, Infrastructure sensitivity, Land use suitability and Health and Safety.	- Improved understanding of dolomite conditions through investigations and risk management planning. - Ground instability, sinkholes, subsidence, or structural damage due to disturbance and water ingress. - Reprofiling and rehabilitation may improve disturbed landforms and drainage patterns. - Alteration of natural landforms, erosion, slope instability, and increased runoff. - Soil compaction, contamination, erosion, and loss of topsoil during construction and reclamation. - Sedimentation, pollution, altered drainage patterns, ponding, and downstream water quality impacts. - Improved stormwater controls and water management infrastructure. - Damage to roads, pipelines, or buildings due to subsidence or construction activities. - Safety risks to workers/public, traffic disruption, and nuisance impacts to nearby communities. - Rehabilitation may enable safer future land uses and improved infrastructure planning.	Dolomite Impact Assessment

Overall Conclusions

At this stage, the findings of this FSR indicate that the Proposed Project and its associated infrastructure would pose minimal and short-term negative environmental impacts if adequate and appropriate mitigation measures are implemented, positive long-term environmental impacts when the Project has been completed. Most importantly, the reclamation project aims to unlock value from the tailings, turning a potential liability into an opportunity for increased production of gold production, while also contributing to the alleviation of major pollution source. Furthermore, this will reduce liability and potentially open up additional space for further tailings deposition in the future, without extensions onto greenfield areas.

According to the Way Forward and the Plan of Study, contained in this report, impacts associated with the Proposed Project need to be considered further during the EIA Phase. It is important to take note of the current conditions of the Proposed Project area and the sensitive environment around it. The proposed TSF reclamation area is located on the footprint of a historical TSF that was previously used for mining-related deposition.

The Proposed Project will support Ergo in maintaining its ongoing operations and is aligned with the objectives of the Gauteng Mine Residue Area Strategy (2012), the Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Spatial Development Framework (2015), and the Ekurhuleni Environmental Management Framework (2014), which collectively promote the removal and rehabilitation of historical TSFs dispersed across the Gauteng landscape.

Way Forward

This FSR has been undertaken with the aim of identifying potential positive and negative impacts on the environment and gathering comments on concerns and queries from stakeholders. It documents the process followed, the findings and recommendations of the Scoping Phase study, and the proposed Plan of Study for the EIA Phase to follow. The overarching objectives of the EIA process will be to:

- Prepare integrated sensitivity maps for the study area based on the findings of specialist assessments as input into the project design process;
- Identify and assess the significance of potential impacts associated with the project activities; and
- Recommend mitigation and enhancement measures to ensure that the development is undertaken in such a way as to promote the positive impacts and to minimise the negative impacts.

The procedure for this study going forward is as follows:

- Submit this Final Scoping Report to the CA for permission to undertake the EIA Phase of the project;
- Upon the decision to approve or refuse the Final Scoping Report, all stakeholders will be notified. If approved, stakeholders will also be notified of the conditions of the DMPr for proceeding with the EIA Phase of the project;
- In the case of approval of the Final Scoping Report, execute the Plan of Study for the Impact Assessment during the EIA Phase of the project;
- Incorporate and address comments and issues raised during the consultation period on the Scoping Report into the EIA and make changes to the report where relevant;
- Make the EIA Report and Environmental Management Programme report (EMPr) available to the public, stakeholders and authorities;
- Finalise the EIA Report and submit the Final EIA Report to the CA;

- Submission of all the relevant and required information to the DWS Waste Directorate for RoD through the DMPR. and
- Authority review period and decision-making for 107 calendar days.



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Abbreviations and Units

Abbreviation/Symbol	Description
AMD	Acid Mine Drainage
BA	Basic Assessment
BBBEE	Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment
BID	Background Information Document
BRP	Bioregional Plan
CA	Competent Authority
CARA	Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act, 1983 (Act No. 43 of 1983)
CBA	Critical Biodiversity Area
CoE	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality
CoP	Code of Practice
CR	Critically Endangered
CRR	Comments and Responses Report
DALRRD	Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development
DFFE	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
DMRE	Department of Mineral Resources and Energy
DMPR	Department of Mineral AND Petroleum Resources
DoH	Department of Health
DPWI	Department of Public Works and Infrastructure
DSR	Draft Scoping Report
DWS	Department of Water and Sanitation
EA	Environmental Authorisation
EAP	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EMF	Environmental Management Framework
EMPr	Environmental Management Programme
EN	Endangered
EPWP	Expanded Public Works Programme
e-WULAAS	Electronic Water Use Licence Application and Authorisation System
ESA	Ecological Support Area
FEPA	Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Areas
FSR	Final Scoping Report
GCP	Gauteng Conservation Plan
GDEnv	Gauteng Department of Environment
GISTM	Global Industry Standard on Tailings Management
GGDA	Gauteng Growth and Development Agency Strategic Plan
GSDF	Gauteng Spatial Development Framework
HDPE	High-Density Polyethylene
HIA	Heritage Impact Assessment
HPA	High Priority Area
IBA	Important Bird Areas
IDP	Integrated Development Plan
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature

Abbreviation/Symbol	Description
IWULA	Integrated Water Use Licence Application
IWWMP	Integrated Water and Waste Management Plan
LC	Least Concern
mamsl	metres above mean sea level
MAP	Mean Annual Precipitation
MAR	Mean Annual Runoff
MAT	Mean Annual Temperature
MHSA	Mine Health and Safety Act, 1996 (Act No. 29 of 1996)
MP	Moderately Protected
MPRDA	Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002)
MR	Mining Right
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
NB	Nominal Bore
NDP	National Development Plan
NEA	Nuclear Energy Act, 1999 (Act 46 of 1999)
NEMA	National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998)
NEM:BA	National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004 (Act No. 10 of 2004)
NEM:PAA	National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act, 2003 (Act No. 57 of 2003)
NEM:WA	National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008)
NEPAD	New Partnership of Africa's Development
NFEPA	National Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Area
NHRA	National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999)
NNR	National Nuclear Regulator
NPAES	National Protected Area Expansion Strategy
NP	Not Protected
NT	Near Threatened
NWA	National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998)
PA	Protected Areas
PAIA	Promotion of Access to Information Act, 2000 (Act No. 2 of 2000)
PM	Particulate Matter
POPIA	Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act No. 4 of 2013)
PP	Poorly Protected
PPP	Public Participation Process
RCAM	Road Classification and Access Management
RLE	Red List Ecosystems
RoD	Record of Decision
RTSF	Regional Tailings Storage Facility
RWD	Return Water Dam
S&EIA	Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment
SABAP2	South African Bird Atlas Project, Version 2

Abbreviation/Symbol	Description
SACAD	South African Conservation Areas Database
SAHRA	South African Heritage Resource Agency
SANBI	South African National Biodiversity Institute
SANS	South African National Standards
SANRAL	South African National Roads Agency SOC Limited
SAPAD	South African Protected Areas Database
SDF	Spatial Development Framework
SEIA	Socio-Economic Impact Assessment
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SMME	Small, Medium and Micro Enterprises
SPLUMA	Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act, 2013 (Act No. 16 of 2013)
SSRP	Regulations on Safety Standards and Regulatory Practices
STR	Screening Tool Report
TSF	Tailings Storage Facility
ToR	Terms of Reference
VU	Vulnerable
WMA	Water Management Area
WML	Waste Management Licence
WULA	Water Use Licence Application

1. Introduction and Background

1.1 The History of Gold Mining in South Africa

The first official gold prospector of the Transvaal Republic was Pieter Jacob Marais who discovered alluvial gold in 1853 in the Jukskei and Crocodile Rivers in the Western Transvaal. This gave rise to an influx of prospectors looking for gold. Following this, Australian prospector Henry Lewis discovered gold-bearing rock at Blaauwbank in the western parts of the Transvaal Republic in 1874 (now known as the North West Province) (Durand, 2012). Thereafter, George Harrison discovered a gold-bearing conglomerate on the farm Langlaagte in 1886. This conglomerate turned out to be the richest and most extensive gold deposit in the world.

Durand (2012) further explains that in September 1886, nine farms were proclaimed as public diggings. These public digging sites formed the focus of the initial gold development which would later become known as the Central Rand. The development of the Central Rand and the outlying goldfields along the Witwatersrand were instrumental in the formation of today's City of Johannesburg and the surrounding areas (P. Harrison and T. Zack, 2012).



Figure 1-1: Historical mining activities within the Johannesburg area

After the discovery of the Main Reef, by George Harrison in February 1886, the Gold Rush ensued in the Transvaal and several gold mining endeavours began in the Central Rand (Viljoen and Reimold, 2002). The Central Rand extends approximately 46 km, east to west, from the Roodepoort Fault in the west, through Johannesburg, to Boksburg in the east. From west to east, the outcrop of auriferous conglomerates was located on the farms Witpoortje 245 in Krugersdorp; Roodepoort 237, Vogelstruisfontein 231 and Paardekraal 226, in Roodepoort;

Langlaagte 224, Turffontein 96, and Doornfontein 92 in Johannesburg; Elandsfontein 90 and Driefontein 87 in Germiston; Driefontein 85, Vogelfontein 84 and Leeuport 113 in Boksburg (Jeffery, 2015).

In Ekurhuleni, then called the East Rand, the major gold mines that were still in operation in the 1960s included: Simmer and Jack Mines Ltd, located on the farms Doornfontein 92, Elandsfontein 90, Elandsfontein 107 and Elandsfontein 108; Rose Deep Ltd, located on the farms Elandsfontein 90 and Driefontein 87; and East Rand Proprietary Mines Ltd, located on the farms Driefontein 87, Driefontein 85, Vogelfontein 84, Klippoortje 110 and Leeuport 113 (Jeffery, 2015). In addition to the major producers mentioned above, there were several small mines working along the outcrop, reopening, and reclaiming old mines which had previously ceased production. See Figure 1-2 for an example of some of the gold mines in the East Rand area in the 1900s (Jeffery, 2015).

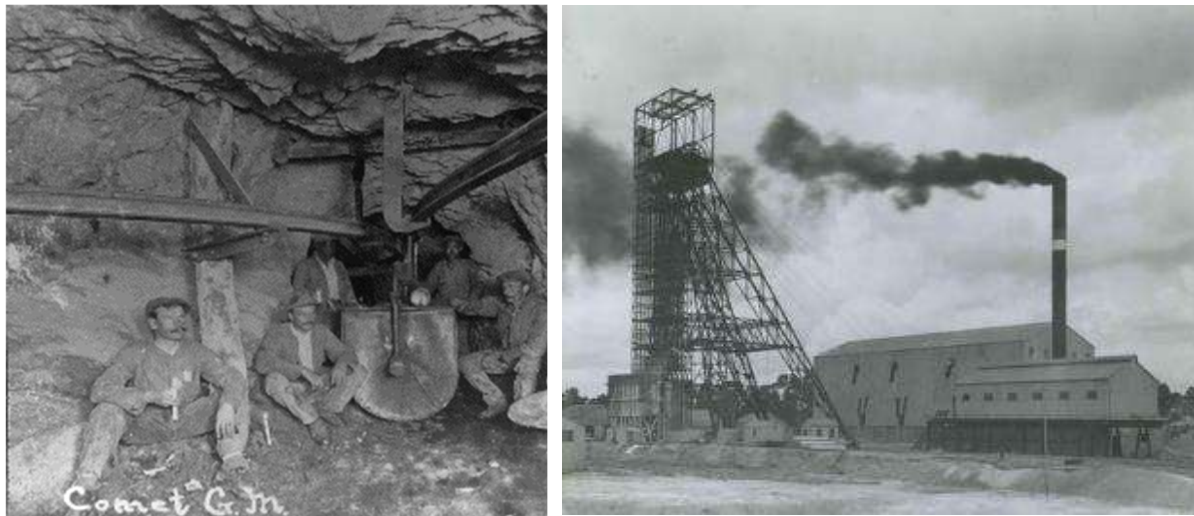


Figure 1-2: Mine workers at Comet Gold Mine 1903 (left) and Simmer and Jack Mine 1939 (right)

1.2 The Origin of Mine Dumps in the Proposed Project Area

The Gauteng landscape is littered with mine dumps bearing testament to South Africa's rich mining heritage. The rising demand for minerals, and the need to exploit larger and lower-grade deposits to help satisfy demand, led to mining operations increasing in scale and size. The East Rand Gold Basin which extended for approximately 770 km² was historically mined and produced an estimated 10 000 tonnes of gold, resulting in numerous tailing storage facilities. These remaining historical facilities contain low concentrations of gold and other minerals, due to the inefficiencies of the historical mining processes.

During this time, mining and gold recovery were left largely unregulated. A number of mine dumps began to define the landscape, a result of mining operations where large volumes of ore were mined and brought to the surface where it was crushed and gold extracted.

In laymen's terms the phrase 'mine dump' refers to an area where excess material, containing forms of mineral(s) that are either valuable or not, is left by the person who has won the minerals from the earth in accordance with his/her right or entitlement to mine. Prior to the enacting of legislative controls such as the Mines and Works Act, 1956 and its Regulations and later still the Minerals Act, 1991 and finally, the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (No. 28 of 2002) (the MPRDA), which came into effect on 1 May 2004, mine dumps were placed in convenient positions adjacent to mining operations. This was often along fault lines, or

within wetland areas. It is the legacy of these mine dumps within sensitive areas that has caused the environmental and health effects that are still felt today.

After the discovery of the Main Reef at Witwatersrand in 1886, various mines were established. The mining method during these early years was labour intensive, while only the surface areas of the gold-bearing reefs were exploited. Lionel Phillips was one of the first mining entrepreneurs to realise the potential of deep-level mining. As part of the company of Hermann Eckstein, Phillips managed to acquire large numbers of claims which were considered of low value as they were located some distance away from the Main Reef. As a result, he bought these claims for very reasonable prices and started implementing the concept of deep level mining on some of these claims (PGS Heritage, 2018). These steps resulted in the proclamation of various deep-level mines, including Nourse Deep, Jumpers Deep, Glen Deep, Crown Deep, Rose Deep, Village Deep, Geldenhuis Deep as well as Ferreira Deep. In 1893 the company of H. Eckstein (Cartwright, 1965) formed the company Rand Mines Ltd, which took over the administration of these and other mines (Cartwright, 1965). Russell (n.d.) (as cited in (PGS Heritage, 2018) indicates that Rand Mines was established with start-up capital of £400,000 and was one of the earliest companies formed specifically for mining deep levels. The company quickly acquired 1,729 deep level claims. Lionel Phillips' foresightedness earned him the respect of his peers, as well as the position of chairman for Rand Mines, a company that soon became the "...biggest mining finance company in the world" (Cartwright, 1965).

As the mines in the Witwatersrand area began to close during the 1970's, technological advances enabled the extraction of valuable gold resources and other minerals from the dumps. **In 1978 the East Rand Gold and Uranium Company (Ergo), then a subsidiary of Anglo American Limited, began to reclaim some of these dumps to gain access to the residues of gold, uranium and pyrite.** Over the last two decades there have been further advances in mining and metallurgical technologies and an evolution in the country's environmental policy and legislation. This, as well as increasing gold prices, has further incentivised the reclamation of Tailings Storage Facilities (TSFs). Today, Gauteng's physical landscape is once again in a state of transition due to the demand for the reclamation of historical mine dumps.

Through the process of reclamation, gold recovered from historical mine dumps is made available for domestic and international markets. This means that the continual reclamation of mine residue material (from historical mine dumps) results in additional gold supply onto the gold market – which has been experiencing a downward trend over the last few years in South Africa. The removal of these dumps also leads to the increased availability of useable land after the required rehabilitation has been conducted and clearance certificates are awarded. The aim of rehabilitation would be to return the land to a functional topography and clear of any pollution sources. Typically, end-use of the land would be aligned to the zoning of the area where the dumps were situated i.e. urban, industrial and agricultural.

1.3 Trends in The Current Gold Industry (SA 2015-2025)

Over the past decade, the spot price of gold in South African Rand (ZAR) has demonstrated a strong upward trend. This increase has been driven primarily by sustained strength in the international gold market, combined with fluctuations in the exchange rate between the United States dollar (USD) and the South African rand. As gold is traded globally in USD, movements in the exchange rate have had a direct influence on the local gold price, with periods of rand depreciation resulting in higher gold prices when expressed in ZAR (GoldPrice.org, 2024; Bullion, 2024).

An assessment of the 10-year gold price trend in ZAR per ounce indicates a marked increase from the mid-2010s

through to the mid-2020s. Although short-term volatility has been evident, consistent with global commodity market behaviour, the long-term trajectory reflects a substantial increase in the local gold price. Overall, gold prices in ZAR terms have approximately doubled, or more, over this period, reflecting both rising international bullion prices and local currency effects (GoldPrice.org, 2024).

During the earlier part of the decade (approximately 2015–2016), the gold price in South Africa was considerably lower than current levels, with spot prices well below those recorded in later years. As global economic uncertainty increased, particularly around 2020, international gold prices rose sharply. This trend was mirrored in the South African context, where the gold price in ZAR per ounce increased significantly, further amplified by exchange rate movements (GoldPrice.org, 2024).

More recently, gold prices have continued to rise in rand terms. In May 2024, the spot price of gold in South Africa was approximately R42,900 per ounce (Pan African Resources, 2024). By late 2025, prices had increased further, reaching approximately R71,000 to R72,000 per ounce, representing a substantial increase compared to levels observed a decade earlier (GoldPriceZ, 2025).

The sustained increase in the gold price in ZAR per ounce demonstrates that, despite declining national gold production, gold remains an economically attractive commodity within the South African context. Elevated local gold prices enhance the economic viability of gold-related activities, including the reclamation and re-processing of historical tailings storage facilities, thereby supporting value recovery from legacy mining residues while contributing to broader environmental rehabilitation objectives (Statista, 2024; GoldPrice.org, 2024).



Figure 1-3: Price of Gold per ounce 2015-2025 (Goldprice.org)

1.4 Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment

1.4.1 Application Relevant to the S&EIA Process

Kongiwe has been appointed by **Ergo Mining (Pty) Limited** (hereafter Ergo) to undertake a Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (S&EIA) process which evaluates the environmental impacts associated with the Proposed Project as part of an Environmental Authorisation (EA). The S&EIA and specialist studies are being undertaken in support of the applications for the required approvals. The Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources (DMPR) (previously the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE) is the Competent Authority (CA) for the Proposed Project, since the 6L14 TSF falls within Ergo's existing Mining Right, GP 158 MR. The following applications are being made to the CA for the Project:

- **Application for EA** for listed activities triggered in Listing Notices GN R983, GN R984 and GN R9851 published pursuant to the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), promulgated in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA); and
- **Application for a Waste Management Licence (WML)** authorising waste management activity listed in GN 921 of 29 November 2013 published in terms of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008) (as amended) (NEM:WA).

In addition, the following application is being made to the relevant Competent Authority (CA):

- **An Integrated Water Use Licence Application (IWULA)** in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) (NWA) to be submitted to the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) for any potential impact to water resources by the Proposed Project.

The EIA findings, including specialist findings, are used by the applicant and authorities to obtain an objective view of the potential environmental, social and cultural impacts that could arise during the reclamation of the proposed area. Measures for the avoidance or mitigation of negative impacts will be proposed and positive impacts will be enhanced.

The period of EA being applied for is **12 years for the reclamation period**.

1.4.1.1 The National Web Based Environmental Screening Tool

According to Regulation 16(1)(b)(v) of the EIA 2014 Regulations (as amended), it is a requirement for an EA application to be submitted with a screening report generated by the National Web Based Environmental Screening Tool ("Screening Tool"). This requirement took effect from October 2019.

The Screening Tool allows the EAP to screen their Proposed Project for any environmental sensitivities. It serves as a guide to identify related exclusions and/or specialist studies that may be a requirement for a proposed project.

The screening report for the Proposed Project, acquired through the Screening Tool, is included in this report as **Appendix E**.

¹ These Listing Notices have been amended by GN R327, GN R325 and GN R324 of 7 April 2017 and GN R 517 of 11 June 2021

1.4.2 Methodology applied to conducting the Scoping Process

The outcome of the first phase of the S&EIA is the Scoping Report, which provides the terms of reference for undertaking the EIA Phase of the project. Figure below indicates the methodology that is applied in conducting the S&EIA process.

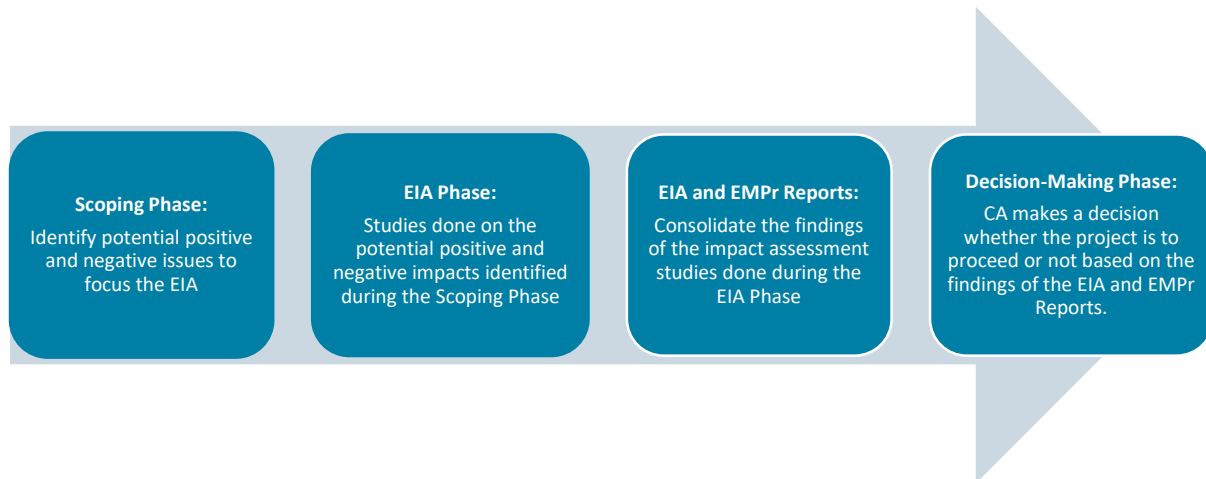


Figure 1-4: Different Phases of S&EIA

1.4.3 S&EIA Timeframes

The Draft Scoping Report (DSR) was available for a 30-day public review and comment period. The comments received during this period are captured in a Comments and Responses Report (CRR), refer to the CRR provided in Appendix C10.

Once the FSR has been submitted to the DMPR as CA, the Department must either accept or reject the Scoping Report within **43 days**. Once confirmation of acceptance has been received from the DMPR, the EIA Phase commences and will run for a period of **106 days**, in which time stakeholders will be afforded a 30-day period in which to review and comment on the S&EIR documentation. Upon submission of the Environmental Impact Assessment / Environmental Management Programme (EIA/EMPr) document, the DMPR will have **107 days** to reach a decision on the project (Record of Decision (RoD)). The RoD is otherwise referred to as the EA which authorises the activities to proceed. The decision to grant the EA may be appealed (**within 20 days**) by any party, including the Applicant, following the process outlined in the National Appeal Regulations (GNR 993 of 8 December 2014) published in terms of the NEMA.

If significant changes to the EIA/EMPr are required, which were not consulted on during the initial public participation process, a notice may be submitted to the DMPR stating that the EIA/EMPr will be submitted within **156 days** from date of acceptance of the Scoping Report. During the aforesaid **156-day** period, stakeholders will be afforded a further **30-day** period in which to review the amended EIA/EMPr documentation.

1.4.4 Public Participation Process

The Public Participation Process (PPP) has been designed to comply with the regulatory requirements set out in the EIA 2014 Regulations (as amended). The PPP provides the opportunity for communication between agencies making decisions and the public. This communication can be an early warning system for public concerns, a

means through which accurate and timely information can be disseminated, and can contribute to sustainable decision-making (IAP2, 2006).

Kongiwe encourages stakeholders to provide input into the S&EIA. The sharing of information forms the basis of PPP, with an aim to encourage the public to have meaningful input into the decision-making process from the onset of the project. Stakeholders may participate at various stages of the S&EIA process. Stakeholders can become involved in the project in the following ways:

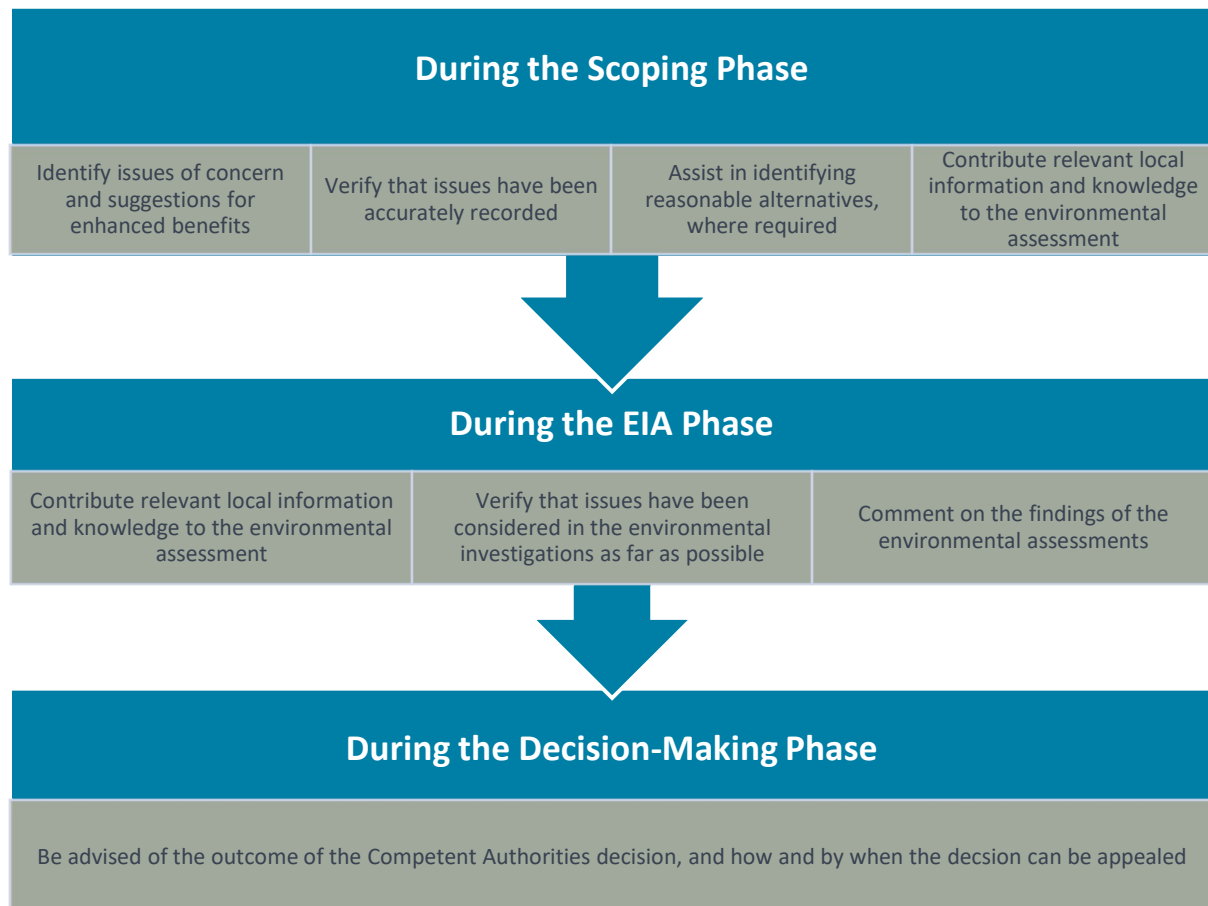


Figure 1-5: Stakeholder Engagement Opportunities During the Scoping, EIA and Decision-Making Phases

The DSR was available for public comment from Wednesday, 06 May 2026 to Thursday, 04 June 2026. An online Stakeholder Meeting was held on 20 May 2026. An Open Day with stakeholders was conducted at the Bakerton Community Hall from 09:00 -11:00 on Thursday, 21 May 2026. All stakeholders were encouraged to download the reports from Kongiwe's website: <https://kongiwe.com/projects>. The Springs and Bakerton Public Libraries were used to display hard copies of the Draft Scoping Report. Refer to Appendix C for the host of meetings held during the 30-day comment period. Comments received during the DSR commenting period are captured in the CRR, refer to Appendix C of this FSR.

1.5 Details of the Applicant

Table 1-1: Applicant Details

Name of Applicant	Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd
Tel No	011 742 1003
Postal Address	PO Box 12442, Selcourt, Springs, 1567
Physical Address	Constantia Office Park Cnr 14th Avenue and Hendrik Potgieter Road Cycad House, Building 17, Ground Floor Weltevreden Park 1709

1.6 Details of the Environmental Assessment Practitioner

Founded in 2016, Kongiwe is a contemporary problem-solving consultancy specialising in solving real world environmental challenges. We pride ourselves on using the latest technology available to realise pragmatic solutions for our clients. The company's purpose is: **'To solve environmental and social challenges by providing expert bespoke solutions that promote current and future sustainability globally'**.

Based in Johannesburg with offices in the mining and finance hubs of the United Kingdom and Canada, our team of professional Environmental and Social Scientists are highly trained in various environmental disciplines and have significant, hands-on experience in an array of projects across various industries. The company has extensive environmental and project management experience in multiple sectors, with significant experience in South Africa, as well as internationally.

1.6.1 Contact Person and Corresponding Address

Information relating to the appointed Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP), who prepare the report, including registration details and contact information, is presented in Table 1-2.

Table 1-2: Details of EAP Consultant

Name of Practitioner	Phathutshedzo Munyai, Kongiwe Environmental (Pty) Ltd
EAP Registration No.	2021/4297 (Reg EAP)
Tel No	+27 (10) 140 6508
Cell No	(072) 181 5416
E-mail Address	pmunyai@kongiwe.com

Phathutshedzo is a qualified EAP who is registered with the Environmental Assessment Practitioners Association of South Africa (EAPASA); registration number: 2021/4297, as well as the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2). He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Management from UNISA and brings over 4 years of experience across various sectors, including mining, waste management, and infrastructure development. His expertise includes conducting Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs), Public Participation, and compiling key regulatory documents such as Basic Assessment Reports (BARs), EMPs and Scoping Reports. His expertise spans various projects, including mining prospecting rights, mining permits, mining rights, and infrastructure and non-infrastructure developments. He also has a background as a Safety Officer in the mining industry. Qualifications are included in **Appendix A**.

The details of the appointed Principal Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) responsible for overseeing the compilation and review of this Report are provided in Table 1-3.

Table 1-3: Details of Principal Environmental Assessment Practitioner

Name of Practitioner	Umeshree Naicker, Kongiwe Environmental (Pty) Ltd
EAP Registration No.	2019/1665 (Reg EAP)
SACNASP Registration No.	120502
Tel No	+27 (10) 140 6508
Cell No	(081) 773 2625
E-mail Address	unaicker@kongiwe.com

Umeshree Naicker holds a B.Sc. Honours Environmental Monitoring and Modelling from University of South Africa and is a registered Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) (2019/1665) and Professional Natural Scientist (Environmental Management) (Registration No: 120502). Qualifications in **Appendix A**.

Umeshree Naicker has over 18 years' work experience as an Environmental Consultant, predominantly in the renewable energy, water, transport, and infrastructure projects. She has extensive expertise in environmental consulting, social impact assessments, and project management, having led ESIA's, Basic Assessments, Scoping Reports, Environmental Management Programmes, and stakeholder engagement processes in alignment with South African legislation and IFC Performance Standards. Umeshree has managed multidisciplinary teams, overseen specialist appointments, guided environmental processes through public participation and compliance phases, and represented clients in steering committee meetings, ensuring successful integration of environmental requirements into large-scale developments for both public and private sector clients.

1.6.2 Additional Project Team Members

Team members that have been integral in the successful production of this FSR are represented below.

Table 1-4: Details of the Kongiwe Team

Team Member	Position in the Company	Role and Responsibility
Bradly Thornton	Chief Executive Officer	Client Liaison and Project Manager
Umeshree Naicker	Principal Environmental Consultant	EAP Project Leader
Hiltens Sparks	Engineering Manager	Quality Management and Engineering
Mutondwa Mushaathoni	Junior Engineer	
Phumla Mngwengwe	Senior Environmental Consultant	IWULA
Vanessa Viljoen	Principal Stakeholder Consultant	Stakeholder Engagement and all other Public Participation requirements
Jean-Mari Williams	Project Coordinator	
Chelsea Strooh	Geospatial Consultant	GIS Mapping

2. Project Description

2.1 Description and Location of the Property

Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd (“Ergo”) intends to reclaim and reprocess the gold residues from 6L14 TSF, with the slurry to be reprocessed at Ergo Plant. The dump will be reprocessed via the existing pipeline route to the 5L27 Transfer Pumpstation to the Ergo Beneficiation Plant (Ergo Plant) which is currently in operation, with ultimate residue deposition taking place on the Brakpan/Withok TSF and /or Daggafontein TSF. The existing pipeline route is already secured through Surface Right Permits (SRPs), wayleaves, and servitudes held by Ergo. Sections of the pipeline between the 6L14 TSF and the 5L27 Transfer Pump Station have been removed or stolen and will require replacement. The replacement pipeline will be installed within the existing authorised pipeline corridor, utilising the current SRPs, wayleaves, and servitudes. Existing plinths will be reused where practicable. A 400 NB HDPE-lined pipeline will be installed to convey slurry to the 5L27 Transfer Pump Station. The pipeline will maintain the existing design capacity and functionality and is therefore regarded as the replacement and maintenance of existing infrastructure. A new reclamation pumpstation will be developed for the Proposed Project.

Ergo aims to reclaim and reprocess the 6L14 TSF with the objective of recovering gold using hydraulic reclamation. Hydraulic reclamation is a largely mechanised process with a risk profile that is significantly lower than that of conventional mining. During hydraulic reclamation, a water monitor blasts the sides of the TSF, the process water mixes with the unconsolidated material, resulting in what is known as a ‘slurry’. The slurry will report to a pumpstation, located at the lowest point of a TSF, where it will then be pumped and conveyed to Ergo Plant for reprocessing. Refer to the illustrated map below on Figure 2-2.

The TSF is situated 1.4 km northwest of Everest and about 0.6 km west of Gugulethu Township. The Proposed Project infrastructures are located on Farm Portion 6 of Grootvaly 124 IR, as well as Portions 84 and 192 of the farm Geduld 123 IR, and the proposed transfer pump station currently in operation is situated on Farm Portion 3 of Modderfontein 76 IR, in the Magisterial District of Spring, within the City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality (CoE).

Bakerton community is situated to the south of existing 6L14 TSF. The project area is predominantly surrounded by mining and industrial activities, residential settlements, railway infrastructure, watercourses and existing road networks. A river is situated to the northeast of the TSF Proposed Project. Refer to **Appendix D** for photographs of the Proposed Project.

The following infrastructures are currently encountered in the surrounding area:

- Provincial roads (R29, R555 Road);
- Power lines;
- Railway line;
- Existing 5L27 Pumpstation;
- Mining and Industrial areas; and
- Existing pipeline route to the 5L27 Transfer Pumpstation.

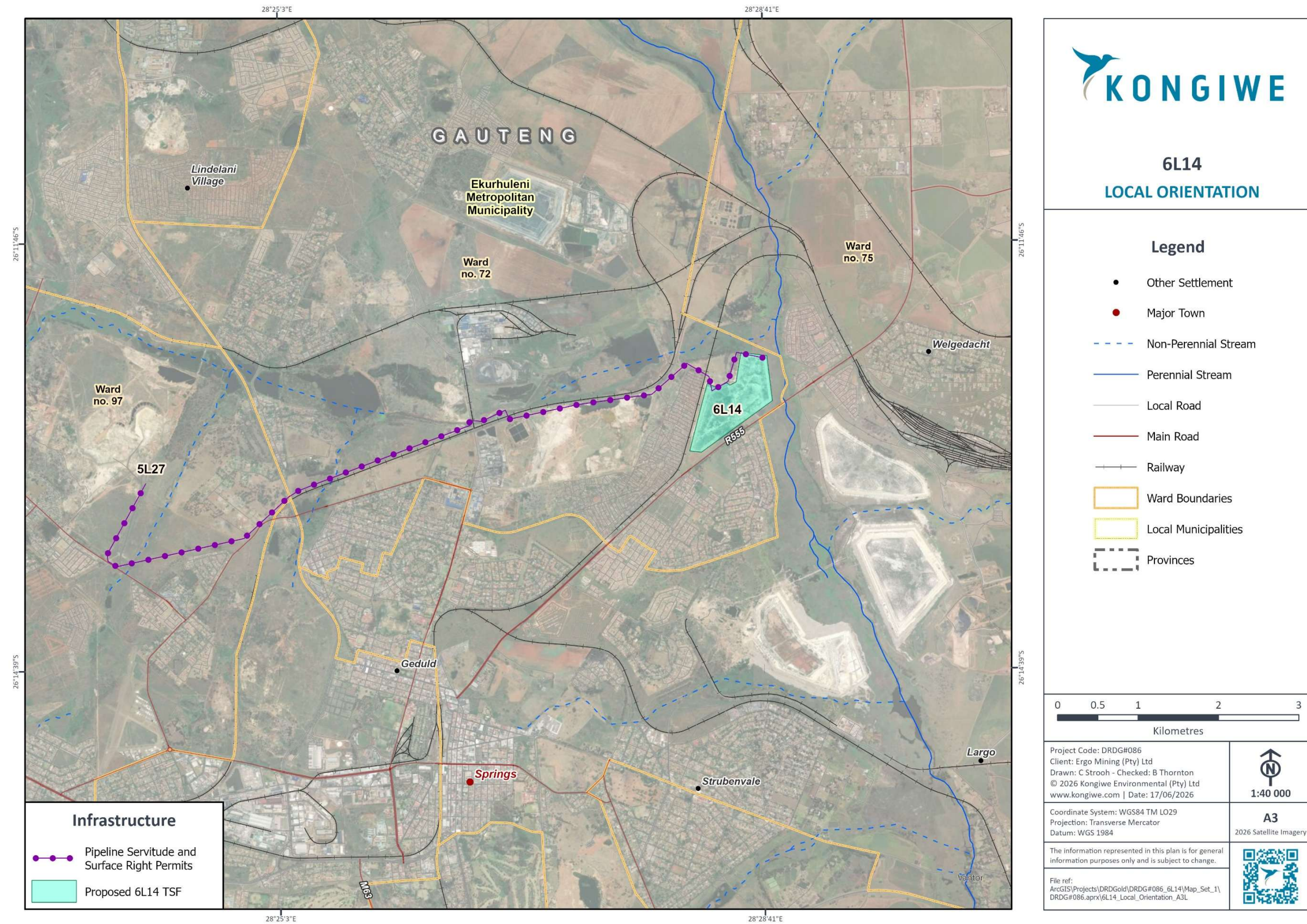


Figure 2-1: Local orientation map

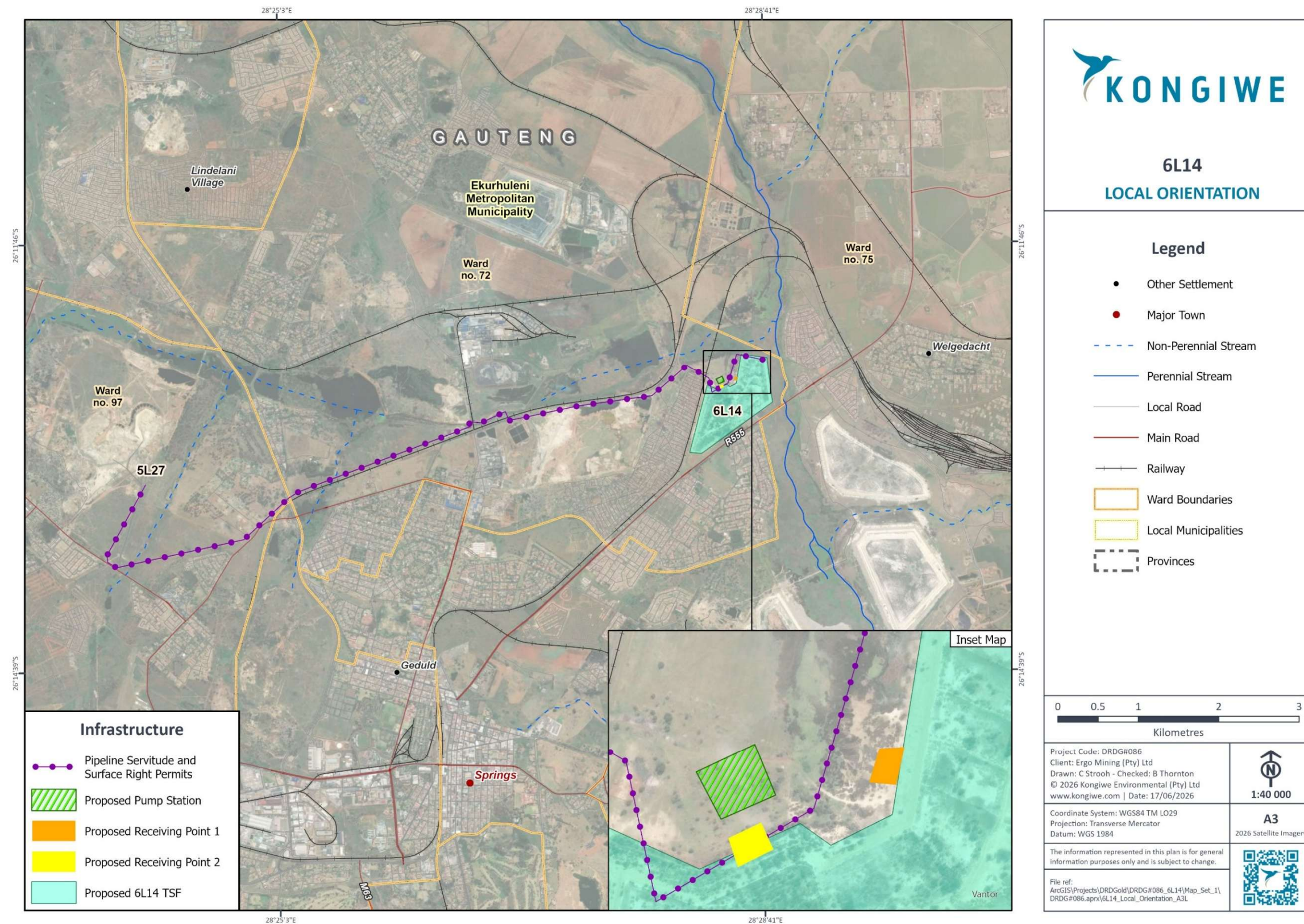


Figure 2-2: Site Orientation Map

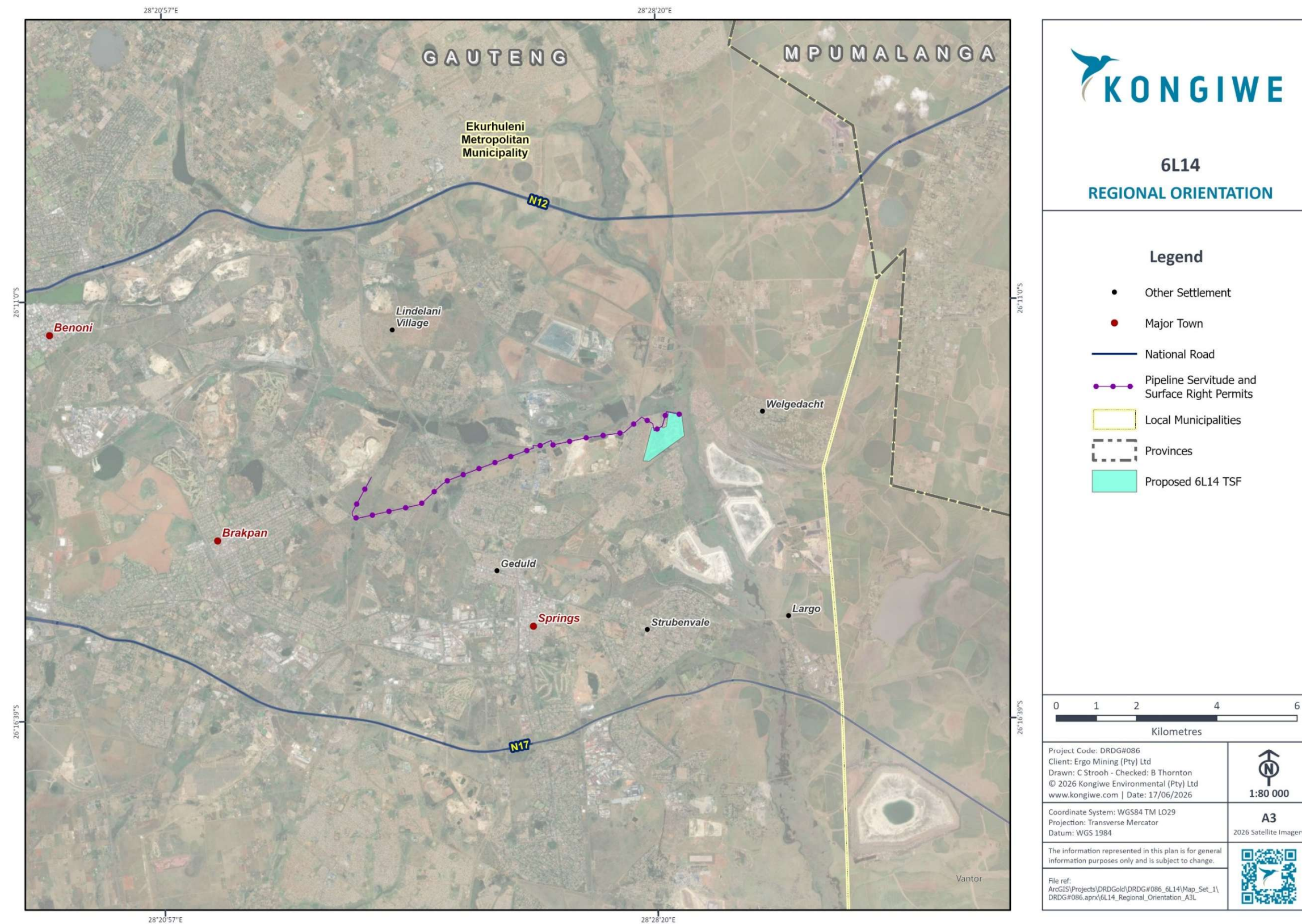


Figure 2-3: Regional Orientation map

2.1.1 Description of the Properties affected by the Project

The Proposed Project be confined to the Farm Portion 6 of Grootvaly 124 IR, as well as Portions 84 and 192 of the farm Geduld 123 IR. This is a "Brownfield Project" as it is the reclamation of a historic mineral storage deposit with partly existing infrastructure, in addition, the proposed transfer pump station currently in operation is situated on Farm Portion 3 of Modderfontein 76 IR. Refer to Table 2-1 for the information on the property details with regards to the Proposed Project and Table 2-2 for the directly and Table 2-3 for the indirectly affected properties.

Table 2-1: Property Details

Application Area (ha)	Proposed Project covers an area 63.21 Ha
Municipality	Ward 72 of the City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality (CoE)
Distance and Direction from Nearest Town	Proposed Project is located directly (approximately 4km) north-east of Springs

Table 2-2: Description of the Directly Affected Properties

Farm Name	Farm ID	Farm Portion	SG Code	Property owner
Reclamation Site				
Geduld	123 IR	192	TOIR00000000012300192	Bharqat Prop Inv CC
Grootvaly	124 IR	6	TOIR00000000012400006	Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality
Geduld	123 IR	84	TOIR00000000012300084	Mr Milenko Rajak – Calodex Pty Ltd
Pumpstation				
Geduld	123 IR	84	TOIR00000000012300084	Mr Milenko Rajak – Calodex Pty Ltd
Receiving Point 1 and 2				
Geduld	123 IR	192	TOIR00000000012300192	Bharqat Prop Inv CC

Table 2-3: Indirectly Affected Property Details

Farm Name	Farm ID	Farm Portion	SG Code	Farm owner
Cloverfield	75 IR	0(RE)	TOIR00000000012600000	Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality
Welgedacht	74 IR	4	TOIR00000000007400004	Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality
Geduld	123 IR	255	TOIR00000000012300255	Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality
Geduld	123 IR	193	TOIR00000000012300193	Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality
Geduld	123 IR	279	TOIR00000000012300279	Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality
Grootvaly	124 IR	40	TOIR00000000012400040	Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality
Geduld	123 IR	30	TOIR00000000012300030	Transnet Ltd
Geduld	123 IR	106	TOIR00000000012300106	Transnet Ltd
Geduld	123 IR	107	TOIR00000000012300107	Transnet Ltd
Cloverfield	75 IR	1	TOIR00000000007500001	Transnet Ltd
Cloverfield	75 IR	7	TOIR00000000007500007	Transnet Ltd

2.2 Description of the Current Land Uses Applicable

The current land uses of the surrounding areas are typified by mines and quarries; shrubland; waterbodies; wetlands; barren land; cultivated; other mine dumps; industrial area; railway lines; powerlines; roads; livestock grazing area and townships residential areas.

2.3 Know Mining Rights held in the Area

The assessment of cumulative impacts is required under the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, promulgated in accordance with Section 44 of the NEMA. In support of the above, Kongiwe will assess the impact of the Proposed Project in context of other similar activities in the local area. This will be undertaken during the EIA Phase of the project.

The Proposed Project area is enclosed by several historic mine dumps and active mining activities. Ergo holds a mining right (ERGO-GP158MR) over the dump, which was historically utilised as a mining waste deposition facility and has remained dormant for an extended period.

2.4 Description of the Activities to be undertaken and the Infrastructure Plan

Ergo aims to reclaim and reprocess the 6L14 TSF with the objective of recovering gold using hydraulic reclamation. Hydraulic reclamation is a largely mechanised process with a risk profile that is significantly lower than that of conventional mining. During hydraulic reclamation, a water monitor blasts the sides of the TSF, the process water mixes with the unconsolidated material, resulting in what is known as a 'slurry'. The slurry will report to a pumpstation, located at the lowest point of a TSF, where it will then be pumped and conveyed to Ergo Plant for reprocessing (refer to Figure 2-4). Ergo has identified the 6L14 TSF as a potential reclamation of tailings site. The 6L14 TSF is an existing TSF, however it is currently dormant as deposition halted in the late 1990s. The dump will be reprocessed through the Ergo beneficiation plant (Ergo Plant) via the existing pipeline route to the 5L27 transfer pumpstation to the Ergo Plant which is currently in operation, with ultimate residue deposition taking place on the Brakpan/Withok TSF and Daggafontein TSF.

The Proposed Project will require authorisation in terms of the NWA for Section 21 water uses, NEMA and the NEM:WA. Power will be supplied by Eskom and potable water will be purchased from the Rand water/ CoE Municipality or existing sources, with a contingency for portable JoJo tanks or connection to constructed water pipeline infrastructure.

The life of the Proposed Project is expected to be **12 years**. An estimated amount of 300 000 tons/month of slurry is expected to be pumped from the 6L14 TSF via constructed pipelines to the Ergo Plant which is in Brakpan for beneficiation.

Information that provides perspective on the scale of the Proposed Project is presented in Table 2-4 below. It should however be noted that this information may be refined further during the EIA Phase.

Table 2-4: Project perspective and Technical details

Group	Specific	Details
Reclamation	Target Mineral	Gold, nickel, silver, pyrites and all associated minerals in mine tailings.
	Reclaimed Area	The Proposed Project covers a combined total area of 63.21 Ha.
	Depth of minerals	Only surface reclamation will be taking place.
	Extent of area for infrastructure	0.5 Ha
	Product	Gold will be the primary product during the reclamation of the dams, although nickel, silver and associated metals are present in the tailings.
Resource use	Water demand	Process water in a closed circuit for hydraulic reclamation and reclamation activities. Potable water will be sourced and purchased from the Rand water/ CoE with a contingency for portable JoJo tanks or connection to existing water pipeline infrastructure.
	Power demand	Eskom
Employment	Staff allocation: construction	Continual Development
	Operating Times	7 days a week - 24 hours a day

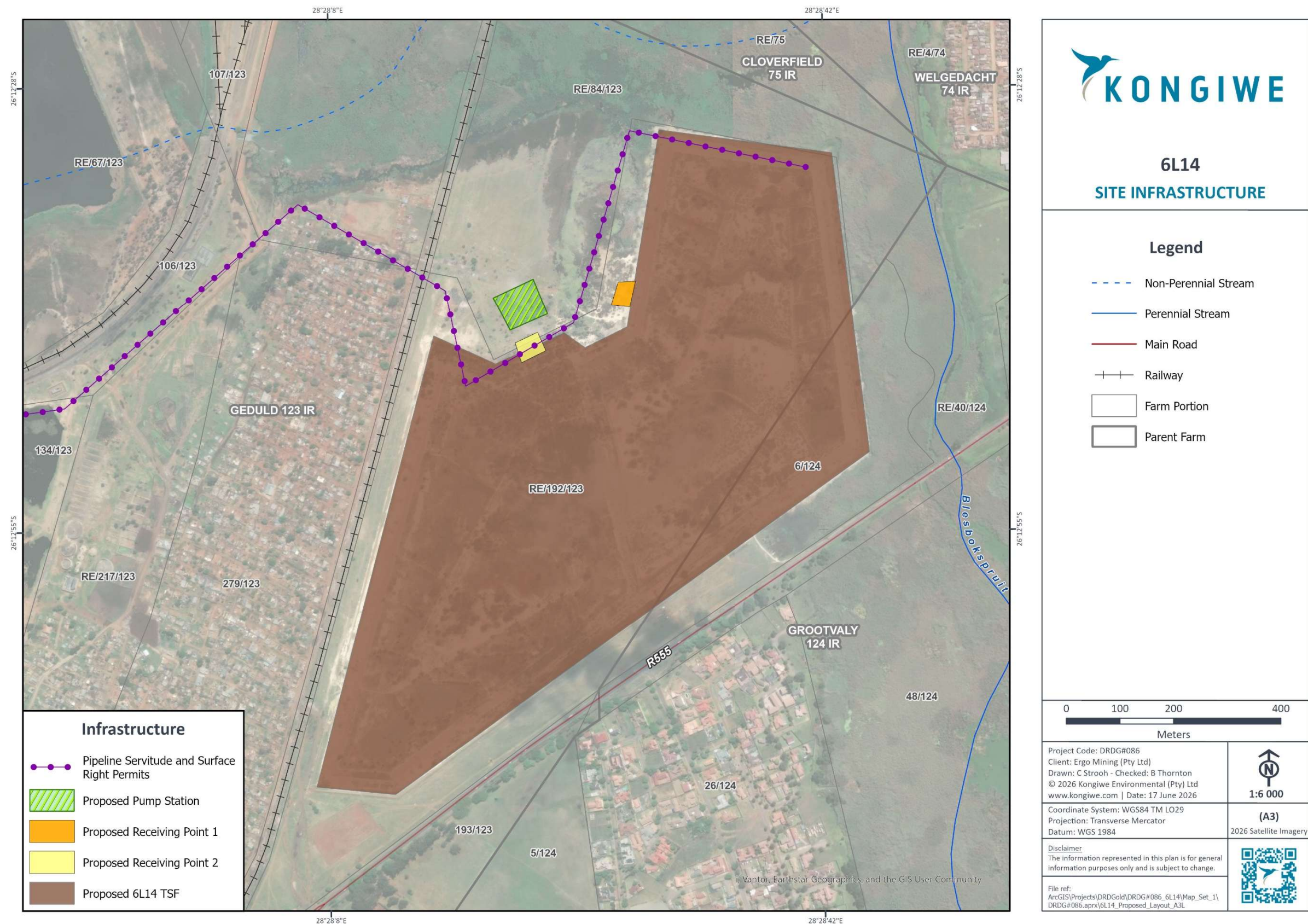


Figure 2-4: Site Infrastructure map

2.5 Listed and Specified Activities

Listed activities are activities identified in terms of Section 24 of NEMA which are likely to have a detrimental effect on the environment, which may not commence without an EA from the CA. An EA is required for any listed activity and is subject to the completion of an environmental process, either a Basic Assessment (BA) or a S&EIA.

Table 2-5 below contains all the listed activities identified in terms of NEMA, NEM:WA Category B activities, and the EIA Regulations of 2014 (GN R982 of December 2014, as amended by GNR 326 of April 2017 GNR 517 of 11 June 2021) and Listing Notices 1, 2 and 3 (GN R983, GN R984 and GN R985 of December 2014, as amended by GNR 327, GNR 325 and GNR 324 of April 2017, respectively, as well as GN R517 of 11 June 2021) which may be triggered by the Proposed Project, and for which an application for an EA has been submitted. The table also includes a description of those project activities which relate to the applicable listed activities. The DMPR will act as the CA for the Proposed Project's EA application, since the 6L14 TSF falls within Ergo's existing Mining Right, (GP158MR).

An Integrated Water Use Licence Application (IWULA) is being prepared and will be submitted in accordance with the Water Use Licence Application and Appeals Regulations 2017 published in GNR 267 on 24 March 2017 and will be supported by a Technical Report including the Integrated Water and Waste Management Plan (IWWMP). The Commenting Authorities for the Proposed Project are:

- Gauteng Department of Environment (GDEnv);
- Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS);
- The Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environmental (DFFE);
- Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI);
- National Nuclear Regulator (NNR);
- Department of Health (DoH);
- South African Heritage Resource Agency (SAHRA);
- Provincial Heritage Resources Authority Gauteng (PHRA-G);
- Gauteng Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD); and
- City of Ekurhuleni (CoE).

Table 2-5 : Listed Activities Triggered by the Proposed Project

Name of Activity	Aerial Extent of the Activity (ha)	Applicable Listing Notice as Amended	Listed activity	Waste Management Authorisation	Water Use Licence Authorisation ²
Reclamation of a Residue stockpile or a residue deposit	The total area of the reclamation and associated areas is approximately 63.21 hectares .	GNR 984 – 21F	Any activity including the operation of that activity required or the reclamation of a residue stockpile or a residue deposit as well as any other applicable activity as contained in this Listing Notice or in Listing Notice 3 of 2014, required for the reclamation of a residue stockpile or a residue deposit.	Category B, Activity 11 The establishment or reclamation of a residue stockpile or residue deposit resulting from activities which require a mining right, exploration right or production right in terms of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002).	
Satellite pump station / Reclamation Station		GNR 984 – 6	The development of facilities or infrastructure for any process or activity which requires a permit or licence or an amended permit or licence in terms of national or provincial legislation governing the generation or release of emissions, pollution or effluent, excluding— (i) activities which are identified and included in Listing Notice 1 of 2014; (ii) activities which are included in the list of waste management activities published in terms of section 19 of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008) in which case the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 applies; (iii) the development of facilities or infrastructure for the treatment of effluent, polluted water, wastewater or sewage where such facilities have a daily throughput capacity of 2 000 cubic metres or less; or (iv) where the development is directly related to aquaculture facilities or infrastructure where the wastewater discharge capacity will not exceed 50 cubic metres per day.	Category B, Activity 11 The establishment or reclamation of a residue stockpile or residue deposit resulting from activities which require a mining right, exploration right or production right in terms of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002).	
Slurry receiving facility	The total area of the reclamation and associated areas is approximately 63.21 hectares .	GNR 983 – 13	The development of facilities or infrastructure for the off-stream storage of water, including dams and reservoirs, with a combined capacity of 50 000 cubic metres or more, unless such storage falls within the ambit of activity 16 in Listing Notice 2.	Category B, Activity 11 The establishment or reclamation of a residue stockpile or residue deposit resulting from activities which require a mining right, exploration right or production right in terms of the Mineral and Petroleum	

² Water use licences in terms of Section 21 of that National Water Act, 1998, will be required for various of the Listed Activities. These have not been specifically listed in this Application, but the necessary application will be submitted to the DWS

Name of Activity	Aerial Extent of the Activity (ha)	Applicable Listing Notice as Amended	Listed activity	Waste Management Authorisation	Water Use Licence Authorisation ²
				Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002).	
Slurry receiving facility	The total area of the reclamation and associated areas is approximately 63.21 hectares .	GNR 984 – 6	The development of facilities or infrastructure for any process or activity which requires a permit or licence or an amended permit or licence in terms of national or provincial legislation governing the generation or release of emissions, pollution or effluent, excluding— (i) activities which are identified and included in Listing Notice 1 of 2014; (ii) activities which are included in the list of waste management activities published in terms of section 19 of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008) in which case the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 applies; (iii) the development of facilities or infrastructure for the treatment of effluent, polluted water, wastewater or sewage where such facilities have a daily throughput capacity of 2 000 cubic metres or less; or (iv) where the development is directly related to aquaculture facilities or infrastructure where the wastewater discharge capacity will not exceed 50 cubic metres per day.		
Screening facility at the pump station	The total area of the reclamation and associated areas is approximately 63.21 hectares .	GNR 984 – 6	The development of facilities or infrastructure for any process or activity which requires a permit or licence or an amended permit or licence in terms of national or provincial legislation governing the generation or release of emissions, pollution or effluent, excluding— (i) activities which are identified and included in Listing Notice 1 of 2014; (ii) activities which are included in the list of waste management activities published in terms of section 19 of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008) in which case the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 applies; (iii) the development of facilities or infrastructure for the treatment of effluent, polluted water, wastewater	Category B, Activity 11 The establishment or reclamation of a residue stockpile or residue deposit resulting from activities which require a mining right, exploration right or production right in terms of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002).	



Name of Activity	Aerial Extent of the Activity (ha)	Applicable Listing Notice as Amended	Listed activity	Waste Management Authorisation	Water Use Licence Authorisation ²
			or sewage where such facilities have a daily throughput capacity of 2 000 cubic metres or less; or (iv) where the development is directly related to aquaculture facilities or infrastructure where the wastewater discharge capacity will not exceed 50 cubic metres per day.		
Storage	The total area of the reclamation and associated areas is approximately 63.21 hectares .	GNR 984 – 6	The development of facilities or infrastructure for any process or activity which requires a permit or licence or an amended permit or licence in terms of national or provincial legislation governing the generation or release of emissions, pollution or effluent, excluding— (i) activities which are identified and included in Listing Notice 1 of 2014; (ii) activities which are included in the list of waste management activities published in terms of section 19 of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008) in which case the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 applies; (iii) the development of facilities or infrastructure for the treatment of effluent, polluted water, wastewater or sewage where such facilities have a daily throughput capacity of 2 000 cubic metres or less; or (iv) where the development is directly related to aquaculture facilities or infrastructure where the wastewater discharge capacity will not exceed 50 cubic metres per day.	Category B, Activity 11 The establishment or reclamation of a residue stockpile or residue deposit resulting from activities which require a mining right, exploration right or production right in terms of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002).	
Transfer pumps in series	The total area of the reclamation and associated areas is approximately 63.21 hectares .	GNR 984 – 6	The development of facilities or infrastructure for any process or activity which requires a permit or licence or an amended permit or licence in terms of national or provincial legislation governing the generation or release of emissions, pollution or effluent, excluding— (i) activities which are identified and included in Listing Notice 1 of 2014; (ii) activities which are included in the list of waste management activities published in terms of section 19 of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008) in which case the	Category B, Activity 11 The establishment or reclamation of a residue stockpile or residue deposit resulting from activities which require a mining right, exploration right or production right in terms of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002).	



Name of Activity	Aerial Extent of the Activity (ha)	Applicable Listing Notice as Amended	Listed activity	Waste Management Authorisation	Water Use Licence Authorisation ²
			National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 applies; (iii) the development of facilities or infrastructure for the treatment of effluent, polluted water, wastewater or sewage where such facilities have a daily throughput capacity of 2 000 cubic metres or less; or (iv) where the development is directly related to aquaculture facilities or infrastructure where the wastewater discharge capacity will not exceed 50 cubic metres per day.		
Dust Suppression of access roads Earth Materials and Gravel.	The total area of the reclamation and associated areas is approximately 63.21 hectares .				21(g) Disposing of waste in a manner which may detrimentally impact on a water resource.
Lined Catchment Paddock	Disposing of excess stormwater and slurry during a stormwater event				21(g) Disposing of waste in a manner which may detrimentally impact on a water resource.
Access Road	The construction, operation, and rehabilitation of the access road located within 500m of a wetland.				21 (c) and (i) Impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse and, Altering the bed, banks, courses or characteristics of a watercourse
Lined Catchment Paddock	The construction, operation, decommissioning and rehabilitation of a lined catchment paddock, as well as the construction of the associated stormwater management infrastructure within 500 m of a wetland and within the 1:100-year floodline.				21 (c) and (i) Impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse and, Altering the bed, banks, courses or characteristics of a watercourse
Pump station	The construction, operation, decommissioning and rehabilitation of a Pumpstation within 500 m of a wetland.				21 (c) and (i) Impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse and, Altering the bed, banks, courses or characteristics of a watercourse
Slurry Receiving Point 1 and Slurry Receiving Point 2	The construction, operation, decommissioning and rehabilitation of a Slurry Receiving Point 1 and				21 (c) and (i)



Name of Activity	Aerial Extent of the Activity (ha)	Applicable Listing Notice as Amended	Listed activity	Waste Management Authorisation	Water Use Licence Authorisation ²
	Slurry receiving Point 2 within a wetland and a 500 m of a wetland.				Impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse and, Altering the bed, banks, courses or characteristics of a watercourse
Tailings Storage Facility	Reclamation of the 6L14 TSF, as well as the operation, decommissioning and rehabilitation of the associated reclamation.				21 (c) and (i) Impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse and, Altering the bed, banks, courses or characteristics of a watercourse

2.6 Environmental Authorisation Application: Activities and Infrastructure

2.6.1 Infrastructure intended for the Project

The following infrastructure will be utilised on site:

- Reclamation infrastructure at each TSF consisting of a pump station which includes:
 - Slurry sump;
 - Vibrating Screen;
 - Water tank;
 - Motor control centre;
 - Slurry and associated Pumps;
- Lined catchment paddocks;
- Stormwater management infrastructure including:
 - Water Pumpstation and PCD infrastructure and stormwater systems;
 - Existing paddocks on the TSF footprint; and
 - Pollution control paddock.
- 11 kV overhead powerlines capable of transmitting 3 kVA of electricity and electricity reticulation;
- Administration buildings, including change houses and ablution facilities;
- Access roads, routed from existing entry points;
- Construction contractors' yards (temporary facilities);
- Process water will be required for the 6L14 reclamation operations to support the Proposed Project via existing constructed pipelines.

2.6.2 Method of Reclamation

The proposed reclamation method which will be used to reclaim the TSF is referred to as top-down hydraulic reclamation. This technique uses high-pressure water monitors / cannons to deliver a high-pressure water jet to excavate unconsolidated tailings material within the TSF hydraulically. The water from the cannon mixes with the tailings and forms a slurry with a high solids content. The slurry then flows under gravity along trenches at the base of the TSF to a collection sump which is positioned at the lowest elevation of the bench being mined.

At the sump, finger screens remove any debris that may impact pumping operations, and the screened slurry then flows into the sump and is subsequently conveyed to the station. The position of the collection sump will change as the reclamation progresses. From the collection sump, the slurry reports to a reclamation station. To control the volume of water reporting to the reclamation station, flapper valves are used to hold, and release slurry contained in the collection sump. The slurry will then report to a pumpstation, located at the lowest point of a TSF, where it will then be pumped and conveyed to Ergo Plant for reprocessing.



Figure 2-5: Mobile tracked hydraulic monitor on a tailings facility in South Africa

Reclamation will take place in predetermined benches (or ‘cuts’) and will move unidirectionally until the entire TSF has been reclaimed. Generally, 30 m cuts are made for reclamation as per Figure 2-6 below.

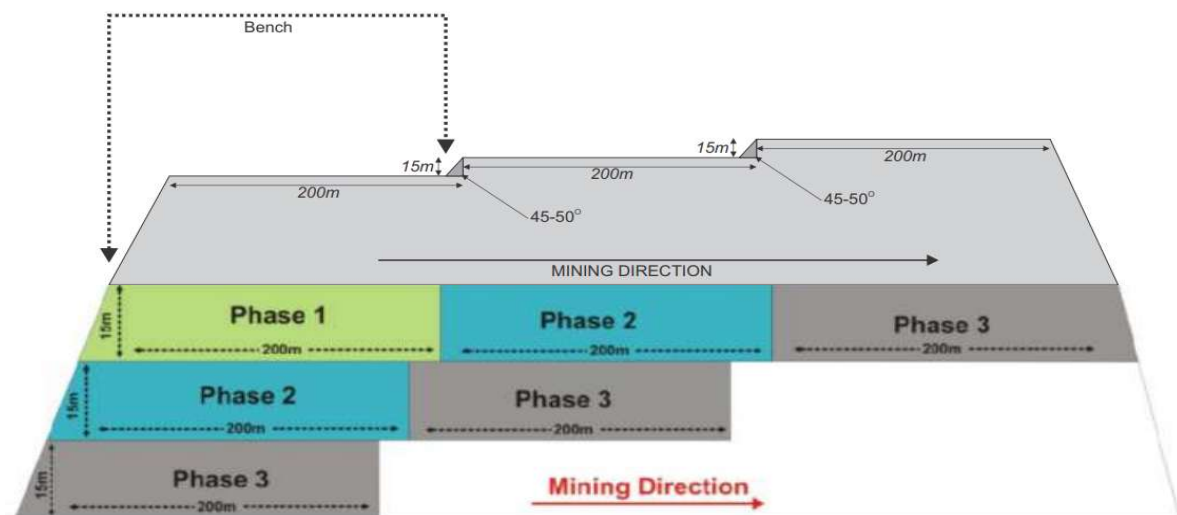


Figure 2-6: Typical bench widths proposed for a gold reclamation project (Source: www.drdgold.com/investors-and-media/circulars/cpr-samrec-wrtrp-26022018.pdf).

2.6.3 Rehabilitation

Rehabilitation will be in line with Ergo’s closure plans. As part of Ergo’s rehabilitation strategy, the removal of facilities like this one will allow repurposing of the land in a more sustainable manner and ultimate offsetting of

environmental impacts. At present Ergo's closure plan indicates that the area must be rehabilitated to wilderness.

Oversized material generated during the reclamation of the TFS, and confirmed not to contain radiological contamination, may be reused during the rehabilitation phase. Once reclamation is completed, the areas will then be assessed for contamination (particularly in terms of radiation). Contaminated soils will be removed, and the land levelled to its original functioning topography levels. Following rehabilitation, it is anticipated that the land will be returned to the landowner to use at their discretion. The Proposed Project is for the purpose of reclaiming the historic TSFs and removing a pollution source from the area, aiding in the rehabilitation of the mining legacy left behind in the area.

2.6.4 The Period required for Environmental Authorisation:

The anticipated period required for EA is **12 years**.

2.6.5 Works Schedule

The anticipated life span of the project is approximately **12 years**. It is expected that there would be a 1 year construction and ramp-up period which would include the placement of infrastructure and site preparation, a 6 year Life of Operation (LOO) where active hydraulic reclamation and mechanical removal would take place, a 2 year ramp-down period and 3 years to rehabilitate the reclaimed site.

3. Policy and Legislative Context

This chapter provides an overview of the policy and legislative context relevant to the Proposed Project. It identifies all legislation, policies, plans, guidelines, spatial tools, municipal development planning frameworks and instruments that are applicable to the planned activities and are to be considered in the assessment process which may be applicable or have relevance to the Proposed Project.

3.1 National, Provincial and Local Legislation

The foundation for environmental preservation is entrenched in the **Constitution of South Africa, 1996**. Following the birth of democracy in South Africa, legislative and environmental policies and regulations have undergone a large transformation, and various laws and policies were promulgated with a strong emphasis on environmental concerns and the need for sustainable development. The Constitution provides environmental rights (contained in the Bill of Rights, Chapter 2 (Section 24) and includes implications for environmental management. The environmental rights are guaranteed in Section 24 of the Constitution, and state that:

Everyone has the right:

- To an environment that is not harmful to their health or well-being.
- To have the environment protected, for the benefit of present and future generations, through reasonable legislative and other measures that:
 - Prevent pollution and ecological degradation.
 - Promote conservation and
 - Secure ecologically sustainable development and use of natural resources while promoting justifiable economic and social development.

To ensure that the various spheres of the social and natural environmental resources are not overlooked, other legislation and regulations have been promulgated in addition to those contained within the Constitution. The additional legislation and regulations ensure that there remains a key focus on various industries or components of the environment, and to ensure that the objectives of the Constitution are effectively implemented and upheld on an on-going basis. In terms of Section 7, a positive obligation is placed on the State to give effect to the environmental rights.

Table 3-1: Applicable National Legislation and Guidelines

Applicable Legislation and Guidelines used to compile the report.	Reference where applied
<u>The Constitution of South Africa, 1996</u> Section 24 of the Constitution states that everyone has the right to an environment that is not harmful to their health or well-being; to have the environment protected for the benefit of present and future generations, through reasonable legislative and other measures that prevent pollution and ecological degradation; promote conservation; and secure ecological sustainable development and use of natural resources while promoting justifiable economic and social development. Section 32 of the Constitution states that every person has a right to information held by the State and to information held by other people that is required in the exercise or protection of a right. Section 33 of the Constitution states that everyone has a right to just and procedurally fair administrative action.	As per the Requirements of NEMA and the NEMA EIA Regulations, alternative activities that are less taxing on the environment and resources must be investigated where possible. The DSR was made available for public review. The Draft EIA Report will be made available for public review (as per the PPP section of this report). The Appeal Process will be described to all stakeholders through the EA notification described in the PPP section of this report. The TSF will assist with the further processing of other TSFs in the area, thereby assisting with the removal of multiple pollution sources. This is in line with the Constitution of South Africa in removing a pollution source that will result in an improved environment for present and future generations.
<u>The One Environmental System</u> In terms of the One Environmental System established by the NEMLAA, an EA in respect of a Listed Activity must be issued within 300 days of the application being submitted. This system aims to streamline the licensing processes for environmental authorisations and water use.	Ergo proposes to reclaim the 6L14 TSF and submit the required documents within the prescribed timeframes.
<u>Mine Health and Safety Act (MHSA), Act 29 of 1996 (as amended):</u> Ergo operates in accordance with the MHSA and associated regulations. This includes creating a safe and healthy work environment and providing the necessary protection and training to staff to ensure their health and safety is not compromised. Hazardous substances will be adequately stored and labelled. All regulations pertaining to safe use, handling, processing, storage, transport and disposal of hazardous substances; protection	Although not strictly addressed in the Scoping Report or EMPr, protecting the environment contributes to a safe working environment. MHSA regulations will be worked into the operations' Code of Practice (COP) and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).

Applicable Legislation and Guidelines used to compile the report.	Reference where applied
of equipment, structures and water sources and the surface of land; dumps and structures connected to reclamation operations; the monitoring and control of those environmental aspects which may affect the health and safety of persons will be applied on site. Regulations pertaining to provision of water, ablution facilities and staff health and safety will be applied on site.	
<u>National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA)</u> The overarching principle of the NEMA is sustainable development. It defines sustainability as meaning the integration of social, economic and environmental factors into planning, implementation and decision making to ensure the development serves present and future generations. Section 2 of NEMA provides for the NEMA principle which apply throughout the Republic to the actions of all organs of state that may significantly affect the environment and in conjunction with other appropriate and relevant considerations. The NEMA principles serve as the general framework within which environmental management and implementation plans must be formulated and serve as a guideline by reference to which any organ of state must exercise any function when taking any decision in terms of the NEMA or any statutory provision concerning the protection of the environment. NEMA authorises the Minister of the DFFE to make Regulations relating to the administration of the Act³, which has been done with the publication of the EIA 2014 Regulations, as amended. Section 24(2) allows the Minister to identify activities which may not commence without environmental authorisation from the competent authority. This identification has been done in accordance with listing notices referred to as Listing Notice 1, Listing Notice 2 and Listing Notice 3. The NEMA also allows the Minister to determine which authority will be the competent authority to receive and evaluate applications for EAs. Listing Notice 1 identifies activities of limited scale and effect, which need to be assessed by a	It is the objective of this application to align to NEMA. The NEMA is the overarching Act governing sustainable development and the NEMA principles apply to all prospecting and mining operations (which included reclamation activities) and any matter or activity relating to such operation. Listed activities as per the EIA 2014 Regulations, as amended, have been identified (refer to Chapter 2, Sub-section 2.5).

³ Sections 24(5) and Section 44

Applicable Legislation and Guidelines used to compile the report.	Reference where applied
fairly simple process referred to as a BA, where after a Basic Assessment Report (BAR) is submitted to the competent authority. Listing Notice 2 identifies activities of significantly greater magnitude, which require evaluation through an initial Scoping Phase followed by an EIA and an EMP. This process is generally referred to as the S&EIA process. Listing Notice 3 relates to activities limited to specified geographical areas and matters of concern to the various provinces which require a BAR process to be dealt with by the provincial authority concerned. Regulation 16 (1) prescribes the general application requirements and states that an application for an EA must be made on the official application form obtainable from the CA and must, amongst others, include proof of payment of the prescribed application fee. Regulation 21 provides for the submission of the Scoping Report to the CA for consideration and states that the scoping report must contain all the information set out in Appendix 2 to the EIA 2014 Regulations, as amended. In terms of regulation 22, the CA must, after considering the Scoping Report, either accept the report, with or without conditions and advise the applicant to proceed with the plan of study for EIA or refuse the EA. Once the Scoping Report is accepted by the CA, the applicant must submit the EIA Report inclusive of specialist reports and an EMP which have been subjected to a PPP. The timeframes for submission of the Scoping Report and the EIA Report inclusive of the timeframes within which the CA must consider the reports and approve the EA are prescribed in regulations 21 to 24 of the EIA 2014 Regulations. Once a decision on the EA application has been reached, the CA must notify the applicant in writing of the decision and give reasons for the decision.	
<u>National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008) (NEM: WA)</u> As part of the waste management matters dealt with in the NEM: WA, waste activities have been identified in GN 921 of 29 November 2013 List of Waste Management Activities that have, or are likely to have, a Detrimental Effect on the Environment. GN R921 provides that the waste management activities listed in Category A and B thereof may not commence, be undertaken,	Listed activities as per the NEM:WA regulations have been identified (refer to Chapter 2, Sub-section 2.5).

Applicable Legislation and Guidelines used to compile the report.	Reference where applied
or conducted without a WML. Activities listed in Category C of GN 921 may only be commenced with, undertaken, or conducted in accordance with the National Norms and Standards published in terms of the NEM: WA. Category A activities require a Basic Assessment (BA) process while Category B Activities require a S&EIA process. It should be noted that although previously residue deposits and residue stockpiles were regulated in terms of the MPRDA Regulations and in particular Regulation 73, the National Environmental Laws Amendments Act 25 of 2014 (NEMLAA) deleted section 4(b) from the NEM: WA and residue stockpiles and residue deposits therefore fall within the ambit of the NEM: WA and its various regulations. NEM:WA and NEMA will be amended by the National Environmental Laws Amendment Act, 2022 (Act No 1 of 2022) (NEMLAA4) so that residue stockpiles and residue deposits will no longer be regulated under NEM:WA but under NEMA itself, although certain of the provisions of NEMLAA4 are not yet applicable. The Proposed Project is likely to trigger the following waste activities, all of which require a Category B WML: 1. Activity 10: The construction of a facility for a waste management activity listed in Category B of this Schedule (not in isolation to associated waste management activity). 2. Activity 11: The establishment or reclamation of a residue stockpile or residue deposit resulting from activities which require a mining right, exploration right or production right in terms of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002). The EA and WML are being dealt with as an integrated application.	
<u>National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) (NWA)</u>	An IWULA will be required for the reclamation of the 6L14 TSF and associated infrastructure. An application has been submitted to the DWS, and the application has been assigned reference number: WU

Applicable Legislation and Guidelines used to compile the report.	Reference where applied
In terms of the NWA, the national government, acting through the Minister of Water and Sanitation, is the public trustee of South Africa’s water resources, and must ensure that water is protected, used, developed, conserved, managed and controlled in a sustainable and equitable manner for the benefit of all persons (section 3(1)). In terms of the NWA a person may only use water without a licence if such water use is permissible under Schedule 1 (generally domestic type use), if that water use constitutes a continuation of an existing lawful water use (water uses being undertaken prior to the commencement of the NWA, generally in terms of the Water Act of 1956), or if that water use is permissible in terms of a general authorisation issued under section 39 (general authorisations allow for the use of certain section 21 uses provided that the criteria and thresholds described in the general authorisation is met). Permissible water use furthermore includes water use authorised by a license issued in terms of the NWA. Section 21 of the NWA defines water uses which are governed in terms of the Act and for which a WUL is required. In terms of section 40 (1) of the NWA “a person who is required or wishes to obtain a licence to use water must apply to the relevant responsible authority for a licence.” These water uses, in terms of Section 21, are as follows: (a) taking water from a water resource; (b) storing water; (c) impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse; (d) engaging in a stream flow reduction activity contemplated in Section 36; (e) engaging in a controlled activity identified as such in Section 37(1) or declared under Section 38(1); (f) discharging waste or water containing waste into a water resource through a pipe, canal, sewer, sea outfall or other conduit; (g) disposing of waste in a manner which may detrimentally impact on a water resource; (h) disposing in any manner of water which contains waste from, or which has been heated	49770. The required specialist studies are also being undertaken as part of the impact identification and mitigation phase.

Applicable Legislation and Guidelines used to compile the report.	Reference where applied
in, any industrial or power generation process; (i) altering the bed, banks, course or characteristic of a watercourse; (j) removing, discharging or disposing of water found underground if it is necessary for the efficient continuation of an activity or for the safety of people; and (k) using water for recreational purposes. It is not likely that sub-sections (b), (d), (e), (f), (h), (j) or (k) will apply to the Proposed Project. Water uses associated with the reclamation activities, will include the actual reclamation of the 6L14 TSF within 500m of a wetland and the operation of existing pipelines within 100 m of a river bank. These water uses will require an IWULA and will be reassessed once final placement and conceptual designs have been completed. As well as the dust suppression implemented on roads on site. The IWULA must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the Water Use Licence Application and Appeals Regulations 2017 published in GNR 267 on 24 March 2017 and must generally be supported by a Technical Report, as well as conceptual design drawings of all water related infrastructure.	
<u>National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004 (Act No.10 of 2004) (NEM:BA)</u> The NEM:BA provides for the management and conservation of South Africa's biodiversity within the framework of NEMA, as well as the protection of species and ecosystems that warrant national protection and the sustainable use of indigenous biological resources. The South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI) website and GIS tools were utilised to determine whether any nationally protected and threatened ecosystems occur on site. The Proposed Project falls within the Gauteng Province, which has a provincial Biodiversity Assessment Protected Area Expansion Strategy. This strategy has been incorporated and considered throughout the compilation of this report.	NEM:BA was used to inform whether activities triggered Listing Notice 3 (refer to Chapter 2, Sub-section 2.5). The required specialist studies are also being undertaken as part of the impact identification and mitigation identification phase.

Applicable Legislation and Guidelines used to compile the report.	Reference where applied
<u>National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act (NEM:PAA), Act 57 of 2003 as amended</u> The National Environmental Management Protected Areas Act (Act No. 57 of 2003) (NEM:PAA) concerns the protection and conservation of ecologically viable areas representative of South Africa's diversity and its natural landscapes and seascapes, and includes <i>inter alia</i>: • The establishment of a national register of all national, provincial and local protected areas; • The management of those areas in accordance with national standards; and • Inter-governmental co-operation and public consultation in matters concerning protected areas. Sections 48 to 53 of the NEM:PAA lists restricted activities that may not be conducted in a protected area. Section 48 states that no person may conduct commercial prospecting or mining activities in a: • Special nature reserve or nature reserve; • Protected environment without the written permission of the Minister and the Cabinet member responsible for minerals and energy affairs; and Protected area referred to in Section 9: • world heritage sites; and • specially protected forest areas, forest nature reserves and forest wilderness areas declared in terms of the National Forests Act (No. 84 of 1998);	SANBI website and GIS tools are utilised to determine if the project area overlaps with CBAs. The Regulations were utilised to determine the need for any additional listed scheduled activities under GNR 985.
<u>National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999) (NHRA)</u>	A Heritage Impact Assessment will be undertaken as part of the EIA Phase and the assessment will be uploaded on the SAHRA web site

Applicable Legislation and Guidelines used to compile the report.	Reference where applied
The NHRA aims to promote good management of cultural heritage resources and encourages the nurturing and conservation of cultural legacy so that it may be bestowed to future generations. The Act requires all developers (including mines) to undertake cultural heritage studies for any development exceeding 0.5 ha. It also provides guidelines for impact assessment studies to be undertaken where cultural resources may be disturbed by development activities. The South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) will need to approve the heritage assessment undertaken as part of the impact assessment process.	along with the EIA Report.
<u>Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act (No. 43 of 1983)</u> The Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act (Act No. 43 of 1983) (CARA) includes the use and protection of land, soil, wetlands and vegetation and the control of weeds and invader plants. This is the only legislation that is directly aimed at conservation of wetlands in agriculture. The Act contains a comprehensive list of species that are declared weeds and invader plants dividing them into three categories. These categories are as follows: - Category 1: Declared weeds that are prohibited on any land or water surface in South Africa. These species must be controlled, or eradicated where possible; - Category 2: Declared invader species that are only allowed in demarcated areas under controlled conditions and prohibited within 30m of the 1:50 year floodline of any watercourse or wetland; and - Category 3: Declared invader species that may remain but must be prevented from spreading. No further planting of these species is allowed. In terms of the Act, landowners are legally responsible for the control of alien species on their properties. Failure to comply with the Act may result in various infringement consequences and	The protection of land, soil, wetlands and vegetation and the control of weeds and invader plants will be contained within the EIA Report.

Applicable Legislation and Guidelines used to compile the report.	Reference where applied
in some instances imprisonment and other penalties for contravening the law. <u>The South African National Roads Agency Limited and National Roads Act, 1998 (Act No. 7 of 1998)</u> The National Road Traffic Regulations, 2000 places specific duties on the consignor and consignee of dangerous goods. A consignor means the person who offers dangerous goods for transport (i.e. hazardous waste) and a consignee is the person who accepts dangerous goods, which have been transported in a vehicle. Both consignor and consignee must comply with the requirements of several SANS standard specifications and codes of practice relevant to dangerous goods which have been incorporated into the regulations. The mine owner is responsible for: • Offloading of the dangerous goods; • Providing the dangerous goods offloading supervisor; and • Ensuring that the loading and offloading are carried out by qualified employees trained in the relevant procedures. Ergo must, in line with Section 54 of the Act and GN R225, provide evidence that the company has appointed responsible personnel to oversee the off-loading of dangerous goods at its operations. A driver of a vehicle transporting dangerous goods is required to undergo training at an approved training body.	The requirements of the Act and Regulations will be considered when assessing the project impacts and developing the associated mitigation measures in the EIA Phase. A Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA) will be undertaken during the EIA Phase of the project. The findings of the assessment will be incorporated into the EIA Report and submitted to the South African National Roads Agency Limited (SANRAL) for review and comment as part of the stakeholder consultation process.
<u>Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act, 2013 (Act No. 16 of 2013) (SPLUMA)</u> The SPLUMA was promulgated in May 2015. SPLUMA is a framework act for all spatial planning and land use management legislation in South Africa. It seeks to promote consistency and uniformity in procedures and decision-making in this field. SPLUMA will also assist municipalities to address historical spatial imbalances and the integration of the principles of sustainable development into land use and planning regulatory tools and legislative instruments.	Should the project proceed, land will be liberated for future development in line with SPLUMA.

Applicable Legislation and Guidelines used to compile the report.	Reference where applied
<u>Hazardous Substances Act, 1973 (Act No. 15 of 1973)</u> The Regulations for Hazardous Chemical Substances apply to an employer or a self-employed person who carries out work at a workplace which may expose any person to the intake of hazardous chemical substances at that workplace. Regulations 14 and 15 provide for the labelling, packaging, transportation and storage and the disposal of hazardous chemical substances respectively. These regulations set out specific requirements which form part of an employer's duty to provide and maintain, as far as reasonably practicable, a working environment that is safe and without risk to the health of his or her employees.	The requirements of the Act and Regulations will be considered when assessing the project impacts and developing the associated mitigation measures in the EIA Phase.
<u>National Development Plan, 2030</u> The National Development Plan (NDP) offers a long-term perspective. It defines a desired destination and identifies the role different sectors of society need to play in reaching that goal. As a long-term strategic plan, it serves four broad objectives: 1. Providing overarching goals for what we want to achieve by 2030. 2. Building consensus on the key obstacles to us achieving these goals and what needs to be done to overcome those obstacles. 3. Providing a shared long-term strategic framework within which more detailed planning can take place to advance the long-term goals set out in the NDP. 4. Creating a basis for making choices about how best to use limited resources. The Plan aims to ensure that all South Africans attain a decent standard of living through the elimination of poverty and reduction of inequality. The core elements of a decent standard of living identified in the Plan are: • Housing, water, electricity and sanitation; • Safe and reliable public transport;	The requirements of this Plan will be considered when assessing the project impacts and developing the associated mitigation measures in the EIA Phase. The Proposed Project is in line with the NDP and will address its requirements by assisting with the continuation of removal of a pollution source and availing land for the landowners to use.

Applicable Legislation and Guidelines used to compile the report.	Reference where applied
• Quality education and skills development; • Safety and security; • Quality health care; • Social protection; • Employment; • Recreation and leisure; • Clean environment; and • Adequate nutrition The Proposed Project falls in line with the goals of the NDP in creating a decent standard of living for all South Africans by removing a pollution source to the surrounding conservation and protected areas adjacent to the project site.	
<u>Action Plan of the Environmental Initiative of the New Partnership of Africa's Development, 2003.</u> This Action Plan was established with the aim of encouraging sustainable development, conservation and acceptable use of biodiversity in Africa. It has been recognised that a healthy and productive environment is a prerequisite for the success of New Partnership of Africa's Development (NEPAD), together with the need to systematically address and sustain ecosystems, biodiversity and wildlife. Six areas have been identified: • Combating land degradation, drought and desertification; • Conserving Africa's wetlands; • Preventing and controlling invasive alien species; • Conservation and sustainable use of coastal and marine resources; • Combating climate change in Africa; and • Cross-border conservation and management of natural resources.	The Proposed Project may result in the decrease of pollution sources across the East Rand, the objectives of the NEPAD to systematically address and sustain ecosystems, Biodiversity and Wildlife will be considered during the EIA Phase of the project.

Applicable Legislation and Guidelines used to compile the report.	Reference where applied
<u>South Africa's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan</u> The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) sets out a framework and a plan of action for the conservation and sustainable use of South Africa's biological diversity and the equitable sharing of benefits derived from this use. The NBSAP was prepared by the former Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEAT), during the period May 2003 to May 2005. The goal of the NBSAP is to conserve and manage terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity to ensure sustainable and equitable benefits to the people of South Africa, now and in the future. This document was revised and updated for the period of 2015-2025. In support of this goal, six key strategic objectives (SOs) have been identified, each with a number of outcomes and activities. The table below illustrates the objectives in achieving the NBSAP "Goal", although the project is related to reclamation, the following would still apply:	The Proposed Project is cognisant of the obligation to protect and preserve the integrity of the environment as well as its biodiversity. Principles of this plan will be taken into consideration during the EIA Phase. The required biodiversity specialist studies will be undertaken during the impact identification and mitigation phase. This will help identify the current environment and help determine and mitigate any possible impacts that might arise due to the proposed project.

Applicable Legislation and Guidelines used to compile the report.	Reference where applied
Vision of the NBSAP: Conserve, manage and sustainably use biodiversity to ensure equitable benefits to the people of South Africa, now and in the future. Strategic objectives: 1. Management of biodiversity assets and their contribution to the economy, rural development, job creation and social wellbeing is enhanced. 2. Investments in ecological infrastructure enhance resilience and ensure benefits to society 3. Biodiversity considerations are mainstreamed into policies, strategies and practices of a range of sectors. 4. People are mobilized to adopt practices that sustain the long-term benefits of biodiversity. 5. Conservation and management of biodiversity is improved through the development of an equitable and suitably skilled workforce. 6. Effective knowledge foundations, including indigenous knowledge and citizen science, support the management, conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. Through the NSBA, it is recognised that biodiversity cannot be conserved through protected area networks only. All stakeholders, from private landowners and communities to business and industry must get involved in biodiversity management. The Proposed Project would need to incorporate operational systems that minimise the impacts of threatening processes on biodiversity during the operational phase of the project, and by streamlining specialist recommendations during the implementation of all phases of this project.	
<u>Promotion of Access to Information Act, 2000 (Act No. 2 of 2000)</u> The PAIA gives effect to the constitutional right of access to any information held by the state and any information that is held by another person and that is required for the exercise or	The requirements of the Act have been and will continue to be considered when assessing and involving the public and registered interested and affected parties.

Applicable Legislation and Guidelines used to compile the report.	Reference where applied
protection of any rights; and to provide for matters connected therewith.	
<u>National Environmental Management Act; National Appeal Regulations, 2014</u> The purpose of these regulations is to regulate the procedure contemplated in section 43(4) of the National Environmental Management Act relating to the submission, processing and consideration of a decision on an appeal. This Act is used to help guide and understand the appeal process and the procedures may follow.	The requirements of the Act will be considered if an appeal may need to be or is lodged for the project.
<u>Nuclear Energy Act 1999, (Act 46 of 1999) (NEA), the National Nuclear Regulator Act 1999, (Act No. 47 of 1999) (NNRA) and the Regulations on Safety Standards and Regulatory Practices (SSRP) (GN R388 of 28 April 2006).</u> The NEA established a framework for the management of nuclear material and the NNRA was enacted to provide for the establishment of the National Nuclear Regulator to regulate nuclear activities and safety standards. These Acts and the SSRP will be considered and their requirements implemented where applicable	The requirements of the Act and Regulations have been considered when assessing the project impacts and developing the associated mitigation measures in this EIA Phase.

Table 3-2: Applicable Provincial and Local Policies, Guidelines and By-Laws

Policies, Guidelines and By-Laws	
<u>Gauteng Mine Residue Areas Strategy, 2012</u> The aim of the project as a whole is to make more land available from the mine dumps in Gauteng to be used for other purposes, in line with government priorities. The objectives for the project are as follows: • To evaluate current pollution problems caused by mining activities and suggest how they should be addressed; • To quantify the amount of land under mining activities and classify them in terms of impacts and potential for reclamation;	The Proposed Project is in line with the objectives of the Strategy as it will assist with the continued removal of TSFs across the East Rand. The guidelines of the Strategy will be considered throughout the S&EIA process and reporting.

Policies, Guidelines and By-Laws	
- To investigate which mining areas could be made available to be used for other purposes; and - To provide preliminary and conceptual recommendations on the short-term priorities for the reclamation of the mining site which could be economically sustainable.	
<u>Gauteng Nature Conservation Bill, 2014</u> The Bill was established in 2014, and contains the following objectives: - To provide for the sustainable utilization and protection of biodiversity within Gauteng; - To provide for the protection of wild and the management of alien animals; protected plants; aquatic biota and aquatic systems; - To provide for the protection of invertebrates and the management of alien invertebrates; - To provide for professional hunters, hunting outfitters and trainers; - To provide for the preservation of caves, cave formations, cave biota and karst systems; - To provide for the establishment of Zoos - To provide for the powers and establishment of Nature Conservators; - To provide for administrative matters and general powers; and to provide for matters connected therewith.	Aspects of this Bill are applicable to the Proposed Project. Where applicable, these will be considered throughout the S&EIA process and will be included within the reporting documents.
<u>Gauteng Conservation Plan Version 4.0</u> The main purposes of C-Plan 4.0 are: - To serve as the primary decision support tool for the biodiversity component of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process; - To inform protected area expansion and biodiversity stewardship programmes in the province;	Aspects of this Plan are applicable to the Proposed Project. Where applicable, these will be considered throughout the S&EIA process and will be included within the reporting documents.

Policies, Guidelines and By-Laws	
To serve as a basis for development of Bioregional Plans in municipalities within the province. C-Plan 4.0 is a valuable tool to ensure adequate, timely and fair service delivery to clients of GDEnv and is critical in ensuring adequate protection of biodiversity and the environment in Gauteng Province.	
<u>Gauteng Environmental Implementation Plan, 2016</u> The purpose of the EIP is to: - Coordinate and harmonise environmental policies, plans and programmes and decisions to (i) minimise the duplication of procedures and functions; and (ii) promote consistency in the exercise of functions that may affect the environment; - Give effect to the principle of cooperative governance in Chapter 3 of the Constitution; - Secure the protection of the environment across the country as a whole; - Prevent unreasonable actions in respect of the environment that is prejudicial to the economic or health interests of other provinces or the country as a whole; and - Enable monitoring of the achievement, promotion and protection of a sustainable environment.	Aspects of this Plan are applicable to the Proposed Project. Where applicable, these will be considered throughout the S&EIA process and will be included within the reporting documents.
<u>Gauteng Growth and Development Agency Strategic Plan 2014-2019</u> The main purpose of the GGDA Strategic Plan is: - Addressing the persistent racial imbalances regarding ownership and general configuration of Gauteng's economy; - Addressing the spatially distorted economic development legacy of apartheid rule; - Broadening the base of economic development beyond the Province's dominant metropolitan municipal areas;	The Proposed Project will contribute towards employment creation within the Province and will also contribute positively towards economic growth within the region through both its development and operation.

Policies, Guidelines and By-Laws	
- The socio-economic transformation envisaged for the second phase of transition to a national democratic society; and - Achieving the outcomes of creating decent work, economic inclusion and equality.	
<u>City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Spatial Development Framework, 2025</u> The Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Spatial Development Framework (MSDF) provides a framework for making resource-effective decisions that can help mitigate the following identified issues in the municipal zone: - Increasing pressure on the natural environment and green infrastructure; - Urban sprawl and fragmentation; - Spatial inequalities and the job-housing mismatch; - Exclusion and disconnection emanating from high potential underused areas; - Lack of securitisation and gated developments, and disconnected street networks (high cul-de-sac ratios and low intersection densities); - Inefficient residential densities and land use diversity. The Proposed Project is anticipated to contribute in decreasing the pressure on the natural environment by removing a pollution source to conservation and protected areas.	Aspects of this SDF are applicable to the Proposed Project. Where applicable, these will be considered throughout the S&EIA process and will be included within the reporting documents.
<u>Ekurhuleni Bioregional Plan (BRP), 2020</u> Subsequent to the approval of the Ekurhuleni BRP, the Guidelines for the compilation of the bioregional plans were set in terms of the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act. CoE, together with the South African Biodiversity Institute (SANBI) and the Gauteng Department of Environment (GDEnv) developed the CoE Bioregional Plan. The purpose of the bioregional plan is to inform land-use planning, environmental assessment and authorisations, and natural resource management, by a range of sectors whose policies and decisions impact on biodiversity. This is done by providing biodiversity priority areas, referred to as 'critical biodiversity areas and ecological support areas', with accompanying land use planning and	Aspects of this BRP are applicable to the Proposed Project. Where applicable, these will be considered throughout the S&EIA process and will be included within the reporting documents.

Policies, Guidelines and By-Laws	
decision-making guidelines. Critical biodiversity areas within the bioregion are the portfolio of sites that are required to meet the region's biodiversity targets and need to be maintained in the appropriate condition for their category. The Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality Bioregional Plan identified the following categories: • Critical Biodiversity Area One; • Critical Biodiversity Area Two; • Ecological Support Area One; • Ecological Support Area Two; • Protected areas; • Important areas; • Other natural areas.	
<u>Gauteng Province Environmental Management Framework, 2021</u> The GDEnv decided to produce an Environmental Management Framework for the whole of Gauteng. The objective of the GPEMF is to guide sustainable land use management within the Gauteng Province. The GPEMF, inter alia, serves the following purposes: • To provide a strategic and overall framework for environmental management in Gauteng; • Align sustainable development initiatives with the environmental resources, developmental pressures, as well as the growth imperatives of Gauteng; • Determine geographical areas where certain activities can be excluded from an EIA process; and • Identify appropriate, inappropriate and conditionally compatible activities in various Environmental Management Zones in a manner that promotes proactive decision-	Aspects of this management framework are applicable to the Proposed Project. Where applicable, these will be considered throughout the S&EIA process and will be included within the reporting documents.

Policies, Guidelines and By-Laws	
making.	
<u>The Public Participation Guidelines in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2017</u> This document aims to assist with the participation process of all interested and affected parties regarding any Proposed Project. This guideline provides information and guidance for proponents or applicants, interested and affected parties, competent authorities and environmental assessment practitioners on the public participation requirements of the act, as well as provides information on the characteristics of a vigorous and inclusive public participation process.	This guideline was used to ensure that all of the required steps are followed to ensure that a complete and successful public participation process is conducted.
<u>Integrated Environmental Management Guideline on Need and Desirability, 2017</u> This document assists Environmental assessment practitioners on the best practice as well as how to meet the peremptory requirements prescribed by the legislation as well as sets out both the strategic and statutory context for the consideration of the need and desirability of a development involving any one of the NEMA listed activities. This document further sets out a list of questions which should be addressed when considering need and desirability of a proposed development.	This guideline was used to ensure that the need and desirability of the project was correctly considered and that the need and desirability of the project was thoroughly considered.

4. The Need and Desirability of the Project

The “need and desirability” during an environmental authorisation application process must be addressed throughout all stages of the EIA process. During the Scoping phase (present phase) the Need and Desirability Guideline (GN891 of 2014) questions will be used to identify key issues and alternatives and will help to determine which areas require further investigation in the EIA Phase (to follow), and which areas do not require further information.

The assessment of the need and desirability of the Proposed Project was done in terms of the Department of Environmental Affairs (now the DFFE) Guideline on Need and Desirability (2017) and will be updated during the EIA Phase as more information becomes available (i.e. specialist studies).

The successful implementation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) reclamation project will enable Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd to continue its programme of reclaiming historic tailings facilities across the Central and East Rand. These reclamation activities contribute significantly to the progressive and permanent removal of numerous legacy TSFs that are widely dispersed throughout the Gauteng Province. The project will further facilitate the release of currently sterilised land, making it available for economically productive redevelopment in alignment with the objectives of the Gauteng Mine Residue Area Strategy (2012), the Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Spatial Development Framework (2015), and the Gauteng Environmental Management Framework (2014), all of which advocate for the systematic removal of historic TSFs from the Gauteng landscape.

The continued operation of Ergo Mining represents a substantial long-term investment in the eastern regions of Gauteng, with an anticipated operational lifespan of approximately 12 years. The associated economic benefits include sustained job creation and a positive economic multiplier effect, which are strongly aligned with government objectives aimed at accelerating sustainable employment opportunities and supporting local economic development.

Ergo’s strategic objective is to reprocess the remaining large historic TSFs within Gauteng, including, but not limited to, the Marievale Cluster, Crown Tailings Complex, Benoni Cluster, and additional tailings facilities located in the Springs area. Through the implementation of these reclamation activities, approximately 1 800 hectares of sterilised mine land will be cleared and rehabilitated for alternative land uses, including wilderness conservation or industrial development.

In addition to the economic benefits associated with land reuse, the retreatment and removal of historic tailings significantly reduce environmental and social impacts experienced by surrounding communities. These benefits include reductions in windblown dust, contaminated surface runoff, and fine sediment siltation affecting downstream environments. Furthermore, the removal of tailings facilities from highly sensitive, permeable dolomitic landscapes—which are susceptible to acid mine drainage (AMD), sinkhole formation, and the rapid migration of contaminants within groundwater systems—provides substantial long-term environmental benefits.

The reclamation and rehabilitation of historic TSFs is anticipated to reduce groundwater seepage by approximately 3.7 million cubic metres per annum, equivalent to just over 10 000 cubic metres per day across the Witwatersrand region. This reduction represents a significant decrease in potential groundwater contamination and is expected to result in a corresponding reduction of approximately 7 400 tonnes per annum in sulphate salt loading to underlying groundwater aquifers.

Table 4-1 overleaf addresses the Need and Desirability Guideline questions.

Table 4-1: Considerations of Need and Desirability of the Proposed Project

Question	Response and Reference in The Report
Securing ecological sustainable development and use of natural resources	
How will this development (and its separate elements / aspects) impact on the ecological integrity of the area?	The Proposed Project will occur on the footprint of the old TSF which is situated 4km away from Springs Town, within the City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Area. The dump is located within ward 72. This is a disturbed footprint, and the environment has been heavily impacted on by anthropogenic influences and historical mining activities.
1.1. How were the following ecological integrity considerations taken into account?:	
1.1.1. Threatened Ecosystems	
1.1.2. Sensitive, vulnerable, highly dynamic or stressed ecosystems, such as coastal shores, estuaries, wetlands, and similar systems require specific attention in management and planning procedures, especially where they are subject to significant human resource usage and development pressure	The Proposed Project area is drained in a north-easterly direction towards the Blesbokspruit stream. The project is also located adjacent to the operational Grootvlei Proprietary Mines Ltd, Aurum Metals (Pty) Ltd and Gravelotte Mines Ltd. The provincial and international frameworks and guidelines considered for the Proposed Project are detailed in Table 3-1 and Table 3-2.
1.1.3. Critical Biodiversity Areas (“CBAs”) and Ecological Support Areas (“ESAs”),	The Biodiversity Impact Assessment will investigate the impacts that could occur from the reclamation activities
1.1.4. Conservation targets,	
1.1.5. Ecological drivers of the ecosystem,	Section 8.8 of this FSR provides ecological background information.
1.1.6. Environmental Management Framework,	
1.1.7. Spatial Development Framework, and	
1.1.8. Global and international responsibilities relating to the environment (e.g., RAMSAR sites, Climate Change, etc.).	
1.2. How will this development disturb or enhance ecosystems and / or result in the loss or protection of biological diversity? What measures were explored to firstly avoid these negative impacts, and where these negative impacts could not be avoided altogether, what measures were explored to minimise and remedy	The Proposed Project will occur on the footprint of the Ergo mining right this facility was historically used previously as a mining waste deposition site and has been dormant for some time. This is a disturbed footprint, and the environment has been

Question	Response and Reference in The Report
(including offsetting) the impacts? What measures were explored to enhance positive impacts?	heavily impacted on by anthropogenic influences and historical mining activities. The Biodiversity Impact Assessment will investigate the impacts that could occur from the reclamation activities.
1.3. How will this development pollute and / or degrade the biophysical environment? What measures were explored to firstly avoid these impacts, and where impacts could not be avoided altogether, what measures were explored to minimise and remedy (including offsetting) the impacts? What measures were explored to enhance positive impacts?	TSFs are used to store the byproducts of mining operations, known as tailings. Tailings have historically led to environmental impacts. The reclamation of this TSF could potentially lead to additional impacts to the area which will require investigation. Groundwater and Surface water Impact Assessments will be conducted during the EIA Phase to evaluate the nature and extent of potential impacts and to develop appropriate mitigation measures. An Air Quality Impact Assessment will be undertaken to identify the current impacts and the impacts of reclamation. Stormwater management options will also be investigated during the EIA Phase. During the active reclamation the Ergo team will continue to ensure the safety and stability of the TSF.
1.4. What waste will be generated by this development? What measures were explored to firstly avoid waste, and where waste could not be avoided altogether, what measures were explored to minimise, reuse and / or recycle the waste? What measures have been explored to safely treat and / or dispose of unavoidable waste?	WML is being applied for as part of the EA application. The project might also generate a minimal amount of general (domestic) waste. Ergo has a Waste Management Procedure for all its activities and this will be implemented at the TSF. Mitigation measures to manage waste will be included in the EMP.
1.5. How will this development disturb or enhance landscapes and / or sites that constitute the nation's cultural heritage? What measures were explored to firstly avoid these impacts, and where impacts could not be avoided altogether, what measures were explored to minimise and remedy (including offsetting) the impacts?	The 6L14 TSF is in existence and has already changed the visual landscape of the area. The removal of the TSF may impact the local cultural heritage due to the historical impact and presence it has had in the area. This will be investigated by cultural heritage specialists during the EIA Phase.

Question	Response and Reference in The Report
What measures were explored to enhance positive impacts?	
1.6. How will this development use and / or impact on non-renewable natural resources? What measures were explored to ensure responsible and equitable use of the resources? How have the consequences of the depletion of the non-renewable natural resources been considered? What measures were explored to firstly avoid these impacts, and where impacts could not be avoided altogether, what measures were explored to minimise and remedy (including offsetting) the impacts? What measures were explored to enhance positive impacts?	Resources which will be utilised for the project include water and electricity. Resources which will be utilised for the project include water and electricity. Electricity is currently sourced from Eskom. In terms of process water, the water cycle operates as a closed circuit, meaning that limited make-up water will be required for the reclamation of the TSF. The Proposed Project also intends on recovering value from existing on surface material and not any non-renewable natural resources. The Proposed Project will also result in the minimisation of an in-situ waste stream.
1.7. How will this development use and / or impact on renewable natural resources and the ecosystem of which they are part? Will the use of the resources and / or impact on the ecosystem jeopardise the integrity of the resource and / or system taking into account carrying capacity restrictions, limits of acceptable change, and thresholds? What measures were explored to firstly avoid the use of resources, or if avoidance is not possible, to minimise the use of resources? What measures were taken to ensure responsible and equitable use of the resources? What measures were explored to enhance positive impacts? 1.7.1. Does the proposed development exacerbate the increased dependency on increased use of resources to maintain economic growth or does it reduce resource dependency (i.e. de-materialised growth)? (note: sustainability requires that settlements reduce their ecological footprint by using less material and energy demands and reduce the amount of waste they generate, without compromising their quest to improve their quality of life) 1.7.2. Does the proposed use of natural resources constitute the best use thereof? Is the use justifiable when considering intra- and intergenerational equity, and are	The Proposed Project is the reclamation of an existing TSF and therefore additional resources required for the proposed development will be minimal. The only resources to be used include water and electricity. Electricity is currently sourced from Eskom. In terms of process water, the water cycle operates as a closed circuit, meaning that limited make-up water will be required for the reclamation of the TSF. Make up water required for the reclamation activity will be sourced from existing 5L27 process water sources on site. Options for supply are being investigated from the Return Water Dam or Holding Dam.

Question	Response and Reference in The Report
there more important priorities for which the resources should be used (i.e. what are the opportunity costs of using these resources this the proposed development alternative?) 1.7.3. Do the proposed location, type and scale of development promote a reduced dependency on resources?	
1.8. How were a risk-averse and cautious approach applied in terms of ecological impacts? 1.8.1. What are the limits of current knowledge (note: the gaps, uncertainties and assumptions must be clearly stated)? 1.8.2. What is the level of risk associated with the limits of current knowledge? 1.8.3. Based on the limits of knowledge and the level of risk, how and to what extent was a risk-averse and cautious approach applied to the development?	The list of gaps and uncertainties will be listed in the EIA once the specialist studies have been completed. The potential for Acid Mine Drainage (AMD) formation will be determined by means of a geochemical model in the Groundwater Impact Assessment. It must be understood that this does not represent the actual impacts as they are realised. The potential impacts of air quality and noise will also be determined by modelling simulations. This is as accurate as can be predicted but may not represent the actual impacts as they are realised. To validate modelled predictions, dust fallout monitoring, surface- and groundwater, and radiological monitoring must be undertaken throughout the project life.
1.9. How will the ecological impacts resulting from this development impact on people's environmental right in terms following: 1.9.1. Negative impacts: e.g., access to resources, opportunity costs, loss of amenity (e.g. open space), air and water quality impacts, nuisance (noise, odour, etc.), health impacts, visual impacts, etc. What measures were taken to firstly avoid negative impacts, but if avoidance is not possible, to minimise, manage and remedy negative impacts? 1.9.2. Positive impacts: e.g., improved access to resources, improved amenity, improved air or water quality, etc. What measures were taken to enhance positive	The Social Impact Assessment will be assessed during the EIA Phase. Section 9.2 of this report lists potential impacts identified.

Question	Response and Reference in The Report
impacts?	
1.10. Describe the linkages and dependencies between human wellbeing, livelihoods, and ecosystem services applicable to the area in question and how the development's ecological impacts will result in socio-economic impacts (e.g., on livelihoods, loss of heritage site, opportunity costs, etc.)?	The reclamation will have minimal socio-economic impacts. The proposed area where the project will be undertaken is an operational mine. The local community cannot access the Proposed Project area. The Proposed Project will not impact the ecological services of the local community. A Social Impact Assessment, Air Quality Impact Assessment and Heritage Impact Assessment will be undertaken during the EIA Phase to evaluate the nature and extent of potential impacts, and to develop appropriate mitigation measures. Activities are primarily with existing mining and processing footprints. The possible impacts will be considered, and the required mitigation and minimisation measures will be investigated and suggested.
1.11. Based on all the above, how will this development positively or negatively impact on ecological integrity objectives / targets / considerations of the area?	Section 9.2 of this FSR list potential impacts identified.
1.12. Considering the need to secure ecological integrity and a healthy biophysical environment, describe how the alternatives identified (in terms of all the different elements of the development and all the different impacts being proposed), resulted in the selection of the “best practicable environmental option” in terms of ecological considerations?	The Proposed Project is an existing facility and therefore no location alternative was assessed. The location of the site and associated infrastructure are limited but various options are being investigated. The best practical environmental option will be investigated and identified during the EIA Phase.
1.13. Describe the positive and negative cumulative ecological / biophysical impacts bearing in mind the size, scale, scope, and nature of the project in relation to its location and existing and other planned developments in the area?	Section 9.2 of this FSR lists potential impacts identified. These will be expanded on in the EIA Phase.
Promoting justifiable economic and social development	
2.1. What is the socio-economic context of the area, based on, amongst other considerations, the following considerations?:	A Social Impact Assessment will be undertaken. The Socio-Economic context of the region and the area around the 6L14 TSF is described in Section 8.14
2.1.1. The IDP (and its sector plans' vision, objectives, strategies, indicators, and	Table 3-1 and Table 3-2 in Section 3 details the applicable provincial and local policies, guidelines and by-laws considered during the EIA process.

Question	Response and Reference in The Report
targets) and any other strategic plans, frameworks of policies applicable to the area, 2.1.2. Spatial priorities and desired spatial patterns (e.g., need for integrated of segregated communities, need to upgrade informal settlements, need for densification, etc.), 2.1.3. Spatial characteristics (e.g., existing land uses, planned land uses, cultural landscapes, etc.), and 2.1.4. Municipal Economic Development Strategy (“LED Strategy”).	
2.2 Considering the socio-economic context, what will the socio-economic impacts be of the development (and its separate elements / aspects), and specifically also on the socio-economic objectives of the area? 2.2.1. Will the development complement the local socioeconomic initiatives (such as local economic development (LED) initiatives), or skills development programs?	The Proposed Project is the removal of an existing TSF that will not result in any further economic benefits for the employees or nearby communities. However, if the project is authorised, it will provide continuous employment for a portion of the current Ergo employees.
2.3 How will this development address the specific physical, psychological, developmental, cultural, and social needs and interests of the relevant communities?	The development will contribute to the ongoing operation of Ergo’s processing plant and reclamation activities. Although this will not create permanent additional employment opportunities, it will allow for the continued employment for Ergo’s employees. This will be beneficial to the existing employees of Ergo and will allow Ergo to continue to positively contribute to the regional economy and GDP. The project will create temporary employment opportunities during the construction period. The TSF reclamation is however unlikely to meet any specific needs and interests or result in positive benefits for the communities surrounding the TSF.
2.4 Will the development result in equitable (intra- and intergenerational) impact distribution, in the short and long-term? Will the impact be socially and economically sustainable in the short- and long-term?	The development will contribute to the ongoing operation of Ergo’s processing plant and reclamation activities. This will promote the continued employment of Ergo

Question	Response and Reference in The Report
	employees. The Proposed Project will enable the continued removal of TSFs across the region. The removal of TSFs will make land available for redevelopment which will benefit communities and businesses.
2.5. In terms of location, describe how the placement of the proposed development will: 2.5.1. result in the creation of residential and employment opportunities in close proximity to or integrated with each other, 2.5.2. reduce the need for transport of people and goods, 2.5.3. result in access to public transport or enable nonmotorized and pedestrian transport (e.g., will the development result in densification and the achievement of thresholds in terms public transport), 2.5.4. compliment other uses in the area, 2.5.5. be in line with the planning for the area, 2.5.6. for urban related development, make use of underutilised land available with the urban edge, 2.5.7. optimise the use of existing resources and infrastructure, 2.5.8. opportunity costs in terms of bulk infrastructure expansions in non-priority areas (e.g., not aligned with the bulk infrastructure planning for the settlement that	Ergo's employment policies indicate that where feasible, employment should be offered to local residents. Residential opportunities will not be generated by the project. The Proposed Project will not reduce the need for transport of people and goods or result in changes to public transport. The Proposed Project will not improve access to public transport or enable non-motorised and pedestrian transport. The TSF is an existing facility, and the footprint will not be expanded. The Proposed Project is not related to urban development and will not result in the construction of bulk infrastructure for public use. Most of the infrastructure will be removed from site at closure. The continued reclamation activities that the TSF will enable will result in land previously sterilised by TSF to be made available for development. This is in line with the Gauteng Mine Residue Area Strategy (2011). The Proposed Project is unlikely to result in urban sprawl. Electricity is currently sourced from Eskom. In terms of process water, the water cycle operates as a closed circuit, meaning that limited make-up water will be required for the reclamation of the TSF. Make up water required for the reclamation activity will be sourced from the 5L27 existing operational pumpstation and conveyed through existing process

Question	Response and Reference in The Report
reflects the spatial reconstruction priorities of the settlement), 2.5.9. discourage "urban sprawl" and contribute to compaction/densification, 2.5.10. contribute to the correction of the historically distorted spatial patterns of settlements and to the optimum use of existing infrastructure in excess of current needs, 2.5.11. encourage environmentally sustainable land development practices and processes, 2.5.12. take into account special locational factors that might favour the specific location (e.g., the location of a strategic mineral resource, access to the port, access to rail, etc.), 2.5.12. the investment in the settlement or area in question will generate the highest socio-economic returns (i.e., an area with high economic potential), 2.5.13. impact on the sense of history, sense of place and heritage of the area and the socio-cultural and cultural historic characteristics and sensitivities of the area, and 2.5.14. in terms of the nature, scale and location of the development promote or act as a catalyst to create a more integrated settlement?	water pipeline to the Proposed Project for reuse in a closed-circuit system, while the main supply will come from the Regional Tailings Storage Facility (RTSF) return water. The Proposed Project will make use of the existing road networks and will not include the construction of any additional residential settlements.
2.6. How were a risk-averse and cautious approach applied in terms of socio-economic impacts? 2.6.1. What are the limits of current knowledge (note: the gaps, uncertainties and assumptions must be clearly stated)? 2.6.2. What is the level of risk (note: related to inequality, social fabric, livelihoods,	A Social Impact Assessment will be undertaken, and the gaps and limitations will be included in the EIA Report.

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vulnerable communities, critical resources, economic vulnerability, and sustainability) associated with the limits of current knowledge?	
2.6.3. Based on the limits of knowledge and the level of risk, how and to what extent was a risk-averse and cautious approach applied to the development?	
2.7. How will the socio-economic impacts resulting from this development impact on people's environmental right in terms following:	The negative impacts will be identified in the Social Impact Assessment and will be presented in the EIA Phase.
2.7.1. Negative impacts: e.g., health (e.g. HIV-Aids), safety, social ills, etc. What measures were taken to firstly avoid negative impacts, but if avoidance is not possible, to minimise, manage and remedy negative impacts?	Mitigation measures relating to the potential Socio-Economic impacts will be included in the EMPr. Potential impacts are listed in Table 9-5.
2.7.2. Positive impacts. What measures were taken to enhance positive impacts?	
2.8 Considering the linkages and dependencies between human wellbeing, livelihoods, and ecosystem services, describe the linkages and dependencies applicable to the area in question and how the development's socio-economic impacts will result in ecological impacts (e.g., over utilisation of natural resources, etc.)?	Please refer to section 9.2 of the scoping report list potential impacts identified. These will be expanded on in the EIA Phase.
2.9 What measures were taken to pursue the selection of the "best practicable environmental option" in terms of socioeconomic considerations?	The "best practicable environmental option" will be identified in the EIA Phase where specialists' findings and recommendations will be considered.
2.10 What measures were taken to pursue environmental justice so that adverse environmental impacts shall not be distributed in such a manner as to unfairly discriminate against any person, particularly vulnerable and disadvantaged persons (who are the beneficiaries and is the development located appropriately)? Considering the need for social equity and justice, do the alternatives identified, allow the "best practicable environmental option" to be selected, or is there a need for other alternatives to be considered?	The mine also has a SLP in place and this would also cover the proposed project. A comprehensive public participation process, guided by Chapter 6 of the EIA Regulations (GNR982 of 2014), will be undertaken throughout the Scoping and EIA Phase. The Public Participation Process followed is described in Section 7 of this FSR. The EMPr will provide mitigation measures for any expected impacts on all sectors of society and include grievance management measures.
2.11 What measures were taken to pursue equitable access to environmental	The Proposed Project area is not providing any ecosystem services as the land has

Question	Response and Reference in The Report
resources, benefits, and services to meet basic human needs and ensure human wellbeing, and what special measures were taken to ensure access thereto by categories of persons disadvantaged by unfair discrimination?	been transformed by agricultural grazing area and historic mining activities. Therefore, should the project go ahead, it would not affect equitable access to environmental resources, benefits, and services to meet basic human needs.
2.12. What measures were taken to ensure that the responsibility for the environmental health and safety consequences of the development has been addressed throughout the development's life cycle?	The EMPr will provide mitigation measures for any expected impacts throughout the life cycle of the project – construction, operation, decommissioning, closure, and post-closure. The TSF should be designed and operated using best practice and the Code of Practice for Mine Residue (SANS 10286) that include stringent safety precautions to prevent TSF failure. The proposed activities will be operated in strict accordance with the requirements of the Mine Health and Safety Act, No. 29 of 1996. The EIA will also include a Financial Provision report for closure to ensure that the rehabilitation and any long-term impacts of the expanded TSF are adequately provided for.
2.13. What measures were taken to: 2.13.1. ensure the participation of all interested and affected parties, 2.13.2. provide all people with an opportunity to develop the understanding, skills and capacity necessary for achieving equitable and effective participation, 2.13.3. ensure participation by vulnerable and disadvantaged persons, 2.13.4. promote community wellbeing and empowerment through environmental education, the raising of environmental awareness, the sharing of knowledge and	A comprehensive public participation process will be undertaken as per the requirements of Chapter 6 of the EIA Regulations (GNR982 of 2014), detailed in Section 7 of this FSR.

Question	Response and Reference in The Report
experience and other appropriate means, 2.13.5. ensure openness and transparency, and access to information in terms of the process, 2.13.6. ensure that the interests, needs and values of all interested and affected parties were taken into account, and that adequate recognition were given to all forms of knowledge, including traditional and ordinary knowledge, and 2.13.7. ensure that the vital role of women and youth in environmental management and development were recognised and their full participation therein were be promoted?	
2.14. Considering the interests, needs and values of all the interested and affected parties, describe how the development will allow for opportunities for all the segments of the community (e.g., a mixture of low-, middle-, and high income housing opportunities) that is consistent with the priority needs of the local area (or that is proportional to the needs of an area)	A comprehensive public participation process is being undertaken as per the requirements of Chapter 6 of the EIA Regulations (GNR982 of 2014), detailed in Section 7 of this FSR.
2.15. What measures have been taken to ensure that current and / or future workers will be informed of work that potentially might be harmful to human health or the environment or of dangers associated with the work, and what measures have been taken to ensure that the right of workers to refuse such work will be respected and protected?	Ergo will comply with the requirements of the Mine Health and Safety Act, No. 29 of 1996 and will ensure that itself and the contractor/s employed will comply with the relevant legislation and company policies.
2.16. Describe how the development will impact on job creation in terms of, amongst other aspects: 2.16.1. the number of temporary versus permanent jobs that will be created, 2.16.2. whether the labour available in the area will be able to take up the job	Ergo's employment policies indicate that where feasible, employment should be offered to local labour.

Question	Response and Reference in The Report
opportunities (i.e., do the required skills match the skills available in the area), 2.16.3. the distance from where labourers will have to travel, 2.16.4. the location of jobs opportunities versus the location of impacts (i.e., equitable distribution of costs and benefits), and 2.16.5. the opportunity costs in terms of job creation (e.g., a mine might create 100 jobs, but impact on 1000 agricultural jobs, etc.).	
2.17. What measures were taken to ensure: 2.17.1. that there were intergovernmental coordination and harmonisation of policies, legislation and actions relating to the environment, and 2.17.2. that actual or potential conflicts of interest between organs of state were resolved through conflict resolution procedures?	Section 3 of this report details all relevant national and local legislation, policies, and guidelines that have been reviewed and incorporated. During the Scoping phase, all relevant State Departments will be provided with copies of environmental documentation for comment and will be afforded the same opportunity during the EIA Phase.
2.18. What measures were taken to ensure that the environment will be held in public trust for the people, that the beneficial use of environmental resources will serve the public interest, and that the environment will be protected as the people's common heritage?	The project does not provide any ecosystem services, and no ecosystem services will be lost if the Proposed Project is granted. All environmental impacts, including appropriate mitigation and management measures as well as monitoring measures, will be considered by the EAP and incorporated into the EIA/ EMPr. The project area will be rehabilitated at decommissioning and closure and adequate financial provision will be allocated towards this endeavour.
2.19. Are the mitigation measures proposed realistic and what long-term environmental legacy and managed burden will be left?	The mitigation measures which will be set out in the EMPr will be realistic and practical. If the recommended closure measures are successfully implemented, it is anticipated that the project area will be of an improved condition after rehabilitation and closure.

Question	Response and Reference in The Report
2.20. What measures were taken to ensure that the costs of remedying pollution, environmental degradation and consequent adverse health effects and of preventing, controlling or minimising further pollution, environmental damage or adverse health effects will be paid for by those responsible for harming the environment?	The Proposed Project is being implemented as a means of reducing pollution, by allowing the TSF to be reclaimed and the reprocessed tailings to be deposited at a controlled facility. In accordance with the requirements of Regulations 5 and 6 of the NEMA Regulations on Financial Provision (GN940 of 2014) and the DMPR Guidelines on Financial Provision, the quantum for closure-related financial provision will be determined to ensure that adequate funds are made available upfront (prior to the commencement of the project) for the rehabilitation, management, and remediation of negative residual environmental impacts. The EMPr will provide mitigation, management and monitoring measures to ensure that potential negative impacts are managed throughout the life of the project and post-closure. The Applicant will be legally bound to comply with the conditions of the EMPr.
2.21. Considering the need to secure ecological integrity and a healthy bio-physical environment, describe how the alternatives identified (in terms of all the different elements of the development and all the different impacts being proposed), resulted in the selection of the best practicable environmental option in terms of socio-economic considerations?	The best practice environmental option will only be identified in the EIA Report, taking into consideration all of the specialists' findings.
2.22. Describe the positive and negative cumulative socioeconomic impacts bearing in mind the size, scale, scope and nature of the project in relation to its location and other planned developments in the area?	The cumulative socio-economic impacts will be identified by Social Impact Assessment being undertaken and will be included during the EIA phase.

5. Period for which the Environmental Authorisation is Required

The Environmental Authorisation (EA) is required for 12 years. Subsequent amendments can be lodged as the operational structures change accordingly.

6. Description of the Process Followed to Reach the Proposed Preferred Site

6.1 The Consideration of Alternatives

In accordance with the requirements outlined in Appendix 2 of the EIA 2014 Regulations, as amended, a consideration of reasonable and feasible alternatives, including site and technology alternatives and the “do-nothing” alternative must be undertaken. Each alternative is to be accompanied by a description and comparative assessment of the advantages and disadvantages that such development and activities will pose on the environment and socio-economy. When no feasible and/or reasonable alternatives can be identified and investigated in terms of a comparative assessment during the Scoping Phase, the EIA Report will then not contain a section with alternatives.

The EIA 2014 Regulations, as amended, define alternatives as the different means of meeting the general purpose and requirements of the activity, which may include alternatives to:

- The property on which or location where it is proposed to undertake the activity;
- The type of activity to be undertaken;
- The design or layout of the activity;
- The technology to be used in the activity;
- The operational aspects of the activity; and
- The option of not implementing the activity.

Although a collection of alternatives may exist for the Proposed Project, only feasible alternatives have been considered for this FSR and are discussed in greater detail below. Kongiwe strives to seek alternatives that maximise efficient and sustainable resource utilisation and minimise environmental impacts.

6.1.1 The Property on which or Location where it is Proposed to Undertake the Activity

The Proposed Project is the reclamation of an existing TSF. Therefore, there can be no alternative sites.

Currently the TSF is a passive mineral disposal area with no other land use or development associated with them. The goal of reclamation will be to return the sites to a condition that most resembles the pre-mining condition. When the TSF has been reclaimed, rehabilitated and cleared of radiation the land will be levelled and revegetated to match the surrounding environment. The land will then be returned to the landowner to use at their discretion.

6.1.2 The Type of Activity to be Undertaken

The only optional activity for Ergo is to reclaim and reprocess the existing TSF. Gold reclamation and processing is the recovery and treatment of gold surface tailings generated from historical underground mining operations. According to DRDGOLD (2018), the retreatment business is high-volume and low-risk. Vast quantities of material are processed

monthly through their plants to recover Gold from old mine dumps at a recovery rate that varies depending on the material being treated.

The depleting quantity and quality of Gold recovered from underground mining operations in the province versus the extensive safety and environmental risks, as well as the labour and electricity costs associated with the activity has seen an underlining increase in the attractiveness of gold tailings reclamation. This, together with the incentive to find a solution to Gauteng’s TSF-related issues, has led to the ‘Preferred Activity’.

Table 6-1: The advantages and disadvantages of reclaiming and reprocessing of the TSF – Preferred

Option	Advantage	Disadvantage
Reclaiming and reprocessing of the TSF (Preferred)	• Low-technical-risk nature of tailings retreatment projects sets them apart from traditional underground operations. • Not labour intensive. • Minimal safety issues. • Easy access to surface tailings, as well as lower labour and operating costs. • Boost to local economy. • Removal of pollution source after rehabilitation and cessation of project.	• Potential profits rely on substantial volumes of material. • Potential negative environmental effects during construction and operational phase of the project.

6.1.3 Design and Layout of the Alternatives

The design and layout plan for the Proposed Project will be refined during the EIA Phase (refer to Figure 6-1). The layout plan is dictated by the existing location of the TSF and its associated infrastructure

The existing paddocks/stormwater dams may need to be desilted and/or reinstated. The paddocks are provided to capture storm water overflow from the TSF in the event of a rain event and for pump station overflows. If water accumulates within the storm water paddock below the pump stations it will be pumped back into the reticulation circuit.

No alternative design and layout option considered, all other ancillary infrastructure will be assessed by specialist studies and will be addressed in the EIA Phase.



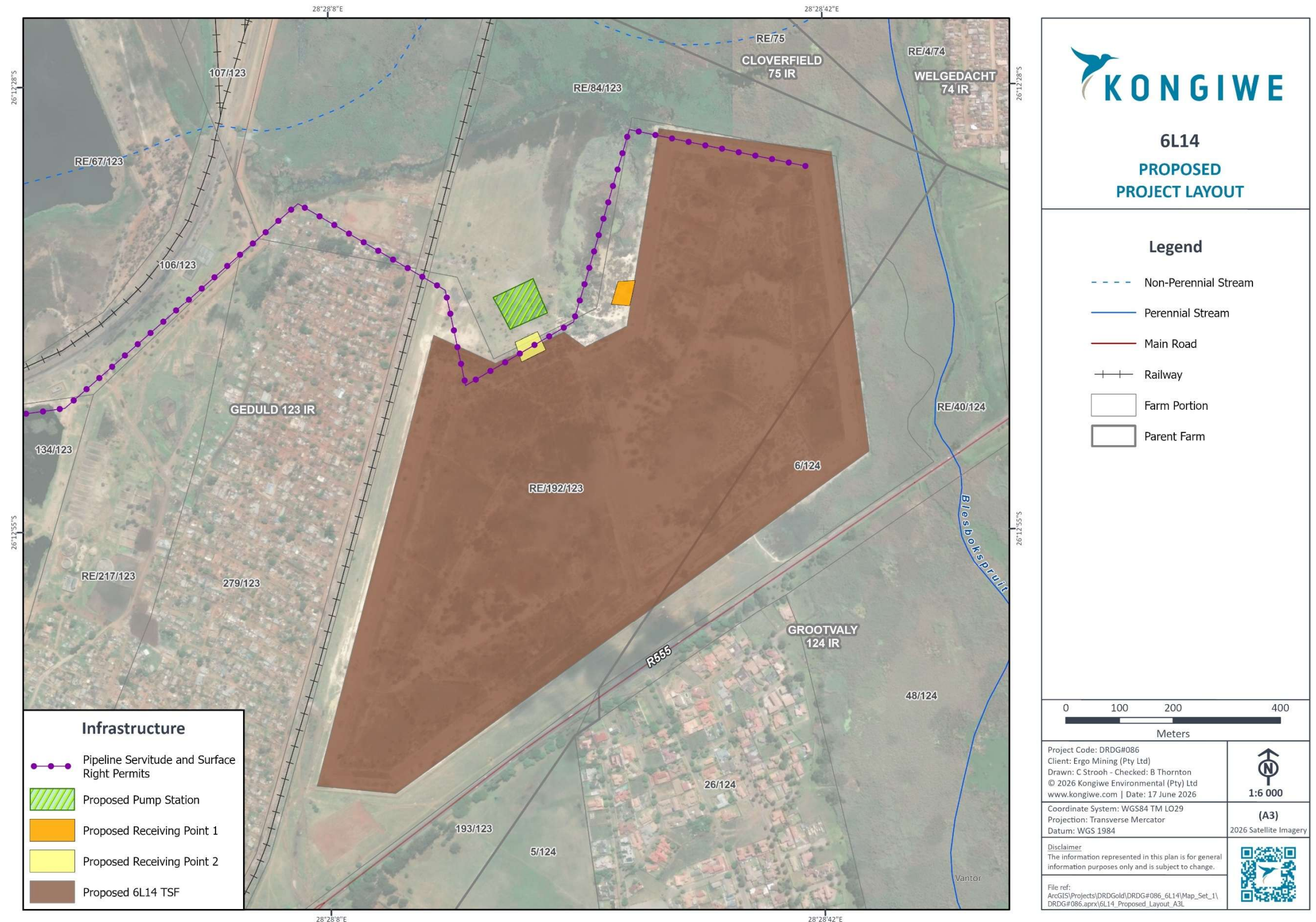


Figure 6-1: 6L14 Proposed Project Layout Map

6.1.4 The Technology to be used in the activity

The reclamation of the TSF is the “Preferred Activity” and there are no alternatives. The dump will be reclaimed using top-down **Hydraulic reclamation**. Other technology options which will be considered by Ergo for the reclamation of the TSF are recycling initiatives, water conservation and electricity alternatives. These technology alternatives are discussed in greater detail below.

Hydraulic Reclamation

Hydraulic reclamation is a method which uses a mobile, high-pressure water monitor to erode the slime dams in sections, washing the unconsolidated tailings material downstream (slurry) which is collected in a sump. Slimes dams are generally segregated by the coarseness of the material and grade of gold, and if a particular area of a dam is too coarse for pumping then blending is required. Once the required slurry density is obtained in the sump, and screening has prevented large objects from passing, the slurry is then pumped to thickeners and the underflow is reprocessed in a licenced processing plant. Waste material, after processing is then deposited onto a licenced TSF. A typical flow sheet for the reprocessing of a slimes dam is shown in Figure 6-2 below:

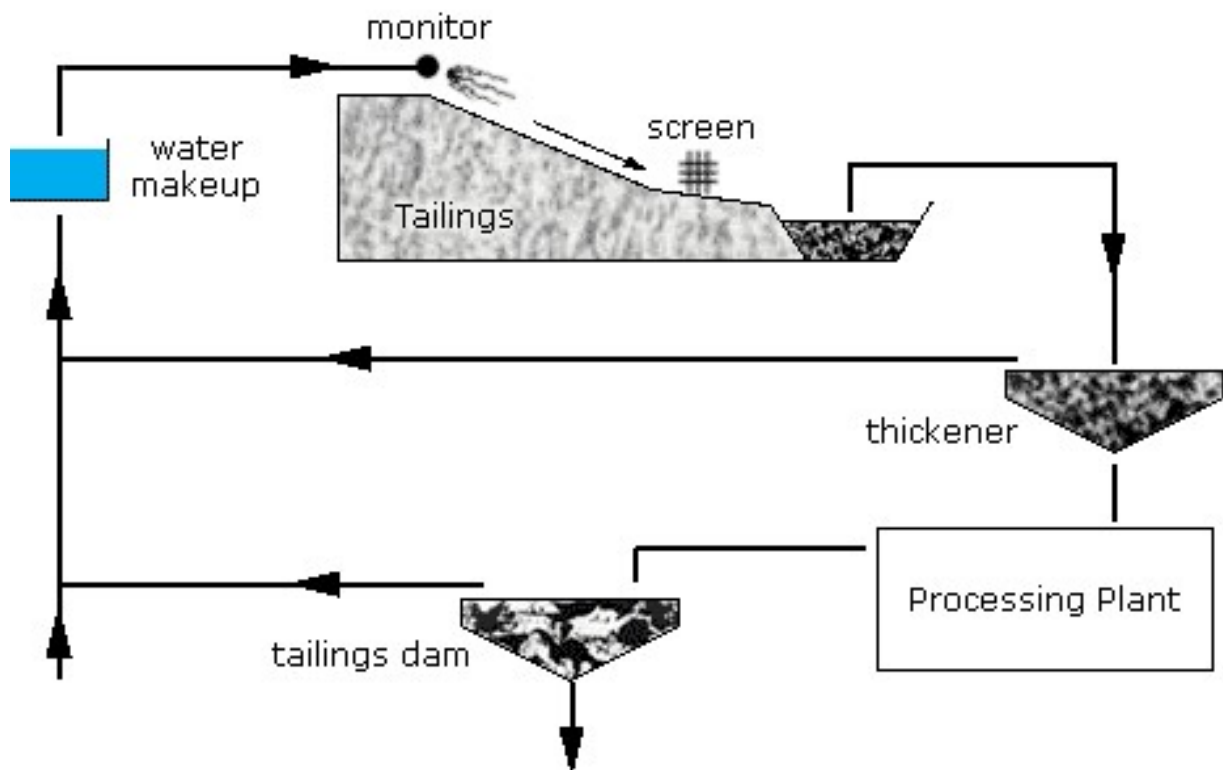


Figure 6-2: A typical flow sheet for the reprocessing of a slimes dam

Ergo believes that it will implement the best available technology in the best possible combination, in a way which is cost effective for this specific project. Best practices (as utilised in the industry) have been selected and, where applicable, SANS standards and legislative requirements will be followed in design, construction and management of infrastructure and activities on site.

Table 6-2: The advantages and disadvantages of hydraulic reclamation

Option	Advantage	Disadvantage
Hydraulic Reclamation	• Cost effective. • Easier to transport slurry for processing. • Compatible with existing infrastructure. • Lowered risks when compared to other methods of reclamation.	• Dust emissions which are to be mitigated. • Not very labour intensive, thus new employment opportunities are limited. • May cause environmental impacts if not done responsibly.

Recycling, Water and Electricity

The reclamation of the TSF will, in its operational phase, implement recycling policies and measures for optimal utilisation of resources and minimisation of waste generation. Potable water will be purchased from Rand Water/CoE Municipality, with a contingency for portable JoJo tanks or connection to existing water pipeline infrastructure. In terms of process water reticulation, the water cycle operates as a closed circuit, meaning that limited make-up water will be required for the reclamation of the TSF.

Water required for the reclamation activity will be sourced from the 5L27 existing operational pumpstation and conveyed through existing process water pipeline to the Proposed Project for reuse in a closed-circuit system.

Fuel types will be investigated, and energy conserving measures will be implemented where necessary.

Process alternatives imply the investigation of alternative processes or technologies that can be used to achieve the same goal. This includes using environmentally friendly designs or materials and re-using scarce resources like water and non-renewable energy sources. The preferred options, in terms of recycling, water and energy have been described below for the Proposed Project.

6.1.5 The Operational Aspects of the Activity

Only existing pipeline route is being considered for the transportation of slurry and return water. There are no alternatives to the processing plant and depositional facility, as all reclaimed slurry will be processed at the existing Ergo Brakpan Plant and deposition will take place at the RTSF.

The TSF is to be reclaimed, and slurry is transported via the existing pipelines network from the lowest point of a TSF where it will then be pumped and conveyed to the Ergo Brakpan Plant for reprocessing, while process water for reclamation will come from 5L27 existing operational pumpstation to the TSF. Deposition will also take place at the Brakpan/Withok and Daggafontein RTSF.

Table 6-3: The advantages and disadvantages of the operational alternative considered

Option	Advantage	Disadvantage
Existing Pipelines to/from: Ergo Brakpan Plant, RTSF and associated slurry	• The pipelines, plant and deposition facility are existing. • Existing Welded, HDPE lined steel pipelines.	• Potential for tampering with infrastructure which could lead to mechanical failures and spillages.

Option	Advantage	Disadvantage
and return water pipeline (s)	- The RTSF is currently the preferred deposition facility for Ergo's reclamation clean-up projects. - The Plant has the capacity to recover the intended quantities of gold.	

6.1.6 The "No-Go" option

The Option of the project not proceeding would mean that the environmental and social status would remain the same as current. This implies that both negative and positive impacts would not take place. As such, the short-term negative impacts on the environment would not transpire; equally so, the long-term positive impacts such as environmental pollution source removal, economic development, skills development, and the availability of land for re-development would not occur. The only alternative land use is to leave the dumps as they stand; there is no other potential use of the space as the project area is a cluster of polluting historic mine dumps that impact upon the surrounding biophysical and social environment.

The "No-Go" Option also assumes the continuation of the current land use, implying the absence of any reclamation activities and associated infrastructures. The means that the attraction of the gold reserves located within the dumps could potentially enhance illegal mining, and if left as is, population settlement on or around the dumps could occur.

The 'No Project' alternative is not preferred due to the anticipated benefits of the proposed reclamation project. The expected indirect benefits resulting from the reclamation of the TSF include:

- Removal of a source of pollution and radiation in the area.
- The potential to unlock land for redevelopment.
- Continued supply of gold to the local and national markets, and therefore contribution to local, provincial and international economy.

7. Public Participation

The Public Participation Process described in this section is presented in summary form only. Full details of the Public Participation Process are provided in the comprehensive Public Participation Report, included as **Appendix C**.

The Public Participation Process (PPP) offers stakeholders an opportunity to be informed about the Proposed Project, to raise issues and to make suggestions for enhanced project benefits. The PPP will be undertaken to ensure compliance with the relevant legal framework applicable to the Proposed Project.

The PPP is designed to build and maintain constructive relationships. It is an ongoing process between the applicant and the Project's stakeholders that extends throughout the life of the Project. The PPP for the Project ensures that adequate and timely information is provided to all potentially Project-affected people and other stakeholders, that stakeholders are given sufficient opportunity to raise comments, and that these comments are taken into consideration during Project decisions.

7.1 Applicable Legislation

The PPP as required by the environmental laws and regulations specified therein was followed as best practice. The PPP was undertaken in line with the statutory requirements for public participation. The following legislation was considered when developing and implementing the PPP:

- National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA);
- The Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (as amended) (EIA 2014 Regulations);
- Public Participation guideline in terms of NEMA;
- The National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) (NWA);
- National Environmental Management: Waste Act 59 of 2008 (NEMWA): List of Waste Management Activities;
- The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996;
- Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act No. 4 of 2013) (POPIA);
- Promotion of Access to Information Act, 2000 (Act No. 2 of 2000) (PAIA);
- International good-practice guidelines for public participation and the Core Values of the International Association for Public Participation; and
- Any additional considerations noted in the International Finance Corporation (IFC) Performance Standards.

7.2 Objectives of the Public Participation Process

The PPP objectives for this project are to:

- Ensure that stakeholders are informed about the reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility Project.
- Provide stakeholders with the opportunity to participate in the environmental regulatory processes and provide comment.
- Involve stakeholders in identifying ways in which comments can be addressed.
- Work directly with stakeholders throughout the environmental regulatory processes to ensure that stakeholder comments are consistently understood and considered.
- Verify that stakeholder comments have been recorded and addressed.
- Create awareness of the GISTM processes and that environmental permitting is the first step to this alignment.

7.3 Communication and Engagement

7.3.1 Public Participation Materials

Considering the legislative requirements and good practice, the following documents were developed and distributed to stakeholders. The various PPP information materials will be used as part of the S&EIA and IWULA process.

Background Information Document (BID): The BID was prepared and is included as **Appendix C3**. The BID was distributed to all registered stakeholders via email on **Wednesday, 29 April 2026**, as per the stakeholder

database provided in **Appendix C6**. In addition, the BID was publicly available on the project website at: <https://kongiwe.com/projects/>

Comment and Registration Form: An I&AP registration form were sent out to stakeholders to register formally and/or to submit comments (**Appendix C3**).

Newspaper Advertisements: Newspaper adverts (**Appendix C4**) were placed in the *Springs Advertiser, a local newspaper within the Proposed Project area on Thursday, 30 April 2026*.

Site Notice: The site notices informed stakeholders about the project, regulatory requirements, public participation process, and access to information, with location details and placement records documented in **Appendix C5**.

Notification Letter with a Comment and Registration Form: Stakeholders were notified of the Proposed Project via email, invited to an open day, and provided with a Comment and Registration Form to enable registration and submission of comments (**Appendix C3**).

Telephonic discussions: Telephonic consultations were undertaken to engage stakeholders, invite participation in meetings, and capture project-related comments, which were recorded and addressed by the project team.

7.3.2 Scoping Phase Consultation

A summary of the stakeholder engagement activities undertaken during the Draft Scoping Phase is presented in this section. These activities included, inter alia:

- Stakeholder mapping and identification;
- Identification of land claims;
- Compilation and distribution of the BID;
- Placement of newspaper advertisements;
- Placement of site notices;
- Announcement of the Proposed Project and the availability of the Draft Scoping Report; and
- Conduct of stakeholder consultation meetings and broader stakeholder engagement meetings during the Scoping Phase.

Comprehensive details of these public participation activities are fully documented in the Public Participation Report, included as **Appendix C**.

7.3.3 Consultation Undertaken as part of the Final Scoping Phase

The aim of consultation during the Final Scoping Phase is to focus on the EIA process, specialist studies, and stakeholder comments, with full details outlined in the Public Participation Report (**Appendix C**).

7.3.4 Consultation with Stakeholders during the Impact Assessment Phase

During the EIA Phase, stakeholders will be consulted on specialist study findings and mitigation measures, with meetings held to present results and obtain feedback, following a format similar to the Scoping Phase.

7.3.5 Consultation during the Decision-Making Phase

Registered stakeholders will be informed of the Competent Authority's decision and the appeal process via electronic notices, SMS, newspaper advertisement, and the project website.

7.3.6 Summary of Issues raised by Stakeholders

The following key issues have been raised by I&APs thus far:

- Job creation;
- Groundwater contamination and seepage;
- Contaminated runoff;
- Cumulative impacts;
- Assessments to determine the impact of the project on wetlands; and
- Air quality impacts of the Proposed Project on the surrounding communities.

Comments raised by stakeholders are included in the Comments and Responses Report (CRR) (**Appendix C10**) of this report.

Refer to **Appendix C** of this FSR for a detailed report on the Public Participation activities that have been undertaken thus far.

8. The Baseline Environment

At this stage of the scoping phase, only high-level desktop baseline studies have been conducted based on; previous studies undertaken within the Proposed Project area, relevant literature and assessment reports received from the applicant and other forms of desktop information. However, specialist studies are on-going, and findings will be included in the EIA stage.

The DFFE screening tool was run for the Proposed Project area. The following summary of the development footprint environmental sensitivities were identified. These specific sensitivities are indicative only (see Table 8-1) and must be verified on site by a suitable qualified person. As part of the specialist studies that will be undertaken during the EIA Phase, these sensitivity themes will be investigated and verified.

Table 8-1: Screening Tool table

Theme	Very High Sensitivity	High Sensitivity	Medium Sensitivity	Low Sensitivity
Agricultural Theme		X		
Animal Theme		X		
Aquatic Theme	X			
Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Theme				X
Civil Aviation Theme		X		
Defence Theme				X
Palaeontology Theme	X			
Plant Species Theme			X	
Biodiversity Theme	X			

8.1 Site Screening Tool Verification

The Proposed Project is regulated in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, promulgated under Government Notice (GN) R982 in Government Gazette (GG) 38282 of 4 December 2014, which came into effect on 8 December 2014, as amended by GN 326 in GG 40772 of 7 April 2017, GN 706 in GG 41766 of 13 July 2018, GN 599 in GG 43358 of 29 May 2020, and GN 517 in GG 44701 of 11 June 2021.

In terms of these Regulations, an EA is required where a proposed development triggers one or more listed activities contained in Listing Notices 1, 2, and/or 3, taking into account the prescribed activity thresholds and locational criteria.

For the proposed 6L14 TSF reclamation, the determination of whether an EA is required has been informed by the National Web-Based Environmental Screening Tool, which assesses the environmental sensitivity of the receiving environment across various thematic layers. The EIA Regulations allow for the exclusion of certain listed activities from the requirement to obtain EA where such activities are located within areas classified as Low or Medium Environmental Sensitivity, as determined by the Screening Tool, and where the exclusion is applicable to specific environmental themes.

The Screening Tool assessment for the Proposed Project area indicates that the site is characterised by **Very High**, **High**, and **Low to Medium** Environmental Sensitivity, depending on the environmental theme assessed. Given the presence of High and Very High sensitivity ratings for certain themes, the proposed TSF reclamation does trigger the requirement for a full EIA, subject to confirmation of the applicable listed activities and full compliance with all procedural requirements, conditions, and inclusions prescribed in the EIA Regulations.

The National Screening Tool Report supporting this determination is included as **Appendix E** to this FSR.

8.1.1 Specialist Assessment identified by DFFE Screening Tool

Screening of the proposed project was undertaken using the DFFE National Web-Based Environmental Screening Tool. The results indicate Very High sensitivity for Aquatic Biodiversity, Palaeontology, and Terrestrial Biodiversity, and High sensitivity for Agriculture, Animal Species, and Civil Aviation. In line with the DFFE Screening Tool Guidelines, the presence of High and Very High sensitivities means that the norms and standards exclusions are not applicable. Although site sensitivity verification will be undertaken, it is anticipated that some themes will remain highly sensitive.

Reference is made to the specialist assessments identified through the screening tool, as presented in the

Table 8-2 below and the following aspects which were identified using the National Web Based Environmental Screening Tool and will be assessed as part of the EIA process are illustrated in Table 8-2 below.

Table 8-2: Screening tool sensitivity rating, Specialist assessment identified and Motivation

No	Theme	Applicable Protocol	Motivation
1	Agricultural Impact Assessment	Protocol for the specialist assessment and minimum report content requirements of environmental impact on Agricultural Resources by 6L14 Reclamation of TSF Proposed Project where the TSF covers 63.3 Hectares of proposed TSF footprint (Published in GN No.320, Government Gazette 43110, 20 March 2020).	The Screening Tool classified the Proposed Project as High Sensitivity. A review of recent satellite imagery was undertaken to further interrogate the screening outcome and to inform the need for specialist studies. Accordingly, an Agricultural Impact Assessment will not be undertaken, as part of the Proposed Project.
2	Archaeological, and Cultural Heritage	No specific environmental theme protocol has been prescribed.	The Screening Tool classified the Proposed Project as Low Sensitivity for Archaeological and Cultural Heritage. In line with DFFE Screening Tool Guidelines, this rating must be verified through site sensitivity verification before confirming the need for specialist studies. A Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) will be undertaken for the Proposed Project to identify any archaeological, palaeontological,

No	Theme	Applicable Protocol	Motivation
			or cultural heritage resources within the project footprint and associated areas of influence. The findings of the HIA will inform the EIA Phase and support the development of avoidance, mitigation, and management measures, which will be incorporated into the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr). The HIA report will be included as an appendix to the EIA Report.
3	Palaeontology Impact Assessment	No specific Protocol has been prescribed.	The Screening Tool indicates that the Proposed Project area has Very High Palaeontological sensitivity. A Specialist Palaeontology study will be undertaken to assess potential impacts on palaeontological resources within the project footprint. This study will be integrated into the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA), which forms part of the Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (S&EIA) process. The HIA will recommend measures to avoid, mitigate, or manage any impacts on palaeontological and heritage resources. The completed Palaeontology/Heritage Impact Assessment will be included as an appendix to the EIA Report to ensure all management measures are incorporated into the project's environmental framework.
4	Terrestrial Biodiversity Impact Assessment	Protocol for the Specialist Assessment and Minimum Report Content Requirements for Environmental Impacts on Terrestrial Biodiversity (Published Government Gazette 43110 dated 20 March 2020).	The Screening Tool indicates that the Proposed Project area has Very High Terrestrial sensitivity. A Terrestrial Biodiversity Impact Assessment will be undertaken and will include management measures for the protection of terrestrial biodiversity. The Gauteng Conservation Plan will be considered as it is the systematic Biodiversity Plan adopted by the DFFE. The Assessment will be included as an appendix to the EIA Report.
5	Aquatic Biodiversity	Protocol for the Specialist Assessment and Minimum Report Content Requirements for	Prior to commencing with a specialist assessment, the current use of the land and the environmental sensitivity of the site under

No	Theme	Applicable Protocol	Motivation
	Impact Assessment	Environmental Impacts on Aquatic Biodiversity (Published in GN No. 320, Government Gazette 43110, dated 20 March 2020).	consideration identified by the screening tool must be confirmed by undertaking a site sensitivity verification. This theme will be further addressed in the EIA Phase which will provide measures to protect Aquatic Biodiversity on site as per the specialist recommendations. The Gauteng Conservation Plan will be considered as it is the systematic Biodiversity Plan adopted by the DFFE. The Wetland Delineation and Functionality Assessment will be included as an appendix to the EIA Report.
6	Hydrology Assessment	Site sensitivity verification requirements where a specialist assessment is required but no specific assessment protocol has been prescribed.	The Screening Tool did not assign a sensitivity rating to the Hydrology theme for the proposed project area. In line with the DFFE Screening Tool Guidelines, an unrated theme requires further investigation through a specialist assessment. A Hydrology (Surface Water) Impact Assessment will therefore be undertaken to evaluate baseline hydrological conditions and to identify potential impacts on surface water flow, drainage patterns, and runoff associated with the proposed development. The assessment will inform the identification of appropriate avoidance, mitigation, and management measures, which will be incorporated into the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr). The Hydrology Impact Assessment will be included as an appendix to the EIA Report.
7	Noise Impact Assessment	Protocol for the Specialist Assessment and Minimum Report Content Requirements for Environmental Impacts on Noise Impact Assessment (Published in GN No. 320, Government Gazette 43110, dated 20 March 2020).	The Screening Tool did not assign a sensitivity rating to the Noise theme for the proposed project area. Given the nature of the proposed activities and the proximity of potential noise-sensitive receptors, a Noise Impact Assessment is required to adequately assess potential noise-related impacts during the

No	Theme	Applicable Protocol	Motivation
			construction and operational phases of the project. The Noise Impact Assessment will establish the baseline ambient noise environment, assess predicted project-related noise levels, and evaluate compliance with the applicable South African noise standards and guidelines. The assessment will also identify appropriate mitigation and management measures to minimise noise impacts. The findings of the Noise Impact Assessment will inform the EIA Phase and will be incorporated into the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr). The completed Noise Impact Assessment will be included as an appendix to the EIA Report.
8	Traffic Impact Assessment	Site sensitivity verification requirements where a specialist assessment is required but no specific assessment protocol has been prescribed.	The Proposed Project is expected to generate additional construction- and operation-related traffic, including heavy vehicles transporting materials, equipment, and personnel. These traffic movements have the potential to affect road capacity, traffic flow, safety, and access on surrounding public roads. A Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA) will therefore be undertaken to assess the existing traffic conditions, evaluate the projected increase in traffic volumes, and identify potential impacts on the local and regional road network. The assessment will also consider road safety, access points, and potential conflicts with other road users. The findings of the TIA will inform the EIA Phase and will support the development of appropriate traffic management and mitigation measures, which will be incorporated into the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr). The completed TIA will be included as an appendix to the EIA Report.

No	Theme	Applicable Protocol	Motivation
9	Geotechnical	Site sensitivity verification requirements where a specialist assessment is required but no specific assessment protocol has been prescribed.	A Geotechnical Impact Assessment is not included as part of the Proposed Project, as the project does not involve the construction of permanent buildings or fixed infrastructure. All on-site facilities required for the project will be temporary in nature, consisting primarily of mobile or temporary ablution facilities and associated temporary structures. Given the absence of permanent foundations, structural loading, or ground-bearing infrastructure, the proposed activities are not anticipated to pose geotechnical risks that would warrant a standalone geotechnical assessment. Accordingly, a Geotechnical Impact Assessment will be excluded from the specialist studies for this project.
10	Health Impact Assessment	Site sensitivity verification requirements where a specialist assessment is required but no specific assessment protocol has been prescribed.	A Health Impact Assessment will not be undertaken for the Proposed Project.
11	Socio-Economic Assessment	Site sensitivity verification requirements where a specialist assessment is required but no specific assessment protocol has been prescribed.	The Screening Tool has not assigned a sensitivity rating to the Socio-Economic theme. However, indicated the need for further assessment. The Socio-Economic aspects of the Proposed Project site have been considered and will be addressed in the EIA Phase. The Socio-Economic Impact Assessment will include an assessment of potential impacts that are anticipated during the construction, operational, and decommissioning phases, and provide a Socio-economic Management Plan to enhance positive impact and mitigate negative impacts.
12	Ambient Air Quality	Site sensitivity verification requirements where a specialist assessment is required but no specific assessment protocol has been prescribed.	An Air Quality Impact Assessment will be undertaken as part of the Proposed Project to assess potential air quality impacts during the construction, operation, decommissioning, and closure phases of the project. The assessment will evaluate potential air quality impacts associated with dust
13	Air Quality Impact Assessment		

No	Theme	Applicable Protocol	Motivation
			generation, material handling, and vehicle movements, and will determine the significance of these impacts on surrounding receptors. Appropriate mitigation and management measures will be identified to ensure compliance with applicable air quality standards and guidelines. The findings of the Air Quality Impact Assessment will inform the EIA Phase and will be incorporated into the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr). The completed assessment will be included as an appendix to the EIA Report.
14	Plant Species Assessment	Protocol for the Specialist Assessment and Minimum Report Content Requirements for Environmental Impacts on Terrestrial Plant Species (Published in GN No. 1150, Government 43855, dated 30 October 2020).	The Screening Tool classified the Proposed Project site as having Medium Sensitivity for the Plant Species theme, due to potential occurrences of sensitive plants in the northern and eastern portions of the site. A specialist Terrestrial Biodiversity study will be undertaken to assess potential impacts on plant species within the Proposed Project. The study will be addressed in the Flora and Fauna Assessment which will include measures to avoid, mitigate, or manage impacts on sensitive plant species. The completed Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment will be included as an appendix to the EIA Report, ensuring all recommended management measures are formally incorporated into the project's environmental management framework.
15	Animal Species Assessment	Protocol for the Specialist Assessment and Minimum Report Content Requirements Environmental Terrestrial Impacts Animal for on Species (Published in GN No. 1150, Gazette 43855, dated 30 October 2020).	The screening tool denoted the site as High sensitivity. The Biodiversity Impact Assessment will be undertaken to assess the site or Sensitivity verification. This theme will be further addressed in the EIA Phase which will provide measures to protect any sensitive animal species found on site. The Gauteng Conservation Plan will be considered as it is the systematic Biodiversity Plan adopted by the DFFE.

No	Theme	Applicable Protocol	Motivation
			The Biodiversity Impact Assessment and the Avifaunal Site Sensitivity Verification Assessment will be included as an appendix to the EIA Report.
16	Civil Aviation Assessment	Protocol Specialist Assessment and Minimum Report Content Response for the Requirements for Environmental Impacts on Civil Aviation Installations (Published in GN No. 320, Government Gazette 43110, dated 20 March 2020)	The Screening Tool assessment revealed a High sensitivity rating regarding civil aviation themes in relation to the Proposed Project. However, upon further review, it was determined that the Proposed Project is located approximately 36.3 km away from OR Tambo International Airport. Given the significant distance between the project site and the airport, it is deemed unnecessary to conduct an assessment of potential aviation impacts as part of the EIA process. Furthermore, consultation with representatives from OR Tambo International Airport, the South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA), and Air Traffic Navigation Services (ATNS) was not deemed necessary, as the project's location is not anticipated to pose any significant impacts on their operations or signal movements.
17	Defence Assessment	Protocol for the Specialist Assessment and Minimum Report Content Requirements for Environmental Impacts on Defence Installations (Published in GN No. 320, Government Gazette 43110, dated 20 March 2020)	The Screening Tool identified the Proposed Project as having Low Sensitivity with respect to Civil Defence and Aviation. The Proposed Project is situated at a considerable distance from any Department of Defence or Military installations, with no adjacent bases or facilities within the surrounding area. Given the lack of nearby defence or aviation infrastructure, a specialist Aviation Impact Assessment is not considered necessary. Likewise, consultation with the Department of Defence is not required, as the project is not anticipated to affect their operations or airspace management. Consequently, an Aviation Impact Assessment will be excluded from the EIA process.

8.2 Climate

The Proposed Project is located in Springs (East Rand region). The East Rand region experience hot summers and cold dry winters, typical of semi-arid regions in southern Africa.

The dominant vegetation type within the Proposed Project area is the Soweto Highveld Grassland (TBC, 2025). The area is characterised with strongly summer rainfall with very dry winters. The overall Mean Annual Precipitation (MAP) of the Proposed Project area ranges from 630 - 720 mm. The MAP is relatively uniform across most of this unit, and it increases significantly in the southeast. The incidence of frost frequent, increasing towards the southeast (Mucina L & Rutherford M.C, 2006). The summarised climatic conditions for the Soweto Highveld Grassland within the project area are presented in Figure 8-1.

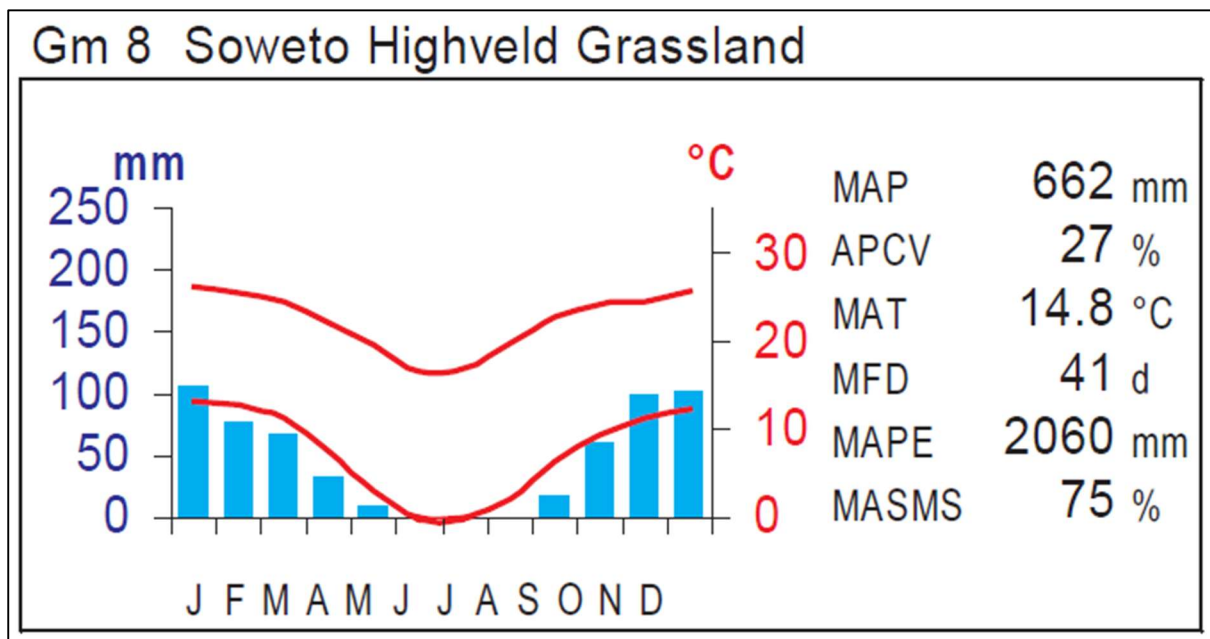


Figure 8-1: summarised climate for the region (Mucina L & Rutherford M. C, 2006)

8.2.1 Temperature

According to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) MERRA-2 data (1980-2024), Springs has an average daily high temperature of 24°C. The warm season is from September 18 to March 18 while the cool season is from June 5 to August 2. The hottest month of the year is January, with an average high temperature of 26°C and a low of 15°C, and the coldest month is July, with an average low of 1°C and a high of 18°C. Figure 8-2 clearly indicates the fluctuations of the seasons, from summer in January to Winter in July.

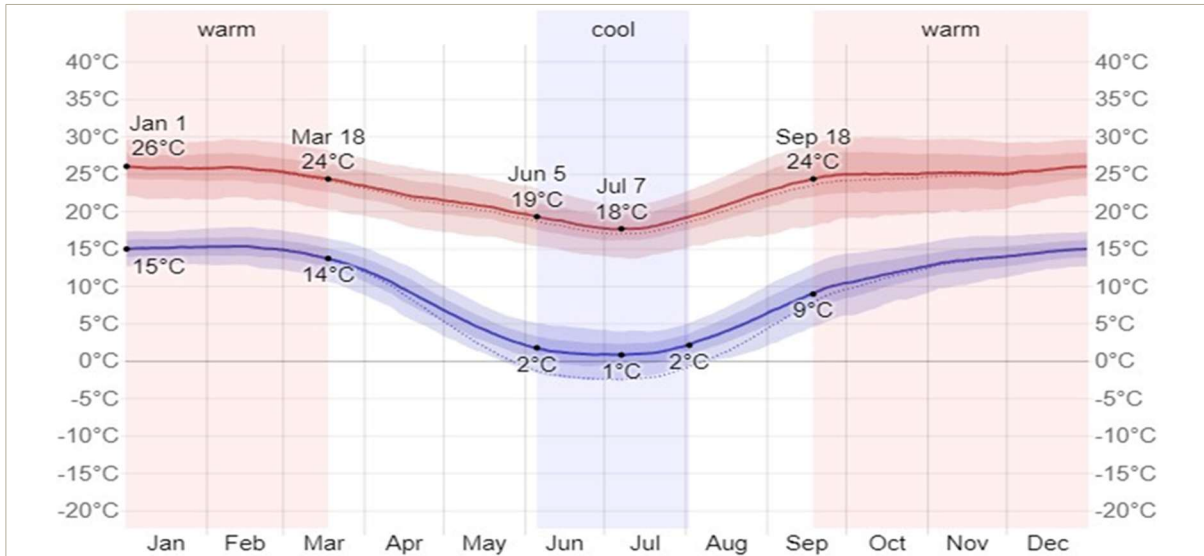


Figure 8-2: Average High and Low Temperatures at Springs 1980-2024 (Copyright © 2025 WeatherSpark.com)

8.2.2 Rainfall

Rainfall data for the area was obtained from the Springs (RWB) rainfall station (Station No. 0476736 W). The station is located 6 km southwest of 6L14 TSF. Patched rainfall data was obtained for the period of 1971 to 2003. The mean monthly rainfall is indicated in Figure 8-3. The area has an MAP of 715 mm. Rainfall is highest over the months of October to March, and lowest over the months of April to September (Kongiwe Environmental, 2025).

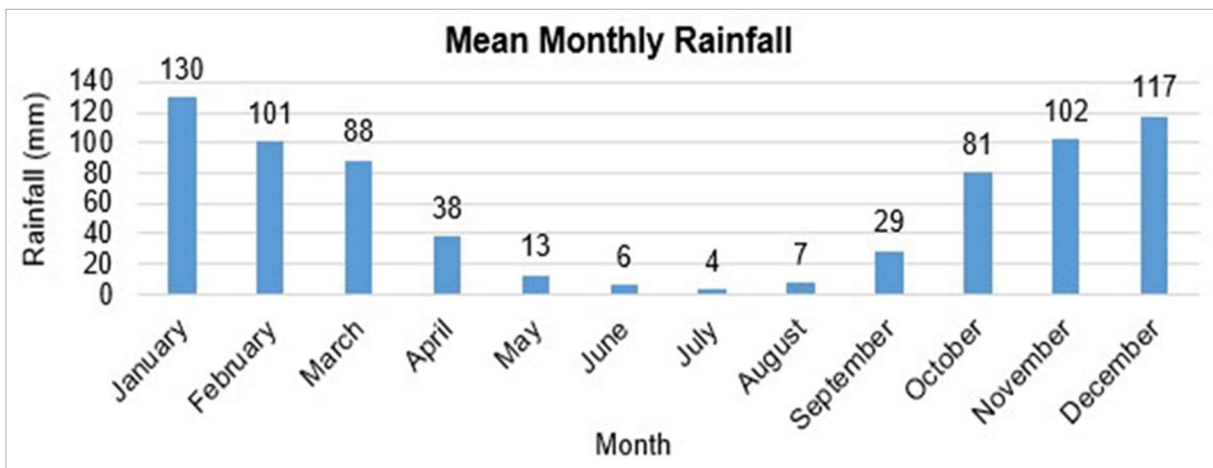


Figure 8-3: Average Monthly Rainfall Totals for the Area (Kongiwe Environmental, 2025).

8.2.3 Storm Rainfall Depths

The storm rainfall depths, which are required to calculate the peak flows, were extracted using the Design Rainfall Estimation in South Africa software programme. The programme uses the six closest rainfall stations (See Table 8-3 to a user specified coordinate, to calculate the storm rainfall depths for that site. Storm rainfall depths were

extracted at the Springs (26°16'S 28°25'E). The storm rainfall depths are indicated in Table 8-3 (Kongiwe Environmental, 2025).

Table 8-3: Six Closest Rainfall Stations to the Project

Station Name	Station No	Distance from Site	Latitude	Longitude	MAP (mm)	Altitude (mamsl)
Springs-Olympia Park	0476766_W	4	26°15'	28°25'	711	1 622
Govt Gold Mine Areas	0476673_W	5.7	26°12'	28°23'	723	1 603
Springs (RWB)	0476736_W	5.7	26°16'	28°25'	709	1 610
Brakpan (Mun)	0476644_W	7.4	26°14'	28°22'	737	1 617
New Modderfontein (GM)	0476641_W	7.0	26°11'	28°22'	739	1 615
Rietfontein	0476737_W	11.5	26°18'	28°30'	702	1 580

Table 8-4: Storm Rainfall Depths for the Project Area

Storm Duration	Return Period / Storm Rainfall Depth (mm)						
min/hr/day	1:2yr	1:5yr	1:10yr	1:20yr	1:50yr	1:100yr	1:200yr
5 min	8.5	11.8	14.2	16.9	20.7	23.9	27.4
10 min	12.4	17.1	20.6	24.4	29.9	34.6	39.7
15 min	15.3	21.2	25.6	30.3	37.2	42.9	49.2
30 min	19.6	27.0	32.7	38.7	47.5	54.8	62.9
45 min	22.6	31.2	37.7	44.7	54.8	63.2	72.6
1 hr	25.0	34.5	41.8	49.4	60.6	70.0	80.3
1.5 hr	28.9	39.9	48.2	57.0	70.0	80.8	92.7
2 hr	32.0	44.1	53.4	63.1	77.4	89.4	102.6
4 hr	38.0	52.4	63.4	75.0	92.0	106.2	121.9
6 hr	42.0	58.0	70.1	83.0	101.8	117.5	134.9
8 hr	45.1	62.3	75.3	89.1	109.3	126.2	144.9
10 hr	47.7	65.9	79.6	94.2	115.6	133.4	153.1
12 hr	49.9	68.9	83.3	98.6	120.9	139.6	160.2
16 hr	53.6	74.0	89.5	105.9	129.9	150.0	172.1
20 hr	56.7	78.2	94.6	112.0	137.3	158.6	181.9
24 hr	59.3	81.9	99.0	117.2	143.7	165.9	190.4
1 day	51.4	70.9	85.8	101.5	124.5	143.8	165.0
2 day	63.2	87.3	105.5	124.9	153.2	176.9	203.0
3 day	71.4	98.5	119.1	141.0	172.9	199.7	229.1
4 day	77.5	107.0	129.4	153.1	187.8	216.9	248.8
5 day	82.6	114.1	137.9	163.3	200.2	231.2	265.3
6 day	87.1	120.2	145.4	172.0	210.9	243.6	279.5
7 day	91.0	125.6	151.9	179.8	220.5	254.6	292.2

8.2.4 Evaporation

Symons Pan (S-Pan) evaporation data for the area was obtained from the WR2012 study for quaternary catchment C21D. S-Pan evaporation measurements are not a true reflection of evaporation from natural open water bodies, as the water temperatures in the S-Pan are higher, resulting in higher evaporation rates. To convert S-Pan measurements to open water evaporation, monthly open water evaporation conversion factors were used, which were obtained from the WR2012 study. The adopted monthly evaporation for the project is indicated in Table 8-5. Evaporation is highest over the months of September to March, and lowest over the cooler months of April to August (Environmental, Kongiwe, 2025).

Table 8-5: Evaporation for the Area

Month	S-Pan Evaporation (mm)	Evaporation Factor	Open Water Evaporation (mm)
January	185	0.84	155
February	153	0.88	135
March	143	0.88	126
April	108	0.88	95
May	88	0.87	77
June	71	0.85	60
July	77	0.83	64
August	111	0.81	90
September	150	0.81	122
October	177	0.81	143
November	177	0.82	145
December	191	0.83	159
Total	1 631	N/A	1 371

8.2.5 Wind Direction

The predominant winds in the area (as given by the Weather Research and Forecasting (WRF) data for the period from 2016 to 2018) are from an easterly direction for approximately 11 % of the time. However, the highest number of winds with speeds greater than 6.5 m/s are expected from a west-north-westerly direction, followed by winds from a north-westerly, north-north-westerly and westerly direction respectively. The average hourly wind speed predicted by the WRF model is approximately 2.44 m/s. Calm conditions (wind speeds below 0.5 m/s) are predicted for approximately 2.4 % of the time. The wind characteristics for the project area, including predominant directions and frequencies, are illustrated in Figure 8-4.

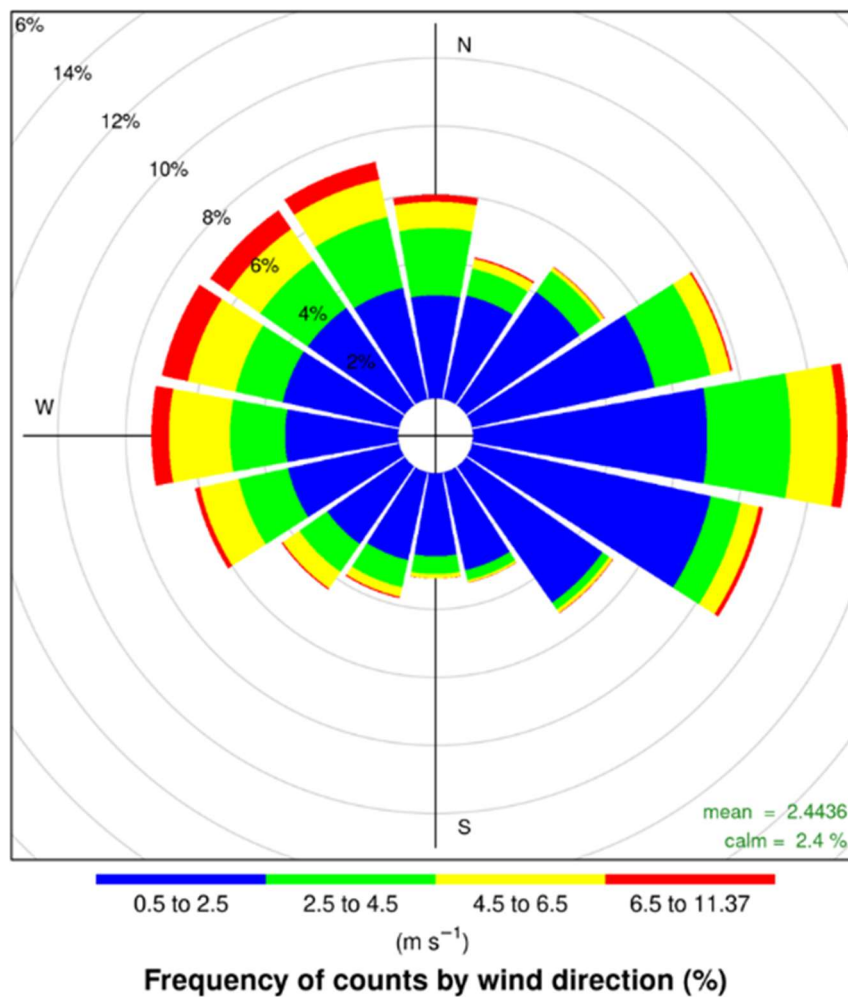


Figure 8-4: Wind Rose of the Average Winds Produced by the WRF Model for the Area, for the Years 2015 - 2017

The seasonal variations in wind direction for the area are illustrated in Figure 8-5. The highest number of winds with speeds above 6.5 m/s are experienced in spring with winds originating mainly in the quadrant from westerly to north-north-westerly. In summer and autumn, the predominant wind direction is from the east. The maximum number of calm conditions are experienced in autumn.

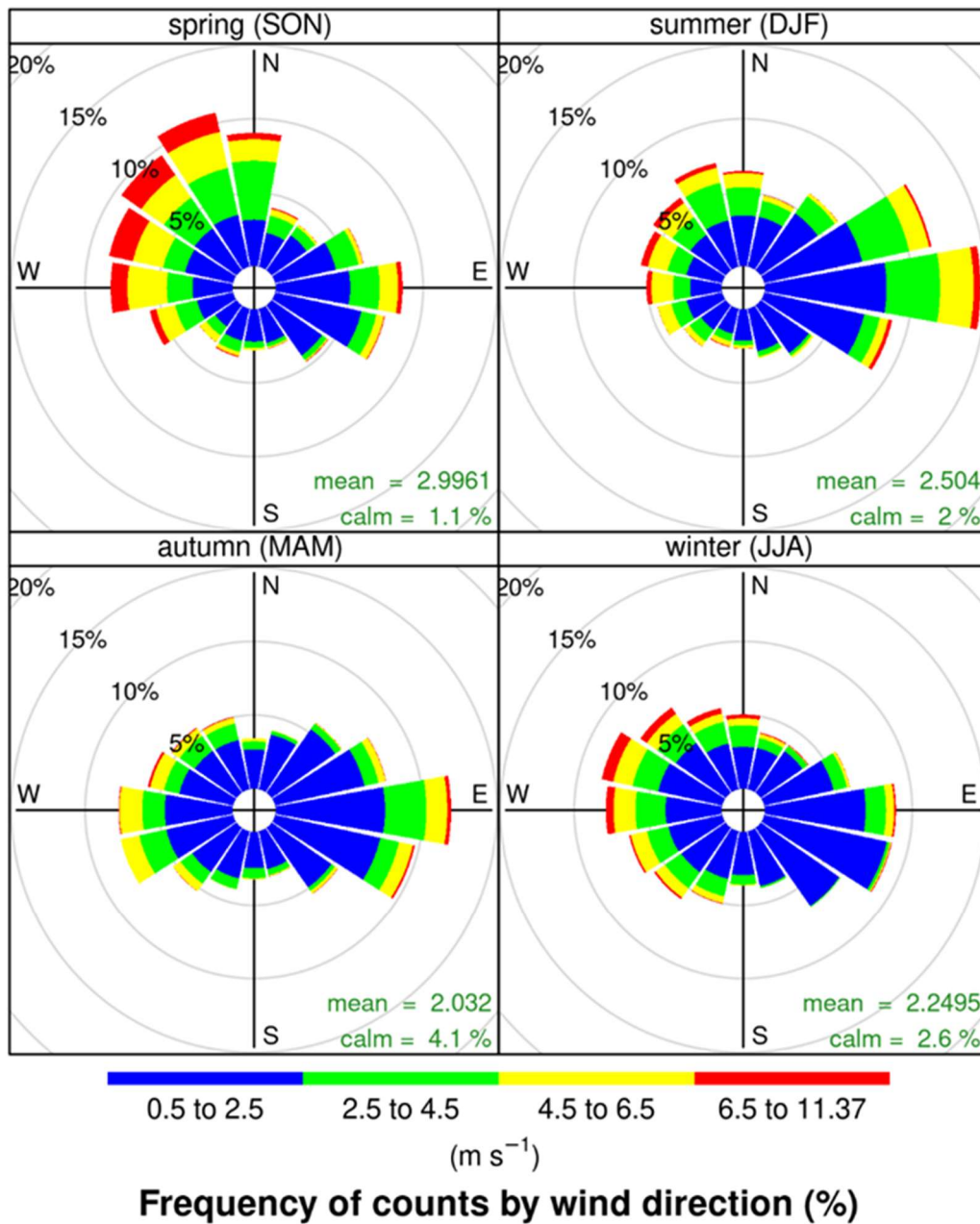
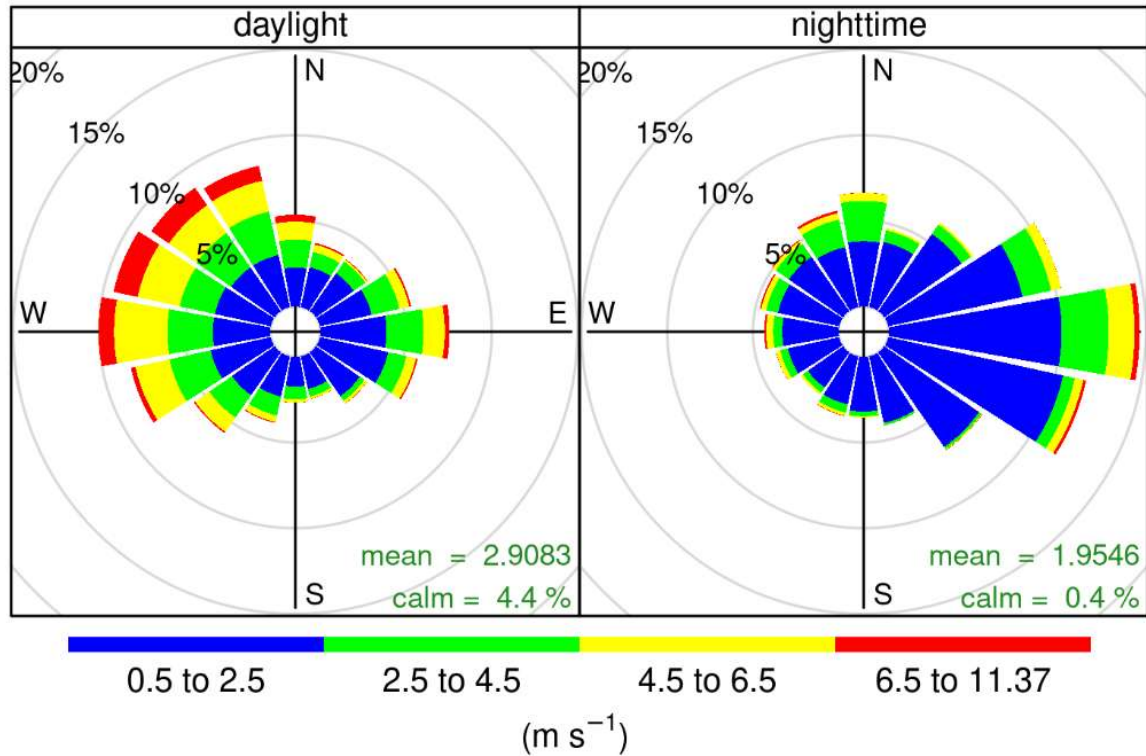


Figure 8-5: Seasonal Wind Roses Produced by the WRF Model for the Area for the Years 2016 - 2018

There is a clear diurnal variation in both wind speed and wind direction at the area. During the warmer hours of the day, calm conditions are expected for approximately 4.4 % of the time, and average wind speeds are approximately 3 m/s. Wind speeds above 6.5 m/s are expected for approximately 6 % of the time. The most frequent winds with speeds above 6.5 m/s are expected from a west-north-westerly direction. During the night, calm conditions are expected for approximately 0.4 % of the time, and average wind speeds are approximately 2 m/s. The winds predominantly blow from an east-north-easterly to an east-south-easterly direction, with seasonal variations in wind direction and speed evident across spring, summer, autumn, and winter (Figure 8-5). Figure 8-6 presents the diurnal variations in wind direction and speed, distinguishing between daytime and nighttime conditions.



Frequency of counts by wind direction (%)

Figure 8-6: Diurnal Wind Roses Predicted by the WRF Model for the Area for the Years 2016 – 2018

8.3 Topography

The Proposed Project lies on a gentle north-easterly slope and the general surface water drainage is towards the Klein-Blesbokspuit) and Cowles Dam) in the north. Refer to Figure 8-7 below. The Klein-Blesbokspuit flows in an easterly direction into Cowles Dam, linking it with Alexander Dam which is located upstream. These two dams are linked with a constructed earth canal and subsequently with the main Blesbokspuit approximately 1.0 km east. This area is considered highly waterlogged and obviously received significant volumes of water from the upstream section of the Klein Blesbokspuit, as well as ingress from the Sappi Enstra Factory just north of the Klein-Blesbokspuit.

Majority of Proposed Project is characterised by a generally flat topography that lies on gentle north-easterly slopes of less than 10% (Environmental, Kongiwe, 2025). To the north, the elevation ranges from 1575m to 1580m, with a stream located to the north of the site. Elevation data in the form of 5m contour intervals was obtained from Chief Directorate National Geospatial Information (CD:NGI). Figure 8-7 indicates the topography of the Proposed Project.

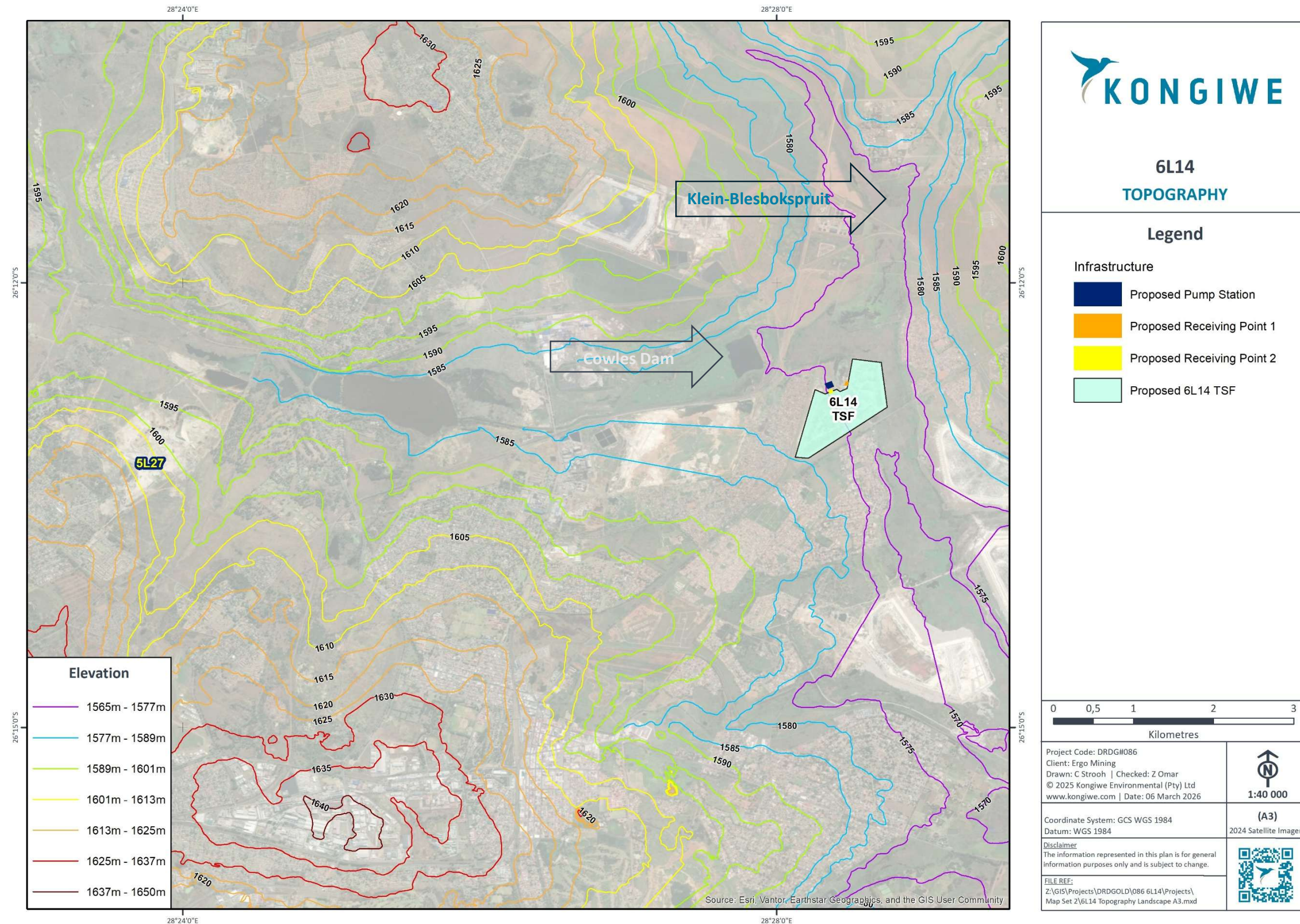


Figure 8-7:Topography Map

8.4 Geology

The 6L14 TSF terrain falls within the eastern basin of the greater Witwatersrand basin which is (ANmal geology type). Rock formations from three Supergroups are present on the 6L14 TSF terrain; they are as follows:

- Quartzite and interbedded conglomerates of the Central Rand Group (Johannesburg and Turffontein Subgroups) forms the basement of the Eastern Gold Mining Basin.
- Dolomite with interbedded chert horizons belonging to the Malmani Subgroup of the Chuniespoort Supergroup; overlain by Tillites and mudrock (shale) of the Dwyka Group of the Karoo Supergroup.
- Sandstones and mudrock of the Eccra Group (Vryheid Formation) of the Karoo Supergroup.

Intrusive rock, i.e., sills, and dykes of the Late Vaalian/Early Mokolian Era is present in the region and intruded into the Central Rand and Chuniespoort Groups (WSP, 2024).

8.4.1 Local Geology

The Proposed Project area is situated within a region characterised by geology ANmal typical of the central Gauteng mining belt (refer to Figure 8-8 below). The regional geology is dominated by formations of the Witwatersrand Supergroup, which comprise predominantly sedimentary sequences including quartzites, conglomerates, shales, and minor volcanic units. These formations are historically associated with extensive gold-bearing reef horizons, which have been mined intensively over several decades. Rock formations from three Supergroups are present on the terrain; they are as follows:

- Quartzite and interbedded conglomerates of the Central Rand Group (Johannesburg and Turffontein Subgroups) forms the basement of the Eastern Gold Mining Basin.
- Dolomite with interbedded chert horizons belonging to the Malmani Subgroup of the Chuniespoort Supergroup; overlain by Tillites and mudrock (shale) of the Dwyka Group of the Karoo Supergroup.
- Sandstones and mudrock of the Eccra Group (Vryheid Formation) of the Karoo Supergroup.

Intrusive rock, i.e., sills, and dykes of the Late Vaalian/Early Mokolian Era is present in the region and intruded into the Central Rand and Chuniespoort Groups (WSP, 2024).

The TSF Project is underlain by dolomite and chert formations belonging to the Malmani Subgroup of the Chuniespoort Group within the Transvaal Supergroup. These formations are overlain by tillites and mudrock (shale) of the Dwyka Group which is part of the Karoo Supergroup.

The dolomite is overlain by a thin cover of Karoo Supergroup sediments (mainly clay), but in places the Karoo has been eroded to expose dolomite outcrops at surface. The Karoo sediments occur as localised sections which unconformably overlie the dolomites. The Karoo sediments comprise sandstone, shale and coal seams. Quartzite of the Witwatersrand underlies the dolomites at depths of 150 to 300mbgl. These sedimentary units have been intruded by dolerite dykes and sills of Karoo and Post-Karoo age. The area includes mine residue deposits, reworked tailings, and disturbed ground resulting from previous surface and underground mining operations.

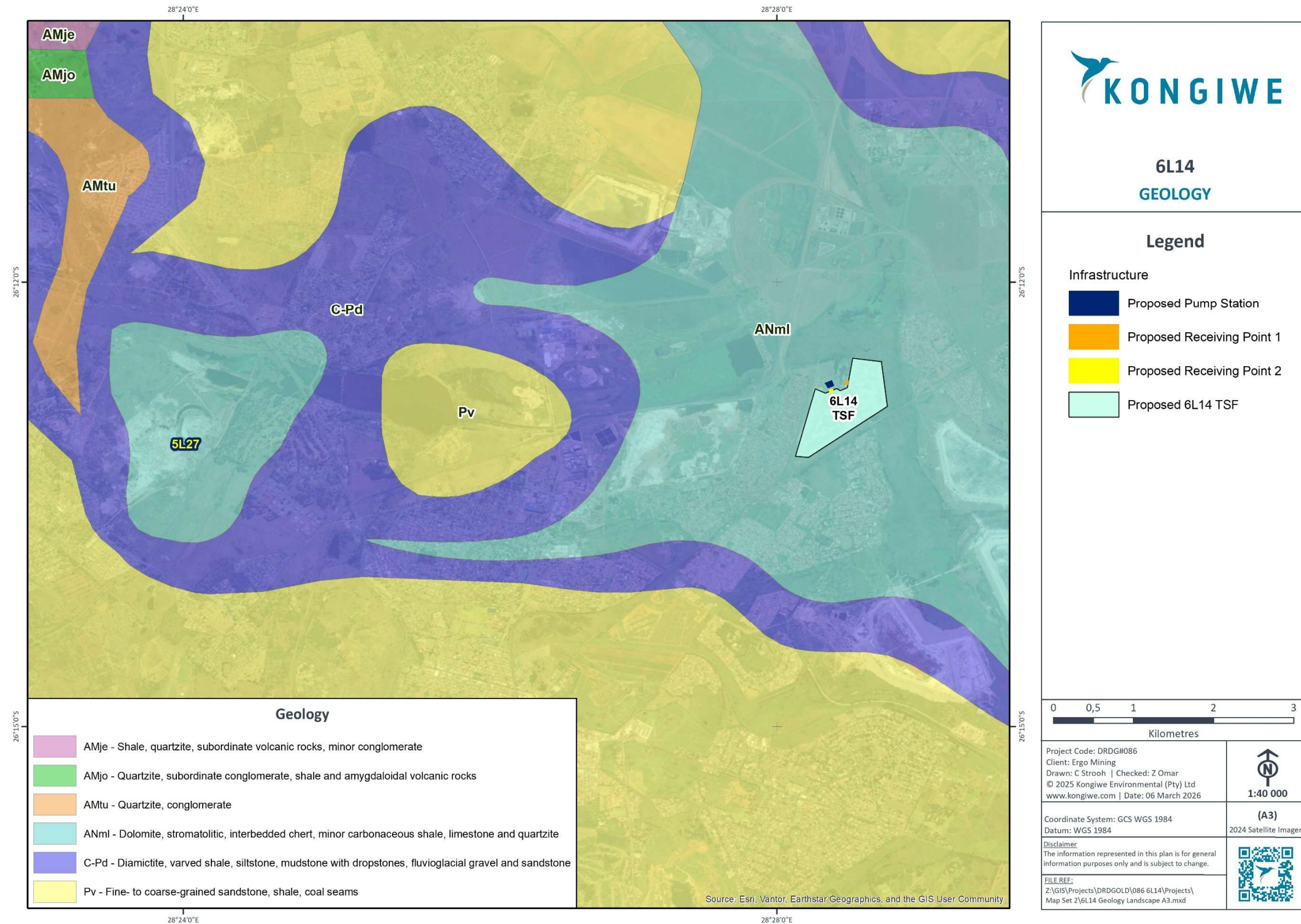


Figure 8-8: Geology Map

8.5 Soils. Land Capacity and Land use

8.5.1 Soils

According to the land type database (Land Type Survey Staff, 1972-2006) the assessment area to be focused on mainly falls within the Ba 1 land types (Figure 8-10). The Ba 1 land type mainly consists of Hutton, Willowbrook and Rensburg soil forms according to the Soil Classification Working Group (1991), with the occurrence of other soils within the landscape. The Ba land types are characterised by the plinthic catena with the duplex soils occurring in the upland areas and marginalitic soils are rare in this land types (TBC, 2025). The relevant terrain units for the land types are illustrated in Figure 8-9 and Figure 8-10.

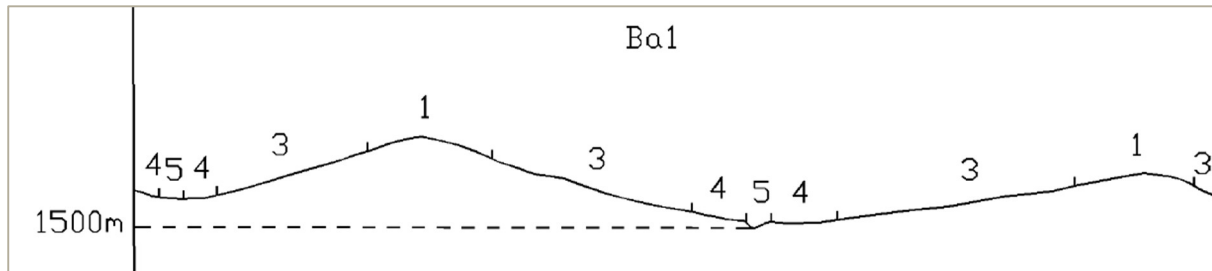


Figure 8-9: Illustration of Land Type Ba 1 Terrain Units (Land Type Survey Staff, 1972-2006)

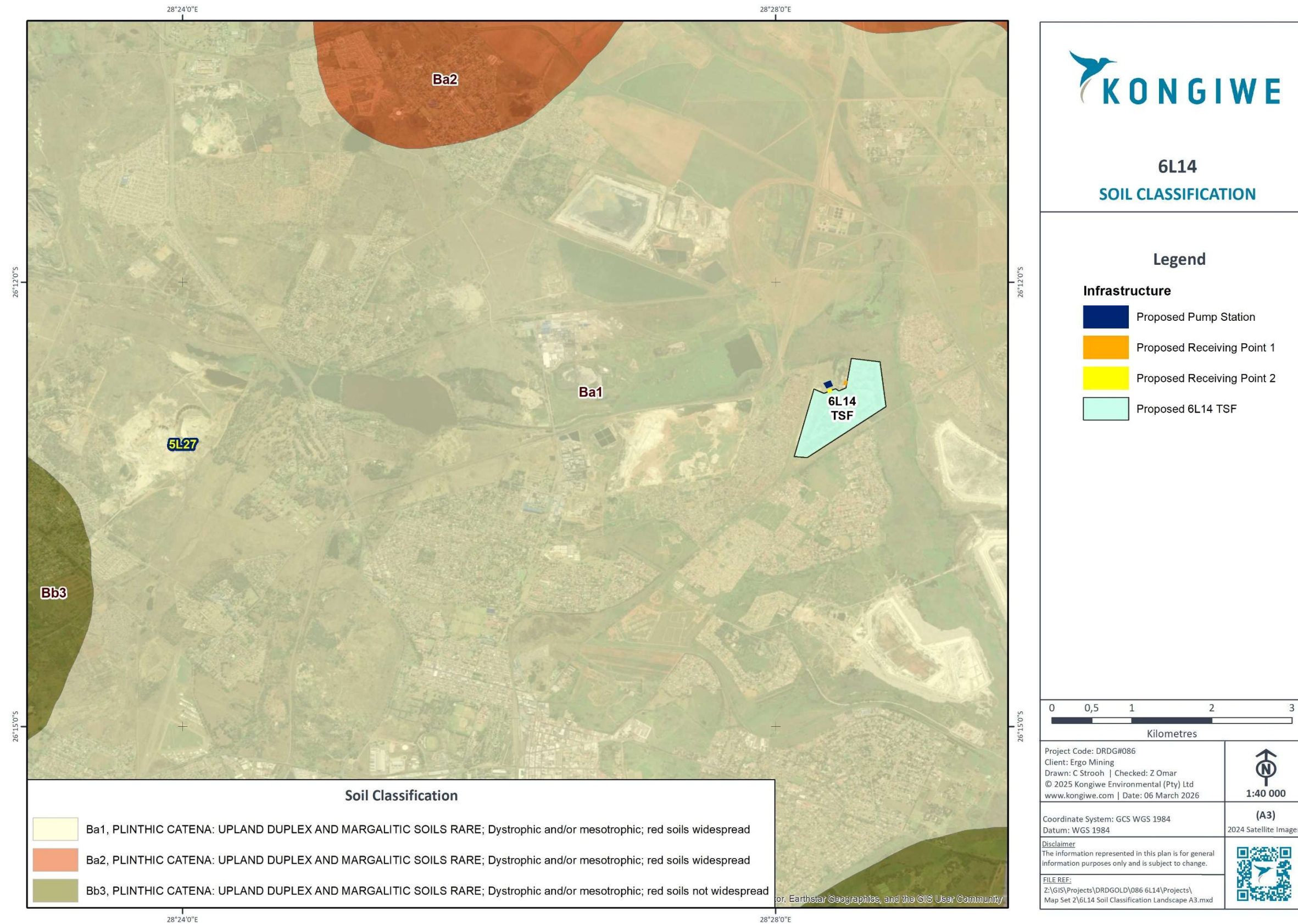


Figure 8-10: Soil classification Map

8.5.2 Land Capability and Use

Most of the land cover of the Proposed Project is classified as mines and quarries, grassland, build-up, barren land, shrubland, wetlands and waterbodies as shown in Figure 8-11. The Proposed Project is currently vacant. However, it was previously utilised as a fill and rubble dumping site.

The TSF footprint is visible at the eastern extent of the study area, with industrial infrastructure situated immediately west of the TSF area. Additionally, a railway line traverses the northern extent of the study area, and the Eskom East Geduld Refinery Substation is situated west of the Proposed Project.

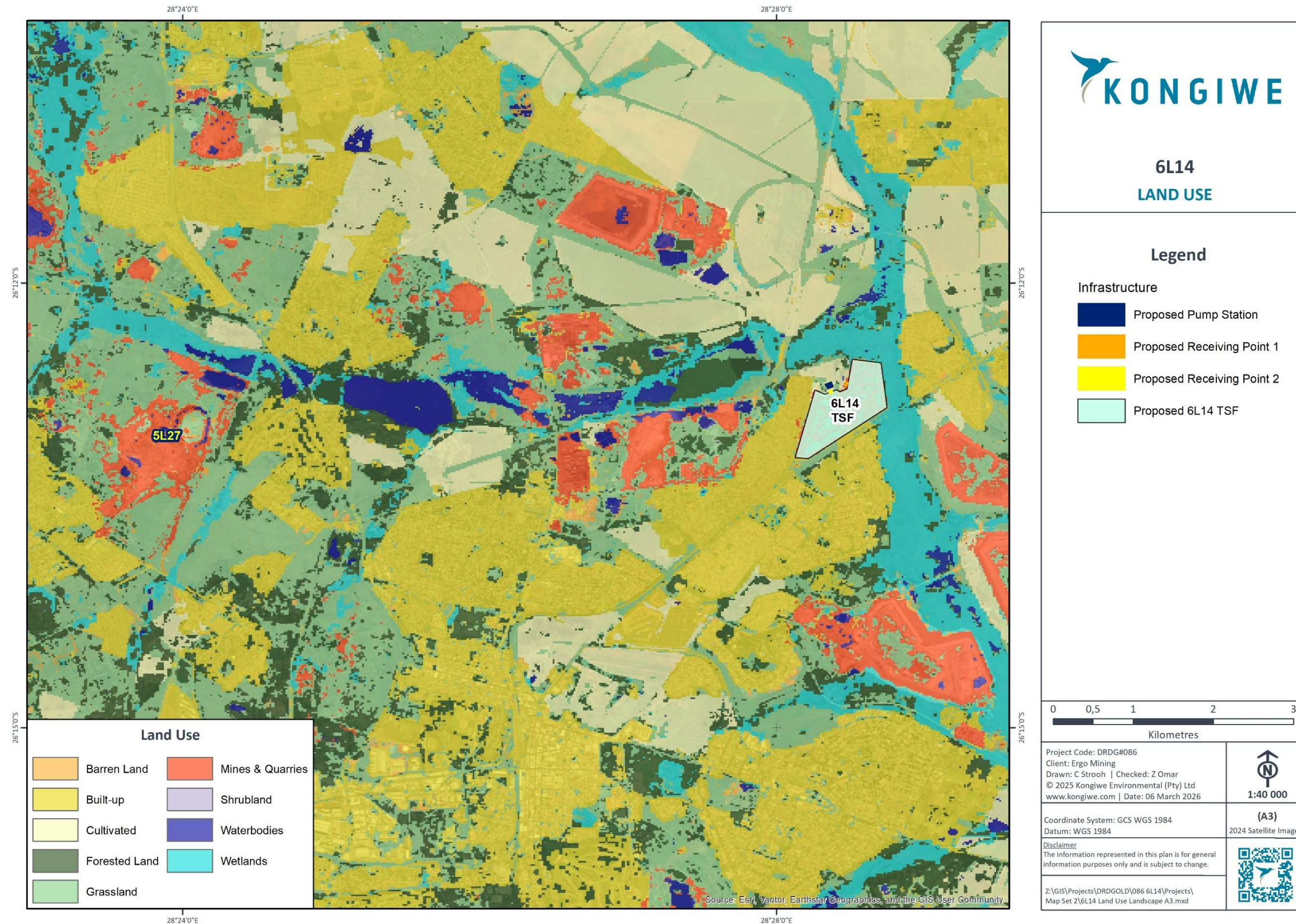


Figure 8-11: Land use Map

8.6 Surface Water

The DWS has divided South Africa into 9 Water Management Areas (WMAs), that is, the Limpopo, Olifants, Inkomati-Usuthu, Pongola-Mtamvuna, Vaal, Orange, Mzimvubu-Tsitsikamma, Breede-Gouritz and Berg-Olifants WMAs.

The Proposed Project is located within the Vaal Water Management Area (WMA), specifically in quaternary catchment C21D which has a catchment area of approximately 445.9 km². A non-perennial river is situated about 80m north of the Proposed Project. The Blesbokspruit, which flows in a southerly direction, is located approximately 200m east of the site. It features a broad floodplain that reaches a width of around 1 km. The Blesbokspruit flows into the Suikerbosrant River, approximately 135 km southeast of the Proposed Project. The Suikerbosrant River, in turn discharges into the Vaal Barrage near the town of Vereeniging. Refer to Figure 8-9 below.

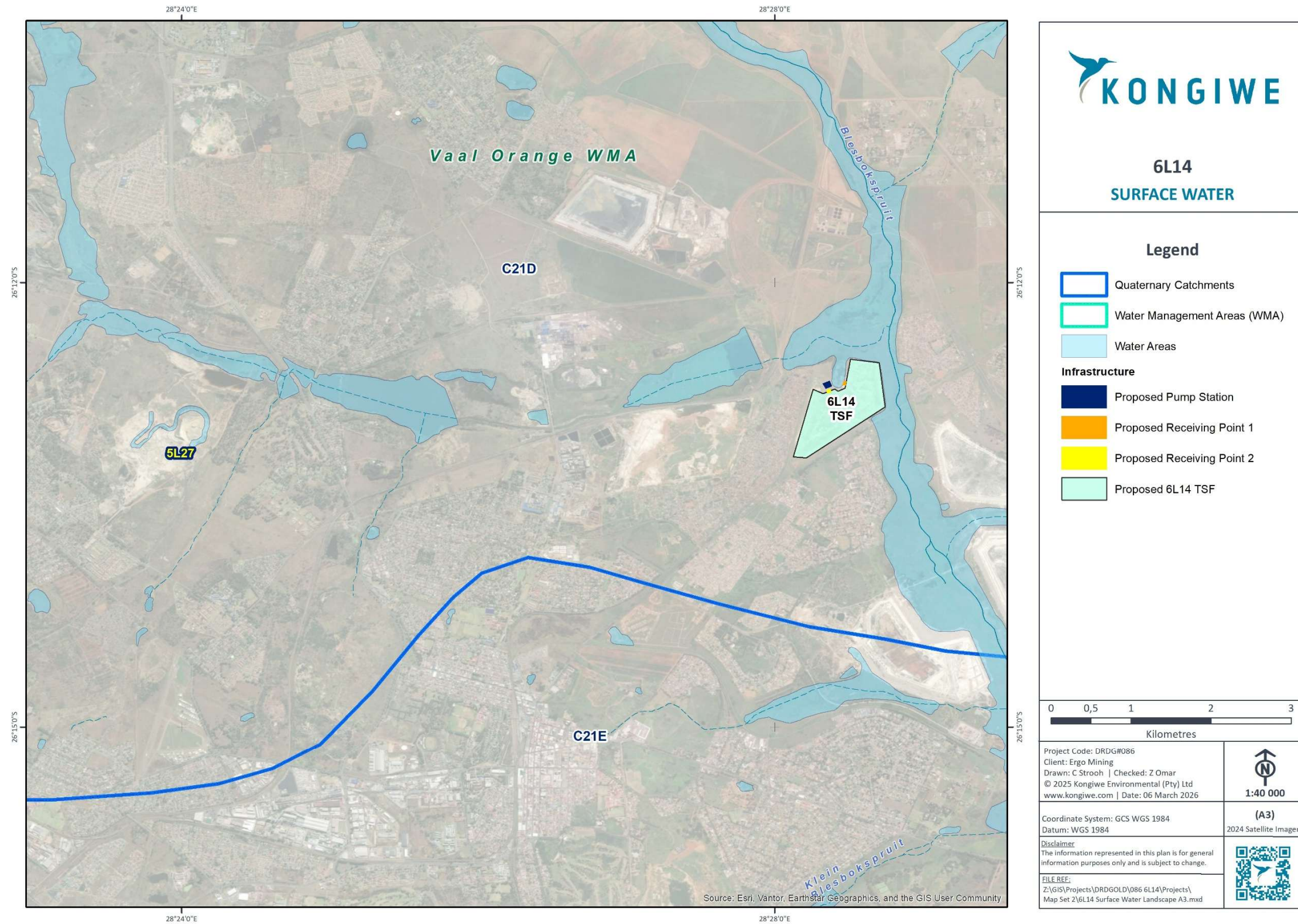


Figure 8-12: Surface water Map

8.7 Groundwater

8.7.1 Regional Geohydrology

Groundwater occurrence in the Witwatersrand rock is generally associated with zones of deep weathering, or faulting and jointing. Groundwater is often encountered in both the saturated weathered material below the regional groundwater rest level and in the transition zone between weathered and fresh formations (Groundwater Abstract, 2018). The Klipriviersberg Group and Vryheid formation present aquifers that have a combination of loose unconsolidated/weathered material and hard rock formations, in which fractures, fissures or joints potentially hold water. Additionally, the Turffontein Subgroup and Black Reef quartzite are hard rock aquifers where water is stored and moves through fractures, fissures and joints (Groundwater Abstract, 2018).

A detailed Geohydrological (Groundwater) study will be conducted in the EIA Phase which will provide information regarding the Proposed Project and the impact on groundwater.

8.8 Wetlands

A wetland is an area where water covers the soil, either seasonally or permanently. It can be saltwater, freshwater, or a mix of both. Wetlands function as distinct ecosystems and are characterised by vegetation adapted to wet soil (Keddy, Paul A, 2010).

National Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Areas (NFEPA) wetlands refers to wetland areas identified as part of South Africa's National Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Areas (NFEPA) project. NFEPA was developed to map and prioritise freshwater ecosystems including rivers, wetlands and estuaries that are important for biodiversity conservation and support national ecological processes. These priority areas help guide planning, conservation, sustainable land use and development decisions.

Types of wetlands that may occur in the areas surrounding the Proposed Project include the following:

- Unchannelled valley-bottom wetlands;
- Valley bottom wet areas;
- Seepage zones; and
- Seasonal depressional wetlands.

The specific wetland types, their extent, condition and ecological function will be confirmed and presented in detail during the EIA Phase, following a comprehensive Wetland Delineation and Functionality Assessment.

Figure 8-13 identifies wetland in the Proposed Project area and in the surrounding areas.

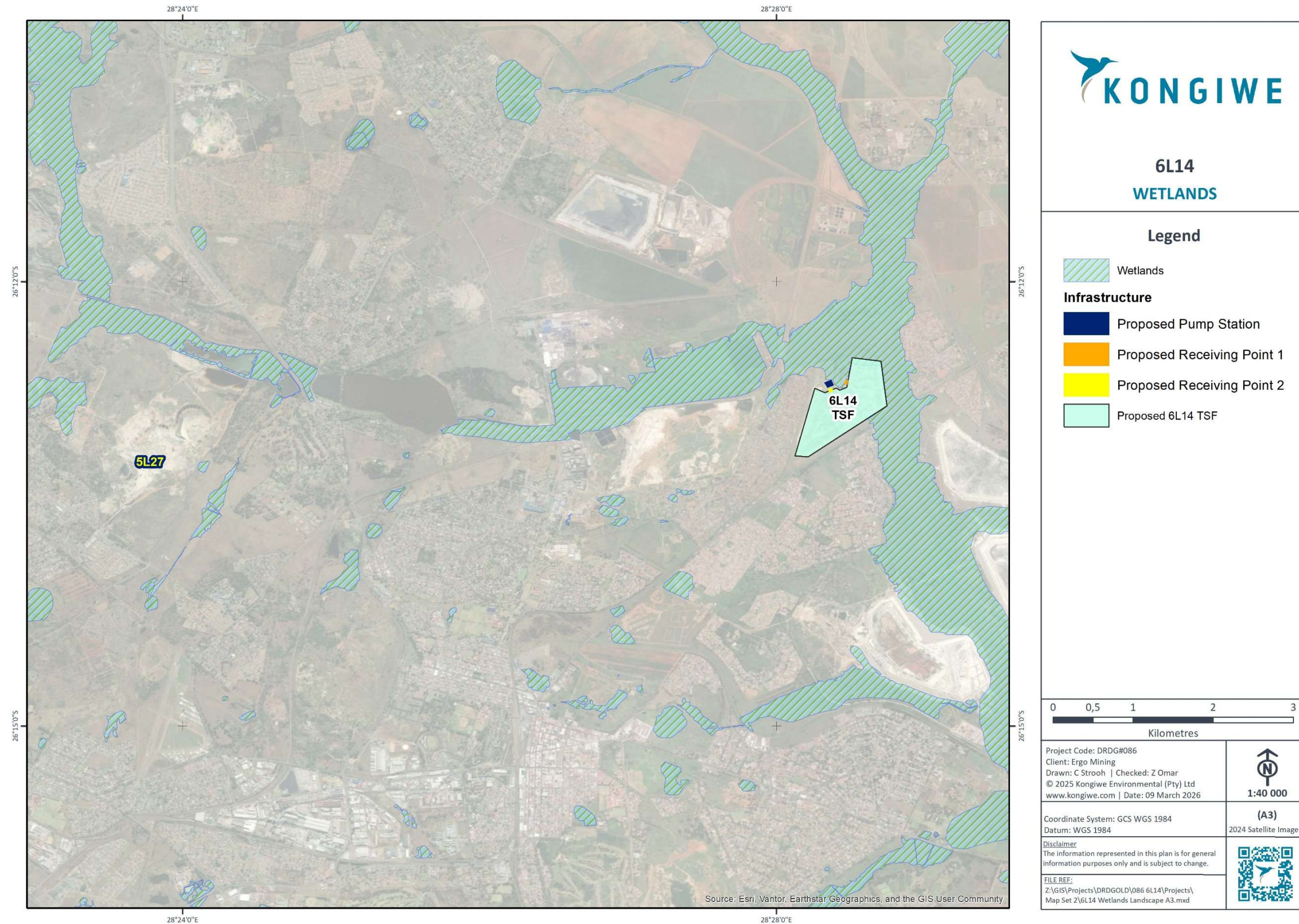


Figure 8-13: Wetlands Map

8.9 Biodiversity

8.9.1 Gauteng Biodiversity Conservation Plan

The Gauteng Conservation Plan (C-Plan v4.0) classified areas on the basis of their contribution to reach the conservation targets within the province. These areas are classified as Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs) and Ecological Support Areas (ESAs) to ensure sustainability in the long term. The Gauteng C-Plan uses the following terms to categorise the various land use types according to their biodiversity and environmental importance:

- Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA);
- Ecological Support Area (ESA);
- Important Area (IA);
- Irreplaceable Area (IA);
- Other Natural Area (ONA);
- Protected Area (PA); and
- Moderately or Heavily Modified Areas (MMA's or HMA's).

CBAs are terrestrial and aquatic areas that need to be maintained in a natural or near-natural state to ensure the continued existence and functioning of species and ecosystems and the delivery of ecosystem services. Thus, if these areas are not maintained in a natural or near natural state then biodiversity targets cannot be met. The Biodiversity Impact Assessment will be undertaken in the EIA Phase to confirm if these are areas that are classified as Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs) and Ecological Support Areas (ESAs) within the Proposed Project.

8.9.2 Flora

The Proposed Project area falls within the Soweto Highveld Grassland vegetation is widely distributed in the Gauteng province (Figure 8-14). According to Mucina and Rutherford (2006), Soweto Highveld Grassland (Gm 8) is a gentle to moderately undulating landscape on the Highveld plateau, characterized by dense, short-to-medium high grassland. It is dominated by *Themeda triandra*, with abundant species including *Elionurus muticus*, *Eragrostis racemosa*, *Heteropogon contortus*, and *Tristachya leucothrix*. The Biodiversity Impact Assessment will be undertaken in the EIA Phase to confirm any sensitive floral species on site.

8.9.3 Fauna

The Screening Tool indicates the avifauna, invertebrate mammalian has the potential to occur within the Proposed Project. The Screening Tool provided the following list of fauna that may occur on the Proposed Project:

- *Aves-Circus ranivorus*;
- *Aves-Hydroprogne caspia*;
- *Insecta-Aloeides dentatis dentatis*;
- *Insecta-Lepidochrysops procera*;
- *Mammalia-Crociodura maquassiensis* (Maquassie Musk Shrew);
- *Mammalia-Hydrictis maculicollis*; and
- *Invertebrate-Clonia uvarovi*.

The Biodiversity Impact Assessment will be undertaken in the EIA Phase to confirm any sensitive faunal species on site.

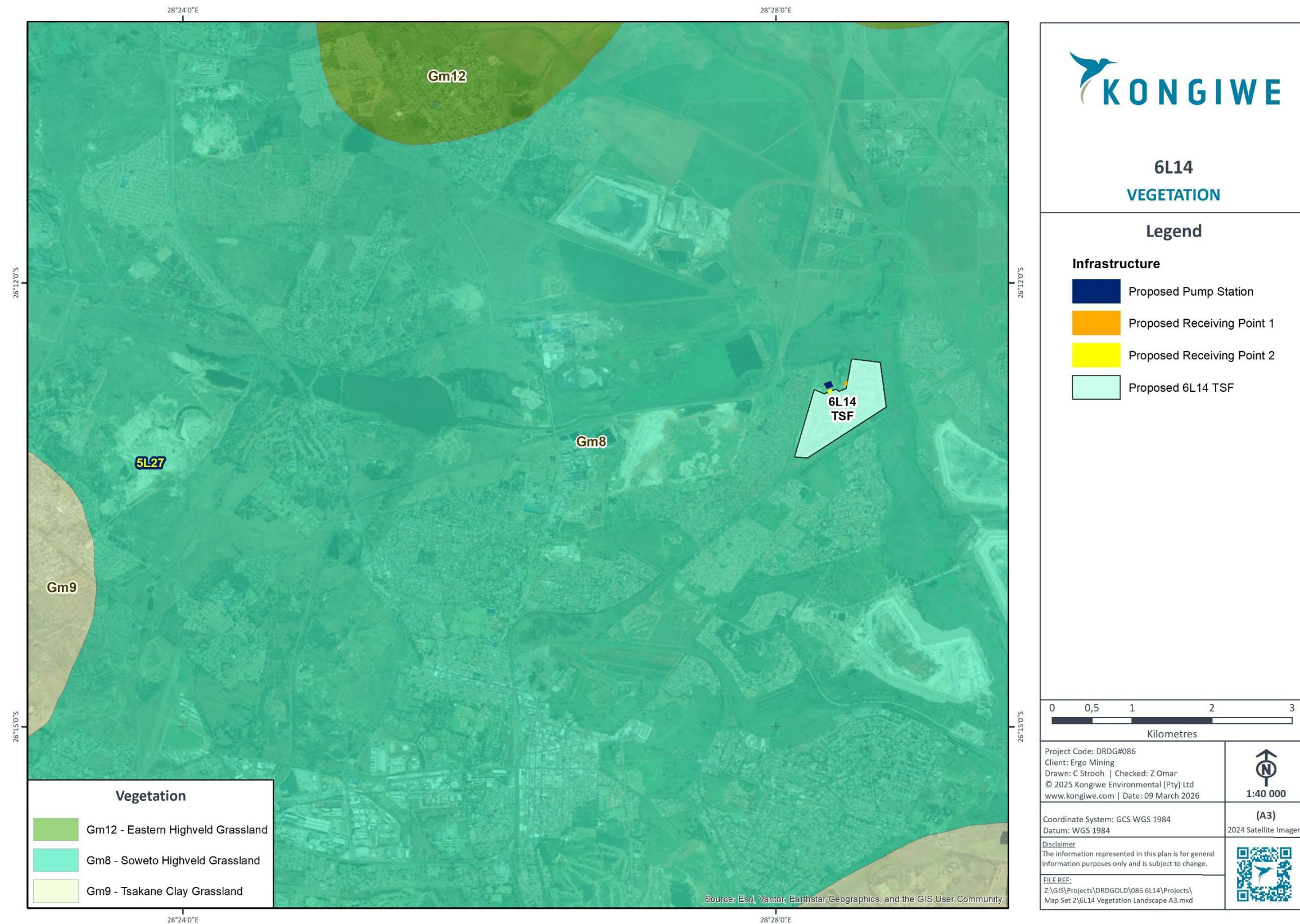


Figure 8-14: Vegetation Map

8.10 Air Quality

Numerous studies have found that air pollution in cities have a major negative impact on the health of both the environment and the surrounding communities. Repeated exposure to air pollutants over long periods of time may potentially cause several respiratory, cardiovascular, reproductive and gastrointestinal health problems.

Particulate Matter (PM) exists in the atmosphere as either solid or liquid particles varying in chemical composition and size, these particles can be considered as either primary or secondary pollutants. Particles can be classified by their aerodynamic properties into coarse particles, PM₁₀ and fine particles, PM_{2.5} (Harrison and Van Grieken, 1998). The fine particles contain the secondarily formed aerosols such as sulphates and nitrates, combustion particles and re-condensed organic and metal vapours. The coarse particles contain earth crust materials and fugitive dust from roads and industries (Fenger, 2002). It is the amount of fine dust and the chemical and mineralogical composition of the dust which will dictate the potential for health impacts (Schwegler, 2006).

The Air Quality Impact Assessment will be undertaken in the EIA Phase to identify and assess potential air quality impacts associated with the Proposed Project.

8.11 Noise

Natural sounds are a part of the environmental noise surrounding humans. Ambient sound levels are significantly affected by the area where the sound measurement location is situated. When the sound measurement location is situated within an urban area, close to industrial plants or areas with a constant sound source (ocean, rivers, etc.), seasons and even increased wind speeds have an insignificant to massive impact on ambient sound levels.

The Proposed Project site is in an area with a mixed-use development character, with built up, agricultural and mining activities being the predominant activities in the area. The major noise sources in the area include vehicular traffic on the national and provincial roads in the areas, noises from the local communities, and other industrial and mining related noises.

The Noise Impact Assessment will be undertaken in the EIA Phase to assess and confirm the potential noise-related impacts associated with the Proposed Project.

8.11.1 Construction Phase

The level and character of the construction noise will be highly variable as different activities with different equipment take place at different times, for different periods of time (operating cycles), in different combinations/sequences and on different parts of the construction site. The main construction related noises that are expected are listed below:

- Transport of workers, components & equipment to site – brought to site by means of flatbed trucks;
- Digging of foundations for infrastructure – Tractor-Loader-Backhoe (TLB);
- Development of stormwater infrastructure – TLB;
- Civil work to install the substation / transformer, screens, tanks and pump station – cement truck, flatbed trucks (with mobile crane); and

- Civil construction activities.

8.11.2 Operational Phase

The level and character of the noise during this phase is generally constant as it does not involve mobile equipment movement around the site. The noises expected during this phase are listed below:

- General operational noises;
- JCB/TLB backhoe loader being operated;
- The slurry pumps;
- Vibrating screens; and
- Water Dozers and site equipment.

Noise can be defined as "unwanted sound", and an audible acoustic energy that adversely affects the physiological and/or psychological well-being of people, or which disturbs or impairs the convenience or peace of any person. Figure 8-15 illustrates the acceptable zone sound levels as set out by SANS.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Type of district	Equivalent continuous rating level ($L_{Req,T}$) for noise dBA					
	Outdoors			Indoors, with open windows		
	Day/night $L_{R,dn}^a$	Daytime $L_{Req,d}^b$	Night-time $L_{Req,n}^b$	Day/night $L_{R,dn}^a$	Daytime $L_{Req,d}^b$	Night-time $L_{Req,n}^b$
a) Rural districts	45	45	35	35	35	25
b) Suburban districts with little road traffic	50	50	40	40	40	30
c) Urban districts	55	55	45	45	45	35
d) Urban districts with one or more of the following: workshops; business premises; and main roads	60	60	50	50	50	40
e) Central business districts	65	65	55	55	55	45
f) Industrial districts	70	70	60	60	60	50

Figure 8-15: Acceptable Zone Sound Levels for noise in districts (from SANS 10103:2008)

8.12 Visual

The Proposed Project site has been disturbed by the legacy of historic mining in the area. This then means that the Proposed Project will result in the removal of a visual disturbance source. The surrounding area around the dumps are lacking in natural vegetation that would help to screen off the proposed operation. The proposed site is also visible from the nearby residential and industrial areas as well as from the major and minor road routes surrounding the proposed site. It is also anticipated that the project would result in a positive visual impact after the removal of the dumps in relation to the surrounding environment of the site.

8.13 Traffic

The Proposed Project is situated in an area with an established road network. Public routes in close proximity to the site include R555 Road, which provides access to the site and Welgedacht Road which is located south of the Proposed Project.

Road Classification

The Road Classification and Access Management (RCAM) guideline 2010 provides for roads classification into the following six class systems:

- Class 1 Principal arterial;
- Class 2 Major arterial;
- Class 3 Minor arterial;
- Class 4 Collector;
- Class 5 Local Street; and
- Class 6 Walkway.

The first three classes (the arterials) are mobility roads, the second three classes are activity/access streets. In relation to the Proposed Project, the mobility roads will encompass R555 Road and Welgedacht Road.

It is anticipated that Proposed Project will results in a slight increase in traffic impacts during the construction and operation of the reclamation and well as during the decommissioning on the TSF. This will be looked at in great detail through a Traffic Impact Assessment during the EIA Phase.

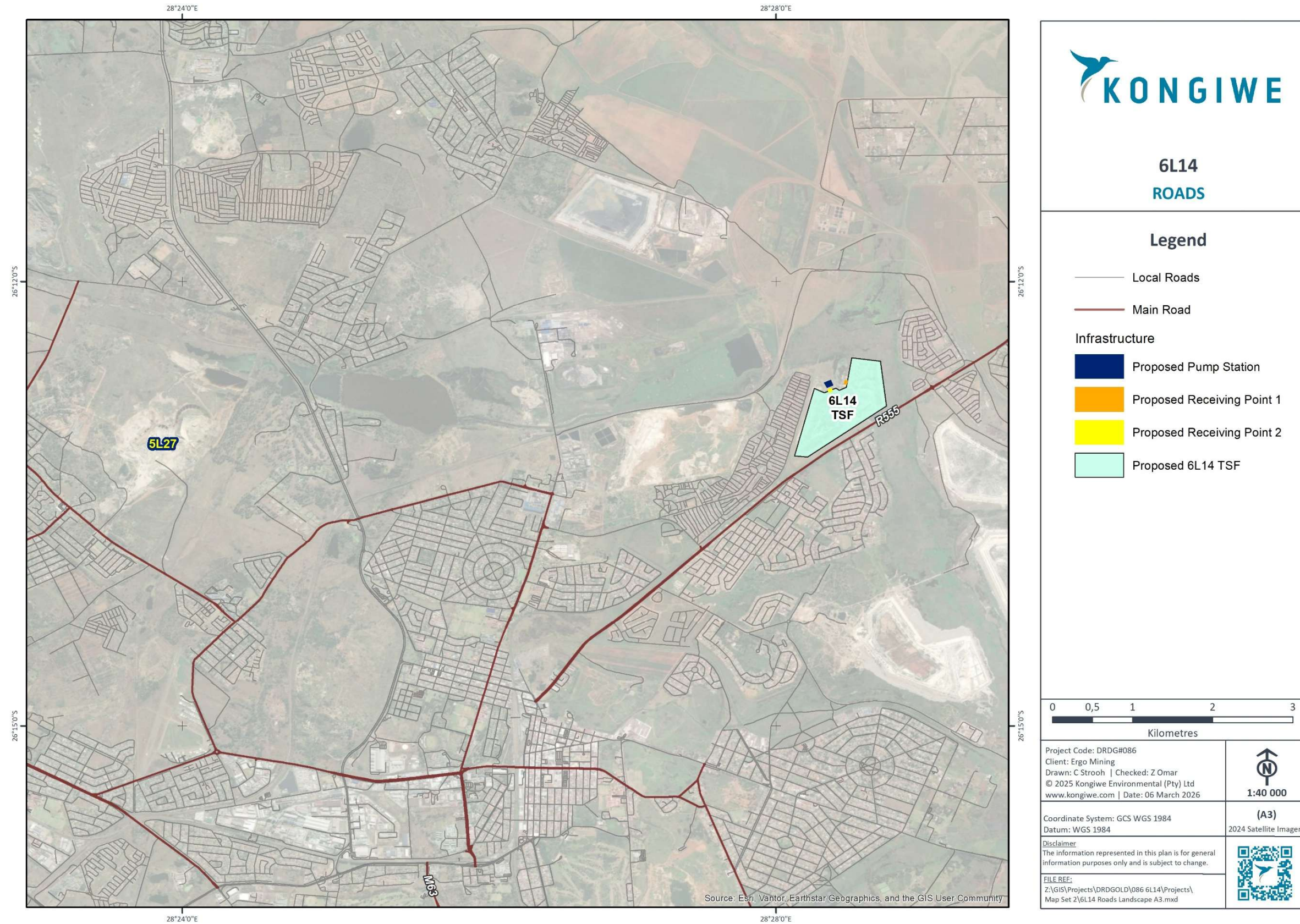


Figure 8-16: Road Map

8.14 Heritage

The Screening Tool indicates that the Archaeological and Cultural Heritage theme is Low and Palaeontological Sensitivity of the development is Very High (dark red) (Figure 8-17) that corresponds with the Palaeontological Sensitivity on the SAHRIS PalaeoMap (

Table 8-6). The Very High Palaeontological Sensitivity of the site on the SAHRIS PalaeoMap and DFFE Screening Report is thus contested with actual findings in the field.

MAP OF RELATIVE PALEONTOLOGY THEME SENSITIVITY



Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
X			

Sensitivity Features:

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Medium	Features with a Medium paleontological sensitivity
Very High	Features with a Very High paleontological sensitivity

Figure 8-17: Palaeontology Map

Table 8-6: Palaeontological sensitivity

Colour	Sensitivity	Required Action
RED	VERY HIGH	Field assessment and protocol for finds is required
ORANGE/YELLOW	HIGH	Impact study is required and based on the outcome of the Impact study; a field assessment is likely
GREEN	MODERATE	Impact study is required
BLUE	LOW	No palaeontological studies are required however a protocol for finds is required
GREY	INSIGNIFICANT/ZERO	No palaeontological studies are required
WHITE/CLEAR	UNKNOWN	These areas will require a minimum of a Impact study. As more information comes to light, SAHRA will continue to populate the map.

8.15 Social-Economic

The Proposed Project has the potential to result in both positive and negative social impacts. As such, it is important that the socio-economic baseline conditions are understood to ensure accurate identification and assessment of potential impacts associated with the Proposed Project. Gauteng is the largest urban economy in Africa, with a population estimated to be 15.8 million, (Gauteng Spatial Development Framework 2030) (GSDF). In terms of land area, Gauteng is the smallest province in South Africa but also densely populated. Table 8-7 below provides an overview of the socio-economic baseline information for Gauteng province (GSDF, 2016).

Table 8-7: Socio-economic Baseline Information-Gauteng at a Glance

Description	Statistics
Demographics	
Population size (Gauteng Province)	15,099,424
Population size (City of Ekurhuleni)	4,066,691
Population size (Springs Ward 72)	38,478
Population size (Springs Ward 97)	38,712
Population by size	Majority of the population (54.5%) is made up of the population group between the ages of 16-60
Gender Ratio (Gauteng Province)	(1.02) - Indicative of population in-migration (influx), as unskilled job seekers moving into an area tend to be male
Gender Ratio (City of Ekurhuleni)	(1.04) - Indicative of population in-migration (influx), as unskilled job seekers moving into an area tend to be male
Gender Ratio (Springs Ward 72)	(1.12) - Indicating that the population influx has stabilised over the past decade.
Gender Ratio (Springs Ward 97)	(1.01)- Relatively equal proportions of males and females.
Age Distribution	5 – 69 Years of Age
Language	Isizulu is the most spoken language, approximately 19.8%

Description	Statistics
Migration	Approximately 93.9% of the population is born in South Africa (slightly less than the rate in South Africa)
Ethnicity	
Black African, White, Indian, and Coloured ethnic groups	The study area is ethnically diverse, with Black Africans constituting about 85% of the population.
Households	
Number of households	5 384 000, with 19.1% of the population reside in informal dwellings
Service Delivery	
Access to water services	98.4% are getting water from a regional or local service provider
Access to electricity	83% have access to electricity
Toilet facilities	88.7% have access to flush or chemical toilets
Education	
Educational level	80.2% of individuals aged 5-24 are attending some form of schooling
Employment	
Employment status	67% stated that they receive salaries as their main form of income
Unemployment status	37%
Economics	
Economic sectors	Manufacturing sector providing 14% of the total provincial output, followed by construction at 3%, mining at 2% and agriculture at under 0.5%
Average annual income	R57 500 nearly double the amount in South Africa

8.15.1 The CoE Metropolitan Municipality - Overview

The CoE comprises of communities such as Springs, Tembisa, Katlehong, Vosloorus, Duduza, Daveyton and Thokoza etc. Ekurhuleni has a total surface area of 1975km² that accommodates a population of about 3 379 104 people, about one quarter of the figure in Gauteng (CoE, 2018). This population is living in an estimated 1 299 490 households, with 18.7% of those being informal dwellings (shacks). The city has a median age of 30 and 66% of the population is between the ages of 18-64, 18% is below the age of 18 and 6% is above the age of 65 (CoE, 2018).

Black Africans make up 82% of the population. In 2015, the unemployment rate in Ekurhuleni (based on the official definition of unemployment) was approximately 29%. About half of the population have completed matric or higher, which is about 20% higher compared to the national statistic and approximately 4% of the population have post graduate qualification (CoE, 2018).

Access to basic services (in terms of water supply) is relatively high, majority (98.5%) of the population get water from a regional or local service provider. 90% of the city has access to electricity; while only 89% of the population has flushing toilet facilities (Community Survey, 2016).

8.15.2 Key Challenges with Ekurhuleni

According to the Integrated Development Plan (IDP) 2018/2019 review, the municipality is currently faced with the following challenges:

- Service delivery failure.
- Rapid population growth spurred by in-migration.
- Mushrooming of informal settlements which contributes to service delivery challenges.
- Ageing sanitation infrastructure and an increasing backlog for infrastructure in new developments.
- Illegal mining.
- Unemployment.

9. Potential Impacts Identified during the Scoping Phase

9.1 Methodology for determining the Significance of Environmental Impacts

This part of the document focuses on the identification of the major potential impacts the activities, processes and actions may have on the surrounding environment. Table 9-1 will be completed and inserted into the EIA report once all specialist studies have been completed. The table represents compliance with the EIA Regulations of 2014 in terms of assessing the significance of direct, indirect, cumulative and residual impacts. Each specialist has been requested to include Table 9-1 whilst compiling their reports to streamline the coherence of the EIA Report.

Potential environmental impacts (physical, biological, social and economic) associated with the Proposed Project are listed in Table 9-5. The review and significance of these impacts will be systematically assessed and rated, using the assessment methodology described in Section 9.1, once the results of the various specialist studies are available. The EIA will include a full risk assessment of all environmental impacts. The EIA/EMPr Report will set out mitigation measures to be implemented during the Construction, Operational, Decommissioning and Closure, as well as Post-Closure Phases in accordance with NEMA and EIA Regulations of 2014 requirements.

Table 9-1: Impact Assessment Criteria Used to Determine the Significance of Environmental Impacts

Nature of The Impact: Describe the Impact in Respect to The Activity to be Undertaken		
	Impact Rating Without Mitigation	Impact Rating with Mitigation
Impact Status: (positive or negative)		
Extent (Local, Regional, International)		
Duration (Short term, Medium term, Long term)		
Magnitude (Major, Moderate, Minor)		
Probability (Definite, Possible, Unlikely)		
Calculated Significance Rating (Low, Medium, High)		
Reversibility: (Reversible or Irreversible)		
Irreplaceable loss of resources: (Yes or No)		
Residual impacts		
❖ (List these below)		
Cumulative Impacts		
❖ (List these below)		
Mitigation measures		
❖ (List these below)		

The impact significance rating process serves two purposes: firstly, it helps to highlight the critical impacts requiring consideration in the management and approval process; secondly, it shows the primary impact characteristics, as defined above, used to evaluate impact significance.

The impact significance rating system is presented in Table 9-2, Table 9-3, as well as Table 9-4 and it involves three parts:

- **Part A:** Define impact consequence using the three primary impact characteristics of magnitude, spatial scale/ population and duration.
- **Part B:** Use the matrix to determine a rating for impact consequence based on the definitions identified in Part A.
- **Part C:** Use the matrix to determine the impact significance rating, which is a function of the impact consequence rating (from **Part B**) and the probability of occurrence.

9.1.1 Part A: Defining Consequence in Terms of Magnitude, Duration and Spatial Scale

Use these definitions to define the consequence in Part B, as showcased below in Table 9-2.

Table 9-2: Consequence Rating Methodology

Impact Characteristics	Definition	Criteria
Magnitude	Major -	Substantial deterioration or harm to receptors; receiving environment has an inherent value to stakeholders; receptors of impact are of conservation importance; or identified threshold often exceeded
	Moderate -	Moderate/measurable deterioration or harm to receptors; receiving environment moderately sensitive; or identified threshold occasionally exceeded
	Minor -	Minor deterioration (nuisance or minor deterioration) or harm to receptors; change to receiving environment not measurable; or identified threshold never exceeded
	Minor +	Minor improvement; change not measurable; or threshold never exceeded
	Moderate +	Moderate improvement; within or better than the threshold; or no observed reaction
	Major +	Substantial improvement; within or better than the threshold; or favourable publicity
Spatial scale or population	Site or local	Site specific or confined to the immediate project area
	Regional	May be defined in various ways, e.g. cadastral, catchment, topographic
	National/ International	Nationally or beyond
Duration	Short term	Up to 18 months.
	Medium term	18 months to 5 years
	Long term	Longer than 5 years

9.1.2 Part B: Determining Consequence Rating

Rate consequence based on definition of magnitude, spatial extent and duration, as showcased in Table 9-3.

Table 9-3: Consequence Rating Methodology

			Spatial Scale/ Population		
			Site or Local	Regional	National/ international
MAGNITUDE					
Minor	Duration	Long term	Medium	Medium	High
		Medium term	Low	Low	Medium
		Short term	Low	Low	Medium
Moderate	Duration	Long term	Medium	High	High
		Medium term	Medium	Medium	High
		Short term	Low	Medium	Medium
Major	Duration	Long term	High	High	High
		Medium term	Medium	Medium	High
		Short term	Medium	Medium	High

9.1.3 Part C: Determining Significance Rating

Rate significance based on consequence and probability, as showcased in Table 9-4.

Table 9-4: Significance Rating Methodology

Probability (of Exposure to Impacts)	Consequence Negative			Consequence Positive		
	Low	Medium	High	Low	Medium	High
Definite	Medium	Medium	High	Medium	Medium	High
Possible	Low	Medium	High	Low	Medium	High
Unlikely	Low	Low	Medium	Low	Low	Medium

9.2 Possible Positive and Negative Impacts identified

Section 6.1 refers to the considered Proposed Project alternatives. Positive and negative impacts associated with each alternative identified for the Proposed Project will be assessed in the EIA Report.

Table 9-5 below will be used during the EIA Phase to describe the identified impacts of the Proposed Project, as well as the relevant mitigation measures proposed by specialist studies.

Table 9-5: Potential identified impacts because of the Proposed Project

Environmental Component	Component Type	Potential Impact (positive or negative)	Specialist Study Planned for EIA
Physical Environment (non-living)	Hydrology (including wetlands, surface water and ground water);	- Potential for further acid mine drainage (AMD), increased heavy metal concentrations and increased sulphate concentrations in local surface water and groundwater if runoff from operations is not adequately managed through efficient storm water management structures; - Water and ground contamination due to pipeline leaks/spillages if inadequate preventative measures are not implemented; - Improved surface and ground water quality around the project area due to the removal of the TSF; - Changes in natural surface water flow parameters as a result of the removal of the TSF; - Potential impact on drainage lines from access runoff during the operational phase of the project; and - Improved visual aesthetics of the area after the removal of the TSF.	Groundwater Impact Assessment Surface water Impact Assessment Wetland Impact Assessment
Biological Environment (living)	Ecology and Biodiversity (including fauna and flora)	- Displacement of animal habitat by removing the TSF; - Removal of invasive species from the TSF; - Long-term improvement of ecosystem health and functioning of the project area following rehabilitation; and - Loss of migration corridors, and access to nesting and refuge areas, watering points, food supplies for faunal species.	Biodiversity Impact Assessment
Cultural Environment	Heritage Resources	Since the footprint was a TSF previously, it is unlikely for there to be any heritage resources on site; and	Heritage and Palaeontology Impact Assessment

Environmental Component	Component Type	Potential Impact (positive or negative)	Specialist Study Planned for EIA
		Should heritage resources be present in the area, the reclamation project could potentially impact these.	
Social and Economic Environment	Land use	- Land use will change to an active reclamation site; - Restoration and unlocking of land for future land uses; - Better management and control of the area against illegal/informal mining.	Social Impact Assessment
	Noise	- Noise associated with the reclamation project mainly originates from construction activities of required infrastructure as well as noises from motors, pumps and increased vehicular travel during the operational phase as well as processing activities; and - Noise associated with the mechanical and hydraulic reclamation.	Noise Impact Assessment
	Transport and traffic	- Temporary increase in heavy vehicle traffic during the construction phase due to mobilisation of equipment, and material deliveries. - Increased pressure on existing public and access roads, potentially accelerating road surface wear and degradation. - Elevated road safety risks for other road users, particularly along local and access roads used by construction vehicles. - Short-term traffic delays or congestion during peak construction activities.	Traffic Impact Assessment

Environmental Component	Component Type	Potential Impact (positive or negative)	Specialist Study Planned for EIA
		- Reduced reliance on road-based haulage during the operational phase, as slurry and process water will be transported via existing pipelines. - Long-term reduction in heavy vehicle movements on public roads, improving traffic flow and road safety. - Potential improvements to access roads as a result of maintenance or upgrades undertaken for project needs. - Implementation of traffic management measures (e.g. signage, speed control, designated routes), which may enhance overall road safety. - Improved compliance with municipal traffic and road safety requirements through project-related monitoring and management	
	Employment	- Continued employment and job security; - Continued investment in local economy; - Removal of the TSF could eliminate the attraction of illegal/informal miners who seek gold.	Social Impact Assessment
	Air Quality	- Possible increase in dust levels in some areas during operations; - Overall removal of an air pollution source after the removal of the TSF; and - Health impacts on livestock and people in proximity to the project site due to fine particulate emissions during construction and operational phases.	Air Quality Impact Assessment

Environmental Component	Component Type	Potential Impact (positive or negative)	Specialist Study Planned for EIA
	Geology, Soil, Ground stability, Surface water, Groundwater, Infrastructure sensitivity, Land use suitability and Health and Safety.	- Improved understanding of dolomite conditions through investigations and risk management planning. - Ground instability, sinkholes, subsidence, or structural damage due to disturbance and water ingress. - Reprofiling and rehabilitation may improve disturbed landforms and drainage patterns. - Alteration of natural landforms, erosion, slope instability, and increased runoff. - Soil compaction, contamination, erosion, and loss of topsoil during construction and reclamation. - Sedimentation, pollution, altered drainage patterns, ponding, and downstream water quality impacts. - Improved stormwater controls and water management infrastructure. - Damage to roads, pipelines, or buildings due to subsidence or construction activities. - Safety risks to workers/public, traffic disruption, and nuisance impacts to nearby communities. - Rehabilitation may enable safer future land uses and improved infrastructure planning.	Dolomite Impact Assessment

9.3 Cumulative Impacts

Due to the existence of other TSF and mining operations in the region, cumulative impacts and their assessment are of great importance. The identification and assessment of cumulative impacts will be undertaken, and mitigation measures suggested during the detailed EIA level investigation. The impact identification and calculation methodology employed by all specialists incorporates cumulative impacts in a quantitative manner to determine the final impact score and corresponding rating.

9.4 Application of Possible Mitigation Measure

Mitigation measures are implemented to ensure that the identified impacts from the Proposed Project activities are reduced as far as possible. Mitigation measures will be provided in the specialist reports to be undertaken in the EIA Phase of the project. Specialist will be informed to be cognisant of the following mitigation measure objectives:

- To find more environmentally sound ways of undertaking specific activities.
- To enhance any environmental and social benefits of a proposed activity.
- To avoid, minimise or remedy negative environmental impacts.
- To ensure that any residual negative environmental impacts are environmentally acceptable.

The identification of appropriate mitigation measures will be conducted in a hierarchal manner:

1. Preventative measures will be identified to avoid, where possible, negative impacts that may arise as a result of the proposed activity.
2. Measures will be identified to minimise and/or reduce the negative impacts to “as low as practicable” levels.
3. Measures will be identified to compensate or remedy residual negative impacts that are unavoidable and cannot be minimised or reduced any further (Department of Environmental Affairs (as it then was), 2006).

Proposed mitigation measures will be communicated to the applicant for review as part of draft EMP. The applicant will comment on the feasibility and practicality of implementing the mitigation measures. The mitigation measures may be adjusted based on the applicant’s comments.

9.5 Outcome of the Site Selection Matrix: The Final Site Layout Plan

The finalisation of specialist studies and recommendations made within the specialist reports will help to inform a final site layout plan. At the time of compiling the SR, preliminary site layout plans are included in **Appendix B** and these maps will be presented as part of the pre-application process with stakeholders.

9.6 Statement where no Alternative Sites were considered

Alternatives were considered during the FSR, as per Chapter 6 above, and the site selected was chosen based on economic and environmental criteria.

9.7 Statement motivating the Preferred Site

The preferred site has been selected in accordance with Chapter 6; however, its final confirmation will occur during the EIA Phase, following the completion and assessment of specialist and other supporting studies.

10. Plan of Study for the Environmental Impacts Assessment

10.1 Alternatives to be considered, including the “No-Go” Option

Alternatives to be considered during the EIA Phase will be informed by the Alternatives described in Chapter 6 above based on specialist studies and other studies undertaken.

10.2 Aspects to be assessed as part of the Environmental Impact Process

The following aspects were identified and will be assessed as part of the EIA process:

- Biodiversity;
- Wetlands;
- Climate Change;
- Surface Water;
- Groundwater;
- Air Quality;
- Heritage and Palaeontology;
- Noise;
- Traffic;
- Socio-economic;
- Financial Provision and closure;
- Dolomite.

10.3 Terms of Reference for Specialist Studies for the Plan of Study

Table 10-1 outlines the specialist studies proposed during the EIA Phase of the project and the proposed Plan of Study to be undertaken as part of the S&EIA process.

Table 10-1: Plan of Study for Specialist Studies

Study	Terms of Reference
Biodiversity study	The Scope of Work will include a desktop analysis of relevant conservation database, Important Bird Areas, National Biodiversity Assessment, Threatened Ecosystems and South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI) databases. A field assessment will be undertaken, and assessment methods will be applied to characterise the dominant habitat types, Present Ecological State (PES) and Ecological Importance and Sensitivity (EIS) of the receiving environment. The ecological assessment will focus on the identification of sensitive habitats and the occurrence/ potential occurrence of Red Data Listed (RDL) floral and faunal species and species of conservation concern as identified by the relevant national and provincial databases. The assessment will also fulfil the ecological assessment requirements of the EIA as required in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) and the associated regulations as well as other legal requirements applicable on both a national and provincial level. A site sensitivity map will be developed from the data gathered during the assessment. The assessment will be conducted to best meet the requirements of the Gauteng Province for ecological assessments and any other relevant regulations and other legal requirements applicable on both a national and provincial level. Floral Assessment: The proposed methodology includes both a desktop review and a field work component. A desktop review of distribution lists (including Red Data species and protected species according to the province) and available literature will be conducted to guide the field work component. The vegetation type for the study area will be defined according to sources such as Mucina and Rutherford (2006) and the National Vegetation Map Project (SANBI, 2024). Extensive consideration will also be given to determining the ecological importance and sensitivity of the study area according to the Biodiversity GIS (BGIS) database. The SANBI and PRECIS databases for the QDS will also be consulted and will serve as the reference data to which the field survey will be compared to. The assessment will include a detailed assessment of the proposed development site as well as the surrounding zone of influence. Results will be compared to a suitable reference site if the proposed areas are already significantly disturbed. The field assessment will identify: • Various habitat types; • A description of each habitat type based on conservation importance and present ecological state; • Floral species associated with each habitat component: ○ Focus on sensitive habitat types, the ecological importance of flora species and impacts associated to them in order to fulfil the requirements of the study; ○ Vegetation communities will be identified and mapped; ○ Species lists and dominant species associated with each vegetation community will be compiled; ○ Focus will also be given to identifying areas of severe alien and invader encroachment and Category 1, 2 and 3 species in terms of GNR 598: National Environmental Management Biodiversity Act: (Act No. 10 of 2004) will be identified and listed; ○ Veld condition will be identified and compared to the typical vegetation for the vegetation type of the area according to Mucina & Rutherford (2006); ○ Sensitive areas will be mapped where detail will be given of the ecological aspect of concern in each sensitivity zone; ○ Specific focus will also be given to establishing the presence of RDL and protected plants as listed within the IUCN List, relevant provincial lists and the TOPS list of NEMBA; • Based on the findings a detailed baseline study on all identified significant risks will take place; and • Recommendations on management and mitigation measures (including opportunities and constraints) with regards to the construction and operation of the proposed activities in order to manage and mitigate impacts on the flora I assemblage of the area. Faunal Assessments • The faunal assemblage will be determined using the following methods:

Study	Terms of Reference
	- Extensive consideration will be given to determining the ecological importance and sensitivity of the study area according to the relevant conservation databases. The relevant databases for the QDS will also be consulted and will serve as the reference data to which field surveys will be compared to; - Visual observations of actually occurring species; - Identification of evidence of occurrence, e.g. call spoor, droppings etc; - The reports produced will include sensitive habitat types (which will be mapped) and impacts from habitat disturbance, faunal assemblages at risk and an assessment of impacts on migratory routes; - An assessment of cumulative impacts on faunal assemblages in the region will also be made; - The SCC probability assessment will also be considered in order to quantify the importance of the study area in terms of faunal SCC conservation; - Based on the findings a detailed baseline study on all identified significant risks will take place; and - Recommendations on management and mitigation measures (including opportunities and constraints) with regards to the construction and operation of the proposed activities in order to manage and mitigate impacts on the faunal assemblage of the area. <u>Impact Assessment</u> - Assess impacts of ongoing and proposed activities on Biodiversity of the project area; - Assess whether proposed activities are likely to have significant impacts on Biodiversity and specifically species of conservation concern; - Identify practically implementable mitigation measures to reduce the significance of proposed activities on Biodiversity; - Assess residual and cumulative impacts after implementation of mitigation measures; and - Compilation of biodiversity management and monitoring plan. The outcome of the impact assessment phase will be an integrated Biodiversity impact assessment report detailing the findings of each of the various sub-specialist studies. The impact assessment report will provide an integrated assessment of the significance of the potential impacts on the biodiversity of the project area with specific emphasis on observed red data species. The report will identify suitable mitigation measures and assess the revised significance of potential impacts on Biodiversity post-implementation of mitigation measures. The integrated biodiversity impact assessment report will also include a biodiversity monitoring programme.
Wetland Study	Desktop assessment A detailed desktop assessment will be undertaken in which all available background information will be reviewed. All relevant national and provincial databases will be reviewed and searched as required, in order to further define the environmental sensitivities of the receiving environment. The desktop assessment will highlight the Ecological Importance and Sensitivity and Present Ecological State based on databases such as the NFEPA database (2011) and the BGIS website. As part of the desktop studies all freshwater areas will be mapped based on desktop delineation methods. The findings of the desktop studies will then be used to refine and focus the field work assessment. Further detail on the assessment methods are presented in the sections below. Freshwater and Aquatic ecological assessment A site visit will be undertaken whereby all freshwater feature(s) associated with study area as provided by the client will be assessed, and the following will be undertaken: - Delineation of the freshwater ecosystems within the study area will be verified, according to “DWAF, 2008: A practical Guideline Procedure for the Identification and Delineation of Freshwater ecosystems and Riparian Zones”. Aspects such as soil morphological characteristics, vegetation types and wetness will be used to verify the delineation of the freshwater temporary zone according to the guidelines; - Delineation of freshwater features within 500m of the study area will be undertaken utilising desktop methods, with limited field verification thereof; - If applicable, on-site biota specific water quality testing will take place for parameters including pH, Electrical Conductivity (EC), Dissolved Oxygen (DO) and temperature, - Benthic diatom composition at each site will be assessed according to the Specific Pollution Index (SPI); - All freshwater features identified during the field assessment will be mapped using a handheld GPS and the use of the applicable GIS software; - Applicable buffer zones and/or zones of regulation according to relevant legislation or provincial guidelines will then be delineated around the freshwater ecosystems. The applicable buffer maps will be provided;

Study	Terms of Reference
	- A freshwater classification assessment will be undertaken according to the Classification System for Freshwater and other Aquatic Ecosystems in South Africa. User Manual: Inland systems (Ollis et al., 2013); and - Applicable buffer zones and/or zones of regulation according to relevant legislation or provincial guidelines will then be delineated around the freshwater ecosystems. The applicable buffer maps will be provided. Reporting will include: - A brief statement of the findings of the site assessment will be provided, as well as all maps and data from national and provincial databases that have bearing on the freshwater PES and EIS. In this regard specific mention is made of the NFEPA database and relevant Conservation datasets; - The freshwater services provided by the resources associated with the proposed development will be assessed according to the method of Kotze et al (2020) in which services to the ecology of the site will be defined and services to the people of the area will be defined; - The freshwater Present Ecological State (PES) will be assessed according to indices such as the Wet-Health (Level 1) / Index of Habitat Integrity as advocated by Macfarlane et al., (2008) and Kleynhans (2008), respectively as applicable; - The freshwater EIS will be determined based on the method described by Rountree & Kotze, (2013); and - Aspects regarding freshwater drivers and receptors as required by the DWS Chief Directorate Instream Water Use will be reported on, including the following: Freshwater drivers: <u>Hydrology;</u> <u>Water quality; and</u> <u>Sediment balance and the geomorphological regime;</u> <u>Freshwater receptors:</u> <u>Habitat; and</u> <u>Biota.</u> <u>Impact Assessment</u> The Wetlands resource impact assessment will consist of the following: - Assess impacts of ongoing and proposed activities on the local water resources; - Assess whether proposed activities are likely to have significant impacts on the water resources; - Identify practically implementable mitigation measures to reduce the significance of proposed activities on the water resources; and - Assess residual and cumulative impacts after implementation of mitigation measures. Based on the findings during the desktop and field assessments, and based on the project plan and proposed layout plan as provided, a detailed risk assessment on all identified significant risks will take place including cumulative impacts on freshwater assemblages in the region; and Recommendations on management and mitigation measures (including opportunities and constraints) with regards to the development/operation or decommissioning of the proposed development in order to improve manage and mitigate impacts on the freshwater ecology of the area will be provided.
Surface Water (Hydrological Assessment)	A full, detailed hydrological assessment will be undertaken for the EIA Phase of the project. <u>Site Visit</u>

Study	Terms of Reference
	A site visit will be undertaken to: - Assess the hydrological and hydraulic characteristics of the Vaal River in the vicinity of the project; and - Obtain surface water quality samples from upstream and downstream positions of the project. <u>Baseline Hydrology</u> The baseline hydrology will provide a description of the current surface water environment of the project. The following will be included: - A desktop review of existing information and data on the area will be undertaken. - A description of the hydrological setting of the project in terms of the catchments, watercourses, topography, land cover/use and soils. - An analysis and description of the climate of the area in terms of the rainfall and evaporation; - An analysis of the surface water runoff of the area. - An assessment of the surface water quality from three (3) samples taken on the site visit as well as from monitoring data from the DWS. Samples will be sent to SANAS accredited laboratory for water quality analysis. <u>Impact Assessment:</u> <u>1. Flood Lines</u> The flood peaks for the 1:50- and 1:100-year return intervals will be calculated for the contributing catchment area associated with each river. Flood peak determination will factor in regional rainfall and relevant catchment characteristics influences. Based on the provided elevations, and utilising the calculated flood peaks, the flood lines for current conditions will be generated using the HEC-RAS one dimensional backwater flow model. The model can simulate the effects of various control points/obstructions located within the watercourse. It assumed that topographical data at an acceptable resolution of the site will be provided. <u>2. Conceptual Stormwater Management Plan</u> Based on the information gathered during the desktop review and the site walkover, a conceptual stormwater management plan will be developed for the Project. ‘Dirty’ and ‘clean’ contributing catchments will be discretised based on topographical fall, associated activities. Furthermore, the discretisation of the catchments will factor in existing stormwater infrastructure and the overall functionality and the most practical and feasible implementation of the final stormwater management plan. Based on the discretised catchments, the required stormwater management drainage elements (including channels, pipes, berms, and pollution control dams) will be defined to ensure appropriate stormwater management according to the management principles outlined in the GN704 and BPGs. <u>3. Water and Salt Balance</u> An annual average static water balance associated with the mine will be developed using Excel, based on a Process Flow Diagram (PFD) developed in conjunction with Ergo. The PFD will indicate sources and movement of water within the mine and projected volumes. A final project site plan is required to finalise the water balance. The salt balance calculations will be based on the volumes calculated within the water balance and water quality data provided. If available, Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) data will be used to calculate the salt balance. <u>4. Water Quality Analysis and Monitoring Data</u> A surface water quality analysis will be undertaken, and a monitoring programme will be developed for the mine to allow for the appraisal of impacts to surface water as a result of onsite activities and to allow for the formulation of various management actions associated with the protection of water resources. Sampling locations, methodology, sampling frequency and an analytical programme (i.e. analytes) will be rationalised as part of the assessment. Water quality data obtained from the site will be compared against the relevant DWS water quality standard limits. A water quality monitoring plan will be developed to determine key water quality monitoring points, chemical monitoring suites and the frequency of water quality sampling and analysis.

Study	Terms of Reference
Groundwater Assessment	<u>Impact Assessment:</u> The Impact Assessment phase will involve several tasks, as explained below. The results will help characterise the underlying aquifer systems and define potential impacts on the local aquifers, but also groundwater users and sensitive receptors in the Project area. <u>1. Data Review</u> During this task all available data for the project area will be collated and reviewed. This includes geological, hydrogeological, groundwater monitoring, meteorological data and National Groundwater Archive data. A review will be conducted, and interpretations performed to establish a conceptual idea of the hydrogeological nature of the area and what risks currently exists. <u>2. Hydrocensus</u> During the Hydrocensus important data pertaining to the current groundwater conditions and use will be collected. This will include localities of current groundwater abstraction points (boreholes, hand dug wells or springs), ownership, current usage volumes and types, equipment and groundwater levels. Groundwater samples (5 samples) will be taken from selected boreholes. The Hydrocensus will include: • A groundwater use assessment within a 1-kilometre radius of the TSF; and • Sampling of accessible boreholes and springs. A spectrum of determinants will be analysed. The samples will be sent to a SANAS accredited laboratory for inorganic analyses. • This data together with its spatial distribution will determine the current water resource and environmental status and serve as reference to the proposed reclamation. • Data from the Department of Water and Sanitation will be sourced to help define water use and borehole localities in the area. <u>3. Reporting</u> An impact assessment report will present the results and interpretations of the groundwater desktop and Hydrocensus assessments, with an indication of potential current impacts. The impact assessment report will include the following: • Characteristics of the local groundwater environment, including current groundwater use and groundwater qualities; • Definition of the local geology and potential roles the structural geology and depth of weathering may play in surface water-groundwater interactions; • Identification of potential hydrogeological impacts and sensitive receptors associated with the reclamation activities; and • A groundwater monitoring network that will effectively monitor the groundwater quality and level changes during the reclamation phase and after closure.
Air Quality Impact Assessment	The Scope of Work will include: <u>Baseline Assessment</u> • A brief project description. • A description of the study site including surrounding sensitive receptors, surrounding land use and topography. • Meteorological assessment. Met data will be evaluated to determine the local prevailing weather conditions, and its influence on the dispersion and dilution potential of pollutants released into the atmosphere. AERMET ready modelled met data, for input into the AERMOD model, from Lakes Environmental will be used. • Identification of existing sources of emissions and characterisation of ambient air quality at or near to the project site using available monitoring data (this can only be conducted if data is available). • Review of the current legislative and regulatory air quality requirements. • Literature review of the potential health effects associated with the criteria air pollutants of concern.

Study	Terms of Reference
	- Detailed literature review of emissions from all activities on site. Where information is not available on emission rates, USEPA or NPI emission factors will be used (client to assist in the provision of information needed to calculate emissions). <u>Emissions Inventory</u> Compilation of an emissions inventory for the project for criteria air pollutants and dustfall. The following information will need to be supplied by the Client in order to calculate emissions: - Particulate emission rates – If this is not available, emission factors will be applied; - Facility design and detailed layout, including process flow diagram and stack description: height, diameter, exit velocity and exit temperature, fuel consumption, and material inputs and outputs for facility processes, where applicable; - Source parameters for area sources (dimensions and co-ordinates - length, width, height as well as activity rates, material characteristics, etc.); - Information on all line sources and information of vehicle type and activity. - A detailed questionnaire will be put together with all the required information. <u>Dispersion Modelling</u> - Dispersion modelling, using the AERMOD model, will be conducted in line with the South African National Regulations Regarding Air Dispersion Modelling, 2014. - Potential emissions from the operation and associated activities will be modelled, to determine the predicted ambient air pollutant concentrations (for criteria air pollutants and dustfall only). - Emissions will be modelled for the construction and operational phases of the project. - The output of the dispersion model will include contour maps presenting the area of dispersion and the results of the assessment. - Comparison of the predicted concentrations will be made with the South African National Ambient Air Quality Standards and Dust Control Regulations to determine compliance. Where there are no SA standards, international standards will be used to determine compliance. <u>Impact Assessment - Analysis and Interpretation</u> Dispersion simulations of ground level pollutant concentrations will be carried out. The anticipated and cumulative impacts of the activities on the ambient air quality of the area will also be identified and discussed. Analysis of dispersion modelling to highlight: - Predicted zones of maximum ground level impacts (particulate and gaseous emissions for selected criteria air pollutants). - Maximum concentrations at the boundary of the site. - Maximum concentrations at identified nearby discrete receptors. - Area of exceedances of selected criteria air pollutants and dust fallout. General recommendations will be provided regarding the mitigation and management of the identified potential impacts. This may include the implementation of an air quality monitoring programme.
Noise Impact Assessment	The primary objective of the Noise Impact Assessment is to evaluate the potential noise impacts of the Proposed Project on surrounding sensitive receptors and to recommend appropriate mitigation measures to ensure compliance with applicable noise standards. <u>Baseline Acoustic Monitoring</u> - Deploy Type 1 sound level meters at key receptors (e.g. nearby residential areas, schools, clinics). - Monitoring to occur continuously for at least 3 days, capturing both day and night-time levels.

Study	Terms of Reference
	- Measurement parameters: L_Aeq, L_max, L_min, L_90, L_10 in octave bands. Noise Source Identification - Identification of key noise sources during: - Construction: heavy machinery, transport vehicle. etc. - Operation activities. Noise Modelling - Develop a predictive noise model using ISO 9613-2 or equivalent. - Incorporate terrain data, meteorological conditions, and absorption factors. - Model cumulative noise from all planned infrastructure. The specific objectives are to: - Establish the baseline ambient noise levels within the project area and surrounding environment. - Identify noise-sensitive receptors, including residential areas, schools, health facilities, and other land uses. - Identify and quantify noise sources associated with project activities, including construction equipment, operational machinery, and vehicle movements. - Assess the potential noise impacts on surrounding receptors during different project phases. - Evaluate compliance with relevant noise legislation, guidelines, and standards. - Recommend mitigation measures to minimise noise impacts and protect community well-being. - Assess residual noise impacts following the implementation of mitigation measures. Legislative and Policy Framework The Noise Impact Assessment is informed by the following legislation and guidelines: - National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) - SANS 10103:2008 – <i>The measurement and rating of environmental noise with respect to annoyance and speech communication</i> - SANS 10103 / SANS 10117 (where applicable) - National Noise Control Regulations (R154 of 1992) - Relevant provincial and municipal noise control by-laws <u>Reporting and Recommendations</u> - Prepare a comprehensive report including baseline data, modelling outputs, impact ratings (nature, extent, duration, intensity, probability, significance), and mitigation measures. - Recommend noise management strategies and draft an environmental monitoring plan.
Heritage and Palaeontology Impact Assessment	The Heritage and Palaeontology Assessment will include a desktop, field investigation and provide the findings and recommendations for the Proposed Project. <u>Desktop Study</u>

Study	Terms of Reference
	- A review of archaeological, palaeontological, and historical records will be conducted, incorporating previous heritage assessments, old topographic maps, and relevant literature for the study area and its surroundings. Palaeontology The purpose of the PIA will be to: - to identify the palaeontological importance of the rock formations in the footprint; - to evaluate the palaeontological magnitude of the formations; - to clarify the impact on fossil heritage; and - to suggest how the developer might protect and lessen possible damage to fossil heritage. The palaeontological status of each rock section is calculated, as well as the possible impact of the development on fossil heritage by a) the palaeontological importance of the rocks, b) the type of development, and c) the quantity of bedrock removed. All possible information is consulted to compile a scoping report, and this includes the following: SAHRIS Palaeosensitivity map, Provisional DFFE Screening Tool, all Palaeontological Impact Assessment reports in the same area; aerial photos and Google Earth images, topographical and geological maps as well as scientific articles of specimens from the development area and Assemblage Zones. A field-based assessment is necessary when the development footprint has a Very High to High paleontological sensitivity. The desktop and the field survey of the exposed rock determine the impact significance of the planned development, and recommendations for further studies or mitigation are made. Destructive impacts on palaeontological heritage usually only occur during the construction phase, while the excavations will change the current topography and destroy or permanently seal in fossils at or below the ground surface. Fossil Heritage will then no longer be accessible for scientific research. During a site investigation, the palaeontologist surveys the development and tries to determine the density and diversity of fossils in the development area. Rock exposures that are investigated usually contain a large portion of the stratigraphic unit, can be accessed easily and comprise of unweathered (fresh) exposed rock. These exposures may be natural (rocky outcrops in streams or riverbanks, cliffs, dongas) but could also be artificial (quarries, open building excavations, and even railway and road cuttings). It is common practice for palaeontologists to log well-preserved fossils (GPS, and stratigraphic data) during field assessment studies. Mitigation usually precedes construction or may occur during construction when potentially fossiliferous bedrock is exposed. Mitigation comprises the collection and recording of fossils. Preceding excavation of any fossils, a permit from SAHRA must be obtained, and the material will have to be housed in a SAHRA approved fossil repository. When mitigation is applied correctly, a positive impact is possible as knowledge of local palaeontological heritage may be increased. <u>Heritage Impact Assessment:</u> This will be compiled in compliance with NHRA and the NEMA. The HIA process consists of three steps: <u>1. Literature Review and initial site analysis:</u> The background information to the field survey relies greatly on the Heritage Background Research which was undertaken through archival research and evaluation of aerial photography and topographical maps of the study area. <u>2. Physical Survey:</u> A physical survey is subsequently conducted on foot through the Proposed Project area by a qualified heritage specialist/s (e.g. an archaeologist and a palaeontologist)) and is aimed at locating and documenting sites falling within and adjacent to the proposed development footprint.

Study	Terms of Reference 3. The final step involves the recording and documentation of relevant heritage resources identified in the physical survey, the assessment of resources in terms of the HIA criteria and report writing, as well as mapping and constructive recommendations. The significance of heritage sites is based on four main criteria in accordance with site integrity (i.e. primary vs. secondary context), amount of deposit, range of features (e.g., stonewalling, stone tools and enclosures), and density of scatter (dispersed scatter): - Low - <10/50m2 - Medium - 10-50/50m2 - High - >50/50m2 - Uniqueness. Management actions and recommended mitigation, which will result in a reduction in the impact on the sites, will be expressed as follows: - A - No further action necessary; - B - Mapping of the site and controlled sampling required; - C - No-go or relocate development activity position; - D - Preserve site, or extensive data collection and mapping of the site; and - E - Preserve site. Impacts on these sites by the development will be evaluated as follows: Site significance classification standards prescribed by the SAHRA (2006) and approved by the ASAPA for the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region, were used for the purpose of this report. <table><tr><th>FIELD RATING</th><th>GRADE</th><th>SIGNIFICANCE</th><th>RECOMMENDED MITIGATION</th></tr><tr><td>National Significance (NS)</td><td>Grade 1</td><td>-</td><td>Conservation; National Site nomination</td></tr><tr><td>Provincial Significance (PS)</td><td>Grade 2</td><td>-</td><td>Conservation; Provincial Site nomination</td></tr><tr><td>Local Significance (LS)</td><td>Grade 3A</td><td>High Significance</td><td>Conservation; Mitigation not advised</td></tr><tr><td>Local Significance (LS)</td><td>Grade 3B</td><td>High Significance</td><td>Mitigation (Part of site should be retained)</td></tr><tr><td>Generally Protected A (GP. A)</td><td>-</td><td>High / Medium Significance</td><td>Mitigation before destruction</td></tr><tr><td>Generally Protected B (GP. B)</td><td>-</td><td>Medium Significance</td><td>Recording before destruction</td></tr><tr><td>Generally Protected C (GP. A)</td><td>-</td><td>Low Significance</td><td>Destruction</td></tr></table>	FIELD RATING	GRADE	SIGNIFICANCE	RECOMMENDED MITIGATION	National Significance (NS)	Grade 1	-	Conservation; National Site nomination	Provincial Significance (PS)	Grade 2	-	Conservation; Provincial Site nomination	Local Significance (LS)	Grade 3A	High Significance	Conservation; Mitigation not advised	Local Significance (LS)	Grade 3B	High Significance	Mitigation (Part of site should be retained)	Generally Protected A (GP. A)	-	High / Medium Significance	Mitigation before destruction	Generally Protected B (GP. B)	-	Medium Significance	Recording before destruction	Generally Protected C (GP. A)	-	Low Significance	Destruction
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Social Impact Assessment	The objective of the Social Impact Assessment (SIA) is to is to: - Assess the social impacts of the Proposed Project including any impacts on local infrastructure and services; - Recommend mitigation measures to minimise adverse impacts and maximise benefits of the Project; and - Facilitate the consideration of alternatives. The SIA will use both quantitative and qualitative data collection techniques. In terms of the quantitative data, data from Statistics SA was used to understand the local social circumstances of the Proposed Project area. This method was used to gather baseline information for the purposes of the Scoping report. The qualitative method includes focus group meetings and in-depth interviews will be conducted to understand the affected communities’ perceptions, how they view themselves and the environment around them. Qualitative date will be collected as the project progresses. The SIA will use the following sets of data to inform the study: - An investigative site visit; - Interviews with Ward Councillors, municipal officials, directly affected land owners/occupiers																																

Study	Terms of Reference
	- Statistics South Africa data; - A literature review of the Integrated Development Plan and the Spatial Development Framework; and - Scan and analysis of the Comments and Responses Report and various specialist studies (Compiled by Kongiwe Environmental)
Traffic Impact Assessment	The Objectives of the Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA): The primary objective of the Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA) is to evaluate the potential impacts of the proposed development on the surrounding transportation network and to identify appropriate mitigation measures to ensure safe, efficient, and sustainable traffic operations. The specific objectives of the TIA are to: - Assess the existing traffic conditions on the surrounding road network, including traffic volumes, road geometry, access points, and current levels of service. - Evaluate the traffic generated by the proposed development during construction, operation, and (where applicable) closure or rehabilitation phases. - Determine the potential impacts on road capacity and traffic flow, including peak-hour conditions and cumulative impacts in conjunction with existing developments. - Assess road safety implications, including vehicle, vehicle–pedestrian, and vehicle–cyclist interactions, with particular attention to heavy vehicle movements associated with the project. - Evaluate the adequacy of existing access points and intersections, including sight distances, turning movements, and signage. - Assess the impact of construction-related traffic, including haulage routes, construction vehicles, and abnormal loads, on public roads. - Identify any required upgrades or improvements to road infrastructure, intersections, or access arrangements to accommodate project-related traffic. - Assess the potential impacts on public transport operations, non-motorised transport, and local community access. - Ensure compliance with relevant national, provincial, and municipal traffic and road safety standards, guidelines, and policies. - Recommend practical mitigation and management measures to minimise negative traffic impacts and enhance road safety for all road users.
Climate Change Risk Assessment	The primary objective of the Climate Change Risk Assessment is to evaluate how current and projected climate change conditions may affect the Proposed Project and to ensure that climate-related risks are adequately identified, assessed, and managed throughout the project lifecycle. The specific objectives of the Climate Change Risk Assessment are to: - Identify current climate conditions and projected climate change trends relevant to the project area, including temperature, rainfall variability, extreme weather events, and wind patterns. - Assess the vulnerability of the proposed development to climate-related hazards such as increased rainfall intensity, flooding, drought, heat stress, and extreme storm events. - Evaluate the potential impacts of climate change on project infrastructure, operational safety, and long-term stability, particularly in relation to stormwater management, erosion, and structural integrity. - Assess the potential climate change–related risks to the receiving environment, including surface water systems, soils, biodiversity, and surrounding land uses. - Determine the project’s resilience to future climate scenarios over its anticipated operational and closure phases. - Ensure alignment with national and provincial climate change policies and strategies, including relevant adaptation and resilience frameworks. - Inform decision-making by integrating climate risks into the overall impact assessment and mitigation planning process. Climate Change Risk Assessment and Mitigation Methodology The climate change risk assessment and mitigation will be undertaken as part of the impact study using a structured, risk-based approach, as outlined below: Baseline Climate Review: - Review historical climate data for the project area, including rainfall, temperature, wind, and extreme weather records.

Study	Terms of Reference
	- Consider regional climate projections based on recognised climate models and national climate scenarios. Climate Risk Identification: - Identify climate-related hazards relevant to the project, such as flooding, increased storm intensity, prolonged dry periods, and temperature extremes. - Identify project components and environmental receptors that may be sensitive to these hazards. Risk Analysis and Evaluation: - Assess the likelihood and consequence of identified climate risks under current and future climate scenarios. - Classify risks according to a recognised risk rating framework to prioritise management actions. Mitigation and Adaptation Measures: - Identify and assess design, operational, and management measures to reduce climate-related risks, including: - Climate-resilient infrastructure design - Enhanced stormwater management and erosion control - Adaptive operational practices - Progressive rehabilitation and vegetation cover to improve resilience Residual Risk Assessment: - Reassess risks after the application of mitigation measures to determine residual impacts and overall project resilience. Monitoring and Adaptive Management: - Define climate-related monitoring indicators and response measures. - Apply an adaptive management approach, allowing mitigation measures to be refined in response to observed climate trends or extreme events.
Dolomite Impact Assessment	The Dolomite Impact Assessment will be undertaken to identify and evaluate the presence of dolomitic conditions within the proposed project area, assess associated geotechnical and stability risks, and determine potential implications for the proposed development. The study will be conducted in accordance with applicable South African legislation, standards, and industry best practice guidelines. The key objectives of the Dolomite Assessment are to: - Determine whether the proposed project area is underlain by dolomitic geology. - Identify potential geohazards such as sinkholes, subsidences, cavities, and ground instability. - Assess the suitability of the site for the proposed development. - Recommend mitigation measures, design considerations, and management actions where required. - Inform environmental authorisation and engineering planning processes. <u>Study Process and Methodology</u> A comprehensive desktop assessment will be undertaken, including review of: - Regional and local geological maps.

Study	Terms of Reference
	• Dolomite hazard maps and susceptibility mapping. • Previous geotechnical, geological, and hydrogeological reports. • Historical sinkhole or subsidence incident records. • Aerial imagery, topographic maps, and land use information. • Relevant regulatory frameworks and municipal dolomite zoning information. A site visit will be undertaken to verify desktop findings and assess current site conditions. This will include: • Visual inspection for evidence of ground movement, cracks, depressions, ponding, or instability. • Identification of existing infrastructure and sensitive receptors. • Assessment of drainage patterns and surface water management conditions. • Verification of terrain features and accessibility. <u>Geological and Geotechnical Investigation</u> Where required, intrusive investigations may be recommended to confirm subsurface conditions. This may include: • Borehole drilling and logging. • Trial pits. • Geophysical surveys. • Soil and rock sampling. • Groundwater level observations. The extent of intrusive investigations will depend on the level of risk identified during desktop and site assessments. <u>Risk Assessment</u> Potential dolomite-related risks associated with the proposed development will be assessed, considering: • Likelihood of sinkhole or subsidence occurrence. • Influence of water ingress, leakage, or poor stormwater control. • Proposed infrastructure loading and construction activities. • Consequence of failure on people, property, and environment. Risk zones and hazard classifications may be assigned in accordance with applicable standards. <u>Mitigation and Recommendations</u> Where risks are identified, recommendations may include: • Appropriate foundation design considerations. • Stormwater and water reticulation controls. • Monitoring requirements. • Land use restrictions or no-go areas.

Study	Terms of Reference
	A Dolomite Assessment Report will be prepared, which will include: • Description of methodology undertaken. • Baseline geological and site conditions. • Findings of hazard and risk assessment. • Suitability of the site for the proposed development. • Mitigation measures and recommendations. • Specialist input for inclusion in the Scoping Report / EIA process. <u>Assumptions and Limitations</u> The assessment will be based on information available at the time of study, site accessibility, and level of investigation commissioned. Additional detailed studies may be required during detailed design phase if warranted.

10.4 Proposed EIA Methodology

The EIA will be undertaken according to the method detailed below. This methodology is compliant with the NEMA 2014 EIA Regulations, as amended in 2017 and 2021.

Generally, the impact assessment is divided into three parts:

- **Issue Identification** – each specialist will be asked to evaluate the ‘aspects’ arising from the project description and ensure that all issues in their area of expertise have been identified.
- **Impact Definition** – positive and negative impacts associated with these issues (and any others not included) then need to be defined – the definition statement should include the activity (source of impact), aspect and receptor as well as whether the impact is direct, indirect or cumulative. Fatal flaws should also be identified at this stage.
- **Impact Evaluation** – this is not a purely objective and quantitative exercise. It has a subjective element, often using judgement and values as much as science-based criteria and standards. The need therefore exists to clearly explain how impacts have been interpreted so that others can see the weight attached to different factors and can understand the rationale of the assessment.

To understand the impact evaluation, the sensitivity of the receiving environment, the effect on the receiving environment and the significance of the impacts, these three points above need to be clearly described. The impact assessment methodology that will be used during the EIA Phase is described in Chapter 9.

10.4.1 Assessment of the Duration of Significance

Duration of significance of impacts will be assessed using the following criteria, where the duration of time relates to how long that impact will occur for during that phase of the project. Specific durations will be allocated to each project phase in the EIA document where the detailed impact assessment rating will be undertaken. For example, for the operational phase:

- Short term: Up to 18 months.
- Medium term: 18 months to 5 years.
- Long term: Longer than 5 years.

10.4.2 Stages at which the Competent Authority will be Consulted

The DMPR and Commenting Authorities will be consulted at various stages during the EIA process. This includes:

- Pre-application meetings.
- Announcement and Scoping Phase.
- EIA Phase.

10.4.3 Public Participation to be undertaken during the EIA Phase

Stakeholder engagement during the EIA Phase involves a review of the findings of the impact assessment presented in the EIA Report for public comment which will be made available. Stakeholders will be notified using the following:

- Media advertisements in the same newspapers used during the Scoping Phase to announce the availability of the draft EIA Report for public comment.
- Registered stakeholders will be informed by way of personal letters/ SMS distributed by mail and e-mail in advance of the report being available.
- Stakeholders will be invited to attend a public Open Day where the contents of the EIA Report will be presented, and stakeholders will have an opportunity to comment. Details of the meeting will be confirmed closer to the time of the meeting.

Following the availability of the draft EIA Report, meetings with relevant stakeholders will be undertaken. During the EIA Phase, stakeholders will be invited to comment on the EIA Report in any of the following ways:

- By raising comments during key stakeholder/ public meetings where the content of the draft EIA Report will be presented.
- By completing comments sheets available with the report at public places, and by submitting additional written comments, by email, fax or by telephone, to Kongiwe.
- The draft EIA Report will be available for comment for a period of 30 days at public places in the project area, sent to stakeholders who request a copy, and placed on the Kongiwe website.

All comments and issues raised during the 30-day public comment period will be incorporated into the final CRR within the EIA Report to be submitted to the competent and commenting authorities. Description of the information to be provided to stakeholders includes:

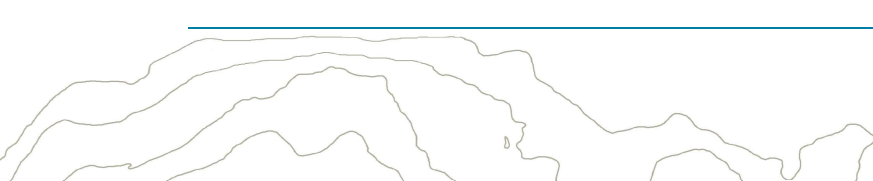
- The project description (final site layout, all alternatives investigated) and the surrounding baseline environment.
- Findings from the specialist studies undertaken.
- Potential biophysical and socio-economic impacts during construction, operations, closure and decommissioning phases of the project.
- Management/ mitigation measures developed to address the potential impacts.
- The closure objectives, plan and financial provision.
- Details on how stakeholders can comment on the draft EIA Report.

10.4.4 Tasks to be undertaken during the Environmental Impact Phase

The plan of study for the EIA Report is set out below for review by the authorities and stakeholders. The rationale for the different levels of study for the various environmental components will be taken from the issues raised by stakeholders, the expected severity of impacts and the level of confidence required in their prediction. The level of information required to develop adequate, practical management and mitigation measures was also a consideration in determining the terms of reference of studies.

Within the EIA Phase, the EIA Report, WUL and stakeholder engagement activities will run concurrently. During the EIA Phase, the following will be undertaken:

1. Specialists will conduct and complete specialist impact assessments. Workshops will be held with specialists to workshop all potential impacts and integrate specialist studies;
2. Stakeholder engagement materials will be prepared (advertisements, notification letters, site notices), and a public open day, focused group meetings and consultation with affected landowners will be undertaken;



3. A draft EIA Report will be compiled, and management measures and commitments workshopped with the Applicant;
4. The draft EIA Report will be made available for public review and comment; and
5. The final EIA Report, including public comments and responses, will be submitted to authorities for decision-making.

10.4.5 Mitigation, Management and Monitoring of Identified Impacts

The summary of potential issues identified during the Scoping Phase of the project have been indicated in Section 9.4. These impacts require further investigation during the EIA Phase. Section 9 provides an indication of the independent specialist studies, field surveys and assessments that are required to form part of the EIA Phase. The specialist studies will consider the footprint proposed for the TSF Reclamation project, including all associated infrastructure. With this information, the Proposed Project will be able to fully assess and investigate the feasible and reasonable alternatives proposed in Chapter 6.

The possible mitigation measures that could be applied and the level of risk is depicted as follows:

The potential impacts identified for the reclamation of the Proposed Project have been described below. It is important to note that these impacts have not been ground-truthed or rated for significance. The impacts have been described based on what the current status of the sites, as well as existing information assessed at a desktop level. The below impacts, and other identified impacts, will be fully described during the EIA phase.

Table 10-2: High Level Mitigation Measures for Potential Impacts Identified for the Project.

Activity	Potential Impact	Stakeholder Comment	Mitigation Measures
Construction			
Construction of infrastructure, temporary infrastructure, and potential roads. All necessary activities involved with site preparation including site clearing.	Socio-economic: • Potential to further contractor opportunities; • Disruption of movement patterns and other displacement impacts; • Project-induced population influx ; • Local & regional economic development; • Increase in the availability of land; • Nuisance factors; • Community Health and Safety; and • Negative impact on adjacent Economic Activities The removal of the dump will result in a certain short-term impact, however, it is envisaged that the long term impact will be positive.	Job creation and local economic development	• Attempt to extend goods and services from local businesses who are BBBEE compliant and currently contracted by Ergo. • If jobs are available, should ensure that local communities are made aware of the employment opportunities by means of a structured stakeholder engagement programme Ergo. • Develop skills development and training targets for local procurement and include these in contractor management plans; • Successfully complete the removal of all Dumps and the rehabilitation of the remaining footprints to prevent the creation of new/more contaminated areas; • Assess end-land uses for each individual rehabilitated site. Rehabilitation must be consistent with the relevant end land-use objectives of closure plans; • Unauthorised access to the TSF should be prevented. The area must have strict access control and must be fenced off; • Mitigation against potential impacts of air pollution and radiation strict adherence to air quality impact and health impact studies related to the project;

Activity	Potential Impact	Stakeholder Comment	Mitigation Measures
			• Strict adherence to standards of Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993 for personnel working close to the TSF; • Strictly adhere to management plan of the groundwater report; • Grievance management mechanism should be in place to receive incident related queries; and • Construction hours must preferably be limited to daylight day hours e.g., 6 am to 6 pm where possible.
	Air quality: Short-term air quality impacts could arise from: • Increased particulate matter (PM10 and PM2.5) load in the atmosphere leading to deteriorated air quality. The removal/reclamation of the dumps will result in the reduction of current air quality issues. There is a long-term positive impact envisaged.	Dust concerns	• Regular, light watering of unpaved roads; • Strict speed control on unpaved roads; • Wet suppression wherever possible, • Wind-speed reduction barriers around construction sites.
	Noise: Construction activities will result in a short-term increase in noise levels. Noise impacts are anticipated to only contribute to the surrounding ambient sound levels for a short period of time.	None	• Undertake construction operations during working hours only. • Construction equipment should be properly maintained and switched off when not operational. • Regular planned vehicle services are considered best practise.

Activity	Potential Impact	Stakeholder Comment	Mitigation Measures
	Surface Water: Potential pollution from: • Increase sedimentation on downstream watercourses due to exposed surfaces resulting in siltation of surface water resources. • Mixing of upstream clean water runoff with dirty water runoff from cleared site areas. • Potential for flooding of pipeline structures at river crossings. • Seepages/spillages of excess rainfall stored on the dumps and the existing paddocks. The removal/reclamation of the dumps will result in the removal of a source of environmental pollution.	Contaminated runoff	• Comply with the Gauteng Noise Control Regulations • The runoff from the upstream clean water catchment is to be diverted away from the proposed infrastructure. • Infrastructure to be established should be outside any modelled flood lines. • Surface water quality monitoring must be implemented according to a detailed plan. • Dirty water runoff should be captured and contained within the dedicated storage facility such as the existing paddocks. • To minimise seepage and the effects of ponding, water volumes should be contained when necessary, pumped out and re-used where required during the construction phase of the project.
	Groundwater: Decrease in surface and groundwater quality as a result of water. The removal/reclamation of the dumps will result in the removal of a source of environmental pollution.	Groundwater contamination and seepage	• Surface water management measures must ensure that runoff and dirty water spills are contained; • Implement a detailed groundwater monitoring plan for the project as described in the ground water impact report.

Activity	Potential Impact	Stakeholder Comment	Mitigation Measures
	Wetland: Potential loss and disturbance of wetland and aquatic habitat due to site preparation and clearing of vegetation. There could also be alien plant infestation due to the disturbance. The removal of the TSF will reduce the current risk of AMD seepage, and the removal of the environmental point source in the long term.	Contaminated runoff	- Adhere to any prescribed buffers should any be recommended; - Adhere to the recommendations proposed in the surface water and groundwater reports; - Minimise the footprint of any areas disturbed during construction; - Locate all temporary offices, constructors' camps, laydown areas, ablution facilities etc. a minimum of the prescribed distance from any delineated sensitive watercourse/wetland (should wetlands exist). - Develop and implement a construction stormwater management plan prior to the commencement of site clearing activities; - A rehabilitation Plan for disturbed wetland must be in place as prescribed by the wetland specialist study.
	Heritage: - Construction activities could cause damage to or destroy any physical heritage resources that may be present in the development footprint areas; - The installation of power lines outside of existing servitudes will cause damage to or destroy any physical heritage resources	SAHRA requirements	- Conduct Heritage Impact Assessment to identify heritage sites within the project area - If any heritage sites are identified, appropriate steps as per the Heritage Resources Act will be undertaken. - Conduct a Palaeontology Impact Assessment.

Activity	Potential Impact	Stakeholder Comment	Mitigation Measures
	that may be present within the development footprint.		
	Traffic: - Increase in traffic volumes on existing traffic network - Cumulative impact on the road surface condition This impact is expected to be localised and short-term.	None	- Traffic signage at site access points - Upgrade gravel roads to tarred roads where required. - Road maintenance, on the public road network, is not a responsibility of Ergo. It is therefore recommended that Ergo engages with the planning authorities regarding future maintenance needs of the surrounding road network.
	Fauna and Flora: - Direct loss of floral species/vegetation types and biodiversity. - Direct habitat loss for species that has established on the dumps. - Alien vegetation recruitment.	Conservation status and ecological functioning	- Minimise disturbance and destruction of areas that are not going to be directly reclaimed. - In the case of plants, if this is not possible relocation permits may be required. - The ecosystem present must be preserved, this includes areas not directly affected by project activities and can be achieved by limiting project activities to areas where they are essential. - The risk of habitat fragmentation must be reduced through preservation of natural corridors. - Rehabilitation plans must be initiated during construction to minimise disturbed areas. - Follow any local and national policies and plans regulating and protecting biodiversity in the project area.

Activity	Potential Impact	Stakeholder Comment	Mitigation Measures
	Dolomite: - Ground instability due to excavation activities, earthworks, and vibrations in dolomitic terrain. - Triggering of sinkholes or subsidence due to uncontrolled ingress of water from leaking pipes, poor drainage, or ponding. - Damage to construction infrastructure, equipment, or injury to personnel due to unstable ground conditions. - Soil erosion and increased runoff exposing susceptible dolomite zones.	None	- Undertake detailed geotechnical and dolomite investigations prior to construction. Limit excavation depths where possible and implement engineer-approved excavation methods. Monitor ground movement during construction. - Implement strict stormwater management controls. Prevent ponding of water on site. Inspect and maintain temporary water pipelines and storage facilities regularly. Repair leaks immediately. - Demarcate high-risk or no-go areas. Develop and implement a Dolomite Risk Management Plan. Induct personnel on dolomite hazards and emergency response procedures. - Stabilise exposed surfaces promptly. Install erosion control measures such as berms, silt fences, and diversion channels. Rehabilitate disturbed areas progressively.
OPERATION			
Reclamation of the TSF by Hydraulic Reclamation.	Socio-economic: These are anticipated to be the same as those impacts predicted during the construction phase.	Job creation and local economic development	These should be read with what is proposed as mitigation measures for the Construction Phase.
	Air quality: These are anticipated to be the same as those impacts predicted during the construction phase. As the dumps will be hydraulically mined, this could create dust fall out.	Dust concerns	- Regular, light watering of unpaved roads; - Strict speed control on unpaved roads; - Ensuring that all tailings material is removed to 'red earth' before moving on to the next section (this will

Activity	Potential Impact	Stakeholder Comment	Mitigation Measures
			reduce the area of fine material exposed to wind erosion);
	Noise: Potential impacts include: Potential for noise disturbance from the operation of the reclamation station and pipelines.	None	- Comply with the Gauteng Noise Control Regulations; - If complaints are received about the noise from the pump station, then noise barriers could potentially be installed between the pump station and the specific complainant. - Regular service maintenance on the pumps and pipelines to mitigate water hammer noise as well as maintaining a constant flow rate during pumping of water and slurry. - Machines and vehicles used during reclamation must be serviced to ensure noise suppression mechanisms are effective. - Machines and vehicles should be switched off when not in use.
	Surface Water: Potential impacts include: - Overflow of the collection sumps to the downstream surface water resources. - Overflow dirty of the water collected in the dumps during a severe weather event. - Decrease of salt loads reporting to the waterbodies/watercourse in the area due to reduction in discharges	Contaminated runoff	- The pumps located at each of the sumps should be installed within closed off/bunded areas to contain material spillages. - In times of power failure, manual monitoring of the sump associated with the reclamation station should be carried out. - Overflow channels should be constructed so as to contain any spillages that do occur into the pollution control area.

Activity	Potential Impact	Stakeholder Comment	Mitigation Measures
	Groundwater: Seepage from the dumps and existing Paddocks could negatively influence the groundwater quality in the underlying aquifers during the operational phase.	Groundwater contamination and seepage	- These are expected to be the same as the mitigation measures proposed for the Construction phase. Mitigation would thus include: - Continuous monitoring of groundwater quality.
	Wetlands and Aquatics: Potential impacts include: - Continued loss of water input into surrounding watercourses - Pipeline could pollute the watercourse if failure of the pipeline occurs; - Potential for sedimentation and salt loading in the watercourse - Potential to discharge treated water, if required. The pipelines are designed to minimise spillages and failure as far as possible.	Contaminated runoff	- Adhere to any prescribed buffers, should any be recommended; - Adhere to the recommendations proposed in the surface water and groundwater reports; - Minimise the footprint of any areas disturbed during construction; - Locate all temporary offices, constructors' camps, laydown areas, ablution facilities etc. a minimum of the prescribed distance from any delineated sensitive watercourse/wetland (should wetlands exist). - Develop and implement a construction stormwater management plan prior to the commencement of site clearing activities; - A rehabilitation plan for disturbed wetland must be in place as prescribed by the wetland specialist study. - Dust suppression for the farm roads will decrease the windblown sediments, this should be read with the Air Quality Impact Assessment during the EIA Phase.
	Heritage: During operation, the sources of risk to heritage resources are primarily restricted to the processes associated with the hydraulic	SAHRA requirements	Conduct heritage impact assessment to identify heritage sites within the project area

Activity	Potential Impact	Stakeholder Comment	Mitigation Measures
	reclamation of the historical dumps. This will be confirmed by a Heritage Impact Assessment.		If any heritage sites are identified, appropriate steps as per the Heritage Resources Act will be undertaken
	Traffic: These are expected to be the same as for construction.	None	Mitigation measures for the construction phase apply here
	Fauna and Flora: The major impacts are expected during construction. During operation, the following impact could occur: - Disturbance of local biodiversity during operation and routine maintenance. - Potential for windblown particulates to pollute habitat quality.	Conservation status and ecological functioning.	- Minimise disturbance and destruction of areas that are not going to be directly reclaimed. - Create awareness regarding environmental preservation amongst all personnel involved in the TSF reclamation project. - Monitor surrounding vegetation to assess the affect the reclamation activities on the said vegetation.
	Dolomite: - Sinkhole formation caused by leaking potable/process water pipelines, poor stormwater management, or prolonged infiltration. - Settlement or structural damage to infrastructure associated with gradual subsidence. - Groundwater level changes affecting dolomite stability.	Agreement	- Conduct routine inspections and maintenance of pipelines, valves, and water-bearing infrastructure. Implement leak detection systems. Ensure effective stormwater drainage and rapid repair of defects. - Design infrastructure in accordance with dolomite-specific engineering standards. Conduct regular structural inspections and geotechnical monitoring. Repair defects promptly. - Monitor groundwater levels where required. Control seepage and infiltration. Manage water use and

Activity	Potential Impact	Stakeholder Comment	Mitigation Measures
	Restricted land use or safety risks to workers due to unstable areas.		- discharge in line with approved water management plans. - Maintain hazard zoning plans and update risk registers regularly. Restrict access to identified high-risk areas. Provide ongoing awareness training.
DECOMMISSIONING			
Completed Reclamation of the TSF. Rehabilitation to Red Earth and the removal of infrastructure.	Socio-economic: Potential impacts include: - Improved Quality of life. - Increased access to land. - Potential for dependency on the Project for sustaining the local economy.	Job creation and local economic development	Appointment of workforce and investment in the local economy where applicable during rehabilitation.
	Air quality: The final rehabilitation of the dumps will make use of heavy machinery and vehicles similar to the construction phase. The landscaping and transportation of material to and off site will result in fugitive dust generation. It is anticipated that this will be very short term.	Dust concerns	Monitoring dust levels on site, at upwind and downwind locations preferably at discrete receptors (if identified).
	Noise: Potential for noise disturbance when rehabilitating. However, with the rehabilitation activities using similar machinery and vehicles than the construction phase, it is expected that the noise impact during this phase will be similar.	None	Refer to the construction phase mitigation measures.

Activity	Potential Impact	Stakeholder Comment	Mitigation Measures
	Surface Water: Potential impacts include: - Water pollution from accidental spillages of decommissioned infrastructure. - Residual water pollution from rehabilitated infrastructure footprints post closure	Contaminated runoff	- Ensure that the pipelines are emptied of all residual material before decommissioning. - Ensure the consideration of the durability and longevity of water management designs, e.g. provision of erosion protection for long-term control of erosion and potential pollution to water resources during decommissioning. - It should be ensured that the potential future impacts from the reclamation of the dumps has been identified. - The final topography should be planned, as far as possible, to be free-draining.
	Groundwater: If Seepage continues, this could negatively influence the groundwater quality in the underlying aquifers	Groundwater contamination and seepage	These are expected to be the same as the mitigation measures proposed for the Construction and operation phase.
	Wetlands and Aquatics: Potential impacts include those associated with removing site infrastructure, including pipelines.	Contaminated runoff	- Rehabilitation of the footprints must be done according to the Rehabilitation Plan. - Pipelines must be flushed clean and rendered safe for decommissioning and removal. - Decommissioning and rehabilitation should be done in the dry season. However, it is recommended that seeding be done with the first rains.
	Heritage: No sources of risk to heritage resources are envisaged for the decommissioning phase of the project at this stage. However, if structures older than 60 or	SAHRA requirement	Conduct heritage impact assessment to identify heritage sites within the project area

Activity	Potential Impact	Stakeholder Comment	Mitigation Measures
	100 years at the time of decommissioning exists, these may be impacted upon by decommissioning.		If any heritage sites are identified, appropriate steps as per the Heritage Resources Act will be undertaken
	Traffic: These are expected to be the same as for construction.	None	Mitigation measures for the construction phase apply here
	Fauna and Flora: No impacts are envisioned during this stage.	Conservation status and ecological functioning.	- Follow a detailed rehabilitation plan. - Minimise disturbed areas. - Follow any local and national policies and plans regulating and protecting biodiversity in the project area.
	Dolomite: - Instability caused by removal of infrastructure, foundations, or changes in surface drainage. - Sinkhole risk due to abandoned pipelines, unsealed services, or unmanaged water ingress. - Erosion and land degradation on disturbed surfaces post-closure. - Long-term residual safety risk to future land users.	Agreement	- Prepare a decommissioning plan incorporating dolomite risk controls. Sequence demolition carefully under engineering supervision. Maintain drainage controls during dismantling. - Remove redundant pipelines where feasible or cap and seal services properly. Inspect underground services before closure. Prevent water leakage after shutdown. - Regrade disturbed land to promote drainage. Implement rehabilitation and revegetation measures. Monitor rehabilitated areas for settlement or erosion. - Undertake final geotechnical sign-off. Record and communicate any land use restrictions. Implement post-closure monitoring where necessary.

10.5 Other Information Requirements

Impact on the Socio-economic Conditions of any Directly Affected Parties

A Social Impact Assessment will be undertaken and will be finalised during the EIA Phase. Potential Social impacts have been included in Table 9-5.

10.5.1 Impact on any National Estate referred to in Section 3(2) of the National Heritage Resources Act

As a historical mining site, several areas containing historical mining and residential structures are likely to be impacted by the Proposed Project. The TSF may also represent 'Historical Settlements and Townscapes' as per the NHRA if it was established more than 60 years ago. Dumps and other associated mining infrastructure are integral components of the historical mining townscapes and settlements of the East Rand.

11. Declaration of Independence

11.1 Undertaking Regarding Correctness of Information

I, Phathutshedzo Munyai, herewith undertake that the information provided in the foregoing report is correct.



Signature of EAP

DATE: 18 June 2026

11.2 Undertaking Regarding Level of Agreement

I, Phathutshedzo Munyai, herewith undertake that the information provided in the foregoing report is correct, and that the level of agreement with interested and Affected Parties and stakeholders has been correctly recorded and reported herein.



Signature of EAP

DATE: 18 June 2026

12. References

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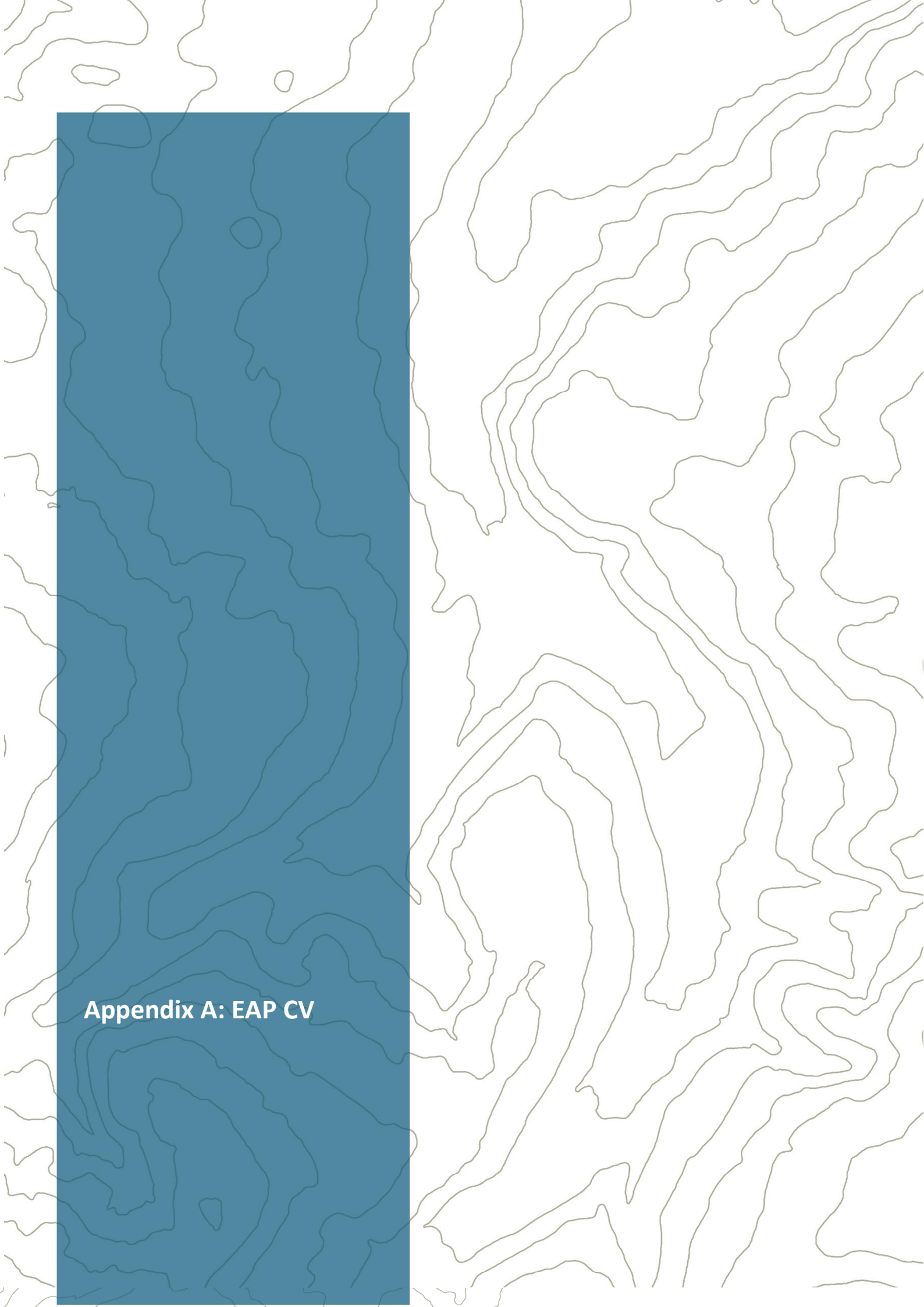
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13. Appendices



Appendix A: EAP CV



PHATHUTSHEDZO MUNYAI

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SOUTH AFRICA

PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATIONS



International Association for Public Participation
(IAP2)



Environmental Assessment Practitioners Association
of South Africa (EAPASA)

EDUCATION

2023 - Occupational Workplace Health and Safety
for the Mining Industry, Alison Collage

2023 - Risk Assessment Awareness, SHEilds
Institute

2020 - B.A. Environmental Management, University
of South Africa

LANGUAGES

English – Fluent

Tshivenda – Fluent



IMPACT

Phathutshedzo is a registered Environmental Assessment Practitioner with EAPASA and a member of the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2). With over three years of experience, he has provided environmental advisory services across mining, infrastructure, and waste management sectors. His capabilities span the full suite of EIA processes, including the preparation of BARs, EMPs, Scoping Reports, and EIRs, as well as securing key environmental authorisations such as WULAs, Waste Management Licences, and Atmospheric Emission Licences. Phathutshedzo is particularly skilled in facilitating public participation processes in accordance with NEMA, and has a strong track record in navigating complex regulatory requirements. His earlier role as a Safety Officer in the mining sector enhances his integrated approach to environmental risk, compliance, and stakeholder engagement.

KEY SKILLS

- Environmental Assessment & Compliance
- Permitting & Regulatory Applications
- Stakeholder Engagement & Public Participation
- Project Support & Reporting

SELECTED PROJECT EXPERIENCE

Mining & Infrastructure Projects – Gauteng, Mpumalanga & Limpopo, South Africa (2025–Current)

Environmental Consultant

Conducting EIAs, including BARs, EMPs, SRs and EIRs. Responsible for PPPs per NEMA Ch.6 and submission of EA applications for mining rights, prospecting, permits, WMLs and TSFs. Coordinated sub-consultant appointments for various proposed developments.

Mining Compliance Audits – Mpumalanga, South Africa (2025–Current)

Environmental Consultant

Conducting WUL and EMP external audits across mining operations. Duties include site inspections, compliance checks and audit reporting with CAPs.

Mining & Industrial Projects – Mpumalanga, Limpopo & KZN, South Africa (2023–2024)

Environmental Consultant

Compiled BARs, EMPs, SRs, EIRs, rehab plans and PPP reports. Managed stakeholder engagement and Section 24G applications for unauthorised activities (fuel depots, filling stations). Reviewed specialist inputs and provided mitigation recommendations.

**Environmental Assessment
Practitioners Association
of South Africa**



Registration No. 2021/4297

Herewith certifies that

PHATHUTSHEDZO NELSON MUNYAI

is registered as an

Environmental Assessment Practitioner

**Registered in accordance with the prescribed criteria of Regulation 15. (1)
of the Section 24H Registration Authority Regulations
(Regulation No. 849, Gazette No. 40154 of 22 July 2016, of the
National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended).**

Effective: 01 April 2026

Expires: 31 March 2027

Chairperson

Registrar





UMESHREE NAICKER

Principal Environmental Consultant
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PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATIONS



South African Council for Natural Science
Professionals (SACNASP) – 2019



Environmental Assessment Practitioners Association
of South Africa (EAPASA) – 2019

GEOGRAPHICAL EXPERIENCE

AFRICA

South Africa, Mozambique,
Botswana, Tanzania, Zimbabwe,
Swaziland and Lesotho



EDUCATION

2011 - B.Sc. Honours Environmental Monitoring
and Modeling, University of South Africa

2006 - B.Sc. Biological Sciences, University of
KwaZulu-Natal



KONGIWE

IMPACT

Umeshree is a Senior Environmental Scientist with 17 years experience across South Africa and the wider African region, specialising in renewable energy, water, transport, and infrastructure projects. She has extensive expertise in environmental consulting, social impact assessments, and project management, having led ESIA's, Basic Assessments, Scoping Reports, Environmental Management Programmes, and stakeholder engagement processes in alignment with South African legislation and IFC Performance Standards. Umeshree has managed multidisciplinary teams, overseen specialist appointments, guided environmental processes through public participation and compliance phases, and represented clients in steering committee meetings, ensuring successful integration of environmental requirements into large-scale developments for both public and private sector clients.

KEY SKILLS

- Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs)
- Basic Assessments, Scoping Reports & Environmental Management Programmes
- Project Management & Administration
- IFC Performance Standards Compliance
- Transaction Technical Advisory
- Stakeholder Engagement & Public Participation
- Strategic Report Writing & Client Liaison

SELECTED PROJECT EXPERIENCE

Mokolo and Crocodile River (West) Water Augmentation Project – South Africa (2018–2025)

Senior Environmental Scientist

Served as supportive lead to the environmental team on the development of project-specific environmental processes and report compilation including Environmental Management Programmes, technical evaluations, specialist appointments and management, and project management.

Waterkloof Solar IPP Programme – South Africa (2017–2020)

Senior Environmental Scientist

Conducted the Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process, public participation process and baseline assessments for 108MW solar plant near Rustenburg.

Redevelopment of Six Border Posts – Lesotho (2016– 2019)

Project Manager

Oversaw the environmental, civil, geotechnical, and building services teams as part of the feasibility and procurement processes.

**Environmental Assessment
Practitioners Association
of South Africa**



Registration No. 2019/1665

Herewith certifies that

UMESHREE NAICKER

is registered as an

Environmental Assessment Practitioner

**Registered in accordance with the prescribed criteria of Regulation 15. (1)
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National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended).**

Effective: 01 April 2026

Expires: 31 March 2027

Chairperson

Registrar





VANESSA VILJOEN

Principal Stakeholder Engagement Consultant

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PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATIONS



International Association for Public Participation Practitioners, Southern Africa (IAP2- Southern Africa)

GEOGRAPHICAL EXPERIENCE

AFRICA

South Africa, Democratic Republic of Congo, Nigeria, Botswana, Swaziland and Zambia



EDUCATION

2006 - International Association of Public Participation IAP2 course (all 3 modules) for Public Participation Practitioners

LANGUAGES

English – Fluent

Afrikaans – Fluent



KONGIWE

LEADERSHIP & IMPACT

Vanessa Viljoen brings over 25 years of leadership in stakeholder engagement and public participation processes, consistently delivering high-impact support on complex Environmental Impact Assessments and related processes. Her ability to design and execute inclusive, legally compliant engagement strategies has helped build trust and transparency across diverse stakeholder groups, from government departments to local communities in both urban and remote rural contexts. Vanessa has played a pivotal role in strengthening client-community relations, managing sensitive consultations and ensuring projects meet regulatory and social licence-to-operate requirements. Her international experience across South Africa, the DRC, Nigeria, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Zambia and Swaziland reflects her capacity to navigate diverse socio-political environments, adapt engagement strategies across cultures and lead meaningful dialogue that shapes project success.

KEY SKILLS

- Managing Stakeholder Engagement Processes
- Stakeholder Mapping and Database Development
- Project/Logistical Co-Ordination
- Facilitation of Landowner Activities

SELECTED PROJECT EXPERIENCE

Solar PV Facility – Bloemfontein, South Africa (2023)

Stakeholder Engagement Consultant

Facilitated stakeholder consultation for EA and IWULA processes, including online and in-person engagements. Compiled PPP materials, developed stakeholder databases, and coordinated logistics.

Withok Reinstatement – Gauteng, South Africa (2024)

Stakeholder Engagement Consultant

Managed stakeholder consultation for EA and IWULA applications. Prepared PPP materials, maintained stakeholder databases, and coordinated engagement logistics.

Tailings Reclamation & Processing – Limpopo, South Africa (2025)

Stakeholder Engagement Consultant

Led PPPs for EA and IWULA processes, including online and in-person consultations. Prepared PPP materials, expanded stakeholder databases, and oversaw logistics.

Highway Upgrade Project – Zambia (2025)

Stakeholder Engagement Consultant

Enhanced stakeholder engagement for an IFC-compliant road upgrade project. Coordinated consultations with local consultants and ensured alignment with IFC performance standards.



This is to certify that

Vanessa Viljoen

is a member of the

**INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION
FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

for the year

2025

Membership Number IAP2SA162

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Makwela'.

Mike Makwela

Chairperson



BRADLY THORNTON

Chief Executive Officer | Founder
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GEOGRAPHICAL EXPERIENCE



AFRICA

South Africa, Namibia,
Botswana, Zimbabwe,
Mozambique, Malawi, Ghana,
Mauritius, Morocco.

EDUCATION

2012 – MDP, Univ. of Stellenbosch Business School
2004 – BSc Hons Env. Management, RAU
2003 – BSc Geography & Geology, RAU

LANGUAGES

English – Fluent
Afrikaans – Average



LEADERSHIP & IMPACT

Bradly Thornton is the Founder and CEO of Kongiwe, with over 20 years' experience in environmental advisory and geospatial sciences. He leads the company with a clear purpose: to deliver sustainable, technically sound solutions that balance development with environmental and social responsibility. Bradley oversees strategy, client delivery, business development and compliance. His expertise includes ESIA's, due diligence and environmental risk assessments for major multinational mining, energy, and infrastructure projects. Under his leadership, Kongiwe has grown into a trusted advisory partner, known for its multidisciplinary team and its ability to navigate complex regulatory environments while creating stakeholder value.

KEY SKILLS

- Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA)
- Environmental Regulatory Legal Compliance and Audit
- Environmental & Social Due Diligence (ESDD)
- ESG Strategy & Integration
- Sustainability Leadership and Impact Reporting
- GIS & Remote Sensing
- Stakeholder Engagement and Management
- Investor Relations and Business Development
- Cross-Border Project Delivery

SELECTED PROJECT EXPERIENCE

DRDGOLD Ltd (2018–Present)

Project Manager

Environmental Authorisations: City Deep, Rooikraal, Soweto Cluster, etc.

Sibanye-Stillwater (2020–Present)

Project Director

EMP & IWUL Amendments for Kloof and Driefontein operations.

Glencore Coal South Africa (2013–Present)

Project Director & Lead Auditor

Environmental audits and closure assessments across Mpumalanga.

Mkango Resources, Malawi (2014–Present)

Project Manager

ESIA for Songwe Hill Rare Earth Project; ESG reporting.

RAUBEX, Zimbabwe (2019–Present)

Project Director

Due diligence and ESG advisory for Beitbridge border infrastructure upgrade.



CHELSEA STROOH

Junior Geospatial Consultant
Kongiwe Environmental



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KEY SKILLS

- Geospatial Analysis & Remote Sensing
- Programming & Data Science
- Research & Scientific Communication
- Environmental Science & Applied Ecology

EDUCATION

Current - B.Sc. Computer Science , University of the People

2024 - Google Data Analytics Course, Coursera

2021 - B.Sc. Honours Environmental Science,
University of the Witwatersrand

2020 - B.Sc. Life and Environmental Science in
Geography and Zoology , University of Johannesburg

LANGUAGES

English – Fluent

IMPACT

Chelsea is a Junior Geospatial Consultant with a strong foundation in GIS and Remote Sensing, holding a BSc (Hons) in Environmental Science and currently pursuing a second degree in Computer Science. She brings a multidisciplinary skill set that combines environmental science with spatial data technologies and programming.

Her expertise includes geospatial analysis, remote sensing, and data visualisation, with practical experience in agricultural data analysis, burn scar mapping, and spatial modelling. Chelsea is proficient in Python for spatial analysis and automation, with hands-on experience working with APIs and data processing libraries such as pandas and openpyxl.

Chelsea's academic and research background has refined her communication, time management, and scientific writing skills.

With a solid grounding in environmental science and ecology, Chelsea brings a systems-based approach to problem-solving and is committed to applying her diverse technical skills in support of high-quality, data-driven environmental solutions.

SELECTED PROJECT EXPERIENCE

Mining, Infrastructure & Utility Mapping – South Africa (2024–Current)

Junior Geospatial Consultant

Supported the development of spatial products and GIS databases for mining, infrastructure, and municipal planning projects. Assisted in the preparation of spatial deliverables for Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) and Water Use Licence Applications (WULAs). Contributed to corporate GIS mapping, including utility and pipeline layouts, and gained experience in spatial data quality control and digital map production.

Tailings Facility Knowledge Base Update – National, South Africa (2024)

Junior Geospatial Consultant

Assisted in the spatial categorisation and integration of environmental and social datasets into a geodatabase for GIS representation, supporting compliance with the Global Industry Standard on Tailings Management (GISTM). Conducted data reviews, supported gap analysis processes, and contributed to the accurate digitisation and alignment of spatial information for enterprise-level GIS systems.



HILTON SPARKS

Professional Engineer
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PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATIONS

Engineering Council of South Africa
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South African Council for the
Project and Construction
Management Professions
PrCPM D/202/2004



Member of the South African
Institute of Civil Engineers



Member of South African Institute of
Municipal Engineers



EDUCATION

1977 - Business Management, Damelin

Year - NQF 7 Advanced Diploma Labour Based
Construction, University of Natal

1969 - BSc Civil Engineering, University of Natal

KEY SKILLS

- Civil Engineering
- Project Management
- Risk Assessment
- Mentorship

LANGUAGES

English – Fluent Afrikaans – Fluent



LEADERSHIP & IMPACT

Hilton is a registered Professional Engineer and Construction Project Manager with over 50 years of experience in the built environment. His career includes a decade at a parastatal water utility, where he was responsible for the design and construction of large-scale water treatment works (up to 800 Ml/d) and bulk pipelines (450 mm to 3500 mm diameter). He has extensive experience in the consulting sector, delivering infrastructure across civil engineering disciplines, including rural and urban water and sanitation, housing, and township development. Hilton applies PMBOK-aligned project management methodologies and has led multidisciplinary teams on projects from planning through to implementation. Throughout his career, he has also played a key role in mentoring young professionals, supporting skills development and knowledge transfer within project teams. His focus on technical quality, regulatory compliance, and efficient delivery has contributed to the successful implementation of a wide range of infrastructure programmes.

AWARDS

Masimanyane Award for innovation and excellence in engineering (1997)

Repairs to Damaged Houses Project, Katorus

Impumelelo Award for innovative dedicated work in the field of poverty reduction and community development (2000)

Repairs to Damaged Houses Project, Katorus

SELECTED PROJECT EXPERIENCE

Environmental Engineering & Infrastructure Projects – South Africa (2024–2025)

Senior Project Manager

Undertook investigation, civil design, and project management of environmental infrastructure, including surface water studies for multiple tailings storage facilities and as-built documentation for Gold operations. Implemented project management systems across environmental portfolios.

National Housing & Urban Upgrading Projects – Various Provinces (1994–2010)

Director & Project Manager

Managed diverse engineering projects from township developments and bulk services to high-profile assignments including Soccer City (2010 FIFA World Cup), SAFA House, Alexandra Renewal, and the award-winning Katorus housing repair programme. Delivered thousands of low-income erven and coordinated national housing subsidies.



MUTONDWA MUSHAATHONI

Junior Engineering Consultant
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PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATIONS



Candidate Engineer with the Engineering Council of South Africa (ECSA)



Associate Member of the South African Institution of Civil Engineering (SAICE)

EDUCATION

2023 - B.Eng. Civil Engineering, University of Johannesburg

LANGUAGES

English – Fluent

Tshivenda – Fluent



IMPACT

Mutondwa is a driven junior engineering consultant with a solid foundation in civil and geotechnical engineering, complemented by experience in environmental protection. She is already distinguishing herself through technical presentations, published work, and active industry engagement.

Her work spans design reviews, technical documentation, and client interfacing, supported by dual exposure to both technical and commercial functions. Mutondwa is passionate about sustainable infrastructure and brings a balanced, solution-oriented approach to every project, combining technical rigour with stakeholder value.

KEY SKILLS

- Civil & Geotechnical Engineering Design
- Engineering Drawing & Technical Documentation
- Project Planning & Proposal Evaluation
- Public Speaking & Technical Presentation
- CRM & Stakeholder Relationship Management
- Research & Technical Writing
- Sustainable Design Principles
- Software Proficiency: AutoCAD and MS Office

SELECTED PROJECT EXPERIENCE

Mining and Environmental Infrastructure & Operations – South Africa (2025–Current)

Junior Civil Engineer

Provide civil engineering support on environmental and mining-sector projects, with a focus on surface water assessments, stormwater management design, and regulatory compliance. Contribute to the preparation of engineering designs and drawings, technical reports, and project proposals, and take part in site inspections and assessments. Collaborate with environmental consultants and clients to develop integrated project designs aligned with environmental legislation and industry standards. Assist with project management, technical reviews, and delivery of multidisciplinary project components.

Geotechnical Engineering Projects – South Africa (2023–2025)

Graduate Civil Engineer

Supported both technical and commercial aspects of delivering engineered geotechnical solutions. Contributed to design development, preparation of drawings, and creation of technical documentation, while assisting with project coordination. Participated in site visits, contributed to product specification support, cost estimation, and liaised with clients, consultants, and contractors to ensure smooth integration of solutions within project scopes.



PHUMLA MNGWENGWE

Senior Environmental Consultant
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PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATIONS



South African Council for Natural Science
Professionals (SACNASP) – 2024

GEOGRAPHICAL EXPERIENCE



AFRICA

South Africa, Zimbabwe

EDUCATION

2017 - B.Sc. Honours Geography and
Environmental Science, University of
Pretoria

2016 - B.Sc. Geography, University of Pretoria

LANGUAGES

English – Fluent

isiZulu – Fluent



KONGIWE

LEADERSHIP & IMPACT

Phumla is a Senior Environmental Consultant and Water Use Licence Unit Manager at Kongiwe Environmental. She holds a BSc (Hons) in Environmental Science and Geography and supports mining and construction projects across all phases. Her expertise includes environmental impact assessments, water use licensing, compliance auditing, stakeholder engagement, and regulatory liaison. Phumla leads the delivery of WULAs across the business and is committed to quality, environmental responsibility, and supporting client approvals within complex regulatory frameworks.

KEY SKILLS

- Environmental Impact Assessment & Authorisations
- Water Use Licensing (IWULA and e-WULAAS)
- Stakeholder Engagement & Authority Liaison
- Environmental Compliance & Auditing
- Technical Reporting & Communication
- GIS and Spatial Data Interpretation

SELECTED PROJECT EXPERIENCE

Mining Infrastructure Projects - Gauteng, South Africa (2022–Current)

Stakeholder Engagement Consultant

Led SEP for multiple gold reclamation and reprocessing projects, including liaison with authorities and Interested and Affected Parties, coordination of public meetings and compilation of participation reports. Oversaw logistics and maintained stakeholder databases across overlapping regulatory applications.

Gold Mining Operations – Free State Province, South Africa (2022–2023)

Stakeholder Engagement and Environmental Consultant

Managed stakeholder engagement and IWULA processes for complex water use compliance matters. Compiled IWWMPs and eWULAAS submissions, coordinated meetings with authorities and community stakeholders, and prepared detailed reporting in support of authorisation applications.

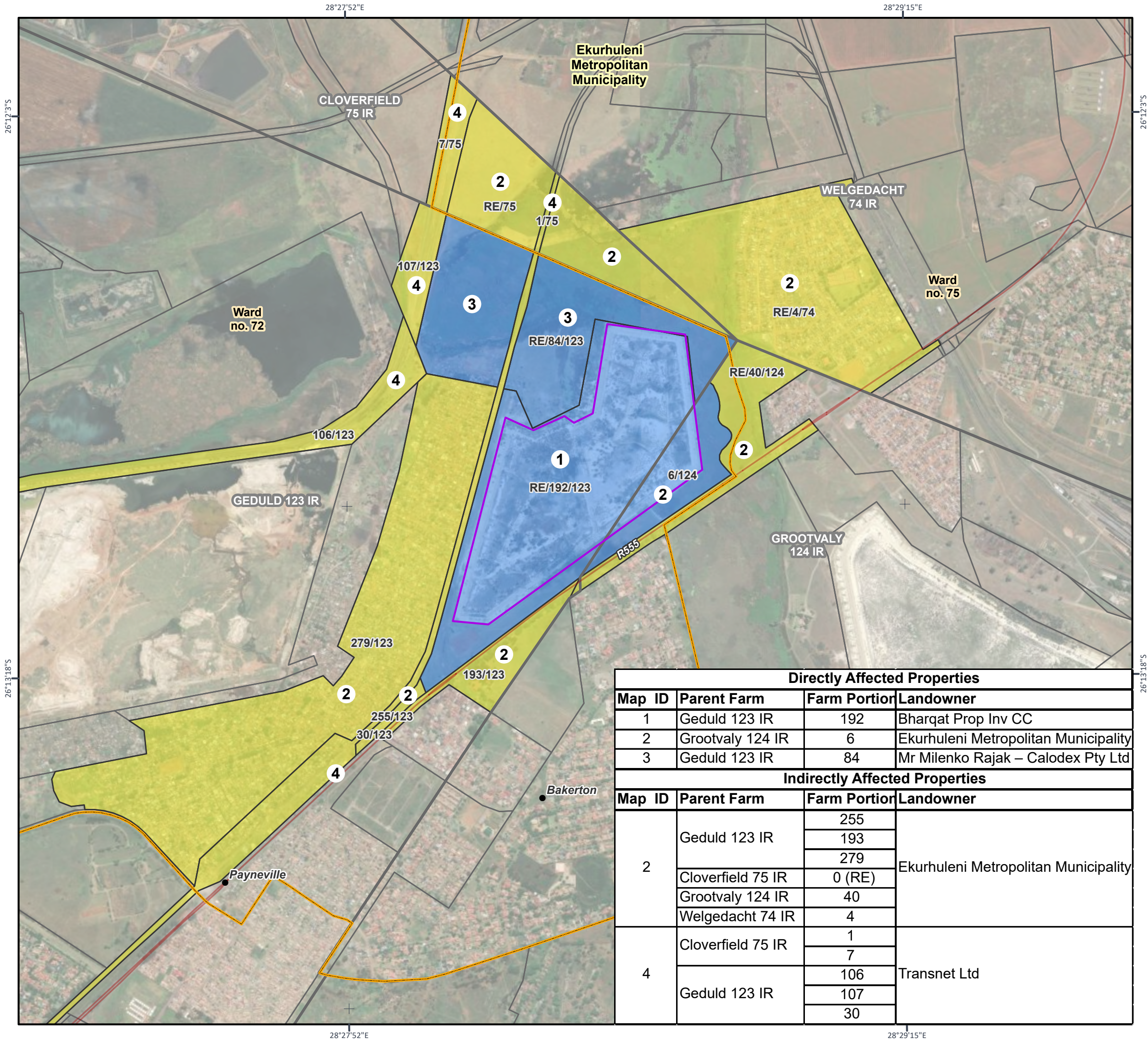
Renewable Energy Development – Free State Province, South Africa (2023–Current)

Environmental Consultant

Prepared scoping and basic assessment reports and managed IWULA processes for a large-scale solar photovoltaic and battery energy storage project. Contributed to regulatory compliance and environmental authorisation for sustainable infrastructure development.

The background of the page is a topographic map with thin, light gray contour lines. A solid blue vertical bar runs down the left side of the page, starting from the top and extending to the bottom. The text "Appendix B: A3 Maps" is located in the lower portion of this blue bar.

Appendix B: A3 Maps



6L14
LAND TENURE

Legend

- Settlements
- Main Road
- 6L14 TSF
- Farm Portion
- Parent Farm
- Local Municipalities
- Ward Boundaries
- Affected Properties
 - Directly Affected
 - Indirectly Affected



Project Code: DRDG#086
Client: Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd
Drawn: C Strooh - Checked: B Thornton
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Coordinate System: WGS84 TM LO29
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: WGS 1984

A3
2026 Satellite Imagery

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File ref:
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DRDG#086.aprx\6L14_Land_Tenure_A3L



Directly Affected Properties			
Map ID	Parent Farm	Farm Portion	Landowner
1	Geduld 123 IR	192	Bharqat Prop Inv CC
2	Grootvaly 124 IR	6	Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality
3	Geduld 123 IR	84	Mr Milenko Rajak – Calodex Pty Ltd
Indirectly Affected Properties			
Map ID	Parent Farm	Farm Portion	Landowner
2	Geduld 123 IR	255	Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality
		193	
		279	
	Cloverfield 75 IR	0 (RE)	
	Grootvaly 124 IR	40	
4	Cloverfield 75 IR	1	Transnet Ltd
		7	
	Geduld 123 IR	106	
		107	
		30	

28°25'3"E

28°28'41"E

26°11'46"S

26°11'46"S

26°14'39"S

26°14'39"S

28°25'3"E

28°28'41"E



6L14
LOCAL ORIENTATION

Legend

- Other Settlement
- Major Town
- Non-Perennial Stream
- Perennial Stream
- Local Road
- Main Road
- Railway
- Ward Boundaries
- Local Municipalities
- Provinces



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1:40 000

Coordinate System: WGS84 TM LO29
Projection: Transverse Mercator
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A3
2026 Satellite Imagery

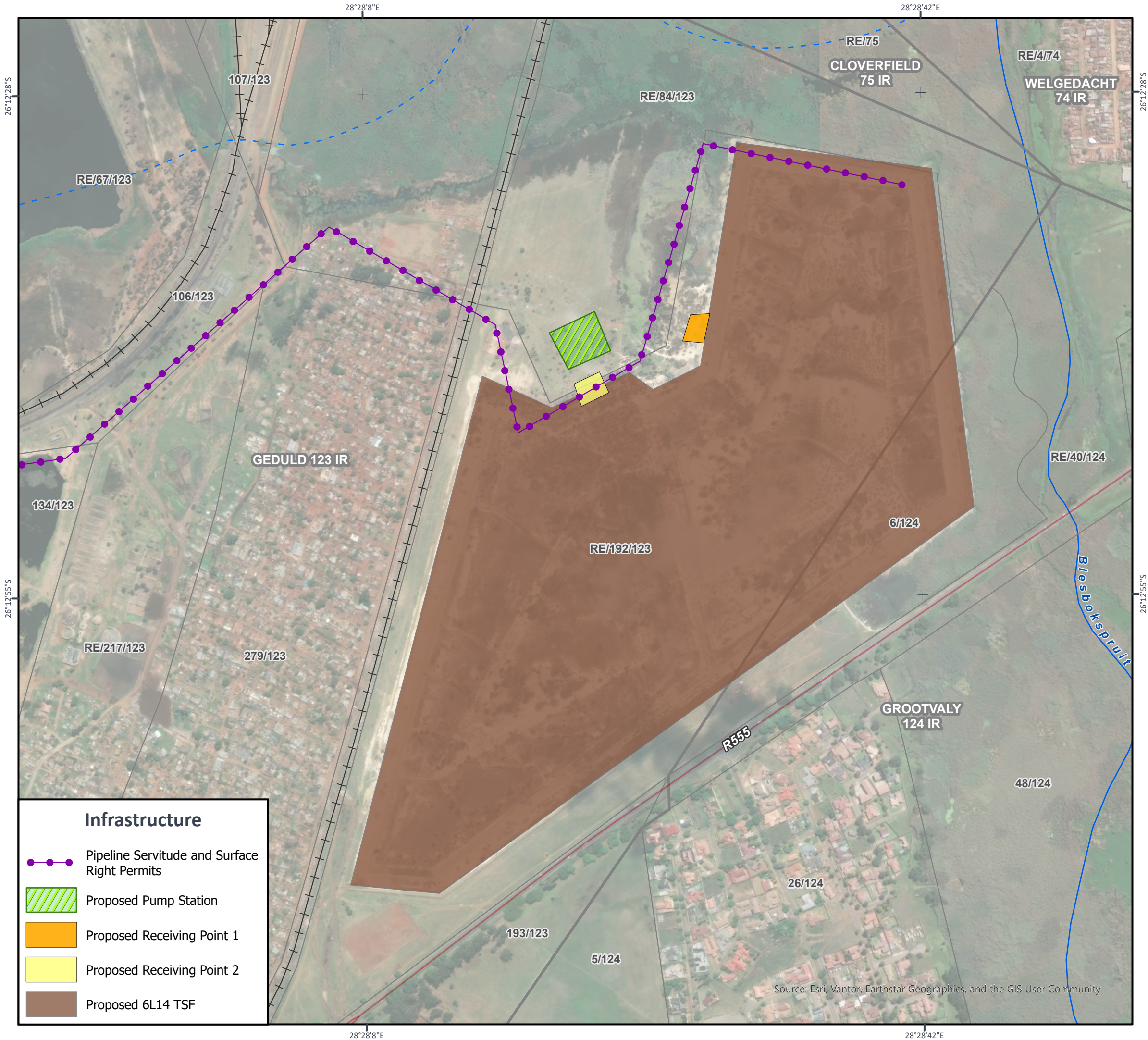
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DRDG#086.aprx\6L14_Local_Orientation_A3L

Infrastructure

- Pipeline Servitude and Surface Right Permits
- Proposed 6L14 TSF



6L14
PROPOSED
PROJECT LAYOUT

Legend

- Non-Perennial Stream
- Perennial Stream
- Main Road
- + + Railway
- Farm Portion
- Parent Farm

Infrastructure

- Pipeline Servitude and Surface Right Permits
- ▨ Proposed Pump Station
- Proposed Receiving Point 1
- Proposed Receiving Point 2
- Proposed 6L14 TSF



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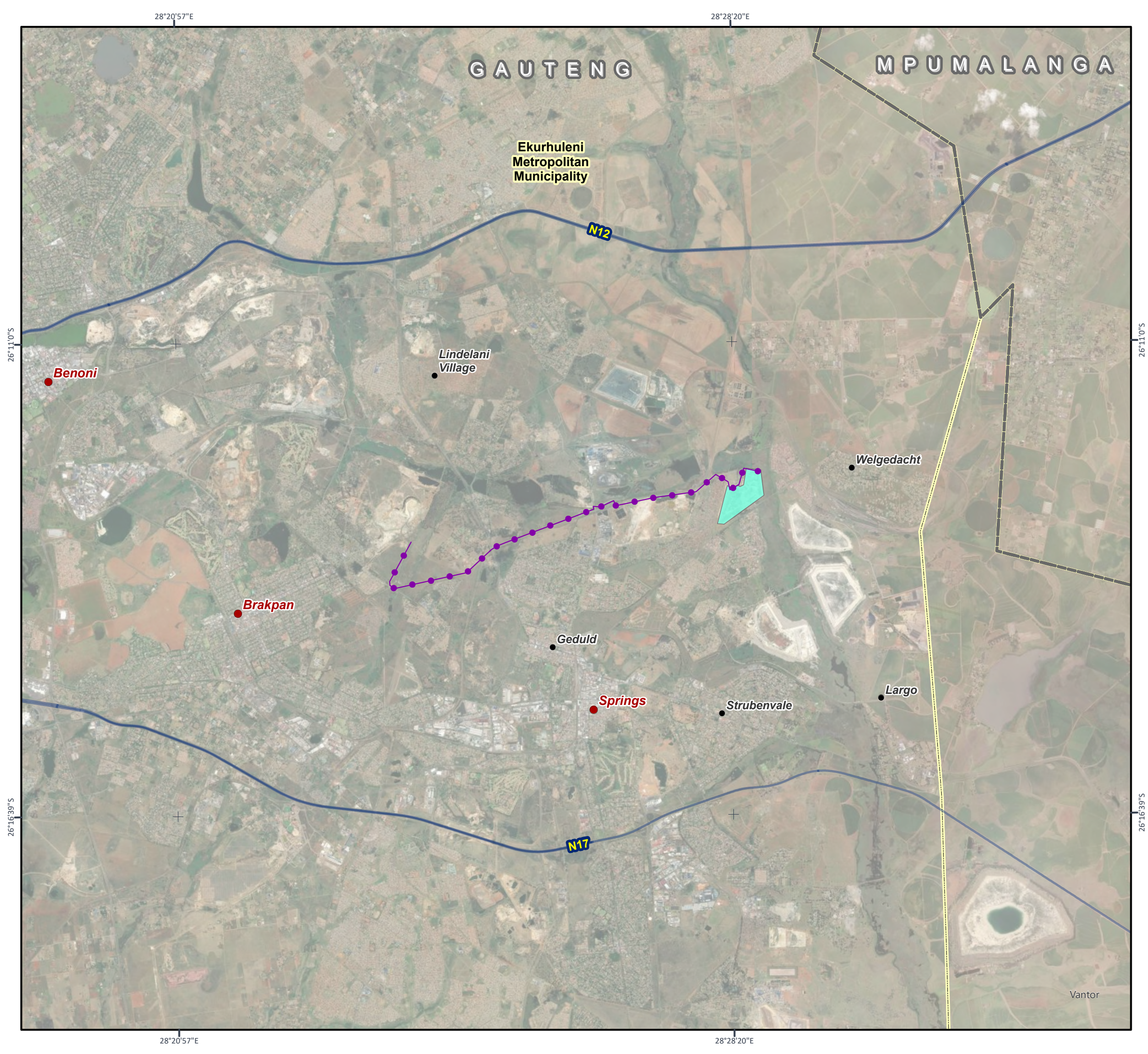
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2026 Satellite Imagery

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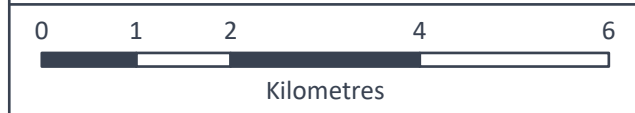
Source: Esri, Vantor, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community



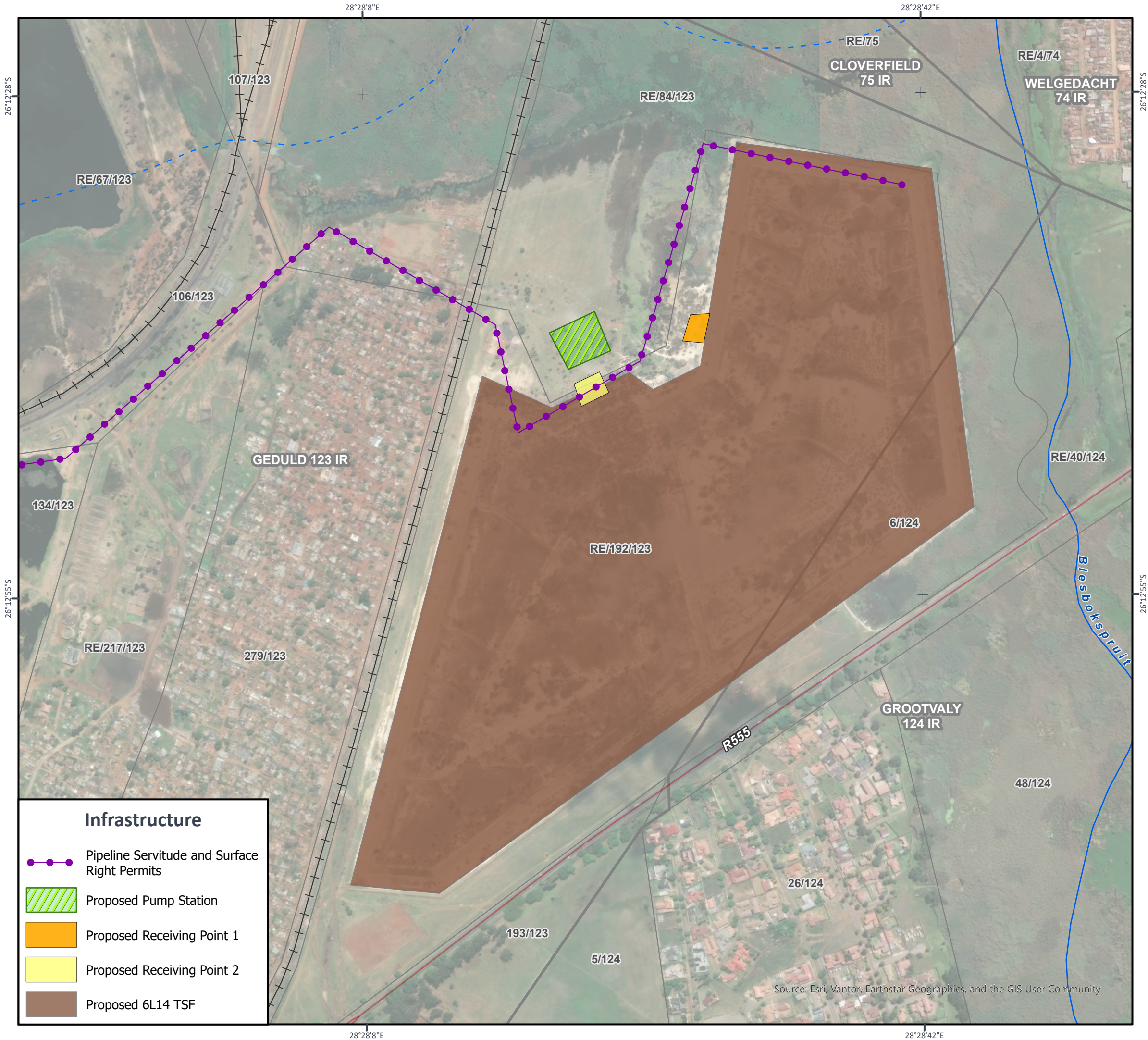
6L14 REGIONAL ORIENTATION

Legend

- Other Settlement
- Major Town
- National Road
- Pipeline Servitude and Surface Right Permits
- Local Municipalities
- Provinces
- Proposed 6L14 TSF



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Coordinate System: WGS84 TM LO29 Projection: Transverse Mercator Datum: WGS 1984	A3 2026 Satellite Imagery
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6L14
SITE INFRASTRUCTURE

Legend

- Non-Perennial Stream
- Perennial Stream
- Main Road
- Railway
- Farm Portion
- Parent Farm



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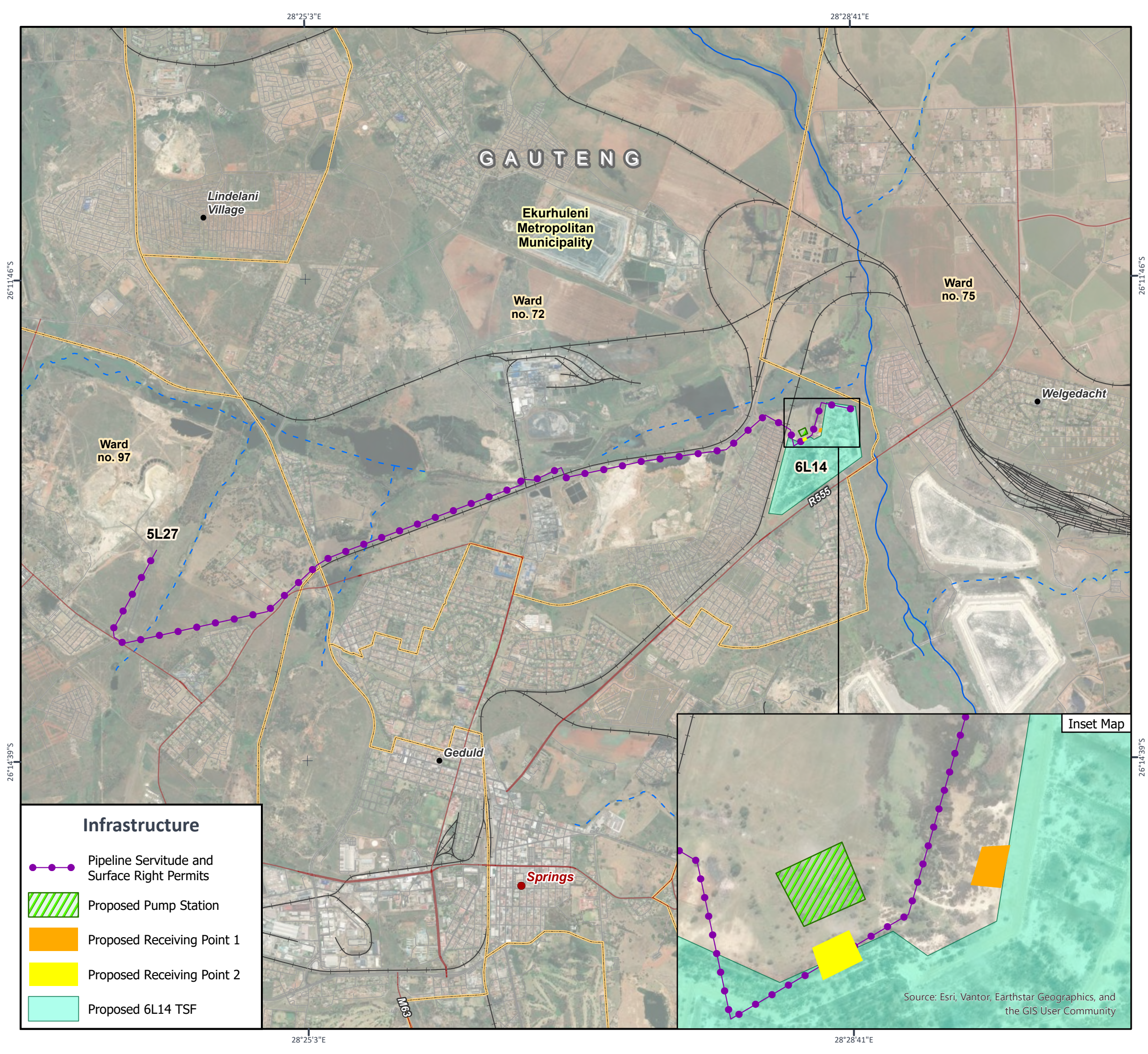
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DRDG#086.aprx\6L14_Proposed_Layout_A3L

Source: Esri, Vantor, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community



6L14
LOCAL ORIENTATION

Legend

- Other Settlement
- Major Town
- - - Non-Perennial Stream
- Perennial Stream
- Local Road
- Main Road
- Railway
- Ward Boundaries
- Local Municipalities
- Provinces



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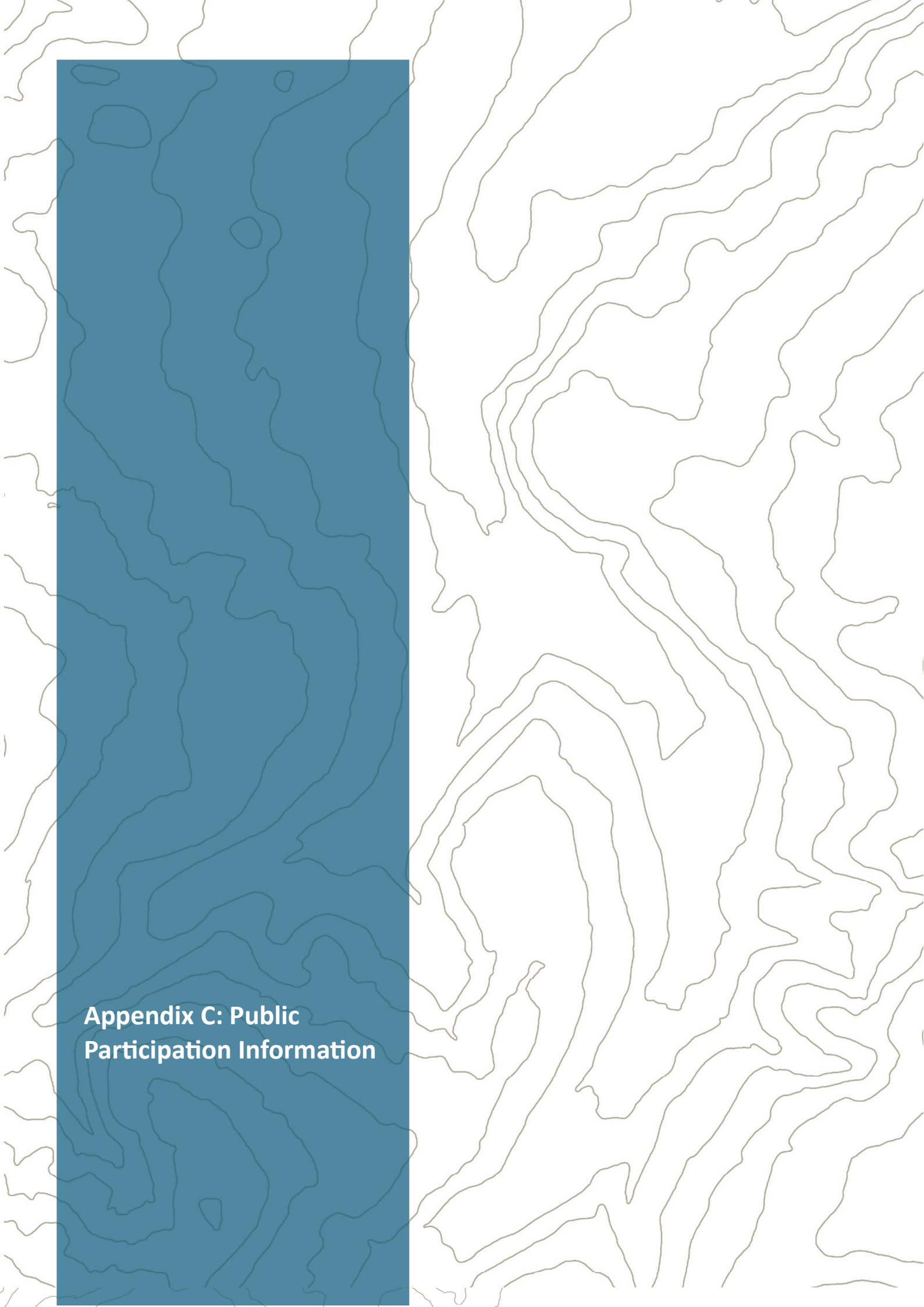
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DRDG#086.aprx\6L14_Local_Orientation_A3L

Source: Esri, Vantor, Earthstar Geographics, and
the GIS User Community



Appendix C: Public Participation Information



Ergo Mining (Pty) Limited

**Environmental Authorisation and
Integrated Water Use Licence
Application for the Reclamation of
the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility
(TSF) in the City of Ekurhuleni
Municipality, Gauteng Province**

Public Participation Report

June 2026

Report Preparation By

Kongiwe Environmental (Pty) Ltd	
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Report Information

Client	Ergo Mining (Pty) Limited
Project	Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) in the City of Ekurhuleni Municipality, Gauteng Province
Report Title	Public Participation Report
DMPR Reference No.	To be confirmed
Project No.	DRDG#086
Compilation Date	June 2026
Status of Report	Public Participation Report for the Final Scoping Report
Actions	Application for Environmental Authorisation (EA)

Approval

Verification	Name	Capacity	Signature	Date
Compiled by	Vanessa Viljoen	Principal Stakeholder Consultant		8 June 2026
Approved by	Umeshree Naicker	Principal Environmental Consultant		17 June 2026

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Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Description
BID	Background Information Document
CA	Competent Authority
CBO	Community-Based Organisation
COE	City of Ekurhuleni Municipality
CRR	Comments and Response Report
DLRRD	Department of Land Reform and Rural Development
DMPR	Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources
DSR	Draft Scoping Report
DWS	Department of Water and Sanitation
EA	Environmental Authorisation
EAP	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EMPr	Environmental Management Programme Report
FSR	Final Scoping Report
ha	Hectare
I&AP	Interested and Affected Party
IAP2	International Association for Public Participation
IFC	International Finance Corporation
km	Kilometre
m	Metre
NEMA	National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998)
NEM:WA	National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008)
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
PAIA	Promotion of Access to Information Act, 2000 (Act No. 2 of 2000)
POPIA	Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act No. 4 of 2013)
PPP	Public Participation Process
S&EIA	Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment
SMME	Small, Medium and Micro Enterprise
SMS	Short Message Service
t/month	Tonnes per month (production rate)
TSF	Tailings Storage Facility

Reference Documents

References	Description
National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA)	Framework environmental law for South Africa
Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (as amended) (EIA 2014 Regulations)	Regulations under NEMA governing EIAs
Public Participation guideline in terms of NEMA Act No. 107 of 1998	Guideline on public participation under NEMA
National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act 59 of 2008)	Waste management legislation
List of Waste Management Activities (GN R921 of 29 Nov 2013, as amended)	Prescribed waste management activities
National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998)	Water resource management legislation
Promotion of Access to Information Act, 2000 (Act No. 2 of 2000) (PAIA)	Law promoting access to information
Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act No. 4 of 2013) (POPIA)	Law safeguarding personal information
International Finance Corporation (IFC) Performance Standards (PS)	International standards for environmental and social sustainability

1. Project Background and Motivation

Kongiwé Environmental (Pty) Ltd (“Kongiwé”) was appointed by Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd (the “Applicant”), as the independent Environmental Service Provider and tasked with conducting the Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (S&EIA) process which is aimed at critically evaluating the potential environmental and social impacts of the proposed Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) (“Proposed Project”).

Ergo a wholly owned subsidiary of DRDGOLD - within which the Group’s Eastern surface retreatment assets are consolidated, is a major surface gold tailings retreatment operation that focuses on old and abandoned TSFs.

Ergo Mining (Pty) Limited (Ergo) is the largest gold tailings retreatment company in South Africa. The surface deposits controlled by Ergo are waste products created from the historical processing of gold and uranium ores of the Witwatersrand Supergroup. Ergo has Mining Right (ERGO-GP158MR) over the dump, this facility was historically used previously as a mining waste deposition site and has been dormant for some time.

The dump will be reprocessed via the existing pipeline route to the 5L27 Transfer Pumpstation to the Ergo Beneficiation Plant (Ergo Plant) which is currently in operation, with ultimate residue deposition taking place on the Brakpan/Withok TSF and /or Daggafontein TSF. The existing pipeline route has the pipeline servitude, together with the associated surface rights permit, is already established and remains valid for the Proposed Project. The pipeline will be reinstated along the areas where such servitudes and SRP’s exists, to meet the technical and operational requirements of the Proposed Project. A new reclamation pumpstation will be developed for the Proposed Project.

As part of Ergo’s rehabilitation strategy, the removal of TSF’s like this will allow repurposing of the land in a more sustainable manner and ultimate offsetting of environmental impacts. The reclamation projects are in line with the objectives of the Gauteng Mine Residue Area Strategy (2012), which are to reclaim and/or rehabilitate TSFs to the point where they become safe for adjacent communities and land can be made available for other purposes.

1.1 Project Activities

Ergo aims to reclaim and reprocess the 6L14 TSF with the objective of recovering gold using top-down hydraulic reclamation. Top-down hydraulic reclamation is a largely mechanised process with a risk profile that is significantly lower than that of conventional mining. During hydraulic reclamation, a water monitor blasts the sides of the TSF, the process water mixes with the unconsolidated material, resulting in what is known as a ‘slurry’. The slurry will report to a pumpstation, located at the lowest point of a TSF, where it will then be pumped and conveyed to Ergo Plant for reprocessing.

The Proposed Project was consolidated into a single Environmental Authorisation (EA) application. This application was submitted to the Department of Mineral Petroleum Resources (DMPR), which serves as the Competent Authority responsible for assessing and approving mining-related environmental projects in the Gauteng Province. In addition to the EA, a Water Use License (WUL) will be required for any activities that may impact water resources. The Integrated Water Use Licence Application (IWULA) will be reviewed and considered by the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), ensuring that all water-related aspects of the Proposed Project comply with National Regulations.

2. Public Participation Process

The Public Participation Process (PPP) offers stakeholders an opportunity to be informed about the Proposed Project, to raise issues and provide suggestions for mitigating potential negative impacts and enhancing positive ones. The PPP was developed to ensure compliance with relevant legislation and facilitate meaningful stakeholder engagement, as required for the Environmental Authorisation (EA) and Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) processes (discussed below).

3. Legislative Requirements and Good-Practice Guidelines

3.1 Applicable Legislation and International Best Practice

The Public Participation Process (PPP), as required by the environmental law and regulations specified therein, is being undertaken in line with the statutory requirements for public participation. The following legislation was considered when developing and implementing the PPP:

- National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA).
- The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014 (as amended) (EIA 2014 Regulations).
- Public Participation guideline in terms of NEMA.
- National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No 59 of 2008) (NEM:WA) and the List of Waste Management Activities (GN R921 of 29 November 2013, as amended).
- NWA (Act No. 36 of 1998).
- Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act No. 4 of 2013) (POPIA).
- Promotion of Access to Information Act, 2000 (Act No. 2 of 2000) (PAIA).

NEMA mandates public participation for environmental decision-making, ensuring affected communities have a voice in development projects through the EIA Regulations, 2014. The NEMA Public Participation Guideline (in terms of the EIA Regulations) is a mandatory part of the (EA process, aiming for transparent, informed decisions that promote sustainable development by integrating social, economic, and environmental factors.

The NWA is the primary law for the protection, management, and equitable use of the water resources. The NWA establishes the government's role in allocating water resources, promoting sustainable use of water resources, and preventing pollution.

The POPIA regulates the processing of personal information by both public and private bodies, aiming to protect individuals' constitutional right to privacy.

The PAIA gives effect to the constitutional right to access information held by both the state and private bodies. The Act establishes procedures for individuals to request information for the protection or exercise of their rights.

POPIA: Safeguarding Registered Person's Personal Information

In terms of Section 19 of 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, Kongiwe 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 or parties to whom the information is supplied.

3.2 International Standards

In addition to the above legislation, the PPP is to be aligned to International good-practice guidelines for public participation, particularly in regard to the following Core Values of the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2):

- To be based on the belief that those who are affected by a decision have a right to be involved in the decision-making process.
- To include the promise that the public's contribution will influence the decision.

- To promote sustainable decisions by recognising and communicating the needs and interests of all participants, including decision makers.
- To seek out and facilitate the involvement of those potentially affected by or interested in a decision.
- To seek input from participants in designing how they participate.
- To provide participants with the information they need to participate in a meaningful way.
- To communicate to participants how their input affected the decision.

Development of a PPP also needs to align to any additional considerations noted in the International Finance Corporation (IFC) Performance Standards (PSs), particularly in relation to stakeholder engagement aspects outlined in PS 1 (Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts).

3.3 PPP Objectives for the Proposed Project

The PPP objectives for this Proposed Project are to:

- Ensure that stakeholders are informed about the development of for the Proposed Project in an adequate and timely manner.
- Provide stakeholders with the opportunity to participate in the environmental regulatory processes and provide comment.
- Involve stakeholders in identifying ways in which comments can be addressed.
- Work directly with stakeholders throughout the environmental regulatory processes to ensure that stakeholder comments are consistently understood and considered.
- Verify that stakeholder comments have been recorded and addressed.

The stakeholder engagement process was undertaken in four phases as presented in Table 3-1 below.

Table 3-1: Stakeholder Engagement Activities

Project Phase	Activities to be Undertaken
Pre-Scoping Phase <u>Completed</u>	• Pre-Application meeting with the Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources (DMPR), <i>(this was undertaken)</i>. • Pre-Consultation meeting with the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), Gauteng Province, <i>(this was undertaken)</i>. • Stakeholder identification (WinDeed searches, compilation of stakeholder database). • Consultation with communities (within the nearby surroundings of the Proposed Project). • Consultation with the relevant Authorities (including ward councillors/ward committees) (Microsoft Teams/ One-on-one consultation meetings). • Compilation of announcement documents, such as Background Information Documents (BIDs), Registration and Comment Forum, adverts, site notices and Draft Scoping Report (DSR) notification letter). • Obtaining initial comments, suggestions from stakeholders. • Land Claims enquiry.
Scoping Phase <u>Completed</u>	• Consultations with Directly and Indirectly Affected Landowners (Consultation meetings). • Distribution and placement of Proposed Project announcement materials (site notices, and newspaper advertisements). • Updating of the stakeholder database. • Making available the DSR for public review and comment. • Providing stakeholders with further details of the Proposed Project and associated specialist studies. • Consultations with stakeholders (Online meetings and Open Day meetings).

Project Phase	Activities to be Undertaken
	- Obtaining further comments or suggestions from stakeholders. - Development of Comments and Response Report (CRR), capturing all comments/questions and responses. - Informing specialists and the applicant about comments received from stakeholders. - Making available the Final Scoping Report.
EIA Phase	- Site visit with DWS. - Provide feedback about the specialist studies conducted and mitigation measures proposed by means of consultation with stakeholders. - Provide opportunity for stakeholders to comment on specialist findings, impacts assessments and recommendations. - Make the relevant environmental reports available for public review and comment. - Consultation with stakeholders (Open Day and Online Meeting). - Verify that comments raised by stakeholder have been accurately recorded - Update CRR with new comments, questions and responses. - Inform specialists and the proponent of stakeholders' comments. - Making available the Final EIA / EMPr / IWWMP.
Decision Making Phase DMPR	Once the Competent Authority which is DMPR has come to a decision regarding the authorisation of the Proposed Project, all registered stakeholders will be notified of the decision made and the appeal process will be explained with associated timeframes.
Decision Making Phase WUL	The IWULA will be submitted to DWS in terms of the NWA. Once DWS has come to a decision regarding the WULA, the DWS will notify the applicant and any person who has objected to the application. Written reasons for the decision will be given.

3.4 Summary of Issues Raised by Stakeholders

Comments raised by stakeholders during the Scoping Phase was included in the CRR, as presented in **Appendix C10**.

3.5 Public Participation Approach

3.5.1 Submission of the Environmental Authorisation Application Form

The application for the EA was submitted to the DMPR which is the Competent Authority (CA) for the Proposed Project on **Wednesday, 6 May 2026**.

3.5.2 Pre-Application Meeting with Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources (DMPR)

An online meeting was arranged and attended with DMPR officials on **Thursday, 23 April 2026 from 10:00 – 11:00**.

The purpose of the meeting was to:

- Present and discuss the proposed Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) Project (Proposed Project) with the Competent Authority (CA).
- Provide an overview of the specialist studies to be undertaken.
- Present the Public Participation Process.
- Provide an opportunity to raise comments/seek clarity as well as provide input.
- Address comments raised by CA.

Information was presented by means of a PowerPoint presentation. Minutes of the meeting was compiled and distributed to Mr Musa Mangobe, Office of the Regional Manager: Environmental Management, as presented in **Appendix C8**.

3.6 Submission of the Integrated Water Use Licence Application

The IWULAs process started when the Proposed Project was registered on the DWS' electronic Water Use Licence Application and Authorisation System (e-WULAAS) **on 23 April 2026. We are currently in the process of completing Phase 1 of the eWULAAS project.**

3.6.1 Pre-Application Meeting with Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)

An online meeting was arranged and attended with DWS officials on **Thursday, 14 May 2026 from 11H30 – 12H30**.

The purpose of the meeting was to:

- Present the Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) Project (the 'Proposed Project') and the identified water uses.
- Discuss and acquire input from the DWS in relation to the identified water uses, technical documents and specialist studies to be submitted.
- Determine a way forward for the application.

Information was presented by means of a PowerPoint presentation. Minutes of the meeting was compiled and distributed to Ms Basani Lerato Nkuna, Environmental Officer, as presented in **Appendix C8**.

3.7 Stakeholder Mapping and Identification

Stakeholder mapping is a process of identifying stakeholders before a Proposed Project commences. Identified stakeholders are grouped according to their levels of participation, interest, and influence in a Proposed Project. These groupings assist in determining how best to involve and communicate to each group throughout the PPP. Project stakeholders are defined as individuals / groups / entities that have an interest in the Proposed Project. Such stakeholders are referred to as Interested & Affected Parties (I&APs).

To ensure a proper representation of all stakeholders, the following identification methods were used as part of the stakeholder identification and analysis process for the Proposed Project:

- Desktop and online research and WinDeed search for the directly affected and adjacent farms.
- Identify and consult with relevant communities (within the nearby surroundings of the Proposed Project).
- Identify and consult with relevant Authorities (DMPR / DWS).
- Identify and consult with relevant local and district and local authorities:
 - Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality
- Identify and consult relevant ward councillors and ward committees for the affected wards, Directly and Indirectly Affected Wards:
- Directly Affected Ward:
 - Cllr Dean Stone, Ward Councillor: Ward 72
- Indirectly Affected Wards:
 - Cllr Dean Stone, Ward Councillor: Ward 72
 - Cllr Charmaine Kock, Ward Councillor: Ward 75
- Consult with adjacent landowners and land occupiers (directly and adjacent affected landowners).
- Consult with the Department of Land Reform and Rural Development (DLRRD), Office of the Regional Land Claims Commissioner: Gauteng Province.

- Consulting government departments on a National, Provincial and Local level relevant to the Proposed Project.
- Consult with stakeholders who respond to the publication of newspaper advertisements.
- Consult with stakeholders who respond to the distribution of project documentation.

I&APs were grouped into the following broad categories:

- Landowners and occupiers:
 - With assets within the Project footprint (i.e., directly affected by the Proposed Project).
 - With assets adjacent to the Project footprint (i.e., adjacent affected by the Proposed Project).
 - Vulnerable persons, including female-headed household heads, children/ youth, the elderly, ethnic minorities, and disabled persons.
- Government: National, Provincial, and Local Municipality Authorities (including ward councillors and ward committee members).
- Parastatals: Various semi-government entities, organs of State.
- Communities: Surrounding communities (community leaders).
- Agriculture and Water: Associations, entities responsible for water management and/or regulation
- environmental forums.
- Non-governmental Organisations (NGOs): Environmental organisations.
- Community-based Organisations (CBOs): Community forums.
- Business and Industry: Small, Medium and Micro Enterprises (SMMEs), mines, industrial and large business organisations.

Updating the stakeholder database from attendance registers from a broad range of stakeholder meetings that were held throughout the process, as presented in **Appendix C1**.

3.7.1 Land Claims Enquiry

A formal letter of enquiry was compiled and sent to the DLRRD – Gauteng Province to **Mr Solomon Maruma**, Office of the Regional Land Claims Commissioner on **Wednesday, 29 April 2026**. The letter includes a list of all directly affected properties, which was evaluated to determine if there are land claims, as presented in **Appendix C2**.

Feedback was received from DLRRD by means of a letter dated **Monday, 11 May 2026**, indicating that there are **no land claims** on **Portion 6 of farm Grootvaly 124, registration division IR**.

Feedback was received from DLRRD by means of letters dated **Monday, 11 May 2026**, indicating that there are **existing land claims** for the **Portion 84 and 192 of farm Geduld 123, registration division IR** but are not valid.

DLRRD, clarified that the letter references a challenge to the Amendment Act of 2014 and states that the land claims are considered invalid in view of the finding of the Constitutional Court. As a result, the claims were not investigated further to confirm their validity. The claimants listed in the letter are being kept on record until Parliament passes new legislation that allows for the re-opening of land claim submissions.

4. Communication and Engagement

4.1.1 Public Participation Materials: Scoping Phase

Considering the legislative requirements and good practice guidelines, the following documents were developed and distributed to stakeholders. The various information materials were used as part of the Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (S&EIA) process.

Background Information Document (BID): The BID, as presented in **Appendix C3**, were emailed on **Wednesday, 29 April 2026**, to I&APs listed on the stakeholder database as presented in **Appendix C6**. The BID was available on the Kongiwe website: (<https://kongiwe.com/projects/>).

The BID provides the following details:

- An overview of the Proposed Project.
- The PPP to be undertaken in support of the relevant environmental authorisations.
- Details of how stakeholders can register as I&AP's and be kept informed about the Proposed Project developments.
- Invitation to attend an Online Meeting via Microsoft Teams.
- Invitation to attend an Open Day.
- Contact details of the stakeholder engagement consultants.

Notification Letter with a Registration and Comment Form: An email was sent to stakeholders on **Wednesday, 29 April 2026**, to inform them about the Proposed Project. The email also shared details of the Open Day and invite the greater public to formally register as I&APs. A 'Registration and Comment Form' has also been provided to stakeholders to use for a formal registration as an I&AP and to submit their comments, as presented in **Appendix C3**.

A reminder notification was emailed on Friday, 15 May 2026 to remind stakeholders of the availability of the DSR for public review and comment. The reminder emails served the purpose of reminding stakeholders to attend the Open Day, as presented in **Appendix C6**.

Short Message Service (SMS): An SMS was sent to stakeholders with no access to the internet. Arrangements were made to ensure that these stakeholders had full access to Project documentation. Stakeholders were also notified on when the Open Day was held.

Newspaper Advertisements: A newspaper advert was placed in the **Springs Advertiser**, a local newspaper within the Proposed Project area, on **Thursday, 30 April 2026**, presented in **Appendix C4**.

The advert included the following details:

- An overview of the Proposed Project.
- Legal framework and details of the competent authorities.
- How stakeholders could access the DSR for public review and comment.
- How to registration as an I&AP.
- Invitation to attend the Online Meeting via Microsoft Teams.
- Invitation to attend the Open Day, and
- Contact details of the stakeholder engagement consultants.

Site Notice: The site notice included the following:

- An overview of the Proposed Project, including a locality map.
- Legal framework and details of the competent authorities.
- PPP followed and where relevant information could be obtained.
- Invitation to attend the Online Meeting via Microsoft Teams.
- Invitation to attend the Open Day and where stakeholders could register to attend.

Pictures and co-ordinates of where the site notices were placed is recorded in the site notice report, and a site notice map was developed and presented in the Final Scoping Report, presented in **Appendix C5**.

Telephonic Discussions: Stakeholders were consulted by means of telephonic discussions where required. These discussions facilitated the process of inviting stakeholders to stakeholder meetings and provide stakeholders with a platform to raise comments and suggestions regarding the Proposed Project. Comments raised through telephonic discussions were recorded and addressed by the project team (including the EAP and relevant specialists).

5. Stakeholder Engagement Meetings

This Section outlines the consultation approach as well as details of consultations in relation to the Draft and Final Scoping Report.

5.1 Consultation Approach

Consultation during the Scoping Phase aimed at providing stakeholders with an overview of the Proposed Project and to obtain comments to inform specialist studies and Project planning. Stakeholders were invited to participate through online and in-person engagements depending on preference. Consultation meetings were held using platforms like Microsoft Teams and an Open Day. The purpose of these meetings was to discuss the Proposed Project, contents of the DSR, provide stakeholders with an opportunity to raise their comments and to interact with the Project team members. Locality, infrastructure and land tenure maps were displayed and distributed as part of these meetings.

The following meetings were held:

- **Authority Meetings:** Meetings were held with the relevant Authorities.
- **Landowner Meetings:** Consultation meetings were held with directly and indirectly affected landowners.
- **Online Meeting:** Online meeting was held with stakeholders who prefer online engagements.
- **Broader Public Consultation Meeting:** An Open Day was held with the broader public during the public review period.

Refer to Table 5-1 below for the schedule of stakeholder meetings.

Table 5-1: Stakeholder Meetings

Meeting Dates	Stakeholders	Time Slots
In-Person Meetings		
Thursday, 21 May 2026	Broader Stakeholder Meeting (Open Day) held with all sectors of society at Bakerton Community Hall, First Avenue, Bakerton, Springs	10H00 – 12H00
Friday, 29 May 2026	Site visit with City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Local Municipality, Directly Affected Landowner (Grootvaly 124 IR Portion 6).	09H00 – 11H00
Online Meetings		
Thursday, 23 April 2026	Microsoft Teams - Online pre-application meeting was held with Competent Authority, Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources (DMPR) officials.	10H00 – 11H00
Wednesday, 6 May 2026	Microsoft Teams - Online meeting was held with Calodex (Pty) Ltd (Directly Affected Landowner- Geduld 123 IR 84).	10H00 – 11H00
Thursday, 7 May 2026	Microsoft Teams - Online meeting was held with the Blesbokspruit Forum Members.	10H00 – 11H00
Friday, 8 May 2026	Microsoft Teams - Online meeting was held with Transnet Freight Rail (Indirectly Affected Landowner).	10H00 – 11H00
Tuesday, 12 May 2026	Microsoft Teams - Online meeting was held with City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan (Directly Affected Landowner - Grootvaly 124 IR Portion 6)	10H00 – 11H00

Meeting Dates	Stakeholders	Time Slots
Thursday, 14 May 2026	Microsoft Teams - Online pre-application meeting was held with Competent Authority, Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) officials.	11H30 – 12H30
Wednesday, 20 May 2026	Microsoft Teams – Online Meeting (with indirectly affected landowners and the broader stakeholders.	10H00 – 11H00

Focused efforts were made to engage with directly impacted stakeholders (those residents in the Proposed Project area), including vulnerable groups at local level. These individuals were consulted directly and via their representatives and other influential people within communities. Meetings were held in a culturally appropriate manner, allowing stakeholders to voice their opinions openly. Stakeholders were given the option to raise issues in the language of their choice and where translation is required, it was provided.

Authorities, NGOs, landowners / land occupiers and community members were engaged to promote attendance, by means of telephonic consultation and distribution of emails and SMS.

A list of meetings and consultations undertaken during the process is provided in **Appendix C8**.

Minutes of these meetings, along with the presentation materials, were compiled and distributed to all stakeholders who attended, and presented in **Appendix C8**.

All comments raised by stakeholders during these meetings were recorded in the CRR, with responses prepared in accordance with the project scope and available information, and is presented in **Appendix C10**.

5.2 Stakeholder Meetings held during Scoping Phase

5.2.1 Focus Group Meeting with Calodex (Pty) Ltd

An Online meeting was arranged and attended with Calodex (Pty) Ltd on **Wednesday, 6 May 2026 from 10:00 - 11:00**. Information was presented by means of a PowerPoint presentation.

The purpose of the meeting was to:

- Present and discuss the proposed Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) Project with the Directly Landowner.
- Provide an overview of the specialist studies to be undertaken.
- Present the Public participation Process.
- Provide an opportunity to raise comments/seek clarity as well as provide input.
- Address comments raised by Directly Landowner.

5.2.2 Focus Group Meeting with Blesbokspuit Forum

An Online meeting was arranged and attended with Blesbokspuit Forum Representative on **Thursday, 7 May 2026 from 10:00 - 11:00**. Information was presented by means of a PowerPoint presentation.

The purpose of the meeting was to:

- Present and discuss the proposed Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) Project with the Blesbokspuit Forum.
- Provide an overview of the specialist studies to be undertaken.
- Present the Public participation Process.
- Provide an opportunity to raise comments/seek clarity as well as provide input.
- Address comments raised by Blesbokspuit Forum.

5.2.3 Focus Group Meeting with Transnet Freight Rail: Gauteng

An Online meeting was arranged and attended with Transnet Infrastructure Property Johannesburg on **Friday, 8 May 2026 from 10:00 - 11:00**. Information was presented by means of a PowerPoint presentation.

The purpose of the meeting was to:

- Present and discuss the proposed Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) Project with the Transnet.
- Provide an overview of the specialist studies to be undertaken.
- Present the Public participation Process.
- Provide an opportunity to raise comments/seek clarity as well as provide input.
- Address comments raised by Transnet.

5.2.4 Focus Group Meeting with City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Local Municipality

An Online meeting was arranged and attended with City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Local Municipality on **Tuesday, 12 May 2026 from 10:00 - 11:00**. Information was presented by means of a PowerPoint presentation.

The purpose of the meeting was to:

- Present and discuss the proposed Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) Project with the CoE.
- Provide an overview of the specialist studies to be undertaken.
- Present the Public participation Process.
- Provide an opportunity to raise comments/seek clarity as well as provide input.
- Address comments raised by CoE.

5.2.5 Online Meeting with Broader Stakeholders

Formal consultation meeting was held online via Microsoft Teams during the public review period for all stakeholders on the database. This meeting was held on **Wednesday, 20 May 2026 from 10H00 - 11H00**. Information was presented by means of a PowerPoint presentation.

The purpose of the meeting was to:

- Present and discuss the proposed Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) Project with the Stakeholders.
- Provide an overview of the specialist studies to be undertaken.
- Present the Public participation Process.
- Provide an opportunity to raise comments/seek clarity as well as provide input.
- Address comments raised by Stakeholders.

5.2.6 Broader Stakeholder Meetings

Broader Stakeholder Meeting (Open Day) was held at the **Bakerton Community Hall, First Avenue, Bakerton, Springs** on **Thursday, 21 May 2026 from 10H00 - 13H00**, as shown in Figure 5-1. Information was presented by means of a Poster presentation in English and translated into Zulu where needed.

Posters with information regarding the Proposed Project Description, Locality, Infrastructure and the Land Tenure maps were displayed. Copies of the non-technical summary of the DSR were also distributed to stakeholders who attended, presented in **Appendix C3**.

The purpose of the Broader Stakeholder Meetings (Open Day) was to:

- Present and discuss the proposed Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) Project with the Stakeholders.
- Provide an overview of the specialist studies to be undertaken.
- Present the Public participation Process.
- Provide an opportunity to raise comments/seek clarity as well as provide input.
- Address comments raised by Stakeholders



Figure 5-1: Photo of the Stakeholder Meeting held at Bakerton Community Hall, First Avenue, Bakerton, Springs on Thursday, 21 May 2026

5.2.7 Availability of the Draft Scoping Report for Public Review and Comment

As part of the Scoping Process, the applicant is required to compile a Draft Scoping Report (DSR) for mining-related activities. The DSR was available for public review and comment from **Wednesday, 6 May 2026 to Thursday, 4 June 2026**.

A notification of the availability of the DSR for public review and comment was distributed on **Wednesday, 29 April 2026** to all stakeholders on the database.

The DSR was available as follows:

- An electronic copy on Kongiwe's website: <https://kongiwe.com/projects/>.
- A hard copy at the Bakerton Public Library and Brakpan Public Library. Contact details are shown in Table 5-2.

Non-technical summaries of the DSR were available electronically to all stakeholders on the stakeholder database and distributed in hard copy at the Open Day.

Relevant Authorities received an email with a website link of the DSR as part of the announcement of the Proposed Project.

Table 5-2: Places where the DSR were Circulated

Location	Physical Address	Contact Person / Times
Bakerton Public Library,	Cnr 1st Avenue and Teabush Avenue, Bakerton.	Ms Sive Gaqa, Librarian (011) 999 8826 Monday – Friday Open: 08H00 Close: 15H30
Springs Public Library,	55 5th St, Springs New, Springs, 1560	Ms Tebogo Kekana (011) 999 8814 Monday – Friday Open: 08H00 Close: 16H30

5.3 Summary of Consultations

Table 5-3 below provides a summary of the stakeholder engagement activities that formed part of the Draft Scoping Phase.

Table 5-3: Summary of Activities Undertaken as Part of the Scoping Phase

Activity	Details	Appendices
Stakeholder Mapping and Identification	• Landowners were identified by means of WinDeed searches and a stakeholder database was compiled. • Stakeholders were identified through research and stakeholder networking. • The database was updated with new I&APs who have formally registered and attended stakeholder meetings or submitted comments throughout the process.	Appendix C1 Stakeholder Database
Identification of Land Claims	• A formal letter of enquiry was compiled and sent to the Land Claims Commission, DLRRD – Gauteng Province. • The letter comprised a list of directly affected properties for the Proposed Project. Feedback was received from DLRRD.	Appendix C2 Land Claims Enquiry Letter and Correspondence from the DLRRD
Compilation of BID	• The BID was developed and emailed to all stakeholders on the database.	Appendix C3 BID

Activity	Details	Appendices
	The BID was available on Kongiwe's website (under public documents).	
Placement of Newspaper Advertisements	A newspaper advert was placed in Springs Advertiser.	Appendix C4 Newspaper Advertisements
Placement of Site Notices	- Site notices were placed at publicly accessible places within proximity of the Project area. Copies of the site notices were placed at the Bakerton Public Library and Springs Public Library. - A site notice report and site notice map was developed, indicating the exact locations of where the site notices were placed, with photos and GPS coordinates.	Appendix C5 Site Notice Report and Placement Map
Announcement of the Project and the Availability of the Draft Scoping Report	- The announcement letter was distributed to stakeholders to: - Announce availability of the DSR. - Invite stakeholders to the Online Meeting and Open Day; and - Indicate where the DSR is available for public review and comment. - The DSR was available on Kongiwe's website. - A copy of the DSR was placed in the following public place: - Bakerton Public Library. - Springs Public Library.	Appendix C6 Announcement Correspondence Appendix C3 BID
Stakeholder Consultation Meetings	- Consultation during the Scoping Phase was aimed at providing key stakeholders with an overview of the Proposed Project, and to obtain comments which informed specialist studies and project planning. - Stakeholders were invited to participate through online and in-person engagements. One-on-one consultation meetings with authorities, directly and indirectly affected landowners were held via on-line forums such as Microsoft Teams or in-person depending on preference. - The Project team presented a formal presentation of the Project the Locality, Infrastructure and Land Tenure maps were displayed as part of the meetings. - Minutes of these meetings were compiled and distributed to everyone who attended these meetings.	Appendix C8 List of Meetings and Meeting Minutes Appendix C10 CRR

Activity	Details	Appendices
	Comments raised from the meeting were included into the CRR.	
Broader Stakeholder Meetings: Scoping Phase	- Stakeholders were invited to participate through online and in-person engagements. The purpose of these meetings was to discuss the Proposed Project, contents of the DSR, to provide stakeholders with an opportunity to raise their comments and to interact with the Project team members. - Minutes of these meetings were compiled and distributed to everyone who attended these meetings. - Comments raised from the meeting were included into the CRR.	Appendix C8 List of Meetings and Meeting Minutes Appendix C10 CRR

5.3.1 Consultation Undertaken as part of the Final Scoping Phase

The Final Scoping Report (FSR) was submitted to the DMPR on **Friday, 19 June 2026**.

Stakeholders were notified by email of the availability of the FSR for review. Stakeholders were provided with the opportunity to verify that their comments were captured during the Draft Scoping Phase and to review responses provided by the project team. All comments received on the FSR will be incorporated into the CRR.

Table 5-4 below is a summary of the activities during the Final Scoping Phase.

Table 5-4: Summary of Activities to be Undertaken During the Final Scoping Phase

Activity	Details
Update of Stakeholder Information	The stakeholder database was updated with new I&APs who formally registered, participated in stakeholder meetings or submitted comments.
Placement of Final Scoping Report	The FSR is available on the Kongiwe's website.
Submission to the Authorities	The FSR was submitted to DMPR.
Announcement of the submission of the Final Scoping Report	- A notification letter notifying stakeholders that the Final Scoping report was submitted to DMPR was emailed to the full stakeholder database. - An SMS was sent to stakeholders who have no access to the internet.

6. Consultation with Stakeholders during the Impact Assessment Phase

Consultation with stakeholders during the EIA Phase entails providing stakeholders with comments on specialist study findings, recommendations and mitigation measures proposed. These studies and recommendations will be included as part of the EIA / EMPr, in support of the EA application as well as the IWWMP Report in support to the WUL. Stakeholder meetings will be held to present the findings of the specialist studies and to get comments from stakeholders. The format of stakeholder meetings will be similar to the Scoping Phase; however, it was determined on a case-by-case basis depending on stakeholders' preferences.

7. Consultation with Stakeholders during the Decision-Making Phase

Once the Competent Authority which is **DMPR** has come to a decision regarding the EA authorisation of the Proposed Project, all stakeholders will be notified of the decision made and the appeal process to be followed. The decision from the Competent Authority (CA) will be communicated to stakeholders by means of a notification letter (electronic), SMS, local newspaper advertisement, and on Konglwe's website.

The IWULAs will be submitted to the **DWS** in terms of the NWA. Once the competent authority, which is DWS, has come to a decision regarding the IWULA, the DWS will notify the applicant and any person who has objected to the application, written reasons for decision will be given.

The background of the page is a light gray topographic map with thin, wavy contour lines. A solid blue vertical bar runs down the left side of the page, starting from the top and extending to the bottom. The text 'Appendix C1: Stakeholder Database' is located in the lower-left portion of this blue bar.

Appendix C1: Stakeholder Database

**Environmental Authorisation and Integrated Water Use Licence Application for the Reclamation of the 6L14
Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) in the City of Ekurhuleni Municipality,
Gauteng Province
Stakeholder Database – Final Scoping Report (FSR)**

I&AP Sector	Organisation	Mr/Ms	First Name	Last Name	Position	Province
Agricultural Union	Agri South Africa: National	Mr	Ernest	Botha	Afgri-Attorney	Gauteng
Agricultural Union	Agri South Africa: National	Mr	Janse	Rabie	Head of Natural Resources	Gauteng
Agricultural Union	TLU SA Central Region	Ms	Lynette	Du Plessis	Manager TAU SA Central Region	Gauteng
Agricultural Union	Transvaal Agricultural Union of South Africa (TAUSA)	Mr	Henry	Geldenhuys	President	Gauteng
Catchment Forum, National Government	Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Mr	James	Mofokeng	Environmental Specialist-Blesbokspruit	Gauteng
Catchment Forum, National Government	Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Mr	Phillimon	Khwinana	Control Environmental Officer, Blesbokspruit and Rietspruit Catchment Forum Ch	Gauteng
Community Member	Bakerton Community	Mr	Thembi	Dlamini	Community Member	Gauteng
Community Member	Bakerton Community	Ms	Granny	Mahlangu	Community Member	Gauteng
Community Member	Community Member	Ms	A	Zoleka	Community Member Ward 72	Gauteng

I&AP Sector	Organisation	Mr/Ms	First Name	Last Name	Position	Province
Community Member	Community Member	Mr	Alex	Malatjie	Community Member	Gauteng
Community Member	Community Member	Mr	C	Kgwale	Community Member	Gauteng
Community Member	Community Member	Mr	Ernest	Khoza	Community Member	Gauteng
Community Member	Community Member	Mr	Kholofelo	Magoro	Community Member	Gauteng
Community Member	Community Member	Ms	Lerato	Diadla	Business Community	Gauteng
Community Member	Community Member	Mr	Mandla	Mbopha	Community Member	Gauteng
Community Member	Community Member	Mr	Prince	Motwa	Community Member	Gauteng
Community Member	Community Member	Mr	T	Mapea	Community Member	Gauteng
Community Member	Community Member	Mr	T	Mark	Community Member	Gauteng
Community Member	Community Member	Mr	Themba	Hlatshwayo	Community Member	Gauteng
Community Member	Community Member	Mr	Tumelo	Maphoto	Community Member	Gauteng
Community Member	Community Member	Mr	Vuyo	Matshamba	Community Member	Gauteng

I&AP Sector	Organisation	Mr/Ms	First Name	Last Name	Position	Province
Community Member	Community Member	Ms	A	Sweli	Community Member	Gauteng
Community Member	Community Member	Ms	J	Ndwanawe	Community Member	Gauteng
Community Member	Community Member	Ms	Lydia	Matome	Community Member	Gauteng
Community Member	Community Member	Ms	Mlungiseni	Mzukulwana	Community Member	Gauteng
Community Member	Community Member	Ms	Nokuthula	Mkuatshua	Community Member	Gauteng
Community Member	Community Member	Ms	Precious	Ramothhale	Community Member	Gauteng
Community Member	Community Member	Ms	Sandy	Malapane	Community Member Ward 75	Gauteng
Community Member	Community Member	Ms	Z	Mthandazu	Community Member	Gauteng
Community Member	Everest Community	Ms	Zoliswa	Harmans	Community Member	Gauteng
Community Member	Community Member	Ms	Sindiswa	Mthadazo	Community Member	Gauteng
Community Member	Community Member	Ms	Manini	Mohalahi	Community Member Ward 72	Gauteng
Community Member	Community Member	Ms	Nthabisang	Makhetha	Community Member Ward 72	Gauteng

I&AP Sector	Organisation	Mr/Ms	First Name	Last Name	Position	Province
Community Member	Community Member	Mr	Unathi	Koti	Community Member	Gauteng
Community Member	Slovo Park Community	Ms	Phokwane	Kwabo	Community Member Ward 72	Gauteng
Directly Affected Landowner	Bharqat Property Investments (Pty) Ltd	Mr	Japie	van Zyl	Director: Japie van Zyl Attorneys	Gauteng
Directly Affected Landowner	Bharqat Property Investments (Pty) Ltd	Ms	Carin	Nieuwoudt	Secretary: Japie van Zyl Attorneys	Gauteng
Directly Affected Landowner	Bharqat Property Investments (Pty) Ltd	Mr	Naushad	Hassim	Director	Gauteng
Directly Affected Landowner	Private Landowner	Ms	Nadia	Hassim	Landowner	Gauteng
Directly Affected Landowner	Calodex (Pty) Ltd	Mr	Milenko	Rajak	Director	Gauteng
Directly Affected Landowner, Indirectly Affected Landowner, Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Dr	Ewert	Maseko	Senior Property Officer: Property Management Springs and Kwa- Thema CCA	Gauteng
Environmental NGO's	African Potential Group	Dr	Jenny	Coetzee	CEO	Gauteng
Environmental NGO's	African Potential Group	Mr	Nkateko	Maholobela	Lead Environmental Health- Strategist	Gauteng
Environmental NGO's	African Potential Group	Ms	Minja	Milovanovic	Head of Science and Innovation	Gauteng
Environmental NGO's	Andrew Barker Development Consultant/ KlipSA	Mr	Andrew	Barker	Development Consultant	Gauteng

I&AP Sector	Organisation	Mr/Ms	First Name	Last Name	Position	Province
Environmental NGO's	Benchmarks Foundation (BMF)	Mr	David	van Wyk	Environmental	Gauteng
Environmental NGO's	Benchmarks Foundation (BMF)	Mr	Moses	Cloete	Director	Gauteng
Environmental NGO's	Benchmarks Foundation (BMF)	Mr	Simo	Gumede	Logistics and Administration Lead	Gauteng
Environmental NGO's	Birdlife South Africa (BLSA)	Dr	Kirsten	Day	Policy & Advocacy Manager	Gauteng
Environmental NGO's	Centre for Environmental Rights (CER)	Mr	Brandon	Abdinor	Programme Head: Pollution & Climate Change	Gauteng
Environmental NGO's	Council of Geoscience: National	Dr	Thakane	Ntholi	Specialist Scientist	Gauteng
Environmental NGO's	Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT)	Dr	Ian	Little	Head of Conservation and Science	Gauteng
Environmental NGO's	Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT)	Dr	Oliver	Cowan	Conservation Science Officer	Gauteng
Environmental NGO's	Federation for Sustainable Environment (FSE)	Ms	Mariette	Liefferink	Chief Executive Officer	Gauteng
Environmental NGO's	Gauteng Wetland Forum	Mr	Bismark	Mashau	Chairperson	Gauteng
Environmental NGO's	Groundwork	Mr	Bobby	Peek	Director	Gauteng
Environmental NGO's	Klipwas	Mr	Dennis	Jane	Operations	Gauteng

I&AP Sector	Organisation	Mr/Ms	First Name	Last Name	Position	Province
Environmental NGO's	Mining Affected Communities United in Action (MACUA)	Mr	Gilbert	Moela	Media Liaison	Gauteng
Environmental NGO's	South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI)	Ms	Vivian	Malema	Director: Biodiversity Education and Public Engagement Directorate	Gauteng
Environmental NGO's	South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI)	Ms	Zama	Nzeru	Admin	Gauteng
Environmental NGO's	Wildlife & Environmental Society of South Africa (WESSA)	Mr	John	Wesson	Manager: Conservation Specialist	Gauteng
Environmental NGO's	Wildlife & Environmental Society of South Africa (WESSA)	Mr	Morgan	Griffiths	Senior Manager: Advocacy, Membership and Governance	Gauteng
Environmental NGO's	Wildlife & Environmental Society of South Africa (WESSA)	Ms	Seipati	Mphasane	Senior Education Officer: Environmental Coordinator	Gauteng
Environmental NGO's	Wildlife & Environmental Society of South Africa (WESSA) Springs & Nigel branch	Mr	Peter	Law	Springs-Nigel Branch Chair	Gauteng
Indirectly Affected Landowner	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Mr	Winston	Marumo	Real Estate and Property Management Department	Gauteng
Indirectly Affected Landowner	Transnet Freight Rail Ltd: Gauteng	Ms	Suzan	Aidelomo	Gauteng Environmental Specialist	Gauteng
Indirectly Affected Landowner	Transnet Freight Rail Ltd	Mr	Thembinkosi	Memela	Property Technician	Gauteng
Interested & Affected Party	Bakerton C.P.F.	Mr	Deventhrew	Pillay	Community Member Ward 72	Gauteng

I&AP Sector	Organisation	Mr/Ms	First Name	Last Name	Position	Province
Interested & Affected Party	Bakerton C.P.F.	Mr	Minesh	Bhika	Community Member Ward 72	Gauteng
Interested & Affected Party	Bakerton C.P.F.	Mr	Selvan	Pillay	Community Member Ward 72	Gauteng
Interested & Affected Party	Blesbokspruit Catchment Forum	Ms	Suvania	Naidoo	Independent Research-led Advisor Sustainability/ Social Impact	Gauteng
Interested & Affected Party	Extra Ordinary Investments	Mr	Gabriel	Naidoo	Director	Gauteng
Interested & Affected Party	Grootvaly Blesbokspruit Conservation Trust	Mr	Patrick	Ganda	Member	Gauteng
Interested & Affected Party	Grootvaly Blesbokspruit Conservation Trust	Mr	Philip	De Jager	Chairman	Gauteng
Interested & Affected Party	Sappi Manufacturing Pty Ltd	Mr	Mitchell	Cason	Sustainability Regulatory Manager	Gauteng
Interested & Affected Party	Sappi Manufacturing Pty Ltd	Ms	Janel	Hayes	Sustainability Regulatory Manager	Gauteng
Interested & Affected Party	Sappi Manufacturing Pty Ltd	Ms	Penny	Jenkins	GM: Legal Counsel SSA	Gauteng
Interested & Affected Party	Corruseal Group	Ms	Carol	le Roux	Manager	Gauteng
Interested & Affected Party	Impala Platinum Limited	Mr	Burt	Evans	Impala Platinum Refineries	Gauteng
Interested & Affected Party	Impala Platinum Limited	Mr	Jacques	Botha	Impala Platinum Refineries	Gauteng

I&AP Sector	Organisation	Mr/Ms	First Name	Last Name	Position	Province
Interested & Affected Party	Impala Platinum Limited	Mr	Teke	Mothibe	Human Resources Manager: Refining Impala Platinum Limited	Gauteng
Interested & Affected Party	Impala Platinum Limited	Ms	Gillian	Ngubane	Impala Platinum Refineries	Gauteng
Interested & Affected Party	Japie van Zyl Attorneys / Prokureurs INC.	Ms	Paballo	Mahloko	Candidate Attorney	Gauteng
Interested & Affected Party	Japie van Zyl Attorneys / Prokureurs INC.	Ms	Charmaine	Jordaan	Assistant	Gauteng
Interested & Affected Party	Perdekop Projects	Mr	Jan	Mahlay	Business Community	Gauteng
Interested & Affected Party	Prime Resources	Mr	Stephen	Tarltton	Senior Consultant	Gauteng
Interested & Affected Party	Slovo Park C.P. F	Mr	Bukeka	Xuma	Community Member Ward 72	Gauteng
Labour Union	Congress of South Africa Trade Union (COSATU)	Mr	Themba	Mkhize	Gauteng Spokesman	Gauteng
Libraries	Bakerton Public Library	Ms	Sive	Gaqa	Librarian	Gauteng
Libraries	Springs Public Library	Ms	Tebogo	Kekana	Librarian	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Adv	Tersia	Visser	Area Manager: Property Management- Springs and Kwa- Thema CCA	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Dr	Imogen	Mashazi	Municipal Manager	Gauteng

I&AP Sector	Organisation	Mr/Ms	First Name	Last Name	Position	Province
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Mr	Bafana	Mazibuko	Disaster & Emergency Services Department	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Mr	Chris	Kapp	Air Quality/Noise Control	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Mr	Gerhard	Mac Carron	Ekurhuleni Spatial Planning	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Mr	Flip	Visser	Air Quality Section	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Mr	Jerry	Chaka	Director Environmental Health	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Mr	Johan	Koekemoer	Manager Environmental Health: Springs	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Mr	Justice T.	Ndobe		Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Mr	Kulani	Hlapolosa	Real Estate Department	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Mr	Makhudu	Molepo	Senior Environmental Health Practitioner	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Mr	Nkosindiphile	Xhakaza	Mayor	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Mr	Ntambudzeni	Makhari	Acting Area Manager: City Planning - Springs/Nigel	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Mr	Philip	Nice	Manager: Springs Roads and Storm Water Designs	Gauteng

I&AP Sector	Organisation	Mr/Ms	First Name	Last Name	Position	Province
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Mr	Pule	Makena	Catchment Management Specialist	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Mr	Rendani	Khorombi	Waste Management Services Division: Compliance	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Mr	Samukelo	Shongwe	Specialist: Air Quality Management	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Mr	Scelo	Ndimma	Environmental Resource and Waste Management Department	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Mr	Sthembiso	Garane	LED Manager: (HOD: Economic Development)	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Mr	Victor	Nesengani	Waste Management Services Division: Compliance	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Ms	Betty	Thabethe	Waste Management Services Division: Compliance	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Ms	Bongeka	Mtyana	Environmental Resource and Waste Management Department	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Ms	Dudu	Twala	Area Manager: Brakpan CCA: City Planning	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Ms	Duduzile	Sebidi	Executive Manager	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Ms	Germina	Chabalala	Waste Management Services Division: Compliance Department of Environmental	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Ms	Kwanele	Mdletshe	Environmental Resource and Waste Management Department	Gauteng

I&AP Sector	Organisation	Mr/Ms	First Name	Last Name	Position	Province
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Ms	Lerato	Selolo	Compliance Division	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Ms	Levona	Appels	Real Estate Department	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Ms	Lillian	Matlala	Environmental Officer	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Ms	Linda	Naicker	Municipal Managers PA	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Ms	Lufuno	Matakanyi	Member of the Mayoral Committee	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Ms	Maggy	Hadebe	Ekurhuleni Spatial Planning: Springs	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Ms	Nelisiwe	Mvuni	IDP Manager	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Ms	Nomvula	Flara	Acting Compliance Divisional Head	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Ms	Nonhlanhla	Mnisi	Waste Management Services Division: Compliance	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Ms	Nthabiseng	Tshivhenga	Speaker	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Ms	Pheta P.	Mokoena	Waste Manager: EMM	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Ms	Precious	Mabogoane	Air Quality and Noise Practitioner	Gauteng

I&AP Sector	Organisation	Mr/Ms	First Name	Last Name	Position	Province
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Ms	Regina	Gosebo	Senior Admin	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Ms	Rachel	Mahlangu	Real Estate Department	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Ms	Reinette	McKechnie	Real Estate Department	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Ms	Rifiloe	Moletjie	Water Quality Section	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Ms	Sarah	Nduli	Water Quality	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Ms	Sibongile	Mdhuli	Administrative officer: Environmental Resource & Waste Management Department	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Ms	Themba	Ntuli	Real Estate Department	Gauteng
Local Municipality	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Ms	Yvonne	Moropa	Executive PA: Head of Environmental Resources	Gauteng
Mining & Industry	Impala Platinum Limited: Springs	Ms	Carina	Burger	Safety & Environmental Manager	Gauteng
Mining & Industry	Impala Platinum Limited: Springs	Ms	Karina	Beukes	Plant Manager: BMR Technical Department	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Agriculture (DA)	Ms	Lydia	Bosoga	Deputy Director: Sustainable Land Management	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Agriculture (DA)	Ms	Mashudu	Marubini	Deputy Director	Gauteng

I&AP Sector	Organisation	Mr/Ms	First Name	Last Name	Position	Province
National Government	Department of Agriculture (DA)	Ms	Vuyiswa	Qobo	Environmental Officer	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)			DFFE - Biodiversity		Gauteng
National Government	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)	Dr	Mpho	Tshitangoni	Chief Director: Land Remediation	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)	Mr	Bongani	Mabuda	Environmental Officer	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)	Mr	Cyril	Ndou	Director: Forests. Resource Protection	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)	Mr	Lerato	Mokoena	Environmental Control Officer: Grade A	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)	Mr	Phumudzo Morris	Mavhunga	Waste Management: Licensing	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)	Mr	Stanley	Tshitwamulomoni	Strategic Water Source Area	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)	Mr	Themba	Dlamini	Regional Office	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)	Ms	Boikanyo	Matsha	Senior Forestry Regulation Officer	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)	Ms	Constance	Musemburi	Directorate: Priority Infrastructure Projects	Gauteng

I&AP Sector	Organisation	Mr/Ms	First Name	Last Name	Position	Province
National Government	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)	Ms	Mashudu	Mudau	Protected Areas Planning and Management Effectiveness	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)	Ms	Mmatlala	Rabothata	Biodiversity Conservation	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)	Ms	Mulalo	Sundani	National Office: Directorate: Forestry Regulation and Oversight: Environmental	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)	Ms	Portia	Makitla	Biodiversity and Conservation	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)	Ms	Thizwikoni	Munzhelele	Case Officer	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Health (DOH): National	Mr	Zamokuhle	Mntambo	Assistant Director: Environmental Health	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Health (DOH): National	Ms	Belinda	Makhafola	Directorate: Environmental Health Services	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Land Reform and Rural Development (DLRRD)	Mr	Harry	Maphutha	Regional Land Claims Commissioner	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Land Reform and Rural Development (DLRRD)	Mr	Matsobane Solomon	Maruma	Land Claims Gauteng Regional Officer	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Land Reform and Rural Development (DLRRD)	Mrs	Amukelani	Shiburi	Land Claim Officer	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Land Reform and Rural Development (DLRRD)	Ms	Fundiswa	Ndaba	Commission on Restitution of Land Rights- Gauteng Regional Officer	Gauteng

I&AP Sector	Organisation	Mr/Ms	First Name	Last Name	Position	Province
National Government	Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources (DMPR)	Adv	Mmadikeledi	Moloto	DDG: Mineral Regulation	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources (DMPR)	Mr	David	Msiza	Mine Health and Safety Inspectorate	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources (DMPR)	Mr	Jacob	Mbele	Director General PA: Ms Mamabefu Modipa	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources (DMPR)	Mr	Musa	Mangobe	Gauteng Environment	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources (DMPR)	Mr	Nicholas	Chavalala	Deputy Director: Mine Environmental Management	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources (DMPR)	Mr	Rudzani	Mabogo	Head of Environment: Director for Compliance and Enforcement	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources (DMPR)	Mr	Siyabonga	Vezi	Acting Gauteng Regional Director	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources (DMPR)	Mr	Tseliso	Maqubela	Minerals and Petroleum Regulation	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources (DMPR)	Ms	Carol	Khanyile	Gauteng Regional: Secretary	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI)	Mr	Lutendo	Neduvhuledza	Town Planning Services (HO)	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI)	Mr	Malusi	Ganiso	Town Planning Services (HO)	Gauteng

I&AP Sector	Organisation	Mr/Ms	First Name	Last Name	Position	Province
National Government	Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI)	Mr	Jacob	Mahloko	Construction Project Management	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI)	Ms	Friedah	Khoza	Property Manager	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI)	Mr	Thapelo	Duma	PA to Regional Manager	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI)	Mr	Zakhele	Ndebele	Real Estate Management Services	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI)	Ms	Jabulile	Mabaso	Acting Regional Manager	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Transport	Ms	Michelle	Phenya	Personal Assistant to the Director-General	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Mr	Adriaan	Claassen	Chief Engineer	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Mr	Desmond	Mutshaine	Geochemistry	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Mr	Khathutshelo	Mudau	Specialised Production	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Mr	Londolani	Mutshakwa	National	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Mr	Noe	Malise	Resource Protection & Waste	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Mr	Vhutshilo	Magwala	Specialised Production	Gauteng

I&AP Sector	Organisation	Mr/Ms	First Name	Last Name	Position	Province
National Government	Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Mr	Victor	Nkuna	Environmental Officer	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Ms	Basani Lerato	Nkuna	Environmental Officer	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Ms	Betty	Nakene	Gauteng: Nigel / Springs	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Ms	Faith Fulufhelo	Khosa	Gauteng Regional Representative	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Ms	Mulalo	Sidogi	Environmental Officer	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Ms	Nosie	Mazwi	Director: Mining and Industry Water Quality Regulation	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Ms	Portia C	Chawane	Control Environmental Officer Grade A	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Ms	Thabelo	Tshipate	Environmental Officer	Gauteng
National Government	Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Mr	Mabona (Rodney)	Lesiba	Control Environmental Officer, Klip River and Natalspruit Catchment Forum Assis	Gauteng
National Government	Minerals Council South Africa: National	Mr	Babalwa	Matiwane	Environment Department: National	Gauteng
National Government	Minerals Council South Africa: National	Mr	Matome	Makwela	Environmental Advisor	Gauteng
National Government	Minerals Council South Africa: National	Ms	Jeannette	Hofsajer	Environment Department: National Administration	Gauteng

I&AP Sector	Organisation	Mr/Ms	First Name	Last Name	Position	Province
National Government	Minerals Council South Africa: National	Ms	Mpho	Thobye	Health	Gauteng
National Government	Minerals Council South Africa: National	Ms	Stephinah	Mudau	Head: Environmental Advisor	Gauteng
National Government	National Nuclear Regulator (NNR)	Mr	Patle	Mohajane	Programme Manager: NORM	Gauteng
National Government	South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)	Ms	Khanyisile	Bonile	Heritage Officer: Development Applications Unit	Gauteng
National Government	South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)	Ms	Nokusho	Ngobeni	Heritage Officer	Gauteng
National Government (Provincial Office)	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)	Mr	Mthokozese	Nsizwane	Environmental Office	Gauteng
National Government (Provincial Office)	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)	Mr	Shumani	Dzivhani	Deputy Director: Forestry Regulation	Gauteng
National Government (Provincial Office)	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)	Ms	Khuliso	Khomari	Environmental Officer	Gauteng
National Government (Provincial Office)	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)	Ms	Nompumelelo	Lekalakala	Biodiversity	Gauteng
Nature Reserve	Marievale Bird Sanctuary Provincial Nature Reserve	Mr	Rhulani	Maluleke	Manager	Gauteng
NGO	Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce & Industry	Ms	Bernadette	Zerler	Chief Executive	Gauteng
Parastatal	Eskom	Mr	Jason	Kasper	Land and Rights Manager	Gauteng

I&AP Sector	Organisation	Mr/Ms	First Name	Last Name	Position	Province
Parastatal	Eskom	Mr	Luvuyo	Diniso	W/L Allocations	Gauteng
Parastatal	Eskom	Mr	Moitheri	Khuphane	Ekurhuleni Environmental	Gauteng
Parastatal	Eskom	Mr	Sbu	Nkalanga	Ekurhuleni Representative	Gauteng
Parastatal	Eskom	Ms	Charmaine	Mare	Environmental Manager	Gauteng
Parastatal	Eskom	Ms	Ivy	Sibiya	Environmental Officer	Gauteng
Parastatal	Eskom	Ms	Nkateko	Msimango	Ekurhuleni Environmental	Gauteng
Parastatal	Eskom	Ms	Thakgalo	Lechaba		Gauteng
Parastatal	National Transmission Company South Africa (NTCSA)	Mr	Khululwa	Matshoba	Senior Environmental Advisor	Gauteng
Parastatal	South African National Roads Agency Limited (SANRAL)	Ms	Ria	Barkhuizen	Environmentalist (NR)	Gauteng
Parastatal	South African National Roads Agency Limited (SANRAL)	Ms	SANRAL	SANRAL	Central Environmental Department email	Gauteng
Parastatal	South African National Roads Agency Limited (SANRAL)	Mr	David	Thubane	Land Acquisition Specialist	Gauteng
Parastatal	South African National Roads Agency Limited (SANRAL)	Ms	Victoria	Bota	Environmentalist (Gauteng Region)	Gauteng

I&AP Sector	Organisation	Mr/Ms	First Name	Last Name	Position	Province
Parastatal	Transnet Freight Rail Ltd	Mr	Phetha	Mtetwa	Mechanical Engineer	Gauteng
Parastatal	Transnet Freight Rail Ltd	Mr	Thembela	Cuba	Rail Infrastructure Manager JHB	Gauteng
Parastatal	Transnet Freight Rail Ltd	Ms	Avhadzudzani	Matshavhange	Safety Specialist	Gauteng
Parastatal	Transnet Freight Rail Ltd	Ms	Phindi	Ntuli	Acting Senior Manager: Regional Portfolio Manager	Gauteng
Parastatal	Transnet Freight Rail Ltd	Ms	Tebogo	Thaba	Environment & Sustainability	Gauteng
Parastatal	Transnet Freight Rail Ltd	Mr	Xolisa	Kilani	Technical Engineer	Gauteng
Parastatal	Transnet Freight Rail Ltd	Ms	Rebone	Moukangwe	Environmental Officer	Gauteng
Parastatal	Transnet Freight Rail Ltd	Ms	Zanele	Manyathi	Environmental Manager	Gauteng
Parastatal	Transnet Freight Rail Ltd: Gauteng	Ms	Annalize	Harmse	Chief Admin Official	Gauteng
Provincial Government	Department of Health (DOH): Ekurhuleni District	Mr	Cheleng	Khotle	Environmental Health Manager	Gauteng
Provincial Government	Department of Health (DOH): Gauteng District	Mr	Simon	Choma	Acting Chief Director: Ekurhuleni District	Gauteng
Provincial Government	Gauteng Wetland Forum (GDEnv)	Mr	Mpfareleni	Mashau	Contact for Management	Gauteng

I&AP Sector	Organisation	Mr/Ms	First Name	Last Name	Position	Province
Provincial Government	Gauteng Wetland Forum (GDEnv)	Mr	Tebogo	Nkadimeng	Representative	Gauteng
Provincial Government	The Gauteng Department of Environment (GDEnv)	Mr	Dan	Motaung	Deputy Director: EIA	Gauteng
Provincial Government	The Gauteng Department of Environment (GDEnv)	Mr	Eric	Mulibana	Air Quality	Gauteng
Provincial Government	The Gauteng Department of Environment (GDEnv)	Mr	Erick	Moletsane	Manager: Environmental Planning & Impact Assessment	Gauteng
Provincial Government	The Gauteng Department of Environment (GDEnv)	Mr	Tjatja	Mosia	Environmental Officer	Gauteng
Provincial Government	The Gauteng Department of Environment (GDEnv)	Ms	Anga	Yaphi	PS - Biodiversity	Gauteng
Provincial Government	The Gauteng Department of Environment (GDEnv)	Ms	Christina	Seegers	Protected Areas	Gauteng
Provincial Government	The Gauteng Department of Environment (GDEnv)	Ms	Hellen	Sithole	Environmental Officer: Ekurhuleni	Gauteng
Provincial Government	Department of Roads and Transport (DRT): Gauteng	Dr	Thulani	Mdadane	Gauteng Head of Department	Gauteng
Ward Committee Member	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Mr	Bokang	Mosiroe	Ward Committee Member: Ward 72	Gauteng
Ward Committee Member	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Mr	Mahendra	Narsing	Ward Committee Member: Ward 72	Gauteng
Ward Committee Member	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Mr	Paulos	Dube	Ward Committee Member: Ward 72	Gauteng

I&AP Sector	Organisation	Mr/Ms	First Name	Last Name	Position	Province
Ward Committee Member	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Mr	Rajdeo	Sewiall	Ward Committee Member: Ward 72	Gauteng
Ward Committee Member	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Mr	Xolani	Mkhabela	Ward Committee Member: Ward 72	Gauteng
Ward Committee Member	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Ms	Andiswa	Sizani	Ward Committee Member: Ward 72	Gauteng
Ward Committee Member	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Ms	Lulama	Ntengemtu	Ward Committee Member: Ward 72	Gauteng
Ward Committee Member	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Ms	Mpho	Ketsekile	Ward Committee Member: Ward 72	Gauteng
Ward Committee Member	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Ms	Nkosingiphile	Twala	Ward Committee Member: Ward 72	Gauteng
Ward Committee Member	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Ms	Portia	Kwaiba	Ward Committee Member: Ward 72	Gauteng
Ward Committee Member	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Ms	Lindokuhle	Mdakane	Ward Committee Member: Ward 72	Gauteng
Ward Councillor	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Cllr	Charmaine Patricia	Kock	Ward Councillor: Ward 75(indirectly)	Gauteng
Ward Councillor	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Cllr	Dean	Stone	Ward Councillor: Ward 72	Gauteng
Water Bodies -Institution	Ekurhuleni Water Care Company (ERWAT)	Mr	Brendan	Adam	Environmental Officer	Gauteng
Water Bodies -Institution	Randwater	Mr	Goarabamang	Masobe	Official	Gauteng

I&AP Sector	Organisation	Mr/Ms	First Name	Last Name	Position	Province
Water Bodies -Institution	Randwater	Ms	Faith	Tshisikule	Wayleave Inspector	Gauteng
Water Bodies -Institution	Randwater	Mr	Jimmy	Maluleke	Environmental Co-ordinator	Gauteng
Water Bodies -Institution	Randwater	Mr	Lesley	Hoy	Manager Environmental Assessments & Compliance	Gauteng
Water Bodies -Institution	Randwater	Mr	Thokozani	Masilela	Environmental Assessor	Gauteng
Water Bodies -Institution	Randwater	Ms	Kgalalelo	Gaobotse	Environmental Officer	Gauteng
Water Bodies -Institution	Randwater	Ms	Natalie	Koneight	Secretary - Nursery-CD	Gauteng
Water Bodies -Institution	Randwater	Ms	Zesha	Ramrathan	Civil Engineering Technologist	Gauteng
Water Bodies -Institution	Water Research Commission	Dr	Shafick	Adams	Senior Research Manager	Gauteng
Water Bodies -Institution	Water Research Commission	Mr	Bennie	Mokgonyana	Water Use & Waste Management	Gauteng
Water Bodies -Institution	Water Research Commission	Mr	Jay	Bhagwan	Research Manager	Gauteng
Water Bodies -Institution	Water Research Commission	Ms	Penny	Jaca	Water Resource Management	Gauteng
Water Bodies -Institution	Water Research Commission	Ms	Shirley	Machelisi	Water Use & Waste Management	Gauteng

**Environmental Authorisation and Integrated Water Use Licence Application for the Reclamation of the 6L14
Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) in the City of Ekurhuleni Municipality,
Gauteng Province**

Landowners Database

Directly Affected Landowners

Farm Name & Number	Farm ID	Farm Portion	Owner-Windeed	Farm owner	Contact Person
Grootvaly 124	IR	6	Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Dr Ewert Maseko
Geduld 123	IR	192	Bharqat Prop Inv CC	Bharqat Prop Inv CC	Mr Naushad Hassim
Geduld 123	IR	84	Sappi Manufacturing Pty Ltd	Calodex (Pty) Ltd	Mr Milenko Rajak

Indirectly Affected Landowners

Farm Name & Number	Farm ID	Farm Portion	Owner-Windeed	Farm owner	Contact Person
Cloverfield 75	IR	1	Transnet Ltd	Transnet Ltd	Mr Thembinkosi Msikeleli Memela
Geduld 123	IR	107	Transnet Ltd	Transnet Ltd	Mr Thembinkosi Msikeleli Memela

Farm Name & Number	Farm ID	Farm Portion	Owner-Windeed	Farm owner	Contact Person
Geduld 123	IR	255	Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Dr Ewert Maseko
Geduld 123	IR	193	Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Dr Ewert Maseko
Cloverfield 75	IR	0(RE)	Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Dr Ewert Maseko
Welgedacht 74	IR	4	No Windeed	Individual erf numbers – Welgedacht (Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality)	Dr Ewert Maseko
Grootvaly 124	IR	40	Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Dr Ewert Maseko
Geduld 123	IR	106	Transnet Ltd	Transnet Ltd	Mr Thembinkosi Msikeleli Memela
Geduld 123	IR	279	No Windeed	Payneville Community (Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality)	Dr Ewert Maseko
Geduld 123	IR	30	Transnet Ltd	Transnet Ltd	Mr Thembinkosi Msikeleli Memela
Cloverfield 75	IR	7	Transnet Ltd	Transnet Ltd	Mr Thembinkosi Msikeleli Memela

The background of the page is a light gray topographic map with thin, wavy contour lines. A solid blue vertical bar runs down the left side of the page, starting from the top and extending to the bottom. The text 'Appendix C2: Land Claims' is positioned at the bottom of this blue bar.

Appendix C2: Land Claims

Environmental Authorisation and Integrated Water Use Licence Application for the Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) in the City of Ekurhuleni Municipality, Gauteng Province

DMPR reference number: to be confirmed

Date:	Wednesday, 29 April 2026
Attention	Mr Solomon Maruma
Government Body	Department of Land Reform and Rural Development (DLRRD)
Email	Matsobane.Maruma@dlrrd.gov.za

Notice is hereby given that Ergo Mining (Pty) Limited (Ergo) is the largest gold tailings retreatment company in South Africa. The surface deposits controlled by Ergo are waste products created from the historical processing of gold and uranium ores of the Witwatersrand Supergroup. Ergo has Mining Right (ERGO-GP158MR) over the dump, this facility was historically used previously as a mining waste deposition site and has been dormant for some time.

Kongiwe Environmental (Pty) Ltd ("Kongiwe") has been appointed by Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd (the "Applicant"), as the independent Environmental Service Provider and tasked with conducting the Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (S&EIA) process which is aimed at critically evaluating the potential environmental and social impacts of the proposed Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) ("Proposed Project").

The dump will be reprocessed via the existing pipeline network through the 5L27 Transfer Pumpstation to the Ergo Beneficiation Plant (Ergo Plant) which is currently in operation, with ultimate residue deposition taking place on the Brakpan/Withok TSF and /or Daggafontein TSF. A new reclamation pumpstation will be developed for the Proposed Project.

The proposed TSF activities will be undertaken within Farm Portion 6 of Grootvaly 124 IR, as well as Portions 84 and 192 of Geduld 123 IR. In addition, the proposed transfer pump station currently in operation is situated on Farm Portion 3 of Modderfontein 76 IR. It lies within Ward 72 of the City of Ekurhuleni Municipality (CoE), Gauteng Province.

The Project area impacts the farm portions listed in the table below:

Farm Name and Number	Farm ID	Farm Portion	Landowner
Grootvaly 124	IR	6	Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality
Geduld 123	IR	192	Bharqat Prop Inv CC
Geduld 123	IR	84	Sappi Manufacturing Pty Ltd

Kongiwe Environmental (Pty) Ltd

Registration Number 2016/135562/07

Telephone: +27 (10) 140 6508, Email: info@kongiwe.com

Registered Address: 150 Bryanston Drive, Bryanston, Sandton, 2191, South Africa

Mailing Address: PostNet Suite No 163, Private Bag X21, Bryanston, 2021, South Africa

www.kongiwe.com

Kongiwe wishes to enquire if there are any land claims on any of the farms listed above.

Please could you revert to us as a matter of urgency.

Yours faithfully,



Vanessa Viljoen
Stakeholder Engagement Consultant

Kongiwe Stakeholder Engagement

From: Vanessa Viljoen
Sent: Wednesday, 29 April 2026 11:15
To: Matsobane.Maruma@dlrrd.gov.za
Cc: Jean-Mari Williams; Umeshree Naicker
Subject: Land Claims enquiry: EA and Integrated WUL Application for the Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) in the City of Ekurhuleni Municipality, Gauteng Province
Attachments: DRDG#086_LC.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Mr Solomon Maruma

Kongiwe Environmental (Pty) Ltd ("Kongiwe") has been appointed to undertake the Environmental Authorisation and Integrated Water Use Licence for the Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) project.

The proposed TSF activities will be undertaken within Farm Portion 6 of Grootvaly 124 IR, as well as Portions 84 and 192 of Geduld 123 IR. In addition, the proposed transfer pump station currently in operation is situated on Farm Portion 3 of Modderfontein 76 IR. A new reclamation pumpstation will be developed for the Proposed Project. It lies within **Ward 72** of the City of Ekurhuleni Municipality (CoE), Gauteng Province.

We would appreciate it if you could assist us with the attached Land Claims enquiry.

Much appreciated.

Kind Regards,



Vanessa Viljoen | Principal Stakeholder Engagement Consultant | Kongiwe Environmental (Pty) Ltd.

Tel: +27 (10) 140 1725 | Cell: +27 (71) 485 5388 | Fax: +27 (86) 476 6438 | Email: vviljoen@kongiwe.com

150 Bryanston Drive, Bryanston, Sandton, 2191, South Africa.

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OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL LAND CLAIMS COMMISSIONER: GAUTENG

No. 9 Bailey Lane, Arcadia, 0007 | Private Bag X 03, Arcadia, 0007
Tel: (012) 310 6500 | Fax: (012) 323 0312

Enquiries: Desiree Tsholofelo Kgole
Telephone: (012) 310 6578

Dear Mr / Ms **Kongiwe Environmental (Pty) Ltd**

LAND CLAIMS ENQUIRY – PORTION 6 OF THE FARM GROOTVALY 124, REG DIV IR, GAUT-ENG

We refer to your land claim enquiry dated **29 April 2026**.

We confirm that as at the date of this letter no land claims appear on our database in respect of the Properties listed as per attached list. This includes the database for claims lodged by 31 December 1998; and those lodged between 1 July 2014 and 27 July 2016 in terms of the Restitution of Land Rights Amendment Act, 2014.

Whilst the Commission takes reasonable care to ensure the accuracy of the information it provides, there are various factors that are beyond the Commission's control, particularly relating to claims that have lodged but not yet been gazetted such as:

1. Some Claimants referred to properties they claim dispossession of rights in land against using historical property descriptions which may not match the current property description; and
2. Some Claimants provided the geographic descriptions of the land they claim without mentioning the particular actual property description they claim dispossession of rights in land against.

The Commission therefore does not accept any liability whatsoever if through the process of further investigation of claims it is found that there is in fact a land claim in respect of the above property.

If you are aware of any change in the description of the above property after 19 June 1913 kindly supply us with such description so as to enable us to do a further search.

In conclusion, please note that **enquiries should be forwarded to Desiree Tsholofelo Kgole** who could be reached at the following contact details: Tel: (012) 310-6578 or via e-mail at desiree.kgole@dlrrd.gov.za

Yours faithfully


MS. C. BENYANE
CHIEF DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL LAND CLAIMS COMMISSION
GAUTENG PROVINCE
DATE: 



OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL LAND CLAIMS COMMISSIONER: GAUTENG

No. 9 Bailey Lane, Arcadia, 0007 | Private Bag X 03, Arcadia, 0007

Tel: (012) 310 6500 | Fax: (012) 323 0312

Enquiries: Desiree Tsholofelo Kgole
Telephone: (012) 310 6500/6578

Dear Mr / Ms **Kongiwe Environmental (Pty) Ltd**

LAND CLAIMS ENQUIRY – PORTION 84 AND PORTION 192 OF THE FARM GEDULD 123, REG DIV IR, GAUTENG

We refer to your land claim enquiry dated **29 April 2026**.

We confirm that there is/are an existing land claims against the Property/ies. The claims were lodged as per attached list.

The claim was lodged in terms of the Restitution of Land Rights Amendment Act, 2014 (Act No 15 of 2014) ("the Amendment Act") which, amongst others, reopened the lodgement of claims for a period of five years.

The validity of the Amendment Act was challenged in the Constitutional Court. The Constitutional Court found the Amendment Act to be invalid because of the failure of Parliament to facilitate public involvement as required by the Constitution. The Amendment Act ceased to be law on 28 July 2016.

The Constitutional Court ordered that the claims that were lodged between 1 July 2014 and 27 July 2016 are validly lodged, but it interdicted the Commission from processing those claims until the Commission has finalised the claims lodged by 31 December 1998 or until Parliament passes a new law providing for the re-opening of lodgement of land claims. Parliament was given until 27 July 2018 to pass such a law.

Parliament has so far not been able to pass new legislation and has instead approached the Constitutional Court for an extension until 29 March 2019 and the application was rejected. As a result the Commission will, unless directed otherwise by Constitutional Court, not be processing claims lodged between 1 July 2014 until 27 July 2016 until all the claims lodged on or before 31st December 1998 are finalised and or a new Act is passed by Parliament and signed into law by the President. In the meantime, the Commission through the Chief Land Claims Commissioner has been ordered to report the progress of all the outstanding land claims on six months basis for monitoring by the court.

The Commission will contact you directly and communicate widely once we have been granted permission to begin dealing with these claims.

For further enquiries please contact

Solomon Maruma at Matsobane.Maruma@dlrrd.gov.za , telephone 012 310 6588

Edith Mokgoko at Edith.mokgoko@dlrrd.gov.za , telephone 012 310 6573

Yours faithfully


MS. C. BENYANE
CHIEF DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL LAND CLAIMS COMMISSION
GAUTENG PROVINCE
DATE: 



OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL LAND CLAIMS COMMISSIONER: GAUTENG

No. 9 Bailey Lane, Arcadia, 0007 | Private Bag X 03, Arcadia, 0007

Tel: (012) 310 6500 | Fax: (012) 323 0312

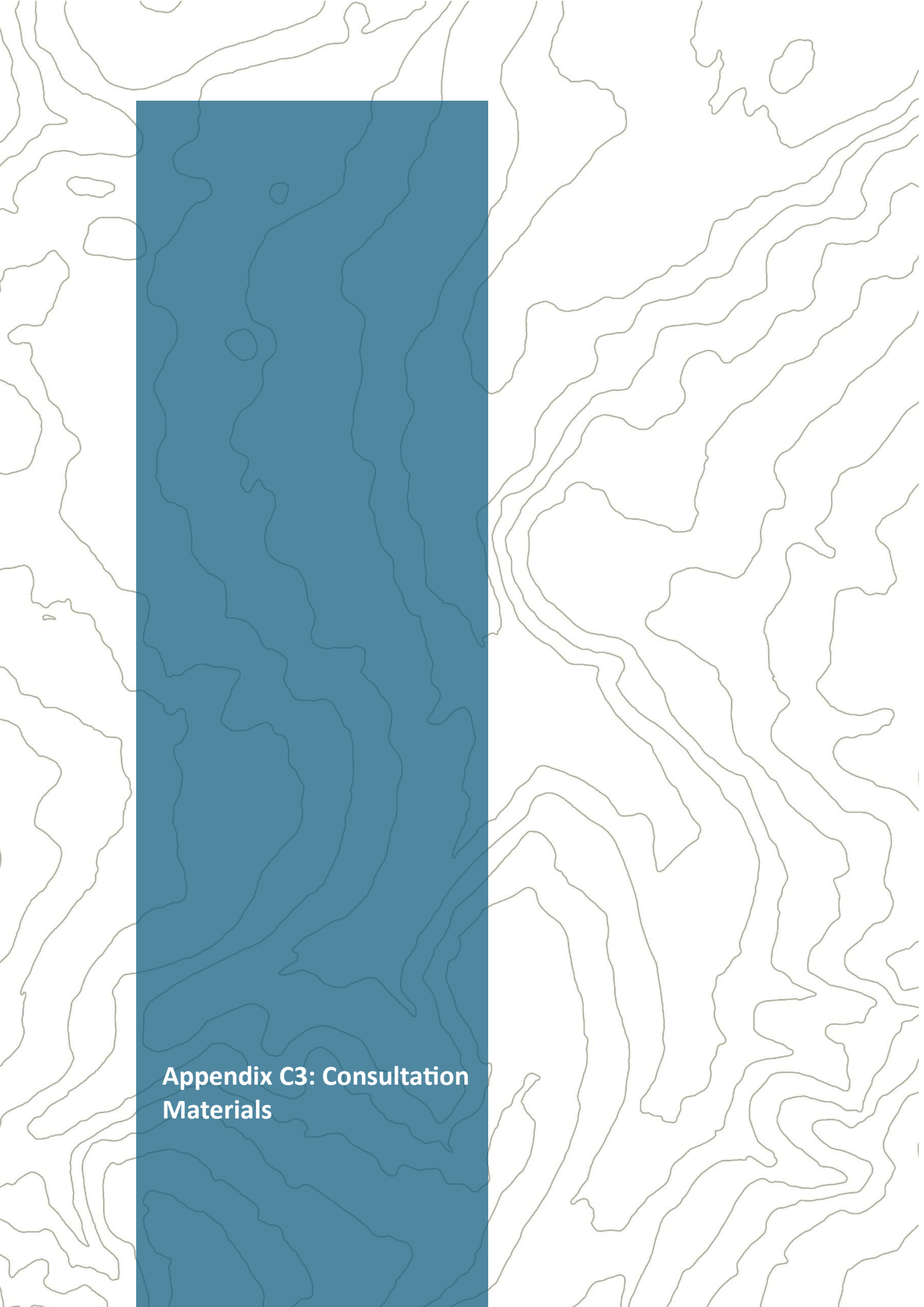
Enquiries: Ms Desiree T Kgole
Telephone: (012) 310-6500/6578

Claimants who also lodged their claims on **GEDULD 123 IR**

R/3/117/261/51917

PEACOCK REGINALD

2015-03-11

The background of the page is a light gray topographic map with thin, wavy contour lines. A solid blue vertical bar is positioned on the left side of the page, extending from the top to the bottom. The text "Appendix C3: Consultation Materials" is located at the bottom of this blue bar.

Appendix C3: Consultation Materials

Environmental Authorisation and Integrated Water Use Licence Application for the Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) in the City of Ekurhuleni Municipality, Gauteng Province

Background Information Document

DMPR reference number: to be determined

Purpose of the Document

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

- Project background of the Ergo Mining (Pty) Limited (Ergo) proposed Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) ("Proposed Project"), located in the in the City of Ekurhuleni Municipality, Gauteng Province.
- The independent Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and the Public Participation Process (PPP) to be undertaken as part of the Environmental Authorisation process.
- Integrated Water Use Licence (IWUL) approval requirements.
- The Public Participation Process (PPP) that will be undertaken as part of the IWULA process.
- How can you register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) and be kept informed about the Project's developments?
- The public review and comment period for the Draft Scoping Report

Project Background and Motivation

Ergo a wholly owned subsidiary of DRDGOLD - within which the Group's Eastern surface retreatment assets are consolidated, is a major surface gold tailings retreatment operation that focuses on old and abandoned TSFs.

Ergo Mining (Pty) Limited (Ergo) is the largest gold tailings retreatment company in South Africa. The surface deposits controlled by Ergo are waste products created from the historical processing of gold and uranium ores of the Witwatersrand Supergroup. Ergo has Mining Right (ERGO-GP158MR) over the dump, this facility was historically used previously as a mining waste deposition site and has been dormant for some time.

The dump will be reprocessed via the existing pipeline network through the 5L27 Transfer Pumpstation to the Ergo Beneficiation Plant (Ergo Plant) which is currently in operation, with ultimate residue deposition taking place on the Brakpan/Withok TSF and /or Daggafontein TSF. A new reclamation pumpstation will be developed for the Proposed Project.

As part of Ergo's rehabilitation strategy, the removal of TSF's like this will allow repurposing of the land in a more sustainable manner and ultimate offsetting of environmental impacts. The reclamation projects are in line with the objectives of the Gauteng Mine Residue Area Strategy (2012), which are to reclaim and/or rehabilitate TSFs to the point where they become safe for adjacent communities and land can be made available for other purposes.

Project Activities

Ergo aims to reclaim and reprocess the 6L14 TSF with the objective of recovering gold using hydraulic reclamation. Hydraulic reclamation is a largely mechanised process with a risk profile that is significantly lower than that of conventional mining. During hydraulic reclamation, a water monitor blasts the sides of the TSF, the process water mixes with the unconsolidated material, resulting in what is known as a 'slurry'. The slurry will report to a pumpstation, located at the lowest point of a TSF, where it will then be pumped and conveyed to Ergo Plant for reprocessing.

The Proposed Project will be consolidated into a single Environmental Authorisation (EA) application. This application will be submitted to the Department of Mineral Petroleum Resources (DMPR), which serves as the Competent Authority responsible for assessing and approving mining-related environmental projects in the Gauteng Province. In addition to the EA, a Water Use License (WUL) will be required for any activities that may impact water resources. The Integrated Water Use Licence Application (IWULA) will be reviewed and considered by the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), ensuring that all water-related aspects of the Proposed Project comply with National Regulations.

Method of Reclamation

The proposed reclamation method which will be used to reclaim the TSF is referred to as top-down hydraulic reclamation. This technique uses high-pressure water monitors / cannons to deliver a high-pressure water jet to excavate unconsolidated tailings material within the TSF hydraulically. The water from the cannon mixes with the tailings and forms a slurry with a high solids content. The slurry then flows under gravity along trenches at the base of the TSF to a collection sump which is positioned at the lowest elevation of the bench being mined.

At the sump, finger screens remove any debris that may impact pumping operations, and the screened slurry then flows into the sump and is subsequently conveyed to the station. The position of the collection sump will change as the reclamation progresses. From the collection sump, the slurry reports to a reclamation station. To control the volume of water reporting to the reclamation station, flapper valves are used to hold, and release slurry contained in the collection sump. The slurry will then report to a pumpstation, located at the lowest point of a TSF, where it will then be pumped and conveyed to Ergo Plant for reprocessing.

Infrastructure proposed for the Project

The following infrastructure will be utilised:

- Reclamation infrastructure at each TSF consisting of a pump station which includes:
 - Slurry sump;
 - Vibrating Screen;
 - Water tank;
 - Motor control centre; and
 - Slurry and associated Pumps.
- Lined catchment paddocks;
- Stormwater management infrastructure including:
 - Water Pumpstation and PCD infrastructure and stormwater systems;
 - Existing paddocks on the TSF footprint; and
 - Pollution control paddock.

- 11 kV overhead powerlines capable of transmitting 3 kVA of electricity and electricity reticulation;
- Administration buildings, including change houses and ablution facilities;
- Access roads, routed from existing entry points;
- Construction contractors' yards (temporary facilities); and
- Process water will be required for the 6L14 reclamation operations to support the Proposed Project via the existing pipeline network.

Project Location

The Proposed Project is located approximately 4 km north-east of Springs, in Ward 72 of the City of Ekurhuleni Municipality (CoE), Gauteng Province.

The Proposed Project activities will be undertaken within Farm Portion 6 of Grootvaly 124 IR, as well as Portions 84 and 192 of Geduld 123 IR. In addition, the proposed transfer pump station currently in operation is situated on Farm Portion 3 of Modderfontein 76 IR.

The Proposed Project is located approximately 1.4 km northwest of Everest and about 0.6 km west of Gugulethu Township. The Bakerton community situated to the south of the existing 6L14 TSF is located approximately 0.5 km from the proposed TSF footprint. The TSF is located approximately 0.9 km from R555 Road, while the reclamation area is primarily bordered by nearby townships and a main road. A river is situated to the northeast of the TSF project site.

The total footprint of the 6L14 TSF is approximately 63.21 hectares. Refer to Table 1 for a list of the directly affected properties, and Figure 1 for the project locality map.

Table 1: Directly Affected Property Details

Farm Name	Farm ID	Farm Portion	SG Code	Property owner
Reclamation Site				
Geduld	123 IR	192	TOIR00000000012300192	Bharqat Prop Inv CC
Grootvaly	124 IR	6	TOIR00000000012400006	Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality
Geduld	123 IR	84	TOIR00000000012300084	Sappi Manufacturing (Pty) Ltd
Pumpstation				
Geduld	123 IR	84	TOIR00000000012300084	Sappi Manufacturing (Pty) Ltd
Receiving Point 1 and 2				
Geduld	123 IR	192	TOIR00000000012300192	Bharqat Prop Inv CC

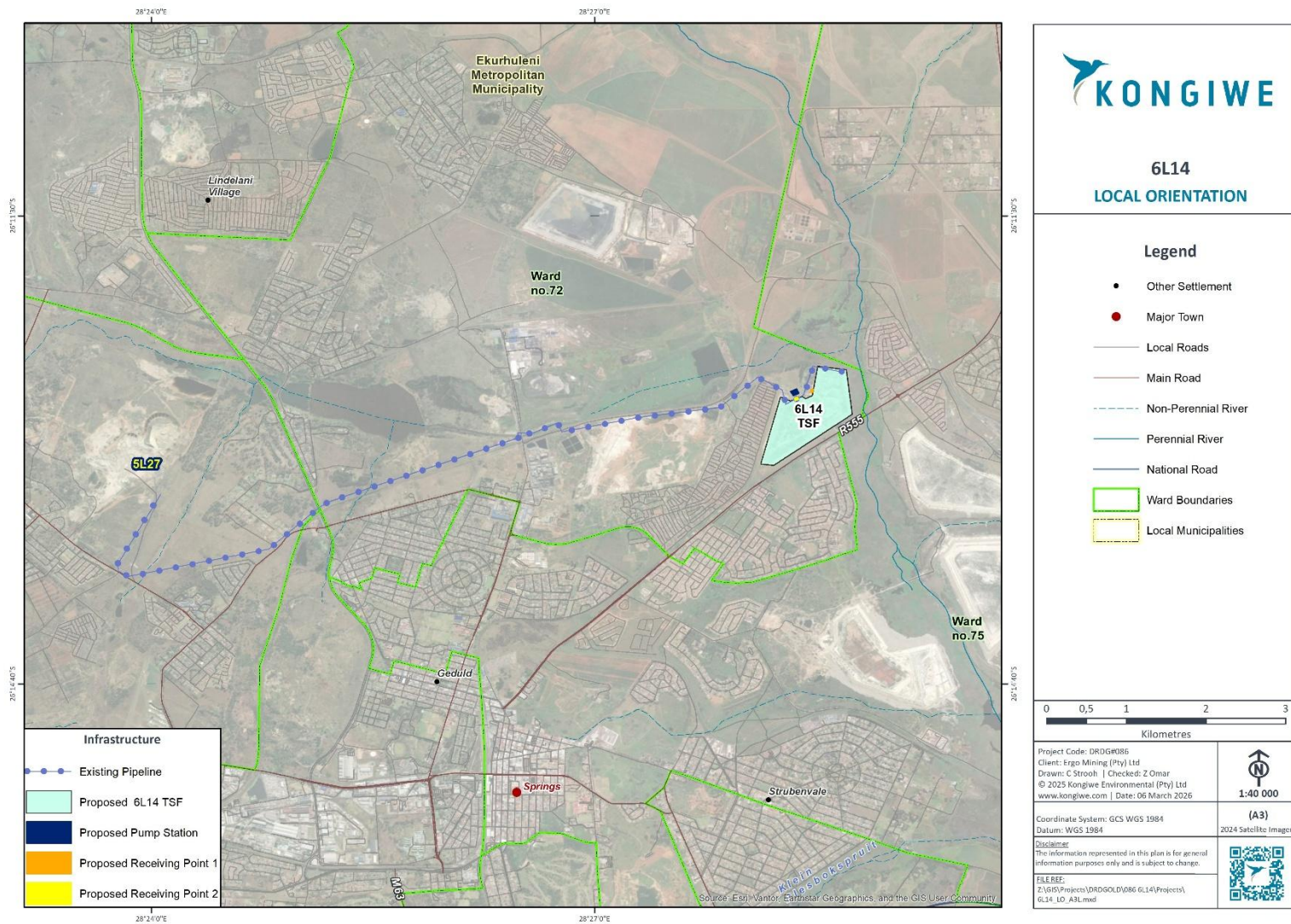


Figure 1: Locality Map

Land Use

The Proposed Project area is predominantly surrounded by mining areas, industrial areas, residential areas, railway infrastructure, and existing road networks. Most of the Proposed Project area has been subject to significant disturbance due to past mining activities and infrastructure, the presence of the existing TSF and problems arising from mining activities, and grazing cattle roaming throughout the area. Most of the land cover of the Proposed Project area is classified as mines dumps, grassland, townships residents and waterbodies.

Access

The major access routes in the vicinity of the 6L14 TSF include the N12, which provides connectivity to Welgedacht Road, R555 Road located to the west of the TSF, and the R29 on the western side, which links to Main Reef Road and provides access to the 5L27 transfer pump station currently in operation.

As far as possible, existing access roads will be utilised, and where this is not possible, these will be constructed. Where access roads are to be constructed, these will be 4m wide gravel roads with mitre drains to protect the road structure from flood damage. Intersections will be properly designed to provide safe entry and exit in and out of the reclamation area. Approvals from the provincial roads authorities will be obtained where necessary.

Power and Water Supply

The proposed reclamation activity will require 11 kV overhead powerlines capable of transmitting 3 kVA of electricity. Power will be supplied by Eskom.

Potable water will be purchased from the CoE with a contingency for portable JoJo tanks or connection to existing water pipeline infrastructure.

In terms of process water, the water cycle operates as a closed circuit, meaning that limited make-up water will be required for the reclamation of the TSF. Process water required for the reclamation activity will be sourced from the 5L27 Pumpstation and conveyed through existing and authorised process water pipelines to the project site for reuse in a closed-circuit system.

Life of Operation

The life of the Proposed Project is expected to be 12 years. An estimated maximum amount of 300 000 tons/month of slurry is expected to be pumped from 6L14 TSF via constructed pipelines to the Ergo Plant which is in Brakpan for beneficiation.

Rehabilitation

Once reclamation is completed, the areas will then be assessed for contamination (particularly in terms of radiation). Contaminated soils will be removed, and the land levelled to its original functioning topography levels.

Following rehabilitation, it is anticipated that the land will be returned to the landowner to use at their discretion. The Proposed Project is for the purpose of reclaiming the historic TSFs and removing a pollution source from the area, aiding in the rehabilitation of the mining legacy left behind in the area.

Legislative Requirements and Good-Practice Guidelines

Applicable Legislation and International Best Practice

The Public Participation Process (PPP), as required by the environmental law and regulations specified therein, is being undertaken in line with the statutory requirements for public participation. The following legislation was considered when developing and implementing the PPP:

- National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA).
- The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014 (as amended) (EIA 2014 Regulations).
- Public Participation guideline in terms of NEMA.
- National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No 59 of 2008) (NEM:WA) and the List of Waste Management Activities (GN R921 of 29 November 2013, as amended).
- NWA (Act No. 36 of 1998).
- Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act No. 4 of 2013) (POPIA).
- Promotion of Access to Information Act, 2000 (Act No. 2 of 2000) (PAIA).

NEMA mandates public participation for environmental decision-making, ensuring affected communities have a voice in development projects through the EIA Regulations, 2014. The NEMA Public Participation Guideline (in terms of the EIA Regulations) is a mandatory part of the (EA process, aiming for transparent, informed decisions that promote sustainable development by integrating social, economic, and environmental factors.

The NWA is the primary law for the protection, management, and equitable use of the water resources. The NWA establishes the government's role in allocating water resources, promoting sustainable use of water resources, and preventing pollution.

The POPIA regulates the processing of personal information by both public and private bodies, aiming to protect individuals' constitutional right to privacy.

The PAIA gives effect to the constitutional right to access information held by both the state and private bodies. The Act establishes procedures for individuals to request information for the protection or exercise of their rights.

POPIA: Safeguarding Registered Person's Personal Information

In terms of section 19 of the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act No. 4 of 2013) (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, Kongiwe 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 or parties to whom the information is supplied.

International Standards

In addition to the above legislation, the PPP is to be aligned to International good-practice guidelines for public participation, particularly in regard to the following Core Values of the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2):

- To be based on the belief that those who are affected by a decision have a right to be involved in the decision-making process.
- To include the promise that the public's contribution will influence the decision.
- To promote sustainable decisions by recognising and communicating the needs and interests of all participants, including decision makers.
- To seek out and facilitate the involvement of those potentially affected by or interested in a decision.
- To seek input from participants in designing how they participate.
- To provide participants with the information they need to participate in a meaningful way.
- To communicate to participants how their input affected the decision.
- Development of a PPP also needs to align to any additional considerations noted in the International Finance Corporation (IFC) Performance Standards (PSs), particularly in relation to stakeholder engagement aspects outlined in PS 1 (Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts).

SCOPING AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS

Kongwiwe Environmental (Kongwiwe) has been tasked with conducting the Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (S& EIA)/Integrated Water Use Licence application (IWULA) process which is aimed at critically evaluating the potential environmental and social impacts of the Project.

The steps involved in the EIA process are outlined in Figure 2.

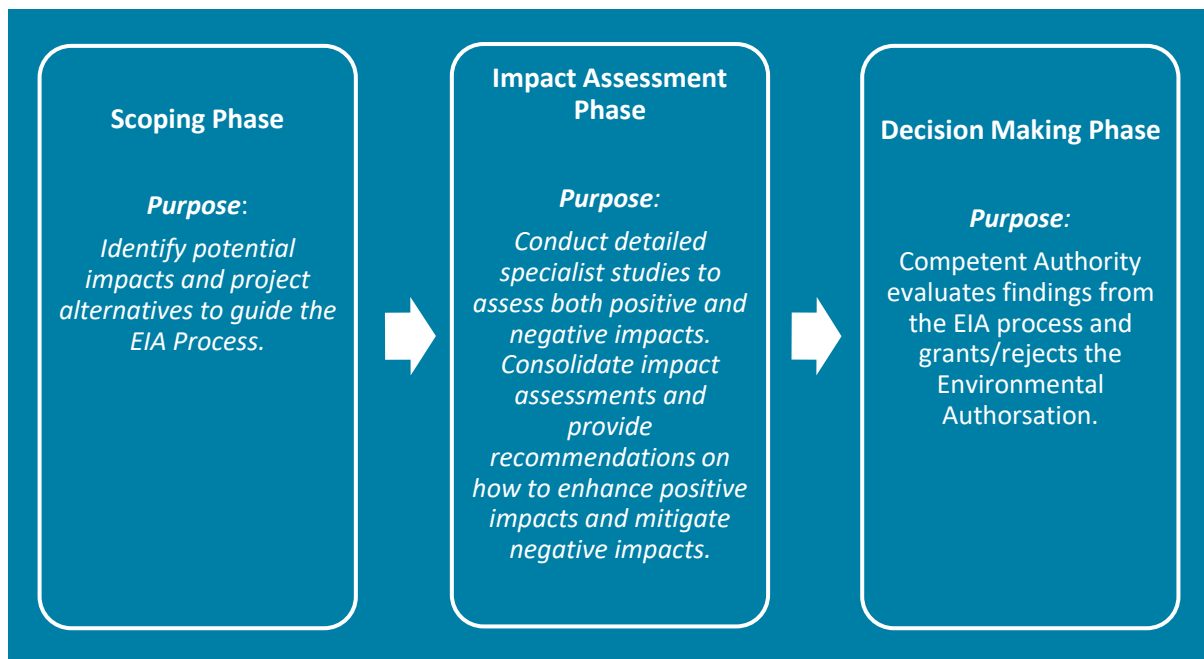


Figure 2: S&EIA Process

Summary of Listed Activities

Applicable Listing Notice as Amended	Name of Activity & Description
GNR 984 – 21F	Reclamation of a Residue stockpile or a residue deposit
GNR 984 – 6	Satellite pump station / Reclamation Station
GNR 983 – 13	Slurry receiving facility
GNR 984 – 6	Slurry receiving facility
GNR 984 – 6	Screening facility at the pump station
GNR 984 – 6	Storage
GNR 984 – 6	Transfer pumps in series
WML Activities	
Category B, Activity 11	The establishment or reclamation of a residue stockpile or residue deposit resulting from activities which require a mining right, exploration right or production right in terms of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002).
Water Uses Activities	
21(g)	Dust Suppression of access roads, Earth Materials and Gravel.
21(g)	Disposing of excess stormwater and slurry during a stormwater event
21 (c) and (i)	The construction, operation, and rehabilitation of the access road located within 500m of a wetland.
21 (c) and (i)	The construction, operation, decommissioning and rehabilitation of a lined catchment paddock, as well as the construction of the associated stormwater management infrastructure within 500 m of a wetland and within the 1:100-year floodline.
21 (c) and (i)	The construction, operation, decommissioning and rehabilitation of a Pumpstation within 500 m of a wetland.
21 (c) and (i)	The construction, operation, decommissioning and rehabilitation of a Slurry Receiving Point 1 and Slurry receiving Point 2 within a wetland and a 500 m of a wetland.
21 (c) and (i)	Reclamation of the 6L14 TSF, as well as the operation, decommissioning and rehabilitation of the associated reclamation.

INTEGRATED WATER USE LICENCE

An IWULA process will be undertaken in terms of Section 40 and 41 of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No.36 of 1998) (NWA). The Proposed Reclamation Project triggers Section 21 (c), (g) and (i) water uses of the NWA. Section 21 (c) and (i) water uses are triggered by activities that impede or divert the flow of water in a watercourse; or which alter the bed, banks, courses or characteristics of a watercourse. These can be activities such as the stream diversion, crossing of watercourses by roads or pipelines, upgrading of the 6L14 attenuation dam wall, or any other infrastructure within 1:100-year floodline or 100m of a river/stream or 500m of a wetland. Section 21 (g) water uses are activities concerned with the disposing of waste in a manner which may detrimentally impact on a water resource. These includes activities such as the disposal of tailings into the TSF, the disposal of effluent into a wastewater containment facility, dust suppression of roads with dirty water or water containing waste, etc.

Specialist Studies

Various specialist studies are being undertaken as part of the S&EIA/IWULA process to assess the potential impacts associated with the proposed project. Specialist studies being undertaken include:

- Air Quality Impact Assessment
- Terrestrial Biodiversity Impact Assessment
- Wetland Impact Assessment
- Climate Change Impact Assessment
- Geohydrological impact Assessment (Groundwater)
- Hydrological Impact Assessment (Surface water)
- Heritage Impact Assessment
- Noise Impact Assessment
- Socio-Economic Impact Assessment
- Traffic Impact Assessment
- Closure and Rehabilitation Plan
- Dolomite Impact Assessment

The findings of the specialist studies will be incorporated into the EIA/EMPr and the IWWMP.

Public Participation Process

The Public Participation Process (PPP) will form part of the EIA/EMPr and 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 EIA/EMPr and IWULA process.

Availability of the Draft Scoping Report for Public Review and Comment

As part of the Scoping Process, the applicant is required to compile a **Draft Scoping Report (DSR)** for mining-related activities. The DSR will be available for public review and comment for a period of **30 days** from **Wednesday, 6 May 2026 to Thursday, 4 June 2026**.

A notification of the availability of the DSR for public review and comment was distributed on **Wednesday, 29 April 2026** to all stakeholders on the database.

The DSR will be made available as follows:

- An electronic copy on Kongiwe's website: <https://kongiwe.com/projects/>.
- Hard copies at the **Bakerton Public Library** and **Springs Public Library**. Contact details are shown in Table 2.

The non-technical summaries of the **DSR** will be available electronically to all stakeholders on the stakeholder database and distributed in hard copy at the Open Day (discussed below).

Table 2: Libraries with Hard Copies of the Draft Scoping Report

Location	Physical Address	Contact Person
Bakerton Public Library	Cnr 1st Avenue and Teabush Avenue, Bakerton.	Ms Sive Gaqa, Librarian (011) 999 8826 Monday – Friday Open: 08H00 Close: 15H30
Springs Public Library	55 5th St, Springs New, Springs, 1560	Ms Tebogo Kekana (011) 999 8814 Monday – Friday Open: 08H00 Close: 16H30

Availability of the EIA/EMPr and IWWMP for Public Review and Comment

During the EIA phase of the project, the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment and Draft Environmental Management Programme (DEIA/EMPr) will be made available for public review for **30 days**.

Once the information required for the IWULA has been finalised, a technical report, in support of the IWULA process, will be made available for a public review and commenting period of **60 days**. It is anticipated that the IWULA report will be made available during the impact assessment phase. Information regarding the availability of the IWULA technical report and how stakeholders can provide their comments will be communicated to all stakeholders.

Stakeholder Engagement Meetings

Stakeholders are invited to participate through online and in-person engagements. Consultation meetings will be held using platforms like Microsoft Teams, and Open Day. The purpose of these meetings is to discuss the Project and the contents of the **DSR**, and to provide Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) with the opportunity to raise their comments and to interact with the project team.

Table 3 provides details of the proposed stakeholder meetings. Please confirm your attendance for the meeting (*Confirmation of attendance may be submitted via the stakeholder's email address or telephonically*).

Table 3: Schedule of Stakeholder Meetings

Proposed Dates	Available Time Slots	Method of Engagement
Online Meeting		
Wednesday, 20 May 2026	10H00 – 11H00	Microsoft Teams
In-Person Meetings: Open Day		
Thursday, 21 May 2026	10H00 – 12H00	Broader Stakeholders Meeting: Open Day Bakerton Community Hall First Ave, Bakerton, Springs, 1559

Invitation to be Involved as a Stakeholder

Kongiwe 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 requested to send their comments/queries via email.
 - Stakeholders can email their Registration and Comment Forms.
- Online engagements:
 - Project information will be timeously uploaded on Kongiwe's website.
 - Microsoft Teams meetings.
- In-person Engagements:
 - One-on-one consultation meetings.
 - Open Day.

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 below the BID.

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

- Register or ensure you are registered 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 and received by the Stakeholder Engagement office.
- Contribute information and/or knowledge of the Project area's environment.
- Attend meetings that are scheduled throughout the process to participate and access information.

Comments and Queries

Any person affected by or who may be interested in the Project are encouraged to complete the Registration and Comments Form provided below this document (BID) should they have any comments / queries.

Contact Details

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

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

Environmental Authorisation and Integrated Water Use Licence Application for the Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) in the City of Ekurhuleni Municipality, Gauteng Province

DMPR reference number: to be determined

Stakeholder Registration and Comment Form

Please return a completed registration form to the Stakeholder Engagement Team:

Ms Vanessa Viljoen / Phone: (010) 140 1725 / Ms Jean-Mari Williams / Phone (010) 140 1726

or E-mail: stakeholders@kongiwe.com

Postal Address: PostNet Suite No 163, Private Bag X21, Bryanston, 2021

Please provide your complete contact details:

Landowner	Property					
Land Occupier	Property			Property Owner		
Title	Mr	Mrs	Ms	Dr	Prof	Other
First Name						
Surname						
Organisation						
Position in Organisation						
Contact Details	Cell				Tel	
Email Address						
Postal Address						
Please indicate your preferred method of communication	Email	☐	SMS	☐	Post	☐

I intend attending the stakeholders' meeting (Please indicate your preference)

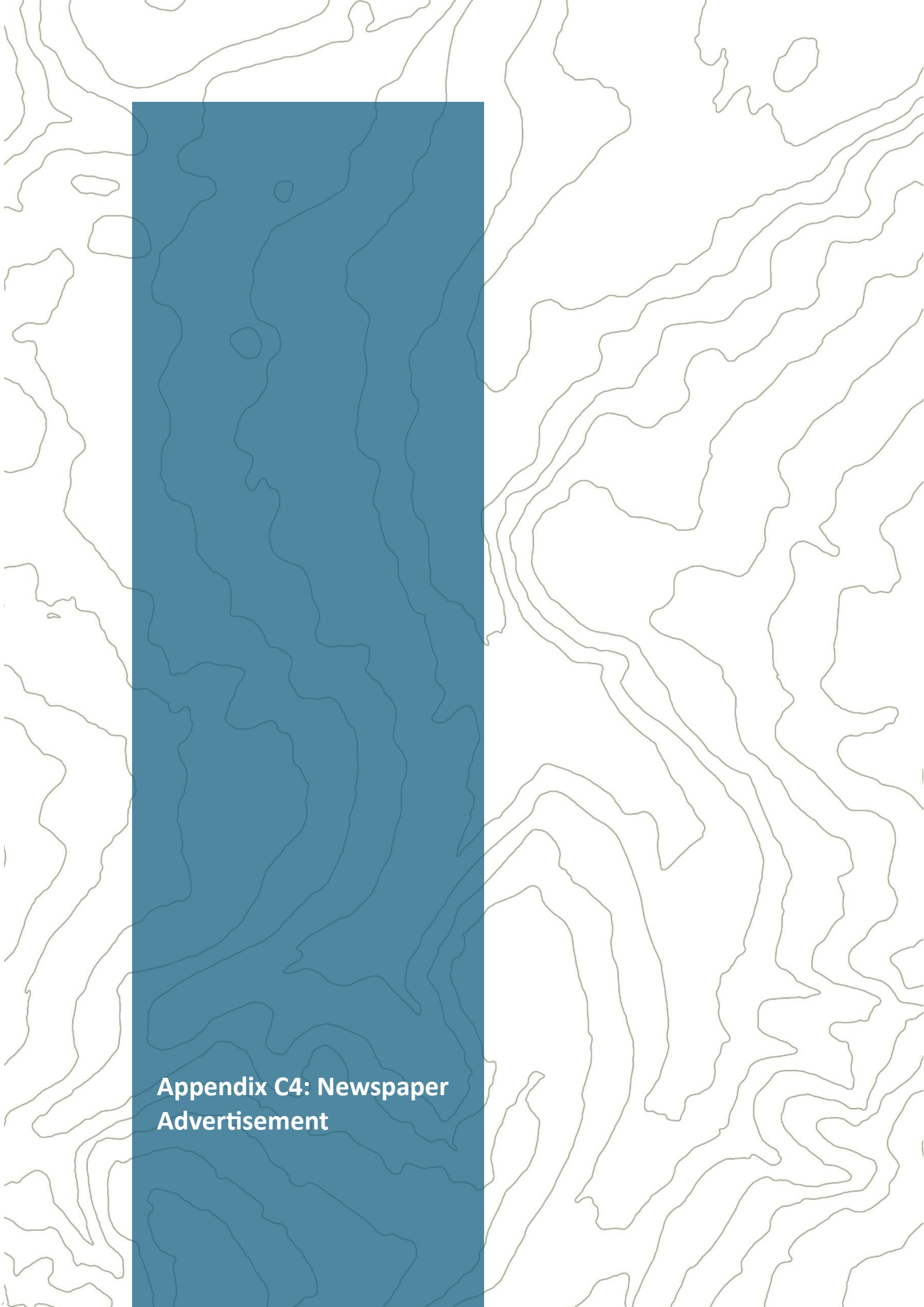
Meeting Dates	Available Time Slots	Method of Engagement	Yes	No
Online Meeting:				
Wednesday, 20 May 2026	10H00 – 11H00	Microsoft Teams	Yes	No
In-Person Meeting: Open Day				
Thursday, 21 May 2026	10H00 – 12H00	Broader Stakeholders Meeting: Open Day Bakerton Community Hall First Ave, Bakerton, Springs, 1559	Yes	No

Do you have any comments/suggestions regarding the proposed project? If so, please complete the section below/ send your comments to the stakeholder engagement team- please see details above.

Comments/Suggestions							
Please provide contact details of any other stakeholders we should consult:							
Title	Mr	Mrs	Ms	Dr	Prof	Other	
First Name							
Surname							
Organisation/ Property / Business							
Cell Phone							
Email							
Title	Mr	Mrs	Ms	Dr	Prof	Other	
First Name							
Surname							
Organisation/ Farm / Business							
Cell Phone							
Email							

Please note that the information supplied herein constitutes Personal Information as contemplated in Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (POPIA). All your rights as set out in the Act will continue to be protected and Kongiwe will be accountable to ensure that all conditions for lawful processing are met. Your signature will be regarded as granting consent for the processing of the information strictly in accordance with the provisions of the Act. It must be noted that POPIA does not prevent any private body from exercising or performing its powers, duties and functions in terms of the law and accordingly the EAP and any appellant may perform its duties under the National Appeal Regulations provided the processing is in accordance with POPIA and meets the requirements of the National Appeal Regulations.

Signature		Date	
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Appendix C4: Newspaper Advertisement

The background of the page is a topographic map with thin, light gray contour lines. A solid blue vertical bar runs down the left side of the page, starting from the top and extending to the bottom. The text "Appendix C5: Site Notice" is located at the bottom of this blue bar.

Appendix C5: Site Notice

Environmental Authorisation and Integrated Water Use Licence Application for the Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) in the City of Ekurhuleni Municipality, Gauteng Province

DMPR reference number: to be determined

Ergo Mining (Pty) Limited (Ergo) is the largest gold tailings retreatment company in South Africa. The surface deposits controlled by Ergo are waste products created from the historical processing of gold and uranium ores of the Witwatersrand Supergroup. Ergo has Mining Right (ERGO-GP158MR) over the dump, this facility was historically used previously as a mining waste deposition site and has been dormant for some time.

The dump will be reprocessed via the existing pipeline network through the 5L27 Transfer Pumpstation to the Ergo Beneficiation Plant (Ergo Plant) which is currently in operation, with ultimate residue deposition taking place on the Brakpan/Withok TSF and /or Daggafontein TSF. Ergo aims to reclaim and reprocess the 6L14 TSF with the objective of recovering gold using hydraulic reclamation. Hydraulic reclamation is a largely mechanised process with a risk profile that is significantly lower than that of conventional mining. A new reclamation pumpstation will be developed for the Proposed Project.

The Proposed Project will be consolidated into a single Environmental Authorisation (EA) application. This application will be submitted to the Department of Mineral Petroleum Resources (DMPR), which serves as the Competent Authority responsible for assessing and approving mining-related environmental projects in the Gauteng Province. In addition to the EA, a Water Use License (WUL) will be required for any activities that may impact water resources. The Integrated Water Use Licence Application (IWULA) will be reviewed and considered by the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), ensuring that all water-related aspects of the Proposed Project comply with National Regulations.

The Proposed Project is located approximately 4 km north-east of Springs, in Ward 72 of the City of Ekurhuleni Municipality (CoE), Gauteng Province. The proposed TSF activities will be undertaken within Farm Portion 6 of Grootvaly 124 IR, as well as Portions 84 and 192 of Geduld 123 IR. In addition, the proposed transfer pump station currently in operation is situated on Farm Portion 3 of Modderfontein 76 IR. The total footprint of the 6L14 TSF is approximately 63.21 hectares.

Availability of the Draft Scoping Report (DSR) for Public Review and Comment:
The **DSR** for the Proposed Project will be made available for public review and comment for **30 days**, from **Wednesday, 6 May 2026 to Thursday, 4 June 2026**.

The **DSR** will be made available on Kongiwe's website <https://kongiwe.com/projects/>, and an electronic copy will be made available upon request. In addition, non-technical summaries of the **DSR** will also be available electronically.

Hard copies of the **DSR** will be made available at the following public places: **Bakerton Public Library** - Ms Sive Gaqa, Librarian, (011) 999 8826 / **Springs Public Library** - Ms Tebogo Kekana, Librarian, (011) 999 8814).

Stakeholder Meetings:

Consultation meetings will be held using platforms like Microsoft Teams (online meetings) and Open Day. The purpose of these meetings is to discuss the Proposed Project and the contents of the **DSR**, and to provide Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) with the opportunity to raise their comments and to interact with the Project team. Please see below the proposed stakeholder meeting details:

Proposed Dates	Available Time Slots	Method of Engagement / Venue
Online Meeting		
Wednesday, 20 May 2026	10H00 – 11H00	Microsoft Teams
In-Person Meeting: Open Day		
Thursday, 21 May 2026	10H00 – 12H00	Broader Stakeholders Meeting: Open Day: Bakerton Community Hall First Ave, Bakerton, Springs, 1559

To register as an I&AP, contact:

Kongiwe Environmental Stakeholder Engagement Team

Ms Jean-Mari Williams - Phone (010) 140 1726

Ms Vanessa Viljoen - Phone: (010) 140 1725

E-mail: stakeholders@kongiwe.com

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

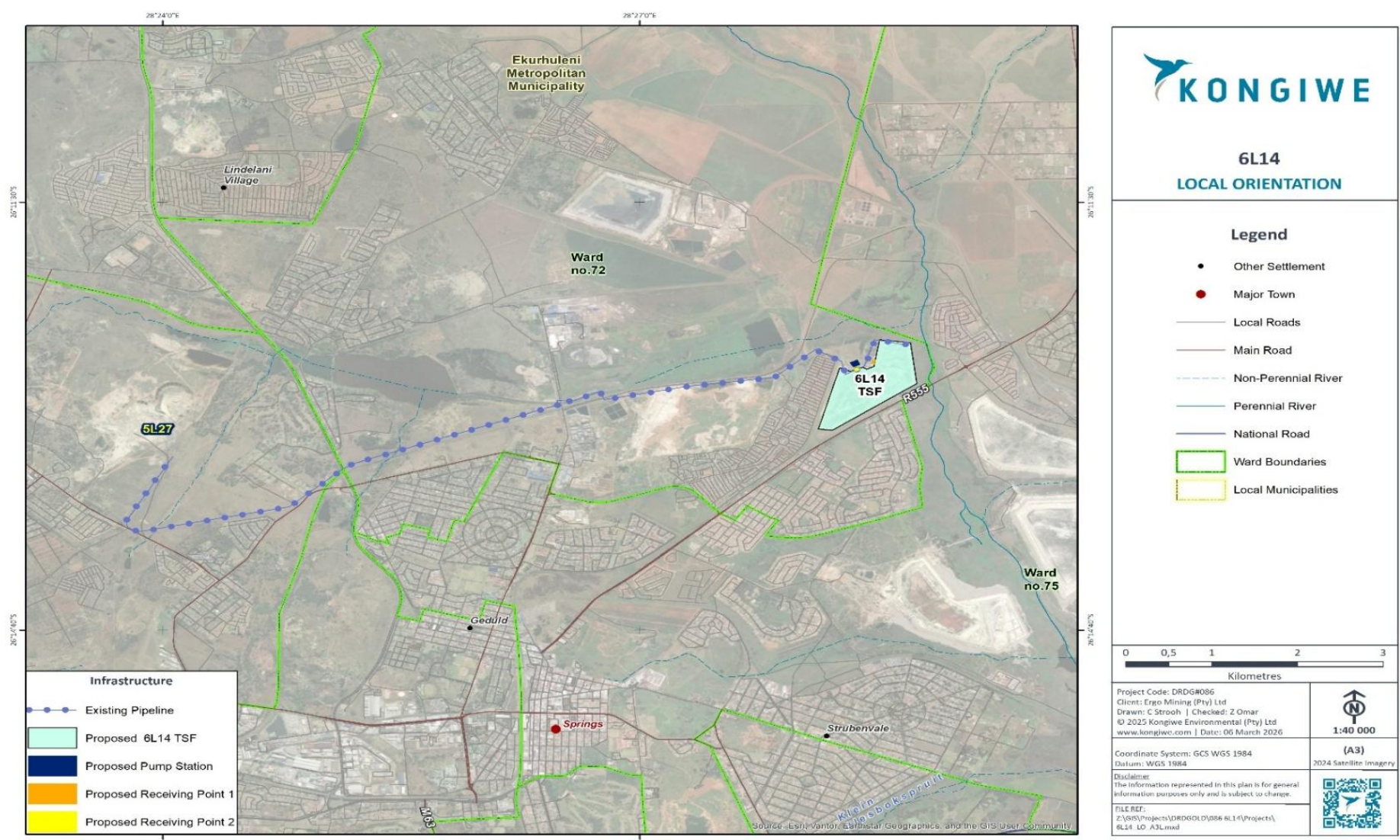
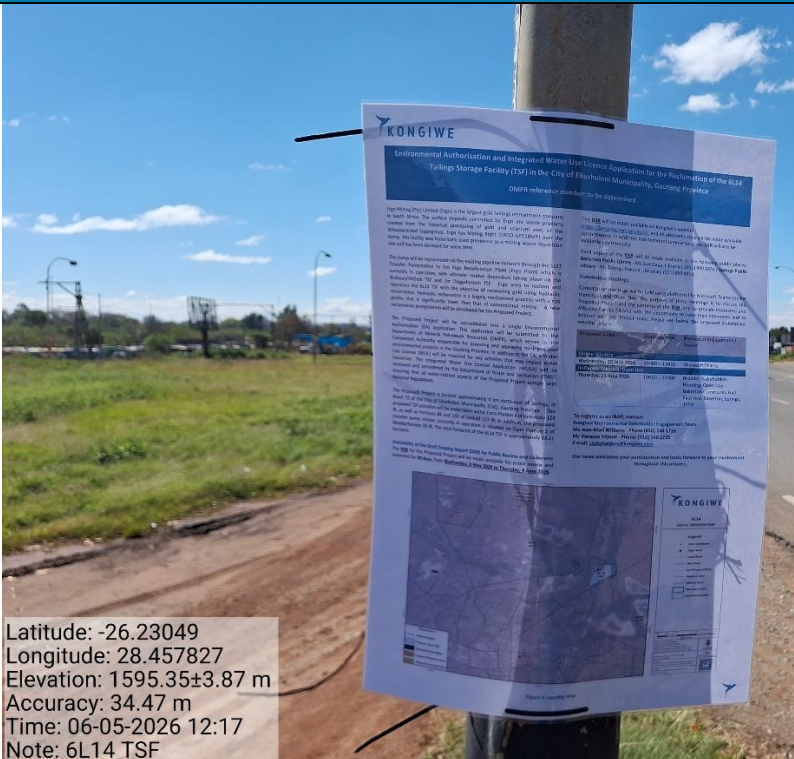


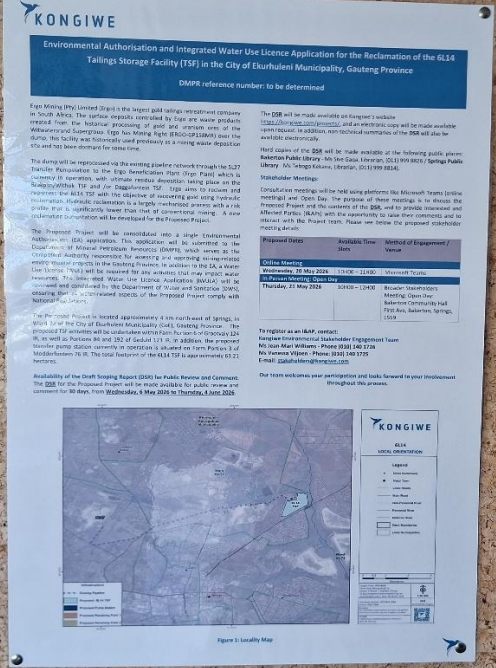
Figure 1: Locality Map



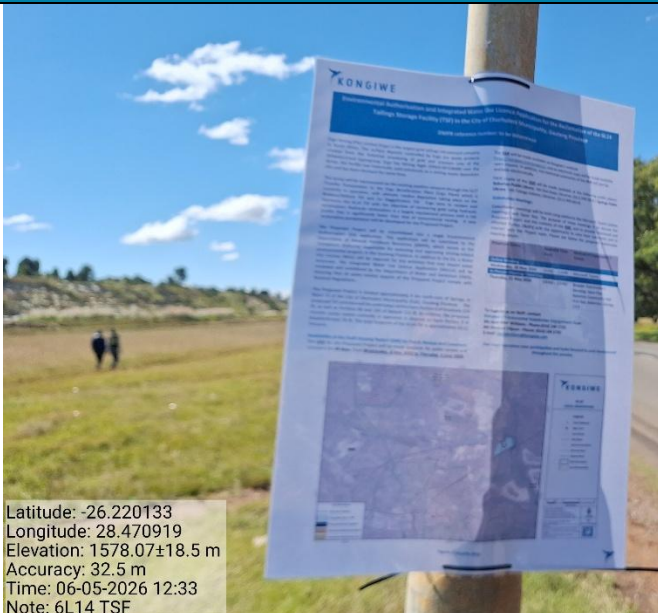
Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) in the City of Ekurhuleni Municipality, Gauteng Province. Site Notice Placement Report on Wednesday, 6 May 2026

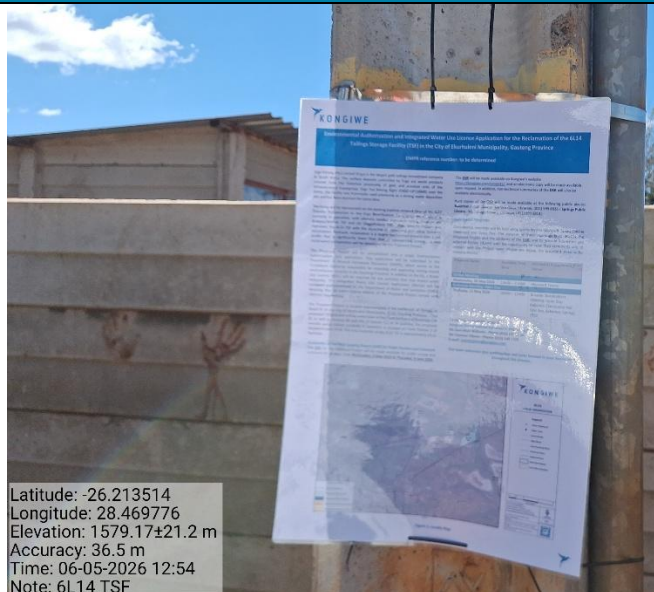
Site Notice Number	Location	Co-ordinates	Photo
1.	Springs Public Library	26°15'27.52"S 28°26'26.33"E	

Site Notice Number	Location	Co-ordinates	Photo
2.	Lamp post near the corner of Enstra Road and Welgedacht Road.	26°13'49.78"S 28°27'28.17"E	 Latitude: -26.23049 Longitude: 28.457827 Elevation: 1595.35±3.87 m Accuracy: 34.47 m Time: 06-05-2026 12:17 Note: 6L14 TSF

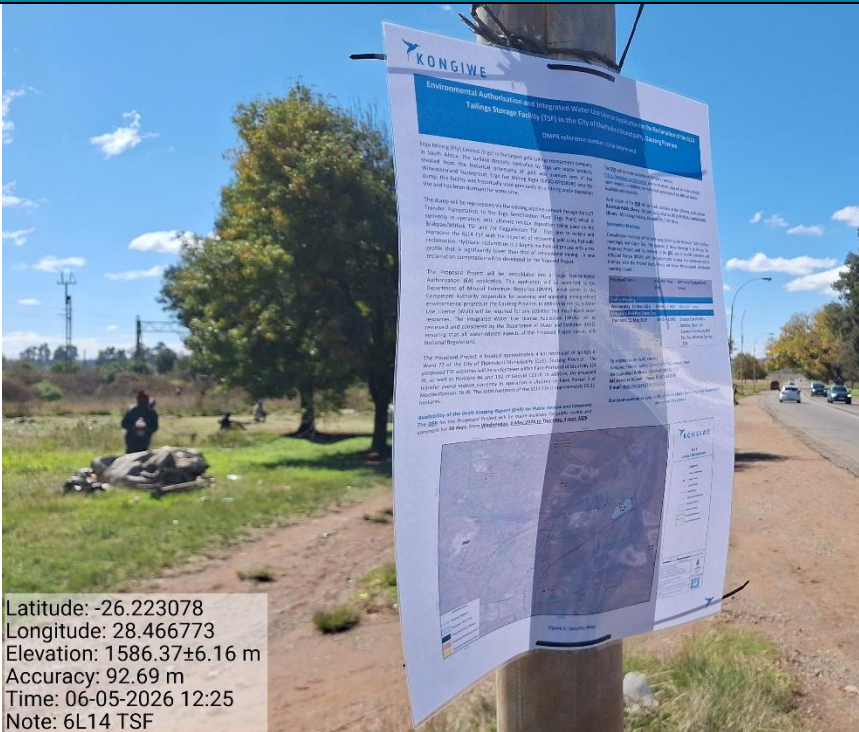
Site Notice Number	Location	Co-ordinates	Photo
3.	Bakerton Public Library	26°13'37.64"S 28°28'13.50"E	 Latitude: -26.227123 Longitude: 28.470416 Elevation: 1591.05±1.21 m Accuracy: 29.51 m Time: 06-05-2026 12:04 Note: 6L14 TSF

Site Notice Number	Location	Co-ordinates	Photo
4.	Lamp post on Welgedacht Road, near the 6L14 Dump.	26°13'16.44"S 28°28'9.24"E	 Latitude: -26.221233 Longitude: 28.469233 Elevation: 1582.27±9.28 m Accuracy: 9.5 m Time: 06-05-2026 12:28 Note: 6L14 TSF

Site Notice Number	Location	Co-ordinates	Photo
5.	Lamp post on Welgedacht Road, near the 6L14 Dump.	26°13'12.49"S 28°28'15.31"E	 Latitude: -26.220133 Longitude: 28.470919 Elevation: 1578.07±18.5 m Accuracy: 32.5 m Time: 06-05-2026 12:33 Note: 6L14 TSF

Site Notice Number	Location	Co-ordinates	Photo
6.	Within the Gugulethu settlement near the 6L14 Dump site.	26°12'48.64"S 28°28'11.20"E	 Latitude: -26.213514 Longitude: 28.469776 Elevation: 1579.17±21.2 m Accuracy: 36.5 m Time: 06-05-2026 12:54 Note: 6L14 TSF

Site Notice Number	Location	Co-ordinates	Photo
7.	At the entrance to the Gugulethu Settlement.	26°13'2.82"S 28°28'6.80"E	 Latitude: -26.217449 Longitude: 28.468555 Elevation: 1578.7±21.8 m Accuracy: 10.5 m Time: 06-05-2026 13:00 Note: 6L14 TSF

Site Notice Number	Location	Co-ordinates	Photo
8.	Lamp post on Welgedacht Road, near the 6L14 Dump.	26°13'23.09"S 28°28'0.38"E	 Latitude: -26.223078 Longitude: 28.466773 Elevation: 1586.37±6.16 m Accuracy: 92.69 m Time: 06-05-2026 12:25 Note: 6L14 TSF

Site Notice Number	Location	Co-ordinates	Photo
9.	Lamp post on Welgedacht Road, near the 6L14 Dump.	26°12'57.51"S 28°28'38.99"E	 Latitude: -26.215973 Longitude: 28.4775 Elevation: 1576.49±8.28 m Accuracy: 28.5 m Time: 06-05-2026 13:13 Note: 6L14 TSF

Site Notice Number	Location	Co-ordinates	Photo
10.	On a lamp post at the entrance to Bakerton community closest to the 6L14 dump.	26°13'5.50"S 28°28'30.30"E	 Latitude: -26.218192 Longitude: 28.475084 Elevation: 1576.08±2.19 m Accuracy: 10.5 m Time: 06-05-2026 13:09 Note: 6L14 TSF

Site Notice Number	Location	Co-ordinates	Photo
11.	On a lamp post across the road from the Slovo Park Taxi Rank.	26°12'40.33"S 28°29'0.50"E	 Latitude: -26.211198 Longitude: 28.483473 Elevation: 1579.8±9.27 m Accuracy: 13.5 m Time: 06-05-2026 13:38 Note: 6L14 TSF

Site Notice Number	Location	Co-ordinates	Photo
12.	On a telephone pole near the Slovo Park Clinic.	26°12'27.70"S 28°28'55.01"E	 Latitude: -26.207704 Longitude: 28.481856 Elevation: 690.31±18.5 m Accuracy: 10.0 m Time: 06-05-2026 13:34 Note: 6L14 TSF

26°12'36"S

28°27'37"E

28°29'40"E

26°12'36"S

26°14'16"S



6L14 SITE NOTICES

Legend

- Other Settlement
- Major Town
- Local Road
- National Road
- Main Road
- Ward Boundaries
- Local Municipalities
- 6L14 TSF



Project Code: DRDG#086
Client: Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd
Drawn: C Strooh - Checked: B Thornton
© 2026 Kongiwe Environmental (Pty) Ltd
www.kongiwe.com | Date: 14/05/2026



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

A3
2026 Satellite Imagery

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

File ref:
ArcGIS\Projects\DRDGold\DRDG#86_6L14\PPP\
DRDG#086.aprx\6L14_Site_Notices_A3L



28°27'37"E

28°29'40"E

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Appendix C6: Correspondence

Kongiwe Stakeholder Engagement

From: Kongiwe Stakeholder Engagement <stakeholders@kongiwe.com>
Sent: Wednesday, 29 April 2026 09:36
To: Vanessa Viljoen; Umeshree Naicker
Cc: Phathutshedzo Munyai
Subject: Environmental Authorisation and Integrated Water Use Licence Application for the Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) in the City of Ekurhuleni Municipality, Gauteng Province
Attachments: DRDG_086_BID_V1_Final.pdf; DRDG_#086_REG_FRM_V1.pdf

Dear Stakeholder

Kongiwe Environmental (Pty) Ltd ("Kongiwe") hereby gives notice that the **Draft Scoping Report (DSR)** for the Environmental Authorisation and Integrated Water Use Licence (IWULA) for the Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) Project (Proposed Project) located in the City of Ekurhuleni Local Municipality, Gauteng Province, is available for public review and comment.

Availability of the Draft DSR for Public Review and Comment

The **DSR** for the Proposed Project will be made available for public review and comment for **30 days**, from **Wednesday, 6 May 2026 to Thursday, 4 June 2026**.

The DSR will be made available as follows:

- An electronic copy on Kongiwe's website: <https://kongiwe.com/projects/>.
- Hard copies at the **Bakerton Public Library** and **Springs Public Library** (please see details in table below).

Location	Physical Address	Contact Person
Bakerton Public Library	Cnr 1st Avenue and Teabush Avenue, Bakerton.	Ms Sive Gaqa, Librarian (011) 999 8826 Monday – Friday Open: 08H00 Close: 15H30
Springs Public Library	55 5th St, Springs New, Springs, 1560	Ms Tebogo Kekana (011) 999 8814 Monday – Friday Open: 08H00 Close: 16H30

Invitation to Online Meeting and Open Day:

Interested and Affected Parties (I&APS) are invited to attend an **Online Meeting and Open Day** as per indicated in the table below:

Proposed Dates	Available Time Slot	Method of Engagement
Online Meeting		
Wednesday, 20 May 2026	10H00 – 11H00	Microsoft Teams (once stakeholders have registered a Microsoft Teams link will be sent)
Open Day		
Thursday, 21 May 2026	10H00 -12H00	Bakerton Community Hall

Proposed Dates	Available Time Slot	Method of Engagement
		First Ave, Bakerton, Springs, 1559

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the Proposed Project and the contents of the **DSR** and to provide I&APs with the opportunity to raise their comments and to interact with the Project Team.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries.

Kind Regards,



Stakeholder Engagement Team | Kongiwe Environmental (Pty) Ltd.

Tel: +27 (10) 140 1725 | Email: stakeholders@kongiwe.com

150 Bryanston Drive, Bryanston, Sandton, 2191, South Africa.

PostNet Suite no 163, Private Bag X21, Bryanston, 2021, South Africa.

www.kongiwe.com

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Kongiwe Stakeholder Engagement

From: Kongiwe Stakeholder Engagement <stakeholders@kongiwe.com>
Sent: Friday, 15 May 2026 09:44
To: Vanessa Viljoen
Subject: REMINDER: Environmental Authorisation and Integrated Water Use Licence Application for the Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) in the City of Ekurhuleni Municipality, Gauteng Province
Attachments: DRDG_086_BID_V1_Final.pdf; DRDG_#086_REG_FRM_V1.pdf; DRDG_086_6L14_NON_TECH_SUMMARY DRAFT_Final.pdf
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear Stakeholder

Kongiwe Environmental (Pty) Ltd (“Kongiwe”) hereby gives notice to **remind** you that the **Draft Scoping Report (DSR)** for the Environmental Authorisation and Integrated Water Use Licence (IWULA) for the Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) Project (Proposed Project) located in the City of Ekurhuleni Local Municipality, Gauteng Province, is available for public review and comment.

Availability of the Draft DSR for Public Review and Comment

The **DSR** for the Proposed Project is available for public review and comment for **30 days**, from **Wednesday, 6 May 2026 to Thursday, 4 June 2026**.

Attached please find the summary of the Draft Scoping Report (DSR) for your perusal.

The DSR is available as follows:

- An electronic copy on Kongiwe’s website: <https://kongiwe.com/projects/>.
- Hard copies at the **Bakerton Public Library** and **Springs Public Library** (please see details in table below).

Location	Physical Address	Contact Person
Bakerton Public Library	Cnr 1st Avenue and Teabush Avenue, Bakerton.	Ms Sive Gaqa, Librarian (011) 999 8826 Monday – Friday Open: 08H00 Close: 15H30
Springs Public Library	55 5th St, Springs New, Springs, 1560	Ms Tebogo Kekana (011) 999 8814 Monday – Friday Open: 08H00 Close: 16H30

Invitation to Online Meeting and Open Day:

Interested and Affected Parties (I&APS) are invited to attend an **Online Meeting and Open Day** as per indicated in the table below:

Proposed Dates	Available Time Slot	Method of Engagement
Online Meeting		
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Open Day		
Thursday, 21 May 2026	10H00 -12H00	Bakerton Community Hall First Ave, Bakerton, Springs, 1559

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the Proposed Project and the contents of the **DSR** and to provide I&APs with the opportunity to raise their comments and to interact with the Project Team.

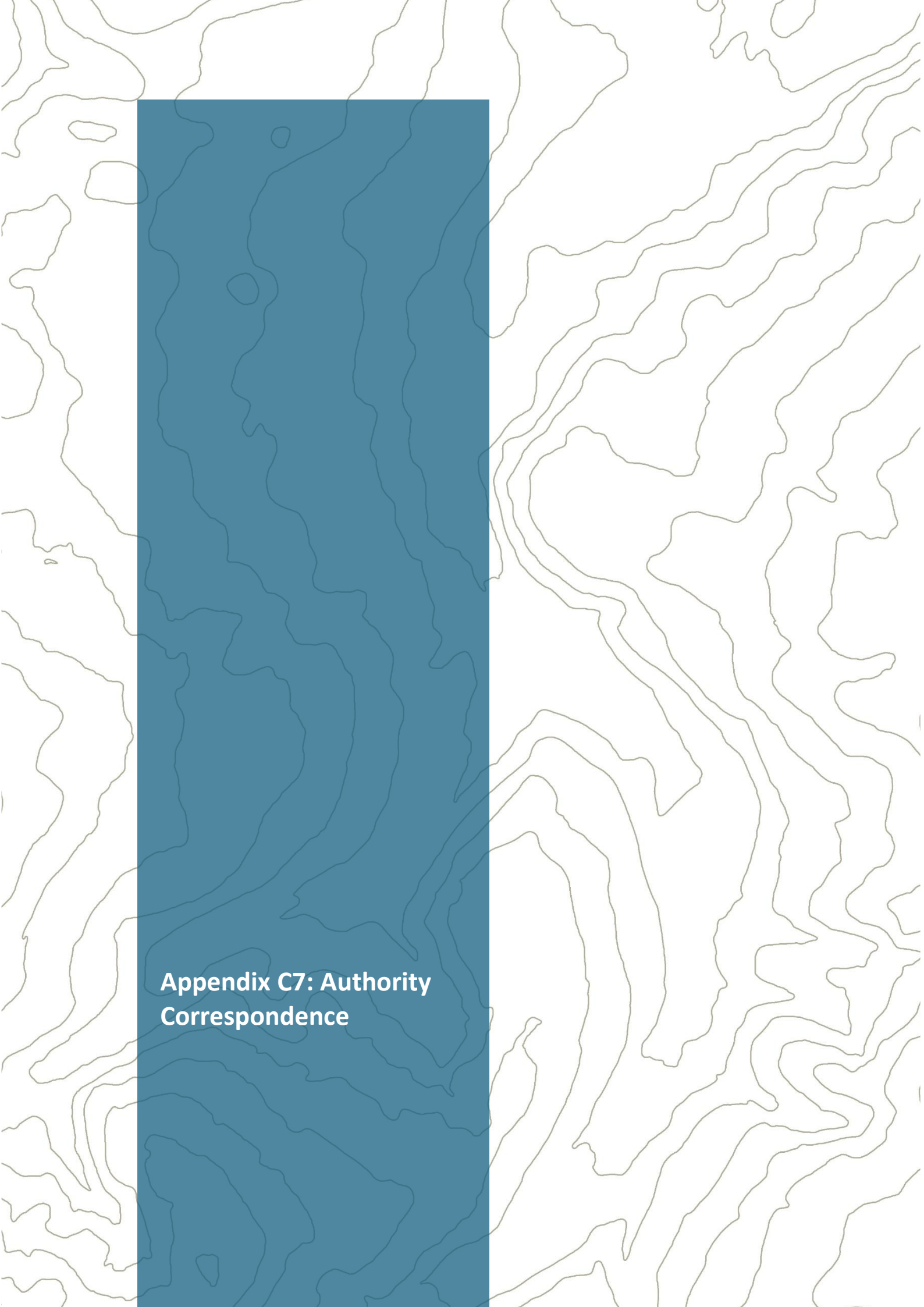
Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries.

Kind Regards,

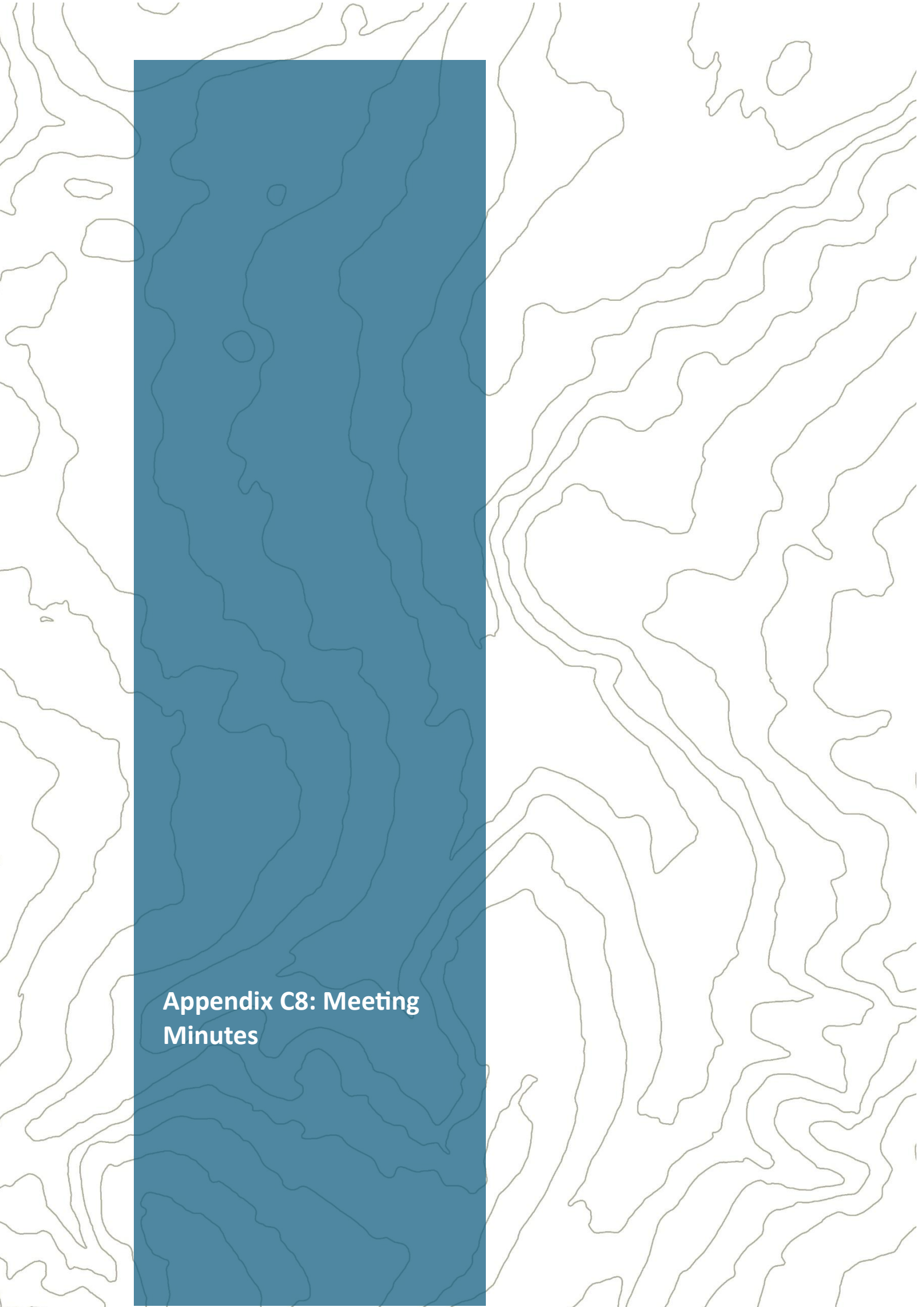


Stakeholder Engagement Team | Kongiwe Environmental (Pty) Ltd.
 Tel: +27 (10) 140 1725 | Email: stakeholders@kongiwe.com
 150 Bryanston Drive, Bryanston, Sandton, 2191, South Africa.
 PostNet Suite no 163, Private Bag X21, Bryanston, 2021, South Africa.
www.kongiwe.com

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Appendix C7: Authority Correspondence

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Appendix C8: Meeting Minutes

Environmental Authorisation and Integrated Water Use Licence Application for the Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) in the City of Ekurhuleni Municipality, Gauteng Province

Stakeholder Meeting Schedule – Final Scoping Report (FSR)

Date of the meeting	Time	Meeting Type / Format	Organisation / Address	Invited / Attended / Apologies	Resources Used	Who Presented (EAP\Ergo)	Project Team Attendance (Ergo\Kongiwe)
Thursday, 23 April 2026	10H00 – 11H00	<u>Pre- Application Meeting</u> <u>Online Meeting (Microsoft Teams)</u>	<u>Competent Authority Gauteng:</u> <u>Department of Minerals and Petroleum Resources (DMPR)</u>	Invited: ❖ Mr Musa Mongobe, Environmental Management, DMPR Attended: ❖ Mr Musa Mongobe, Environmental Management, DMPR Apologies: None	❖ Presentation ❖ Attendance Register	Ms Umeshree Naicker, Kongiwe	Mr Masala Tshamano, Environmental Manager, Ergo Mr Mothusi Mafatshe, Environmental Co-ordinator, Ergo Mr Phathutshedzo Munyai, Kongiwe Ms Jean-Mari Williams, Kongiwe
Wednesday, 6 May 2026	10H00 – 11H00	<u>Online Meeting (Microsoft Teams)</u> <u>One-on-One meetings</u>	<u>Directly Affected Landowners</u> Geduld 123 IR 84	Invited: ❖ Mr Milenko Rajak, Director, Calodex (Pty) Ltd ❖ Ms Carol Le Roux, Environmental Engineer Manager, Corruseal ❖ Mr Mitchell Cason, Sustainability Regulatory Manager, Sappi ❖ Ms Janel Hayes, Sustainability Regulatory Manager, Sappi ❖ Ms Penny Jenkins, GM: Legal Counsel SSA, Sappi Attended:	❖ Presentation ❖ Attendance Register	Ms Umeshree Naicker, Kongiwe	Ms Vanessa Viljoen, Kongiwe

Date of the meeting	Time	Meeting Type / Format	Organisation / Address	Invited / Attended / Apologies	Resources Used	Who Presented (EAP\Ergo)	Project Team Attendance (Ergo\Kongiwe)
				❖ Mr Milenko Rajak, Director, Calodex (Pty) Ltd ❖ Ms Carol Le Roux, Environmental Engineer Manager, Corruseal ❖ Mr Mitchell Cason, Sustainability Regulatory Manager, Sappi ❖ Ms Janel Hayes, Sustainability Regulatory Manager, Sappi Apologies: None			
Thursday, 7 May 2026	10H00 – 11H00	<u>Online Meeting</u> (Microsoft Teams)	<u>Blesbokspruit Forum</u>	Invited: ❖ All members Attended: ❖ Mr Mabona Lesiba, Blesbokspruit Forum Representative ❖ Ms Carina Burger, Plant Manager, Impala Platinum Limited Apologies: None	❖ Presentation ❖ Attendance Register	Ms Umeshree Naicker, Kongiwe	Mr Phathutshedzo Munyai, Kongiwe Ms Vanessa Viljoen, Kongiwe Mr Lubabalo Zongolo, Kongiwe
Friday, 8 May 2026	10H00 – 11H00	<u>Online Meeting</u> (Microsoft Teams)	<u>Transnet Freight Rail: Gauteng</u>	Invited: ❖ Mr Thembinkosi Memela, Manager Transnet Land Use Management. ❖ Ms Suzan Aidelomo, Environmental Specialist Attended: ❖ Mr Thembinkosi Memela, Manager Transnet Land Use Management. Apologies: None	❖ Presentation ❖ Attendance Register	Ms Umeshree Naicker, Kongiwe	Mr Masala Tshamano, Environmental Manager, Ergo Mr Mothusi Mafatshe, Environmental Co-ordinator, Ergo Mr Phathutshedzo Munyai, Kongiwe

Date of the meeting	Time	Meeting Type / Format	Organisation / Address	Invited / Attended / Apologies	Resources Used	Who Presented (EAP\Ergo)	Project Team Attendance (Ergo\Kongiwe)
Tuesday, 12 May 2026	10H00 – 11H00	Online Meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Local Municipality Gauteng and Directly and indirectly Affected Landowner ❖ <u>City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Local Municipality</u> Grootvaly 124 IR Portion 6	Invited: ❖ Dr Ewert Maseko, Property Management, Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality ❖ Ms Lillian Matlala, Environmental Officer ❖ Cllr Dean Stone, Councillor, Ward 72 ❖ Mr Winston Marumo, Real Estate and Property Management ❖ Mr Flip Visser, Air Quality Section ❖ Ms Dudu Twala, Area Manager ❖ Mr Bafana Mazibuko, Disaster & Emergency Services ❖ Mr Phillip Nice, Manager: Springs Roads and Storm Water ❖ Ms Charmaine Kock, Councillor, Ward 75 Attended: ❖ Ms Lillian Matlala, Environmental Officer ❖ Ms Dudu Twala, Area Manager Apologies: ❖ Dr Ewert Maseko, Property Management, Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality ❖ Cllr Dean Stone, Councillor, Ward 72	❖ Presentation ❖ Attendance Register	Ms Umeshree Naicker, Kongiwe	Mr Mothusi Mafatshe, Environmental Co-ordinator, Ergo Mr Phathutshedzo Munyai, Kongiwe

Date of the meeting	Time	Meeting Type / Format	Organisation / Address	Invited / Attended / Apologies	Resources Used	Who Presented (EAP\Ergo)	Project Team Attendance (Ergo\Kongiwe)
				❖ Mr Winston Marumo, Real Estate and Property Management ❖ Mr Flip Visser, Air Quality Section ❖ Mr Bafana Mazibuko, Disaster & Emergency Services ❖ Mr Phillip Nice, Manager: Springs Roads and Storm Water ❖ Ms Charmaine Kock, Councillor, Ward 75			
Thursday, 14 May 2026	11H30 – 12H30	Pre- Application Meeting Online Meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Competent Authority Gauteng: <u>Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)</u>	Invited: ❖ Ms Basani Lerato Nkuna, Environmental Officer Attended: ❖ Ms Basani Lerato Nkuna, Environmental Officer Apologies: None	❖ Presentation ❖ Attendance Register	Ms Phumla Mngwengwe, Kongiwe	Mr Mothusi Mafatshe, Ergo Mr Bradly Thornton, Kongiwe Ms Mokgadi Mashaba, Kongiwe Mr Lubabalo Zongolo, Kongiwe
Wednesday, 20 May 2026	10H00 – 11H00	Online Meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Broader Stakeholder Meeting ❖ <u>All sectors of society / Broader Public</u>	Invited: <u>All sectors of society / Broader Public</u> Ward Committee members, community leaders and relevant departments Attended: ❖ Mr Andrew Barker, Development Consultant, Chairperson of KlipSA ❖ Ms Carol Le Roux, Environmental Manager, Corruseal Group ❖ Ms Karina Beukes, Plant Manager, Impala Platinum	❖ Presentation ❖ Attendance Register	Ms Umeshree Naicker, Kongiwe	Mr Mothusi Mafatshe, Ergo Ms Vanessa Viljoen, Kongiwe Ms Iviwe Walaza, Kongiwe Mr Ripfumelo Macevele, Kongiwe

Date of the meeting	Time	Meeting Type / Format	Organisation / Address	Invited / Attended / Apologies	Resources Used	Who Presented (EAP\Ergo)	Project Team Attendance (Ergo\Kongiwe)
				❖ Mr Wilhelm Botha, Technical Manager. Impala Platinum ❖ Ms Carina Burger, Safety and Environmental Manager, Impala Platinum ❖ Mr Rajdeo Sewlall, Ward Committee Member, Ward 72 ❖ Ms Mariette Liefferink, CEO, FSE ❖ Ms Suvania Naidoo, Independent Researcher. Apologies: None			
Thursday, 21 May 2026	10H00 – 12H00	Open Day In-Person	Open Day (Consultation) ❖ <u>All sectors of society / Broader Public</u> Physical address Bakerton Community Hall, First Avenue, Bakerton, Springs	Invited: <u>All sectors of society / Broader Public</u> Ward Councillors, Committee members, community leaders and members Attended: ❖ Refer to the attendance register. (Appendix C) Apologies: None	❖ Posters ❖ Maps ❖ Attendance Register ❖ Comments Register ❖ Summary of the DSR	Mr Ripfumelo Macevele, Kongiwe	Mr Mothusi Mafatshe, Ergo Mr Abraham Maluleke, Ergo Ms Zoleka Solombela, Ergo Ms Vanessa Viljoen, Kongiwe Ms Umeshree Naicker, Kongiwe Ms Jean-Mari Williams, Kongiwe Ms Iviwe Walaza, Kongiwe
Friday, 29 May 2026	09H00 – 11H00	Site Visit In- Person	Local Municipality Gauteng and Directly and indirectly Affected Landowner ❖ <u>City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Local Municipality</u> Grootvaly 124 IR Portion 6	Invited: ❖ Ms Lillian Matlala, Environmental Officer Attended: ❖ Ms Lillian Matlala, Environmental Officer Apologies: None	❖ Maps ❖ Attendance Register	Mr Ripfumelo Macevele, Kongiwe	Mr Ripfumelo Macevele, Kongiwe

MINUTES OF MEETING			
Date	Thursday, 23 April 2026	Time	10:00 – 11:00
Venue	Online Meeting (Microsoft Teams)		
Subject	Pre-Application Meeting with the Department of Minerals and Petroleum Resources (DMPR)		
List of Attendees			
Organisation	Name of Attendee	Designation	
Department of Minerals and Petroleum Resources (DMPR)	Mr Musa Mangobe	Environmental Management (Assistant Director)	
Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd (Ergo)	Mr Masala Tshamano	Environmental Manager	
Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd	Mr Mothusi Mafatshe	Environmental Co-ordinator	
Kongiwe Environmental (Pty) Ltd (Kongiwe)	Mr Phathutshedzo Munyai	Junior Environmental Consultant	
	Ms Jean-Mari Williams	Project Co-ordinator	
	Ms Umeshree Naicker	Principal Environmental Consultant	
Apologies			
Organisation	Name of Attendee	Designation	
None			

Note: These minutes are not intended as a verbatim transcript of the meeting, but rather as a summary of the salient discussions which took place

No	Item	Responsible Person
1	Welcome and Introductions	
1.1	Ms Naicker welcomed all attendees to the meeting.	Ms Umeshree Naicker
2	Meeting Purpose	
2.1	Present and discuss the proposed Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) (Proposed Project) with the Competent Authority (CA).	Ms Umeshree Naicker
2.2	Provide an overview of the specialist studies to be undertaken.	
2.3	Present the Public participation Process.	
2.4	Provide an opportunity to raise comments/seek clarity as well as provide input.	
2.5	Address comments raised by CA.	
3	Meeting Agenda	
3.1	Purpose of the Meeting.	Ms Umeshree Naicker
3.2	Introduction.	
3.3	Project Background.	
3.4	Project Description.	
3.5	Project Infrastructure.	
3.6	Specialist Studies.	
3.7	Legislative Framework.	
3.8	Public Participation Process.	
3.9	Way Forward.	
3.10	Comments and Discussion.	

4 Discussion			
STAKEHOLDERS		COMMENT	RESPONSE
4.1	Mr Musa Mangobe (Mr Mangobe)	Mr Mangobe requested confirmation as to whether this constitutes an Integrated Environmental Authorisation and further noted that the objective is to reclaim an existing tailings dump.	Ms Umeshree Naicker (Ms Naicker) has confirmed that this is correct.
4.2	Mr Musa Mangobe	Mr Mangobe requested confirmation as to whether this application for an Integrated Environmental Authorisation is linked to an existing Mining Right.	Mr Masala Tshamano (Mr Tshamano) confirmed that the application is linked to an existing Mining Right (ERGO158 MR). While the rights are currently subject to renewal, they remain in force; therefore, the dump cannot be considered separately from these rights within this application.
4.3	Mr Musa Mangobe	Mr Mangobe requested confirmation as to whether the applicant holds a right issued in terms of the Minerals and Petroleum Resources Development Act (MPRDA), 2002 (Act 28 of 2002), together with an approved Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) for the reclamation of the tailings dump in question. He further enquired whether the activities currently proposed differ from those authorised under the existing EMPr, and if this discrepancy is the reason for submitting a new application.	Mr Tshamano indicated that waste management activities are triggered, particularly as operations are taking place within a regulated area, namely a wetland. He noted that these activities necessitate the involvement of the DMPR.
4.4	Mr Musa Mangobe	Mr Mangobe noted that the approval of the EMPr appears to be limited in scope, in that it authorises the reclamation without providing detailed guidance on the methodology or the specific activities to be undertaken.	Mr Tshamano has confirmed that this is correct.

4		Discussion	
STAKEHOLDERS		COMMENT	RESPONSE
4.5	Mr Musa Mangobe	Mr Mangobe indicated that they deliberated on the rationale for submitting a new application where a mining right is already in place. He noted that, if the proposed activities are not covered under the approved EMPr, the requirement for financial provision would be justified. He further explained that, based on his experience in issuing waste management licences, financial provision has not typically been a requirement; however, in this instance, it is applicable due to the existence of an approved Mining Right.	Mr Tshamano has confirmed that this is correct.
4.6	Mr Masala Tshamano	Mr Tshamano added that the EMPr associated with ERGO158 MR was approved prior to the commencement of the National Water Act. As such, any water-use related activities were not fully addressed within that EMPr. He further indicated that, following the conclusion of the renewal process, the intention is to update the EMPr to accurately reflect the current activities taking place on site. He added that, should the EMPr be approved, some of the requirements under this process would be superseded by that approval.	Mr Mangobe noted the comment and indicated that he will raise it with his colleagues for further consideration. He questioned, in principle, what activities were undertaken under the MR previously granted, given that mining rights typically carry significant responsibilities, including compliance with the Social and Labour Plan (SLP) and other obligations under the MPRDA. He further remarked that, from the information provided, it appears as though no activities were undertaken on the dump, as the proposed activities are not covered by the approved documentation. In this context, he queried the original intent and purpose of the mining right. Mr Mangobe clarified that he is not requesting an immediate response but is merely raising the concern for internal consideration to better understand the basis for the new application, particularly in relation to activities not previously covered in the approved documentation.

4		Discussion		
STAKEHOLDERS		COMMENT	RESPONSE	
4.7	Ms Umeshree Naicker	Ms Naicker thanked all attendees and asked whether there were any additional comments that needed to be addressed for Mr Mangobe before closing the meeting	Mr Mangobe advised that although Kongiwe had presented the application during this pre-application meeting, this does not necessarily mean that another pre-application meeting will not be required in future. He explained that applications are allocated among officials within the unit (currently six members), and the Unit Head may assign an application to any of them. As a result, if the application is allocated to a different official, that official may require the proponent to present the application again. He indicated that this is standard practice and should not be a concern. Ms Naicker acknowledged the explanation.	
5		Closing		
5.1	Ms Umeshree Naicker thanked everyone for their time and the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 AM.		ALL	-



DRDGOLD LIMITED

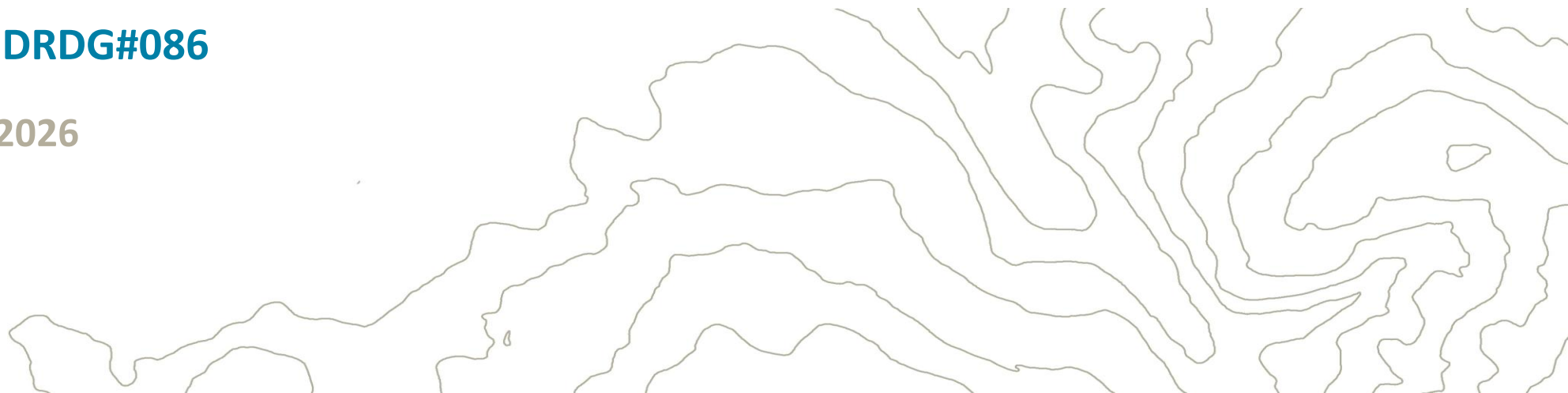
Pre-Application Meeting: Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources (DMPR)

Ergo Mining (Pty) Limited

The Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) in the City of Ekurhuleni
Municipality, Gauteng Province

Project Number: DRDG#086

Thursday, 23 April 2026



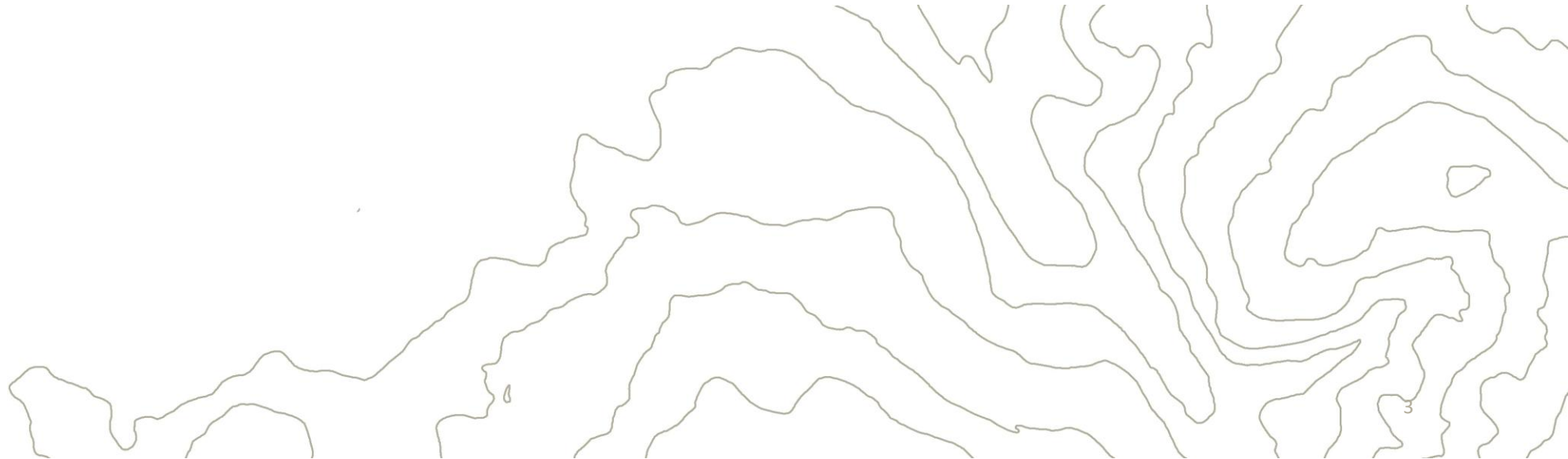
Agenda

1. Purpose of the Meeting
2. Introduction
3. Project Background
4. Project Description
5. Project Infrastructure
6. Specialist Studies
7. Legislative Framework
8. Public Participation Process
9. Way Forward
10. Comments and Discussions



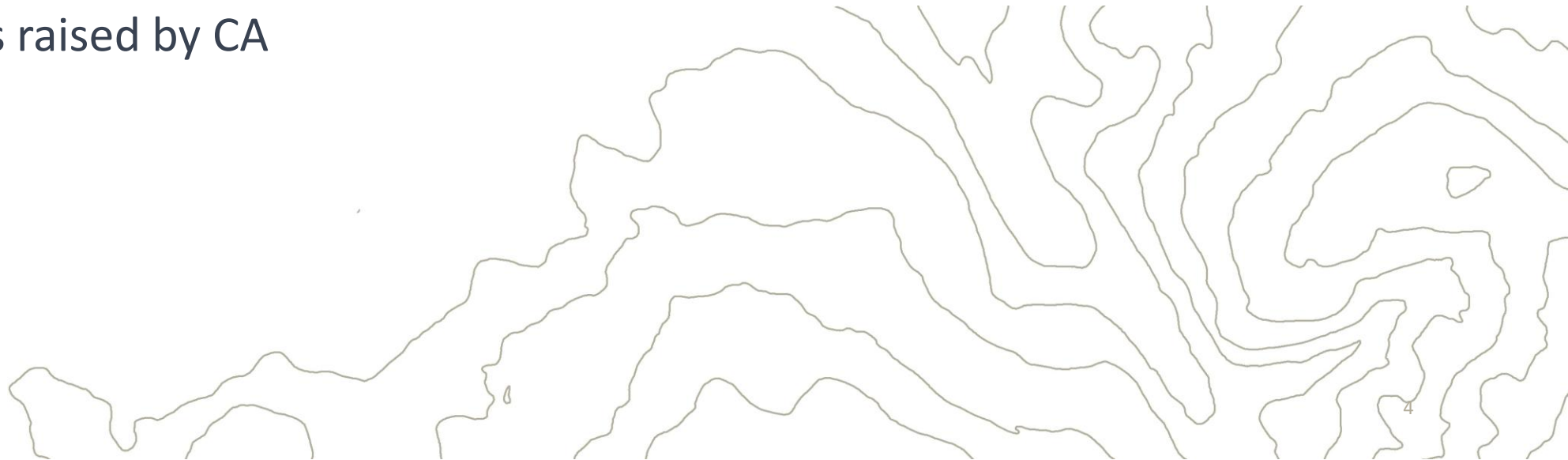
Kongiwe Environmental

- Umeshree Naicker – Project Lead and Principal Environmental Consultant
- Phathutshedzo Munyai – Junior Environmental Consultant
- Jean-Mari Williams – Public Participation Coordinator



Purpose of the Meeting

- Discuss the proposed Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) (“Proposed Project”) with the Competent Authority (CA)
- Provide an overview of the specialist studies to be undertaken
- Present the Public Participation Process
- Address comments raised by CA



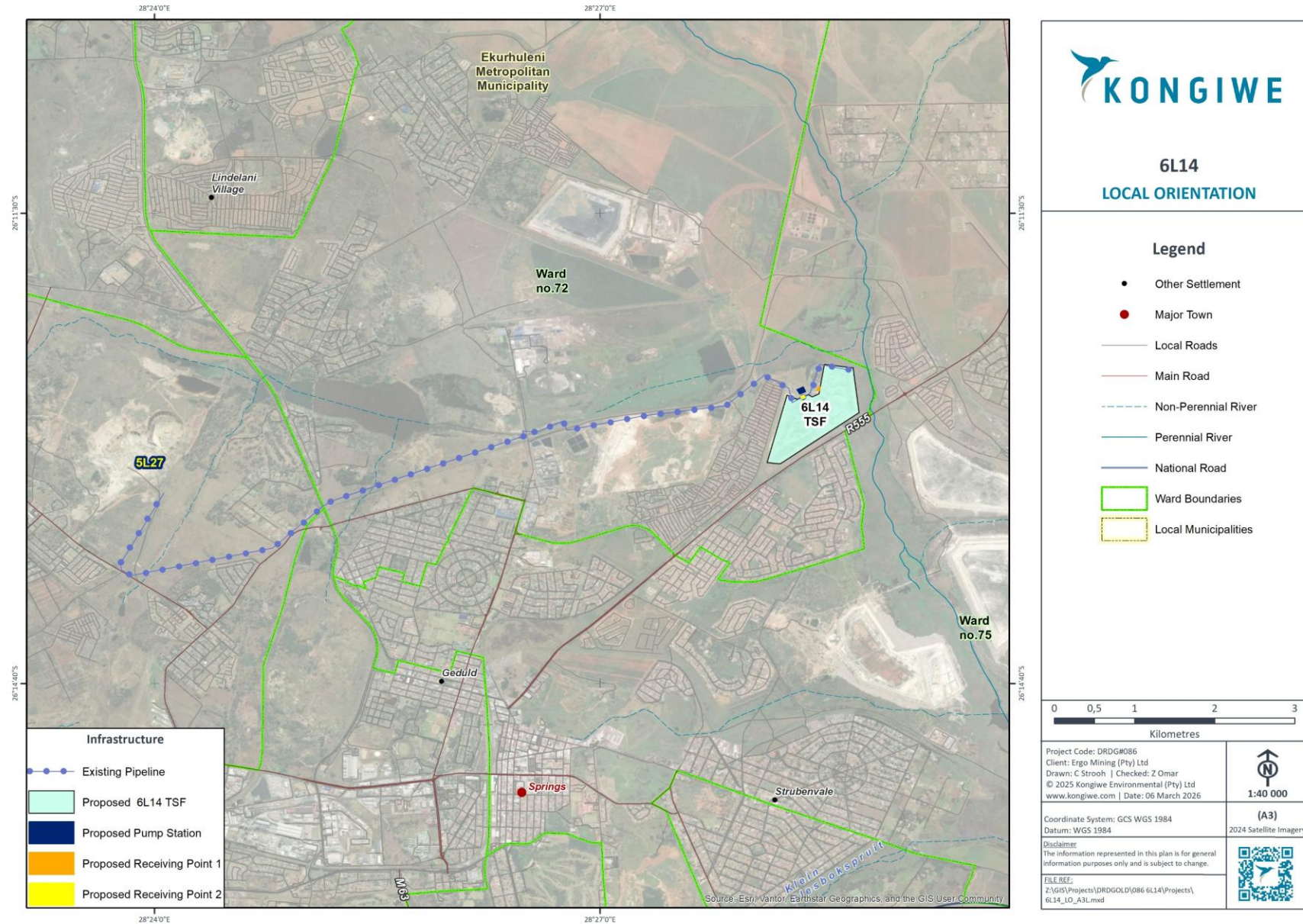
Project Background

- Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd (“Ergo”) a wholly owned subsidiary of DRDGOLD - within which the Group’s Eastern surface retreatment assets are consolidated, is a major surface gold tailings retreatment operation that focuses on old and abandoned TSFs.
- Ergo is the largest gold tailings retreatment company in South Africa.
- The surface deposits controlled by Ergo are waste products created from the historical processing of gold and uranium ores of the Witwatersrand Supergroup.
- Ergo has a Mining Right (ERGO-GP158MR) over the dump, this facility was historically used previously as a mining waste deposition site and has been dormant for some time.
- The project aims to reclaim and reprocess gold from the 6L14 Dump. It is approximately 63.21 hectares (ha).
- Life of Operation: Approximately 12 years.



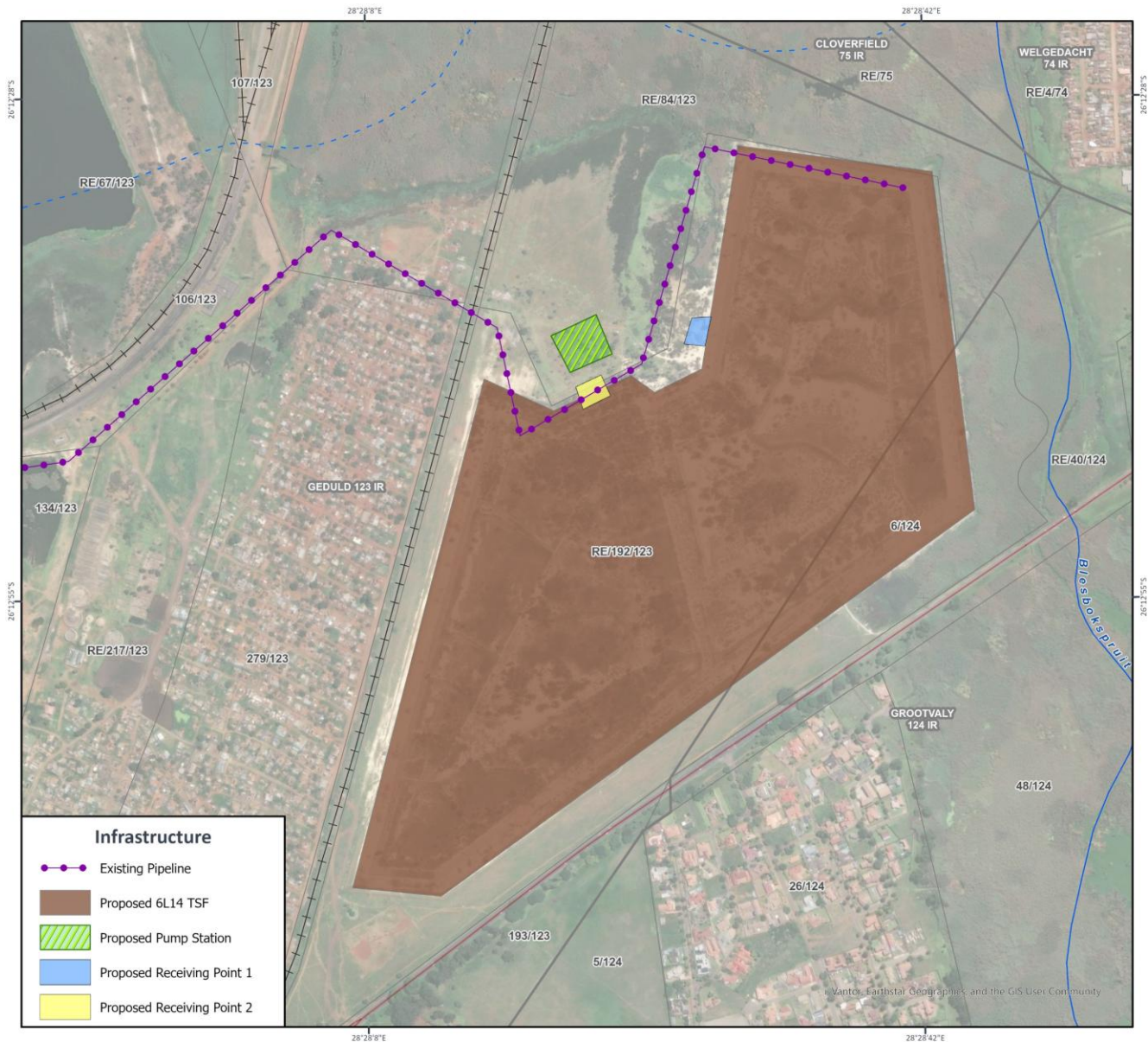
Project Location

- The Proposed Project:
 - will be confined to the Farm Portion 6 of Grootvaly 124 IR, as well as Portions 84 and 192 of the farm Geduld 123 IR.
 - is located directly (approximately 4km) north-east of Springs.
 - falls under a Ward 72 of the City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality (CoE).



2026/04/23

Project Location- Proposed Layout Plan



6L14
PROPOSED PROJECT LAYOUT

Legend

- Non-Perennial Stream
- Perennial River Stream
- Main Road
- Railway
- Farm Portion
- Parent Farm

0 100 200 400
Meters

Project Code: DRDG#086
Client: Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd
Drawn: C Strooh - Checked: B Thornton
© 2026 Kongiwe Environmental (Pty) Ltd
www.kongiwe.com | Date: 14 April 2026

Coordinate System: WGS84 TM LQ29
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: WGS 1984

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

File ref:
ArcGIS/Projects/DRDGGold/DRDG#86_6L14/
Map_Set_1/DRDG#086.aprx/6L14_Site_Infrastructure_A31

1:6 000

(A3)
2026 Satellite Imagery



Project Description: The Process

- Ergo aims to reclaim and reprocess the 6L14 TSF with the objective of recovering gold using top-down hydraulic reclamation.
- Top-down hydraulic reclamation is a largely mechanised process with a risk profile that is significantly lower than that of conventional mining.
- During top-down hydraulic reclamation, a water monitor blasts the sides of the TSF, the process water mixes with the unconsolidated material, resulting in what is known as a 'slurry'.
- The slurry will report to a pumpstation, located at the lowest point of a TSF, where it will then be pumped and conveyed to Ergo Plant for reprocessing.
- The dump will be reprocessed via the existing pipeline network through the 5L27 Transfer Pumpstation to the Ergo Beneficiation Plant (Ergo Plant) which is currently in operation, with ultimate residue deposition taking place on the Brakpan/Withok TSF and /or Daggafontein TSF.
- An estimated maximum amount of 300 000 tons/month of slurry is expected to be pumped from 6L14 TSF via constructed pipelines to the Ergo Plant which is in Brakpan for beneficiation.



Project Description: The Process

- The proposed reclamation activity will require 11 kV overhead powerlines capable of transmitting 3 kVA of electricity. Power will be supplied by Eskom.
- Potable water will be purchased from the City of Ekurhuleni Municipality (CoE) with a contingency for portable JoJo tanks or connection to existing water pipeline infrastructure.
- In terms of process water, the water cycle operates as a closed circuit, meaning that limited make-up water will be required for the reclamation of the TSF.
- Process water required for the reclamation activity will be sourced from the 5L27 Pumpstation and conveyed through existing and authorised process water pipelines to the project site for reuse in a closed-circuit system.



Example of Top-down Hydraulic Reclamation



Figure 1: Mobile tracked hydraulic monitor on a tailings facility in South Africa

Project Infrastructures

The following infrastructures will be utilised:

- Pump station;
- Slurry sump;
- Vibrating Screen;
- Water tank;
- Motor control centre;
- Slurry and associated Pumps;
- Lined catchment paddocks;
- Stormwater management;
- Receiving Point 1 and 2;
- Water Pumpstation;
- PCD infrastructure and stormwater systems;
- Existing paddocks;
- Pollution control paddock;
- Powerlines;
- Administration buildings, including change houses and ablution facilities;
- Access roads, routed from existing entry points;
- Construction contractors' yards (temporary facilities); and
- Process water will be required for the 6L14 reclamation operations to support the Proposed Project via the existing pipeline network.

Specialist studies

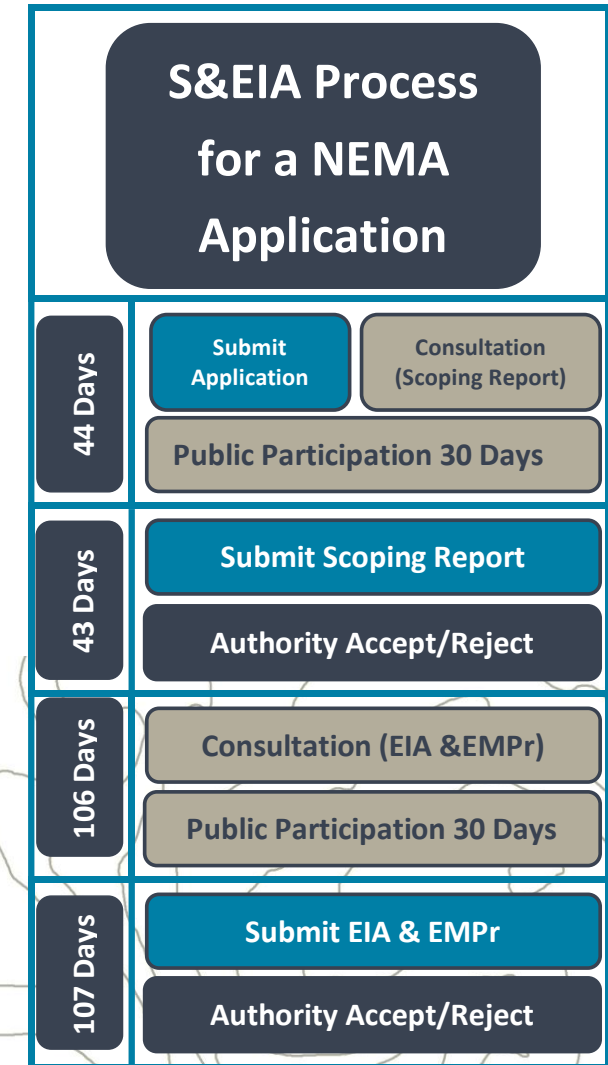
The following assessments were identified and will be assessed as part of the EIA process:

Proposed Specialist Studies	
Biodiversity Impact Assessment	Social Impact Assessment
Wetland Impact Assessment	Heritage Impact Assessment
Air Quality Impact Assessment	Climate Change Risk Assessment
Surface Water Impact Assessment	Traffic Impact Assessment
Groundwater Impact Assessment	Financial Provision and Closure
Noise Impact Assessment	Dolomite Impact Assessment



Legislative Framework

- An integrated Environmental Authorisation (EA) application will be submitted to the DMPR (Gauteng) as the Competent Authority for the Proposed Project.
 - The applicable applications to be assessed by the DMPR are as follows:
 - **Application for Environmental Authorisation (EA)** for listed activities triggered in Listing Notices GN R983, GN R984 and GN R985 published pursuant to the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), promulgated in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA).
 - These Listing Notices have been amended by GN R327, GN R325 and GN R324 of 7 April 2017 and GN R 517 of 11 June 2021.
 - **Application for a Waste Management Licence (WML)** authorising waste management activity listed in GN 921 of 29 November 2013 published in terms of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008) (as amended) (NEM:WA).
- In addition, the following applications will be made to other relevant Competent Authorities (CA):
- **An Integrated Water Use Licence Application (IWULA)** in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) (NWA) to be submitted to the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) for any potential impact to water resources by the Proposed Project.



- **Application for Environmental Authorisation (EA)**

- ✓ **GNR 984 Listing Notice 1: Activity 21F** - Any activity including the operation of that activity required or the reclamation of a residue stockpile or a residue deposit as well as any other applicable activity as contained in this Listing Notice or in Listing Notice 3 of 2014, required for the reclamation of a residue stockpile or a residue deposit.
- ✓ **GNR 984 Listing Notice 1: Activity 6** - The development of facilities or infrastructure for any process or activity which requires a permit or licence or an amended permit or licence in terms of national or provincial legislation governing the generation or release of emissions, pollution or effluent
- ✓ **GNR 983 Listing Notice 2: Activity 13** - The development of facilities or infrastructure for the off-stream storage of water, including dams and reservoirs, with a combined capacity of 50 000 cubic metres or more, unless such storage falls within the ambit of activity 16 in Listing Notice 2.

- **Application for a Waste Management Licence (WML)**

- ✓ Category B: Activity 11- The establishment or reclamation of a residue stockpile or residue deposit resulting from activities which require a mining right, exploration right or production right in terms of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002).

- **An Integrated Water Use Licence Application (IWULA)**

- ✓ Section 21(g)
- ✓ Section 21 (c) and (i)



Summary of Activities Legislative Framework

Applicable Listing Notice	Name of Activity and Description
GNR 984 – 21F	Reclamation of a Residue stockpile or a residue deposit
GNR 984 – 6	Satellite pump station / Reclamation Station
GNR 983 – 13	Slurry receiving facility
GNR 984 – 6	Slurry receiving facility
GNR 984 – 6	Screening facility at the pump station
GNR 984 – 6	Storage
GNR 984 – 6	Transfer pumps in series

Water Uses Activities

21(g)	Dust Suppression of access roads, Earth Materials and Gravel.
21(g)	Disposing of excess stormwater and slurry during a stormwater event
21 (c) and (i)	The construction, operation, and rehabilitation of the access road located within 500m of a wetland.
21 (c) and (i)	The construction, operation, decommissioning and rehabilitation of a lined catchment paddock, as well as the construction of the associated stormwater management infrastructure within 500 m of a wetland and within the 1:100-year floodline.
21 (c) and (i)	The construction, operation, decommissioning and rehabilitation of a Pumpstation within 500 m of a wetland.
21 (c) and (i)	The construction, operation, decommissioning and rehabilitation of a Slurry Receiving Point 1 and Slurry receiving Point 2 within a wetland and a 500 m of a wetland.
21 (c) and (i)	Reclamation of the 6L14 TSF, as well as the operation, decommissioning and rehabilitation of the associated reclamation.

Public Participation Process (PPP)

The PPP objectives are to:

- Ensure that stakeholders are informed about the proposed development of the reclamation of the 6L14 TSF .
- Provide stakeholders with the opportunity to participate in the environmental regulatory processes and provide comment.
- Involve stakeholders in identifying ways in which comments can be addressed.
- Work directly with stakeholders throughout the environmental regulatory processes to ensure that stakeholder comments are consistently understood and considered.
- Verify that stakeholder comments have been recorded and addressed.



Public Participation Process (PPP)

- The (PPP) will be undertaken in compliance with NEMA and the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.
- **The process is as follows:**
 - Registration of Stakeholders and maintenance of the database
 - Announcement of the proposed project via an advertisement, email notification (with a Background Information Document) and placement of site notices.
 - The Draft Scoping Report will be made available for public review and comment.
 - The Final Scoping report will be submitted to the Competent authority for review and decision.
 - The Draft EIA Report will be made available for public review and comment.
 - The Final EIA Report will be finalised and submitted to the Competent authority for review and decision



- The **Environmental Application** and **Draft Scoping Report** will be submitted to the DMPR on **(Wednesday, 6 May 2026)**.
- The **Draft Scoping Report** will be submitted to the Public Places on **(Wednesday, 6 May 2026)**:
 - Bakerton Public Library;
 - Springs Public Library; and
 - Kongwe website: <http://www.kongiwe.com/publications-view/public-documents/>.
- An **Open Day** will be held at the Bakerton Community Hall, First Ave, Bakerton, Springs on **(Thursday, 21 May 2026)**.
- The **Final Scoping Report** will then be finalized and submitted after the required public participation process has been undertaken.
- Comments will be recorded in a Comments and Response Report.
- The Water Use Licence Application will be submitted, and the process is ongoing.

- ❖ Discussion/Questions
- ❖ Action Points
 - Responsibility
 - Due Date
- ❖ Closing





Contact

- **Name: Vanessa Viljoen / Jean-Mari Williams**
- **Tel: 010 140 1725/26**
- **Email: Stakeholders@kongiwe.com**

Kongiwe Environmental

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PostNet Suite no 163, Private Bag X21, Bryanston, 2021, South Africa.

info@kongiwe.com

www.kongiwe.com



MINUTES OF MEETING			
Date	Wednesday, 6 May 2026	Time	10:00 – 11:00
Venue	Online Meeting (Microsoft Teams)		
Subject	Directly Affected Landowner Meeting		
List of Attendees			
Organisation	Name of Attendee	Designation	
Calodex (Pty) Ltd	Mr Milenko Rajak	Landowner	
Corruseal Group	Ms Carol Le Roux	Environmental Engineer Manager	
Sappi Limited	Mr Mitchell Cason	Legal Councillor	
Sappi Limited	Ms Janel Hayes	Environmental Team	
Kongiwe Environmental (Pty) Ltd	Ms Umeshree Naicker	Principal Environmental Consultant	
	Ms Vanessa Viljoen	Principal Stakeholder Engagement Consultant	
Apologies			
Organisation	Name of Attendee	Designation	
None			

Note: These minutes are not intended as a verbatim transcript of the meeting, but rather as a summary of the salient discussions which took place

No	Item	Responsible Person
1	Welcome and Introductions	
1.1	Ms Naicker welcomed all attendees to the meeting.	Ms Umeshree Naicker
2	Meeting Purpose	
2.1	Present and discuss the proposed Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) (Proposed Project) with the Directly Landowner.	Ms Umeshree Naicker
2.2	Provide an overview of the specialist studies to be undertaken.	
2.3	Present the Public participation Process.	
2.4	Provide an opportunity to raise comments/seek clarity as well as provide input.	
2.5	Address comments raised by Directly Landowner.	
3	Meeting Agenda	
3.1	Purpose of the Meeting.	Ms Umeshree Naicker
3.2	Introduction.	
3.3	Project Background.	
3.4	Project Description.	
3.5	Project Infrastructure.	
3.6	Specialist Studies.	
3.7	Legislative Framework.	
3.8	Public Participation Process.	
3.9	Way Forward.	
3.10	Comments and Discussion.	

4		Discussion	
STAKEHOLDERS		COMMENT	RESPONSE
4.1	Mr Milenko Rajak (Mr Rajak)	Mr Rajak thanked the project team for the presentation and indicated that he is familiar with Ergo's reclamation operations involving old tailings storage facilities (TSFs). He referred to the reclamation activities near Brakpan, noting that the tailings dump in that area has almost been completely removed within a relatively short period, which he regarded as a positive method of rehabilitating land. Mr Rajak further raised several technical concerns regarding the proposed slurry pipeline infrastructure. He stated that he had observed pipelines crossing roads and railway lines in previous projects and had, on certain occasions, witnessed pipeline failures resulting in slurry spillages onto surrounding areas, including roads. He expressed concern regarding the potential impacts should a pipeline burst occur on his property and requested clarification on the following: Whether the project proponent would undertake responsibility for cleaning up any slurry spillages; and What mitigation measures would be implemented to prevent or manage such incidents?	Ms Naicker responded that the environmental processes and associated mitigation measures would be detailed within the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr), which will accompany the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report during the next phase of the process.
4.2	Mr Rajak	Mr Rajak thanked the Kongiwe project team for the clarification provided and stated that his understanding was that the project is currently undergoing the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Water Use Licence (WUL) application processes, with specialist studies being undertaken concurrently as part of the broader regulatory process. He further noted that the project is presently within the Public Participation Process (PPP) phase, which includes the 30-day	Ms Naicker responded that construction activities may only commence once the relevant Competent Authority (CA) has issued the Environmental Authorisation (EA) for the project. She further indicated that she would confirm anticipated implementation timelines with Ergo and provide a more detailed response thereafter.

4 Discussion			
STAKEHOLDERS		COMMENT	RESPONSE
		commenting period during which comments will be submitted to the relevant authorities and government departments. Mr Rajak requested clarity regarding the anticipated project timeline and specifically enquired when the proposed removal activities and construction works are expected to commence in relation to the current phase of the environmental process. He asked how far the project is from implementation at this stage?	
4.3	Mr Rajak	Mr Rajak raised a concern regarding the existing pipelines referred to during the presentation, specifically those extending from the proposed new pump station to the existing 5L27 pump station. He indicated that he was not aware of any visible pipelines in the area and suggested that they may have been buried over time. He further stated that the area includes several sensitive features, including a railway line, a dam, nearby townships, and powerline infrastructure, and requested clarification on the exact location and alignment of the pipelines. In addition, Mr Rajak reiterated his concern regarding the potential impact of pipeline spillages or damage, particularly in relation to his nearby properties. He requested confirmation on whether any potential spillages or pipeline failures could affect those properties and what measures would be implemented to address such risks.	Ms Naicker advised that the detailed information regarding the pipeline locations and any potential implications will be identified and assessed in the EIA Phase.
4.4	Mr Rajak	Mr Rajak raised a further concern regarding neighbouring farm portions located close to the proposed infrastructure area, indicating that these	Ms Naicker responded that the project is currently still within the Scoping Phase, and therefore the layout presently available

4 Discussion			
STAKEHOLDERS	COMMENT	RESPONSE	
	properties may also be affected by the proposed pipeline and associated infrastructure developments. He noted that the project would require substantial infrastructure at or near the proposed pump station site, including electrical power supply infrastructure required for pump operations. Mr Rajak enquired whether the project intends to utilise electricity supplied by Eskom or whether generators would be used on-site. Furthermore, he requested clarification regarding the proposed routing of any power supply infrastructure, specifically whether power lines would traverse his property or follow alternative routes. He also requested information regarding the anticipated location and alignment of the power lines servicing the proposed pump station.	does not yet include the detailed positioning of infrastructure such as power supply lines. She explained that the specialist studies currently being undertaken will inform the applicant's final project layout and infrastructure design. Ms Naicker further advised that the detailed layout, including the necessary infrastructure information and positioning, will be made available during the next phase of the environmental process.	
4.5	Mr Rajak	Mr Rajak noted that, as indicated during the presentation, the pump house is proposed to be situated at the lowest point adjacent to the TSF area. He further stated that, given the TSF has existed for many years, he assumes that there may have been historical seepage and surface water runoff from the tailings facility onto Portion 84 of the Farm Geduld 123 IR. Mr Rajak therefore enquired whether any surveys or investigations would be undertaken to determine whether the land has been contaminated by the tailings facility. In addition, he requested clarity regarding the intended approach to such investigations before, during, and after the commencement of slurry removal activities.	Ms Naicker responded that the specialist studies currently being undertaken, together with the stormwater management planning process, will assist in identifying the necessary management and mitigation measures required for the proposed project. She explained that the project design phase, as well as the construction and operational phases, will be assessed and analysed through the specialist assessment process. The outcomes and recommendations from these studies will inform the way forward for the project.

4		Discussion	
STAKEHOLDERS		COMMENT	RESPONSE
4.6	Mr Rajak	Mr Rajak emphasised that he would like the scope of work for the specialist studies to extend beyond the assessment of impacts associated only with the proposed removal of the residue slime dam. He further requested that the specialist assessments also consider and evaluate the historical impacts of the slime dam on the specific farm portion from a historical contamination and environmental impact perspective.	Ms Naicker indicated that specialist assessment would consider cumulative impacts for the Proposed Project.
4.7	Mr Rajak	Mr Rajak stated that he assumes that, once the proposed activities have been completed and the slime dams have been fully removed, the associated infrastructure, including the pump house and any other infrastructure related to the project activities, would also be removed. He further indicated that he expects the affected property to be rehabilitated and restored, as far as reasonably possible, to its original condition following completion of the project activities.	Ms Naicker explained that the rehabilitation process and associated requirements would form part of the environmental assessment process and would be assessed in greater detail during the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) phase. Ms Naicker added that a rehabilitation strategy would need to be compiled and complied with as part of the project implementation and closure process.
4.8	Mr Rajak	Mr Rajak raised a final concern regarding access to the property by contractors, specialists, staff, or any other personnel associated with the project. He stated that access to the property would need to be regulated and formalised through an access agreement or similar arrangement. He further explained that he has previously entered into similar agreements with mining companies operating on other properties and emphasised the importance of formally regulating all access and activities taking place on the affected farm portion. Mr Rajak noted that such an agreement would assist in managing and limiting potential liabilities associated with personnel entering the property, including	Ms Naicker responded that several specialists are expected to undertake site visits during May 2026, with additional visits potentially extending into June 2026. Ms Naicker explained that, as part of the site access process specialist details such as the names of all persons attending site, identification numbers, vehicle registration details, the relevant property to be visited, and the anticipated dates and times of site access, are shared with the landowner.

4		Discussion		
STAKEHOLDERS		COMMENT	RESPONSE	
		possible injuries or incidents occurring during the execution of project-related activities. He requested that the project team formally note that, prior to the commencement of any activities on the property, an access agreement for the use of the land would need to be concluded.	Ms Naicker added that the project team would engage with Mr Rajak beforehand to confirm proposed site visit dates and provide a schedule indicating which specialists would be on site.	
4.9	Mr Rajak	Mr Rajak confirmed that he has a standard access agreement document that has been utilised previously for similar purposes. He noted that the document was originally drafted by Sappi several years ago and remains the document currently used for regulating access to properties. He further explained that, from a landowner’s perspective, it is important to clearly establish responsibility and liability in the event of any incidents occurring on site, including accidents, injuries, drownings, shootings, or any other unforeseen events. Mr Rajak stated that he wishes to avoid any potential allegations of negligence arising from unrestricted or unmanaged access to the property. He added that the purpose of the access agreement is to formally regulate access and mitigate liability risks associated with activities conducted on the property.	Ms Naicker thanked Mr Rajak for the clarification and requested that he share a copy of the standard access agreement document.	
5		Closing		
5.1	Ms Umeshree Naicker thanked everyone for their time and the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 AM.		ALL	-



DRDGOLD LIMITED

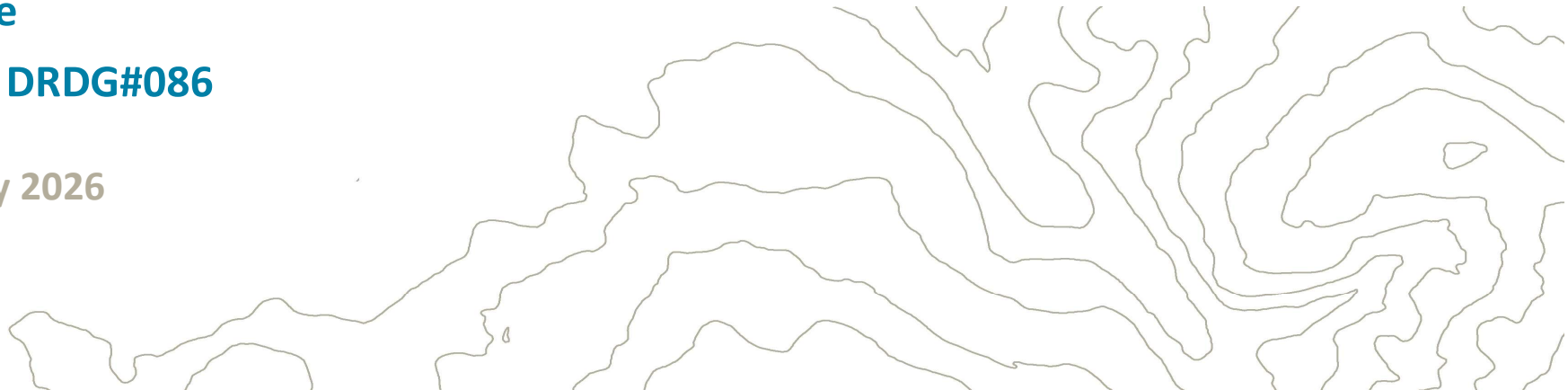
Ergo Mining (Pty) Limited

Directly Affected Landowner Meeting: Mr Milenko Rajak - Geduld 123 IR 84 (Proposed Pump Station)

Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) in the City of Ekurhuleni Municipality, Gauteng Province

Project Number: DRDG#086

Wednesday, 06 May 2026



Important Notice

This meeting is a formal consultation in terms of the requirements as stipulated in the:

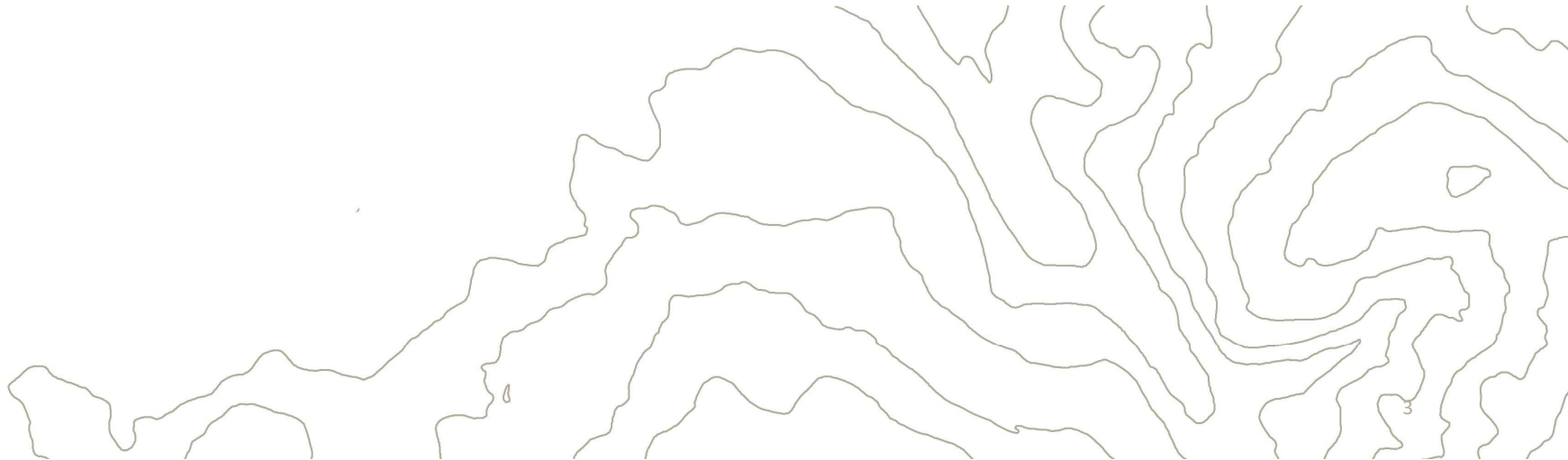
- National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) for an Application for an Environmental Authorisation (EA) for listed activities triggered in Listing Notices GN R983 and GN R984 in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of December 2014, as amended. The Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources (DMPR) is the Competent Authority to assess the Application for Environmental Authorisation (EA) for the Proposed Project.
- The Integrated Water Use Licence Application (IWULA) is being undertaken in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) (NWA), in compliance with the requirements of the Act. This application is being conducted as an integrated WULA process for the Proposed Project because it is triggering National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (NEM:WA). The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), Gauteng, is the competent authority responsible for the assessment of the application.



Introduction

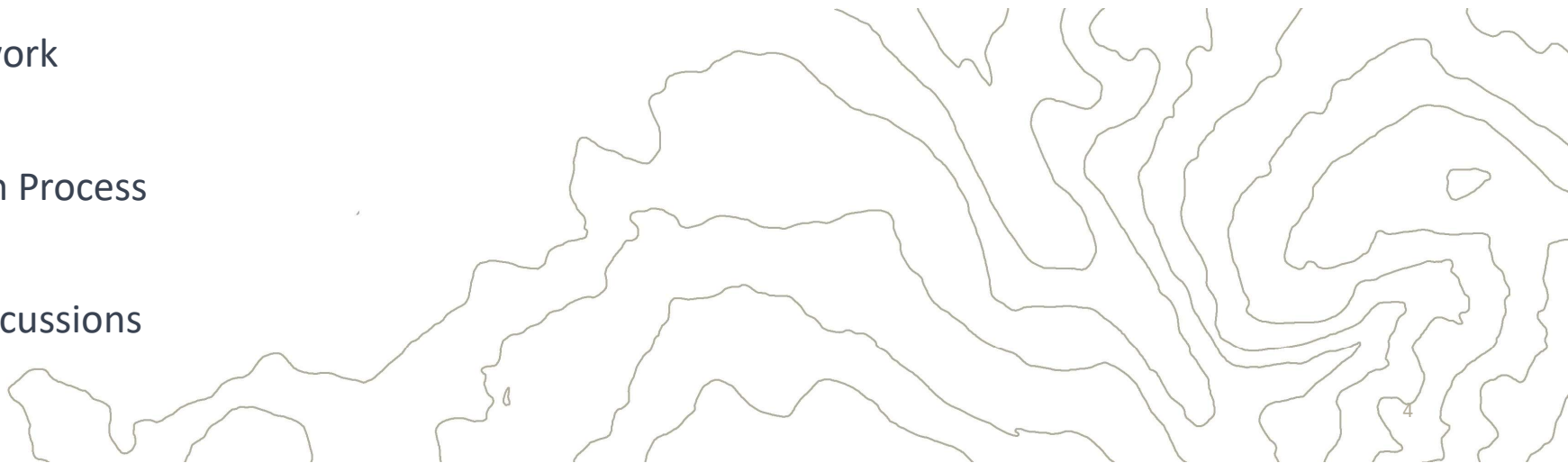
Kongiwe Environmental

- Umeshree Naicker – Environmental Assessment Practitioner
- Phathutshedzo Munyai – Environmental Assessment Practitioner
- Vanessa Viljeon– Principal Stakeholder Engagement Consultant
- Masala Tshamano – Ergo Environmental Manager
- Mothusi Mafatshe – Ergo Environmental Co-ordinator



Agenda

1. Important Notice under NEMA and NWA
2. Introduction
3. Purpose of the Meeting
4. Kongiwe's Role as an Independent Practitioner
5. Project Background
6. Project Description and Location
7. Project Infrastructure
8. Specialist Studies
9. Legislative Framework
10. Stakeholders' Role
11. Public Participation Process
12. Way Forward
13. Comments and Discussions



Purpose of the Meeting

- Discuss the proposed Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) (“Proposed Project”)
- Provide an overview of the Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment Process
- Provide an overview of the specialist studies to be undertaken
- Present the Public Participation Process
- Address comments raised by Stakeholders and include in the Comments and Responses Report



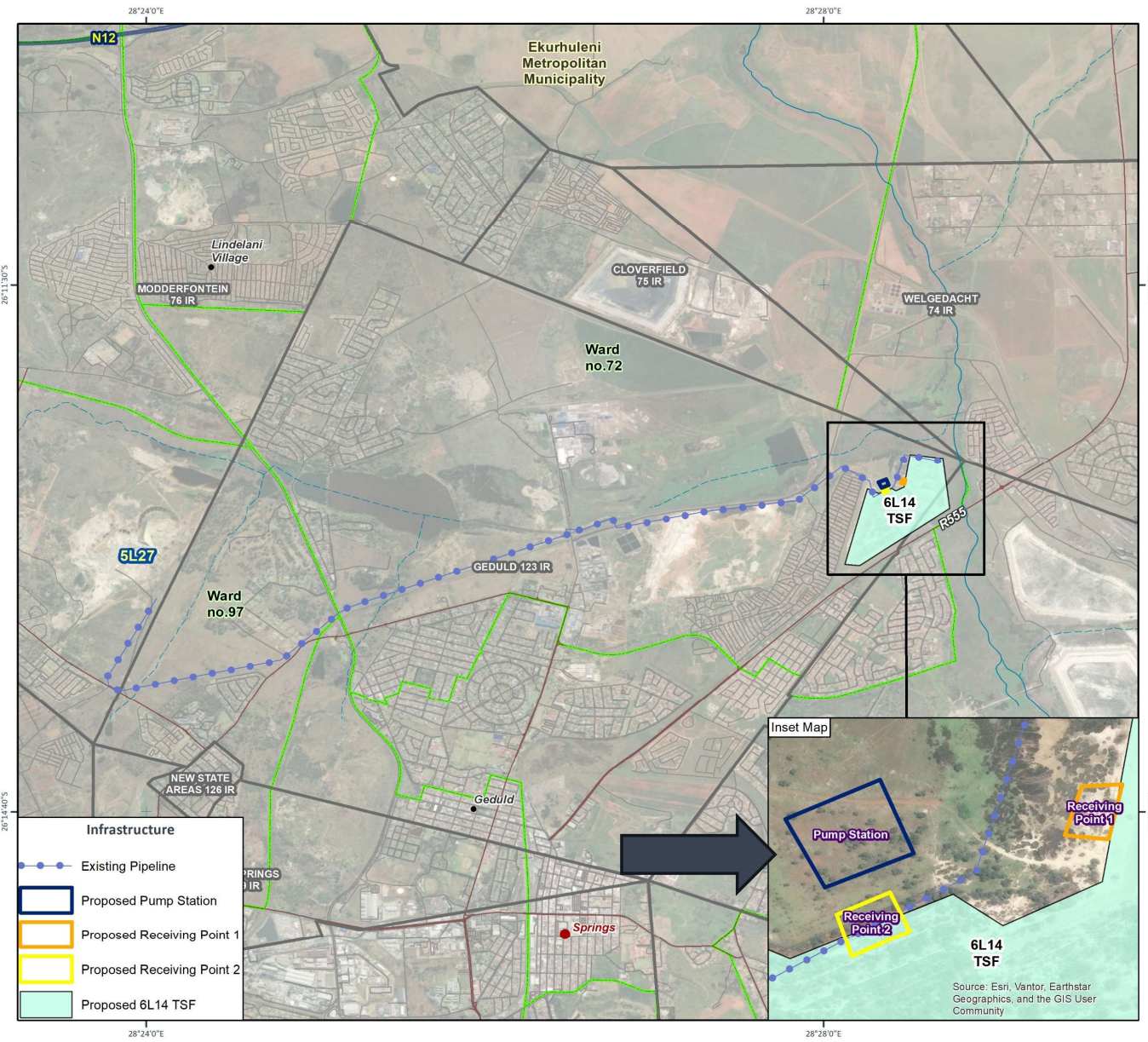
Kongiwe's Role

- As an independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP), it is our role to perform an objective assessment of what the positive and negative environmental impacts of the proposed project may be, to the environment, to quantify these, describe possible mitigations, collect public comment and supply both the DMRE and the DWS with the documentation so that they can determine if the project should proceed or not.



2026/05/06

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6L14 SITE ORIENTATION

Legend

- Other Settlement
- Major Town
- Local Roads
- Main Road
- Non-Perennial River
- Perennial River
- National Road
- Parent Farm
- Ward Boundaries
- Local Municipalities



Project Code: DRDG#086
Client: Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd
Drawn: C Strooh | Checked: Z Omar
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www.kongiwe.com | Date: 06 March 2026

Coordinate System: GCS WGS 1984
Datum: WGS 1984

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

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Map Set 1\6L14 Site Orientation A3 Landscape.mxd

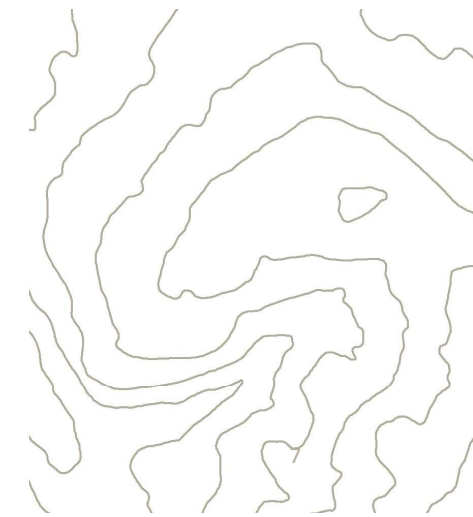
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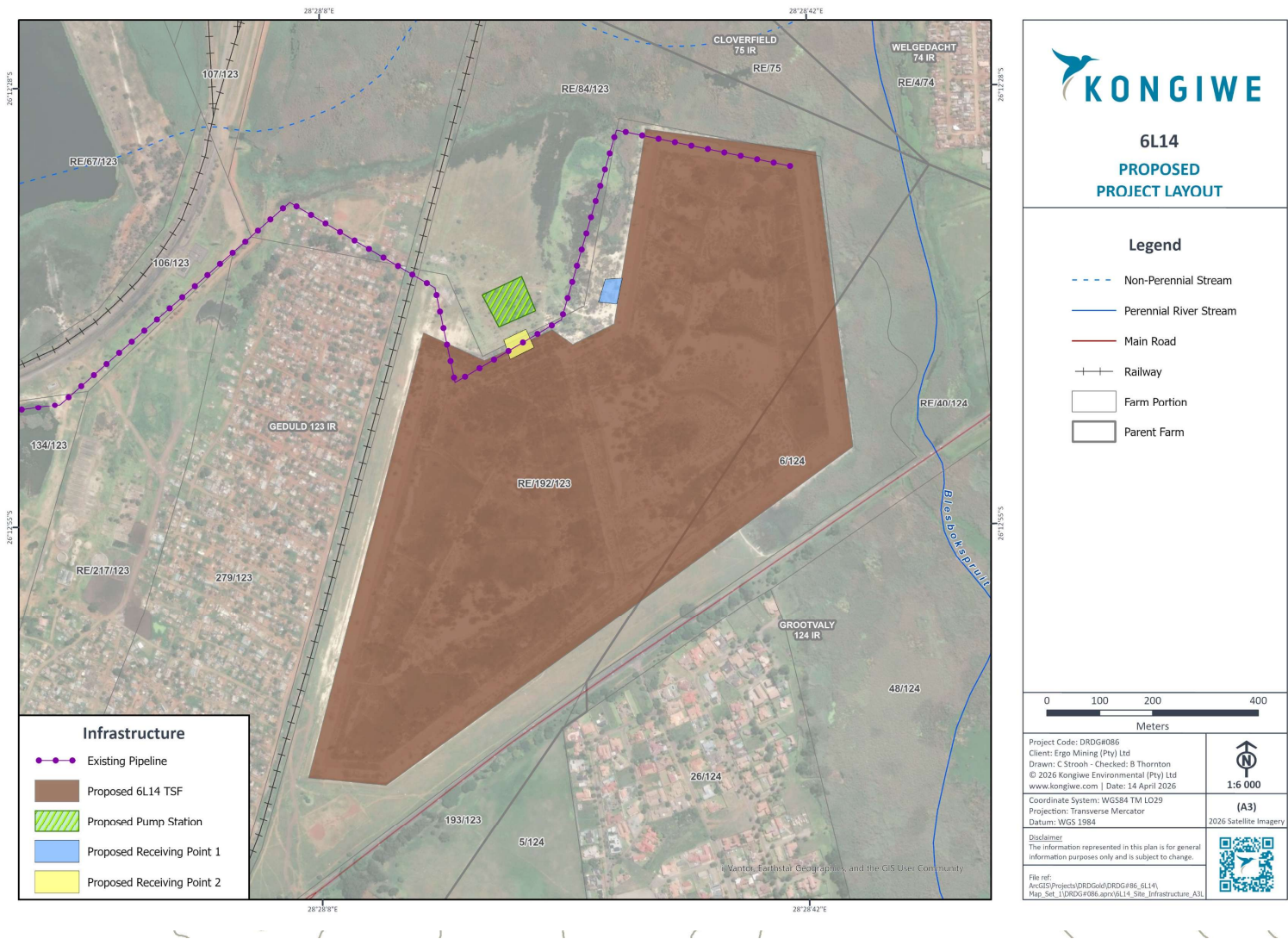
2024 Satellite Imagery

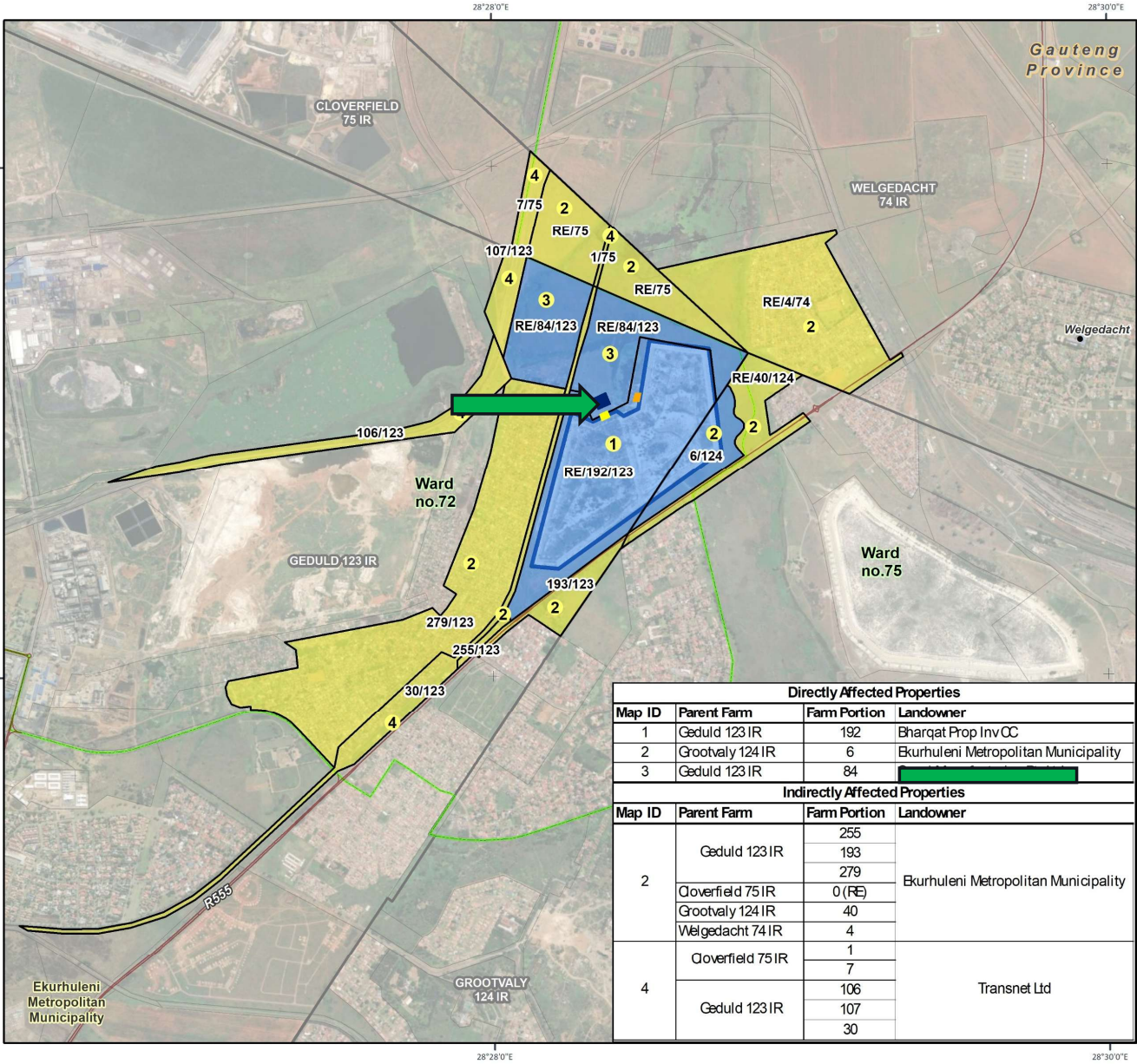
Directly Affected Properties

Farm Name	Farm ID	Farm Portion
Reclamation Site		
Geduld	123 IR	192
Grootvaly	124 IR	6
Geduld	123 IR	84
Pumpstation		
Geduld	123 IR	84
Receiving Point 1 and 2		
Geduld	123 IR	192



Project Location- Proposed Layout Plan





Directly Affected Properties			
Map ID	Parent Farm	Farm Portion	Landowner
1	Geduld 123 IR	192	Bharqat Prop InvCC
2	Grootvaly 124 IR	6	Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality
3	Geduld 123 IR	84	
Indirectly Affected Properties			
Map ID	Parent Farm	Farm Portion	Landowner
2	Geduld 123 IR	255	Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality
		193	
		279	
	Cloverfield 75 IR	0 (RE)	
	Grootvaly 124 IR	40	
4	Geduld 123 IR	4	Transnet Ltd
		1	
		7	
	Geduld 123 IR	106	
		107	
		30	

6L14

LAND TENURE

Legend

- Other Settlement
- Major Town
- Main Road
- Farm Portion
- Parent Farm
- Ward Boundaries
- Proposed 6L14 TSF
- Proposed Pump Station
- Proposed Receiving Point 1
- Proposed Receiving Point 2
- Directly Affected
- Indirectly Affected

0 0,25 0,5 1 1,5

Kilometres

Project Code: DRDG#086
Client: Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd
Drawn: Z Omar
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www.kongiwe.com | Date: 10 March 2026

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

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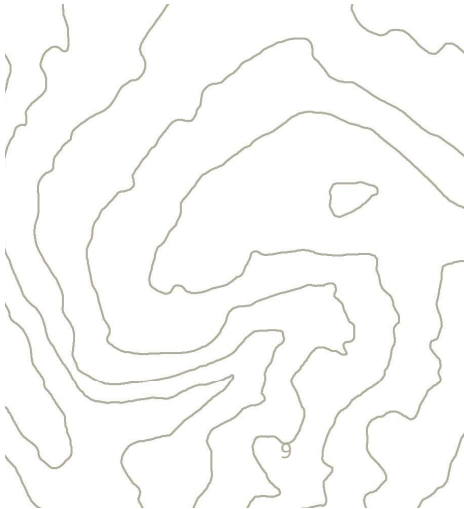
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Projects\Map Set 1\6L14_LT_A3L.mxd

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2024 Satellite Imagery

Farm Name	Farm ID	Farm Portion
Pumpstation		
Geduld	123 IR	84



Project Background

- Applicant: Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd (“Ergo”)
- Activity: Ergo aims to reclaim and reprocess the 6L14 TSF with the objective of recovering gold using top-down hydraulic reclamation. Ergo has a Mining Right (ERGO-GP158MR) over the dump 6L14, this facility was historically used previously as a mining waste deposition site and has been dormant for some time.
- Life of Operation : Approximately 12 years.
- A water monitor blasts the sides of the TSF, the process water mixes with the unconsolidated material, resulting in what is known as a ‘slurry’.
- The slurry will report to a pumpstation, located at the lowest point of a TSF, where it will then be pumped and conveyed to Ergo Plant for reprocessing. A new reclamation pumpstation will be developed for the Proposed Project.
- The dump will be reprocessed via the existing pipeline network through the 5L27 Transfer Pumpstation to the Ergo Beneficiation Plant (Ergo Plant) which is currently in operation, with ultimate residue deposition taking place on the Brakpan/Withok TSF and /or Daggafontein TSF.
- An estimated maximum amount of 300 000 tons/month of slurry is expected to be pumped from 6L14 TSF via constructed pipelines to the Ergo Plant which is in Brakpan for beneficiation.



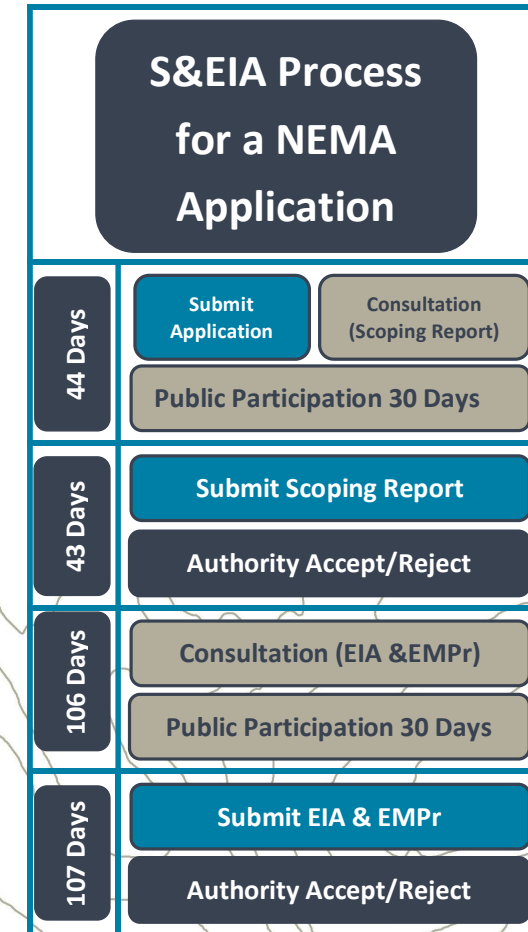
Project Infrastructures

The following infrastructure will be utilised:

- Reclamation infrastructure at the TSF consisting of a pump station which includes:
 - Slurry sump;
 - Vibrating Screen;
 - Water tank;
 - Motor control centre; and
 - Slurry and associated Pumps.
- Lined catchment paddocks;
- Stormwater management infrastructure including:
 - Water Pumpstation and PCD infrastructure and stormwater systems;
 - Existing paddocks on the TSF footprint; and
 - Pollution control paddock.
- 11 kV overhead powerlines capable of transmitting 3 kVA of electricity and electricity reticulation;
- Administration buildings, including change houses and ablution facilities;
- Access roads, routed from existing entry points;
- Construction contractors' yards (temporary facilities); and
- Process water will be required for the 6L14 reclamation operations to support the Proposed Project via the existing pipeline network.

Legislative Framework

- An integrated Environmental Authorisation (EA) application will be submitted to the DMPR (Gauteng) as the Competent Authority for the Proposed Project.
 - The applicable applications to be assessed by the DMPR are as follows:
 - **Application for Environmental Authorisation (EA)** for listed activities triggered in Listing Notices GN R983, GN R984 and GN R985 published pursuant to the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), promulgated in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA).
 - These Listing Notices have been amended by GN R327, GN R325 and GN R324 of 7 April 2017 and GN R 517 of 11 June 2021.
 - **Application for a Waste Management Licence (WML)** authorising waste management activity listed in GN 921 of 29 November 2013 published in terms of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008) (as amended) (NEM:WA).
- In addition, the following applications will be made to other relevant Competent Authorities (CA):
- **An Integrated Water Use Licence Application (IWULA)** in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) (NWA) to be submitted to the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) for any potential impact to water resources by the Proposed Project.



Legislative Framework

- **Application for Environmental Authorisation (EA)**

- ✓ **GNR 984 Listing Notice 1: Activity 21F** - Any activity including the operation of that activity required or the reclamation of a residue stockpile or a residue deposit as well as any other applicable activity as contained in this Listing Notice or in Listing Notice 3 of 2014, required for the reclamation of a residue stockpile or a residue deposit: **(Tailings Storage Facility (TSF))**.
- ✓ **GNR 984 Listing Notice 1: Activity 6** - The development of facilities or infrastructure for any process or activity which requires a permit or licence or an amended permit or licence in terms of national or provincial legislation governing the generation or release of emissions, pollution or effluent: **(satellite pumpstation; slurry receiving facility; screening facility at the pumpstation; storage; and transfer pumps series)**.
- ✓ **GNR 983 Listing Notice 2: Activity 13** - The development of facilities or infrastructure for the off-stream storage of water, including dams and reservoirs, with a combined capacity of 50 000 cubic metres or more, unless such storage falls within the ambit of activity 16 in Listing Notice 2: **(slurry receiving facility)**.

- **Application for a Waste Management Licence (WML)**

- ✓ Category B: Activity 11- The establishment or reclamation of a residue stockpile or residue deposit resulting from activities which require a mining right, exploration right or production right in terms of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002).

- **An Integrated Water Use Licence Application (IWULA)**

- ✓ Section 21(g): Disposing of waste in a manner which may detrimentally impact on a water resource: **(dust suppression of access roads, Earth Materials and Gravel; and disposing of excess stormwater and slurry during a stormwater event)**.
- ✓ Section 21 (c) and (i): Impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse and, Altering the bed, banks, courses or characteristics of a watercourse: **(The construction, operation, and rehabilitation of the access road, Pumpstation, slurry receiving points and lined paddock located within 500m of a wetland)**.

2026/05/06

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Specialist studies

The following assessments were identified and will be assessed as part of the EIA process:

Proposed Specialist Studies to be undertaken	
Biodiversity Impact Assessment	Social Impact Assessment
Wetland Impact Assessment	Heritage Impact Assessment
Air Quality Impact Assessment	Climate Change Risk Assessment
Surface Water Impact Assessment	Traffic Impact Assessment
Groundwater Impact Assessment	Financial Provision and Closure
Noise Impact Assessment	Dolomite Impact Assessment



Summary of Potential Impacts at Scoping

Positive and Negative

Biodiversity Impact Assessment:

- Displacement of animal habitat by removing the TSF; and
- Removal of invasive species from the TSF.

Social, Air Quality, Noise, Impact Assessment:

- Land use will change to an active reclamation site;
- Noise associated with the reclamation project mainly originates from construction activities of required infrastructure as well as noises from motors, pumps and increased vehicular travel during the operational phase as well as processing activities; and
- Possible increase in dust levels in some areas during operations.

Groundwater, Surface Water & Wetland Impact Assessment:

- Water and ground contamination due to pipeline leaks/spillages if inadequate preventative measures are not implemented.

Heritage Impact Assessment:

- Since the footprint was a TSF previously, it is unlikely for there to be any heritage resources on site; and
- Should heritage resources be present in the area, the reclamation project could potentially impact these.

Dolomite Impact Assessment :

- Ground instability, sinkholes, subsidence, or structural damage due to disturbance and water ingress; and
- Safety risks to workers/public, traffic disruption, and nuisance impacts to nearby communities.

Traffic Impact Assessment:

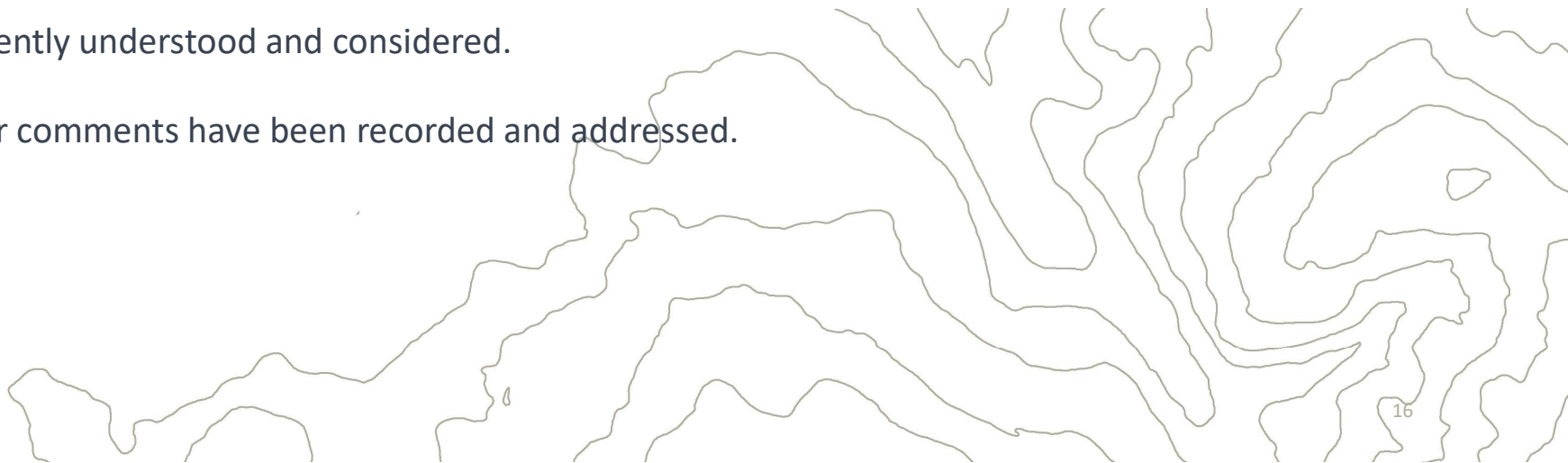
- Temporary increase in heavy vehicle traffic during the construction phase due to mobilisation of equipment, and material deliveries; and
- Increased pressure on existing public and access roads, potentially accelerating road surface wear and degradation.



Public Participation Process (PPP)

The PPP objectives are to:

- Ensure that stakeholders are informed about the proposed development of the reclamation of the 6L14 TSF .
- Provide stakeholders with the opportunity to participate in the environmental regulatory processes and provide comment.
- Involve stakeholders in identifying ways in which comments can be addressed.
- Work directly with stakeholders throughout the environmental regulatory processes to ensure that stakeholder comments are consistently understood and considered.
- Verify that stakeholder comments have been recorded and addressed.



Public Participation Process (PPP)



- The (PPP) were undertaken in compliance with NEMA and the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.
- **The process is as follows:**
 - Announcement of the Proposed Project was conducted on **Wednesday, 29 April 2026**.
 - An advert indicating the availability of the documentation for public review and the Online and Open Day dates have been placed in the Springs Advertiser, on **Wednesday, 29 April 2026**. This advert was placed in English.
 - Notices providing information of where the public documentation will be accessible and when the Online and Open Day will be held have been placed around site at key locations on the **Wednesday, 6 May 2026**. These notices was placed in English.
 - The required Environmental Application was submitted to the DMPR on the **Wednesday, 6 May 2026**.
 - The Draft Scoping Report was made available for public review and comment on the **Wednesday, 6 May 2026 to Thursday, 4 June 2026**.
 - The Final Scoping report will be submitted to the Competent authority for review and decision.



Way forward

- The **Environmental Application and Draft Scoping Report** was submitted to the DMPR on **Wednesday, 6 May 2026**.
- Online meetings to with one of three landowners **Wednesday, 6 May 2026**. Remaining meetings to be held in due course.
- Online meeting with the Blesbokspruit Forum will be conducted on **Thursday 7 May 2026**.
- **Stakeholder Online** will be held on **Wednesday, 20 May 2026**.
- An **Open Day** will be held at the Bakerton Community Hall, First Ave, Bakerton, Springs on **Thursday, 21 May 2026**.
- The **Draft Scoping Report** is available at the following Public venues on **Wednesday, 6 May 2026**:
 - Bakerton Public Library;
 - Springs Public Library; and
 - Kongiwe website: <http://www.kongiwe.com/publications-view/public-documents/>.
- The 30 Day public participation comment period will run from **Wednesday, 6 May 2026 to Thursday, 4 June 2026**.
- The **Final Scoping Report** will then be finalized and submitted after the required public participation process has been undertaken. Comments will be recorded in a Comments and Response Report.
- Conduct the relevant specialist studies for the Proposed Project.
- The Draft EIA Report will be made available for public review and comment.
- The Final EIA Report will be finalised and submitted to the Competent authority for review and decision.
- The Water Use Licence Application will be submitted, and the process is ongoing.

Comment and Discussion

❖ Discussion/Questions

❖ Action Points

- Responsibility
- Due Date

❖ Closing





Contact

- **Name: Vanessa Viljoen / Jean-Mari Williams**
- **Tel: 010 140 1725/26**
- **Email: Stakeholders@kongiwe.com**

Kongiwe Environmental

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info@kongiwe.com

www.kongiwe.com



MINUTES OF MEETING			
Date	Thursday, 7 May 2026	Time	10:00 – 11:00
Venue	Online Meeting (Microsoft Teams)		
Subject	Blesbokspruit Forum Meeting		
List of Attendees			
Organisation	Name of Attendee	Designation	
Blesbokspruit Forum	Mr Mabona Lesiba	Blesbokspruit Forum Representative	
Impala Platinum Refineries Limited (Implats)	Mrs Karina Beukes	Plant Manager	
Kongiwe Environmental (Pty) Ltd (Kongiwe)	Ms Umeshree Naicker	Principal Environmental Consultant	
	Mr Phathutshedzo Munyai	Junior Environmental Consultation	
Apologies			
Organisation	Name of Attendee	Designation	
None			

Note: These minutes are not intended as a verbatim transcript of the meeting, but rather as a summary of the salient discussions which took place

No	Item	Responsible Person
1	Purpose of Presentation	
1.1	Present an overview of the Proposed Project.	Ms Umeshree Naicker

2	Discussion		
STAKEHOLDERS		COMMENT	RESPONSE
2.1	Mrs Karina Beukes	Mrs Beukes raised a question directed to Kongiwe regarding the pipeline that is not included in the current application, seeking clarity on whether it would be treated as a separate project or if any further information was available.	Ms Naicker responded that it would be a separate project; however, at this stage, the final details are not yet available. Post Meeting Note: The pipeline servitude, together with the associated surface rights permit (SRP), is already established and remains valid for the Proposed Project. The pipeline will be reinstated along the areas where such servitudes and SRP's exists, to meet the technical and operational requirements of the Proposed Project.
2.2	Mr Mabona Lesiba	Mr Lesiba raised a concern noting that the project appears to still be at an early stage and enquired whether the team would return at a later stage with more detailed information once further clarity is available, so that stakeholders can better understand the project.	Ms Naicker responded that the project is currently in the scoping phase. She explained that the next phase will be the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) phase, during which specialist studies will be conducted to determine the actual impacts of the project, as well as the proposed mitigation measures. She added that a more detailed presentation can be provided at a later stage once this information is available.



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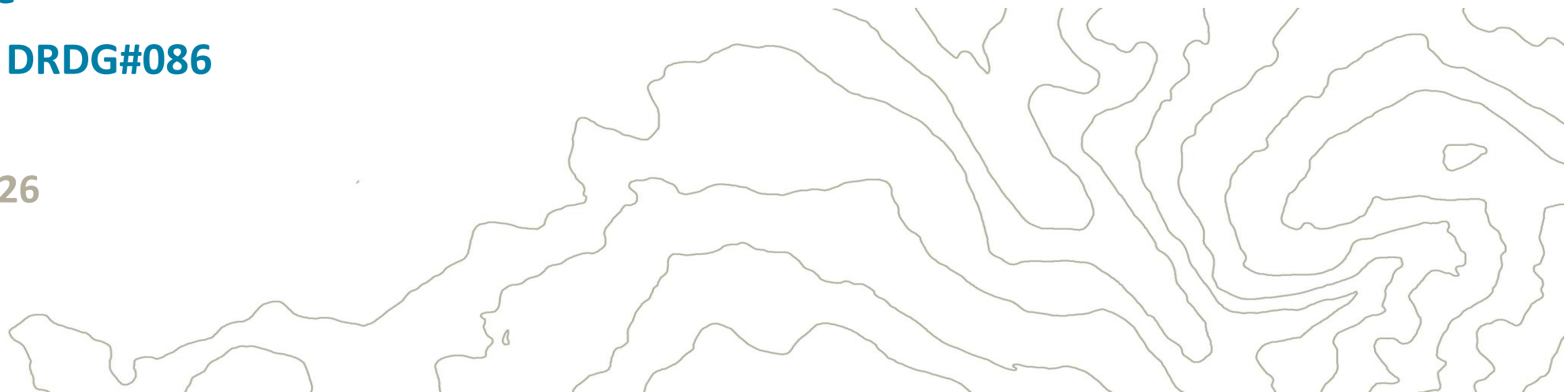
Ergo Mining (Pty) Limited

Blesbokspruit Forum Engagement Meeting Presentation

**Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) in the City of Ekurhuleni Municipality,
Gauteng Province**

Project Number: DRDG#086

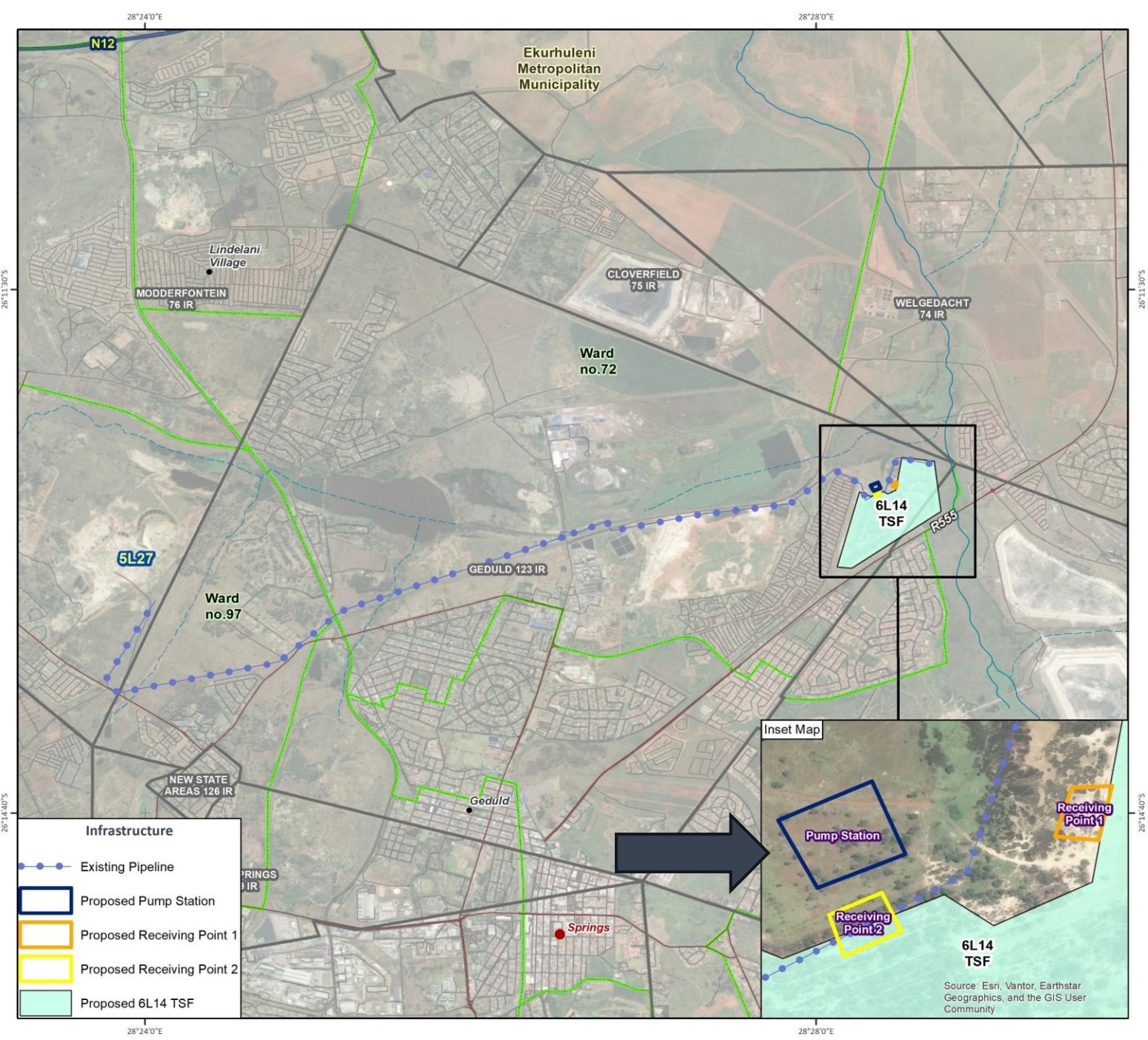
Thursday, 7 May 2026



Project Background

- Applicant: Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd (“Ergo”)
- Activity: Ergo aims to reclaim and reprocess the 6L14 TSF with the objective of recovering gold using top-down hydraulic reclamation. Ergo has a Mining Right (ERGO-GP158MR) over the dump 6L14, this facility was historically used previously as a mining waste deposition site and has been dormant for some time.
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- A water monitor blasts the sides of the TSF, the process water mixes with the unconsolidated material, resulting in what is known as a ‘slurry’.
- The slurry will report to a pumpstation, located at the lowest point of a TSF, where it will then be pumped and conveyed to Ergo Plant for reprocessing. A new reclamation pumpstation will be developed for the Proposed Project.
- The dump will be reprocessed via the existing pipeline network through the 5L27 Transfer Pumpstation to the Ergo Beneficiation Plant (Ergo Plant) which is currently in operation, with ultimate residue deposition taking place on the Brakpan/Withok TSF and /or Daggafontein TSF.
- An estimated maximum amount of 300 000 tons/month of slurry is expected to be pumped from 6L14 TSF via constructed pipelines to the Ergo Plant which is in Brakpan for beneficiation.







6L14 SITE ORIENTATION

Legend

- Other Settlement
- Major Town
- Local Roads
- Main Road
- Non-Perennial River
- Perennial River
- National Road
- Parent Farm
- Ward Boundaries
- Local Municipalities

00.5123

Kilometres

Project Code: DRDG#086
Client: Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd
Drawn: C Strooh | Checked: Z Omar
© 2025 Kongiwe Environmental (Pty) Ltd
www.kongiwe.com | Date: 06 March 2026

North Arrow

1:40 000

Coordinate System: GCS WGS 1984
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:

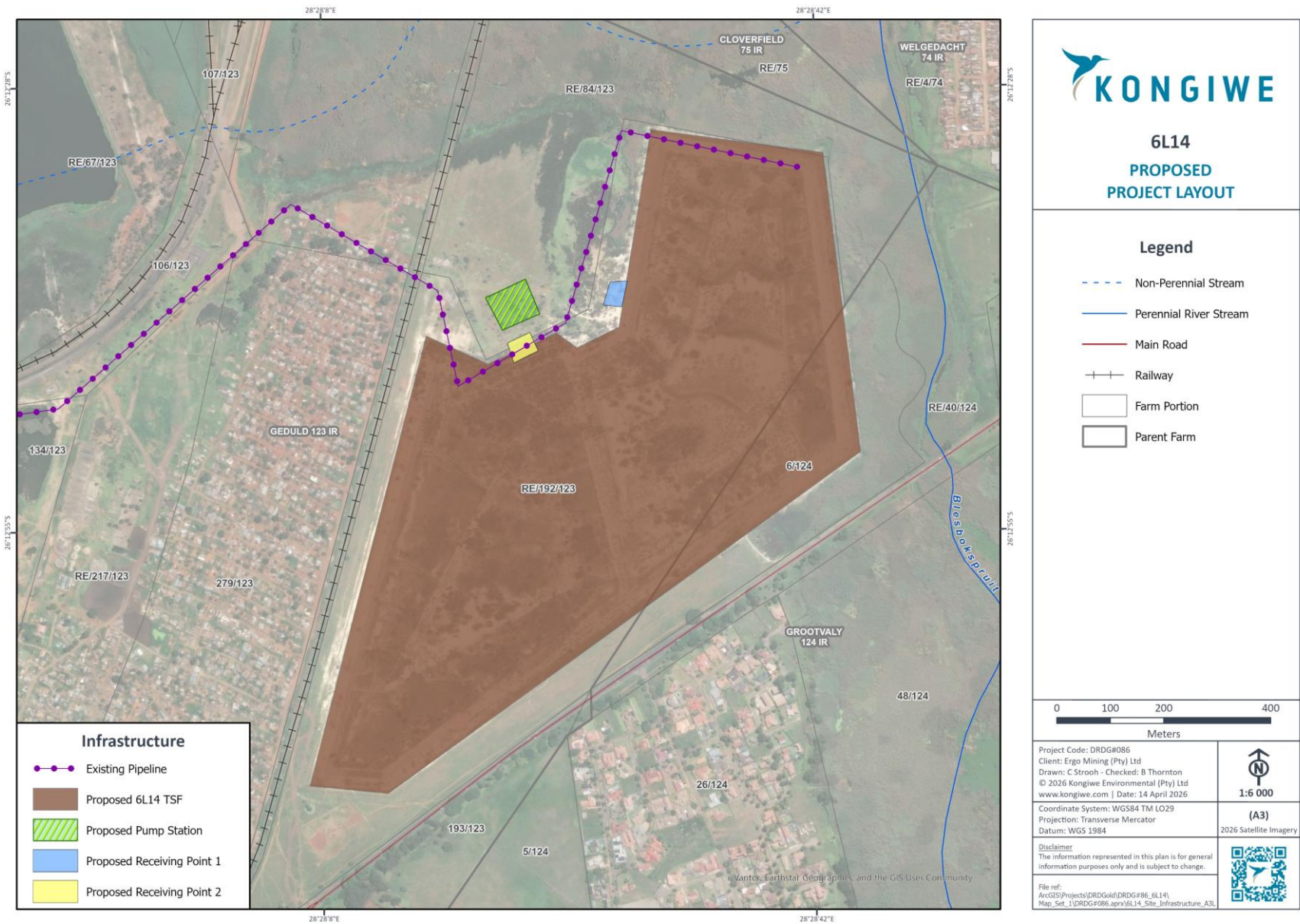
Z:\GIS\Projects\DRDGOLD\086 6L14\Projects\Map Set 1\6L14 Site Orientation A3 Landscape.mxd



Properties affected by the Proposed Project:

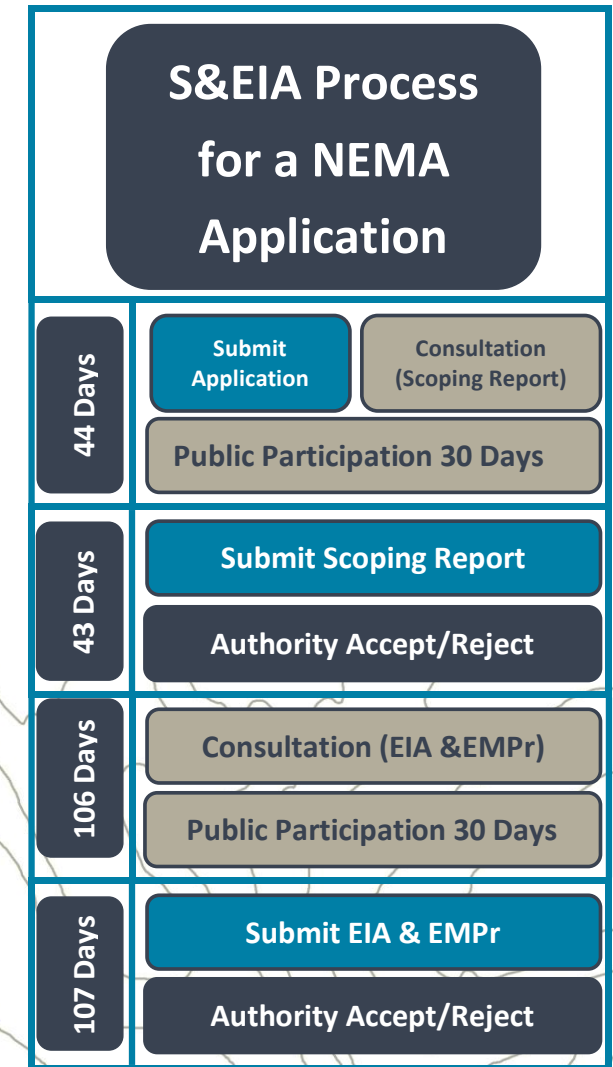
Directly Affected Properties		
Farm Name	Farm ID	Farm Portion
Reclamation Site		
Geduld	123 IR	192
Grootvaly	124 IR	6
Geduld	123 IR	84
Pumpstation		
Geduld	123 IR	84
Receiving Point 1 and 2		
Geduld	123 IR	192

Project Location- Proposed Layout Plan



Legislative Framework

- An integrated Environmental Authorisation (EA) application was submitted to the DMPR on 6 May 2026 (Gauteng) as the Competent Authority for the Proposed Project.
 - The applicable applications to be assessed by the DMPR are as follows:
 - **Application for Environmental Authorisation (EA)** for listed activities triggered in Listing Notices GN R983, GN R984 and GN R985 published pursuant to the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), promulgated in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA).
 - These Listing Notices have been amended by GN R327, GN R325 and GN R324 of 7 April 2017 and GN R 517 of 11 June 2021.
 - **Application for a Waste Management Licence (WML)** authorising waste management activity listed in GN 921 of 29 November 2013 published in terms of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008) (as amended) (NEM:WA).
- In addition, the following applications will be made to other relevant Competent Authorities (CA):
- **An Integrated Water Use Licence Application (IWULA)** for Section 21 water uses triggered in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) (NWA).





Contact

- **Name: Vanessa Viljoen / Jean-Mari Williams**
- **Tel: 010 140 1725/26**
- **Email: Stakeholders@kongiwe.com**

Kongiwe Environmental

150 Bryanston Drive, Bryanston, Sandton, 2191, South Africa.

PostNet Suite no 163, Private Bag X21, Bryanston, 2021, South Africa.

info@kongiwe.com

www.kongiwe.com



MINUTES OF MEETING			
Date	Friday, 8 May 2026	Time	10:00 – 11:00
Venue	Online Meeting (Microsoft Teams)		
Subject	Transnet Meeting		
List of Attendees			
Organisation	Name of Attendee		Designation
Transnet Infrastructure Property Johannesburg (Transnet)	Mr Thembinkosi Memela	Manager Transnet Land Use Management	
	Mr Masala Tshamano	Environmental Manager	
Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd (Ergo)	Mr Mothusi Mafatshe	Environmental Coordinator	
	Ms Umeshree Naicker	Principal Environmental Consultant	
Kongiwe Environmental (Pty) Ltd (Kongiwe)	Mr Phathutshedzo Munyai	Junior Environmental Consultation	
	Apologies		
Organisation	Name of Attendee		Designation
None			

Note: These minutes are not intended as a verbatim transcript of the meeting, but rather as a summary of the salient discussions which took place

No	Item	Responsible Person
1	Welcome and Introductions	
1.1	Ms Umeshree Naicker (Ms Naicker) welcomed all attendees to the meeting.	Ms Naicker
2	Meeting Purpose	
2.1	Present and discuss the proposed Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) (Proposed Project) with the Transnet.	Ms Naicker
2.2	Provide an overview of the specialist studies to be undertaken.	
2.3	Present the Public participation Process.	
2.4	Provide an opportunity to raise comments/seek clarity as well as provide input.	
2.5	Address comments raised by Transnet.	
3	Meeting Agenda	
3.1	Purpose of the Meeting.	Ms Naicker
3.2	Introduction.	
3.3	Project Background.	
3.4	Project Description.	
3.5	Project Infrastructure.	
3.6	Specialist Studies.	
3.7	Legislative Framework.	
3.8	Public Participation Process.	
3.9	Way Forward.	
3.10	Comments and Discussion.	

4 Discussion			
STAKEHOLDERS		COMMENT	RESPONSE
4.1	Mr Thembinkosi Memela (Mr Memela)	Mr Memela enquired whether the Transnet team division had provided any comments.	Ms Naicker responded that one comment had been received from Transnet, specifically relating to the proximity of the project to the railway line. She further indicated that, following the meeting and consideration of the comments raised, a formal response will be submitted. Mr Memela acknowledged the feedback and confirmed that he was satisfied, noting that he recalled the project and that comments had previously been shared with the rail management team for input. He advised that although his colleagues were not present at the meeting, it was important that they remained informed about the project developments, which he confirmed was in order.
4.2	Mr Memela	Mr Memela enquired whether a separate Transnet wayleave application he had recently come across is linked to the current project, noting that he may have seen reference to pipelines potentially connecting into this scope, although he was not certain. Mr Memela was aware of the Marievale Project.	Mr Mafatshe responded that he will let Mr Masala Tshamano (Mr Tshamano) respond on this one once available.
4.3	Mr Memela	Mr Memela sought clarification, confirming that the purpose of the meeting was solely for stakeholder engagement.	Ms Naicker confirmed that this was correct.

4	Discussion			
STAKEHOLDERS		COMMENT	RESPONSE	
4.4	Mr Memela	Mr Memela requested that the meeting presentation be shared with his colleagues who had not attended today's meeting, to allow for any comments or questions. He emphasised that his role is limited to that of land custodian, whereas the operational responsibility for the rail lies with the relevant stakeholders.	Ms Naicker acknowledged the request.	
5	Closing			
5.1	Ms Umeshree Naicker thanked everyone for their time and the meeting was adjourned at 10:55 AM			All
				-



DRDGOLD LIMITED

Ergo Mining (Pty) Limited

Transnet Engagement Meeting Presentation

**Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) in the City of Ekurhuleni Municipality,
Gauteng Province**

Project Number: DRDG#086

Friday, 8 May 2026



Important Notice

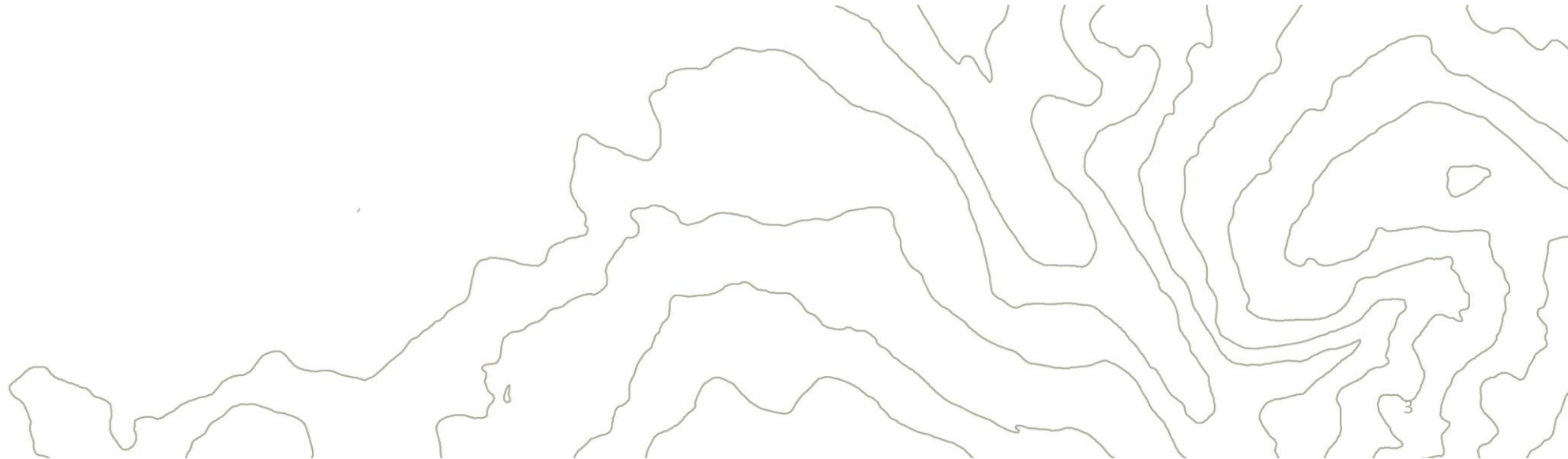
This meeting is a formal consultation in terms of the requirements as stipulated in the:

- National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) for an Application for an Environmental Authorisation (EA) for listed activities triggered in Listing Notices GN R983 and GN R984 in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of December 2021, as amended. The Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources (DMPR) is the Competent Authority to assess the Application for Environmental Authorisation (EA) for the Proposed Project.
- The Integrated Water Use Licence Application (IWULA) is being undertaken in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) (NWA), in compliance with the requirements of the Act. This application is being conducted as an integrated WULA process for the Proposed Project because it is triggering Section 21 Water Use of the NWA and National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (NEM:WA). The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), Gauteng, is the competent authority responsible for the assessment of the application.



Kongiwe Environmental

- Umeshree Naicker – Environmental Assessment Practitioner
- Phathutshedzo Munyai – Environmental Assessment Practitioner
- Vanessa Viljeon– Principal Stakeholder Engagement Consultant
- Masala Tshamano – Ergo Environmental Manager
- Mothusi Mafatshe – Ergo Environmental Co-ordinator



Agenda

1. Important Notice under NEMA and NWA
2. Introduction
3. Purpose of the Meeting
4. Kongiwe's Role as an Independent Practitioner
5. Project Background
6. Project Description and Location
7. Project Infrastructure
8. Specialist Studies
9. Legislative Framework
10. Stakeholders' Role
11. Public Participation Process
12. Way Forward
13. Comments and Discussions



Purpose of the Meeting

- Discuss the proposed Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) (“Proposed Project”)
- Provide an overview of the Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment Process
- Provide an overview of the specialist studies to be undertaken
- Present the Public Participation Process
- Address comments raised by Stakeholders and include in the Comments and Responses Report



Kongiwe's Role

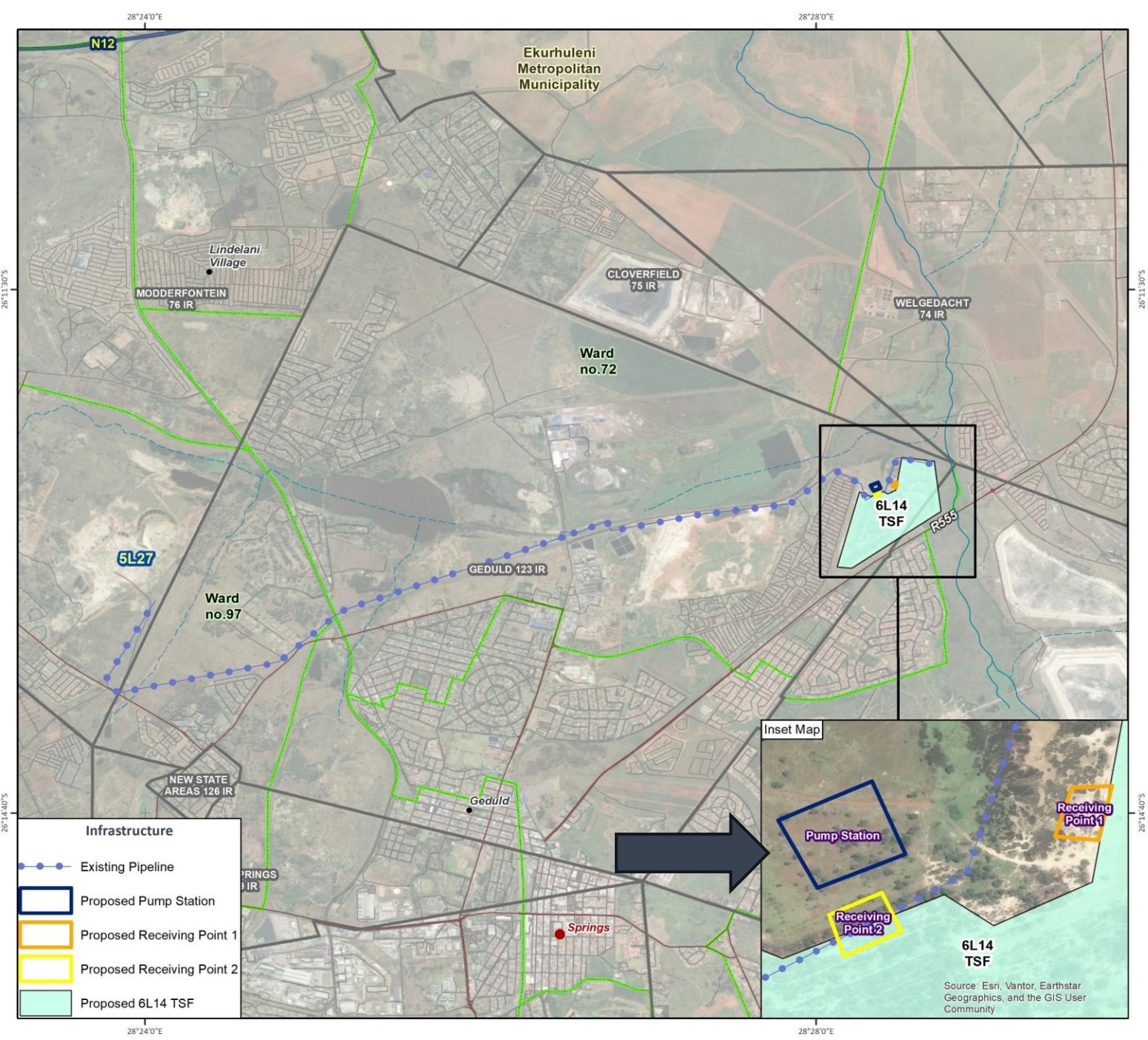
- As an independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP), it is our role to perform an objective assessment of what the positive and negative environmental impacts of the proposed project may be, to quantify these, describe possible mitigations and provide DMPR and the DWS with the documentation so that the CA can determine if the project should proceed or not.



Project Background

- Applicant: Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd (“Ergo”)
- Activity: Ergo aims to reclaim and reprocess the 6L14 TSF with the objective of recovering gold using top-down hydraulic reclamation. Ergo has a Mining Right (ERGO-GP158MR) over the dump 6L14, this facility was historically used previously as a mining waste deposition site and has been dormant for some time. The servitude for the pipeline is in place, including the surface right permit.
- Life of Operation : Approximately 12 years.
- A water monitor blasts the sides of the TSF, the process water mixes with the unconsolidated material, resulting in what is known as a ‘slurry’.
- The slurry will report to a pumpstation, located at the lowest point of a TSF, where it will then be pumped and conveyed to Ergo Plant for reprocessing. A new reclamation pumpstation will be developed for the Proposed Project.
- The dump will be reprocessed via the existing pipeline network through the 5L27 Transfer Pumpstation to the Ergo Beneficiation Plant (Ergo Plant) which is currently in operation, with ultimate residue deposition taking place on the Brakpan/Withok TSF and /or Daggafontein TSF.
- An estimated maximum amount of 300 000 tons/month of slurry is expected to be pumped from 6L14 TSF via constructed pipelines to the Ergo Plant which is in Brakpan for beneficiation.





6L14

SITE ORIENTATION

Legend

- Other Settlement
- Major Town
- Local Roads
- Main Road
- Non-Perennial River
- Perennial River
- National Road
- Parent Farm
- Ward Boundaries
- Local Municipalities

00.5123

Kilometres

Project Code: DRDG#086

Client: Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd

Drawn: C Strooh | Checked: Z Omar

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www.kongiwe.com | Date: 06 March 2026

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2024 Satellite Imagery

Disclaimer

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

FILE REF:

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Properties affected by the Proposed Project:

Directly Affected Properties		
Farm Name	Farm ID	Farm Portion
Reclamation Site		
Geduld	123 IR	192
Grootvaly	124 IR	6
Geduld	123 IR	84
Pumpstation		
Geduld	123 IR	84
Receiving Point 1 and 2		
Geduld	123 IR	192



Site Orientation Map

Reclamation of the 6L14 TSF Project

Legend

- 6L14
- Pump Station
- Receiving Point



Project Infrastructures

The following infrastructure will be utilised:

- Reclamation infrastructure at the TSF consisting of a pump station which includes:
 - Slurry sump;
 - Vibrating Screen;
 - Water tank;
 - Motor control centre; and
 - Slurry and associated Pumps.
- Lined catchment paddocks;
- Stormwater management infrastructure including:
 - Water Pumpstation and PCD infrastructure and stormwater systems;
 - Existing paddocks on the TSF footprint; and
 - Pollution control paddock.
- 11 kV overhead powerlines capable of transmitting 3 kVA of electricity and electricity reticulation;
- Administration buildings, including change houses and ablution facilities;
- Access roads, routed from existing entry points;
- Construction contractors' yards (temporary facilities); and
- Process water will be required for the 6L14 reclamation operations to support the Proposed Project via the existing pipeline network.

Specialist studies

The following assessments were identified and will be assessed as part of the EIA process:

Proposed Specialist Studies to be undertaken	
Biodiversity Impact Assessment	Social Impact Assessment
Wetland Impact Assessment	Heritage Impact Assessment
Air Quality Impact Assessment	Climate Change Risk Assessment
Surface Water Impact Assessment	Traffic Impact Assessment
Groundwater Impact Assessment	Financial Provision and Closure
Noise Impact Assessment	Dolomite Impact Assessment



Summary of Potential Impacts at Scoping

Positive and Negative

Biodiversity Impact Assessment:

- Displacement of animal habitat by removing the TSF; and
- Removal of invasive species from the TSF.

Social, Air Quality, Noise, Impact Assessment:

- Land use will change to an active reclamation site;
- Noise associated with the reclamation project mainly originates from construction activities of required infrastructure as well as noises from motors, pumps and increased vehicular travel during the operational phase as well as processing activities; and
- Possible increase in dust levels in some areas during operations.

Groundwater, Surface Water & Wetland Impact Assessment:

- Water and ground contamination due to pipeline leaks/spillages if inadequate preventative measures are not implemented.

Heritage Impact Assessment:

- Since the footprint was a TSF previously, it is unlikely for there to be any heritage resources on site; and
- Should heritage resources be present in the area, the reclamation project could potentially impact these.

Dolomite Impact Assessment :

- Ground instability, sinkholes, subsidence, or structural damage due to disturbance and water ingress; and
- Safety risks to workers/public, traffic disruption, and nuisance impacts to nearby communities.

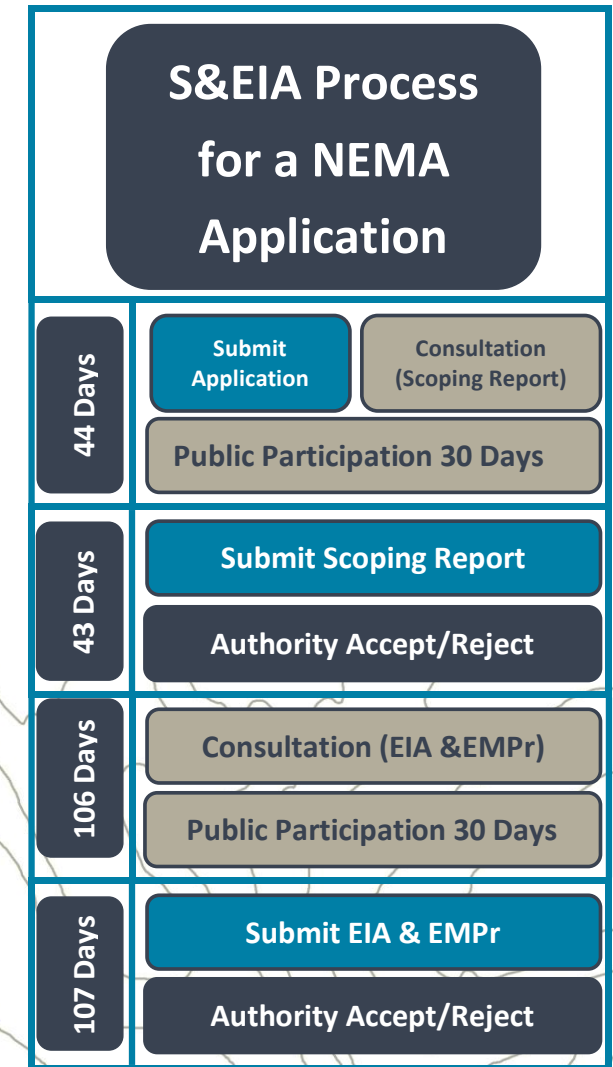
Traffic Impact Assessment:

- Temporary increase in heavy vehicle traffic during the construction phase due to mobilisation of equipment, and material deliveries; and
- Increased pressure on existing public and access roads, potentially accelerating road surface wear and degradation.



Legislative Framework

- An integrated Environmental Authorisation (EA) application was submitted to the DMPR on 6 May 2026 (Gauteng) as the Competent Authority for the Proposed Project.
 - The applicable applications to be assessed by the DMPR are as follows:
 - **Application for Environmental Authorisation (EA)** for listed activities triggered in Listing Notices GN R983, GN R984 and GN R985 published pursuant to the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), promulgated in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA).
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- In addition, the following applications will be made to other relevant Competent Authorities (CA):
- **An Integrated Water Use Licence Application (IWULA)** for Section 21 water uses triggered in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) (NWA).



Public Participation Process (PPP)

The PPP objectives are to:

- Ensure that stakeholders are informed about the proposed development of the reclamation of the 6L14 TSF .
- Provide stakeholders with the opportunity to participate in the environmental regulatory processes and provide comment.
- Involve stakeholders in identifying ways in which comments can be addressed.
- Work directly with stakeholders throughout the environmental regulatory processes to ensure that stakeholder comments are consistently understood and considered.
- Verify that stakeholder comments have been recorded and addressed.



Public Participation Process (PPP)

- The (PPP) were undertaken in compliance with NEMA and the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.
- **The process is as follows:**
 - Announcement of the Proposed Project was conducted on **Wednesday, 29 April 2026**.
 - An advert indicating the availability of the documentation for public review and the Online and Open Day dates have been placed in the Springs Advertiser, on **Wednesday, 29 April 2026**. This advert was placed in English.
 - Notices providing information of where the public documentation will be accessible and when the Online and Open Day will be held have been placed around site at key locations on the **Wednesday, 6 May 2026**. These notices was placed in English.
 - The required Environmental Application was submitted to the DMPR on the **Wednesday, 6 May 2026**.
 - The Draft Scoping Report was made available for public review and comment on the **Wednesday, 6 May 2026 to Thursday, 4 June 2026**.
 - The Final Scoping report will be submitted to the Competent Authority for review and decision.



- **Application for Environmental Authorisation (EA)**

- ✓ **GNR 984 Listing Notice 1: Activity 21F** - Any activity including the operation of that activity required or the reclamation of a residue stockpile or a residue deposit as well as any other applicable activity as contained in this Listing Notice or in Listing Notice 3 of 2014, required for the reclamation of a residue stockpile or a residue deposit: **(Tailings Storage Facility (TSF))**.
- ✓ **GNR 984 Listing Notice 1: Activity 6** - The development of facilities or infrastructure for any process or activity which requires a permit or licence or an amended permit or licence in terms of national or provincial legislation governing the generation or release of emissions, pollution or effluent: **(Satellite pumpstation; Slurry receiving Facility; Screening facility at the pumpstation; Storage; and Transfer pumps series)**.
- ✓ **GNR 983 Listing Notice 2: Activity 13** - The development of facilities or infrastructure for the off-stream storage of water, including dams and reservoirs, with a combined capacity of 50 000 cubic metres or more, unless such storage falls within the ambit of activity 16 in Listing Notice 2: **(Slurry receiving facility)**.

- **Application for a Waste Management Licence (WML)**

- ✓ Category B: Activity 11- The establishment or reclamation of a residue stockpile or residue deposit resulting from activities which require a mining right, exploration right or production right in terms of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002).

- **An Integrated Water Use Licence Application (IWULA)**

- ✓ Section 21(g): Disposing of waste in a manner which may detrimentally impact on a water resource: **(Dust Suppression of access roads and Disposing of excess stormwater and slurry in the Emergency Lined Paddock during a stormwater event)**.
- ✓ Section 21 (c) and (i): Impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse and, Altering the bed, banks, courses or characteristics of a watercourse: **(The construction, operation, and rehabilitation of the access road, Pumpstation, Slurry receiving Points and emergency lined paddock located within 500m of a wetland)**.

- The **Environmental Application and Draft Scoping Report** was submitted to the DMPR on **Wednesday, 6 May 2026**.
- Online meeting with the Blesbokspruit Forum was conducted on **Thursday, 7 May 2026**.
- Online meeting with the Transnet Rail Infrastructure will be conducted on **Friday, 8 May 2026**.
- **Stakeholder Online** will be held on **Wednesday, 20 May 2026**.
- An **Open Day** will be held at the Bakerton Community Hall, First Ave, Bakerton, Springs on **Thursday, 21 May 2026**.
- The **Draft Scoping Report** is available at the following Public venues on **Wednesday, 6 May 2026**:
 - Bakerton Public Library;
 - Springs Public Library; and
 - Kongiwe website: <http://www.kongiwe.com/publications-view/public-documents/>.
- The 30-Day public participation comment period will run from **Wednesday, 6 May 2026** to **Thursday, 4 June 2026**.
- The **Final Scoping Report** will then be finalized and submitted after the required public participation process has been undertaken. Comments will be recorded in a Comments and Response Report.
- Conduct the relevant specialist studies for the Proposed Project.
- The Draft EIA Report will be made available for public review and comment.
- The Final EIA Report will be finalised and submitted to the Competent authority for review and decision.
- The Water Use Licence Application process is currently on a pre-application phase.

- ❖ Discussion/Questions
- ❖ Action Points
 - Responsibility
 - Due Date
- ❖ Closing





Contact

- **Name: Vanessa Viljoen / Jean-Mari Williams**
- **Tel: 010 140 1725/26**
- **Email: Stakeholders@kongiwe.com**

Kongiwe Environmental

150 Bryanston Drive, Bryanston, Sandton, 2191, South Africa.

PostNet Suite no 163, Private Bag X21, Bryanston, 2021, South Africa.

info@kongiwe.com

www.kongiwe.com



MINUTES OF MEETING			
Date	Tuesday, 12 May 2026	Time	10:00 – 11:00
Venue	Online Meeting (Microsoft Teams)		
Subject	City of Ekurhuleni Municipality Meeting		
List of Attendees			
Organisation	Name of Attendee		Designation
City of Ekurhuleni Municipality (CoE)	Ms Lilian Matlala	Environmental Assessment Practitioner	
	Ms Dudu Thwala	Area Manager	
Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd (Ergo)	Mr Mothusi Mafatshe	Environmental Coordinator	
Kongiwe Environmental (Pty) Ltd (Kongiwe)	Ms Umeshree Naicker	Principal Environmental Consultant	
	Mr Phathutshedzo Munyai	Junior Environmental Consultation	
Apologies			
Organisation	Name of Attendee		Designation
Ergo	Mr Masala Tshamano	Environmental Manager	

Note: These minutes are not intended as a verbatim transcript of the meeting, but rather as a summary of the salient discussions which took place

No	Item	Responsible Person
1	Welcome and Introductions	
1.1	Ms Umeshree Naicker (Ms Naicker) welcomed all attendees to the meeting.	Ms Naicker
2	Meeting Purpose	
2.1	Present and discuss the proposed Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) (Proposed Project).	Ms Naicker
2.2	Provide an overview of the specialist studies to be undertaken.	
2.3	Present the Public participation Process.	
2.4	Provide an opportunity to raise comments/seek clarity as well as provide input.	
2.5	Address comments raised.	
3	Meeting Agenda	
3.1	Purpose of the Meeting.	Ms Naicker
3.2	Introduction.	
3.3	Project Background.	
3.4	Project Description.	
3.5	Project Infrastructure.	
3.6	Specialist Studies.	
3.7	Legislative Framework.	
3.8	Public Participation Process.	
3.9	Way Forward.	
3.10	Comments and Discussion.	

4 Discussion			
STAKEHOLDERS		COMMENT	RESPONSE
4.1	Ms Lilian Matlala (Ms Matlala)	Ms Matlala enquired about the Project Infrastructure slide, specifically enquiring whether the 11 kV overhead powerlines were existing infrastructure or proposed for construction.	Mr Mothusi Mafatshe (Mr Mafatshe) indicated that, as the dump had been in existence for a while he will need to check on the location of the 11 kV powerline. <u>Post Meeting Note:</u> A site visit was conducted by Ms Matlala and Mr Ripfumelo Macevele. During the site visit, it was noted that there are existing powerlines adjacent to the site.
4.2	Ms Dudu Twala (Ms Twala)	Ms Twala enquired about the exact location of the Proposed Project, specifically whether it was situated in Brakpan or Springs?	Ms Naicker responded that the Proposed Project is located approximately 4 kilometres from Springs.
4.3	Ms Matlala	Ms Matlala requested clarity on the affected properties for the Proposed Project.	Ms Naicker presented the land tenure map, which illustrates the directly and indirectly affected properties; properties highlighted in blue represent the directly affected properties, while the properties highlighted in yellow represent the indirectly affected properties identified for the Proposed Project. The Proposed Project falls within the three directly affected properties; Farm Grootvaly 124 IR Portion 6, Geduld 123 IR Portion 192, and that the pump station is located on Geduld 123 IR Portion 84.
4.4	Ms Matlala	Ms Matlala noted that Portion 6 of Farm Grootvaly 124 IR falls under the jurisdiction of the City of Ekurhuleni Municipality (CoE), and that a mining permit is already in place. She requested clarity on whether a consent use would still be applicable in this instance. She further noted that where a project is undertaken by an applicant who is not the landowner,	Mr Mafatshe responded that there is a dedicated department within Ergo is responsible for securing and coordinating the required consents, including liaison with the relevant municipality. He indicated that a formal response would be provided to Ms Matlala in due course.

4 Discussion			
STAKEHOLDERS		COMMENT	RESPONSE
		the relevant consent must be obtained. However, in this case, tailings dam is already present on Portion 6 of Farm Grootvaly 124 IR and a mining permit exists. She indicated that this was the first instance of encountering such a scenario and sought clarification on the applicability of consent use requirements.	
4.5	Ms Matlala	Ms Matlala enquired regarding the intended end land use for the relevant portion, whether Ergo has already identified the post-reclamation land use for the site.	Mr Mafatshe responded that, as the land is not owned by Ergo and comprises multiple portions owned by different landowners, the determination of end land use rests with the respective landowners. He explained that Ergo's role is limited to mining activities, after which the land is handed back to the original landowners. He further noted that, prior to handover, the land is cleared through the National Nuclear Regulator (NNR) process in terms of radiation requirements, and a land clearance certificate is obtained. Once this process is completed, the land is formally returned to the owner, who then determines the future use of the property.
4.6	Ms Matlala	Ms Matlala requested a site inspection with the relevant team, preferably during the coming week and prior to the closure of the comment period, if acceptable.	Ms Naicker will engage with Ms Matlala and confirm a site visit date (prior to 4 June 2026).
4.7	Ms Matlala	Ms Matlala enquired whether any comments had already been received and the closing date for the Draft Scoping Report.	Ms Naicker responded that no comments had been received to date from the COE. The comment period ends on 4 June 2026.
4.8	Ms Twala	Ms Twala raised a question regarding Grootvaly 124 IR Portion 6, which is owned by the CoE, and enquired whether a	Mr Mafatshe indicated that the matter would be verified internally, as a relevant department within Ergo is responsible for such matters. He

4	Discussion				
	STAKEHOLDERS	COMMENT	RESPONSE		
		Permission to Occupy (PTO) has been obtained or whether this remains a requirement to be addressed as part of the process.	confirmed that further clarification would be obtained and a response provided in due course.		
5	Closing				
5.1	Ms Umeshree Naicker thanked everyone for their time and the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 AM			All	-



DRDGOLD LIMITED

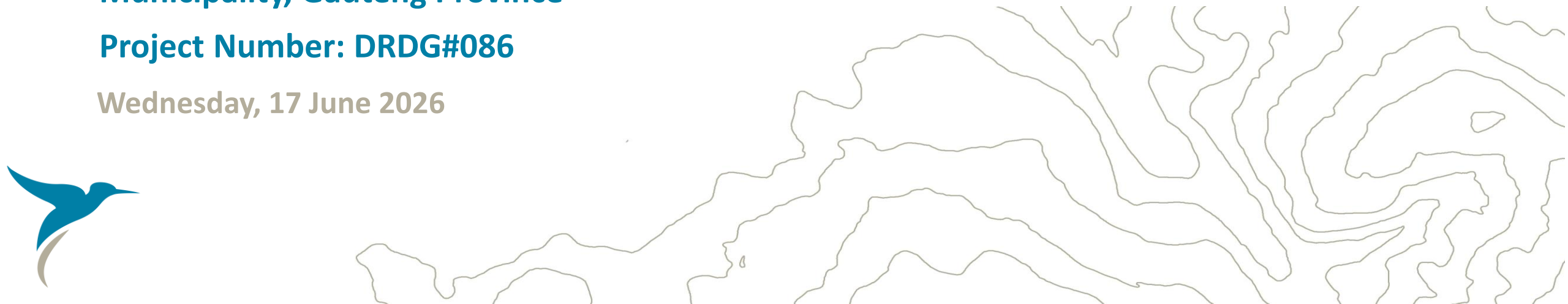
Ergo Mining (Pty) Limited

Stakeholder Engagement Meeting – City of Ekurhuleni Municipality

The Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) in the City of Ekurhuleni Municipality, Gauteng Province

Project Number: DRDG#086

Wednesday, 17 June 2026



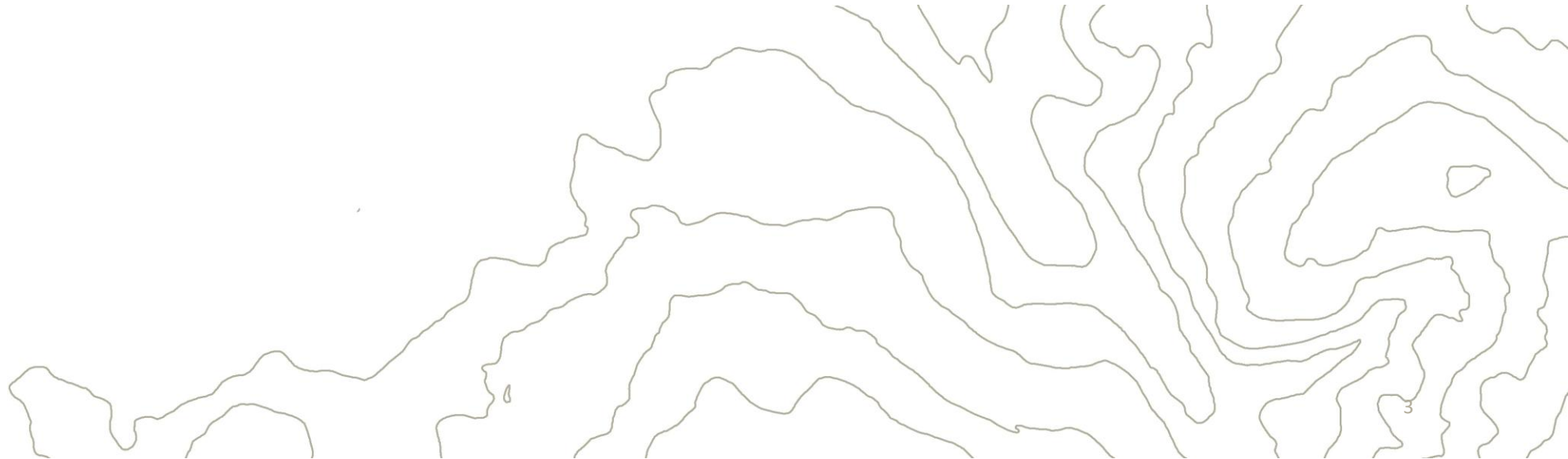
Agenda

1. Introduction
2. Purpose of the Meeting
3. Important Notice
4. Kongiwe's Role
5. Project Background
6. Project Description
7. Project Infrastructure
8. Specialist Studies
9. Legislative Framework
10. Public Participation Process
11. Way Forward
12. Comments and Discussions



Kongiwe Environmental

- Umeshree Naicker – Environmental Assessment Practitioner
- Phathutshedzo Munyai – Environmental Assessment Practitioner
- Vanessa Viljeon– Principal Stakeholder Engagement Consultant
- Masala Tshamano – Ergo Environmental Manager
- Mothusi Mafatshe – Ergo Environmental Co-ordinator



Purpose of the Meeting

- Discuss the proposed Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) (“Proposed Project”)
- Provide an overview of the Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment Process
- Provide an overview of the specialist studies to be undertaken
- Present the Public Participation Process
- Address comments raised by Stakeholders and include in the Comments and Responses Report



Kongiwe's Role

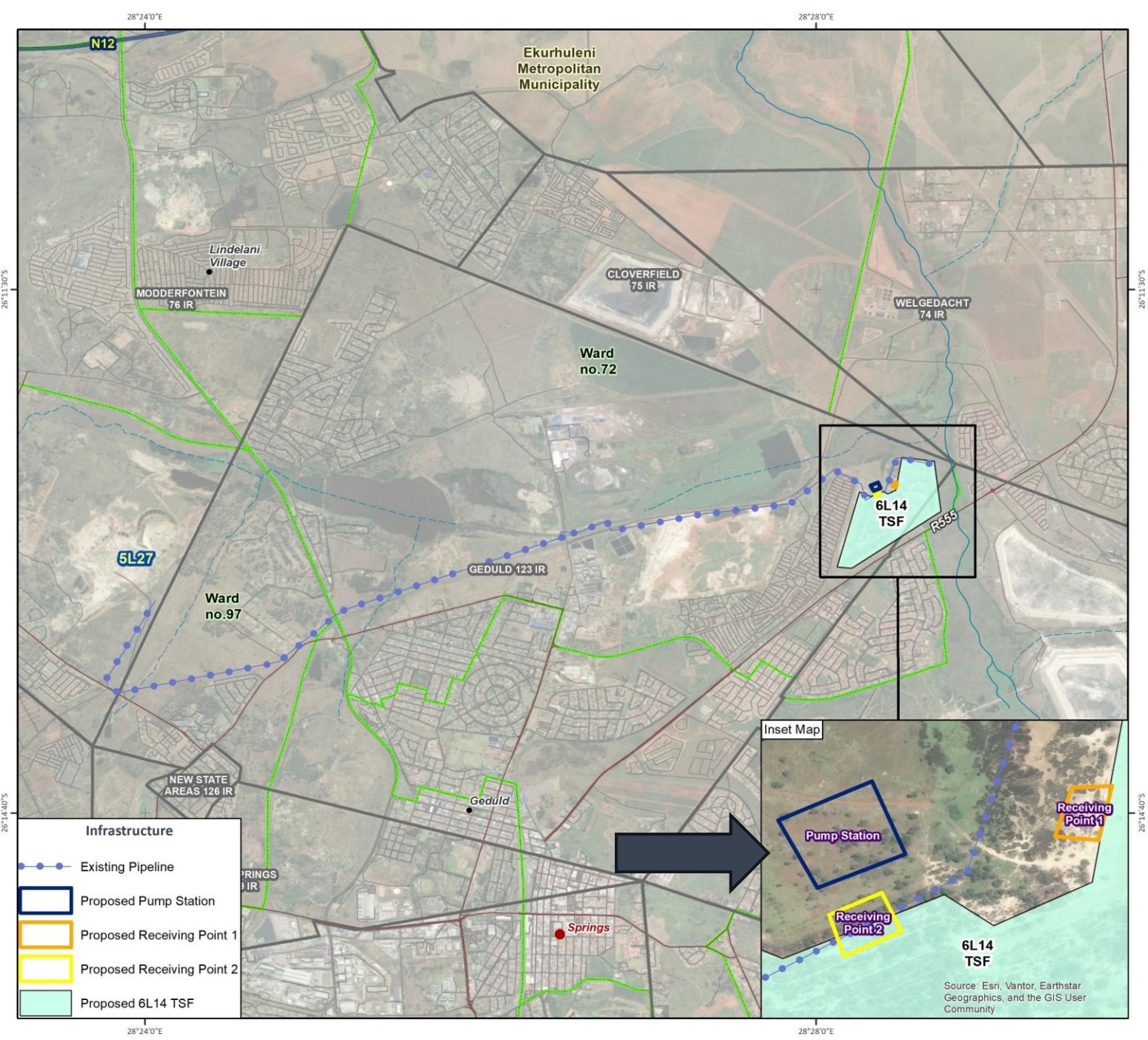
As an independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP), it is our role to perform an objective assessment of what the positive and negative environmental impacts of the proposed project may be, to quantify these, describe possible mitigations and provide DMPR and the DWS with the documentation so that the CA can determine if the project should proceed or not.



Project Background

- Applicant: Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd (“Ergo”)
- Activity: Ergo aims to reclaim and reprocess the 6L14 TSF with the objective of recovering gold using top-down hydraulic reclamation. Ergo has a Mining Right (ERGO-GP158MR) over the dump 6L14, this facility was historically used previously as a mining waste deposition site and has been dormant for some time. The servitude for the pipeline is in place, including the surface right permit.
- Life of Operation : Approximately 12 years.
- A water monitor blasts the sides of the TSF, the process water mixes with the unconsolidated material, resulting in what is known as a ‘slurry’.
- The slurry will report to a pumpstation, located at the lowest point of a TSF, where it will then be pumped and conveyed to Ergo Plant for reprocessing. A new reclamation pumpstation will be developed for the Proposed Project.
- The dump will be reprocessed via the existing pipeline network through the 5L27 Transfer Pumpstation to the Ergo Beneficiation Plant (Ergo Plant) which is currently in operation, with ultimate residue deposition taking place on the Brakpan/Withok TSF and /or Daggafontein TSF.
- An estimated maximum amount of 300 000 tons/month of slurry is expected to be pumped from 6L14 TSF.





6L14 SITE ORIENTATION

Legend

- Other Settlement
- Major Town
- Local Roads
- Main Road
- Non-Perennial River
- Perennial River
- National Road
- Parent Farm
- Ward Boundaries
- Local Municipalities

Project Code: DRDG#086
Client: Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd
Drawn: C Strooh | Checked: Z Omar
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www.kongiwe.com | Date: 06 March 2026

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Coordinate System: GCS WGS 1984
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:
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Map Set 1\6L14 Site Orientation A3 Landscape.mxd

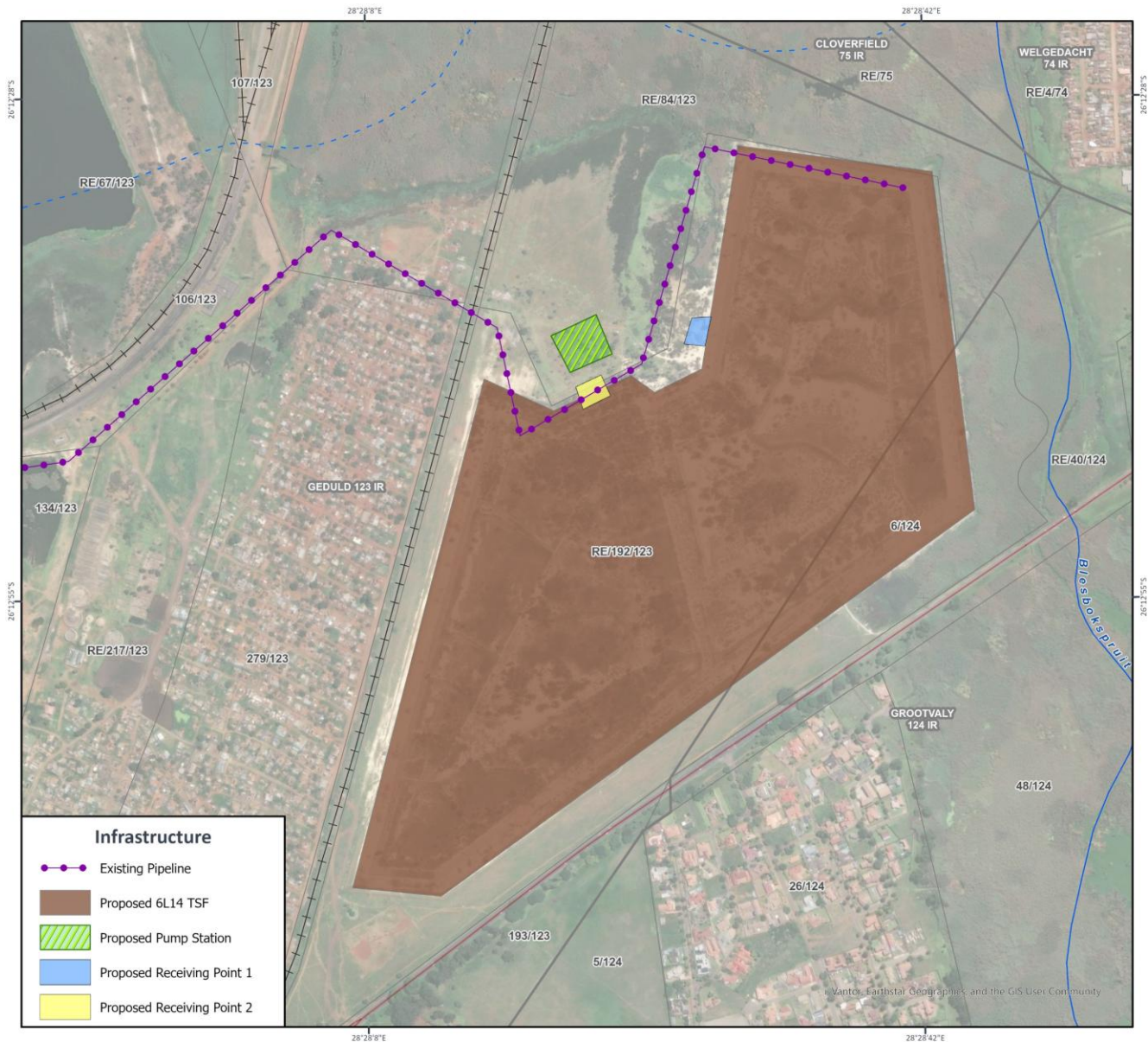
Properties affected by the Proposed Project:

Directly Affected Properties

Farm Name	Farm ID	Farm Portion
Reclamation Site		
Geduld	123 IR	192
Grootvaly	124 IR	6
Geduld	123 IR	84
Pumpstation		
Geduld	123 IR	84
Receiving Point 1 and 2		
Geduld	123 IR	192



Project Location- Proposed Layout Plan





6L14
PROPOSED
PROJECT LAYOUT

Legend

- Non-Perennial Stream
- Perennial River Stream
- Main Road
- Railway
- Farm Portion
- Parent Farm

0 100 200 400
Meters

Project Code: DRDG#086
Client: Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd
Drawn: C Strooh - Checked: B Thornton
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www.kongiwe.com | Date: 14 April 2026

Coordinate System: WGS84 TM LQ29
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: WGS 1984

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Map_Set_1/DRDG#086.aprx/6L14_Site_Infrastructure_A31



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2026 Satellite Imagery





Project Infrastructures

The following infrastructure will be utilised:

- Reclamation infrastructure at the TSF consisting of a pump station which includes:
 - Slurry sump;
 - Vibrating Screen;
 - Water tank;
 - Motor control centre; and
 - Slurry and associated pumps.
- Lined catchment paddocks;
- Stormwater management infrastructure including:
 - Water Pumpstation and PCD infrastructure and stormwater systems;
 - Existing paddocks on the TSF footprint; and
 - Pollution control paddock.
- 11 kV overhead powerlines capable of transmitting 3 kVA of electricity and electricity reticulation;
- Administration buildings, including change houses and ablution facilities;
- Access roads, routed from existing entry points;
- Construction contractors' yards (temporary facilities); and
- Process water will be required for the 6L14 reclamation operations to support the Proposed Project via the existing pipeline network.



Specialist studies

The following assessments were identified and will be assessed as part of the EIA process:

Proposed Specialist Studies to be undertaken	
Biodiversity Impact Assessment	Social Impact Assessment
Wetland Impact Assessment	Heritage Impact Assessment
Air Quality Impact Assessment	Climate Change Risk Assessment
Surface Water Impact Assessment	Traffic Impact Assessment
Groundwater Impact Assessment	Financial Provision and Closure
Noise Impact Assessment	Dolomite Impact Assessment



Summary of Potential Impacts at Scoping

Positive and Negative

Biodiversity Impact Assessment:

- Displacement of animal habitat by removing the TSF; and
- Removal of invasive species from the TSF.

Social, Air Quality, Noise, Impact Assessment:

- Land use will change to an active reclamation site;
- Noise associated with the reclamation project mainly originates from construction activities of required infrastructure as well as noises from motors, pumps and increased vehicular travel during the operational phase as well as processing activities; and
- Possible increase in dust levels in some areas during operations.

Groundwater, Surface Water & Wetland Impact Assessment:

- Water and ground contamination due to pipeline leaks/spillages if inadequate preventative measures are not implemented.

Heritage Impact Assessment:

- Since the footprint was a TSF previously, it is unlikely for there to be any heritage resources on site; and
- Should heritage resources be present in the area, the reclamation project could potentially impact these.

Dolomite Impact Assessment :

- Ground instability, sinkholes, subsidence, or structural damage due to disturbance and water ingress; and
- Safety risks to workers/public, traffic disruption, and nuisance impacts to nearby communities.

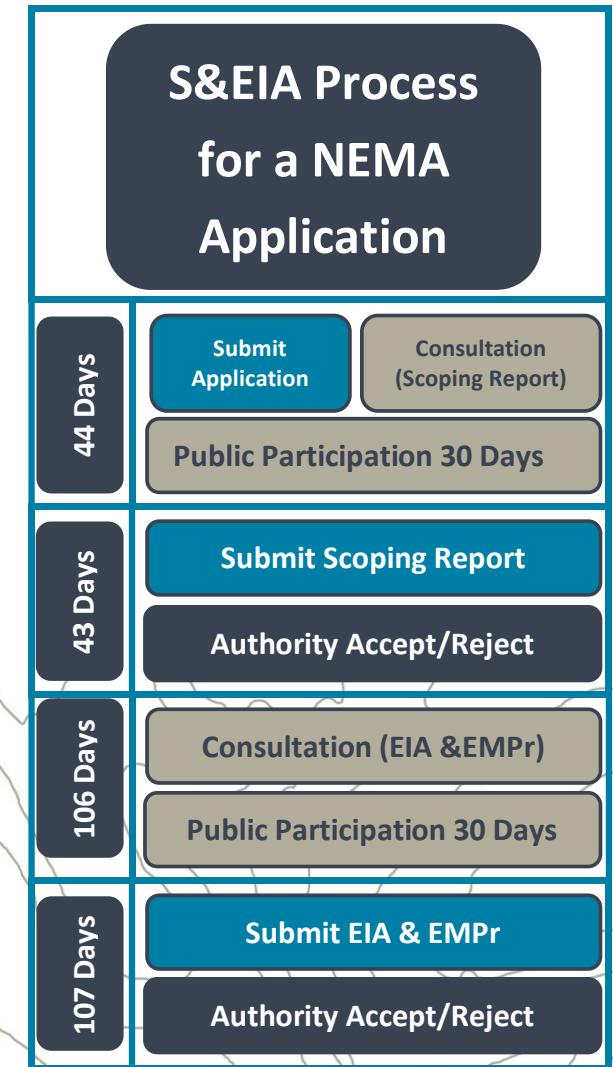
Traffic Impact Assessment:

- Temporary increase in heavy vehicle traffic during the construction phase due to mobilisation of equipment, and material deliveries; and
- Increased pressure on existing public and access roads, potentially accelerating road surface wear and degradation.



Legislative Framework

- An integrated Environmental Authorisation (EA) application was submitted to the DMPR on 6 May 2026 (Gauteng) as the Competent Authority for the Proposed Project.
 - The applicable applications to be assessed by the DMPR are as follows:
 - **Application for Environmental Authorisation (EA)** for listed activities triggered in Listing Notices GN R983, GN R984 and GN R985 published pursuant to the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), promulgated in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA).
 - These Listing Notices have been amended by GN R327, GN R325 and GN R324 of 7 April 2017 and GN R 517 of 11 June 2021.
 - **Application for a Waste Management Licence (WML)** authorising waste management activity listed in GN 921 of 29 November 2013 published in terms of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008) (as amended) (NEM:WA).
- In addition, the following applications will be made to other relevant Competent Authorities (CA):
- **An Integrated Water Use Licence Application (IWULA)** for Section 21 water uses triggered in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) (NWA).



- **Application for Environmental Authorisation (EA)**

- ✓ **GNR 984 Listing Notice 1: Activity 21F** - Any activity including the operation of that activity required or the reclamation of a residue stockpile or a residue deposit as well as any other applicable activity as contained in this Listing Notice or in Listing Notice 3 of 2014, required for the reclamation of a residue stockpile or a residue deposit: **(Tailings Storage Facility (TSF))**.
- ✓ **GNR 984 Listing Notice 1: Activity 6** - The development of facilities or infrastructure for any process or activity which requires a permit or licence or an amended permit or licence in terms of national or provincial legislation governing the generation or release of emissions, pollution or effluent: **(Satellite pumpstation; Slurry receiving Facility; Screening facility at the pumpstation; Storage; and Transfer pumps series)**.
- ✓ **GNR 983 Listing Notice 2: Activity 13** - The development of facilities or infrastructure for the off-stream storage of water, including dams and reservoirs, with a combined capacity of 50 000 cubic metres or more, unless such storage falls within the ambit of activity 16 in Listing Notice 2: **(Slurry receiving facility)**.

- **Application for a Waste Management Licence (WML)**

- ✓ Category B: Activity 11- The establishment or reclamation of a residue stockpile or residue deposit resulting from activities which require a mining right, exploration right or production right in terms of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002).

- **An Integrated Water Use Licence Application (IWULA)**

- ✓ Section 21(g): Disposing of waste in a manner which may detrimentally impact on a water resource: **(Dust Suppression of access roads and Disposing of excess stormwater and slurry in the Emergency Lined Paddock during a stormwater event)**.
- ✓ Section 21 (c) and (i): Impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse and, Altering the bed, banks, courses or characteristics of a watercourse: **(The construction, operation, and rehabilitation of the access road, Pumpstation, Slurry receiving Points and emergency lined paddock located within 500m of a wetland)**.

Public Participation Process (PPP)

The PPP objectives are to:

- Ensure that stakeholders are informed about the proposed development of the reclamation of the 6L14 TSF .
- Provide stakeholders with the opportunity to participate in the environmental regulatory processes and provide comment.
- Involve stakeholders in identifying ways in which comments can be addressed.
- Work directly with stakeholders throughout the environmental regulatory processes to ensure that stakeholder comments are consistently understood and considered.
- Verify that stakeholder comments have been recorded and addressed.



Public Participation Process (PPP)

- The (PPP) were undertaken in compliance with NEMA and the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.
- **The process is as follows:**
 - Announcement of the Proposed Project was conducted on **Wednesday, 29 April 2026**.
 - An advert indicating the availability of the documentation for public review and the Online and Open Day dates have been placed in the Springs Advertiser, on **Wednesday, 29 April 2026**. This advert was placed in English.
 - Notices providing information of where the public documentation will be accessible and when the Online and Open Day will be held have been placed around site at key locations on the **Wednesday, 6 May 2026**. These notices was placed in English.
 - The required Environmental Application was submitted to the DMPR on the **Wednesday, 6 May 2026**.
 - The Draft Scoping Report was made available for public review and comment on the **Wednesday, 6 May 2026 to Thursday, 4 June 2026**.
 - The Final Scoping report will be submitted to the Competent Authority for review and decision.



- The **Environmental Application and Draft Scoping Report** was submitted to the DMPR on **Wednesday, 6 May 2026**.
- **Stakeholder Online** will be held on **Wednesday, 20 May 2026**.
- An **Open Day** will be held at the Bakerton Community Hall, First Ave, Bakerton, Springs on **Thursday, 21 May 2026**.
- The **Draft Scoping Report** is available at the following Public venues on **Wednesday, 6 May 2026**:
 - Bakerton Public Library;
 - Springs Public Library; and
 - Kongiwe website: <http://www.kongiwe.com/publications-view/public-documents/>.
- The 30-Day public participation comment period will run from **Wednesday, 6 May 2026** to **Thursday, 4 June 2026**.
- The **Final Scoping Report** will then be finalized and submitted after the required public participation process has been undertaken. Comments will be recorded in a Comments and Response Report.
- Conduct the relevant specialist studies for the Proposed Project.
- The Draft EIA Report will be made available for public review and comment.
- The Final EIA Report will be finalised and submitted to the Competent authority for review and decision.
- The Water Use Licence Application process is currently on a pre-application phase.

- ❖ Discussion/Questions
- ❖ Action Points
 - Responsibility
 - Due Date
- ❖ Closing





Contact

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Kongiwe Environmental

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MINUTES OF MEETING			
Date	Thursday, 14 May 2026	Time	11:30 – 12:30
Venue	Online Meeting (Microsoft Teams)		
Subject	Pre-Application Meeting with the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)		
List of Attendees			
Organisation	Name of Attendee		Designation
Department of Water and Sanitation	Ms Basani Lerato Nkuna		Environmental Officer
Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd (Ergo)	Mr Mothusi Mafatshe		Environmental Co-ordinator
Kongiwe Environmental (Pty) Ltd (Kongiwe)	Mr Bradly Thornton		Project Director
	Ms Phumla Mngwengwe		Senior Environmental Consultant
	Ms Mokgadi Mashaba		Water Use Licence Consultant
	Mr Lubabalo Zongolo		Junior Environmental Consultant
Apologies			
Organisation	Name of Attendee		Designation
Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd (Ergo)	Mr Masala Tshamano		Environmental Manager

Note: These minutes are not intended as a verbatim transcript of the meeting, but rather as a summary of the salient discussions which took place.

No	Item
1	Welcome and Introductions
1.1	Ms Mngwengwe welcomed all attendees to the meeting.
2	Meeting Purpose
2.1	Present the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) Reclamation Project (the 'Project') and the identified water uses.
2.2	Discuss and acquire input from the DWS in relation to the identified water uses, technical documents and specialist studies to be submitted
2.3	Determine a way forward for the application
3	Meeting Agenda
3.1	Introduction
3.2	Purpose of the Meeting
3.3	Project Description
3.4	Identified Water Use
3.5	Project Infrastructure
3.6	Public Participation Process
3.7	Way Forward
3.8	Comments and Discussion

4	Discussion		
STAKEHOLDERS		COMMENT	RESPONSE
4.1	Ms Basani Nkuna	Ms Nkuna asked whether the Project has any Existing Lawful Water Uses (ELUs) held by Ergo Mining, and whether the application is new, an amendment, or a consolidation.	Ms Mngwengwe stated that this is a new application. However, Ergo will use existing infrastructure, including the 5L27 transfer pump station, and the pipeline will be reinstalled within existing servitudes.

4		Discussion	
STAKEHOLDERS		COMMENT	RESPONSE
4.2	Ms Basani Nkuna	Ms Nkuna asked whether the proposed new infrastructure would be limited to the pipeline or would also include the other infrastructure mentioned in the presentation.	Ms Mngwengwe stated that the other infrastructure on site will be new, including the pump station, lined catchment paddock, and upgrades to access roads, all of which trigger water use requirements.
4.3	Ms Basani Nkuna	Ms Nkuna asked whether alternative locations had been considered for the proposed receiving points and pump station, given their proximity to the water resource.	Ms Mngwengwe stated that the pump station is intended to avoid the floodline. It is located outside the wetland area, but within the 500 m regulated wetland buffer. Mr Thornton added that receiving points 1 and 2 must be located at the lowest points to allow slurry to flow into them under gravity before being pumped to the pump station. He explained that the topography is relatively level, with one receiving point collecting slurry from the north-western section and the other from the north-eastern section. He noted that no alternative locations have been identified at this stage, although the infrastructure layout is still in draft form.
4.4	Mr Bradly Thornton	Mr Thornton asked Ms Nkuna whether she was familiar with tailings reclamation projects and their processes. <i>Mr Thornton then gave a brief explanation of the tailings reclamation process to Ms Nkuna.</i>	Ms Nkuna stated that she was not familiar with the process, although she had worked on a few applications related to it. She thanked Mr Thornton for the clear explanation.

4		Discussion	
STAKEHOLDERS		COMMENT	RESPONSE
4.5	Ms Basani Nkuna	Ms Nkuna asked about the disposal method for the reprocessed slurry and what mitigation measures are in place to prevent impacts on the surrounding environment and groundwater.	Mr Thornton stated that the slurry will be pumped from 6L14 to the 5L27 transfer pump station and then on to the Ergo Plant for reprocessing. After reprocessing, the ensuing tailings will be deposited onto the existing licensed Brakpan TSF.
4.6	Ms Basani Nkuna	Ms Nkuna asked whether contingency plans are in place for situations where the 5L27 pump station cannot supply the project with process water, and whether external water sources would then be required.	Mr Mafatshe stated that supply will not be interrupted, as the 5L27 pump station will remain operational throughout the life of the project. He added that other TSFs in the region are also proposed to source water from the 5L27 pump station.
4.7	Ms Basani Nkuna	Ms Nkuna asked about Ergo's closed-loop water system, how it prevents the uncontrolled discharge of slurry into the environment, how excess rainfall would be managed on site, and whether Ergo complies with GN 704 regulations.	Mr Thornton stated that, in the event of a power failure, an automatic valve closes the pipeline and any slurry remaining in the pipe is discharged into the lined catchment paddock. He added that toe paddocks are located around and above the TSF to collect rainwater, which is then allowed to evaporate. No water is discharged into the environment. Ms Mngwengwe added that the lined catchment paddock is designed to store incidental slurry and process water releases from the reclamation station and in-flight slurry from the TSF, and its sizing takes such events into account to ensure adequate containment. She also noted that paddocks are constructed/reinstated around the TSF to prevent dirty water from flowing into the clean-water catchment. Mr Mafatshe added that similar systems are used at other reclamation sites. During a power outage event, the valve closes

4 Discussion			
STAKEHOLDERS		COMMENT	RESPONSE
			and any slurry remaining in the pipeline is directed to the lined catchment paddock. Once the power outage has passed, the slurry in the paddock is pumped to the pump station and then to the Ergo Plant, and then operations continue as normal. The lined catchment paddock remains empty except during power failures and stormwater events.
4.8	Ms Basani Nkuna	Ms Nkuna asked whether this Project would follow the same process described by Mr Mafatshe.	Ms Mngwengwe confirmed that it would follow the same process.
4.9	Ms Basani Nkuna	Ms Nkuna asked whether the slurry and process-water pipelines would run parallel to each other or come into contact, and whether measures are in place to prevent contamination between the dirty- and clean-water systems.	Ms Mngwengwe confirmed that the slurry and process water pipelines will run parallel to each other. She added that Ergo has procedures in place, including pipeline monitoring, to detect spills and ensure that they are cleaned up immediately. Mr Mafatshe added that where a pipeline crosses a water resource (i.e. wetland or stream), paddocks are constructed to prevent slurry from entering the wetland/river.
5 Closing			
5.1	Ms Phumla Mngwengwe thanked everyone for their time and input, and the meeting was adjourned at 12:45 AM.		



DRDGOLD Limited

Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd – The 6L14 TSF Reclamation Project

Department of Water and Sanitation: Pre-Application Meeting

DWS Ref No.: WU49770

14 May 2026



Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Purpose of the meeting
3. Project Description
4. Identified Water Uses
5. Public Participation Process
6. Questions & Answers

Introductions

- ❖ Department of Water and Sanitation
- ❖ Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd (Applicant)
- ❖ Kongiwe Environmental (Pty) Ltd (Consultant)

Purpose of the meeting

- ❖ Present the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) Reclamation Project and the identified water uses.
- ❖ Discuss and acquire input from the DWS in relation to the identified water uses, technical documents and specialist studies to be submitted.
- ❖ Determine a way forward for the application.

Pre-application enquiry meeting

5. (1) The applicant must undertake a pre-application enquiry meeting with the responsible authority prior to submission of an application.

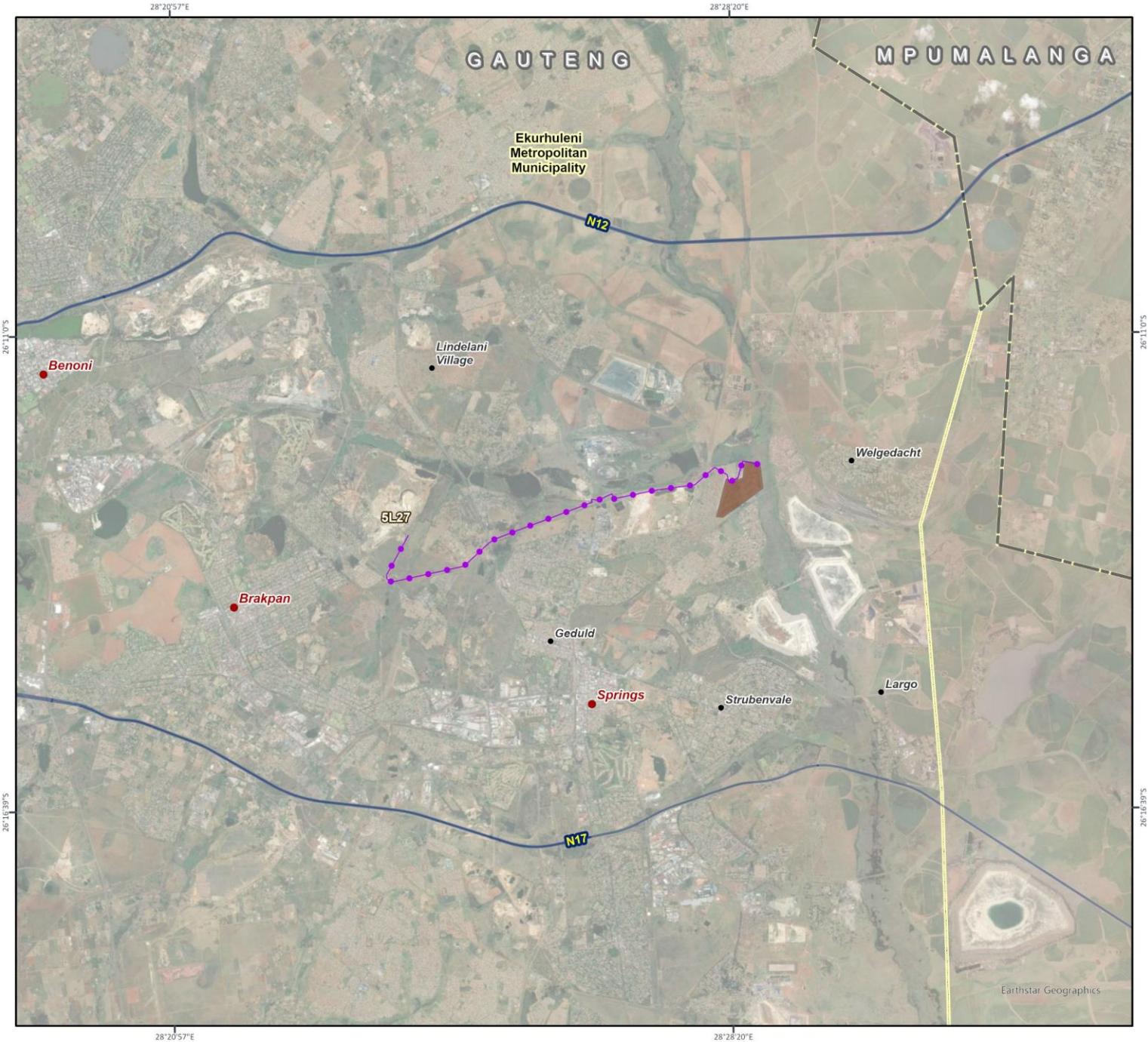
(2) During the pre-application enquiry meeting contemplated in subregulation (1) the responsible authority must advise the applicant on the procedural requirements and required documents for a water use licence, the type of a water use licence required, the information required, and the technical report for the proposed water use licence.

(3) The applicant can submit his or her application at any time after the pre-application enquiry meeting.

Project Description

- ❖ The Applicant is Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd (Ergo).
- ❖ Ergo proposes to reclaim and reprocess gold residues from the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF). The TSF is situated approximately 4 km north-east of Springs, in Ward 72 of the City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality on Portion 6 of the Farm Grootvaly 124 IR and Portions 84 and 192 of the farm Geduld 123 IR. The TSF is within quaternary catchment C21D in the Vaal-Orange Water Management Area.
- ❖ The 6L14 TSF was historically used previously as a mining waste deposition site and has been dormant for some time.
- ❖ The proposed project includes the reclamation of the TSF as well as the construction, operation and rehabilitation of the associated reclamation and stormwater management infrastructure within 500 m of a wetland.

Locality



6L14 REGIONAL ORIENTATION

Legend

- Other Settlement
- Major Town
- National Road
- Pipeline
- Local Municipalities
- Provinces
- 6L14 TSF



Project Code: DRDG#086
Client: Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd
Drawn: C Strooh - Checked: B Thornton
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www.kongiwe.com | Date: 13/05/2026



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

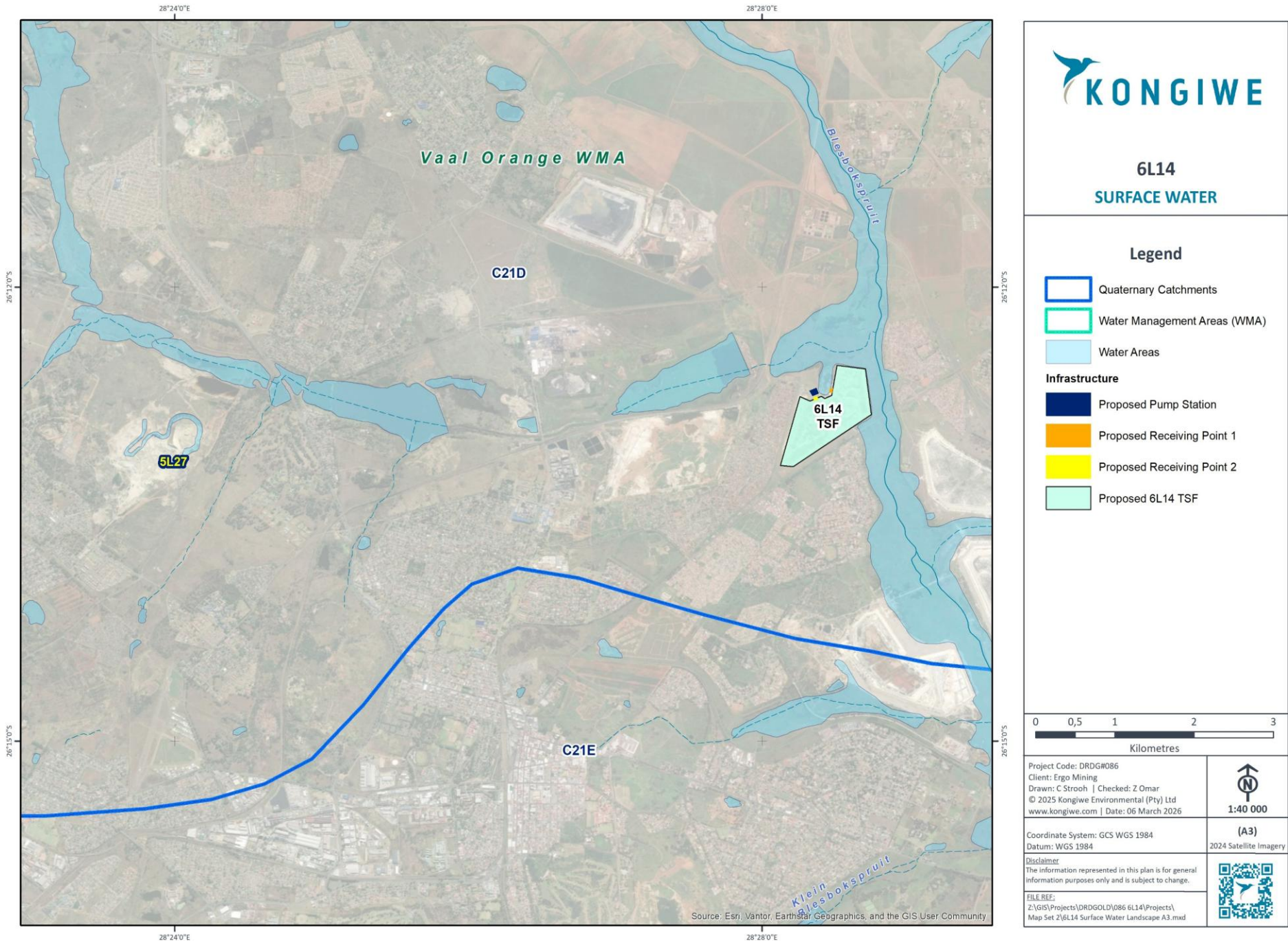
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Catchment



Project Description

- ❖ The TSFs will be reclaimed using a top-down hydraulic reclamation method. During a top-down hydraulic reclamation, recycled process water from the canon mixes with the unconsolidated material of the TSF, resulting into slurry with a high solids content.
- ❖ The slurry will flow under gravity along trenches at the base of the TSF to a collection sump and then to the pumpstation positioned at the lowest elevation of the bench being mined.
- ❖ Slurry will be transported via a pipeline that will be reinstated/ reinstalled on existing Ergo SRPs and servitudes, to the 5L27 Transfer Pumpstation, and then conveyed to the Ergo Beneficiation Plant (Ergo Plant).
- ❖ The water required for reclamation will be sourced from the 5L27 transfer pump station.
- ❖ Process water will be pumped from the 5L27 Pumpstation and conveyed to the 6L14 TSF via a pipeline that will be reinstated/ reinstalled on existing Ergo SRPs and servitudes.
- ❖ Potable water will be sourced from Rand Water with a contingency for portable JoJo tanks or a connection to existing water pipeline infrastructure.
- ❖ The life of mine for the 6L14 TSF reclamation is expected to be 12 years. An estimated maximum amount of 300 000 tons/month of slurry is expected to be pumped from 6L14 TSF.

A Top-down Hydraulic Reclamation Method



Project Description: Proposed Infrastructure

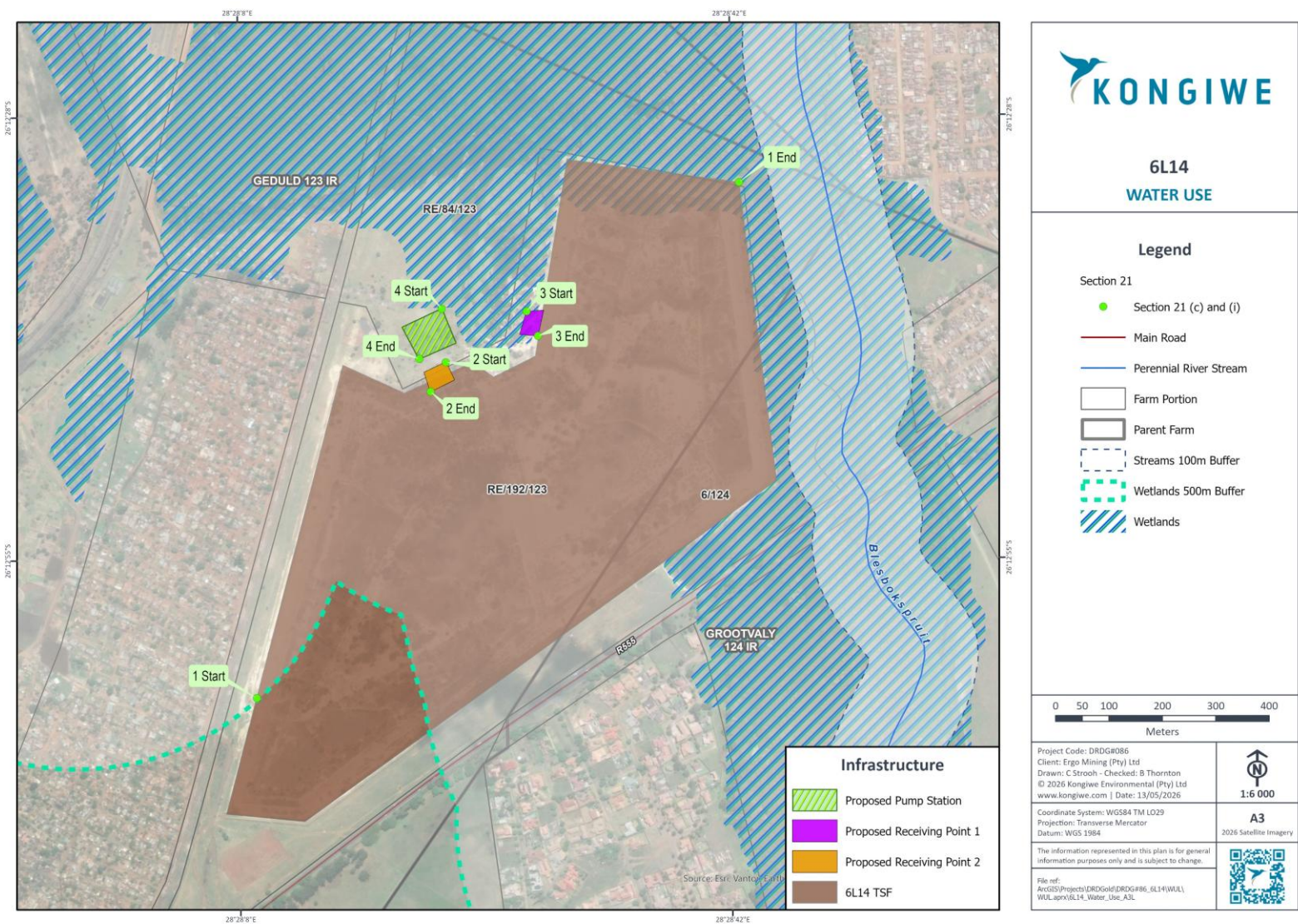
The following infrastructure will be utilised on site:

- ❖ Reclamation infrastructure consisting of:
 - Slurry sump;
 - Vibrating Screen;
 - Water tank;
 - Motor control centre; and
 - Slurry and associated Pumps.
- ❖ 11 kV overhead powerlines capable of transmitting 3 kVA of electricity and electricity reticulation;
- ❖ Slurry and process water pipelines;
- ❖ Stormwater management infrastructure;
- ❖ Lined catchment paddock;
- ❖ Administration buildings, including change houses and ablution facilities;
- ❖ Access roads, routed from existing entry points; and
- ❖ Construction contractors' yards (temporary facilities).

Water uses applicable to the Proposed Project are as follows:

- ❖ Section 21 (c) & (i) - Infrastructure proposed to be within 500m of a wetland:
 - 6L14 TSF reclamation and associated stormwater infrastructure;
 - Access roads;
 - Pump station and its associated infrastructure;
 - Lined catchment paddock; and
 - Two slurry receiving points
- ❖ Section 21 (g) - Disposal of effluent into a water containment facility as well as dust suppression.
 - Disposal of mine-affected water into a lined catchment paddock; and
 - Dust suppression of access roads.

Water Use Map



Public Participation Process

- ❖ The Public Participation Process (PPP) will be conducted as per the Regulation 267.
- ❖ The PPP for the Scoping (EIA) Phase is currently underway and includes a notification that an IWULA is being undertaken for the Project.
- ❖ Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) will be notified of the IWULA Public Review Period.

- ❖ Discussion
- ❖ Closing





Contact

- Name: Mokgadi Machaba/Phumla Mngwengwe
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- Email:
mmachaba@kongiwe.com/pmngwengwe@kongiwe.com

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info@kongiwe.com
www.kongiwe.com

MINUTES OF MEETING			
Date	Wednesday, 20 May 2026	Time	10:00 – 11:00
Venue	Online Meeting (Microsoft Teams)		
Subject	Broader Stakeholder Meeting		
List of Attendees			
Organisation		Name of Attendee	Designation
Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd		Mr Mothusi Mafatshe	Environmental Co-ordinator
Andrew Barker Development Consultant		Mr Andrew Barker	Development Consultant Town Planner Chairperson of KlipSA (Klipriviersberg Sustainability Association)
Corruseal Group		Ms Carol Le Roux	Group Environmental Manager
BMO technical Department for Impala Platinum Refineries		Ms Karina Beukes	Plant Manager
Impala Platinum Refineries		Ms Carina Burger	Safety and Environmental Manager
Impala Platinum Refineries		Mr Wilhelm Botha	Technical Manager
Ward 72		Mr Rajdeo Sewlall	Ward 72 Ward Committee Member
Federation for a Sustainable Environment		Ms Mariette Liefferink	CEO
PVT		Ms Suvania Naidoo	Independent Researcher
Kongiwe Environmental (Pty) Ltd (Kongiwe)		Ms Umeshree Naicker	Principal Environmental Consultant
		Ms Vanessa Viljoen	Principal Stakeholder Engagement Consultant
		Ms Iviwe Walaza	Junior Environmental Consultant
		Mr Ripfumelo Macevele	Environmental Consultant
Apologies			
Organisation		Name of Attendee	Designation
Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd		Mr Masala Tshamano	Environmental Manager

Note: These minutes are not intended as a verbatim transcript of the meeting, but rather as a summary of the salient discussions which took place

No	Item	Responsible Person
1	Welcome and Introductions	
1.1	Ms Umeshree Naicker (Ms Naicker) welcomed all attendees to the meeting.	Ms Naicker
2	Meeting Purpose	
2.1	Present and discuss the proposed Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) (Proposed Project) with the Stakeholders.	Ms Naicker
2.2	Provide an overview of the specialist studies to be undertaken.	
2.3	Present the Public Participation Process.	
2.4	Provide an opportunity to raise comments/seek clarity as well as provide input.	
2.5	Address comments raised by Stakeholders.	
3	Meeting Agenda	
3.1	Purpose of the Meeting.	Ms Naicker
3.2	Introduction.	
3.3	Project Background.	
3.4	Project Description.	
3.5	Project Infrastructure.	
3.6	Specialist Studies.	
3.7	Legislative Framework.	
3.8	Public Participation Process.	
3.9	Way Forward.	
3.10	Comments and Discussion.	

4 Discussion			
STAKEHOLDERS		COMMENT	RESPONSE
4.1	Mr Andrew Barker (Mr Baker)	Mr Barker sought to clarify that, in the presentation, Ms Naicker refers to water monitors blasting the sides of the TSF/Dump. He noted that this may be misinterpreted, as it pertains not to the outside of the dump, but to the inside of the dump. He further stated that the wording should not create concern by suggesting that blasting would occur from the outside, as this is a methodology and technology that were discontinued several years ago due to dust management considerations.	Ms Naicker indicated that the wording will be revised for the Open Day meeting (21 May 2026).
4.2	Mr Wilhelm Botha (Mr Botha)	Mr Botha requested clarification on the following: The water used for hydraulic reclamation and sought clarification on whether process water would be pumped all the way to 5L27 pumpstation, and then returned via a second pipeline, or whether there would be only one pipeline, with the water being returned at a later stage (for example at night), and retained on site at 6L14.	Mr Mafatshe replied that no water will be kept on site. The process water circulates within the system (from the processing plant to the various reclamation and deposition sites). He added that the water is circulated via pipelines (there will be both a slurry pipeline and a process water pipeline), meaning it will be sent to 6L14 for reclamation purposes via the 5L27 pump station and reused within the system. The same water is conveyed to other sites for reclamation, transports the slurry to the Ergo plant, and carries the final residue to the deposition sites (Daggafontein or Brakpan TSF), after which it is recovered back into the system, similar to what will occur during the 6L14 reclamation. He noted that this process is not limited to 6L14, as the same water is also used at other reclamation sites.

4 Discussion			
STAKEHOLDERS		COMMENT	RESPONSE
		Enquired whether an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is also required for the pipeline, even though a servitude/surface right permit is available for the pipeline from 6L14 TSF to 5L27 pumpstation.	Ms Naicker advised that there is no need for an EIA as the Surface Rights Permit and pipeline servitude are in place for the pipeline route.
4.3	Ms Carina Burger (Ms Burger)	Ms Burger enquired about the management of potential spillages from pipeline on neighbouring properties, including Impala's.	Mr Mafatshe explained that where a property is involved, they construct paddocks or catchment paddocks along the pipeline. In the event of a spillage, affected water is contained within these paddocks and cleaned up immediately. He added that this approach ensures the spillage is contained and does not spread across the affected property. This is how they manage pipelines along properties, including those located near streams or watercourses. Mr Mafatshe further added that they have security patrols along the pipelines. They patrol 24 hours a day, monitoring the pipelines so that if there is any incident, it can be reported to them immediately, and they will deal with it without delay. He also encouraged Ms Burger to contact them if she notices anything on their side, so that they can respond quickly.
4.4	Ms Karina Beukes (Ms Beukes)	Ms Beukes enquired that, although Ergo has paddocks next to the pipelines and related measures in place, she wanted to understand, based on Ergo's experience over the past years of being involved in the hydraulic reclamation, how often these pipelines fail. She noted that Ergo operates pipelines extensively across the East Rand for reclamation purposes, and asked how frequently incidents	Mr Mafatshe explained that it depends, as sometimes issues are limited to pipe-related incidents, and there can be many months without any occurrence. He indicated that he would not be able to specify exactly how often such incidents happen. While incidents do occur, they are not frequent.

4 Discussion			
STAKEHOLDERS		COMMENT	RESPONSE
		such as pipe bursts, openings, or spillages occur, as she is interested in knowing this.	Mr Mafatshe added that pipe bursts do not happen regularly. He noted that the pipeline is made of steel, with a rubber lining inside, which makes it less prone to bursting. However, although it is not easy for it to burst, accidents can still occur, but not on a regular basis.
4.5	Ms Beukes	Ms Beukes followed up on Mr Mafatshe's response, enquiring whether, in the event of a pipe burst in the area where it crosses or runs along their property, the Ergo team would rehabilitate the affected area. She also asked how the pipeline crosses the railway. Based on the aerial photograph, there appears to be a section where it crosses the over the railway line. She queried whether it passes through a culvert or by another method specifically for 6L14 project.	Mr Mafatshe responded that Ms Beukes is correct in the event of an incident on their property, Ergo will be responsible for rehabilitation. He further stated that he is aware of an area where the pipeline crosses the railway. In that instance, the pipeline will cross over the railway line. He indicated that he is not certain about other areas but confirmed at least one location where this occurs. He added that the pipeline will be constructed safely over the railway and will not obstruct passing trains.
4.6	Mr Baker	Mr Baker enquired whether some form of monitoring telemetry could be used while the pipeline is in operation, so that a drop in pressure would lead to an alert and enable the Ergo team to investigate on quickly. He mentioned that such systems are used in petrol pipelines. He added that he wondered whether there might be a cost-benefit opportunity to minimise the impact of any spill through a rapid reaction and response. While acknowledging that bursts are not frequent, as previously mentioned, he indicated uncertainty regarding the potential impacts, costs, and benefits, and suggested that this may be something worth considering.	Mr Mafatshe responded that Ergo has Leak Detector system which is linked to SCADA system that is used to monitor pipe leaks/burst. Once an issue is detected, the pipeline will be shut down immediately to prevent the spill from spreading further.

4 Discussion			
STAKEHOLDERS		COMMENT	RESPONSE
4.7	Mr Botha	Mr Botha mentioned that Impala Platinum Refineries use hydrogen in their process. He noted that there is an existing servitude, which he believes is owned by Air Products, running parallel to the Transnet servitude just north of their plant. He enquired whether Ergo is aware of this, and if so, whether it was taken into consideration during the routing and planning of the pipeline. Mr Botha also mentioned that he knows the area quite well and has not seen any existing pipeline. He therefore suggested that it would be worthwhile to conduct a site visit so that the Ergo team can show them the existing pipeline.	Mr Mafatshe responded that he is not very familiar with this specific area in question and indicated that it would first need to be assessed, after which they would proceed accordingly. He added that this is not a new pipeline route, as the pipeline was laid some time ago and certain sections of the pipelines were stolen. The pipeline will be replaced like for like but they would still need to verify the area He further agreed that a site visit can be arranged to inspect and assess the area in question.
4.9	Mr Botha	Requested confirmation of the operational period.	Ms Naicker confirmed that the operational period will be 12 years.
4.10	Ms Burger	Suggested that ERWAT form part of the stakeholder database.	Ms Naicker confirmed that ERWAT will be include in the stakeholder engagement database and consulted.

NOTE:

MS MARIETTE LIEFFERINK PROVIDED A LIST OF COMMENTS AND ALSO EMAILED COMMENTS (IN RELATION TO THE MEETING COMMENTS). THE MINUTES HAVE CAPTURED BOTH SUBMISSIONS IN THE SECTION BELOW.

THE USE OF “POST MEETING NOTES” HAVE BEEN WHERE THE TOPIC OF COMMENT WAS CONSIDERED TO BE ALIGNED WITH COMMENTS RECEIVED AFTER THE STAKEHOLER MEETING.

4		Discussion		
STAKEHOLDERS		COMMENT		RESPONSE
4.11	Ms Mariette Liefferink (Ms Liefferink)	Ms Liefferink sought clarity on whether the presentation made reference to an existing Mining Right. Public Participation - The stakeholder confirmed that they do not oppose the Proposed Project and that their comments are intended to support the inclusion of additional research and specialist assessments during the EIA phase. - Concerns were raised regarding the limited baseline information available at the scoping stage, particularly in relation to hydrological, geotechnical, and social aspects, with the view that adequate information is required for interested and affected parties to meaningfully assess the potential risks and implications of the Proposed Project. - The stakeholder highlighted the need for a cumulative impact assessment, considering the number of reclamation projects and historical environmental impacts within the East Rand, particularly in relation to pollution in the Blesbokspuit Catchment. - With reference to Mr Barker's comments, that as members of the Blesbokspuit Catchment Management Forum, they are aware of the significant historical environmental challenges within the catchment, including acid mine drainage (approximately 100 million litres per day or		Ms Naicker responded that they have noted that an existing Mining Right. - The purpose of the Scoping Phase is to identify potential environmental and social issues associated with the Proposed Project, determine the specialist studies required, and define the scope of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). As such, detailed specialist investigations, impact assessments, and baseline studies are generally undertaken during the EIA Phase and are not expected to be completed at the scoping stage. - The findings of these studies, including baseline conditions, impact assessments, and proposed mitigation measures, will be presented in the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (DEIAR) for public review and comment. - The EIA Phase will include an assessment of cumulative impacts in accordance with the EIA Regulations, taking into consideration existing and reasonably foreseeable developments within the area, as well as the environmental context of the broader Blesbokspuit Catchment. - The EIA Phase will include specialist assessments to establish the environmental baseline and evaluate the

4 Discussion			
STAKEHOLDERS	COMMENT	RESPONSE	
	slightly less), radiological contamination, and ongoing sewage pollution. Post Meeting Notes • Meaningful consultation under NEMA requires more than procedural notification. The limited library access hours digital access barriers may present challenges. • The FSE also recommends that the ought to be targeted engagement with vulnerable and marginalised groups.	potential impacts of the Proposed Project within the context of existing environmental conditions. Where relevant, these existing pressures and their potential cumulative interactions with the Proposed Project will be considered as part of the impact assessment process. Post Meeting Notes • The Public Participation Process (PPP) is being undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (as amended). Multiple engagement mechanisms and announcement documents have been implemented to facilitate participation, including direct stakeholder notifications, newspaper advertisements, site notices, online and open day meetings, and the provision of project information through publicly accessible platforms. The announcement documents provided a link to the Kongiwe website for an electronic copy of the Draft Scoping Report. • Community members were invited to the Open Day which was held on 21 May 2026.	
4.12	Cumulative • She emphasised the need to assess cumulative dust impacts from existing mining and industrial activities and to consider	• The EIA Phase will include an assessment of air quality impacts, including consideration of cumulative effects	

4 Discussion			
STAKEHOLDERS	COMMENT	RESPONSE	
	environmental justice principles throughout the assessment process. • She noted that surrounding communities are already affected by mining and industrial activities and experience significant socio-economic challenges, including poverty and food insecurity, which may increase their vulnerability to potential project impacts. • She recommended that potential health impacts on adjacent communities be evaluated, where appropriate, through an environmental justice lens. Post Meeting Notes Since the East Rand is already heavily environmentally burdened, the FSE recommends that the EIA includes an adequate assessment of the cumulative impacts arising from the multiple TSF reclamation projects within the region; the existing mining activities; the regional air pollution, the existing AMD impacts, the regional groundwater stress, and the cumulative socio-economic burdens. Cumulative impact assessment is legally required under NEMA and increasingly emphasised in South African environmental jurisprudence.	where relevant and where sufficient information is available. • The EIA process will consider the socio-economic context of surrounding communities and assess the significance of potential impacts. • Relevant specialist studies, including the Social Impact Assessment and Air Quality Impact Assessment, will evaluate cumulative impacts and recommend mitigation measures where necessary. Post Meeting Notes Refer to the above responses; the relevant specialist assessments will assess cumulative impacts. The Draft EIA Report will present the findings of the impact assessment and the proposed mitigation measures.	

4 Discussion			
STAKEHOLDERS		COMMENT	RESPONSE
4.13		Needs and Desirability Regarding the need and desirability of the project, she stated that the EIA must adequately demonstrate whether the project constitutes ecologically sustainable development. She referred to Section 24 of the Constitution, which speaks to ecologically sustainable development and justifiable economic development, and noted that it should be clearly determined whether the environmental risks outweigh the purported benefits. She added that this aligns with both Section 2 of NEMA (the principles) and Section 24 of the Constitution. Post Meeting Notes The report strongly motivates reclamation as environmentally beneficial because it removes historical tailings, however, the report inadequately addresses whether the receiving TSFs (Brakpan/Withok and/or Daggafontein) have sufficient authorised capacity and whether transferring pollution from one location to another constitutes true environmental rehabilitation. It is furthermore necessary to assess whether the cumulative dust and water pollution burdens will increase elsewhere as well as the environmental justice implications for already overburdened communities.	The EIA Phase will assess the need and desirability of the Proposed Project in accordance with NEMA, the Constitution, and sustainable development principles. Environmental, social, and economic impacts will be evaluated, and the competent authority will consider the findings in determining the acceptability of the Proposed Project. Post Meeting Notes The technical planning and design assessments undertaken by the Ergo technical team have confirmed the feasibility of the Proposed Project and verified that the receiving TSFs (Brakpan/Withok and/or Daggafontein) have adequate authorised capacity to accommodate the material associated with the reclamation operations.

4		Discussion	
STAKEHOLDERS		COMMENT	RESPONSE
4.14		The assertion that the “No-Go” alternative is not preferred appears economically driven rather than based on a balanced sustainability assessment. The constitutional requirement under section 24 of the Constitution is not merely economic optimisation, but ecologically sustainable development while promoting justifiable social and economic development.	The EIA Phase will assess the No-Go Alternative and the Proposed Project against the principles of sustainable development, including environmental, social, and economic considerations, in accordance with NEMA and Section 24 of the Constitution.
		Alternatives While the Proposed Project is linked to the reclamation of an existing TSF, the conclusion that there are no alternatives is overly simplistic and does not fully reflect the requirements of NEMA and the EIA Regulations. She emphasised that alternatives should still be considered during the EIA process, including reclamation methods, sequencing, pipeline alignments, infrastructure layouts, dust suppression measures, water management and recycling strategies, and stormwater management approaches. The No-Go Alternative has not been sufficiently assessed and should be more comprehensively evaluated during the EIA Phase. Post Meeting Note The report states: “No alternatives have been investigated in terms of location due to 6L14 TSF being an existing site.”	In terms of NEMA, reasonable and feasible operational, technological, and design alternatives must also be considered. The findings of the specialist studies, that will be conducted in the EIA Phase, will inform the feasible layout and design for the Proposed Project. The EIA Phase will include a comparative assessment of feasible alternatives, where applicable, to support the identification of the preferred alternative. Refer to the responses above regarding cumulative impacts; cumulative impacts associated with the Proposed Project will be assessed and reported in the Draft EIA Report.

4		Discussion	
STAKEHOLDERS		COMMENT	RESPONSE
4.15		This approach is problematic because NEMA requires the assessment of reasonable and feasible alternatives. Operational, technological and layout alternatives must still be rigorously assessed even where a TSF already exists. Alternatives regarding sequencing, dust suppression technologies, water reuse systems, renewable energy integration, pipeline routing and rehabilitation approaches are not meaningfully analysed. The alternatives discussion is largely descriptive rather than comparative. There is also inadequate assessment of the cumulative regional TSF reclamation impacts, alternative residue disposal strategies, alternative rehabilitation end-states, climate-resilient operational approaches.	
		Water Resource: - This process introduces new water inputs into an already highly disturbed environment, which may also lead to impacts on the groundwater. - She noted that the Blesbokspruit is a highly sensitive wetland system of significant ecological importance, which has already been severely impacted by sewage and mining-related pollution. She therefore recommends that the EIA should include, a detailed wetland delineation, a hydrological connectivity assessment, floodline determination, cumulative catchment analysis, contaminant	- Groundwater impacts associated with the reclamation process will be assessed as part of the EIA Phase. - The EIA Phase will include specialist assessments of wetlands, surface water resources, hydrological connectivity, and potential impacts on downstream users and ecosystems. - Water management considerations, including water balances, stormwater management, seepage, pollution containment, groundwater-surface water interactions, and contingency measures, will be addressed during the EIA Phase.

4 Discussion			
STAKEHOLDERS	COMMENT	RESPONSE	
	transport modelling, and an assessment of impacts on downstream users and ecosystems. • She further noted that while the report confirms several Section 21 water uses under the National Water Act, it lacks detailed water balances. She was unsure whether this would be addressed in the EIA. She suggested the inclusion of stormwater management plans, pollution containment measures, seepage modelling, groundwater and surface water interaction assessments, and contingency measures for spills and pipeline failures. If these aspects are addressed in the EIA, she indicated that it would be adequate. • Regarding acid mine drainage (AMD), she noted that the report does acknowledge the potential for AMD, increased sulphate concentrations, and the presence of heavy metals. She recommended that the EIA should also assess uranium contamination and radiological mobilisation associated with reclamation operations. These processes could result in the transport of heavy metals, including uranium, increased sulphate loading, and the mobilisation of pyrite-bearing materials, which generate AMD. These impacts could affect wetlands, aquatic ecosystems, and pose post-closure contamination risks.	• The EIA Phase will assess potential AMD-related impacts.	

4 Discussion			
STAKEHOLDERS	COMMENT	RESPONSE	
	Post Meeting Notes The hydrological risks are acknowledged but understated. Key concerns include AMD mobilisation during hydraulic reclamation; seepage risks; pipeline failures; contaminated runoff; sediment transport and groundwater contamination. The FSE recommends that the EIA phase adequately discusses current groundwater contamination plumes; regional groundwater vulnerability; cumulative impacts on the Blesbokspruit catchment system including the Eastern Basin AMD Treatment Works' discharges; hydraulic connectivity and existing pollution loads e.g. elevated sulphate levels. Particularly concerning is that hydraulic reclamation inherently mobilises fine contaminated material and increases risk of spillages. We therefore recommend that the EIA should also assess water balance modelling, extreme rainfall events, climate change impacts, long-term water treatment liabilities, post-closure water quality risks.	Post Meeting Notes The specialist studies that will be conducted in the EIA Phase takes includes the following specialist studies: Groundwater Assessment, Climate Change Risk Assessment and Hydrology.	
4.16	Air Quality Dust and Air Quality: Fugitive dust and respirable particulate impacts from reclamation activities should be comprehensively assessed.		

4 Discussion			
STAKEHOLDERS	COMMENT	RESPONSE	
	• Radiological Exposure: Potential radiological exposure through airborne particles, ingestion, and crop deposition should be evaluated. • Specialist Studies: The EIA should include dispersion modelling, cumulative air quality assessments, radiological assessments, prevailing wind analysis, monitoring commitments, and a health risk assessment. • Dust Management: A detailed dust management and monitoring plan should be developed in line with current dust regulations. Post meeting comment The report acknowledges possible increases in dust emissions and health impacts from fine particulate matter, however, the assessment is inadequate at scoping stage because no baseline PM10 or PM2.5 data are presented, no cumulative air quality analysis is undertaken, nearby sensitive receptors are insufficiently mapped, uranium-bearing dust risks are not discussed despite historic Witwatersrand tailings , prevailing wind direction implications for nearby communities are not critically analysed. This omission is of concern because historic gold tailings frequently contain silica, heavy metals, radionuclides, uriferous residues.	An Air Quality Impact Assessment will be conducted during the EIA Phase which will critically evaluate the possibility of the dispersion of dust to the surrounding communities as a result of the proposed reclamation activities. This will include mitigation measures required to mitigate any possible impacts that might arise due to the proposed activity.	

4 Discussion			
STAKEHOLDERS	COMMENT	RESPONSE	
	The report also does not sufficiently address long-term exposure risks, vulnerable populations, The National Nuclear Regulator’s Report (2007), titled “Radiological Impacts of the Mining Activities to the Public in the Wonderfonteinspruit Catchment Area, report TR-RRD-07-0006” identified ‘air-pathways’ by which significant radiation exposure can occur in the surroundings of mining legacies, due to: • Inhalation of Rn-222 daughter nuclides from radon emissions. • The inhalation of contaminated dust generated by wind erosion from these objects, and • The contamination of agricultural crop (pasture, vegetables) by the deposition of radioactive dust particles, which can cause considerable dose contributions via ingestion. “Due to the small particle size of the slimes, particulate matter can be transported over relatively long distances to agriculturally used land in these (sic) surroundings. “It has to be mentioned that the deposition of radioactively contaminated dust on leaves of vegetable and forage plants can		

4 Discussion			
STAKEHOLDERS	COMMENT	RESPONSE	
	cause radiation exposures exceeding those from the “inhalation of contaminated dust” substantially.” Hazards inherent on gold mine tailings are particulate matter: (PM10 PM2.5); Total Suspended Particulates; schools, informal settlements, and livestock exposure. Dustfall, silica quartz (80% 90%); iron pyrite (2 5 %). Elements with concentrations higher than average crustal soil: gold, arsenic, lead, uranium, mercury, as well as cyanide and radon (radioactivity). Reference: Harold Annegarn, School of Geo and Spatial Sciences, North West University, Potchefstroom. Monitoring and measurement of mine dust emissions, with a focus on windborne dust from gold tailings. GCRF Mine Dust & Health Network: “Mine Dust and Gold Tailings” Thursday, 7 October 2021 Virtual Seminar as part of the NACA 2021 Annual Conference. The EIA phase should therefore include cumulative particulate modelling, radiological dust assessment, PM2.5 modelling, health risk assessment, and an independent peer review of the air quality study.		
4.17	Biodiversity and Ecology: The EIA should clarify the conservation status, ecological condition, and presence of species of conservation concern	A Terrestrial Impact Assessment will be undertaken to verify ecological conditions within the Proposed Project area and evaluate the significance of the identified impacts.	

4 Discussion			
STAKEHOLDERS	COMMENT	RESPONSE	
	within the Soweto Highland Grassland and identify measures to protect these features. • Potential impacts on ecological corridors and wetland ecological functioning should be assessed. • The fact that wetlands may be degraded or altered does not negate their ecological value or the need to assess and manage impacts on their remaining functions. Post Meeting Notes The biodiversity section is desktop-based. The report assumes ecological disturbance because the area is already transformed, but this is potentially misleading because historical TSFs can become secondary ecological habitats; disturbed areas may support species of conservation concern; and ecological corridors may already be constrained regionally. The FSE recommends that the EIA phase includes an assessment of the ecological connectivity, wetland functionality, cumulative biodiversity loss, offset requirements, ecosystem services. The statement that invasive species removal constitutes a positive biodiversity impact oversimplifies ecological complexity.	Findings from the specialist studies will inform the impact assessment and the development of appropriate mitigation and management measures in the Draft EIA Report.	

4 Discussion			
STAKEHOLDERS		COMMENT	RESPONSE
4.18		Ms Liefferink emphasised the need for sufficient field verification across all seasons, rather than relying solely on desktop studies. She also noted that the proposal includes a dolomitic risk assessment, which they support.	Specialist assessments will include field verification, where required, to inform the EIA Phase and support the findings of desktop assessments. The support for the inclusion of a dolomitic risk assessment is acknowledged.
4.19		Concerns were raised regarding potential radiation and uranium-related impacts associated with the Proposed Project. Reference was made to a Council for Geoscience wetlands report indicating that wetlands within the proposed reclamation area may be subject to significant environmental risks associated with uranium contamination. Ms Liefferink indicated that the relevant reports could be made available for consideration during the EIA process.	Relevant reports can be shared with the team.
4.20		Ms Liefferink requested clarification on the responses provided during the meeting, as she had lost internet connectivity for a short while. She enquired whether the pipeline would be joined using flanges, noting that alternative pipe joining methods are commonly used in newer pipeline installations. She suggested that alternative joining methods may reduce the risk of vandalism, theft of pipeline components, and unauthorised water abstraction associated with illegal mining activities.	Ms Naicker responded that, regarding the comments provided by Ms Liefferink, she acknowledges that the relevant assessments will be undertaken during the EIA phase. Mr Mafatshe responded that he is certain that the pipeline will have flanges, although this can be confirmed. He stated that there will be flanges on the pipeline.

4 Discussion			
STAKEHOLDERS		COMMENT	RESPONSE
4.21		Ms Liefferink enquired whether the post-closure land use for the Proposed Project would be determined during the EIA Phase. She asked whether the determination of the post-closure land use would involve consultation with interested and affected parties and comply with the requirements of the MPRDA. She emphasised that the post-closure land use should align with the principles of sustainable development and sustainable livelihood opportunities and enquired whether these aspects would be addressed during the EIA Phase. Mr Baker added that future land use would be guided by the Spatial Development Framework (SDF). He noted that the SDF is not as detailed as a town planning scheme but rather provides a broader planning overview. He further explained that the SDF is developed through a public participation process. The City of Ekuruleni approved its most recent SDF last year, and it is typically reviewed every five years through a similar public participation process. This process allows communities to have input on land use considerations. He further mentioned that the Spatial Development Framework (SDF) may sometimes show future infrastructure needs, but not always. He noted he was unsure if any future roads are planned in the area, but this would be considered after mining. He also explained that, in the past, land is often cleared first and planning happens later, and this case will likely follow the same approach.	Ms Naicker responded that the matter will be further addressed in the EIA. The current report states that the typical end use of the land would be aligned with the zoning of the area where the dumps were situated. In essence it's either urban, industrial or agricultural.

4 Discussion			
STAKEHOLDERS		COMMENT	RESPONSE
		Ms Liefferink expressed appreciation for the inclusion of public participation in determining future land use. She observed that post-mining land use is often described in terms such as wilderness areas, phytoremediation, or rock pile stabilisation, which may not constitute sustainable long-term uses. She emphasised the need to ensure that these areas are not left in a degraded condition but are instead rehabilitated in a manner that supports sustainable development principles.	
4.22		Ms Liefferink asked whether the financial provision would be calculated under the 2015 regulations including long-term and leftover impacts, such as pumping and treating polluted or extra water.	Ms Naicker advised that this will be confirmed with the appointed specialist and addressed, where applicable.
POST MEETING COMMENTS: MS MARIETTE LIEFFERINK			
4.23	Ms Liefferink	The report is professionally structured and aligned procedurally with Appendix 2 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. However, the document tends to overstate anticipated benefits, understates cumulative and residual impacts, relies heavily on desktop assumptions, defers critical investigations to the EIA phase, and	The Draft Scoping Report (DSR) was prepared in accordance with Appendix 2 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), to identify potential impacts, determine the scope of specialist studies required for the EIA Phase.

4 Discussion			
STAKEHOLDERS		COMMENT	RESPONSE
		insufficiently interrogates environmental justice implications for surrounding communities.	
4.24	Ms Liefferink	The report repeatedly concludes that impacts are likely to be “minimal and short-term” before specialist studies have been completed. This is premature and potentially inconsistent with the precautionary principle contained in section 2 of NEMA.	The Draft EIA Report will provide a detailed assessment and findings of specialist studies.
4.25	Ms Liefferink	Heritage Assessment The report states: “Since the footprint was a TSF previously, it is unlikely for there to be any heritage resources on site.” This assumption is problematic and speculative. Historic mining landscapes themselves may possess industrial heritage significance, social history significance, labour history significance, and archaeological value. The FSE recommends that the Applicant and its EAP adequately assess the presence of graves, informal memorial sites, cultural landscapes, and oral heritage linked to mining communities.	A Heritage Impact Assessment will be conducted during the EIA Phase and the findings of the assessment presented in the Draft EIA Report.
4.26	Ms Liefferink	Socio-Economic Concerns The report emphasises employment, investment, crime reduction, and illegal mining reduction.	A Social Impact Assessment will be conducted during the EIA Phase and the findings of the assessment presented in the Draft EIA Report.

4		Discussion	
STAKEHOLDERS		COMMENT	RESPONSE
		The FSE recommends that the EIA include in its socio-economic assessment environmental health burdens, distributive justice, impacts on vulnerable communities, informal livelihoods, long-term post-mining sustainability, property devaluation, psychological and visual impacts. The claim that reclamation reduces illegal mining may be partially valid but requires evidence-based assessment.	
4.27	Ms Liefferink	Premature Conclusions The report's conclusion that impacts will be "minimal and short-term" is premature because most specialist studies are still outstanding. This creates a perception that conclusions have been predetermined and as a result the EIA phase may become confirmatory rather than investigative. This could undermine procedural fairness and objective assessment obligations.	The Draft Scoping Report identifies the potential impacts of the Proposed Project and recommends the specialist studies that are required for the EIA Phase.
4.28	Ms Liefferink	Recommendations for the EIA Phase In addition to the above-mentioned recommendations, the FSE furthermore recommends that the EIA Phase includes: • long-term rehabilitation liabilities; • water treatment liabilities;	The findings of the relevant specialist studies will provide insight into the presented recommendations, where possible.

4	Discussion		
STAKEHOLDERS		COMMENT	RESPONSE
		- post-closure monitoring; and - residual contamination risks.	
		Ms Naicker noted that Ms Liefferink’s comments were detailed and comments will be provided.	
5	Closing		
5.1	Ms Umeshree Naicker expressed appreciation to all attendees for their time and participation in the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 11:00 AM		Kongiwe Team -



DRDGOLD LIMITED

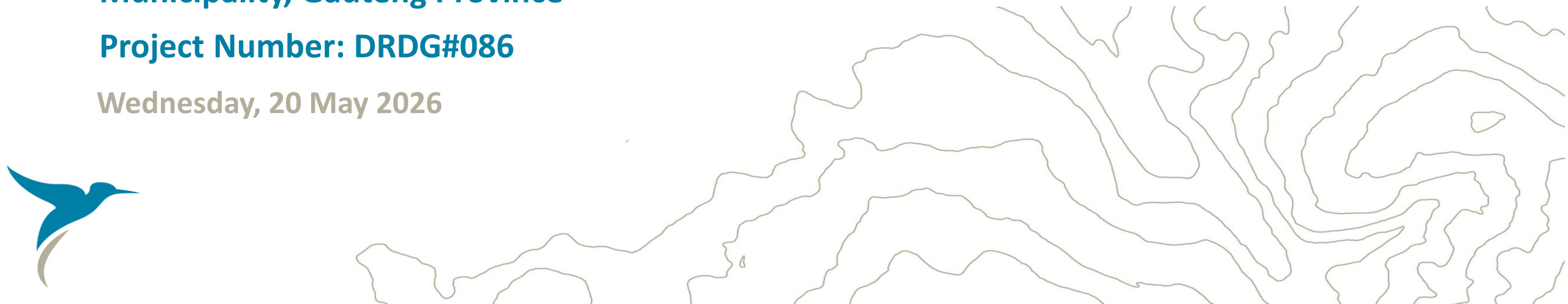
Ergo Mining (Pty) Limited

Online Stakeholders Engagement Meeting Presentation

**The Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) in the City of Ekurhuleni
Municipality, Gauteng Province**

Project Number: DRDG#086

Wednesday, 20 May 2026



Important Notice

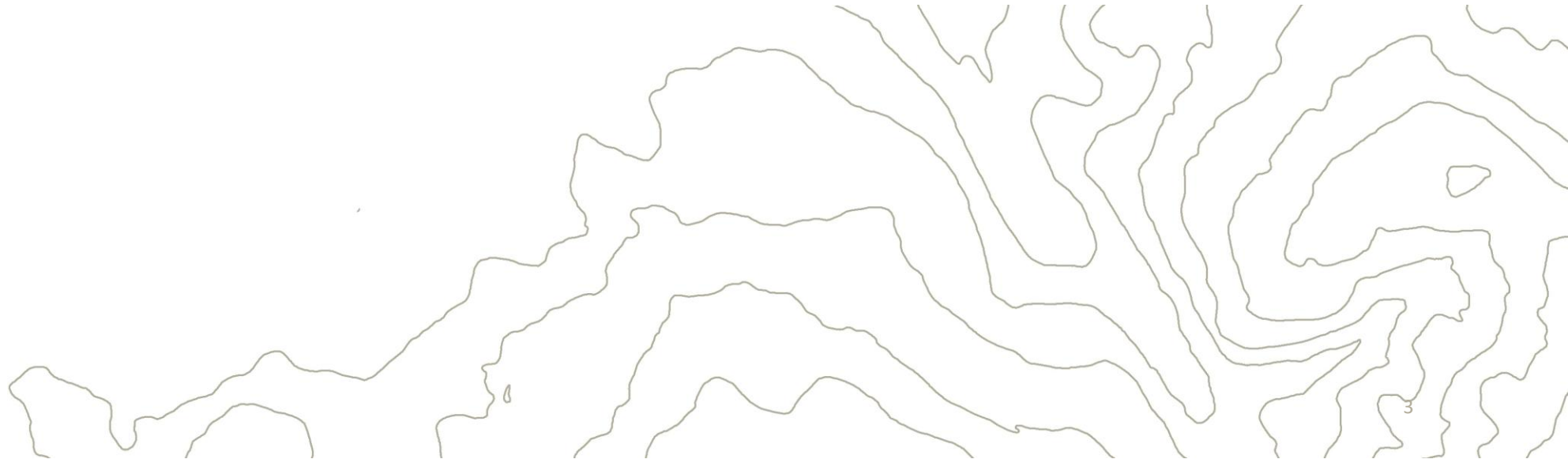
This meeting is a formal consultation in terms of the requirements as stipulated in the:

- National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) for an Application for an Environmental Authorisation (EA) for listed activities triggered in Listing Notices GN R983 and GN R984 in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of December 2014, as amended. The Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources (DMPR) is the Competent Authority to assess the Application for Environmental Authorisation (EA) for the Proposed Project.
- The Integrated Water Use Licence Application (IWULA) is being undertaken in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) (NWA), in compliance with the requirements of the Act. This application is being conducted as an integrated WULA process for the Proposed Project because it is triggering National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (NEM:WA). The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), Gauteng, is the competent authority responsible for the assessment of the application.



Kongiwe Environmental

- Umeshree Naicker – Environmental Assessment Practitioner
- Vanessa Viljeon– Principal Stakeholder Engagement Consultant
- Masala Tshamano – Ergo Environmental Manager
- Mothusi Mafatshe – Ergo Environmental Co-ordinator



Agenda

1. Introduction
2. Purpose of the Meeting
3. Important Notice
4. Kongiwe's Role
5. Project Background
6. Project Infrastructure
7. Legislative Framework
8. Summary of Potential Impacts at Scoping
9. Specialist Studies
10. Public Participation Process
11. Way Forward
12. Comments and Discussions



Purpose of the Meeting

- Discuss the proposed Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) (“Proposed Project”)
- Provide an overview of the Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment Process
- Provide an overview of the specialist studies to be undertaken
- Present the Public Participation Process
- Address comments raised by Stakeholders and include in the Comments and Responses Report



Kongiwe's Role

As an independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP), it is our role to perform an objective assessment of what the positive and negative environmental impacts of the proposed project may be, to quantify these, describe possible mitigations and provide DMPR and the DWS with the documentation so that the CA can determine if the project should proceed or not.



Project Background

- Applicant: Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd (“Ergo”)
- Activity: Ergo aims to reclaim and reprocess the 6L14 TSF with the objective of recovering gold using top-down hydraulic reclamation. Ergo has a Mining Right (ERGO-GP158MR) over the dump 6L14, this facility was historically used previously as a mining waste deposition site and has been dormant for some time. The servitude for the pipeline is in place, including the surface right permit.
- Life of Operation : Approximately 12 years.
- A water monitor blasts the sides of the TSF, the process water mixes with the unconsolidated material, resulting in what is known as a ‘slurry’.
- The slurry will report to a pumpstation, located at the lowest point of a TSF, where it will then be pumped and conveyed to Ergo Plant for reprocessing. A new reclamation pumpstation will be developed for the Proposed Project.
- The dump will be reprocessed via the existing pipeline network through the 5L27 Transfer Pumpstation to the Ergo Beneficiation Plant (Ergo Plant) which is currently in operation, with ultimate residue deposition taking place on the Brakpan/Withok TSF and /or Daggafontein TSF.
- An estimated maximum amount of 300 000 tons/month of slurry is expected to be pumped from 6L14 TSF.

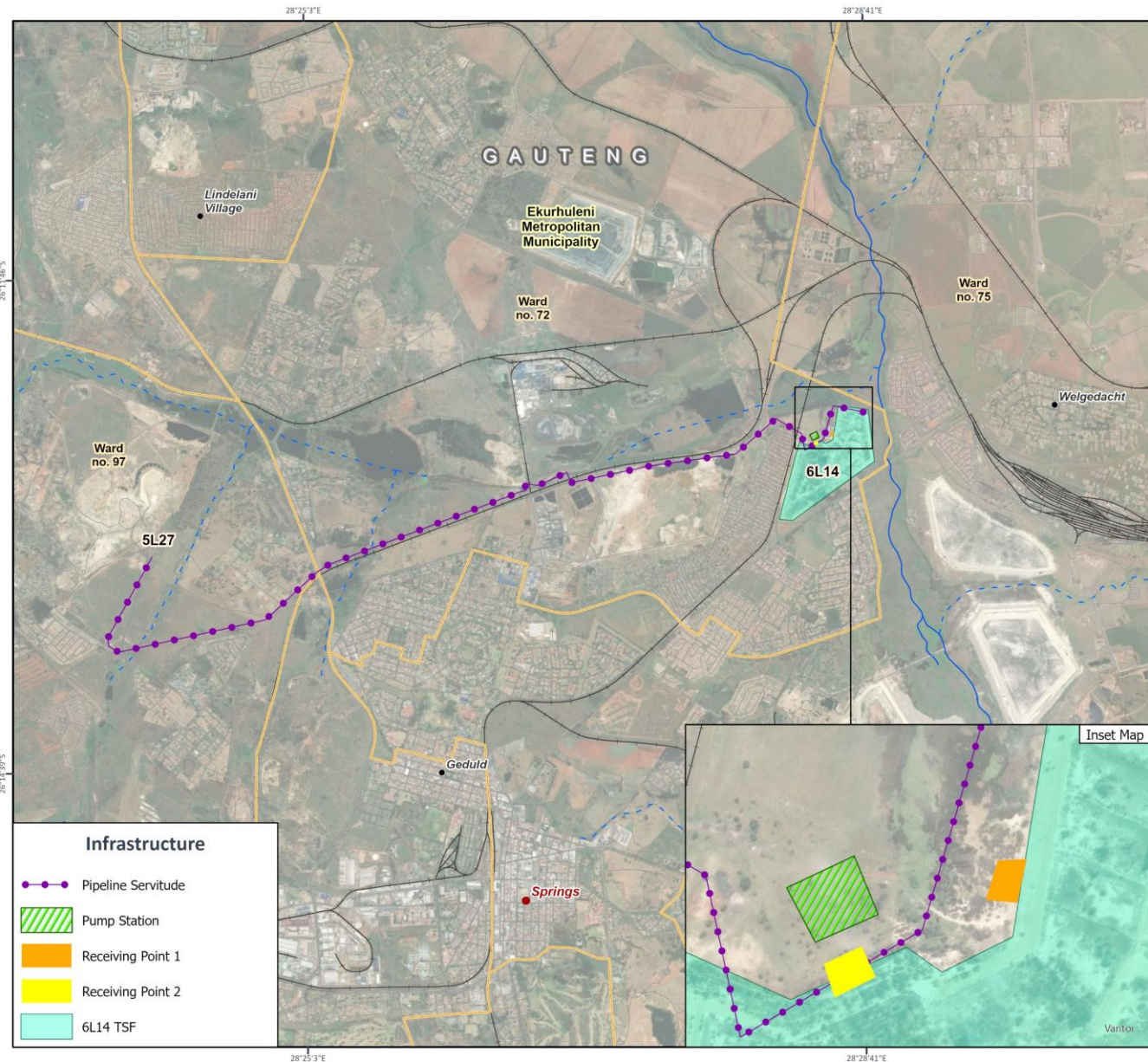


Project Infrastructure

The following infrastructure will be utilised:

- Reclamation infrastructure at the TSF consisting of a pump station which includes:
 - Slurry sump;
 - Vibrating Screen;
 - Water tank;
 - Motor control centre; and
 - Slurry and associated pumps.
- Lined catchment paddocks;
- Stormwater management infrastructure including:
 - Water Pumpstation and PCD infrastructure and stormwater systems;
 - Existing paddocks on the TSF footprint; and
 - Pollution control paddock.
- 11 kV overhead powerlines capable of transmitting 3 kVA of electricity and electricity reticulation;
- Administration buildings, including change houses and ablution facilities;
- Access roads, routed from existing entry points;
- Construction contractors' yards (temporary facilities); and
- Process water will be required for the 6L14 reclamation operations to support the Proposed Project via the existing pipeline network.





6L14 LOCAL ORIENTATION

Legend

- Other Settlement
- Major Town
- - - Non-Perennial River
- Perennial River
- Local Road
- Railway
- Ward Boundaries
- Local Municipalities
- Provinces



Project Code: DRDG#086
Client: Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd
Drawn: C Strooh - Checked: B Thornton
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www.kongiwe.com | Date: 19/05/2026

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

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

File ref:
ArcGIS\Projects\DRDG\DRDG#086_6L14\Map_Set_1\DRDG#086.aprx\6L14_Local_Orientation_A3L



A3
2025 Satellite Imagery

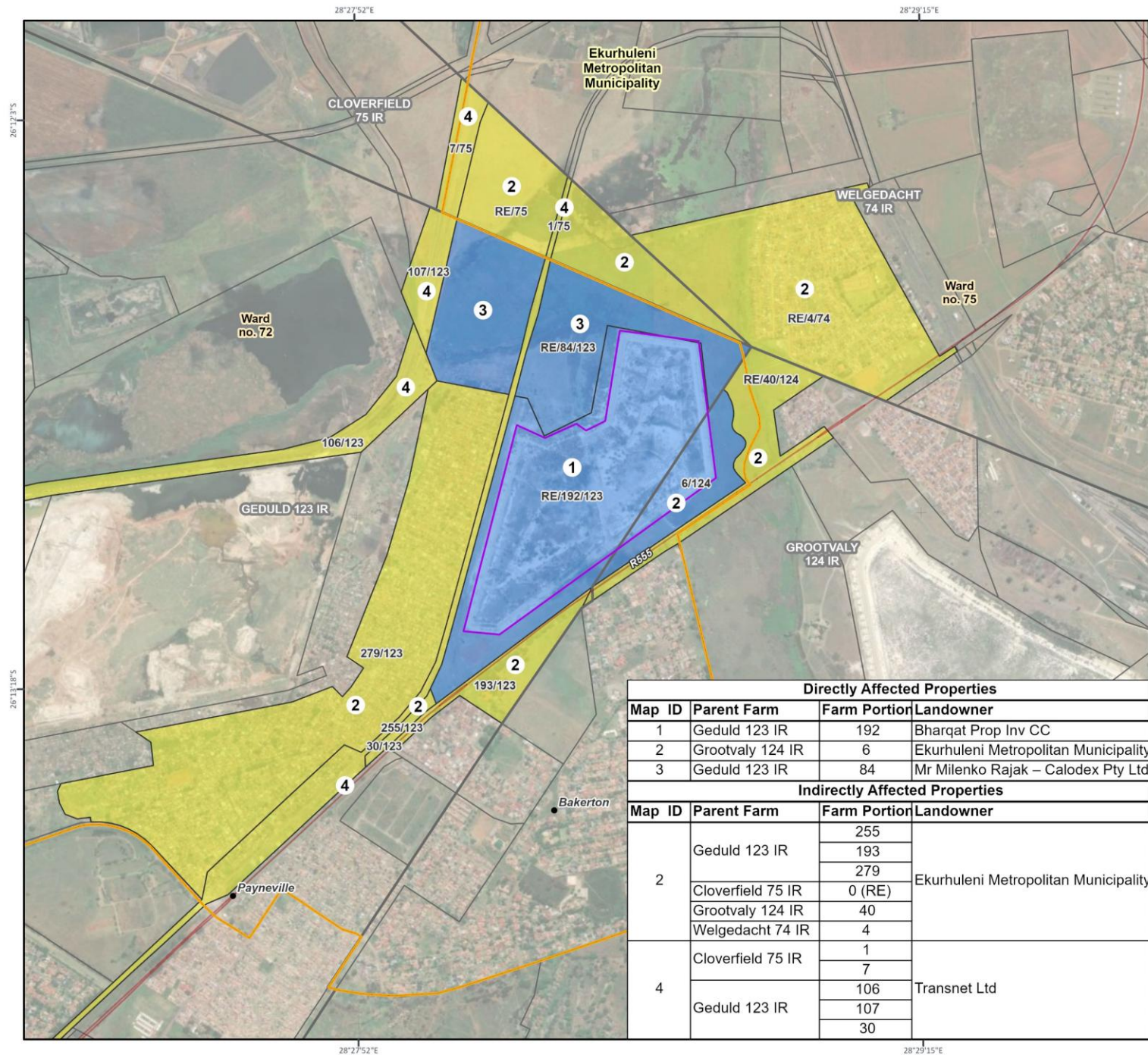


Properties affected by the
Proposed Project:

Directly Affected Properties

Farm Name	Farm ID	Farm Portion
Reclamation Site		
Geduld	123 IR	192
Grootvaly	124 IR	6
Geduld	123 IR	84
Pumpstation		
Geduld	123 IR	84
Receiving Point 1 and 2		
Geduld	123 IR	192





Directly Affected Properties			
Map ID	Parent Farm	Farm Portion	Landowner
1	Geduld 123 IR	192	Bharqat Prop Inv CC
2	Grootvaly 124 IR	6	Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality
3	Geduld 123 IR	84	Mr Milenko Rajak – Calodex Pty Ltd
Indirectly Affected Properties			
Map ID	Parent Farm	Farm Portion	Landowner
2	Geduld 123 IR	255	Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality
		193	
		279	
	Cloverfield 75 IR	0 (RE)	
	Grootvaly 124 IR	40	
4	Cloverfield 75 IR	1	Transnet Ltd
		7	
		106	
	Geduld 123 IR	107	
		30	



6L14 LAND TENURE

Legend

- Settlements
- Main Road
- 6L14 TSF
- Farm Portion
- Parent Farm
- Local Municipalities
- Ward Boundaries
- Affected Properties
 - Directly Affected
 - Indirectly Affected



Project Code: DRDG#086
Client: Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd
Drawn: C Strooh - Checked: B Thornton
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www.kongwe.com | Date: 12/05/2026



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

A3
2026 Satellite Imagery

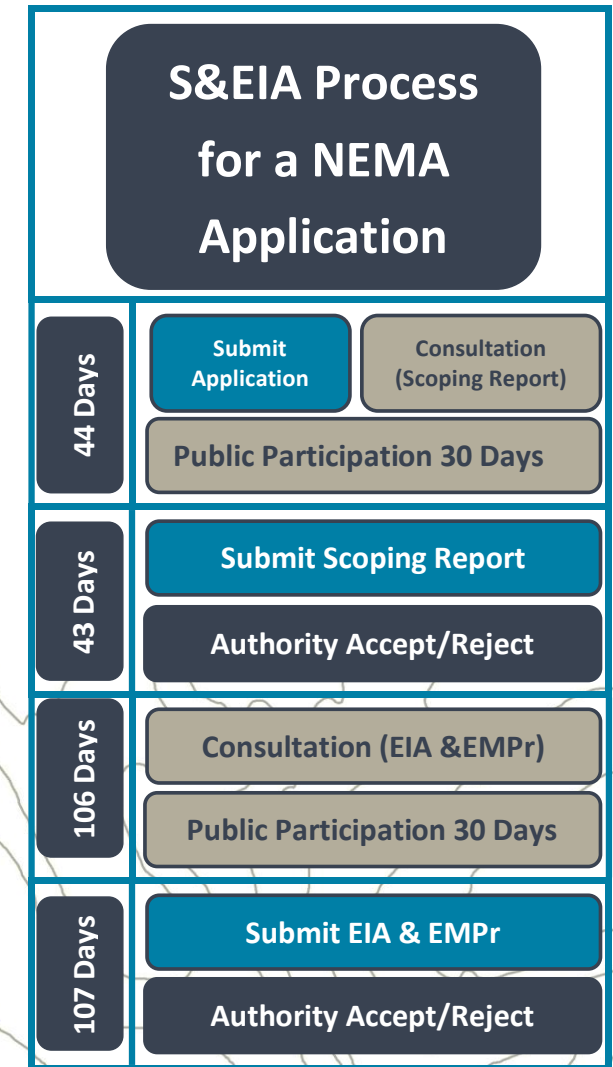
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Legislative Framework

- An integrated Environmental Authorisation (EA) application was submitted to the DMPR on 6 May 2026 (Gauteng) as the Competent Authority for the Proposed Project.
 - The applicable applications to be assessed by the DMPR are as follows:
 - **Application for Environmental Authorisation (EA)** for listed activities triggered in Listing Notices GN R983, GN R984 and GN R985 published pursuant to the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), promulgated in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA).
 - These Listing Notices have been amended by GN R327, GN R325 and GN R324 of 7 April 2017 and GN R 517 of 11 June 2021.
 - **Application for a Waste Management Licence (WML)** authorising waste management activity listed in GN 921 of 29 November 2013 published in terms of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008) (as amended) (NEM:WA).
- In addition, the following applications will be made to other relevant Competent Authorities (CA):
- **An Integrated Water Use Licence Application (IWULA)** for Section 21 water uses triggered in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) (NWA).



- **Application for Environmental Authorisation (EA)**

- ✓ **GNR 984 Listing Notice 1: Activity 21F** - Any activity including the operation of that activity required or the reclamation of a residue stockpile or a residue deposit as well as any other applicable activity as contained in this Listing Notice or in Listing Notice 3 of 2014, required for the reclamation of a residue stockpile or a residue deposit: **(Tailings Storage Facility (TSF))**.
- ✓ **GNR 984 Listing Notice 1: Activity 6** - The development of facilities or infrastructure for any process or activity which requires a permit or licence or an amended permit or licence in terms of national or provincial legislation governing the generation or release of emissions, pollution or effluent: **(Satellite pumpstation; Slurry receiving Facility; Screening facility at the pumpstation; Storage; and Transfer pumps series)**.
- ✓ **GNR 983 Listing Notice 2: Activity 13** - The development of facilities or infrastructure for the off-stream storage of water, including dams and reservoirs, with a combined capacity of 50 000 cubic metres or more, unless such storage falls within the ambit of activity 16 in Listing Notice 2: **(Slurry receiving facility)**.

- **Application for a Waste Management Licence (WML)**

- ✓ Category B: Activity 11- The establishment or reclamation of a residue stockpile or residue deposit resulting from activities which require a mining right, exploration right or production right in terms of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002).

- **An Integrated Water Use Licence Application (IWULA)**

- ✓ Section 21(g): Disposing of waste in a manner which may detrimentally impact on a water resource: **(Dust Suppression of access roads and Disposing of excess stormwater and slurry in the Emergency Lined Paddock during a stormwater event)**.
- ✓ Section 21 (c) and (i): Impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse and, Altering the bed, banks, courses or characteristics of a watercourse: **(The construction, operation, and rehabilitation of the access road, Pumpstation, Slurry receiving Points and emergency lined paddock located within 500m of a wetland)**.

Summary of Potential Impacts at Scoping

Positive and Negative

Biodiversity Impact Assessment:

- Displacement of animal habitat by removing the TSF; and
- Removal of invasive species from the TSF.

Social, Air Quality, Noise, Impact Assessment:

- Land use will change to an active reclamation site;
- Noise associated with the reclamation project mainly originates from construction activities of required infrastructure as well as noises from motors, pumps and increased vehicular travel during the operational phase as well as processing activities; and
- Possible increase in dust levels in some areas during operations.

Groundwater, Surface Water & Wetland Impact Assessment:

- Water and ground contamination leaks/spillages if inadequate preventative measures are not implemented.

Heritage Impact Assessment:

- Since the footprint was a TSF previously, it is unlikely for there to be any heritage resources on site; and
- Should heritage resources be present in the area, the reclamation project could potentially impact these.

Dolomite Impact Assessment :

- Ground instability, sinkholes, subsidence, or structural damage due to disturbance and water ingress; and
- Safety risks to workers/public, traffic disruption, and nuisance impacts to nearby communities.

Traffic Impact Assessment:

- Temporary increase in heavy vehicle traffic during the construction phase due to mobilisation of equipment, and material deliveries; and
- Increased pressure on existing public and access roads, potentially accelerating road surface wear and degradation.



Specialist studies

The following assessments were identified and will be assessed as part of the EIA process:

Proposed Specialist Studies to be undertaken	
Biodiversity Impact Assessment	Social Impact Assessment
Wetland Impact Assessment	Heritage Impact Assessment
Air Quality Impact Assessment	Climate Change Risk Assessment
Surface Water Impact Assessment	Traffic Impact Assessment
Groundwater Impact Assessment	Financial Provision and Closure
Noise Impact Assessment	Dolomite Impact Assessment



Public Participation Process (PPP)

The PPP objectives are to:

- Ensure that stakeholders are informed about the proposed development of the reclamation of the 6L14 TSF .
- Provide stakeholders with the opportunity to participate in the environmental regulatory processes and provide comment.
- Involve stakeholders in identifying ways in which comments can be addressed.
- Work directly with stakeholders throughout the environmental regulatory processes to ensure that stakeholder comments are consistently understood and considered.
- Verify that stakeholder comments have been recorded and addressed.



Public Participation Process (PPP)

- The (PPP) were undertaken in compliance with NEMA and the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.
- **The process is as follows:**
 - Announcement of the Proposed Project was conducted on **Wednesday, 29 April 2026**.
 - An advert indicating the availability of the documentation for public review and the Online and Open Day dates have been placed in the Springs Advertiser, on **Wednesday, 29 April 2026**. This advert was placed in English.
 - Notices providing information of where the public documentation will be accessible and when the Online and Open Day will be held have been placed around site at key locations on the **Wednesday, 6 May 2026**. These notices was placed in English.
 - The required Environmental Application was submitted to the DMPR on the **Wednesday, 6 May 2026**.
 - The Draft Scoping Report was made available for public review and comment on the **Wednesday, 6 May 2026 to Thursday, 4 June 2026**.
 - The Final Scoping report will be submitted to the Competent Authority for review and decision.



- The **Environmental Application and Draft Scoping Report** was submitted to the DMPR on **Wednesday, 6 May 2026**.
- Online meetings with Calodex and Sappi the landowner of Geduld 123 IR Portion 84 was conducted on **Wednesday, 6 May 2026**.
- Online meeting with the Blesbokspruit Forum was conducted on **Thursday, 7 May 2026**.
- Online meeting with Transnet Railway Property Infrastructure was conducted on **Friday, 8 May 2026**.
- Online meeting with City of Ekurhuleni Municipality was conducted on **Tuesday, 12 May 2026**.
- **Stakeholder Online** on **Wednesday, 20 May 2026**.
- An **Open Day** will be held at the Bakerton Community Hall, First Ave, Bakerton, Springs on **Thursday, 21 May 2026**.
- The **Draft Scoping Report** is available at the following Public venues on **Wednesday, 6 May 2026**:
 - Bakerton Public Library;
 - Springs Public Library; and
 - Kongiwe website: <http://www.kongiwe.com/publications-view/public-documents/>.
- The 30-Day public participation comment period will run from **Wednesday, 6 May 2026** to **Thursday, 4 June 2026**.
- The **Final Scoping Report** will then be finalized and submitted after the required public participation process has been undertaken. Comments will be recorded in a Comments and Response Report.
- Conduct the relevant specialist studies for the Proposed Project.
- The Draft EIA Report will be made available for public review and comment.
- The Final EIA Report will be finalised and submitted to the Competent authority for review and decision.
- The Water Use Licence Application process is currently on a pre-application phase.

- ❖ Discussion/Questions
- ❖ Action Points
 - Responsibility
 - Due Date
- ❖ Closing





Contact

- **Name: Vanessa Viljoen / Jean-Mari Williams**
- **Tel: 010 140 1725/26**
- **Email: Stakeholders@kongiwe.com**

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MINUTES OF MEETING			
Date	Thursday, 21 May 2026	Time	10:00 – 13:00
Venue	Online Meeting (Microsoft Teams)		
Subject	Open Day Meeting		
List of Attendees of Technical Team			
Organisation	Name of Attendee	Designation	
DRD Ergo	Mr Mothusi Mafatshe	Environmental Co-ordinator	
DRD Ergo	Mr Josiah Tshisevhe	Community Liason Manager	
DRD Ergo	Mr Abraham Maluleke	Environmental Officer	
DRD Ergo	Ms Zoleka Solombela	Environmental Officer	
Kongiwe Environmental (Pty) Ltd (Kongiwe)	Ms Umeshree Naicker	Principal Environmental Consultant	
	Ms Vanessa Viljoen	Principal Stakeholder Engagement Consultant	
	Mr Ripfumelo Macevele	Environmental Consultant	
	Ms Iviwe Walaza	Junior Environmental Consultant	
	Ms Jean-Mari Williams	Project Coordinator	
Apologies			
Organisation	Name of Attendee	Designation	
DRD Ergo	Mr Masala Tshamano	Environmental Manager	

Note: These minutes are not intended as a verbatim transcript of the meeting, but rather as a summary of the salient discussions which took place

No	Item	Responsible Person
1	Welcome and Introductions	
1.1	Mr Ripfumelo Macevele (Mr Macevele) welcomed all attendees.	Mr Macevele
2	Meeting Purpose	
2.1	Present and discuss the proposed Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) (Proposed Project) with the Stakeholders.	Mr Macevele
2.2	Provide an overview of the specialist studies to be undertaken.	
2.3	Present the Public participation Process.	
2.4	Provide an opportunity to raise comments/seek clarity as well as provide input.	
2.5	Address comments raised by Stakeholders.	
3	Meeting Agenda	
3.1	Purpose of the Meeting.	Mr Macevele
3.2	Introduction.	
3.3	Project Background.	
3.4	Project Description.	
3.5	Project Infrastructure.	
3.6	Specialist Studies.	
3.7	Legislative Framework.	
3.8	Public Participation Process.	
3.9	Way Forward.	
3.10	Comments and Discussion.	

4 Discussion			
STAKEHOLDERS		COMMENT	RESPONSE
SECTION A: MR PHILLIP DE JAGER AND MR PATRICK GANDA ENGAGED WITH THE TECHNICAL TEAM (KONGIWE AND ERGO) PRIOR TO THE PRESENTATION. THE COMMENTS RAISED DURING THIS DISCUSSION HAS BEEN CAPTURED BELOW.			
4.1	Phillip de Jager (Mr de Jager)	Mr de Jager enquired about the RAMSAR site that is located near the Proposed Project. The Draft Scoping Report should mention this site and address the environmental implications. Specifically, Mr de Jager noted that the Proposed Project is situated less than 200 m west of the Blesbokspruit, and that the western portion of the TSF falls within a wetland area, indicating that the wetland forms part of a RAMSAR Convention site. He asked how the river and the associated wetland will be protected from the proposed reclamation project.	A Wetland Assessment as well as a Surface Water Report, including a Stormwater Management Plan will be conducted during the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Phase. The Wetland Assessment Report will contain an assessment of all the applicable wetlands that are impacted by the Proposed Project.
		Mr de Jager noted that the Proposed Project is located less than 1km from the Blesbokspruit River, and not 1km as stated in the Draft Scoping Report.	The Final Scoping Report was updated to reflect approximately 200m east of the site. The Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment and Wetland Assessment that will be conducted in the EIA Phase, will confirm the exact location of the Blesbokspruit River.
		Clarity is required on the type of construction method for the associated pipeline that crosses the railway line.	The associated pipeline will traverse the railway line above ground.
		Mr de Jager raised a concern regarding Acid Mine Drainage (AMD) associated with the 6L14 Dump and asked how it will be mitigated during the reclamation phase	The EIA Phase will assess potential AMD-related impacts.
		Mr de Jager further enquired whether water for the reclamation activities will be sourced from the Blesbokspruit and asked what the water source for the Proposed Project will be?	Process water in a closed circuit for hydraulic reclamation and reclamation activities. Potable water will be sourced and purchased from the Rand water/ CoE with a contingency for portable JoJo

4		Discussion	
STAKEHOLDERS		COMMENT	RESPONSE
			tanks or connection to existing water pipeline infrastructure. No water will be taken from the Blesbokspruit.
		What would be the number of infrastructures on site?	The following infrastructure will be utilised on site: • Reclamation infrastructure at each TSF consisting of a pump station which includes: ○ Slurry sump; ○ Vibrating Screen; ○ Water tank; ○ Motor control centre; ○ Slurry and associated Pumps; • Lined catchment paddocks; • Stormwater management infrastructure including: ○ Water Pumpstation and PCD infrastructure and stormwater systems; ○ Existing paddocks on the TSF footprint; and ○ Pollution control paddock. • 11 kV overhead powerlines capable of transmitting 3 kVA of electricity and electricity reticulation; • Administration buildings, including change houses and ablution facilities; • Access roads, routed from existing entry points; • Construction contractors' yards (temporary facilities);

4 Discussion			
STAKEHOLDERS		COMMENT	RESPONSE
			Process water will be required for the 6L14 reclamation operations to support the Proposed Project via existing constructed pipelines.
		Will the project be fenced?	Yes, the Proposed Project area will be fenced.
		Mr de Jager stated that mining companies and consultants do not provide the EMPr to Interested and Affected Parties.	Ms Naicker responded Kongiwe will email notifications to the I&APs with a link to the draft and final Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) reports. The EMPr is an appendix to the Draft EIA Report.
	Mr Patrick Ganda (Mr Ganda)	Mr Ganda asked, in terms of air quality during the reclamation, how the activities will impact the Blesbokspuit Research Centre, which is located approximately 700 m south-east of the project site. He also requested that the Blesbokspuit Research Centre be included in the stakeholder database.	An Air Quality Impact Assessment will be conducted during the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Phase; impacts for the Proposed Project will be assessed, and relevant mitigation measures will form part of the Environmental Management Programme. The Blesbokspuit Research Centre has been added to the stakeholder database.

SECTION B:

THE COMMUNITY REQUESTED TO FIRST ENGAGE WITH THE ERGO COMMUNITY LIASON MANAGER (MR JOSIAH TSHISEVHE) REGARDING EXISTING PROJECTS AND ERGO'S SOCIAL COMMITMENTS, PRIOR TO COMMENCING WITH THE PROPOSED PROJECT'S OPEN DAY SESSION. THE COMMENTS NOTED BELOW, CAPTURES THE COMMENTS FROM THE DISCUSSION BETWEEN MR TSHISEVHE AND THE COMMUNITY.

4		Discussion		
STAKEHOLDERS		COMMENT		RESPONSE
4.2	Mr Mandla Mbopha	Mr Mbopha mentioned that they are familiar with Kongiwe Environmental. However, he noted that their main concern is that Kongiwe initially approached them through Impala, delivered their presentations, and then left. He further added that when community members later pursued employment at Impala, the police were called on them. Mr Mbopha also mentioned that when they contacted Kongiwe Environmental, the team indicated that they were no longer part of the process and had concluded their involvement, with some individuals stating that they were no longer employed by Kongiwe Environmental. He added that now that Kongiwe Environmental is representing DRD Gold, they would like to have a meeting with DRD before any work commences, in order to reach an agreement and avoid a repeat of past events. He mentioned that the agreement should be between DRD Gold and the community, and that DRD should commit to providing job opportunities for community members and local business owners. He further added that DRD should agree to repair community roads and soccer fields. He stated that this agreement should be documented so that it can be referred to if their requests are not met. He also mentioned that		Mr Tshisevhe responded that he will address issues regarding job opportunities. He advised that Kongiwe Environmental are consultants on behalf of DRDGold and would present the Proposed Project. After the presentation, he would engage with the community on other project matters.

4		Discussion	
STAKEHOLDERS	COMMENT	RESPONSE	
		DRD should provide some of these commitments and not call the police on them, as Mr Tshisevhe did when alleging that they intended to burn the plant, whereas they were only scouting for job opportunities.	
4.3	Community member	A community member added that they have concerns regarding a dump. He further stated that DRD Gold may make promises and fail to deliver, as they were previously promised soccer tournaments, which did not take place, as well as road and soccer fields repairs, which were also not carried out. He mentioned that the community no longer trusts one another, as they believe that Mr Mosiroe, their LED representative, is being paid to mislead them.	Mr Tshisevhe stated that such allegations are not allowed, emphasizing that DRD does not pay people improperly and is not corrupt. He added that the company is listed on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) as well as the American Stock Exchange, and that all their activities are recorded. He further explained that individuals are only paid for work that they have worked for. He also mentioned that he is in communication with Mr Mosiroe and stated that the concerns being raised are not related to Kongiwe's presentation. He suggested that, following the presentation, they could sit down and hold a meeting with the community.
4.4	Mr Alex Malatjie	Mr Malatjie told Mr Tshisevhe that the issues raised by the young man are important, emphasizing that what they are trying to convey is that they do not want history to repeat itself with the current proposed project. Mr Malatjie mentioned that Mr Tshisevhe does not work with the community hand a glove because if that was the case they were not going to say nothing will commence until he arrives. However. Mr	Mr Tshisevhe mentioned that there was leadership that come and sat with claiming to represent the community.

4 Discussion			
STAKEHOLDERS	COMMENT	RESPONSE	
		Tshisevhe is deceiving them, make promises and avoid them. He added that this behaviour is frustrating the community at large. He mentioned that no resident is empowered by DRD.	
4.5	Community member	A community member stated that they are aware of the issue involving individuals who had claimed to represent the community at DRD when they did not. She mentioned that this had been acknowledged, and the community recognizes that mistakes do happen and wishes to move forward. She further stated that the community fully understands the role of Kongiwe and the purpose of their involvement. She added that Kongiwe needs the community, and if there is disagreement, it would result in a loss for all parties, as the community would not sign or participate in the process, and DRD would not be able to obtain the licence. She emphasized that they do not want DRD to receive the licence under such circumstances. She also added that they should not be referred to as stakeholders, stating that they do not agree with that with the Proposed Project.	

4 Discussion			
STAKEHOLDERS		COMMENT	RESPONSE
			by Kongiwe will be submitted to the competent authorities, where a final decision will be made. He concluded by stating that DRD intends to mine the dumps, and that all concerns raised, including those about job opportunities and related issues, will be included in the reports submitted to the competent authorities.
4.6	Community member	A community member asked the consulting firm that was consulting for 6L43 since it is said it was the ones consulting. Kongiwe has offices in that site. He sought for clarity of the consulting company that was presenting DRD.	Ms Naicker sought for clarity on the project the community is referring to. Mr Tshisevhe replied that the community is referring to 6L13. He added that for 6L14, they hold the mining rights, and that the process will be different as they are authorized by law and the government. Mr Tshisevhe explained that 6L13 was a rehabilitation project governed by an existing agreement that had been in place since 2002, before DRD took over Ergo Mining. He added that they were required to follow this standing agreement, which involved sharing costs with the refinery. He further stated that the situation has now changed, as they have obtained mining rights and the project is no longer a rehabilitation. As a result, they are able to consult different environmental firms, and this does not mean that the community is obliged to agree.

4 Discussion			
STAKEHOLDERS		COMMENT	RESPONSE
4.7	Mr Mandla Mbopha	Mr Mbopha asked Mr Tshisevhe whether if they allow Kongiwe to present and sign the register. Does he promise that after the presentation he will have a session with them and hear their concerns. He mentioned that they need to give feedback to the community because they are representing the community.	Mr. Tshisevhe agreed that he would hold a session with the community after the Open Day Presentation for the Proposed Project. He also informed Kongiwe that the community had agreed to allow them to proceed with the presentation.
SECTION C: COMMENTS CAPTURED DURING AND AFTER THE OPEN DAY PRESENTATION FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT. THE ATTENDANCE REGISTER WAS SIGNED AFTER THE OPEN DAY DISCUSSION CLOSED.			
4.8	Community member 1	Community member 1 requested clarity on the team's processes, noting his awareness that consulting and drafting work is conducted in their offices. He expressed concern that Kongiwe should not mislead or deceive the community, as he believes happened with DRD. He informed Kongiwe that Kongiwe is guilty of not following the legal requirements for the Proposed Project, as legally Kongiwe must provide capacity building and/or skills transfer. He suggested that there may be local individuals with relevant knowledge, such as a student with hydro-reclamation skills. He further asked whether Kongiwe could provide 3–5 days of training to such an individual. Additionally, he sought clarity on whether consultants are not expected to provide students with an	Ms Naicker responded that Kongiwe has been appointed to undertake the environmental and social studies for the project as part of the environmental authorisation application. She confirmed that capacity building/skills transfer is not a requirement legislated under the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA). An enquiry can be referred to Ergo, but she is not aware of Ergo's commitment to capacity building/skills transfer. As part of the environmental process, your comment will be included in the Comments and Responses Report (CRR) and submitted to the Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources (DMPR), which is the Competent Authority (CA). The CA will be aware of your interest in capacity building/skills transfer.

4 Discussion			
STAKEHOLDERS	COMMENT	RESPONSE	
	understanding of the project, even if not in the form of a formal internship.		
	Community member 1 requested clarity on the types of jobs that will be available from the Proposed Project and inquired about socio-economic opportunities.	Mr Macevele responded by noting that one of the positive impacts of the Proposed Project is increased job security. He added that Mr Tshisevhe mentioned he would hold a meeting with the community after the presentation to address that matter. Ms Naicker responded that the project is currently in the Scoping Phase, during which the team is assessing all potential impacts, both positive and negative. She mentioned that in the next phase, which is the EIA Phase, there would be specific information regarding the Proposed Project.	
	Community member 1 further enquired whether the reports produced, such as EIA reports, could this report be used to hold DRD liable for providing employment, as these reports would state the number of jobs the client intends to create.	Ms Naicker responded that the reports are not contractual; rather, they identify potential impacts that may occur. The Socio-Economic Impact Assessment will be undertaken during the EIA Phase and assess the impacts of job opportunities. She explained that this assessment will consider impacts affecting the community, particularly those of a social nature. Once the Social Impact Assessment Specialist has gathered information from the environmental consultation process, the specialist will assess the potential social impacts, including those related to job opportunities. She added that the Ergo would need to advise on the number or type of jobs available for the Proposed Project. However, she	

4 Discussion			
STAKEHOLDERS		COMMENT	RESPONSE
			clarified that the number of jobs indicated in the assessment does not represent actual job commitments. Ms Naicker further noted that an EMPr will accompany the EIA report. If the EMPr specifies, under the social component, that DRD Ergo must engage with the community regarding employment opportunities, this requirement will later be subject to auditing for compliance purposes, and the report will be submitted to the relevant authority. The EMPr will also be provided to Interested and Affected Parties. She added that according to the legislation a copy of an EMPr should always be available on site.
4.9	Community member 2	Community member 2 stated that the community is interested in job opportunities, which is why he was asking questions related to employment. He further mentioned that his key takeaway from the meeting is that, once the environmental authorisation processes have been concluded, Kongiwe will no longer be part of the project. He noted that most of their questions can be addressed by DRD and appreciated that the DRD team is available.	The Kongiwe Team acknowledged that Community member 2 interest in the Open Day was for job opportunities.
4.10	Mr Bokang Mosiroe (Mr Mosiroe)	Mr Mosiroe enquired about the transportation of slurry from the plant to the refinery. He sought clarity on whether this is the proposed method and asked if the method can be rejected.	Ms Naicker responded that only the hydraulic method will be considered for the Proposed Project.
		Mr Mosiroe noted that transporting the slurry via pipelines would reduce the number of trucks operating on site. He added that it would make more business sense to transport the slurry using trucks, as this would create opportunities for the community.	Ms Naicker responded that there are existing pipeline servitudes and surface rights in place. Mr Mafatshe noted that the pipeline existed previously, a long time ago, and mentioned that while some sections are still intact, others have been stolen. He indicated that

4	Discussion			
STAKEHOLDERS		COMMENT	RESPONSE	
			the stolen sections will be repaired and that there may be employment opportunities associated with the repair of the pipeline, which is why slurry will be transported using the pipeline.	
4.11	Mr Alex Malatjie (Mr Malatjie)	Mr Malatjie sought clarity on the route of the pipeline, noting the presence of an informal settlement. He mentioned that he is aware that the existing Fraser pipeline runs through the informal settlement. He wanted to understand what would happen to people residing along the pipeline route and how they would be notified.	Mr Mafatshe confirmed the responsible people for this activity is the councillor and Mr Tshisevhe, and that is how the community will be notified.	
4.12	Mr Mandla Mbopha (Mr Mbopha)	Mr Mbopha mentioned that the community will now sign the register and have a session with Mr Tshisevhe.	The Kongiwe Technical Team was not a part of this discussion and left the Open Day venue.	
5	Closing			
5.1	Mr Ripfumelo Macevele thanked everyone for their time and the meeting was adjourned at 12:50			ALL
				-

Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF), located in the City of Ekurhuleni Municipality, Gauteng Province

Draft Scoping Report Summary Poster

Project Background

Ergo a wholly owned subsidiary of DRDGOLD - within which the Group’s Eastern surface retreatment assets are consolidated, is a major surface gold tailings retreatment operation that focuses on old and abandoned TSFs.

Ergo Mining (Pty) Limited (Ergo) is the largest gold tailings retreatment company in South Africa. The surface deposits controlled by Ergo are waste products created from the historical processing of gold and uranium ores of the Witwatersrand Supergroup. Ergo has Mining Right (ERGO-GP158MR) over the dump, this facility was historically used previously as a mining waste deposition site and has been dormant for some time.

The dump will be reprocessed via the existing pipeline network through the 5L27 Transfer Pumpstation to the Ergo Beneficiation Plant (Ergo Plant) which is currently in operation, with ultimate residue deposition taking place on the Brakpan/Withok TSF and /or Daggafontein TSF. A new reclamation pumpstation will be developed for the Proposed Project.

As part of Ergo’s rehabilitation strategy, the removal of TSF’s like this will allow repurposing of the land in a more sustainable manner and ultimate offsetting of environmental impacts. The reclamation projects are in line with the objectives of the Gauteng Mine Residue Area Strategy (2012), which are to reclaim and/or rehabilitate TSFs to the point where they become safe for adjacent communities and land can be made available for other purposes.

Proposed Project

Kongiwe Environmental (Pty) Ltd (“Kongiwe”) has been appointed by **Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd (the “Applicant”)**, as the independent Environmental Service Provider and tasked with conducting the Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (S&EIA) process which is aimed at critically evaluating the potential environmental and social impacts of the **proposed Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) (“Proposed Project”)**, located at City of Ekurhuleni Municipality, Gauteng Province.

The Project Activities

Ergo aims to reclaim and reprocess the 6L14 TSF with the objective of recovering gold using hydraulic reclamation. Hydraulic reclamation is a largely mechanised process with a risk profile that is significantly lower than that of conventional mining. During hydraulic reclamation, a water monitor blasts the sides of the TSF, the process water mixes with the unconsolidated material, resulting in what is known as a ‘slurry’. The slurry will report to a pumpstation, located at the lowest point of a TSF, where it will then be pumped and conveyed to Ergo Plant for reprocessing.

The Proposed Project will be consolidated into a single Environmental Authorisation (EA) application. This application will be submitted to the Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources (DMPR), which serves as the Competent Authority responsible for assessing and approving mining-related environmental projects in the Gauteng Province. In addition to the EA, a Water Use License (WUL) will be required for any activities that may impact water resources. The Integrated Water Use Licence Application (IWULA) will be reviewed and considered by the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), ensuring that all water-related aspects of the Proposed Project comply with National Regulations.

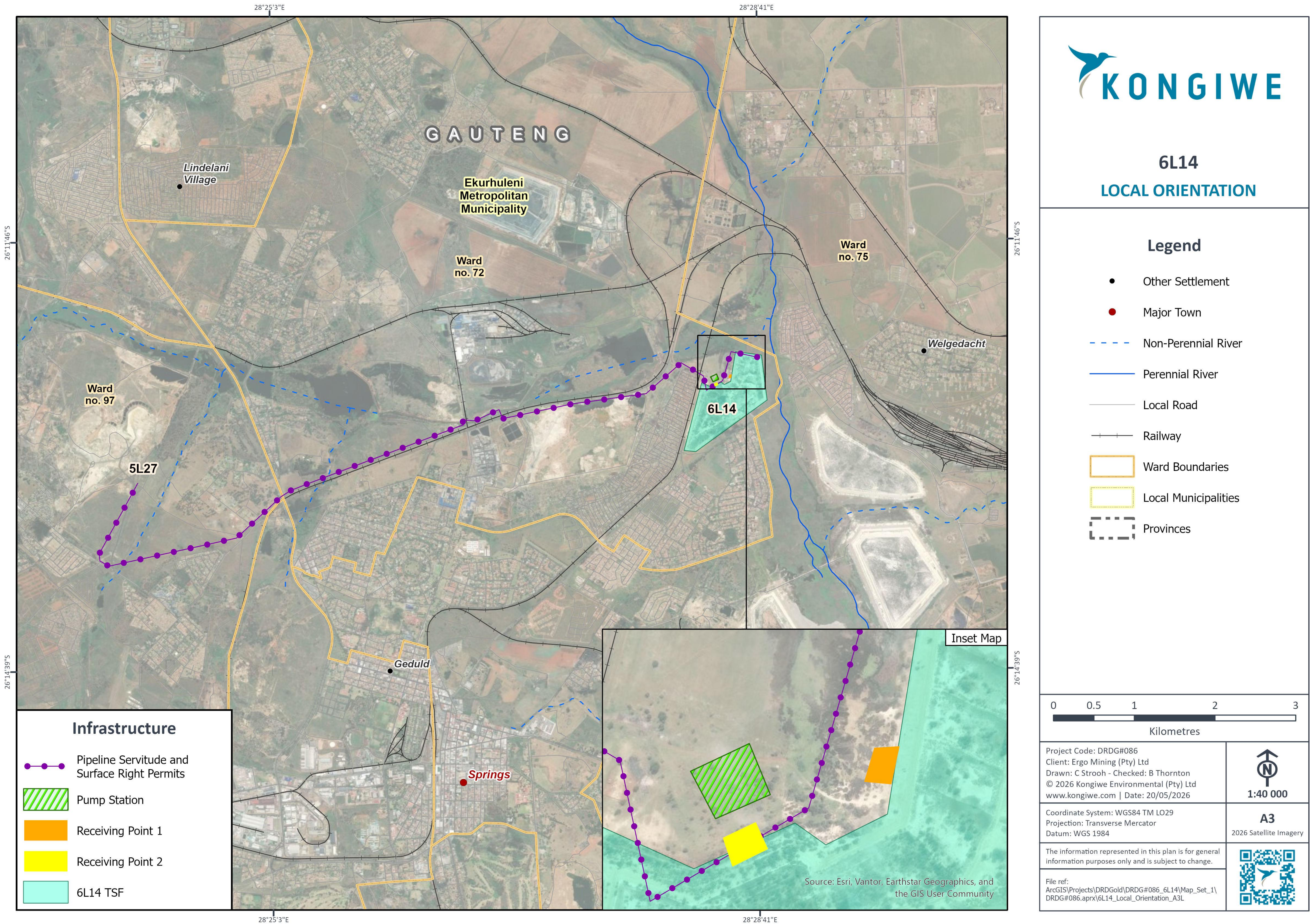
Project Location

The Proposed Project is located approximately 4 km north-east of Springs, in Ward 72 of the City of Ekurhuleni Municipality (CoE), Gauteng Province. The total footprint of the 6L14 TSF is approximately **63.21 hectares**.

The Proposed Project activities will be undertaken within Farm Portion 6 of Grootvaly 124 IR, as well as Portions 84 and 192 of Geduld 123 IR. In addition, the proposed transfer pump station currently in operation is situated on Farm Portion 3 of Modderfontein 76 IR. The servitude for the pipeline is in place, including the surface right permit.

Life of Operation

The life of the Proposed Project is expected to be **12 years**. An estimated maximum amount of **300 000 tons/month** of slurry is expected to be pumped from 6L14 TSF via constructed pipelines to the Ergo Plant which is in Brakpan for beneficiation.



Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF), located in the City of Ekurhuleni Municipality, Gauteng Province

Draft Scoping Report Summary Poster

Reclamation method

The proposed reclamation method which will be used to reclaim the TSF is referred to as top-down hydraulic reclamation. This technique uses high-pressure water monitors / cannons to deliver a high-pressure water jet to excavate unconsolidated tailings material within the TSF hydraulically. The water from the cannon mixes with the tailings and forms a slurry with a high solids content. The slurry then flows under gravity along trenches at the base of the TSF to a collection sump which is positioned at the lowest elevation of the bench being mined.

At the sump, finger screens remove any debris that may impact pumping operations, and the screened slurry then flows into the sump and is subsequently conveyed to the station. The position of the collection sump will change as the reclamation progresses. From the collection sump, the slurry reports to a reclamation station. To control the volume of water reporting to the reclamation station, flapper valves are used to hold, and release slurry contained in the collection sump. The slurry will then report to a pumpstation, located at the lowest point of a TSF, where it will then be pumped and conveyed to Ergo Plant for reprocessing.

Proposed Infrastructure for the Proposed Project

The following infrastructure will be utilised:

- **Reclamation infrastructure at each TSF consisting of a pump station which includes:**
 - Slurry sump;
 - Vibrating Screen;
 - Water tank;
 - Motor control centre; and
 - Slurry and associated Pumps.
- Lined catchment paddocks;
- **Stormwater management infrastructure including:**
 - Water Pumpstation and PCD infrastructure and stormwater systems;
 - Existing paddocks on the TSF footprint; and
 - Pollution control paddock.



Other Infrastructure for the Proposed Project

- 11 kV overhead powerlines capable of transmitting 3 kVA of electricity and electricity reticulation;
- Administration buildings, including change houses and ablution facilities;
- Access roads, routed from existing entry points;
- Construction contractors’ yards (temporary facilities); and
- Process water will be required for the 6L14 reclamation operations to support the Proposed Project via the existing pipeline network.

Key Finding of the Scoping Report

Environmental Component	Component Type	Potential Impact	Specialist Study Planned for EIA
Physical Environment (non-living)	Hydrology (including wetlands, surface water and groundwater)	• Potential for further acid mine drainage (AMD), increased heavy metal concentrations and increased sulphate concentrations in local surface water and groundwater if runoff from operations is not adequately managed through efficient storm water management structures; • Water and ground contamination due to pipeline leaks/spillages if inadequate preventative measures are not implemented; • Improved surface and ground water quality around the project area due to the removal of the TSF; • Changes in natural surface water flow parameters as a result of the removal of the TSF; • Potential impact on drainage lines from access runoff during the operational phase of the project; and • Improved visual aesthetics of the area after the removal of the TSF.	• Surface Water Impact Assessment • Groundwater Impact Assessment • Wetland Impact Assessment
Biological Environment (living)	Ecology and Biodiversity (including fauna and flora)	• Displacement of animal habitat by removing the TSF; • Removal of invasive species from the TSF; and • Loss of migration corridors, and access to nesting and refuge areas, watering points, food supplies for faunal species.	• Biodiversity Impact Assessment
Cultural Environment	Heritage Resources	• Since the footprint was a TSF previously, it is unlikely for there to be any heritage resources on site; and • Should heritage resources be present in the area, the reclamation project could potentially impact these.	• Heritage Impact Assessment
Social and Economic Environment	Employment	• Continued employment and job security; • Continued investment in local economy; and • Removal of the TSF could eliminate the attraction of illegal/informal miners who seek gold.	• Socio-Economic Impact Assessment
	Land-use	• Land use will change to an active reclamation site; • Restoration and unlocking of land for future land uses; and • Better management and control of the area against illegal/informal mining.	• Socio-Economic Impact Assessment
	Air Quality	• Possible increase in dust levels in some areas during operations; and • Health impacts on livestock and people in proximity to the project site due to fine particulate emissions during operational phase.	• Air Quality Impact Assessment
	Transport and traffic	• Temporary increase in heavy vehicle traffic during the construction phase due to mobilisation of equipment, pipeline installation, and material deliveries; • Increased pressure on existing public and access roads, potentially accelerating road surface wear and degradation;	• Traffic Impact Assessment
	Geology, Soil, Ground stability, Surface water, Groundwater, Infrastructure sensitivity, Land use suitability and Health and Safety.	• Improved understanding of dolomite conditions through investigations and risk management planning; • Ground instability, sinkholes, subsidence, or structural damage due to disturbance and water ingress; • Soil compaction, contamination, erosion, and loss of topsoil during construction and reclamation; • Safety risks to workers/public, traffic disruption, and nuisance impacts to nearby communities; and • Rehabilitation may enable safer future land uses and improved infrastructure planning.	• Dolomite Impact Assessment

Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF), located in the City of Ekurhuleni Municipality, Gauteng Province

Draft Scoping Report Summary Poster

An integrated Environmental Authorisation (EA) application will be submitted to the DMPR (Gauteng) as the Competent Authority for the Proposed Project. The applicable applications to be assessed by the DMPR are as follows:

Application for Environmental Authorisation (EA) for listed activities triggered in Listing Notices GN R983, GN R984 and GN R985 published pursuant to the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), promulgated in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA).

The applicable Listing Notices, associated listed activities, and corresponding descriptions are provided below:

- ✓ GN R 984 – Activity 21F: Reclamation of a Residue stockpile or a residue deposit;
- ✓ GN R 984 – Activity 6: Satellite pump station/ Reclamation Station;
- ✓ GN R 984 – Activity 6: Slurry receiving facility;
- ✓ GN R 984 – Activity 6: Screening facility at the pump station;
- ✓ GN R 984 – Activity 6: Storage;
- ✓ GN R 984 – Activity 6: Transfer pumps in series; and
- ✓ GN R 983 – Activity 13: Slurry receiving facility.

Application for a Waste Management Licence (WML) authorising waste management activity listed in GN 921 of 29 November 2013 published in terms of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008) (as amended) (NEM:WA).

Triggered listed activity for WML:

- ✓ **Category B: Activity 11**

In addition, the following applications will be made to other relevant Competent Authorities (CA):

An Integrated Water Use Licence Application (IWULA) in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) (NWA) to be submitted to the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) for any potential impact to water resources by the Proposed Project.

Triggered listed activities for IWULA:

- ✓ Section 21 (g): Dust suppression of access roads, Earth materials and gravel;
- ✓ Section 21 (g): Disposing of excess stormwater and slurry during a stormwater event;
- ✓ Section 21 (c) and (i): The construction, operation and rehabilitation of the access road located within 500m of a wetland;
- ✓ Section 21 (c) and (i): The construction, operation, decommissioning and rehabilitation of a lined catchment paddock, as well as the construction of the associated stormwater management infrastructure within 500m of a wetland and within the 1:100- year floodline;
- ✓ Section 21 (c) and (i): The construction, operation, decommissioning and rehabilitation of a pumpstation within 500m of a wetland; and
- ✓ Section 21 (c) and (i): Reclamation of the 6L14 TSF, as well as the operation, decommissioning and rehabilitation of the associated reclamation.

The Draft Scoping Report (DSR) has been undertaken to identify potential positive and negative impacts on the environment and gather comments and queries from stakeholders. It documents the process followed, the findings and recommendations of the Scoping Phase study, and the proposed Plan of Study for the EIA Phase to follow.

The overarching objectives of the EIA process will be to:

- Prepare integrated sensitivity maps for the study area based on the findings of specialist assessments as input into the project design process.
- Identify and assess the significance of potential impacts associated with the project activities.
- Recommend mitigation and enhancement measures to ensure that the development is undertaken in such a way as to promote the positive impacts and to minimize the negative impacts.

Public Participation Process

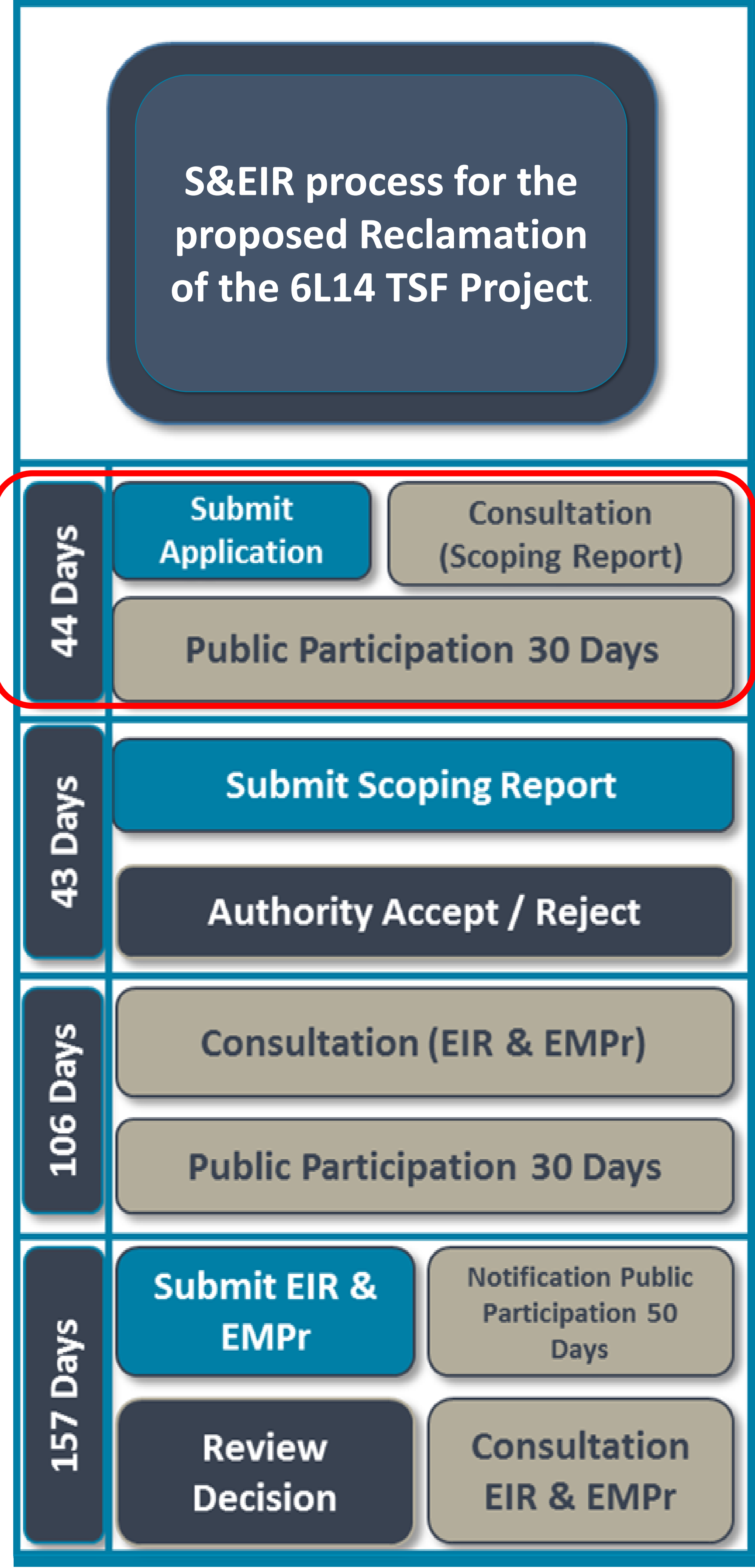
- The DSR for the Proposed Project is underway for public review for a period of **30 days**, from **06 May 2026 to 04 June 2026**.
- Hard copies of the DSR are available at the following public places:
 - Bakerton Public Library; and
 - Springs Public Library.
- The EA application and DSR were submitted to DMPR on **Wednesday, 06 May 2026**.

Way forward

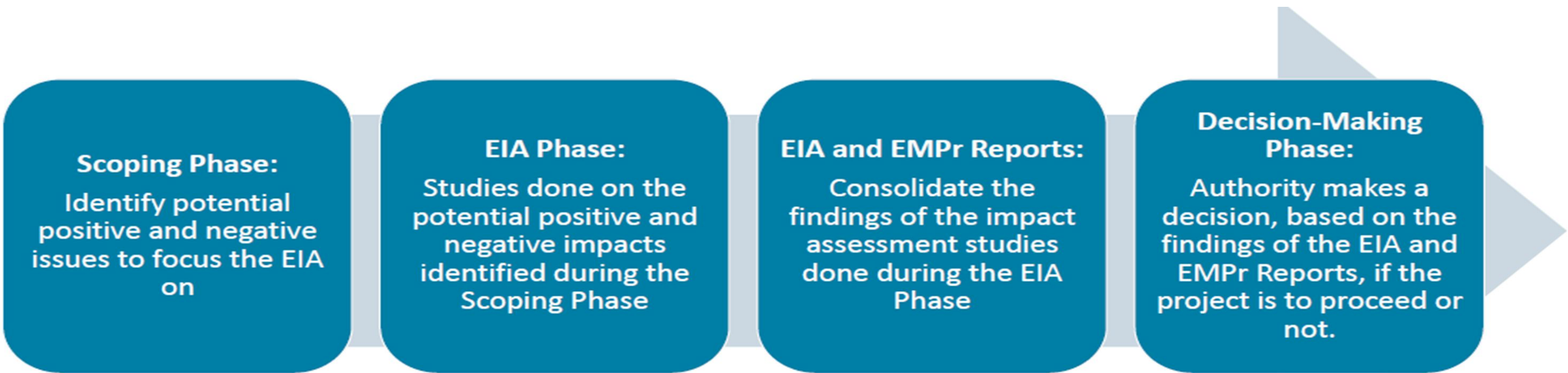
According to the Way Forward and the Plan of Study, contained in this report, impacts associated with the Proposed Project need to be considered further during the EIA Phase. It is important to take note of the current conditions of the Proposed Project area and the sensitive environment around it. The following assessments will be conducted during the EIA Phase; Biodiversity, Wetland, Air Quality, Surface water, Groundwater, Noise, Social, Heritage, Traffic, Dolomite, Climate Change Risk Assessment, Financial Provision and Closure.

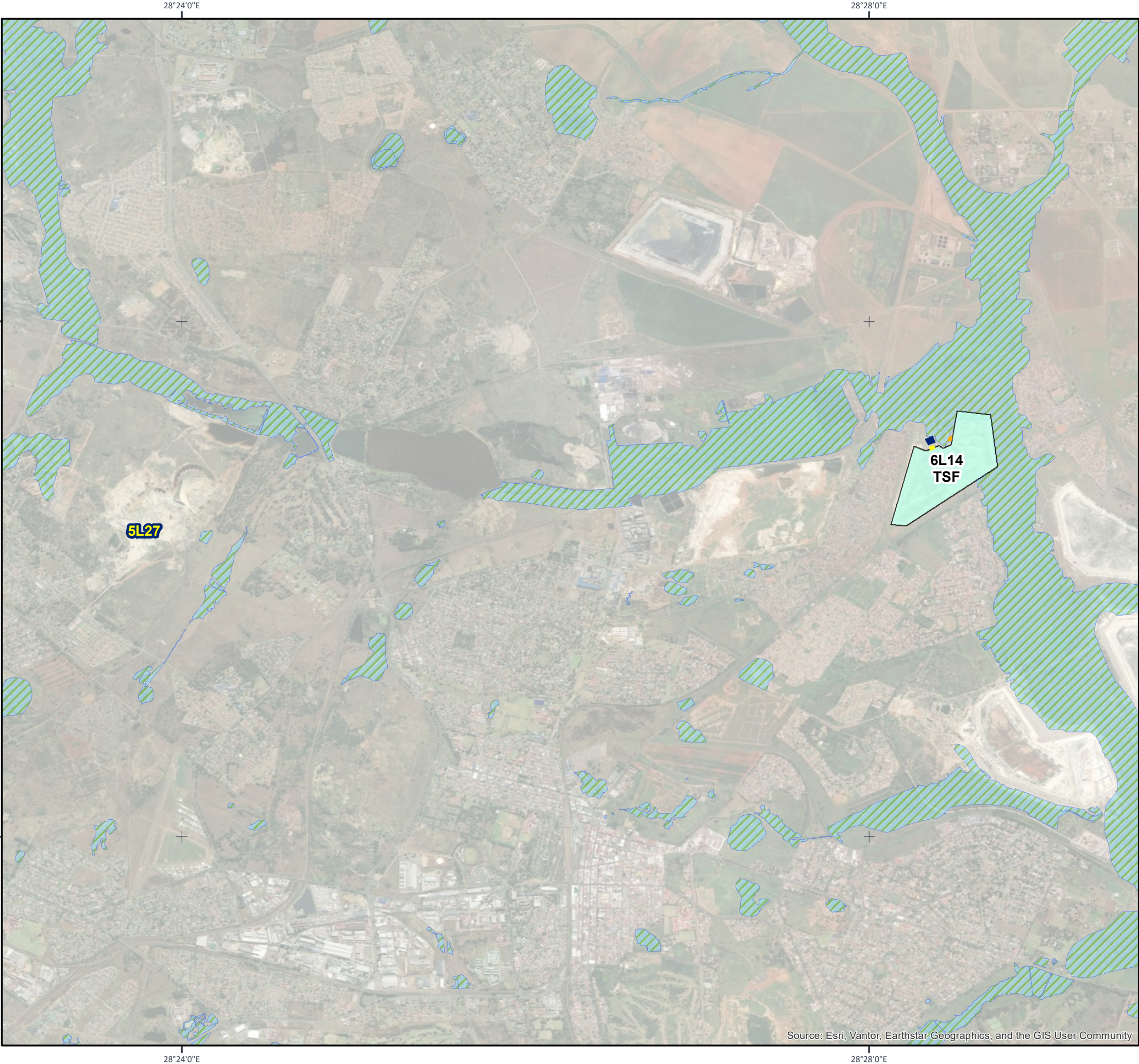
The procedure for this study going forward is as follows:

- Submit the Final Scoping Report to the CA for decision making i.e. to undertake the EIA Phase of the Proposed Project.
- Upon the decision to approve or refuse the Final Scoping Report, all stakeholders will be notified. If approved, stakeholders will also be notified of the conditions of the DMPR for proceeding with the EIA Phase of the Proposed Project.
- In the case of approval of the Final Scoping Report, execute the Plan of Study for the Impact Assessment during the EIA Phase of the Proposed Project.
- Incorporate and address comments and issues raised during the consultation period on the Scoping Report into the EIA and make changes to the report where relevant.
- Make the EIA Report and Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) available to the public, stakeholders and authorities.
- Finalise the EIA Report and submit the Final EIA Report to the CA.
- Authority review period and decision-making for 107 calendar days.



The aim of the Public Participation Process (PPP)



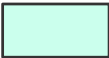


Source: Esri, Vantor, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community



6L14 WETLANDS

Legend

-  Wetlands
- Infrastructure**
 -  Proposed Pump Station
 -  Proposed Receiving Point 1
 -  Proposed Receiving Point 2
 -  Proposed 6L14 TSF



Project Code: DRDG#086
Client: Ergo Mining
Drawn: C Strooh | Checked: Z Omar
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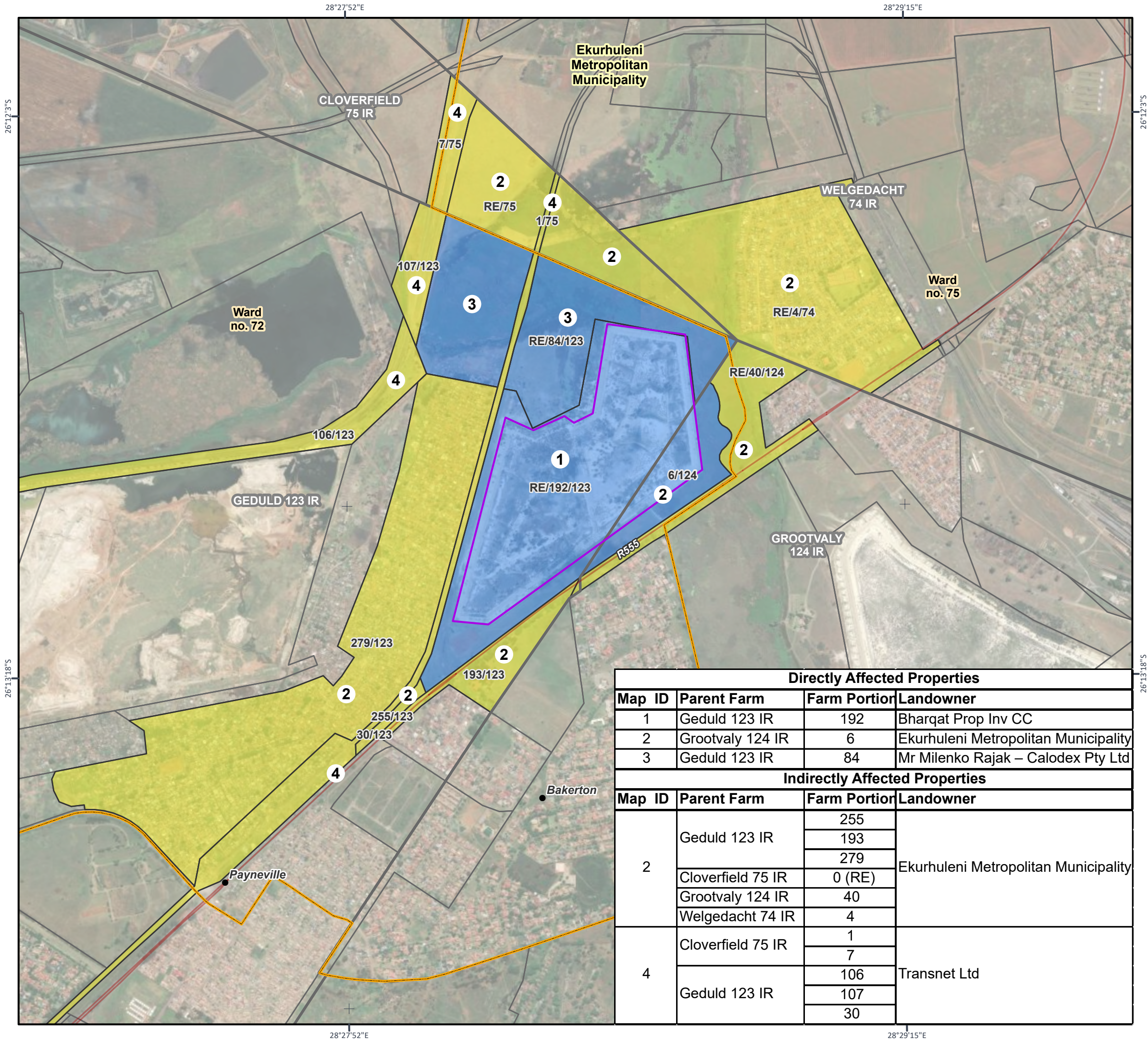
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6L14
LAND TENURE

Legend

- Settlements
- Main Road
- 6L14 TSF
- Farm Portion
- Parent Farm
- Local Municipalities
- Ward Boundaries
- Affected Properties
 - Directly Affected
 - Indirectly Affected



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Drawn: C Strooh - Checked: B Thornton
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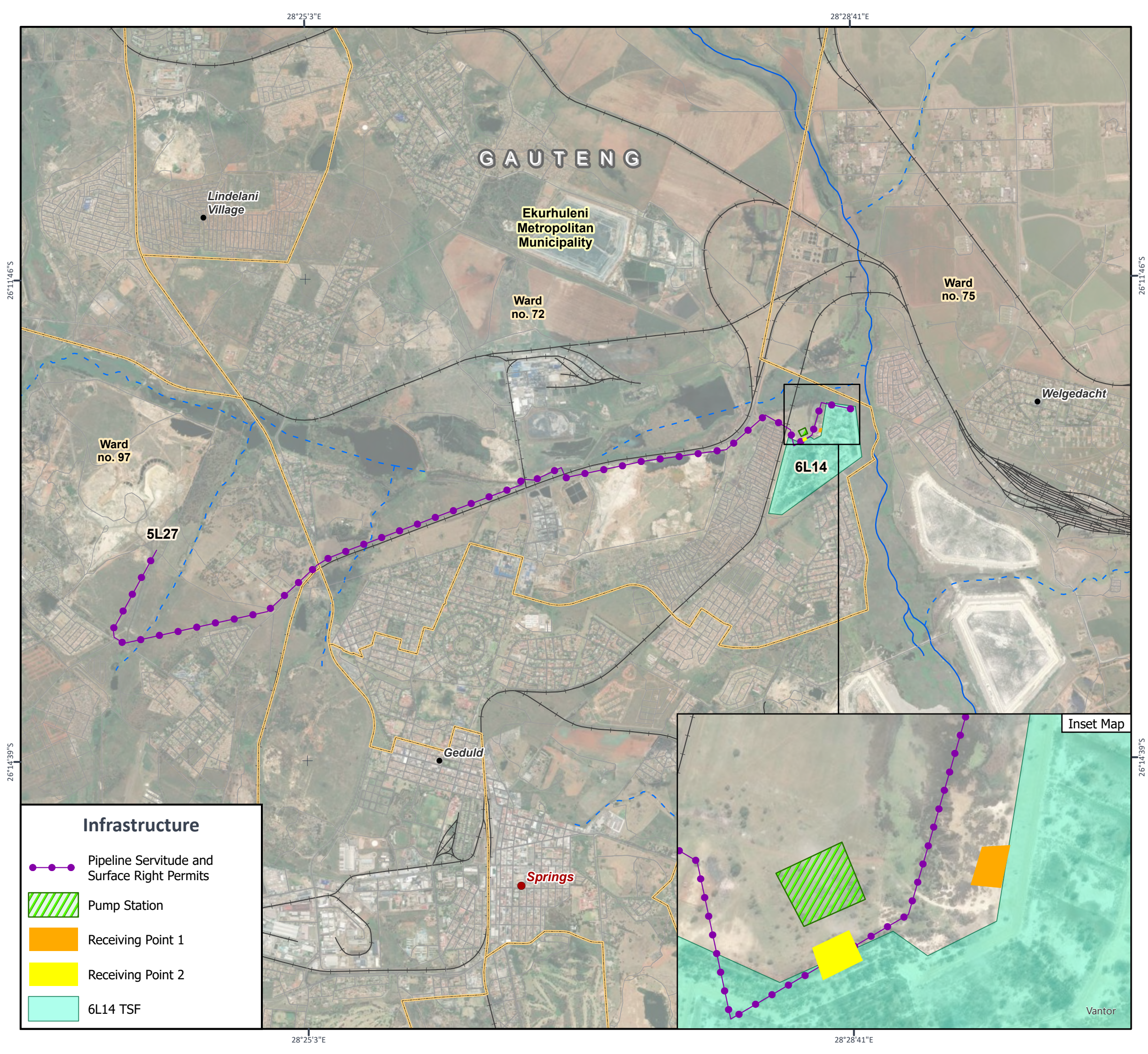
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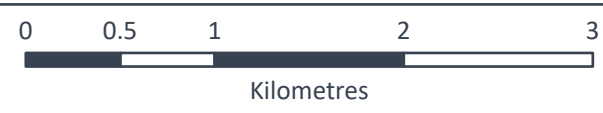
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1	Geduld 123 IR	192	Bharqat Prop Inv CC
2	Grootvaly 124 IR	6	Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality
3	Geduld 123 IR	84	Mr Milenko Rajak – Calodex Pty Ltd
Indirectly Affected Properties			
Map ID	Parent Farm	Farm Portion	Landowner
2	Geduld 123 IR	255	Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality
		193	
		279	
	Cloverfield 75 IR	0 (RE)	
	Grootvaly 124 IR	40	
4	Cloverfield 75 IR	1	Transnet Ltd
		7	
	Geduld 123 IR	106	
		107	
		30	



6L14 LOCAL ORIENTATION

Legend

- Other Settlement
- Major Town
- - - Non-Perennial Stream
- Perennial Stream
- Local Road
- Railway
- ▭ Ward Boundaries
- ▭ Local Municipalities
- ▭ Provinces



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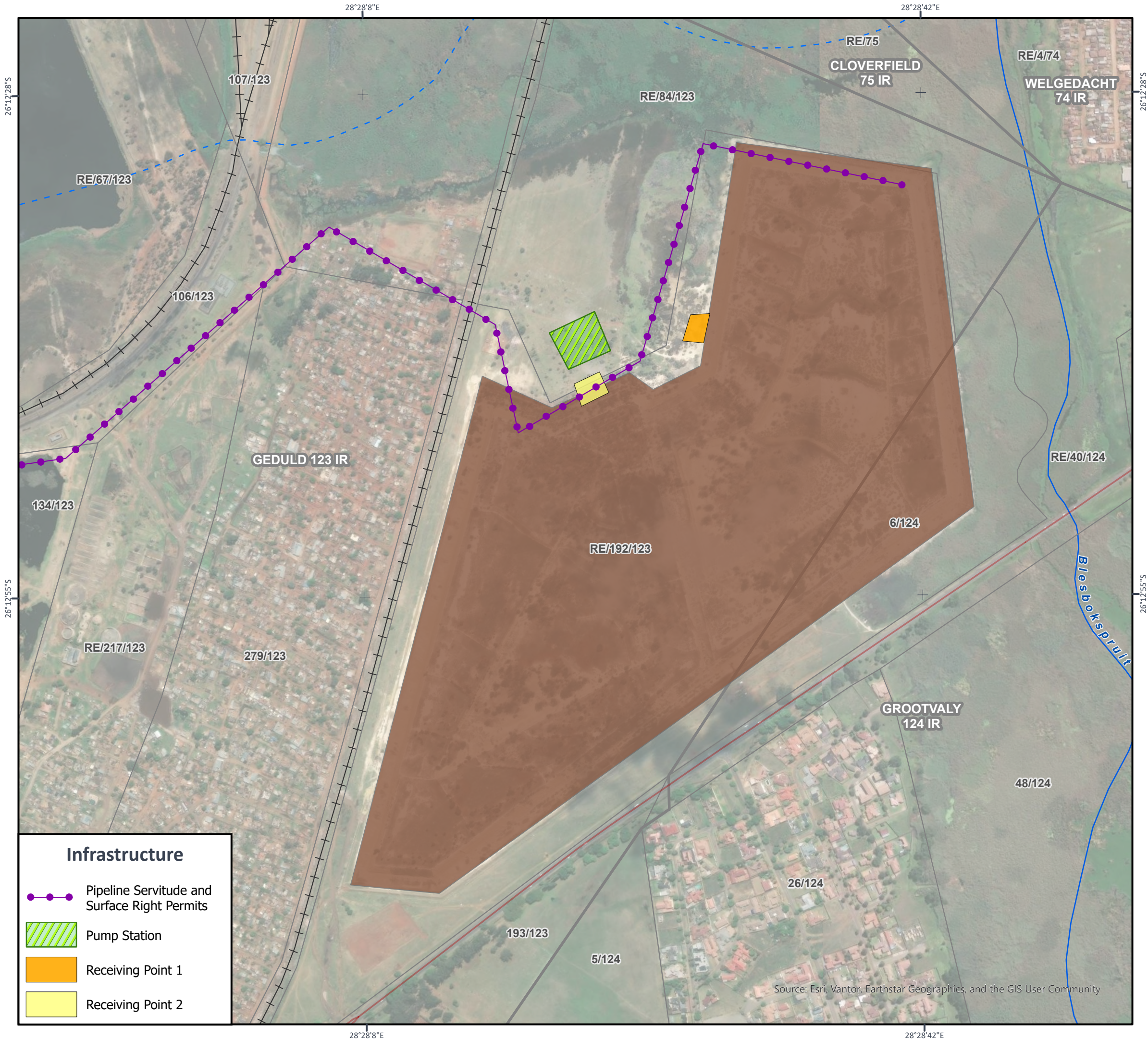
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Infrastructure

Pipeline Servitude and Surface Right Permits

Pump Station

Receiving Point 1

Receiving Point 2

6L14
PROPOSED
PROJECT LAYOUT

Legend

Non-Perennial Stream

Perennial Stream

Main Road

Railway

Farm Portion

Parent Farm

0100200400

Meters

Project Code: DRDG#086

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SITE VISIT			
Date	Friday, 29 May 2026	Time	09:00 – 11:00
Meeting Platform	6L14 Dump Site		
Subject	City of Ekurhuleni Municipality Site Visit		
List of Attendees			
Organisation		Name of Attendee	Designation
City of Ekurhuleni Municipality (CoE)		Ms Matlala Lilian	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Kongiwe Environmental (Pty) Ltd		Mr Macevele Ripfumelo	Environmental Consultant
Apologies			
Organisation		Name of Attendee	Designation
None			

Note: These key discussion points are not intended as a verbatim transcript of the site visit, but rather as a summary of the salient discussions which took place.

1. Welcome and Introductions

Mr Macevele welcomed the City of Ekurhuleni Municipality (CoE) representative on site, and introductions were conducted. Please refer to Appendix A for the attendance register.

2. Purpose of the Site Visit

A site visit to the 6L14 Dump/TSF was conducted with the City of Ekurhuleni's Environmental Assessment Practitioner. The purpose of the visit was for the CoE representative to observe and gain an understanding of the proposed reclamation project at the 6L14 Dump.

This visit was intended to assist the CoE, in its role as both the commenting authority and landowner of Portion 6 of the Farm Grootvaly 124 IR, in assessing the potential impacts of the project firsthand and enabling it to provide informed commentary on the environmental implications.

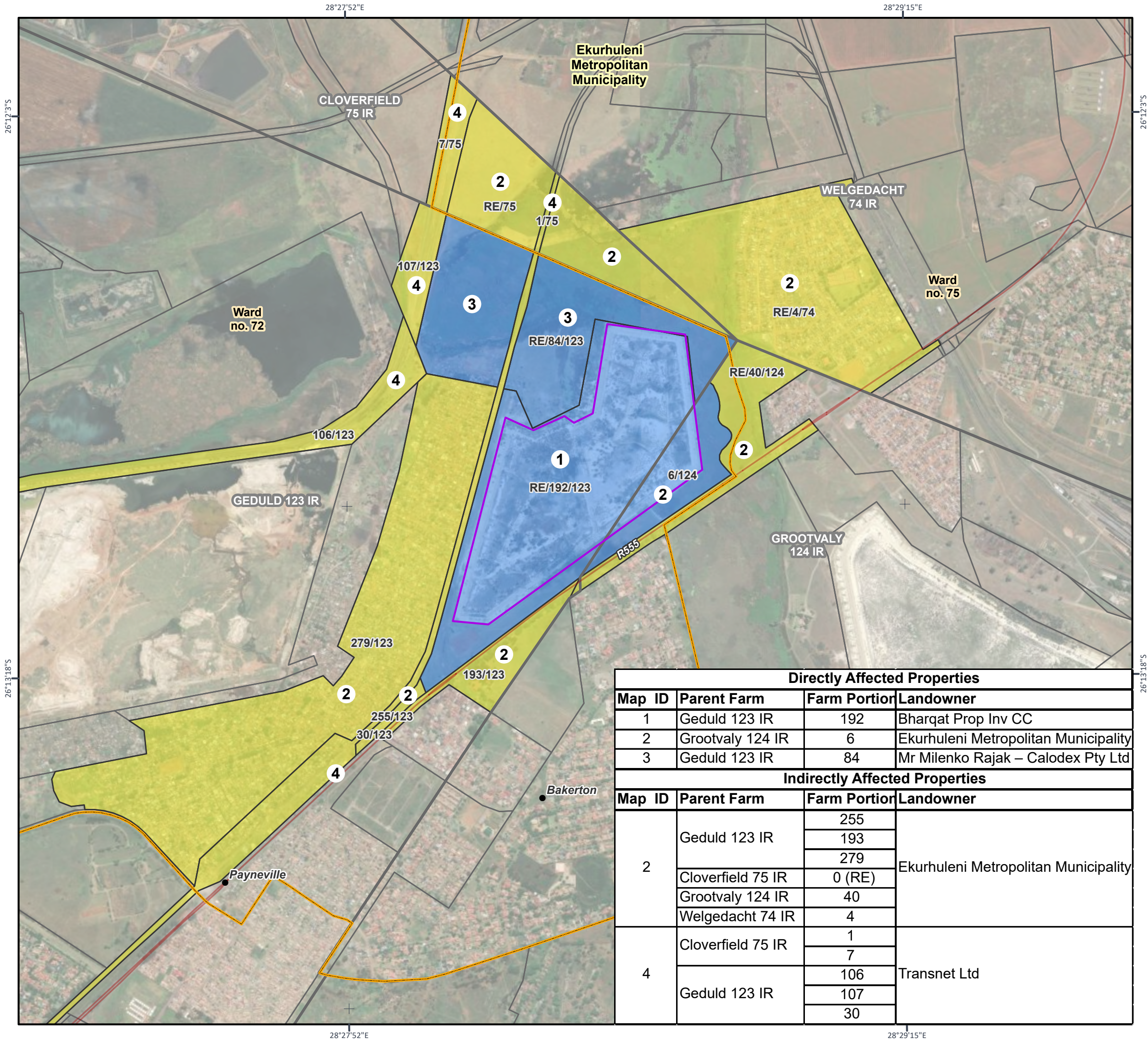
The discussion points are summarised below:

- The CoE requested confirmation of the total footprint of the 6L14 TSF, and it was confirmed that the area is 63.21 hectares.
- The presence of alien invasive vegetation on portions of the TSF was observed. It was indicated that biodiversity, specifically terrestrial studies, will be conducted during the EIA phase, and an invasive management plan will be included.
- The CoE also requested clarification on how slurry transported via the pipeline would be managed, particularly with regard to preventing blockages that may be caused by debris. It was explained that, as part of the project infrastructure, a vibrating screen facility will be installed to remove debris prior to the slurry being conveyed into the pipeline.
- Although the TSF did not appear saturated, surface moisture was evident when the material was handled. This was attributed to recent rainfall.
- The CoE asked about activities that trigger water uses in terms of the National Water Act, which necessitate a Water Use Licence Application. It was explained that reclamation activities, as well as the construction

and operation of infrastructure such as access roads, catchment paddocks, and pump stations within 500 m of a watercourse, triggers a Water Use Licence Application.

- Attention was drawn to existing infrastructure in close proximity to the site, particularly the powerline running adjacent to the TSF. The CoE Environmental Assessment Practitioner advised that the Scoping and EIA Reports should consider this infrastructure.
- The CoE indicated that formal written comments and submissions will be provided following the site visit.

Site visit adjourned at 11:00.



6L14
LAND TENURE

Legend

- Settlements
- Main Road
- 6L14 TSF
- Farm Portion
- Parent Farm
- Local Municipalities
- Ward Boundaries
- Affected Properties
 - Directly Affected
 - Indirectly Affected



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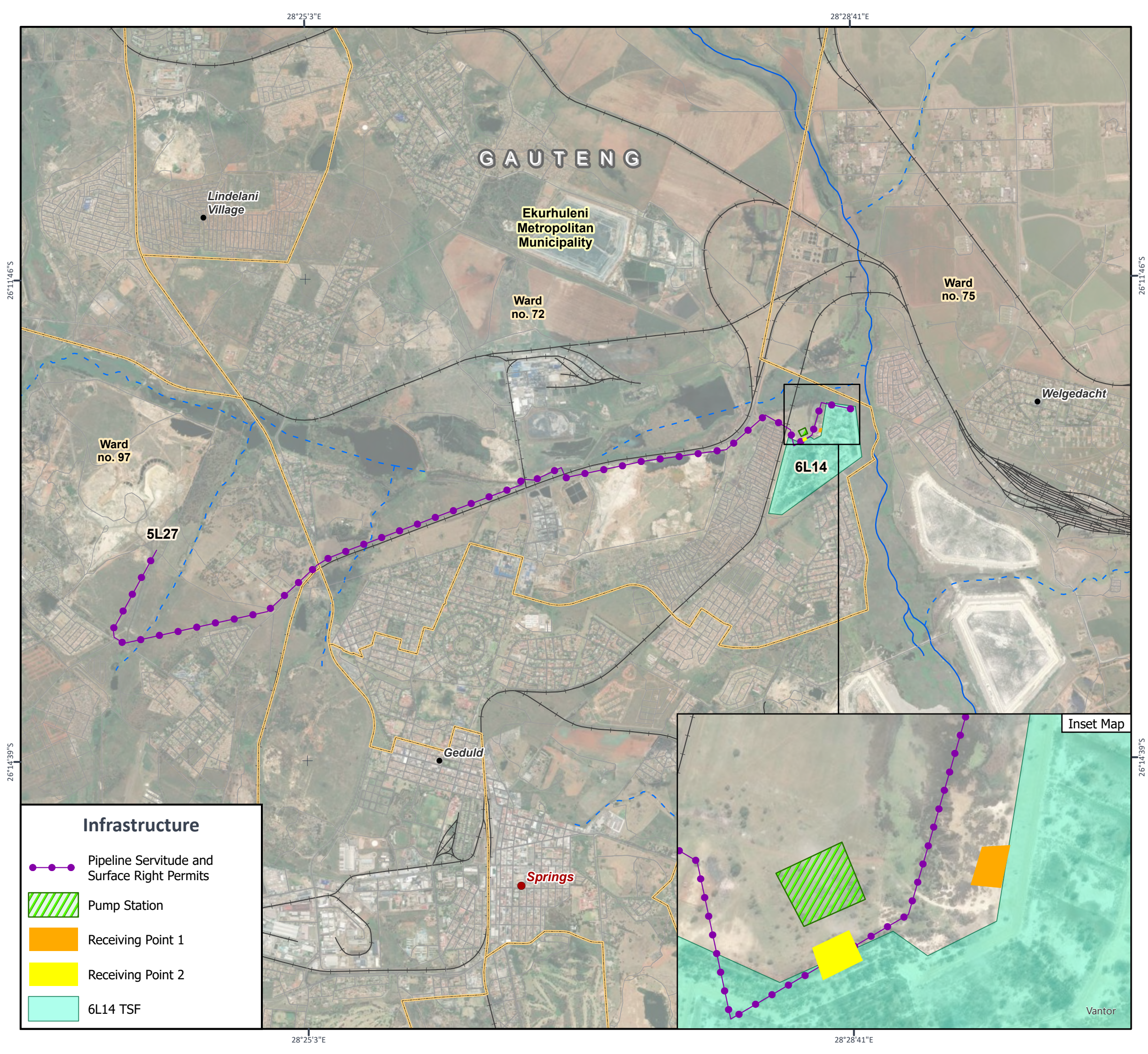
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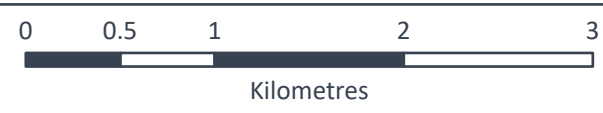
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6L14 LOCAL ORIENTATION

Legend

- Other Settlement
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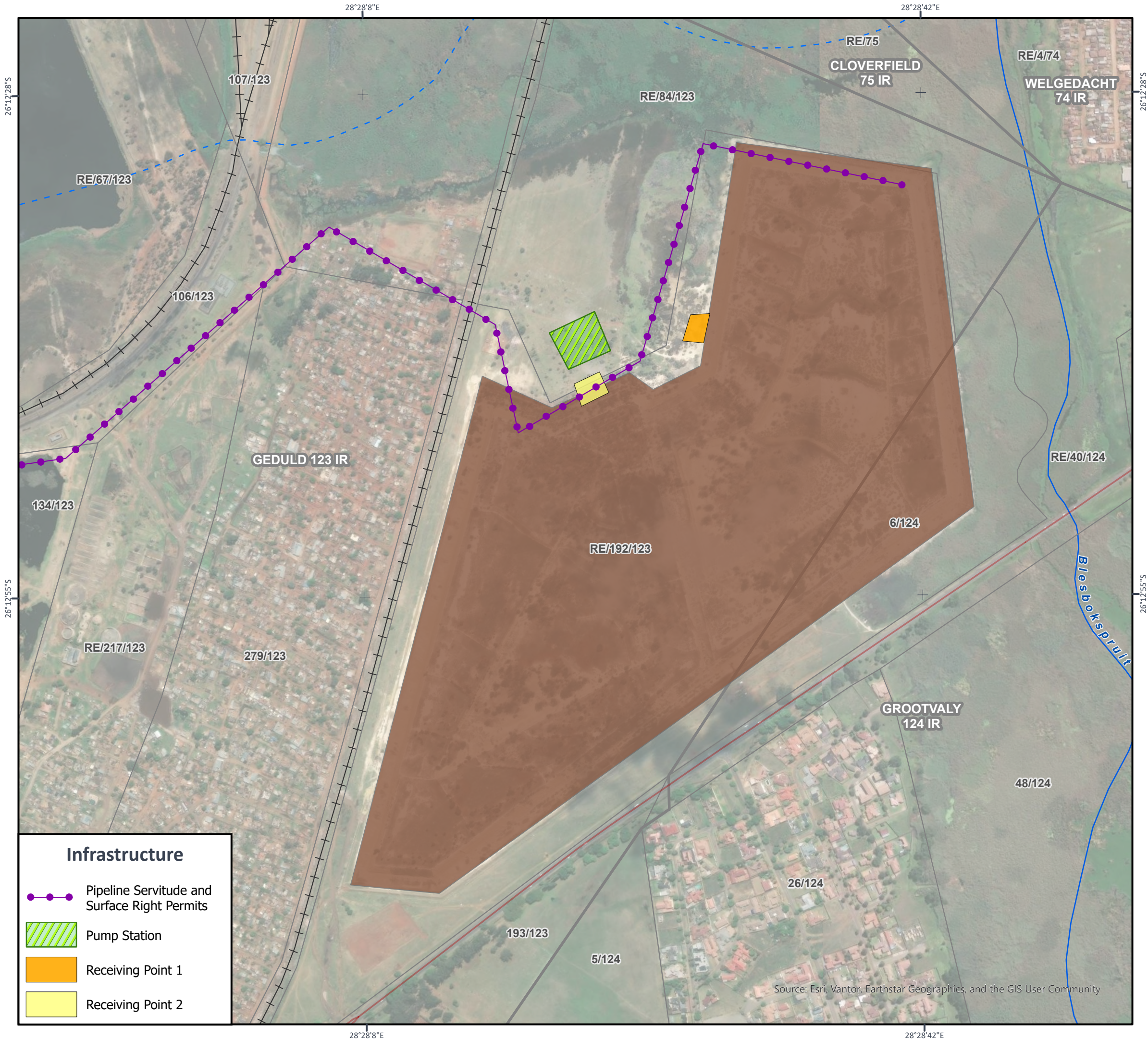
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6L14
PROPOSED
PROJECT LAYOUT

Legend

- Non-Perennial Stream
- Perennial Stream
- Main Road
- + + Railway
- Farm Portion
- Parent Farm

Infrastructure

- Pipeline Servitude and Surface Right Permits
- ▨ Pump Station
- Receiving Point 1
- Receiving Point 2



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Appendix C9: Written Comments

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Appendix C10: Comment and Response Report

Environmental Authorisation and Integrated Water Use Licence Application for the Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) in the City of Ekurhuleni Municipality, Gauteng Province

Comments and Responses Report for the Final Scoping Report (FSR)

DMPR reference number: To be Assigned

DWS reference number: To be Assigned

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1 Directly Affected Landowners

1.1 City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
Ms Lerato Selolo, Compliance Division Environmental Resources and Waste Management Department	Email Correspondence	Tuesday, 5 May 2026	Good morning, Notice received. Can you kindly send the USB or Hardcopy to Cnr Van Riebeeck and Hendrik Potgieter, Edenvale, 1609. (Lethabong municipality) office room 218 and if the office is locked, please leave it the box alongside the office door. Kindly note this is due to us having internet access and cannot access the links provided.	Good morning, Ms. Lerato Selolo, I hope you are well. Please find attached the signed delivery slip for your attention and bookkeeping records. We have delivered a USB containing a copy of the Draft Scoping Report and Appendices for the Proposed Project 6L14. We trust that everything is in order. Thank you, and please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any additional information.	-
Comments received during the Online Meeting with City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality dated, Tuesday, 12 May 2026					
Ms Lilian Matlala, Environmental Assessment Practitioner	Online Meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Tuesday, 12 May 2026	Ms Matlala enquired about the Project Infrastructure slide, specifically enquiring whether the 11 kV overhead powerlines were existing infrastructure or proposed for construction.	Mr Mothusi Mafatshe (Mr Mafatshe) indicated that, as the dump had been in existence for a while he will need to check on the location of the 11 kV powerline. Post Meeting Note: A site visit was conducted by Ms Matlala and Mr Ripfumelo Macevele. During the site visit, it was noted that there are existing powerlines adjacent to the site.	-

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
Ms Dudu Twala, Area Manager	Online Meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Tuesday, 12 May 2026	Ms Twala enquired about the exact location of the Proposed Project, specifically whether it was situated in Brakpan or Springs?	Ms Naicker responded that the Proposed Project is located approximately 4 kilometres from Springs.	Section 2.1.1
Ms Lilian Matlala, Environmental Assessment Practitioner	Online Meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Tuesday, 12 May 2026	Ms Matlala requested clarity on the affected properties for the Proposed Project.	Ms Naicker presented the land tenure map, which illustrates the directly and indirectly affected properties; properties highlighted in blue represent the directly affected properties, while the properties highlighted in yellow represent the indirectly affected properties identified for the Proposed Project. The Proposed Project falls within the three directly affected properties; Farm Grootvaly 124 IR Portion 6, Geduld 123 IR Portion 192, and that the pump station is located on Geduld 123 IR Portion 84.	Section 2.1.1 Appendix B (Maps)
			Ms Matlala noted that Portion 6 of Farm Grootvaly 124 IR falls under the jurisdiction of the City of Ekurhuleni Municipality (CoE), and that a mining permit is already in place. She requested clarity on whether a consent use would still be applicable in this instance. She further noted that where a project is undertaken by an applicant who is not the landowner, the relevant consent must be obtained. However, in this case, tailings dam is already present on Portion 6 of Farm Grootvaly 124 IR and a mining	Mr Mafatshe responded that there is a dedicated department within Ergo is responsible for securing and coordinating the required consents, including liaison with the relevant municipality. He indicated that a formal response would be provided to Ms Matlala in due course.	-

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			permit exists. She indicated that this was the first instance of encountering such a scenario and sought clarification on the applicability of consent use requirements.		
			Ms Matlala enquired regarding the intended end land use for the relevant portion, whether Ergo has already identified the post-reclamation land use for the site.	Mr Mafatshe responded that, as the land is not owned by Ergo and comprises multiple portions owned by different landowners, the determination of end land use rests with the respective landowners. He explained that Ergo's role is limited to mining activities, after which the land is handed back to the original landowners. He further noted that, prior to handover, the land is cleared through the National Nuclear Regulator (NNR) process in terms of radiation requirements, and a land clearance certificate is obtained. Once this process is completed, the land is formally returned to the owner, who then determines the future use of the property.	-
			Ms Matlala requested a site inspection with the relevant team, preferably during the coming week and prior to the closure of the comment period, if acceptable.	Ms Naicker will engage with Ms Matlala and confirm a site visit date (prior to 4 June 2026).	Appendix C8 (Minutes for Site Visit)
			Ms Matlala enquired whether any comments had already been received and the closing date for the Draft Scoping Report.	Ms Naicker responded that no comments had been received to date from the COE. The comment period ends on 4 June 2026.	Section 1.4.4

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
Ms Dudu Twala, Area Manager	Online Meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Tuesday, 12 May 2026	Ms Twala raised a question regarding Grootvaly 124 IR Portion 6, which is owned by the CoE, and enquired whether a Permission to Occupy (PTO) has been obtained or whether this remains a requirement to be addressed as part of the process.	Mr Mafatshe indicated that the matter would be verified internally, as a relevant department within Ergo is responsible for such matters. He confirmed that further clarification would be obtained and a response provided in due course.	-
Comments received during the Site Visit with City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality dated, Friday, 29 May 2026					
Ms Lilian Matlala, Environmental Assessment Practitioner	Site Visit (In-Person)	Friday, 29 May 2026	Purpose of the Site Visit A site visit to the 6L14 Dump/TSF was conducted with the City of Ekurhuleni's Environmental Assessment Practitioner. The purpose of the visit was for the CoE representative to observe and gain an understanding of the proposed reclamation project at the 6L14 Dump. This visit was intended to assist the CoE, in its role as both the commenting authority and landowner of Portion 6 of the Farm Grootvaly 124 IR, in assessing the potential impacts of the project firsthand and enabling it to provide informed commentary on the environmental implications. The discussion points are summarised below: - The CoE requested confirmation of the total footprint of the 6L14 TSF, and it was confirmed that the area is 63.21 hectares. - The presence of alien invasive vegetation on portions of the TSF was observed. It was indicated that biodiversity, specifically terrestrial studies, will be conducted during the EIA phase, and an invasive management plan will be included. - The CoE also requested clarification on how slurry transported via the pipeline would be managed, particularly with regard to preventing blockages that may be caused by debris. It was explained that, as part of the project infrastructure, a vibrating screen facility will be installed to remove debris prior to the slurry being conveyed into the pipeline.		Appendix C8 (Meeting Minutes)

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			- Although the TSF did not appear saturated, surface moisture was evident when the material was handled. This was attributed to recent rainfall. - The CoE asked about activities that trigger water uses in terms of the National Water Act, which necessitate a Water Use Licence Application. It was explained that reclamation activities, as well as the construction and operation of infrastructure such as access roads, catchment paddocks, and pump stations within 500 m of a watercourse, triggers a Water Use Licence Application. - Attention was drawn to existing infrastructure in close proximity to the site, particularly the powerline running adjacent to the TSF. The CoE Environmental Assessment Practitioner advised that the Scoping and EIA Reports should consider this infrastructure. - The CoE indicated that formal written comments and submissions will be provided following the site visit.		
Comments received via Email from City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality dated, Monday, 08 June 2026					
Ms Lilian Matlala, Environmental Assessment Practitioner	Email Correspondence	Monday, 08 June 2026	Good Day Vanessa Below are the comments regarding the draft scoping report for the reclamation of the 6L14 Tailing Storage Facility (TSF) in the City of Ekurhuleni: Table 2.4 (project perspective and technical details), water demand, it has been stated that water will be processed in a closed circuit for hydraulic reclamation and reclamation activities, it is recommended that the final scoping report should indicate whether municipal or boreholes water will be utilized for the project.	Dear Ms Lillian Matlala We refer to your email sent to our Kongiwe Environmental (Pty) Ltd (Kongiwe) Stakeholder Engagement Team pertaining to the Draft Scoping Report (DSR), after the site visit that was conducted on 29 May 2026. Section 2.4 and Section 6.1.4 of the Draft Scoping Report states that “potable water will be purchased from the Rand water/ CoE Municipality or existing sources, with a contingency for portable JoJo tanks or connection to constructed water pipeline infrastructure.”	Section 2.4 Section 6.1.4

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
				The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Phase will confirm water utilization for the Proposed Project.	
			2. It has been noted that some parts of the report are still referring to GDARD instead of GDEnv.	2. All references to Gauteng Department of Agriculture, Rural Development (GDARD) has been updated to Gauteng Department of Environment (GDEnv).	Table 3-2, Section 3.1
			3. Under point 2.6.3 (Rehabilitation), it has been stated that the property on which the 6L14 TSF is situated currently belongs to Ergo. The statement should be amended because the properties where the 6L14 is situated belong to three different property owners.	3. Section 2.6.3 of the Final Scoping Report (FSR) has been updated to remove reference to Ergo owning the property.	Section 2.6.3
			4. The following policies as stated in the report should be amended: A. Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Spatial Development Framework, 2015 to read as City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Spatial Development Framework 2025. B. Ekurhuleni Environmental Management Framework (EMF), 2007 to read as Gauteng Environmental Management Framework (GPEMF), 2021.	4. Section 3.1, Table 3-1 Applicable National Legislation and Guidelines has been updated accordingly.	Section 3.1, Table 3-1

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			C. Ekurhuleni Bioregional Plan (BRP), 2014 to read as Ekurhuleni Bioregional Plan (BRP), 2020.		

1.2 Sappi Manufacturing Pty Ltd \ Mr Milenko Rajak

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
Mr Milenko Rajak	Email Correspondence	Thursday, 30 April 2026	Good day, Please find attached my registration as AIP. Note that I'm the owner of property you want to use for pump station and nobody contacted me to secure the rights to the property.	Dear Mr Milenko Rajak We refer to your email sent to our Kongiwe Environmental (Pty) Ltd (Kongiwe) Stakeholder Engagement Team pertaining to the following: • Register as an Interested and Affected Parties (I&AP); and • You are the registered landowner of the property (Farm Geduld 123 IR, Portion 84) on which the proposed pump station will be located. Thank you for your correspondence. Your email has been received and duly acknowledged. To identify directly affected landowners, a property ownership search was undertaken via WinDeed on 9 March 2026 (refer to the attached below). The results reflected SAPPI Manufacturing (Pty) Ltd as the registered owner of the relevant property.	Appendix C1 (Stakeholder Database) and Appendix C6 (Correspondence)

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report																																																																																				
				<table><tr><th colspan="4">SEARCH CRITERIA</th></tr><tr><td>Search Date</td><td>2026/03/09 15:48</td><td>Farm Number</td><td>123</td></tr><tr><td>Reference</td><td>DRDGA086</td><td>Registration Division</td><td>IR</td></tr><tr><td>Report Print Date</td><td>2026/03/09 15:50</td><td>Portion Number</td><td>84</td></tr><tr><td>Farm Name</td><td>GEDULD</td><td>Search Source</td><td>WinDeed Database</td></tr><tr><td>Deeds Office</td><td>Pretoria</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table><table><tr><th colspan="4">PROPERTY INFORMATION</th></tr><tr><td>Property Type</td><td>FARM</td><td>Diagram Deed Number</td><td>T33900/978</td></tr><tr><td>Farm Name</td><td>GEDULD</td><td>Local Authority</td><td>SPRINGS TLC</td></tr><tr><td>Farm Number</td><td>123</td><td>Province</td><td>GAUTENG</td></tr><tr><td>Registration Division</td><td>IR</td><td>Extent</td><td>48,9627H</td></tr><tr><td>Portion Number</td><td>84</td><td>LPI Code</td><td>T08R00000000012300084</td></tr><tr><td>Previous Description</td><td>-</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table><table><tr><th colspan="4">OWNER INFORMATION (1)</th></tr><tr><td colspan="2">SAPPI MANUFACTURING PTY LTD</td><td colspan="2">Owner 1 of 1</td></tr><tr><td>Company Type</td><td>COMPANY</td><td>Document</td><td>T61982/1997</td></tr><tr><td>Registration Number</td><td>195100318007</td><td>Microfilm / Scanned Date</td><td>2009 0134 5229</td></tr><tr><td>Name</td><td>SAPPI MANUFACTURING PTY LTD</td><td>Purchase Price (R)</td><td>373 840 977</td></tr><tr><td>Multiple Owners</td><td>NO</td><td>Purchase Date</td><td>1995/11/24</td></tr><tr><td>Multiple Properties</td><td>NO</td><td>Registration Date</td><td>1997/06/30</td></tr><tr><td>Share (%)</td><td>-</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> Based on prior engagements with SAPPI in relation to surrounding properties associated with the 6L14 Project, the Kongiwe Stakeholder Team was familiar with the appropriate contact person, being Mr Mitchell Cason. Engagement was accordingly initiated with Mr Cason to confirm his role in respect of Geduld 123 IR Portion 84. Mr Cason confirmed that he is the relevant contact and further advised that additional stakeholders, including Calodex (Pty) Ltd (including your details), as well as representatives from SAPPI and the Corruusal Group, should be included in the Proposed Project’s stakeholder database. Following this engagement, the details provided were incorporated into the Proposed Project’s database, and notification of the Proposed Project, together with the	SEARCH CRITERIA				Search Date	2026/03/09 15:48	Farm Number	123	Reference	DRDGA086	Registration Division	IR	Report Print Date	2026/03/09 15:50	Portion Number	84	Farm Name	GEDULD	Search Source	WinDeed Database	Deeds Office	Pretoria			PROPERTY INFORMATION				Property Type	FARM	Diagram Deed Number	T33900/978	Farm Name	GEDULD	Local Authority	SPRINGS TLC	Farm Number	123	Province	GAUTENG	Registration Division	IR	Extent	48,9627H	Portion Number	84	LPI Code	T08R00000000012300084	Previous Description	-			OWNER INFORMATION (1)				SAPPI MANUFACTURING PTY LTD		Owner 1 of 1		Company Type	COMPANY	Document	T61982/1997	Registration Number	195100318007	Microfilm / Scanned Date	2009 0134 5229	Name	SAPPI MANUFACTURING PTY LTD	Purchase Price (R)	373 840 977	Multiple Owners	NO	Purchase Date	1995/11/24	Multiple Properties	NO	Registration Date	1997/06/30	Share (%)	-			
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Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
				Background Information Document and Registration Form, were distributed accordingly on Wednesday 29 April 2026. Subsequently, on 30 April 2026, you submitted a registration form and correspondence indicating that you are the registered owner of the property. In response, Kongiwe requested a meeting on the same date to engage with you in your capacity as landowner. This meeting was agreed for 6 May 2026 at 10:00. Ownership confirmation was further supported by correspondence from Ms Penny Jenkins (GM Legal Counsel SSA, SAPPI) on 30 April 2026, confirming your status as landowner. An online landowner engagement meeting was held on 6 May 2026, and the relevant invitation has been issued.	
			Did you secure access to the property Farm Geduld 123 IR portion 84? You haven't requested the right to use my property for your pump station.	There will be ongoing engagement between Ergo and yourself regarding matters relating to the property.	-
Mr Milenko Rajak	Email Correspondence	Friday, 15 May 2026	Hi Venessa, Thanks for this. Note that we will require soil sampling to take effect as well. We need to establish if	Dear Milenko Ergo aims to reclaim the 6L14 TSF, which is considered a pollution source. The reclamation of the 6L14 TSF is inherently a rehabilitative activity. As part of Ergo's rehabilitation strategy, the removal of facilities such as this TSF will allow for the repurposing of the land in a	Section 2.6.3 Appendix C6 (Correspondence)

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			contamination is present on farm portion 86 as a result of surface water runoff from DRD 's TSF. Note that area is full of zama-zama's.	more sustainable manner and will ultimately offset environmental impacts. Once reclamation is completed, the areas will be assessed for contamination, particularly in terms of radiation. Should contamination be identified, contaminated soils will be removed, and the land will be levelled to restore its original functioning topography. Following rehabilitation, it is anticipated that the land will be returned to the landowner. The Proposed Project is specifically aimed at reclaiming historic TSF and removing a pollution source from the area, thereby contributing to the rehabilitation of the mining legacy in the region (refer to Chapter 2.6.3 of the Final Scoping Report). Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any further queries.	
Comments received during the Online Meeting with the Landowner dated, Wednesday, 06 May 2026					
Mr Milenko Rajak	Online Meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Wednesday, 06 May 2026	Mr Rajak thanked the project team for the presentation and indicated that he is familiar with Ergo's reclamation operations involving old tailings storage facilities (TSFs). He referred to the reclamation activities near Brakpan, noting that the tailings dump in that area has almost been completely removed within a relatively	Ms Naicker responded that the environmental processes and associated mitigation measures would be detailed within the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr), which will accompany the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report during the next phase of the process.	Appendix C8 (Meeting Minutes)

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			short period, which he regarded as a positive method of rehabilitating land. Mr Rajak further raised several technical concerns regarding the proposed slurry pipeline infrastructure. He stated that he had observed pipelines crossing roads and railway lines in previous projects and had, on certain occasions, witnessed pipeline failures resulting in slurry spillages onto surrounding areas, including roads. He expressed concern regarding the potential impacts should a pipeline burst occur on his property and requested clarification on the following: Whether the project proponent would undertake responsibility for cleaning up any slurry spillages; and What mitigation measures would be implemented to prevent or manage such incidents?		
			Mr Rajak thanked the Kongiwe project team for the clarification provided and stated that his understanding was that the project is currently undergoing the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Water Use Licence (WUL) application processes, with specialist studies	Ms Naicker responded that construction activities may only commence once the relevant Competent Authority (CA) has issued the Environmental Authorisation (EA) for the project.	Appendix C8 (Meeting Minutes)

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			being undertaken concurrently as part of the broader regulatory process. He further noted that the project is presently within the Public Participation Process (PPP) phase, which includes the 30-day commenting period during which comments will be submitted to the relevant authorities and government departments. Mr Rajak requested clarity regarding the anticipated project timeline and specifically enquired when the proposed removal activities and construction works are expected to commence in relation to the current phase of the environmental process. He asked how far the project is from implementation at this stage?	She further indicated that she would confirm anticipated implementation timelines with Ergo and provide a more detailed response thereafter.	
			Mr Rajak raised a concern regarding the existing pipelines referred to during the presentation, specifically those extending from the proposed new pump station to the existing 5L27 pump station. He indicated that he was not aware of any visible pipelines in the area and suggested that they may have been buried over time. He further stated that the area includes several sensitive features, including a railway line, a dam, nearby townships, and powerline	Ms Naicker advised that the detailed information regarding the pipeline locations and any potential implications will be identified and assessed in the EIA Phase.	Appendix C8 (Meeting Minutes)

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			infrastructure, and requested clarification on the exact location and alignment of the pipelines. In addition, Mr Rajak reiterated his concern regarding the potential impact of pipeline spillages or damage, particularly in relation to his nearby properties. He requested confirmation on whether any potential spillages or pipeline failures could affect those properties and what measures would be implemented to address such risks.		
			Mr Rajak raised a further concern regarding neighbouring farm portions located close to the proposed infrastructure area, indicating that these properties may also be affected by the proposed pipeline and associated infrastructure developments. He noted that the project would require substantial infrastructure at or near the proposed pump station site, including electrical power supply infrastructure required for pump operations. Mr Rajak enquired whether the project intends to utilise electricity supplied by Eskom or whether generators would be used on-site.	Ms Naicker responded that the project is currently still within the Scoping Phase, and therefore the layout presently available does not yet include the detailed positioning of infrastructure such as power supply lines. She explained that the specialist studies currently being undertaken will inform the applicant's final project layout and infrastructure design. Ms Naicker further advised that the detailed layout, including the necessary infrastructure information and positioning, will be made available during the next phase of the environmental process.	Section 6.1.3 and Table 10-1

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			Furthermore, he requested clarification regarding the proposed routing of any power supply infrastructure, specifically whether power lines would traverse his property or follow alternative routes. He also requested information regarding the anticipated location and alignment of the power lines servicing the proposed pump station.		
			Mr Rajak noted that, as indicated during the presentation, the pump house is proposed to be situated at the lowest point adjacent to the TSF area. He further stated that, given the TSF has existed for many years, he assumes that there may have been historical seepage and surface water runoff from the tailings facility onto Portion 84 of the Farm Geduld 123 IR. Mr Rajak therefore enquired whether any surveys or investigations would be undertaken to determine whether the land has been contaminated by the tailings facility. In addition, he requested clarity regarding the intended approach to such investigations before, during, and after the commencement of slurry removal activities.	Ms Naicker responded that the specialist studies currently being undertaken, together with the stormwater management planning process, will assist in identifying the necessary management and mitigation measures required for the proposed project. She explained that the project design phase, as well as the construction and operational phases, will be assessed and analysed through the specialist assessment process. The outcomes and recommendations from these studies will inform the way forward for the project.	Table 10-1

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			Mr Rajak emphasised that he would like the scope of work for the specialist studies to extend beyond the assessment of impacts associated only with the proposed removal of the residue slime dam. He further requested that the specialist assessments also consider and evaluate the historical impacts of the slime dam on the specific farm portion from a historical contamination and environmental impact perspective.	Ms Naicker indicated that specialist assessment would consider cumulative impacts for the Proposed Project.	-
			Mr Rajak stated that he assumes that, once the proposed activities have been completed and the slime dams have been fully removed, the associated infrastructure, including the pump house and any other infrastructure related to the project activities, would also be removed. He further indicated that he expects the affected property to be rehabilitated and restored, as far as reasonably possible, to its original condition following completion of the project activities.	Ms Naicker explained that the rehabilitation process and associated requirements would form part of the environmental assessment process and would be assessed in greater detail during the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) phase. Ms Naicker added that a rehabilitation strategy would need to be compiled and complied with as part of the project implementation and closure process.	Section 2.6.3
			Mr Rajak raised a final concern regarding access to the property by contractors, specialists, staff, or any other personnel associated with the project. He stated that access to the property	Ms Naicker responded that several specialists are expected to undertake site visits during May 2026, with additional visits potentially extending into June 2026.	-

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			would need to be regulated and formalised through an access agreement or similar arrangement. He further explained that he has previously entered into similar agreements with mining companies operating on other properties and emphasised the importance of formally regulating all access and activities taking place on the affected farm portion. Mr Rajak noted that such an agreement would assist in managing and limiting potential liabilities associated with personnel entering the property, including possible injuries or incidents occurring during the execution of project-related activities. He requested that the project team formally note that, prior to the commencement of any activities on the property, an access agreement for the use of the land would need to be concluded.	Ms Naicker explained that, as part of the site access process specialist details such as the names of all persons attending site, identification numbers, vehicle registration details, the relevant property to be visited, and the anticipated dates and times of site access, are shared with the landowner. Ms Naicker added that the project team would engage with Mr Rajak beforehand to confirm proposed site visit dates and provide a schedule indicating which specialists would be on site.	
			Mr Rajak confirmed that he has a standard access agreement document that has been utilised previously for similar purposes. He noted that the document was originally drafted by Sappi several years ago and remains the	Ms Naicker thanked Mr Rajak for the clarification and requested that he share a copy of the standard access agreement document.	-

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			document currently used for regulating access to properties. He further explained that, from a landowner's perspective, it is important to clearly establish responsibility and liability in the event of any incidents occurring on site, including accidents, injuries, drownings, shootings, or any other unforeseen events. Mr Rajak stated that he wishes to avoid any potential allegations of negligence arising from unrestricted or unmanaged access to the property. He added that the purpose of the access agreement is to formally regulate access and mitigate liability risks associated with activities conducted on the property.		

1.3 Bharqat Prop Inv CC

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
Ms Carin Nieuwoudt, Secretary to Mr	Email Correspondence	Tuesday, 20 January 2026	Dear Sir / Madam	Good day Mr Coetzee, I hope this message finds you well. Kongiwe Environmental is a specialist consultant in Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) and related	Section 1.6 Section 2.1.1

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
Japie van Zyl (Attorneys)			ENQUIRY ABOUT APPLICATION: N HASSIM, BHARQAT PROP. INV. CC / KONGIWE ENVIRONMENTAL (PTY) LTD / GEDULD 1. We refer to the e-mail below addressed to Mr. Coetzee and dated 5 January 2026.	environmental services. We are currently managing several EIA projects across multiple provinces, including within the jurisdiction of the City of Ekurhuleni Municipality, Gauteng Province. As part of our commitment to compliance with the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), our Stakeholder Engagement team is reaching out to find out if you know the owner of the below mentioned property. On our Windeed searched on the specific Farm Portion we can see the owner information is Bharqat Property Investments and the address it gives us is 20 Retief Street Potchefstroom 2531. We are looking for the owner contact details so that we can consult with the owner. On Google earth I searched for 20 Retief Street and saw your company board and email address. Do you perhaps know Mr Naushad Hassim from the Bharqat Property Investments? We are in the early stages of a proposed Reclamation of the 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) in the City of Ekurhuleni Municipality, and we kindly request your assistance in providing contact details for the following correct contact person for the farm portion that is registered and owned by the Bharqat Property Investments, to facilitate effective communication and consultation:	

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
				See below farm name and number that is registered under the Bharqat Property Investments: (The relevant contact person we need to consult) Geduld 123 IR Portion 192 (Owner- Windeed: Bharqat Property Investments) Thank you for your assistance. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you require further information regarding the project.	
			2. It appears from the e-mail that you are assisting with an application for an environmental authorization on the property known as the Remaining Extent of Portion 192 of the farm Geduld 123, Registration Division: I.R., Gauteng Province. We confirm that we act on behalf of Bharqat Property Investments CC, (Reg. nr: 1995/37011/23) who is the surface owner of the property.	Konglwe acknowledges that Japie Van Zyl Attorneys / Prokureurs Inc has been appointed to act on behalf of Bharqat Property Investments CC (the landowner), which is the surface owner of the property known as the Remaining Extent of Portion 192 of the farm Geduld 123 IR.	Appendix C6 (Correspondence)
			3. We hereby register our client as interested and affected party in its capacity as surface owner of the property.	Konglwe confirms that Bharqat Property Investments CC has been registered as an Interested and Affected Party.	Appendix C1 (Stakeholder Database)

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			4. In future, please communicate with us directly.	Kongawe confirms that all correspondence in connection to the Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (S&EIA) will be directed to Japie Van Zyl Attorneys / Prokureurs Inc.	-
			5. Our client as interested and affected party is entitled to be consulted with. The duty to consult includes the obligation to provide our client with all information pertaining to the application that you are handling.	Kongawe consulted with Japie Van Zyl Attorneys / Prokureurs Inc as follows: - Announcement of the Proposed Project was sent on 29 April 2026 - Request for a formal landowner meeting was sent on 4 May 2026	Section 7 Appendix C (Public Participation)
			6. In terms of the environmental impact assessment regulations published in GNR982 of 4 December 2014 in the Government Gazette nr: 38282 ("the Gazette"), all interested and affected parties must be provided an opportunity to submit comments on each of the scoping report, Environmental Management Programme, etc. The public participation process contemplated in Regulation 40 must provide interested and affected parties access to all information that reasonably has or may have the potential to influence any decision with regard to an	In January 2026, Kongawe was in the process of compiling a stakeholder database for consultation purposes. The formal environmental authorisation process for the Proposed Project only commenced in May 2026. It was further communicated that, once the relevant project information became available and the Proposed Project was formally announced; all identified stakeholders would be notified and provided with the relevant project information. As the Proposed Project is currently within the public participation phase of the Draft Scoping Report process, the Applicant is complying with the requirements of Regulation 40 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (as amended).	Appendix C (Public Participation)

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			application for a mineral right. The applicant has to comply with Regulation 40 and the obligation to follow a process of public participation. This was not done by the Applicant.		
			7. Our client has not been provided with the information in relation to the application and the processes followed.	In January 2026, Kongiwe was compiling a stakeholder database for consultation purposes. The formal environmental authorisation process for the Proposed Project only commenced in May 2026.	Appendix C1 (Stakeholder Database)
			8. In considering the application the Minister can only accept an application if that application is to prospect or mine for a mineral. The tailings mineral resource on the property does not constitute a mineral neither a Residue Deposit or a Residue Stockpile. We have not had sight of your application but is concerned that you may have applied for to prospect and/or mine the tailings mineral resource. The Department does not have any jurisdiction over the tailings mineral resource. Our client is the owner of the tailings mineral resource.	Ergo holds Mining Right ERGO-GP158MR over the relevant area, which includes the dormant 6L14 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF), historically utilised as a mining waste deposition site. The Mining Right remains valid and applicable to the reclamation of the TSF within the defined mining area. In accordance with the requirements of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (MPRDA), and the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), Ergo is required to undertake a comprehensive Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (S&EIA) process prior to the consideration and potential granting of Environmental Authorisation.	Section 1.4

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
				Ergo has submitted an application for an EA to the DMPR (the Competent Authority), for the proposed reclamation of TSF 6L14. The application relates to listed activities triggered under Listing Notices GN R983, GN R984 and GN R985, published in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014 (as amended), promulgated under the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA). The application is being processed by the identified Competent Authority, Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources (DMPR). in accordance with the applicable legislative framework.	
			9. It is the Applicant's responsibility to consult with our client as interested and affected party. This obligation includes that the applicant must provide us with all information and documents in relation to the application for the mineral right. We then kindly request that you provide us with copies of the following information and documents as and when they become available: the application document for the mineral right;	Ergo already holds Mining Right ERGO-GP158MR over the area. Therefore, no new mineral right application has been submitted. However, an application for EA for the Reclamation of TSF 6L14 has been submitted to the DMPR.	Section 1.4

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			proof of the date of submission of the application for the mineral right;	No new Mining Right application has been lodged. The EA application was submitted on Wednesday, 6 May 2026.	
			the regulation 2(2) map;	A Regulation 2(2) plan is not required, as this is not a new application for a Mining Right, Prospecting Right, or Mining Permit. The project falls within an existing approved Mining Right area.	-
			the prospecting- or mine work programme;	A Mine Work Programme is not required, as the Mining Right ERGO-GP158MR is already in place. The current process relates to Environmental Authorisation for the Proposed Project.	Section 1.4
			proof of notification and consultation with the surface owner in terms of the MPRDA;	The Proposed Project is currently in the Scoping Phase. The Draft Scoping Report was made available for public review for the period from 6 May 2026 to 4 June 2026, as part of the EIA process, which includes a formal Public Participation component. The Proposed Project was formally announced on 29 April 2026, marking the commencement of the public participation process, during which all identified stakeholders are afforded the opportunity to review project information and submit comments. A formal landowner consultation meeting with Japie Van Zyl Attorneys / Prokureurs Inc, acting on behalf of Bharqat Property Investments CC, will take place at a mutually agreed date and time.	Appendix C (Public Participation)

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			the environmental management plan or programme;	The Proposed Project is currently in the Scoping Phase. The environmental management plan or programme will be developed during the Environmental Impact Assessment Reporting phase.	-
			the environmental authorization;	An application for EA, together with the DSR, was submitted to the DMPP, on Wednesday, 6 May 2026. The Proposed Project is currently in the Scoping Phase. Should the EA be granted, all stakeholders will be notified in accordance with the EIA Regulations.	Section 7 Appendix C (Public Participation)
			the water use authorization / water licence;	The IWULA process started when the Proposed Project was registered on the DWS' electronic Water Use Licence Application and Authorisation System (WU49770).	-
			the financing plan as submitted or proof of financial capability of the applicant;	Financial capability documentation is not required for this process, as it is not a new Mining Right application.	-
			proof of technical capability of the applicant;	Technical capability documentation is not required for this process, as it is not a new Mining Right application.	-
			the scoping report;	The Proposed Project is currently in the Scoping Phase. The Draft Scoping Report was made available for public review for the period from 6 May 2026 to 4 June 2026, as part of the EIA process, which includes a formal Public Participation component.	Section 7 Appendix C (Public Participation)

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			the environmental impact study;	The Proposed Project is currently in the Scoping Phase. If the DMPR issues an Acceptance of the Final Scoping Report and the Plan of Study for the EIA, the Proposed Project will commence with the EIA Phase.	Section 1.4
			the acceptance letter of the application;	Ergo holds Mining Right ERGO-GP158MR over the relevant area, which includes the dormant 6L14 TSF. The Mining Right remains valid and applicable to the reclamation of the TSF within the defined mining area.	Section 1.4
			a list of the properties over which the mineral right was applied for;	Refer to the Mining Right ERGO-GP158MR.	Section 1.4
			the prospecting- or mining right, if executed.	Ergo holds Mining Right ERGO-GP158MR over the relevant area, which includes the dormant 6L14 TSF. The Mining Right remains valid and applicable to the reclamation of the TSF within the defined mining area.	Section 1.4
			10. According to the High Court of South Africa, Gauteng Division, Pretoria, ruling in the matter of Duduzule Baleni that interested and affected parties are intitled in terms of the Mineral and Petroleum Resource Development Act ("MPRDA") to be furnished copies of an application. The Court ruled as follows:	Refer to attached Mining Right.	-

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			“[117.1] It is declared that interested and affected parties as contemplated by the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act 28 of 2002 (“the MPRDA”) are entitled by sections 10(1) and 22(4) of the MPRDA, on request to the relevant Regional Manager of the Department of Mineral Resources (“the Department”) , to be furnished with a copy of an application for a mining right as contemplated by section 22 of the MPRDA, subject to the right of the applicant and/or the Department to redact financially sensitive aspects of the application.”		
			11. This matter is extremely important and request that you provide the information within 7 days after date of letter.	In January 2026, Kongiwe was in the process of compiling a stakeholder database for consultation purposes. The formal environmental authorisation process for the Proposed Project only commenced in May 2026.	-

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
Ms Paballo Mahloko, Candidate Attorney	Email Correspondence	Monday, 18 May 2026	Dear Vanessa <u>REGISTRATION AS INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTY (SURFACE OWNER) AND REQUEST FOR CONSULTATION.</u> We act on behalf of our client, Bhargat Property Investments, being the lawful surface owner of the Farm Geduld 123. On 20 January 2026, our offices formally registered our client as an Interested and Affected Party in respect of the above application. Kindly find attached the relevant correspondence in this regard. At that stage, our offices requested certain information pertaining to the application and related approvals. To date, the requested information has not been furnished to our offices, notwithstanding that the consultation process in terms of the National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998 ("NEMA") is presently underway and that the	Dear Paballo Mahloko The information requested in the correspondence dated 20 January 2026 relates to a Mining Right Application. In this regard, Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd already holds an existing Mining Right. The consultation undertaken to date forms part of the public participation process associated with the Draft Scoping Report (DSR) for the Proposed Project. The application for Environmental Authorisation (EA), together with the DSR, was submitted to the Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources (DMPR), being the Competent Authority (CA) for the Proposed Project, on Wednesday, 6 May 2026. Kindly note that Japie Van Zyl Attorneys / Prokureurs Inc, acting on behalf of the landowner, were invited to attend a formal landowner consultation meeting. As no confirmation was subsequently received, Kongiwe followed up with your office in an effort to secure a suitable meeting date. Kongiwe was thereafter advised that the formal landowner meeting would proceed once the requested information had been provided to Japie Van Zyl Attorneys / Prokureurs Inc. Refer to Table 1 and Table 3 for the requested information.	Appendix C (Public Participation)

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			Draft Scoping Report is currently being circulated for public comment. We are further aware that an Interested and Affected Parties consultation meeting has been scheduled online for 20 May 2026 at 10h00. We emphasise that NEMA, places a clear obligation upon the applicant to notify and consult with owners, persons in control of, and occupiers of land affected by the proposed activities throughout the Environmental Authorisation process. In the circumstances, we hereby reiterate and renew our request for the information previously sought in our correspondence of 20 January 2026. In the circumstances, we hereby reiterate and renew our request for the information previously sought in our correspondence of 20 January 2026. Further, and in preparation for the consultation meeting scheduled for Wednesday at 10h00, we	Kindly note the following: 1. Through telephonic engagements with you and Ms Vanessa Viljeon, it was agreed that initially requested meeting with the landowner will take place once all the requested documents have been provided. The link to the 20 May 2026 stakeholder meeting was therefore not shared. 2. Refer to the attached Mining Right ERGO-GP158MR.	

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			kindly request the following as a matter of urgency: 1. A copy of the meeting link together with all relevant access details for the consultation meeting; and 2. A copy of the Mining Right held by Ergo Mining under reference number GP 158 MR. Kindly ensure that the above documentation and information are furnished to our offices without delay to enable our client to participate meaningfully in the consultation process. We trust that the above will receive your urgent attention and we look forward to receiving the requested documentation and meeting details at your earliest convenience.		

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
Ms Paballo Mahloko, Candidate Attorney	Email Correspondence	Tuesday, 19 May 2026	Good day Vanessa I refer to our telephonic discussion. Meaningful consultation requires a proper exchange of information. In order for our offices to adequately prepare for consultation, it is necessary that we first be placed in possession of the requested documentation to allow for substantive engagement and for us to properly consult with our client. We kindly request that the outstanding information be provided to our offices before the end of this week, in particular the copy of the mining right, which we believe should not be difficult to obtain from your client. Only upon receipt and consideration of the requested documentation, our offices will revert with proposed dates for a meeting.	Dear Paballo Mahloko Thank you for taking my call. As we discussed, we will respond to your request for additional documentation, which we will need to source from our client. Then we can set up a meeting to discuss the project. As communicated, we please need to have a meeting before the comment period of the DSR ends on 4 June. Can we please have potential meeting dates. Email to Japie Van Zyl Attorneys / Prokureurs Inc (on the 19 May 2026) Thank you for your email. Just to confirm, we are requesting and collating information for you. I just want to confirm that you are happy with having a separate meeting once you have the information as per our telephonic discussion, therefore we have not sent you the MS Link for the Broader Stakeholder Meeting that will be held online tomorrow.	-

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			I look forward to receiving the requested information at your earliest convenience.		

2 Competent Authority

2.1 Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources (DMPR)

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
Comments raised during the Pre- Application Meeting for the Draft Scoping Report, dated, Thursday, 23 April 2026					
Mr Musa Mangobe, Assistant Director: Environmental Management (Mr Mangobe)	Online Meeting Microsoft Team	Thursday, 23 April 2026	Mr Mangobe requested confirmation as to whether this constitutes an Integrated Environmental Authorisation and further noted that the objective is to reclaim an existing tailings dump.	Ms Umeshree Naicker (Ms Naicker) has confirmed that this is correct.	Appendix C8 (Meeting Minutes)
			Mr Mangobe requested confirmation as to whether this application for an Integrated Environmental Authorisation is linked to an existing Mining Right.	Mr Masala Tshamano (Mr Tshamano) confirmed that the application is linked to an existing Mining Right (ERGO158 MR). While the rights are currently subject to renewal, they remain in force; therefore, the dump cannot be considered separately from these rights within this application.	Section 1.4 and Appendix C8 (Meeting Minutes)

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			Mr Mangobe requested confirmation as to whether the applicant holds a right issued in terms of the Minerals and Petroleum Resources Development Act (MPRDA), 2002 (Act 28 of 2002), together with an approved Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) for the reclamation of the tailings dump in question. He further enquired whether the activities currently proposed differ from those authorised under the existing EMPr, and if this discrepancy is the reason for submitting a new application.	Mr Tshamano indicated that waste management activities are triggered, particularly as operations are taking place within a regulated area, namely a wetland. He noted that these activities necessitate the involvement of the DMPPR.	Appendix C8 (Meeting Minutes) and Section 2.5
			Mr Mangobe noted that the approval of the EMPr appears to be limited in scope, in that it authorises the reclamation without providing detailed guidance on the methodology or the specific activities to be undertaken.	Mr Tshamano has confirmed that this is correct.	-
			Mr Mangobe indicated that they deliberated on the rationale for submitting a new application where a mining right is already in place. He noted that, if the proposed activities are not covered under the approved EMPr, the requirement for financial provision would be justified. He further explained that, based on his experience in issuing waste management licences, financial provision has not typically been a requirement; however,	Mr Tshamano has confirmed that this is correct.	-

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			in this instance, it is applicable due to the existence of an approved Mining Right.		
Mr Masala Tshamano, Environmental Manager, Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd	Online Meeting Microsoft Teams	Thursday, 23 April 2026	Mr Tshamano added that the EMPr associated with ERGO158 MR was approved prior to the commencement of the National Water Act. As such, any water-use related activities were not fully addressed within that EMPr. He further indicated that, following the conclusion of the renewal process, the intention is to update the EMPr to accurately reflect the current activities taking place on site. He added that, should the EMPr be approved, some of the requirements under this process would be superseded by that approval.	Mr Mangobe noted the comment and indicated that he will raise it with his colleagues for further consideration. He questioned, in principle, what activities were undertaken under the MR previously granted, given that mining rights typically carry significant responsibilities, including compliance with the Social and Labour Plan (SLP) and other obligations under the MPRDA. He further remarked that, from the information provided, it appears as though no activities were undertaken on the dump, as the proposed activities are not covered by the approved documentation. In this context, he queried the original intent and purpose of the mining right. Mr Mangobe clarified that he is not requesting an immediate response but is merely raising the concern for internal consideration to better understand the basis for the new application, particularly in relation to activities not previously covered in the approved documentation.	-
Ms Umeshree Naicker, Principal Environmental Consultant,	Online Meeting Microsoft Teams	Thursday, 23 April 2026	Ms Naicker thanked all attendees and asked whether there were any additional comments	Mr Mangobe advised that although Kongiwe had presented the application during this pre-application meeting, this does not necessarily mean that another pre-application meeting will not be required in future.	-

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
Kongiwe Environmental.			that needed to be addressed for Mr Mangobe before closing the meeting	He explained that applications are allocated among officials within the unit (currently six members), and the Unit Head may assign an application to any of them. As a result, if the application is allocated to a different official, that official may require the proponent to present the application again. He indicated that this is standard practice and should not be a concern. Ms Naicker acknowledged the explanation.	

2.2 Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
Comments raised during the Pre- Application Meeting for the Draft Scoping Report, dated, Thursday, 14 May 2026					
Ms Basani Lerato Nkuna, Environmental Officer	Online Meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Thursday, 14 May 2026	Ms Nkuna asked whether the Project has any Existing Lawful Water Uses (ELUs) held by Ergo Mining, and whether the application is new, an amendment, or a consolidation.	Ms Mngwengwe stated that this is a new application. However, Ergo will use existing infrastructure, including the 5L27 transfer pump station, and the pipeline will be reinstalled within existing servitudes.	Appendix C8 (Meeting Minutes)
			Ms Nkuna asked whether the proposed new infrastructure would be limited to the pipeline or would also include the other infrastructure mentioned in the presentation.	Ms Mngwengwe stated that the other infrastructure on site will be new, including the pump station, lined catchment paddock, and upgrades to access roads, all of which trigger water use requirements.	Appendix C8 (Meeting Minutes)

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			Ms Nkuna asked whether alternative locations had been considered for the proposed receiving points and pump station, given their proximity to the water resource.	Ms Mngwengwe stated that the pump station is intended to avoid the floodline. It is located outside the wetland area, but within the 500 m regulated wetland buffer. Mr Thornton added that receiving points 1 and 2 must be located at the lowest points to allow slurry to flow into them under gravity before being pumped to the pump station. He explained that the topography is relatively level, with one receiving point collecting slurry from the north-western section and the other from the north-eastern section. He noted that no alternative locations have been identified at this stage, although the infrastructure layout is still in draft form.	Appendix C8 (Meeting Minutes)
Mr Bradley Thornton, Project Director, Kongiwe	Online Meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Thursday, 14 May 2026	Mr Thornton asked Ms Nkuna whether she was familiar with tailings reclamation projects and their processes. Mr Thornton then gave a brief explanation of the tailings reclamation process to Ms Nkuna.	Ms Nkuna stated that she was not familiar with the process, although she had worked on a few applications related to it. She thanked Mr Thornton for the clear explanation.	Appendix C8 (Meeting Minutes)
Ms Basani Lerato Nkuna, Environmental Officer	Online Meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Thursday, 14 May 2026	Ms Nkuna asked about the disposal method for the reprocessed slurry and what mitigation measures are in place to prevent impacts on the surrounding environment and groundwater.	Mr Thornton stated that the slurry will be pumped from 6L14 to the 5L27 transfer pump station and then on to the Ergo Plant for reprocessing. After reprocessing, the ensuing tailings will be deposited onto the existing licensed Brakpan TSF.	Section 2.1

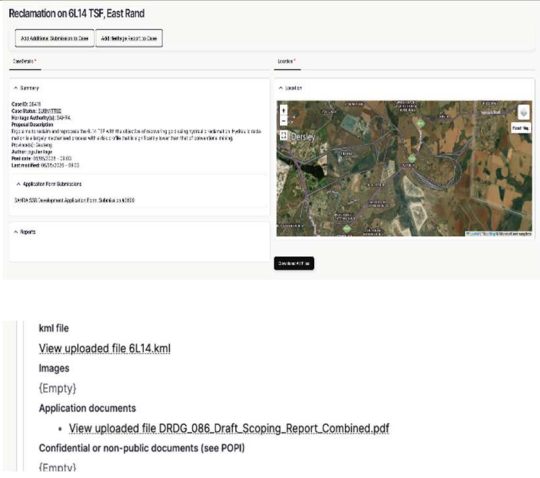
Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			Ms Nkuna asked whether contingency plans are in place for situations where the 5L27 pump station cannot supply the project with process water, and whether external water sources would then be required.	Mr Mafatshe stated that supply will not be interrupted, as the 5L27 pump station will remain operational throughout the life of the project. He added that other TSFs in the region are also proposed to source water from the 5L27 pump station.	Appendix C8 (Meeting Minutes)
			Ms Nkuna asked about Ergo's closed-loop water system, how it prevents the uncontrolled discharge of slurry into the environment, how excess rainfall would be managed on site, and whether Ergo complies with GN 704 regulations.	Mr Thornton stated that, in the event of a power failure, an automatic valve closes the pipeline and any slurry remaining in the pipe is discharged into the lined catchment paddock. He added that toe paddocks are located around and above the TSF to collect rainwater, which is then allowed to evaporate. No water is discharged into the environment. Ms Mngwengwe added that the lined catchment paddock is designed to store incidental slurry and process water releases from the reclamation station and in-flight slurry from the TSF, and its sizing takes such events into account to ensure adequate containment. She also noted that paddocks are constructed/reinstated around the TSF to prevent dirty water from flowing into the clean-water catchment. Mr Mafatshe added that similar systems are used at other reclamation sites. During a power outage event, the valve closes and any slurry remaining in the pipeline is directed to the lined catchment paddock. Once the power outage has passed, the slurry in the paddock is	Appendix C8 (Meeting Minutes)

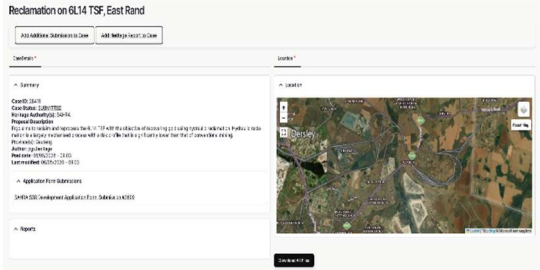
Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
				pumped to the pump station and then to the Ergo Plant, and then operations continue as normal. The lined catchment paddock remains empty except during power failures and stormwater events.	
			Ms Nkuna asked whether this Project would follow the same process described by Mr Mafatshe.	Ms Mngwengwe confirmed that it would follow the same process.	-
			Ms Nkuna asked whether the slurry and process-water pipelines would run parallel to each other or come into contact, and whether measures are in place to prevent contamination between the dirty- and clean-water systems.	Ms Mngwengwe confirmed that the slurry and process water pipelines will run parallel to each other. She added that Ergo has procedures in place, including pipeline monitoring, to detect spills and ensure that they are cleaned up immediately. Mr Mafatshe added that where a pipeline crosses a water resource (i.e. wetland or stream), paddocks are constructed to prevent slurry from entering the wetland/river.	Appendix C8 (Meeting Minutes)

3 Organs of the State

3.1 South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
Ms Khanyisile Bonile, Heritage Officer: Development Applications Unit.	Email Correspondence	Wednesday, 29 April 2026	Good day, Please note that all development applications are processed via our online portal, the South African Heritage Resources Information System (SAHRIS) found at the following link: http://sahra.org.za/sahris/ . We do not accept emailed, posted, hardcopy, faxed, website links or Dropbox links as official submissions. Please create an application on SAHRIS for each EA application and upload all documents pertaining to the Environmental Authorisation Application Process. As per section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA), an assessment of heritage resources must form part of the process, and the assessment must comply with section 38(3) of the NHRA. If a case already exists on SAHRIS regarding the development, please upload the documents to that case using the "Make an additional submission to an existing case" in the application selector wizard	Dear Ms Khanyile Bonile Thank you for your correspondence. Your email has been received and acknowledged. An application was created on the South African Heritage Resources Information System (SAHRIS) with the case identity 28411 on http://sahra.org.za/sahris/ . The Draft Scoping Report and kmz file of the project has been uploaded to SAHRIS on 6 May 2026. Please find the attached image for proof of submission with Case Id: 28411 provided below.	Appendix C6 (Correspondence)

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			https://sahris.org.za/form/application-selector. Please ensure that all documents produced as part of the EA process are submitted as part of the application. **PLEASE NOTE** An application fee is now required for all section 38 applications. Please ensure that the SAHRIS application contains a proof of payment as per the notice at the following link: https://sahris.org.za/help. A payment of R 2 000.00 for each application is required. Please make separate payments with the specific reference numbers. Applications that do not include a proof of payment will be considered incomplete and will not be processed until proof of payment is provided. Please make use of the SAHRIS Case ID in the payment reference. e.g. 12345/38.8. Please upload the PoP using the "Make an additional submission to an existing case" in the application selector wizard https://sahris.org.za/form/application-selector. The case officer assigned to your case will approve the submission and begin to process the case		

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
Ms Nokusho Ngobeni, Heritage Officer	Email Correspondence	Friday, 15 May 2026	Good day, Please note that all development applications are processed via our online portal, the South African Heritage Resources Information System (SAHRIS) found at the following link: http://sahra.org.za/sahris/. We do not accept emailed, posted, hardcopy, faxed, website links or DropBox links as official submissions. Please create an application on SAHRIS for <u>each EA application</u> and upload all documents pertaining to the Environmental Authorisation Application Process. As per section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA), an assessment of heritage resources must form part of the process and the assessment must comply with section 38(3) of the NHRA. If a case already exists on SAHRIS regarding the development, please upload the documents to that case using the "Make an additional submission to an existing case" in the application selector wizard https://sahris.org.za/form/application-selector. Please ensure that all documents	Dear Ms Nokusho Ngobeni Thank you for your correspondence. Your email has been received and acknowledged. An application was created on the South African Heritage Resources Information System (SAHRIS) with the case identity 28411 on http://sahra.org.za/sahris/. The Draft Scoping Report and kmz file of the project has been uploaded to SAHRIS on 6 May 2026. Please find the attached image for proof of submission with Case Id: 28411 provided below. 	Appendix C6 (Correspondence)

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			produced as part of the EA process are submitted as part of the application. **PLEASE NOTE** An application fee is now required for all section 38 applications. Please ensure that the SAHRIS application contains a proof of payment as per the notice at the following link: https://www.sahris.org.za/node/383817. Please make separate payments with the specific reference numbers. <u>Applications that do not include a proof of payment will be considered incomplete and will not be processed until proof of payment is provided.</u> Please make use of the auto generated payment reference that can be found within the application form. Please upload the PoP using the "Make an additional submission to an existing case" in the application selector wizard https://sahris.org.za/form/application-selector. The case officer assigned to your case will approve the submission and begin to process the case. Thank you.	kml file View uploaded file 6L14.kml Images (Empty) Application documents View uploaded file DRDG_086_Draft_Scoping_Report_Combined.pdf Confidential or non-public documents (see POPI) (Empty)	

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			Kind regards,		
<i>Interim Comments received via email from SAHRA dated, Monday, 01 June 2026</i>					
Ms Khanyisile Bonile, Heritage Officer: Development Applications Unit.	Email Correspondence	Monday, 01 June 2026	Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd has submitted an application in support of an Environmental Authorisation (EA) in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, Act no 107 of 1998 (NEMA) as amended, for activities that trigger the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) 2014 Regulations, as amended for the proposed reclamation of the 6L14 Tailing Storage Facility, Gauteng Province. A Draft Scoping Report has been submitted for the proposed reclamation of the 6L14 Tailing Storage Facility objective is to recover gold using hydraulic reclamation, hydraulic reclamation is a largely mechanised process with a risk profile that is significantly lower than that of conventional mining. No Heritage report has been submitted.	The Heritage Impact Assessment will be undertaken during the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Phase and submitted to SAHRA during the 30-day comment period for the Draft EIA Report.	Table 10-1
			Interim Comment: The SAHRA Development Applications Unit (DAU) requests that an assessment of the impact to heritage resources that complies with section 38(3)	The Heritage and Palaeontology Impact Assessment will be during the EIA Phase. The HIA will include both archaeological and palaeontological components, the findings and recommendations of	Table 10-1

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			of the NHRA as required by section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA) must be conducted as part of the EA process. The Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) must include an archaeological and palaeontological component. The field-based archaeological component of the HIA must be conducted by a qualified archaeologist and must comply with the SAHRA 2007 Minimum Standards: Archaeological and Palaeontological Components of Impact Assessment Reports (see www.asapa.co.za or www.aphp.org.za for a list of qualified archaeologists). The HIA must consider any impacts to coastal and underwater heritage that may occur due to the seawater intake pipelines.	the Heritage and Palaeontology Impact Assessment will be integrated into the Draft EIA Report.	
			The proposed development is located within an area Very High Palaeontological Sensitivity as per the SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity map. As such, a Field Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA) must be undertaken by a qualified palaeontologist. (See https://www.palaeosa.org/heritage-practitioners.html for a list of qualified palaeontologists). The report must comply with the	The Palaeontology Impact Assessment, which includes a field investigation, will be undertaken during the of EIA Phase.	Table 10-1

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			2012 Minimum Standards: Palaeontological Components of Heritage Impact Assessments.		
			Any other heritage resources as defined in section 3 of the NHRA that may be impacted, such as built structures over 60 years old, sites of cultural significance associated with oral histories, burial grounds and graves, graves of victims of conflict, and cultural landscapes or viewsapes must also be assessed.	The Heritage Impact Assessment will consider section 3 of the NHRA.	Table 10-1
			Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the above requested reports and draft EIA inclusive of appendices. Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.	The Draft EIA Report and associated appendices will be uploaded to the SAHRIS system case no. 28411.	-

3.2 South African National Roads Agency (SANRAL)

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			No Comments received.	-	-

3.3 Transnet Freight Rail Ltd

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
Ms Tebogo Thaba, Environment & Sustainability.	Email Correspondence	Wednesday, 29 April 2026	Good day, I hope this email finds you well. Kindly confirm if this project will affect Transnet Infrastructure.	Dear Ms Tebogo Thaba, Thank you for your correspondence. Your email has been received and duly acknowledged. A railway line is located approximately 60 metres from the Proposed Project area. The pipeline servitude (with the associated surface rights permit) intersects with railway line servitude.	Appendix C8 (Meeting Minutes)
Comments received during Online Meeting with Transnet dated, Friday, 8 May 2026					
Mr Thembinkosi Memela, Manager Transnet Land Use Management	Online Meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Friday, 8 May 2026	Mr Memela enquired whether the Transnet team division had provided any comments.	Ms Naicker responded that one comment had been received from Transnet, specifically relating to the proximity of the project to the railway line. She further indicated that, following the meeting and consideration of the comments raised, a formal response will be submitted. Mr Memela acknowledged the feedback and confirmed that he was satisfied, noting that he recalled the project and that comments had previously been shared with the rail management team for input. He advised that although his colleagues were not present at the meeting, it was important that they remained informed about the project developments, which he confirmed was in order.	Appendix C8 (Meeting Minutes)

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			Mr Memela enquired whether a separate Transnet wayleave application he had recently come across is linked to the current project, noting that he may have seen reference to pipelines potentially connecting into this scope, although he was not certain. Mr Memela was aware of the Marievale Project.	Mr Mafatshe responded that he will let Mr Masala Tshamano (Mr Tshamano) respond on this one once available.	
			Mr Memela sought clarification, confirming that the purpose of the meeting was solely for stakeholder engagement.	Ms Naicker confirmed that this was correct.	
			Mr Memela requested that the meeting presentation be shared with his colleagues were had not attended today's meeting, to allow for any comments or questions. He emphasised that his role is limited to that of land custodian, whereas the operational responsibility for the rail lies with the relevant stakeholders.	Ms Naicker acknowledged the request.	

3.4 Eskom (National Transmission Company South Africa)

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
Mr Khululwa Matshoba, Senior	Email Correspondence	Wednesday, 6 May 2026	Good day	Dear Mr Matshoba	Appendix C6 (Correspondence)

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
Environmental Advisor: land & Rights			Please share the kmz file of the project. Thank you. Warm regards	Thank you for your email. Attached please find the KMZ file for the Proposed Project as per your request. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any further queries.	

3.5 Randwater

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
Ms Faith Tshisikule, Wayleave Inspector	Email Correspondence	Monday, 4 May 2026	Good Day Kindly note that Rand Water is now processing environmental notifications through the wayleave online web-based system. Please send the details of the proposed development on the online web-based system to allow Rand Water to review the development. To utilize the system and continue sending Rand Water your environmental notification you will need to register and set up a profile on the following URL address; https://wayleave.randwater.co.za/	Dear Ms Faith Tshisikule Thank you for your correspondence. Your email has been received and duly acknowledged. The Wayleave profile has been successfully created on the Rand Water online web-based system for the proposed Reclamation of the 6L14 TSF Project; Wayleave Application Reference Number is: RW2526-4243. Details of the Proposed Project were submitted on the system on 06 May 2026 to enable Rand Water to review the application.	Appendix C6 (Correspondence)

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			Please find attached user training manual to assist you with registering your profile and uploading your applications. Once registered and now uploading an application please choose "Environmental application" under "Application type." Under 'responsible engineer' dropdown select/choose "place holder – Registration number default-000000", since your application does not require an engineer. Both options are found right at the beginning of the application process. Should you require assistance with registration or encounter any problems on the online system please contact any of the colleagues copied in this email to schedule a MS teams meeting." I hope this will be of assistance	Please refer below for the proof of Wayleave upload and submission confirmation for your records and verification. CONFIRMATION: INCOMING APPLICATION RW2526-4243 RECEIVED Dear Phathutshedzo Munyai, This email serves as confirmation of receipt of your application submission on . Your reference number for this application is: RW2526-4243 Wayleave details for rw2526-4243 Wayleave Number RW2526-4243	

3.6 Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
Mr Mthokozese Nsizwane,	Email Correspondence	Thursday, 11 June 2026	Dear Sir / Madam Please find the attached comments from the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation.	Dear Mthokozese	Appendix C6 (Correspondence)

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
Environmental Officer			Regards Mthokozese	We refer to your email sent to our Kongiwe Environmental (Pty) Ltd (Kongiwe) Stakeholder Engagement Team. Please see attached the response to the comments raised. Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.	
Comments received from Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation as per email above dated, Thursday, 11 June 2026					
			The following aspects must, however, be duly considered: The specialist assessments must be conducted in accordance with the procedures for the assessment and minimum criteria for reporting on identified environmental themes in terms of Sections 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (i.e. protocols for terrestrial plant and animal species), have come into effect.	All specialist assessments will be undertaken in accordance with the applicable legislative requirements, including the prescribed protocols and minimum reporting requirements for environmental themes in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, as amended	Table 10-1
			To ensure the continued persistence of ecosystems and that national conservation targets are achieved, it is essential that impacts on sensitive and highly localised habitats are minimised or avoided altogether.	Potential impacts on sensitive and highly localised habitats will be assessed through the relevant specialist studies, and avoidance and mitigation measures will be incorporated into the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Environmental Management Programme Report (EMPr) where required.	Table 10-1

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			The Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA for review and queries should be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation at Email: BCAdmin@dffe.gov.za for the attention of Mr. Seoka Lekota.	All relevant Public Participation Process documents pertaining to the Biodiversity EIA will be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation via the provided email address (BCAdmin@dffe.gov.za), for the attention of Mr. Seoka Lekota, as requested.	Appendix C1 (Stakeholder Database)

4 Interested and Affected Parties

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
Ms Karina Beukes, Plant Manager, Impala Platinum Limited.	Email Correspondence	Wednesday, 29 April 2026	Is the existing pipeline shown on the aerial layout still in working condition?	Dear Mrs Karina Beukes Thank you for your correspondence. Your email has been received and duly acknowledged. The pipeline servitude, together with the associated surface rights permit, is already established and remains valid for the Proposed Project. The pipeline will be reinstated along the areas where such servitudes and SRP's exists, to meet the technical and operational requirements of the Proposed Project.	Section 2.1

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
Ms Karina Beukes, Plant Manager, Impala Platinum Limited.	Email Correspondence	Wednesday, 20 May 2026	Maybe I don't understand how their pipe (which isn't there yet) doesn't need an EIA? No. R. 983 4 December 2014 NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998 (ACT NO. 107 OF 1998) LISTING NOTICE 1: LIST OF ACTIVITIES AND COMPETENT AUTHORITIES IDENTIFIED IN TERMS OF SECTIONS 24(2) AND 24D I, Bomo Edith Edna Molewa, Minister of Environmental Affairs, hereby repeal Listing Notice 1 of 2010, published under Notice No. 544 in Gazette No. 33306 dated 18 June 2010, and publish Listing Notice 1 of 2014 under sections 24(2), 24(5), 24D and 44, read with section 47A (1) (b) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), set out in the Schedule hereto.	The existing pipeline route is already secured through Surface Right Permits (SRPs), wayleaves, and servitudes held by Ergo. Sections of the pipeline between the 6L14 TSF and the 5L27 Transfer Pump Station have been removed or stolen and will require replacement. The replacement pipeline will be installed within the existing authorised pipeline corridor, utilising the current SRPs, wayleaves, and servitudes. Existing plinths will be reused where practicable. A 400 NB HDPE-lined pipeline will be installed to convey slurry to the 5L27 Transfer Pump Station. The pipeline will maintain the existing design capacity and functionality and is therefore regarded as the replacement and maintenance of existing infrastructure.	Section 2.1

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			10. The development and related operation of infrastructure exceeding 1000 metres in length for the bulk transportation of sewage, effluent, process water, waste water, return water, industrial discharge or slimes – (i) with an internal diameter of 0,36 metres or more; or (ii) with a peak throughput of 120 litres per second or more; excluding where— (a) such infrastructure is for bulk transportation of sewage, effluent, process water, waste water, return water, industrial discharge or slimes inside a road reserve; or (b) where such development will occur within an urban area.		
Comments received during Online Meeting with Blesbokspruit Catchment Forum dated, Thursday, 7 May 2026					
Ms Karina Beukes, Plant Manager, Impala Platinum Refineries	Online Meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Thursday, 7 May 2026	Mrs Beukes raised a question directed to Kongiwe regarding the pipeline that is not included in the current application, seeking clarity on whether it would be treated as a separate project or if any further information was available.	Ms Naicker responded that it would be a separate project; however, at this stage, the final details are not yet available. Post Meeting Note: The pipeline servitude, together with the associated surface rights permit (SRP), is already established and remains valid for the Proposed Project. The pipeline will be reinstated along the areas where such	Section 2.1

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
				servitudes and SRP's exists, to meet the technical and operational requirements of the Proposed Project.	
Mr Mabona Lesiba, Blesbokspruit Forum Representative	Online Meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Thursday, 7 May 2026	Mr Lesiba raised a concern noting that the project appears to still be at an early stage and enquired whether the team would return at a later stage with more detailed information once further clarity is available, so that stakeholders can better understand the project.	Ms Naicker responded that the project is currently in the scoping phase. She explained that the next phase will be the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) phase, during which specialist studies will be conducted to determine the actual impacts of the project, as well as the proposed mitigation measures. She added that a more detailed presentation can be provided at a later stage once this information is available.	-
Comments received during the Online Meeting with the Broader Stakeholders dated, Wednesday, 20 May 2026					
Mr Andrew Barker, Development Consultant	Online Meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Wednesday, 20 May 2026	Mr Barker sought to clarify that, in the presentation, Ms Naicker refers to water monitors blasting the sides of the TSF/Dump. He noted that this may be misinterpreted, as it pertains not to the outside of the dump, but to the inside of the dump. He further stated that the wording should not create concern by suggesting that blasting would occur from the outside, as this is a methodology and technology that were discontinued several	Ms Naicker indicated that the wording will be revised for the Open Day meeting (21 May 2026).	-

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			years ago due to dust management considerations.		
Mr Wilhelm Botha, Technical Manager, Impala Platinum Refineries	Online Meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Wednesday, 20 May 2026	Mr Botha requested clarification on the following: - The water used for hydraulic reclamation and sought clarification on whether process water would be pumped all the way to 5L27 pumpstation, and then returned via a second pipeline, or whether there would be only one pipeline, with the water being returned at a later stage (for example at night), and retained on site at 6L14. - Enquired whether an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is also required for the pipeline, even though a servitude/surface right permit is available for the pipeline from 6L14 TSF to 5L27 pumpstation.	Mr Mafatshe replied that no water will be kept on site. The process water circulates within the system (from the processing plant to the various reclamation and deposition sites). He added that the water is circulated via pipelines (there will be both a slurry pipeline and a process water pipeline), meaning it will be sent to 6L14 for reclamation purposes via the 5L27 pump station and reused within the system. The same water is conveyed to other sites for reclamation, transports the slurry to the Ergo plant, and carries the final residue to the deposition sites (Daggafontein or Brakpan TSF), after which it is recovered back into the system, similar to what will occur during the 6L14 reclamation. He noted that this process is not limited to 6L14, as the same water is also used at other reclamation sites.	Section 2.6.2

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
				Ms Naicker advised that there is no need for an EIA as the Surface Rights Permit and pipeline servitude are in place for the pipeline route.	
Ms Karina Beukes, Safety and Environmental Manager, Impala Platinum Refineries	Online Meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Wednesday, 20 May 2026	Ms Beukes enquired about the management of potential spillages from pipeline on neighbouring properties, including Impala's.	Mr Mafatshe explained that where a property is involved, they construct paddocks or catchment paddocks along the pipeline. In the event of a spillage, affected water is contained within these paddocks and cleaned up immediately. He added that this approach ensures the spillage is contained and does not spread across the affected property. This is how they manage pipelines along properties, including those located near streams or watercourses. Mr Mafatshe further added that they have security patrols along the pipelines. They patrol 24 hours a day, monitoring the pipelines so that if there is any incident, it can be reported to them immediately, and they will deal with it without delay. He also encouraged Ms Burger to contact them if she notices anything on their side, so that they can respond quickly.	-

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
Ms Karina Beukes, Plant Manager, BMO technical Department for Impala Platinum Refineries	Online Meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Wednesday, 20 May 2026	Ms Beukes enquired that, although Ergo has paddocks next to the pipelines and related measures in place, she wanted to understand, based on Ergo's experience over the past years of being involved in the hydraulic reclamation, how often these pipelines fail. She noted that Ergo operates pipelines extensively across the East Rand for reclamation purposes, and asked how frequently incidents such as pipe bursts, openings, or spillages occur, as she is interested in knowing this.	Mr Mafatshe explained that it depends, as sometimes issues are limited to pipe-related incidents, and there can be many months without any occurrence. He indicated that he would not be able to specify exactly how often such incidents happen. While incidents do occur, they are not frequent. Mr Mafatshe added that pipe bursts do not happen regularly. He noted that the pipeline is made of steel, with a rubber lining inside, which makes it less prone to bursting. However, although it is not easy for it to burst, accidents can still occur, but not on a regular basis.	-
			Ms Beukes followed up on Mr Mafatshe's response, enquiring whether, in the event of a pipe burst in the area where it crosses or runs along their property, the Ergo team would rehabilitate the affected area. She also asked how the pipeline crosses the railway. Based on the aerial photograph, there appears to be a section where it crosses the over the railway line. She queried whether it passes through a culvert or by another method specifically for 6L14 project.	Mr Mafatshe responded that Ms Beukes is correct in the event of an incident on their property, Ergo will be responsible for rehabilitation. He further stated that he is aware of an area where the pipeline crosses the railway. In that instance, the pipeline will cross over the railway line. He indicated that he is not certain about other areas but confirmed at least one location where this occurs. He added that the pipeline will be constructed safely over the railway and will not obstruct passing trains.	-

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
Mr Andrew Barker, Development Consultant	Online Meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Wednesday, 20 May 2026	Mr Baker enquired whether some form of monitoring telemetry could be used while the pipeline is in operation, so that a drop in pressure would lead to an alert and enable the Ergo team to investigate on quickly. He mentioned that such systems are used in petrol pipelines. He added that he wondered whether there might be a cost-benefit opportunity to minimise the impact of any spill through a rapid reaction and response. While acknowledging that bursts are not frequent, as previously mentioned, he indicated uncertainty regarding the potential impacts, costs, and benefits, and suggested that this may be something worth considering.	Mr Mafatshe responded that Ergo has Leak Detector system which is linked to SCADA system that is used to monitor pipe leaks/burst. Once an issue is detected, the pipeline will be shut down immediately to prevent the spill from spreading further.	-
		Wednesday, 20 May 2026	Mr Botha mentioned that Impala Platinum Refineries use hydrogen in their process. He noted that there is an existing servitude, which he believes is owned by Air Products, running parallel to the Transnet servitude just north of their plant. He enquired whether Ergo is aware of this, and if so, whether it was taken into consideration during the routing and planning of the pipeline.	Mr Mafatshe responded that he is not very familiar with this specific area in question and indicated that it would first need to be assessed, after which they would proceed accordingly. He added that this is not a new pipeline route, as the pipeline was laid some time ago and certain sections of the pipelines were stolen. The pipeline will be	Section 2.1

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
Mr Wilhelm Botha, Technical Manager, Impala Platinum Refineries	Online Meeting (Microsoft Teams)		Mr Botha also mentioned that he knows the area quite well and has not seen any existing pipeline. He therefore suggested that it would be worthwhile to conduct a site visit so that the Ergo team can show them the existing pipeline.	replaced like for like but they would still need to verify the area He further agreed that a site visit can be arranged to inspect and assess the area in question.	
			Requested confirmation of the operational period.	Ms Naicker confirmed that the operational period will be 12 years.	Section 2.6.5
Ms Carina Burger, Safety and Environmental Manager, Impala Platinum Refineries	Online Meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Wednesday, 20 May 2026	Suggested that ERWAT form part of the stakeholder database.	Ms Naicker confirmed that ERWAT will be include in the stakeholder engagement database and consulted.	Appendix C1 (Stakeholder Database)

NOTE:

MS MARIETTE LIEFFERINK PROVIDED A LIST OF COMMENTS AND ALSO EMAILED COMMENTS (IN RELATION TO THE MEETING COMMENTS). THE MINUTES HAVE CAPTURED BOTH SUBMISSIONS IN THE SECTION BELOW.

THE USE OF “POST MEETING NOTES” HAVE BEEN WHERE THE TOPIC OF COMMENT WAS CONSIDERED TO BE ALIGNED WITH COMMENTS RECEIVED AFTER THE STAKEHOLER MEETING.

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
Ms Mariette Liefferink, CEO, Federation for a Sustainable Environment	Online Meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Wednesday, 20 May 2026	Ms Liefferink sought clarity on whether the presentation made reference to an existing Mining Right. Public Participation - The stakeholder confirmed that they do not oppose the Proposed Project and that their comments are intended to support the inclusion of additional research and specialist assessments during the EIA phase. - Concerns were raised regarding the limited baseline information available at the scoping stage, particularly in relation to hydrological, geotechnical, and social aspects, with the view that adequate information is required for interested and affected parties to meaningfully assess the potential risks and implications of the Proposed Project. - The stakeholder highlighted the need for a cumulative impact assessment, considering the number of reclamation projects and historical environmental impacts within the East Rand, particularly in relation to pollution in the Blesbokspuit Catchment.	Ms Naicker responded that they have noted that an existing Mining Right. - The purpose of the Scoping Phase is to identify potential environmental and social issues associated with the Proposed Project, determine the specialist studies required, and define the scope of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). As such, detailed specialist investigations, impact assessments, and baseline studies are generally undertaken during the EIA Phase and are not expected to be completed at the scoping stage. - The findings of these studies, including baseline conditions, impact assessments, and proposed mitigation measures, will be presented in the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (DEIAR) for public review and comment. - The EIA Phase will include an assessment of cumulative impacts in accordance with the EIA Regulations, taking into consideration existing and reasonably foreseeable developments within the area, as well as the environmental context of the broader Blesbokspuit Catchment.	-

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			- With reference to Mr Barker's comments, that as members of the Blesbokspruit Catchment Management Forum, they are aware of the significant historical environmental challenges within the catchment, including acid mine drainage (approximately 100 million litres per day or slightly less), radiological contamination, and ongoing sewage pollution. Post Meeting Notes - Meaningful consultation under NEMA requires more than procedural notification. The limited library access hours digital access barriers may present challenges. - The FSE also recommends that the ought to be targeted engagement with vulnerable and marginalised groups.	- The EIA Phase will include specialist assessments to establish the environmental baseline and evaluate the potential impacts of the Proposed Project within the context of existing environmental conditions. Where relevant, these existing pressures and their potential cumulative interactions with the Proposed Project will be considered as part of the impact assessment process. Post Meeting Notes - The Public Participation Process (PPP) is being undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (as amended). Multiple engagement mechanisms and announcement documents have been implemented to facilitate participation, including direct stakeholder notifications, newspaper advertisements, site notices, online and open day meetings, and the provision of project information through publicly accessible platforms. The announcement documents provided a link to the Kongiwe website for an electronic copy of the Draft Scoping Report.	Section 7 Appendix C (Public Participation)

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
				Community members were invited to the Open Day which was held on 21 May 2026.	
			Cumulative - She emphasised the need to assess cumulative dust impacts from existing mining and industrial activities and to consider environmental justice principles throughout the assessment process. - She noted that surrounding communities are already affected by mining and industrial activities and experience significant socio-economic challenges, including poverty and food insecurity, which may increase their vulnerability to potential project impacts. - She recommended that potential health impacts on adjacent communities be evaluated, where appropriate, through an environmental justice lens. Post Meeting Notes Since the East Rand is already heavily environmentally burdened, the FSE recommends that the EIA includes an adequate assessment of the cumulative impacts arising from the multiple TSF reclamation projects within the region; the	- The EIA Phase will include an assessment of air quality impacts, including consideration of cumulative effects where relevant and where sufficient information is available. - The EIA process will consider the socio-economic context of surrounding communities and assess the significance of potential impacts. - Relevant specialist studies, including the Social Impact Assessment and Air Quality Impact Assessment, will evaluate cumulative impacts and recommend mitigation measures where necessary. Post Meeting Notes Refer to the above responses; the relevant specialist assessments will assess cumulative impacts. The Draft EIA Report will present the findings of the impact assessment and the proposed mitigation measures.	-

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			existing mining activities; the regional air pollution, the existing AMD impacts, the regional groundwater stress, and the cumulative socio-economic burdens. Cumulative impact assessment is legally required under NEMA and increasingly emphasised in South African environmental jurisprudence.		
			Needs and Desirability Regarding the need and desirability of the project, she stated that the EIA must adequately demonstrate whether the project constitutes ecologically sustainable development. She referred to Section 24 of the Constitution, which speaks to ecologically sustainable development and justifiable economic development, and noted that it should be clearly determined whether the environmental risks outweigh the purported benefits. She added that this aligns with both Section 2 of NEMA (the principles) and Section 24 of the Constitution. Post Meeting Notes The report strongly motivates reclamation as environmentally beneficial because it removes historical tailings, however, the report	The EIA Phase will assess the need and desirability of the Proposed Project in accordance with NEMA, the Constitution, and sustainable development principles. Environmental, social, and economic impacts will be evaluated, and the competent authority will consider the findings in determining the acceptability of the Proposed Project. Post Meeting Notes The technical planning and design assessments undertaken by the Ergo technical team have confirmed the feasibility of the Proposed Project and verified that the receiving TSFs (Brakpan/Withok and/or Daggafontein) have adequate authorised	Section 4

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			inadequately addresses whether the receiving TSFs (Brakpan/Withok and/or Daggafontein) have sufficient authorised capacity and whether transferring pollution from one location to another constitutes true environmental rehabilitation. It is furthermore necessary to assess whether the cumulative dust and water pollution burdens will increase elsewhere as well as the environmental justice implications for already overburdened communities. The assertion that the “No-Go” alternative is not preferred appears economically driven rather than based on a balanced sustainability assessment. The constitutional requirement under section 24 of the Constitution is not merely economic optimisation, but ecologically sustainable development while promoting justifiable social and economic development.	capacity to accommodate the material associated with the reclamation operations. The EIA Phase will assess the No-Go Alternative and the Proposed Project against the principles of sustainable development, including environmental, social, and economic considerations, in accordance with NEMA and Section 24 of the Constitution.	Section 6.1.6
			Alternatives While the Proposed Project is linked to the reclamation of an existing TSF, the conclusion that there are no alternatives is overly simplistic and	In terms of NEMA, reasonable and feasible operational, technological, and design alternatives must also be considered.	Section 6

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			does not fully reflect the requirements of NEMA and the EIA Regulations. She emphasised that alternatives should still be considered during the EIA process, including reclamation methods, sequencing, pipeline alignments, infrastructure layouts, dust suppression measures, water management and recycling strategies, and stormwater management approaches. The No-Go Alternative has not been sufficiently assessed and should be more comprehensively evaluated during the EIA Phase. Post Meeting Note The report states: “No alternatives have been investigated in terms of location due to 6L14 TSF being an existing site.” This approach is problematic because NEMA requires the assessment of reasonable and feasible alternatives. Operational, technological and layout alternatives must still be rigorously assessed even where a TSF already exists. Alternatives regarding sequencing, dust suppression technologies, water reuse systems, renewable energy integration, pipeline routing	The findings of the specialist studies, that will be conducted in the EIA Phase, will inform the feasible layout and design for the Proposed Project. The EIA Phase will include a comparative assessment of feasible alternatives, where applicable, to support the identification of the preferred alternative. Refer to the responses above regarding cumulative impacts; cumulative impacts associated with the Proposed Project will be assessed and reported in the Draft EIA Report.	

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			and rehabilitation approaches are not meaningfully analysed. The alternatives discussion is largely descriptive rather than comparative. There is also inadequate assessment of the cumulative regional TSF reclamation impacts, alternative residue disposal strategies, alternative rehabilitation end-states, climate-resilient operational approaches.		
			Water Resource: - This process introduces new water inputs into an already highly disturbed environment, which may also lead to impacts on the groundwater. - She noted that the Blesbokspruit is a highly sensitive wetland system of significant ecological importance, which has already been severely impacted by sewage and mining-related pollution. She therefore recommends that the EIA should include, a detailed wetland delineation, a hydrological connectivity assessment, floodline determination, cumulative catchment	- Groundwater impacts associated with the reclamation process will be assessed as part of the EIA Phase. - The EIA Phase will include specialist assessments of wetlands, surface water resources, hydrological connectivity, and potential impacts on downstream users and ecosystems. - Water management considerations, including water balances, stormwater management, seepage, pollution containment, groundwater-surface water interactions, and contingency measures, will be addressed during the EIA Phase.	Section 8.6 Section 8.7 and Section 8.8

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			analysis, contaminant transport modelling, and an assessment of impacts on downstream users and ecosystems. • She further noted that while the report confirms several Section 21 water uses under the National Water Act, it lacks detailed water balances. She was unsure whether this would be addressed in the EIA. She suggested the inclusion of stormwater management plans, pollution containment measures, seepage modelling, groundwater and surface water interaction assessments, and contingency measures for spills and pipeline failures. If these aspects are addressed in the EIA, she indicated that it would be adequate. • Regarding acid mine drainage (AMD), she noted that the report does acknowledge the potential for AMD, increased sulphate concentrations, and the presence of heavy metals. She recommended that the EIA should also assess uranium contamination and radiological mobilisation associated with reclamation operations. These processes could result in the transport of heavy metals, including uranium, increased sulphate	• The EIA Phase will assess potential AMD-related impacts. Post Meeting Notes The specialist studies that will be conducted in the EIA Phase takes includes the following specialist studies: Groundwater Assessment, Climate Change Risk Assessment and Hydrology.	Section 10

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			loading, and the mobilisation of pyrite-bearing materials, which generate AMD. These impacts could affect wetlands, aquatic ecosystems, and pose post-closure contamination risks. Post Meeting Notes The hydrological risks are acknowledged but understated. Key concerns include AMD mobilisation during hydraulic reclamation; seepage risks; pipeline failures; contaminated runoff; sediment transport and groundwater contamination. The FSE recommends that the EIA phase adequately discusses current groundwater contamination plumes; regional groundwater vulnerability; cumulative impacts on the Blesbokspruit catchment system including the Eastern Basin AMD Treatment Works' discharges; hydraulic connectivity and existing pollution loads e.g. elevated sulphate levels.		

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			Particularly concerning is that hydraulic reclamation inherently mobilises fine contaminated material and increases risk of spillages. We therefore recommend that the EIA should also assess water balance modelling, extreme rainfall events, climate change impacts, long-term water treatment liabilities, post-closure water quality risks.		
			Air Quality - Dust and Air Quality: Fugitive dust and respirable particulate impacts from reclamation activities should be comprehensively assessed. - Radiological Exposure: Potential radiological exposure through airborne particles, ingestion, and crop deposition should be evaluated. - Specialist Studies: The EIA should include dispersion modelling, cumulative air quality assessments, radiological assessments, prevailing wind analysis, monitoring commitments, and a health risk assessment.	An Air Quality Impact Assessment will be conducted during the EIA Phase which will critically evaluate the possibility of the dispersion of dust to the surrounding communities as a result of the proposed reclamation activities. This will include mitigation measures required to mitigate any possible impacts that might arise due to the proposed activity.	Section 10

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			Dust Management: A detailed dust management and monitoring plan should be developed in line with current dust regulations. Post meeting comment The report acknowledges possible increases in dust emissions and health impacts from fine particulate matter, however, the assessment is inadequate at scoping stage because no baseline PM10 or PM2.5 data are presented, no cumulative air quality analysis is undertaken, nearby sensitive receptors are insufficiently mapped, uranium-bearing dust risks are not discussed despite historic Witwatersrand tailings , prevailing wind direction implications for nearby communities are not critically analysed. This omission is of concern because historic gold tailings frequently contain silica, heavy metals, radionuclides, uriferous residues. The report also does not sufficiently address long-term exposure risks, vulnerable populations,		

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			The National Nuclear Regulator’s Report (2007), titled “Radiological Impacts of the Mining Activities to the Public in the Wonderfonteinspruit Catchment Area, report TR-RRD-07-0006” identified ‘air-pathways’ by which significant radiation exposure can occur in the surroundings of mining legacies, due to: • Inhalation of Rn-222 daughter nuclides from radon emissions. • The inhalation of contaminated dust generated by wind erosion from these objects, and • The contamination of agricultural crop (pasture, vegetables) by the deposition of radioactive dust particles, which can cause considerable dose contributions via ingestion. “Due to the small particle size of the slimes, particulate matter can be transported over relatively long distances to agriculturally used land in these (sic) surroundings.		

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			"It has to be mentioned that the deposition of radioactively contaminated dust on leaves of vegetable and forage plants can cause radiation exposures exceeding those from the "inhalation of contaminated dust" substantially." Hazards inherent on gold mine tailings are particulate matter: (PM10 PM2.5); Total Suspended Particulates; schools, informal settlements, and livestock exposure. Dustfall, silica quartz (80% 90%); iron pyrite (2 5 %). Elements with concentrations higher than average crustal soil: gold, arsenic, lead, uranium, mercury, as well as cyanide and radon (radioactivity). Reference: Harold Annegarn, School of Geo and Spatial Sciences, North-West University, Potchefstroom. Monitoring and measurement of mine dust emissions, with a focus on windborne dust from gold tailings. GCRF Mine Dust & Health Network: "Mine Dust and Gold Tailings" Thursday, 7 October 2021 Virtual Seminar as part of the NACA 2021 Annual Conference.		

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			The EIA phase should therefore include cumulative particulate modelling, radiological dust assessment, PM2.5 modelling, health risk assessment, and an independent peer review of the air quality study.		
			Biodiversity and Ecology: • The EIA should clarify the conservation status, ecological condition, and presence of species of conservation concern within the Soweto Highland Grassland and identify measures to protect these features. • Potential impacts on ecological corridors and wetland ecological functioning should be assessed. • The fact that wetlands may be degraded or altered does not negate their ecological value or the need to assess and manage impacts on their remaining functions. Post Meeting Notes The biodiversity section is desktop-based.	A Terrestrial Impact Assessment will be undertaken to verify ecological conditions within the Proposed Project area and evaluate the significance of the identified impacts. Findings from the specialist studies will inform the impact assessment and the development of appropriate mitigation and management measures in the Draft EIA Report.	Section 10

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			The report assumes ecological disturbance because the area is already transformed, but this is potentially misleading because historical TSFs can become secondary ecological habitats; disturbed areas may support species of conservation concern; and ecological corridors may already be constrained regionally. The FSE recommends that the EIA phase includes an assessment of the ecological connectivity, wetland functionality, cumulative biodiversity loss, offset requirements, ecosystem services. The statement that invasive species removal constitutes a positive biodiversity impact oversimplifies ecological complexity.		
			Ms Liefferink emphasised the need for sufficient field verification across all seasons, rather than relying solely on desktop studies. She also noted that the proposal includes a dolomitic risk assessment, which they support.	Specialist assessments will include field verification, where required, to inform the EIA Phase and support the findings of desktop assessments. The support for the inclusion of a dolomitic risk assessment is acknowledged.	Section 10.3
			Concerns were raised regarding potential radiation and uranium-related impacts associated with the Proposed Project. Reference was made	Relevant reports can be shared with the team.	-

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			to a Council for Geoscience wetlands report indicating that wetlands within the proposed reclamation area may be subject to significant environmental risks associated with uranium contamination. Ms Liefferink indicated that the relevant reports could be made available for consideration during the EIA process.		
			Ms Liefferink requested clarification on the responses provided during the meeting, as she had lost internet connectivity for a short while. She enquired whether the pipeline would be joined using flanges, noting that alternative pipe joining methods are commonly used in newer pipeline installations. She suggested that alternative joining methods may reduce the risk of vandalism, theft of pipeline components, and unauthorised water abstraction associated with illegal mining activities.	Ms Naicker responded that, regarding the comments provided by Ms Liefferink, she acknowledges that the relevant assessments will be undertaken during the EIA phase. Mr Mafatshe responded that he is certain that the pipeline will have flanges, although this can be confirmed. He stated that there will be flanges on the pipeline.	-

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			Ms Liefierink enquired whether the post-closure land use for the Proposed Project would be determined during the EIA Phase. She asked whether the determination of the post-closure land use would involve consultation with interested and affected parties and comply with the requirements of the MPRDA. She emphasised that the post-closure land use should align with the principles of sustainable development and sustainable livelihood opportunities and enquired whether these aspects would be addressed during the EIA Phase. Mr Baker added that future land use would be guided by the Spatial Development Framework (SDF). He noted that the SDF is not as detailed as a town planning scheme but rather provides a broader planning overview. He further explained that the SDF is developed through a public participation process. The City of Ekurhuleni approved its most recent SDF last year, and it is typically reviewed every five years through a similar public participation process. This process	Ms Naicker responded that the matter will be further addressed in the EIA. The current report states that the typical end use of the land would be aligned with the zoning of the area where the dumps were situated. In essence it's either urban, industrial or agricultural.	Section 8.5

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			allows communities to have input on land use considerations. He further mentioned that the Spatial Development Framework (SDF) may sometimes show future infrastructure needs, but not always. He noted he was unsure if any future roads are planned in the area, but this would be considered after mining. He also explained that, in the past, land is often cleared first and planning happens later, and this case will likely follow the same approach. Ms Liefferink expressed appreciation for the inclusion of public participation in determining future land use. She observed that post-mining land use is often described in terms such as wilderness areas, phytoremediation, or rock pile stabilisation, which may not constitute sustainable long-term uses. She emphasised the need to ensure that these areas are not left in a degraded condition but are instead rehabilitated in a manner that supports sustainable development principles.		

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			Ms Liefferink asked whether the financial provision would be calculated under the 2015 regulations including long-term and leftover impacts, such as pumping and treating polluted or extra water.	Ms Naicker advised that this will be confirmed with the appointed specialist and addressed, where applicable.	-
POST MEETING COMMENTS: MS MARIETTE LIEFFERINK					
Ms Mariette Liefferink, CEO, Federation for a Sustainable Environment			The report is professionally structured and aligned procedurally with Appendix 2 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. However, the document tends to overstate anticipated benefits, understates cumulative and residual impacts, relies heavily on desktop assumptions, defers critical investigations to the EIA phase, and insufficiently interrogates environmental justice implications for surrounding communities.	The Draft Scoping Report (DSR) was prepared in accordance with Appendix 2 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), to identify potential impacts, determine the scope of specialist studies required for the EIA Phase.	Section 3
			The report repeatedly concludes that impacts are likely to be “minimal and short-term” before specialist studies have been completed. This is premature and potentially inconsistent with the precautionary principle contained in section 2 of NEMA.	The Draft EIA Report will provide a detailed assessment and findings of specialist studies.	-

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			Heritage Assessment The report states: “Since the footprint was a TSF previously, it is unlikely for there to be any heritage resources on site.” This assumption is problematic and speculative. Historic mining landscapes themselves may possess industrial heritage significance, social history significance, labour history significance, and archaeological value. The FSE recommends that the Applicant and its EAP adequately assess the presence of graves, informal memorial sites, cultural landscapes, and oral heritage linked to mining communities.	A Heritage Impact Assessment will be conducted during the EIA Phase and the findings of the assessment presented in the Draft EIA Report.	-
			Socio-Economic Concerns The report emphasises employment, investment, crime reduction, and illegal mining reduction. The FSE recommends that the EIA include in its socio-economic assessment environmental health burdens, distributive justice, impacts on vulnerable communities, informal livelihoods,	A Social Impact Assessment will be conducted during the EIA Phase and the findings of the assessment presented in the Draft EIA Report.	-

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			long-term post-mining sustainability, property devaluation, psychological and visual impacts. The claim that reclamation reduces illegal mining may be partially valid but requires evidence-based assessment.		
			Premature Conclusions The report's conclusion that impacts will be "minimal and short-term" is premature because most specialist studies are still outstanding. This creates a perception that conclusions have been predetermined and as a result the EIA phase may become confirmatory rather than investigative. This could undermine procedural fairness and objective assessment obligations.	The Draft Scoping Report identifies the potential impacts of the Proposed Project and recommends the specialist studies that are required for the EIA Phase.	Section 9.2
			Recommendations for the EIA Phase In addition to the above-mentioned recommendations, the FSE furthermore recommends that the EIA Phase includes: long-term rehabilitation liabilities;	The findings of the relevant specialist studies will provide insight into the presented recommendations, where possible.	-

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			• water treatment liabilities; • post-closure monitoring; and • residual contamination risks.		
Ms Naicker noted that Ms Liefferink's comments were detailed and comments will be provided.					
Comments received during the Open Day with the Broader Stakeholders dated, Thursday, 21 May 2026					
SECTION A: MR PHILLIP DE JAGER AND MR PATRICK GANDA ENGAGED WITH THE TECHNICAL TEAM (KONGIWE AND ERGO) PRIOR TO THE PRESENTATION. THE COMMENTS RAISED DURING THIS DISCUSSION HAS BEEN CAPTURED BELOW.					
Mr Phillip de Jager	Open Day (In-Person)	Thursday, 21 May 2026	Mr de Jager enquired about the RAMSAR site that is located near the Proposed Project. The Draft Scoping Report should mention this site and address the environmental implications. Specifically, Mr de Jager noted that the Proposed Project is situated less than 200 m west of the Blesbokspruit, and that the western portion of the TSF falls within a wetland area, indicating that the wetland forms part of a RAMSAR Convention site. He asked how the river and the associated wetland will be protected from the proposed reclamation project.	A Wetland Assessment as well as a Surface Water Report, including a Stormwater Management Plan will be conducted during the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Phase. The Wetland Assessment Report will contain an assessment of all the applicable wetlands that are impacted by the Proposed Project.	-

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			Mr de Jager noted that the Proposed Project is located less than 1km from the Blesbokspruit River, and not 1km as stated in the Draft Scoping Report.	The Final Scoping Report was updated to reflect approximately 200m east of the site. The Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment and Wetland Assessment that will be conducted in the EIA Phase, will confirm the exact location of the Blesbokspruit River.	Section 8.6
			Clarity is required on the type of construction method for the associated pipeline that crosses the railway line.	The associated pipeline will traverse the railway line above ground.	Figure 2-4
			Mr de Jager raised a concern regarding Acid Mine Drainage (AMD) associated with the 6L14 Dump and asked how it will be mitigated during the reclamation phase.	The EIA Phase will assess potential AMD-related impacts.	Table 9-5
			Mr de Jager further enquired whether water for the reclamation activities will be sourced from the Blesbokspruit and asked what the water source for the Proposed Project will be?	Process water in a closed circuit for hydraulic reclamation and reclamation activities. Potable water will be sourced and purchased from the Rand water/ CoE with a contingency for portable JoJo tanks or connection to existing water pipeline infrastructure. No water will be taken from the Blesbokspruit.	Section 2.4 Section 6.1.4
			What would be the number of infrastructures on site?	The following infrastructure will be utilised on site:	Section 2.6.1

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
				- Reclamation infrastructure at each TSF consisting of a pump station which includes: - Slurry sump; - Vibrating Screen; - Water tank; - Motor control centre; - Slurry and associated Pumps; - Lined catchment paddocks; - Stormwater management infrastructure including: - Water Pumpstation and PCD infrastructure and stormwater systems; - Existing paddocks on the TSF footprint; and - Pollution control paddock. 11 kV overhead powerlines capable of transmitting 3 kVA of electricity and electricity reticulation; - Administration buildings, including change houses and ablution facilities; - Access roads, routed from existing entry points; - Construction contractors' yards (temporary facilities);	

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
				Process water will be required for the 6L14 reclamation operations to support the Proposed Project via existing constructed pipelines.	
			Will the project be fenced?	Yes, the Proposed Project area will be fenced.	-
			Mr de Jager stated that mining companies and consultants do not provide the EMPr to Interested and Affected Parties.	Ms Naicker responded Kongiwe will email notifications to the I&APs with a link to the draft and final Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) reports. The EMPr is an appendix to the Draft EIA Report.	Section 7 and Section 10
Mr Patrick Ganda	Open Day (In-Person)	Thursday, 21 May 2026	Mr Ganda asked, in terms of air quality during the reclamation, how the activities will impact the Blesbokspruit Research Centre, which is located approximately 700 m south-east of the project site. He also requested that the Blesbokspruit Research Centre be included in the stakeholder database.	An Air Quality Impact Assessment will be conducted during the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Phase; impacts for the Proposed Project will be assessed, and relevant mitigation measures will form part of the Environmental Management Programme. The Blesbokspruit Research Centre has been added to the stakeholder database.	Section 10 Appendix C1 (Stakeholder Database)

SECTION B:

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
THE COMMUNITY REQUESTED TO FIRST ENGAGE WITH THE ERGO COMMUNITY LIASON MANAGER (MR JOSIAH TSHISEVHE) REGARDING EXISTING PROJECTS AND ERGO'S SOCIAL COMMITMENTS, PRIOR TO COMMENCING WITH THE PROPOSED PROJECT'S OPEN DAY SESSION. THE COMMENTS NOTED BELOW, CAPTURES THE COMMENTS FROM THE DISCUSSION BETWEEN MR TSHISEVHE AND THE COMMUNITY.					
Mr Mandla Mbopha	Open Day (In-Person)	Thursday, 21 May 2026	Mr Mbopha mentioned that they are familiar with Kongiwe Environmental. However, he noted that their main concern is that Kongiwe initially approached them through Impala, delivered their presentations, and then left. He further added that when community members later pursued employment at Impala, the police were called on them. Mr Mbopha also mentioned that when they contacted Kongiwe Environmental, the team indicated that they were no longer part of the process and had concluded their involvement, with some individuals stating that they were no longer employed by Kongiwe Environmental. He added that now that Kongiwe Environmental is representing DRD Gold, they would like to have a meeting with DRD before any work commences, in order to reach an agreement and avoid a repeat of past events. He mentioned that the agreement should be between DRD Gold and the community,	Mr Tshisevhe responded that he will address issues regarding job opportunities. He advised that Kongiwe Environmental are consultants on behalf of DRDGold and would present the Proposed Project. After the presentation, he would engage with the community on other project matters.	-

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			and that DRD should commit to providing job opportunities for community members and local business owners. He further added that DRD should agree to repair community roads and soccer fields. He stated that this agreement should be documented so that it can be referred to if their requests are not met. He also mentioned that DRD should provide some of these commitments and not call the police on them, as Mr Tshisevhe did when alleging that they intended to burn the plant, whereas they were only scouting for job opportunities.		
Community member	Open Day (In-Person)	Thursday, 21 May 2026	A community member added that they have concerns regarding a dump. He further stated that DRD Gold may make promises and fail to deliver, as they were previously promised soccer tournaments, which did not take place, as well as road and soccer fields repairs, which were also not carried out. He mentioned that the community no longer trusts one another, as they believe that Mr	Mr Tshisevhe stated that such allegations are not allowed, emphasizing that DRD does not pay people improperly and is not corrupt. He added that the company is listed on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) as well as the American Stock Exchange, and that all their activities are recorded. He further explained that individuals are only paid for work that they have worked for. He also mentioned that he is in communication with Mr Mosiroe and stated that the concerns being raised	-

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			Mosiroe, their LED representative, is being paid to mislead them.	are not related to Kongiwe's presentation. He suggested that, following the presentation, they could sit down and hold a meeting with the community.	
Mr Alex Malatjie	Open Day (In-Person)	Thursday, 21 May 2026	Mr Malatjie told Mr Tshisevhe that the issues raised by the young man are important, emphasizing that what they are trying to convey is that they do not want history to repeat itself with the current proposed project. Mr Malatjie mentioned that Mr Tshisevhe does not work with the community hand a glove because if that was the case they were not going to say nothing will commence until he arrives. However. Mr Tshisevhe is deceiving them, make promises and avoid them. He added that this behaviour is frustrating the community at large. He mentioned that no resident is empowered by DRD.	Mr Tshisevhe mentioned that there was leadership that come and sat with claiming to represent the community.	-
Community member	Open Day (In-Person)	Thursday, 21 May 2026	A community member stated that they are aware of the issue involving individuals who had claimed to represent the community at DRD when they did not. She mentioned that this had been acknowledged, and the community recognizes	Mr Tshisevhe explained that Kongiwe Environmental is a consulting firm representing DRD, and their role is to conduct consultations. He added that the community has the right to disagree. He further stated that before the dumps can be mined, certain	Section 1.4.1 Section 1.4.4

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			that mistakes do happen and wishes to move forward. She further stated that the community fully understands the role of Kongiwe and the purpose of their involvement. She added that Kongiwe needs the community, and if there is disagreement, it would result in a loss for all parties, as the community would not sign or participate in the process, and DRD would not be able to obtain the licence. She emphasized that they do not want DRD to receive the licence under such circumstances. She also added that they should not be referred to as stakeholders, stating that they do not agree with that with the Proposed Project.	processes must be followed, including consultation with the community and informing the councillor, who will then notify the community members. He mentioned that prior to DRD's involvement, the dumps were being mined by illegal miners and added that if the community does not want DRD to mine the dumps, it is acceptable for the dumps to remain as they are. He emphasized that Kongiwe's purpose was to consult, and that if the community refuses, this will be recorded. He added that the government requires the dumps to be cleared for purposes such as housing. He further stated that the community should allow Kongiwe to proceed with the presentation, after which he would engage directly with the community. He added that the reports compiled by Kongiwe will be submitted to the competent authorities, where a final decision will be made. He concluded by stating that DRD intends to mine the dumps, and that all concerns raised, including those about job opportunities and related issues, will be included in the reports submitted to the competent authorities.	

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
Community member	Open Day (In-Person)	Thursday, 21 May 2026	A community member asked the consulting firm that was consulting for 6L43 since it is said it was the ones consulting. Kongiwe has offices in that site. He sought for clarity of the consulting company that was presenting DRD.	Ms Naicker sought for clarity on the project the community is referring to. Mr Tshisevhe replied that the community is referring to 6L13. He added that for 6L14, they hold the mining rights, and that the process will be different as they are authorized by law and the government. Mr Tshisevhe explained that 6L13 was a rehabilitation project governed by an existing agreement that had been in place since 2002, before DRD took over Ergo Mining. He added that they were required to follow this standing agreement, which involved sharing costs with the refinery. He further stated that the situation has now changed, as they have obtained mining rights and the project is no longer a rehabilitation. As a result, they are able to consult different environmental firms, and this does not mean that the community is obliged to agree.	
Mr Mandla Mbopha	Open Day (In-Person)	Thursday, 21 May 2026	Mr Mbopha asked Mr Tshisevhe whether if they allow Kongiwe to present and sign the register. Does he promise that after the presentation he will have a session with them and hear their concerns. He mentioned that they need to give	Mr. Tshisevhe agreed that he would hold a session with the community after the Open Day Presentation for the Proposed Project. He also informed Kongiwe that the community had agreed to allow them to proceed with the presentation.	-

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			feedback to the community because they are representing the community.		
SECTION C COMMENTS CAPTURED DURING AND AFTER THE OPEN DAY PRESENTATION FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT. THE ATTENDANCE REGISTER WAS SIGNED AFTER THE OPEN DAY DISCUSSION CLOSED.					
Community member 1	Open Day (In-Person)	Thursday, 21 May 2026	Community member 1 requested clarity on the team's processes, noting his awareness that consulting and drafting work is conducted in their offices. He expressed concern that Kongiwe should not mislead or deceive the community, as he believes happened with DRD. He informed Kongiwe that Kongiwe is guilty of not following the legal requirements for the Proposed Project, as legally Kongiwe must provide capacity building and/or skills transfer. He suggested that there may be local individuals with relevant knowledge, such as a student with hydro-reclamation skills. He further asked whether Kongiwe could provide 3–5 days of training to such an individual. Additionally, he sought clarity on whether consultants are not expected to provide students with an	Ms Naicker responded that Kongiwe has been appointed to undertake the environmental and social studies for the project as part of the environmental authorisation application. She confirmed that capacity building/skills transfer is not a requirement legislated under the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA). An enquiry can be referred to Ergo, but she is not aware of Ergo's commitment to capacity building/skills transfer. As part of the environmental process, your comment will be included in the Comments and Responses Report (CRR) and submitted to the Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources (DMPR), which is the Competent Authority (CA). The CA will be aware of your interest in capacity building/skills transfer.	Section 1.4.1 Appendix C10 (Comments and Responses Report)

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			understanding of the project, even if not in the form of a formal internship.		
			Community member 1 requested clarity on the types of jobs that will be available from the Proposed Project and inquired about socio-economic opportunities.	Mr Macevele responded by noting that one of the positive impacts of the Proposed Project is increased job security. He added that Mr Tshisevhe mentioned he would hold a meeting with the community after the presentation to address that matter. Ms Naicker responded that the project is currently in the Scoping Phase, during which the team is assessing all potential impacts, both positive and negative. She mentioned that in the next phase, which is the EIA Phase, there would be specific information regarding the Proposed Project.	-
			Community member 1 further enquired whether the reports produced, such as EIA reports, could this report be used to hold DRD liable for providing employment, as these reports would state the number of jobs the client intends to create.	Ms Naicker responded that the reports are not contractual; rather, they identify potential impacts that may occur. The Socio-Economic Impact Assessment will be undertaken during the EIA Phase and assess the impacts of job opportunities. She explained that this assessment will consider impacts affecting the community, particularly those of a social nature. Once the Social Impact Assessment Specialist has gathered information from the environmental consultation process, the specialist will assess the	-

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
				potential social impacts, including those related to job opportunities. She added that the Ergo would need to advise on the number or type of jobs available for the Proposed Project. However, she clarified that the number of jobs indicated in the assessment does not represent actual job commitments. Ms Naicker further noted that an EMPr will accompany the EIA report. If the EMPr specifies, under the social component, that DRD Ergo must engage with the community regarding employment opportunities, this requirement will later be subject to auditing for compliance purposes, and the report will be submitted to the relevant authority. The EMPr will also be provided to Interested and Affected Parties. She added that according to the legislation a copy of an EMPr should always be available on site.	
Community member 2	Open Day (In-Person)	Thursday, 21 May 2026	Community member 2 stated that the community is interested in job opportunities, which is why he was asking questions related to employment. He further mentioned that his key takeaway from the meeting is that, once the environmental authorisation processes have been concluded,	The Kongiwe Team acknowledged that Community member 2 interest in the Open Day was for job opportunities.	-

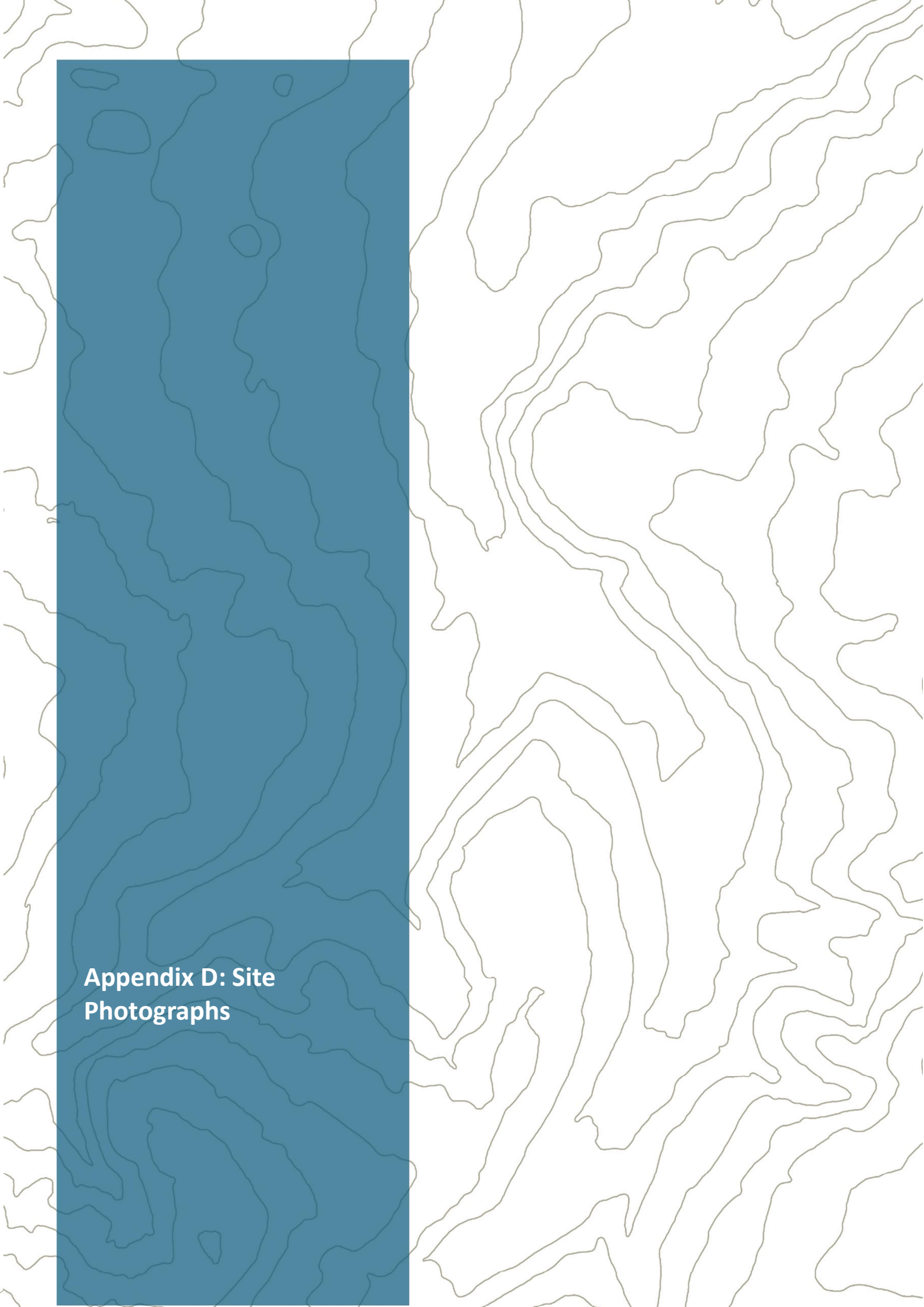
Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			Kongiwe will no longer be part of the project. He noted that most of their questions can be addressed by DRD and appreciated that the DRD team is available.		
Mr Bokang Mosiroe	Open Day (In-Person)	Thursday, 21 May 2026	Mr Mosiroe enquired about the transportation of slurry from the plant to the refinery. He sought clarity on whether this is the proposed method and asked if the method can be rejected.	Ms Naicker responded that only the hydraulic method will be considered for the Proposed Project.	Section 2.6.2
			Mr Mosiroe noted that transporting the slurry via pipelines would reduce the number of trucks operating on site. He added that it would make more business sense to transport the slurry using trucks, as this would create opportunities for the community.	Ms Naicker responded that there are existing pipeline servitudes and surface rights in place. Mr Mafatshe noted that the pipeline existed previously, a long time ago, and mentioned that while some sections are still intact, others have been stolen. He indicated that the stolen sections will be repaired and that there may be employment opportunities associated with the repair of the pipeline, which is why slurry will be transported using the pipeline.	-
Mr Alex Malatjie	Open Day (In-Person)	Thursday, 21 May 2026	Mr Malatjie sought clarity on the route of the pipeline, noting the presence of an informal settlement. He mentioned that he is aware that the existing Fraser pipeline runs through the informal settlement.	Mr Mafatshe confirmed the responsible people for this activity is the councillor and Mr Tshisevhe, and that is how the community will be notified.	-

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			He wanted to understand what would happen to people residing along the pipeline route and how they would be notified.		
Mr Mandla Mbopha	Open Day (In-Person)	Thursday, 21 May 2026	Mr Mbopha mentioned that the community will now sign the register and have a session with Mr Tshisevhe.	The Kongiwe Technical Team was not a part of this discussion and left the Open Day venue.	-
<i>Comment received on our comment register at the Open Day from Community Member dated, Thursday, 21 May 2026</i>					
Mr Themba Hlatshwayo, Community Member	Open Day (In-Person)	Thursday, 21 May 2026	The engagement was very informative, and the presenters were very articulate.	Kongiwe Team takes note of comment.	-
Mr Nkateko Maholobela, Lead Environmental Health-Strategist, African Potential Group	Email Correspondence	Thursday, 04 June 2026	Good day, I hope this email is well received. Kindly find attached the comments presented by the African Potential Group to Kongiwe Environmental (Pty) Ltd on behalf of Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd regarding the Reclamation of the 6L14 TSF Project.	Dear Mr Nkateko Maholobela We refer to your email sent to our Kongiwe Environmental (Pty) Ltd (Kongiwe) Stakeholder Engagement Team pertaining to the Draft Scoping Report (DSR) and Non-Technical Scoping Report for the Proposed Project. Please see attached the response to the comments raised.	-

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			We look forward to being included in future communications. Please do not hesitate to reach out for any clarity seeking questions. Kind regards,	Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.	
<i>Comments received via email as per above dated, Thursday, 04 June 2026</i>					
			The EIA should clearly assess the potential impacts of acid mine drainage (AMD), sulphate loading, and heavy metal contamination on adjacent wetlands and downstream aquatic ecosystems, including cumulative impacts.	Specialist studies conducted during the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Phase will assess pollution impacts. The findings and recommendations of the specialist assessments will be integrated into the Draft EIA Report.	-
			Detailed mitigation measures must be provided for preventing slurry pipeline leakages and spillages that may contaminate wetlands, drainage lines, and groundwater resources.	The Wetland Impact Assessment, Hydrology Impact Assessment and Groundwater Impact Assessment will assess impacts of the Proposed Project and provide the required mitigation measures. Mitigation measures will be captured in the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr), which will form part of the Draft EIA Report.	Section 8.6 Section 8.7 Section 8.8

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			The EIA should include a specialist wetland hydrology assessment to determine how removal of the Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) may alter natural flow regimes, wetland connectivity, and drainage patterns.	The Wetland Impact Assessment and Hydrology Impact Assessment will be conducted during the EIA Phase.	Section 8.7 Section 8.8
			A comprehensive stormwater management plan should be developed to minimise polluted runoff and sediment transport into nearby wetlands and drainage systems during construction and operation.	A Stormwater Management Plan will be conducted during the EIA Phase.	Table 10-1
			The EIA should evaluate the risks of erosion, sedimentation, and slope instability associated with reclamation activities and their potential impacts on wetland ecological functioning.	A Wetland Impact Assessment will be conducted during the EIA Phase to address impacts of the Proposed Project.	Section 8.8 and Table 10-1
			The Biodiversity Assessment should specifically identify wetland-dependent vegetation and fauna that may be affected by habitat disturbance or fragmentation due to project activities.	A Terrestrial Biodiversity Impact Assessment will be conducted during the EIA Phase. The findings of the assessment will be integrated into the Draft EIA Report.	Section 8.9 and Table 10-1
			The EIA should assess impacts on faunal migration corridors, refuge areas, and watering points	A Terrestrial Biodiversity Impact Assessment will be conducted during the EIA Phase. The findings of the	Section 8.9 and Table 10-1

Stakeholder	Consultation Method	Date of Comments Received	Issues Raised	Response to issues raised	Section Reference in the Report
			associated with wetland ecosystems, including cumulative habitat loss within the area.	assessment will be integrated into the Draft EIA Report.	
			Pollution control paddocks and stormwater infrastructure should be designed and monitored to prevent contaminated runoff from entering nearby wetlands and surface water systems.	A Wetland Impact Assessment and Stormwater Management Plan will be conducted during the EIA Phase to address runoff for the Proposed Project.	Section 8.8 and Table 10-1
			The EIA should clarify the proximity of proposed infrastructure, including access roads, pipelines, and pumpstations, to mapped wetlands and aquatic sensitivity areas.	A Wetland Impact Assessment will be conducted during the EIA Phase and the findings of the assessment regarding the project infrastructure in relation to the wetlands and the aquatic sensitivity will be included on the Draft EIA Report.	Section 8.8 and Table 10-1
			A wetland monitoring and rehabilitation programme should be included in the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) to ensure long-term protection, rehabilitation, and ecological recovery of affected wetland systems during and after reclamation activities.	A Wetland Impact Assessment will be conducted during the EIA Phase, and the findings of the assessment will recommend the required monitoring and rehabilitation. The Environmental Management Programme will include the findings and recommendations of the Wetland Impact Assessment.	Section 8.8 and Table 10-1



Appendix D: Site Photographs

SITE PHOTOS



View of the TSF area adjacent to the R555 Road: 26°13'1.59"S 28°28'28.21"E



View from the top of the TSF, which is covered by vegetation, facing the eastern side: 26°12'55.14"S 28°28'26.18"E



View of the existing powerline and watercourse located on the northern side of the TSF: 26°12'31.61"S 28°28'42.71"E



Access road leading to the 6L14 TSF on the western side: 26°12'58.04"S 28°28'10.03"E



Access road leading to the 6L14 TSF on the eastern side 26°12'41.46"S 28°28'43.92"E



Cleared and sandy area beside TSF slope: 26°12'31.62"S 28°28'36.14"E



Vegetated Grassland below TSF slope : 26°12'52.13"S 28°28'12.27"E



Appendix E: Screening Tool Report

**SCREENING REPORT FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORIZATION AS
REQUIRED BY THE 2014 EIA REGULATIONS – PROPOSED SITE
ENVIRONMENTAL SENSITIVITY**

EIA Reference number: To be assigned

Project name: Reclamation of 6L14

Project title: Reclamation of 6L14

Date screening report generated: 04/05/2026 14:57:45

Applicant: Ergo

Compiler: Kongiwe

Compiler signature:

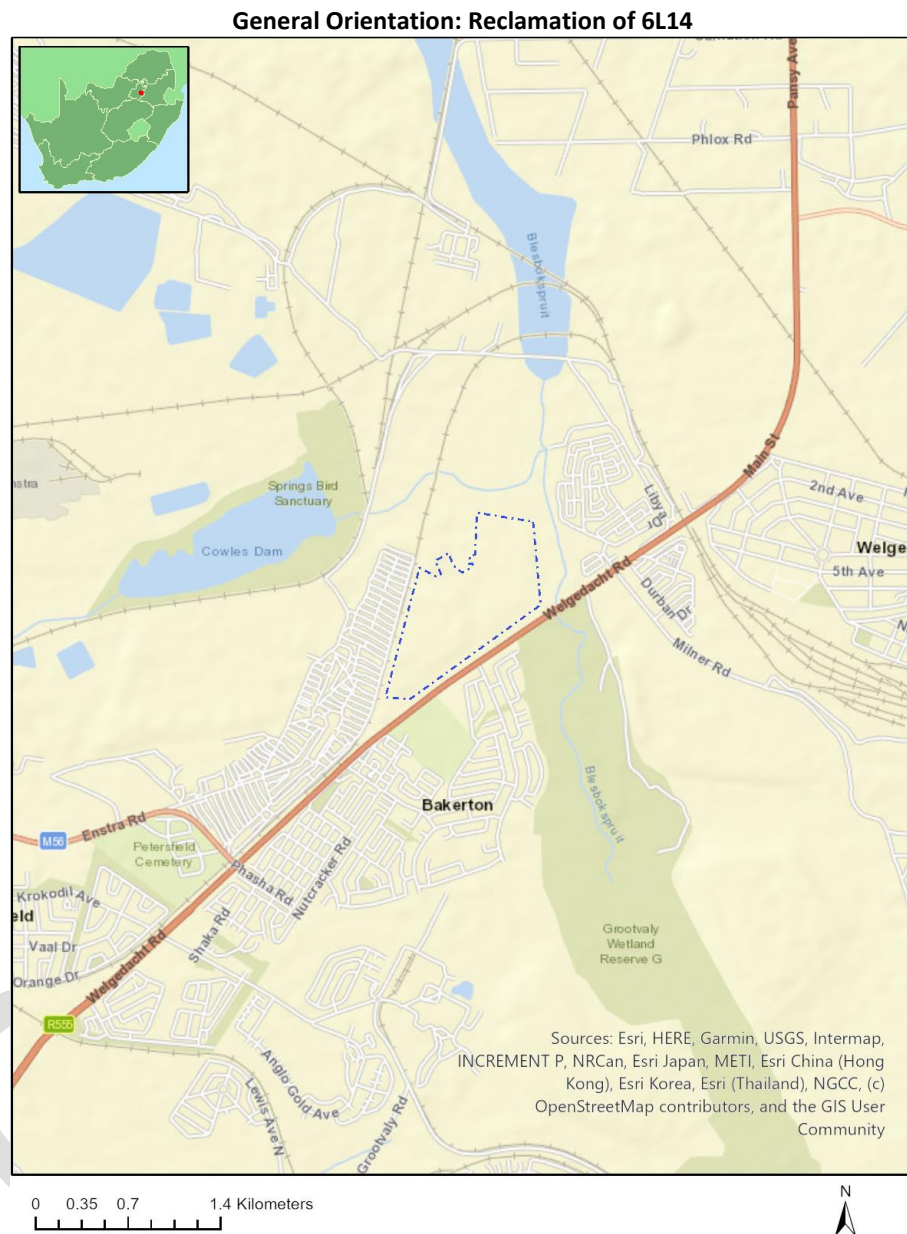
Application Category: Mining|Mining Right

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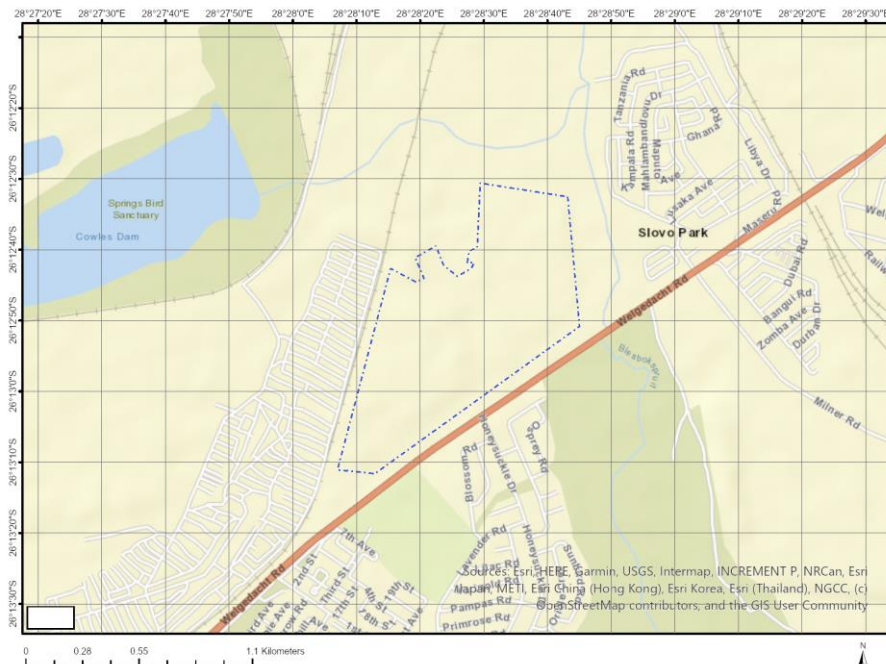
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Cadastral details of the proposed site	4
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Proposed Project Location

Orientation map 1: General location



Map of proposed site and relevant area(s)



Cadastral details of the proposed site

Property details:

No	Farm Name	Farm/ Erf No	Portion	Latitude	Longitude	Property Type
1	GROOTVALY	124	0	26°14'16.04S	28°28'44.59E	Farm
2	GEDULD	123	0	26°13'31.28S	28°25'37.72E	Farm
3	GROOTVALY	124	6	26°12'51.45S	28°28'40.54E	Farm Portion
4	GEDULD	123	192	26°13'1.23S	28°28'19.51E	Farm Portion
5	GEDULD	123	84	26°12'32.46S	28°28'22.8E	Farm Portion

Development footprint¹ vertices:

No development footprint(s) specified.

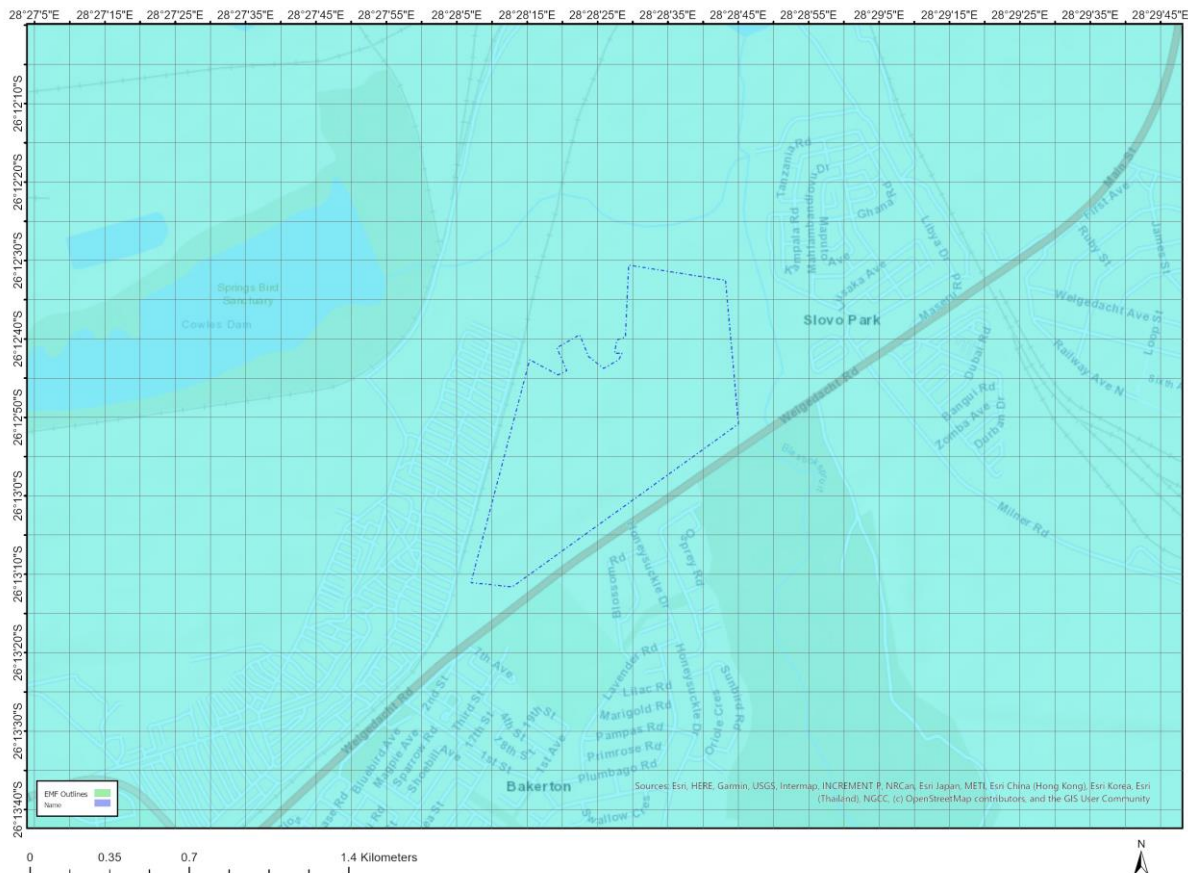
Wind and Solar developments with an approved Environmental Authorisation or applications under consideration within 30 km of the proposed area

No	EIA Reference No	Classification	Status of application	Distance from proposed area (km)
1	12/12/20/2147	Solar PV	Approved	28.2
2	12/12/20/2147/A1	Solar PV	Approved	28.2
3	14/12/16/3/3/1/2358	Solar PV	Approved	0.8

¹ "development footprint", means the area within the site on which the development will take place and includes all ancillary developments for example roads, power lines, boundary walls, paving etc. which require vegetation clearance or which will be disturbed and for which the application has been submitted.

4	14/12/16/3/3/1/569	Solar PV	Approved	28.1
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Environmental Management Frameworks relevant to the application



Environmental Management Framework	LINK
Gauteng EMF	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/EMF/GPEMF_2021_Gazette_and_summary.pdf

Environmental screening results and assessment outcomes

The following sections contain a summary of any development incentives, restrictions, exclusions or prohibitions that apply to the proposed development site as well as the most environmental sensitive features on the site based on the site sensitivity screening results for the application classification that was selected. The application classification selected for this report is:

Mining | Mining Right.

Relevant development incentives, restrictions, exclusions or prohibitions

The following development incentives, restrictions, exclusions or prohibitions and their implications that apply to this site are indicated below.

Incentive, restriction	Implication
------------------------	-------------

or prohibition	
Strategic Transmission Corridor-Central corridor	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/DevelopmentZones/Combined_EGI.pdf
Air Quality-Highveld Priority Area	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/DevelopmentZones/HIGHVELD_PRIORITY_AREA_AQMP.pdf
Gauteng EMF-Urban development zone 1	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/DevelopmentZones/Zone1_2021.pdf

Proposed Development Area Environmental Sensitivity

The following summary of the development site environmental sensitivities is identified. Only the highest environmental sensitivity is indicated. The footprint environmental sensitivities for the proposed development footprint as identified, are indicative only and must be verified on site by a suitably qualified person before the specialist assessments identified below can be confirmed.

Theme	Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
Agriculture Theme		X		
Animal Species Theme		X		
Aquatic Biodiversity Theme	X			
Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Theme				X
Civil Aviation Theme		X		
Defence Theme				X
Paleontology Theme	X			
Plant Species Theme			X	
Terrestrial Biodiversity Theme	X			

Specialist assessments identified

Based on the selected classification, and the known impacts associated with the proposed development, the following list of specialist assessments have been identified for inclusion in the assessment report. It is the responsibility of the EAP to confirm this list and to motivate in the assessment report, the reason for not including any of the identified specialist study including the provision of photographic evidence of the site situation.

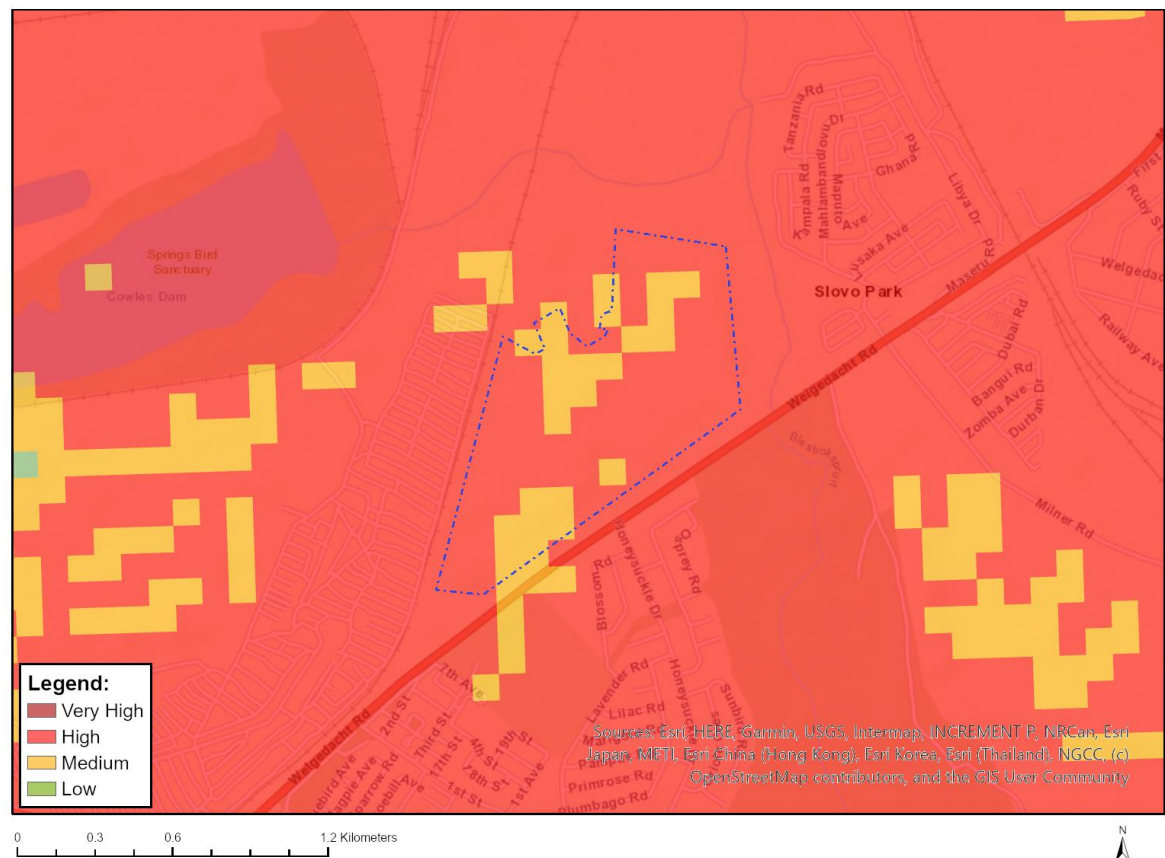
No	Specialist assessment	Assessment Protocol
1	Agricultural Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_General_Agriculture_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
2	Landscape/Visual Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_General_Requirement_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
3	Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/GuidanceforHIA.pdf
4	Palaeontology Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/GuidanceforPIA.pdf
5	Terrestrial Biodiversity Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_Terrestrial_Biodiversity_Assessment_Protocols.pdf

		Protocols.pdf
6	Aquatic Biodiversity Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted Aquatic Biodiversity Assessment Protocols.pdf
7	Hydrology Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted General Requirement Assessment Protocols.pdf
8	Noise Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted Noise Impacts Assessment Protocol.pdf
9	Radioactivity Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted General Requirement Assessment Protocols.pdf
10	Traffic Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted General Requirement Assessment Protocols.pdf
11	Geotechnical Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted General Requirement Assessment Protocols.pdf
12	Climate Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted General Requirement Assessment Protocols.pdf
13	Health Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted General Requirement Assessment Protocols.pdf
14	Socio-Economic Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted General Requirement Assessment Protocols.pdf
15	Ambient Air Quality Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted General Requirement Assessment Protocols.pdf
16	Seismicity Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted General Requirement Assessment Protocols.pdf
17	Plant Species Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted Plant Species Assessment Protocols.pdf
18	Animal Species Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted Animal Species Assessment Protocols.pdf

Results of the environmental sensitivity of the proposed area.

The following section represents the results of the screening for environmental sensitivity of the proposed site for relevant environmental themes associated with the project classification. It is the duty of the EAP to ensure that the environmental themes provided by the screening tool are comprehensive and complete for the project. Refer to the disclaimer.

MAP OF RELATIVE AGRICULTURE THEME SENSITIVITY

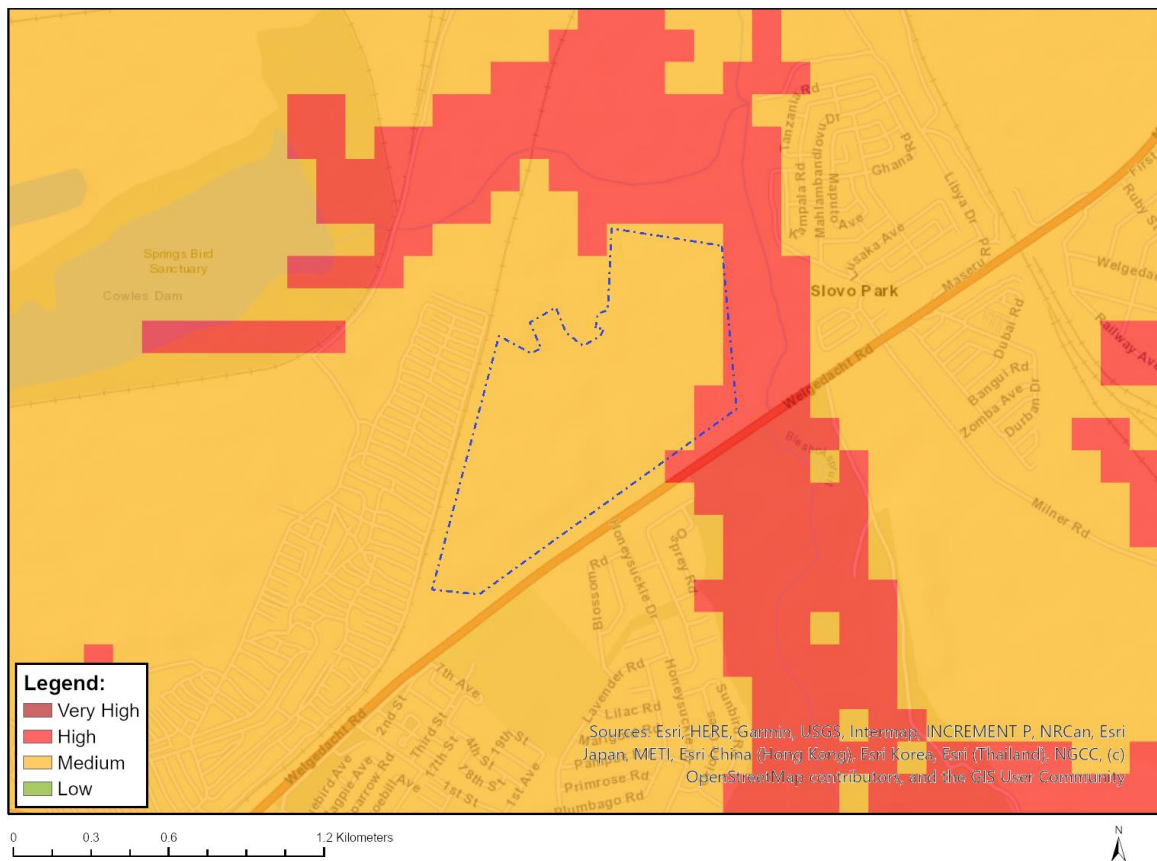


Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
	X		

Sensitivity Features:

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
High	08. Moderate
High	09. Moderate-High
High	10. Moderate-High
Medium	07. Low-Moderate
Medium	06. Low-Moderate

MAP OF RELATIVE ANIMAL SPECIES THEME SENSITIVITY



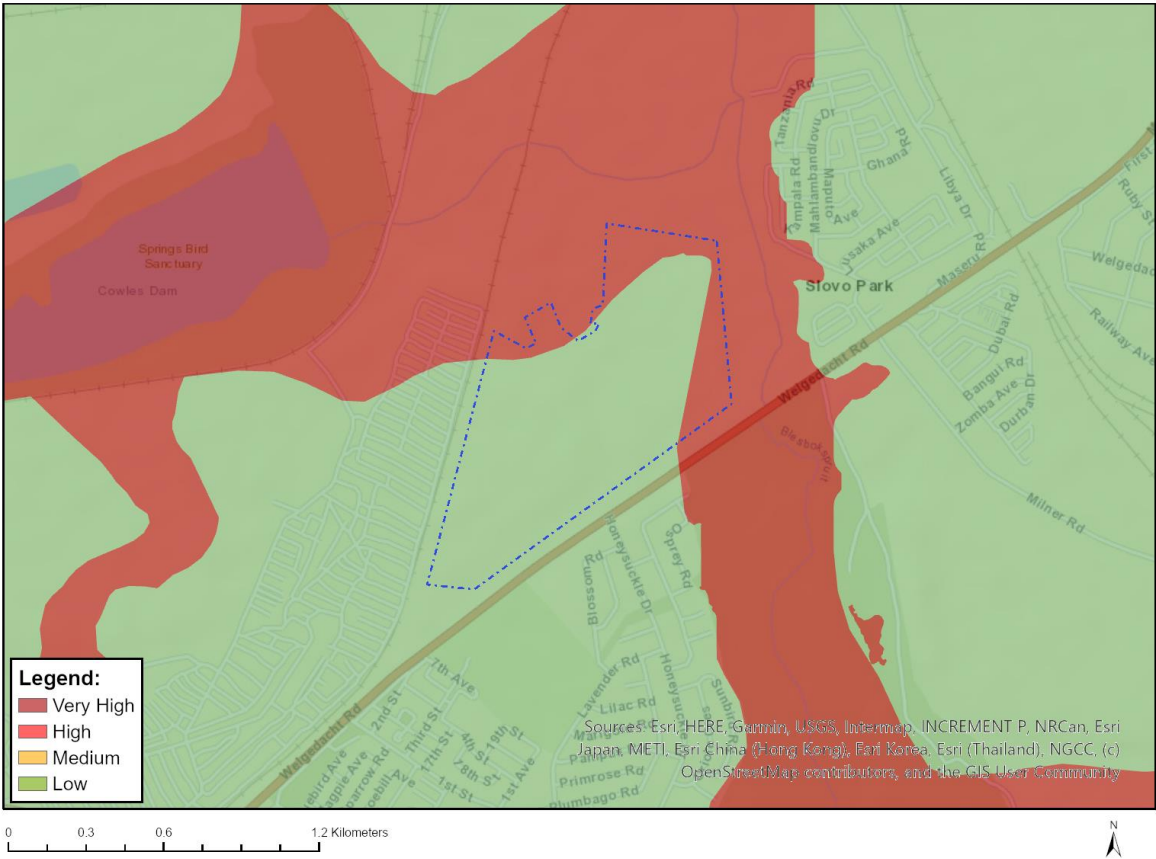
Where only a sensitive plant unique number or sensitive animal unique number is provided in the screening report and an assessment is required, the environmental assessment practitioner (EAP) or specialist is required to email SANBI at eiadatarequests@sanbi.org.za listing all sensitive species with their unique identifiers for which information is required. The name has been withheld as the species may be prone to illegal harvesting and must be protected. SANBI will release the actual species name after the details of the EAP or specialist have been documented.

Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
	X		

Sensitivity Features:

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
High	Aves-Circus ranivorus
Medium	Aves-Tyto capensis
Medium	Aves-Hydroprogne caspia
Medium	Aves-Eupodotis senegalensis
Medium	Insecta-Aloeides dentatis dentatis
Medium	Insecta-Lepidochrysops procera
Medium	Mammalia-Chrysospalax villosus
Medium	Mammalia-Crociodura maquassiensis
Medium	Mammalia-Dasymys robertsii
Medium	Mammalia-Hydricitis maculicollis
Medium	Mammalia-Ourebia ourebi ourebi
Medium	Invertebrate-Clonia uvarovi

MAP OF RELATIVE AQUATIC BIODIVERSITY THEME SENSITIVITY

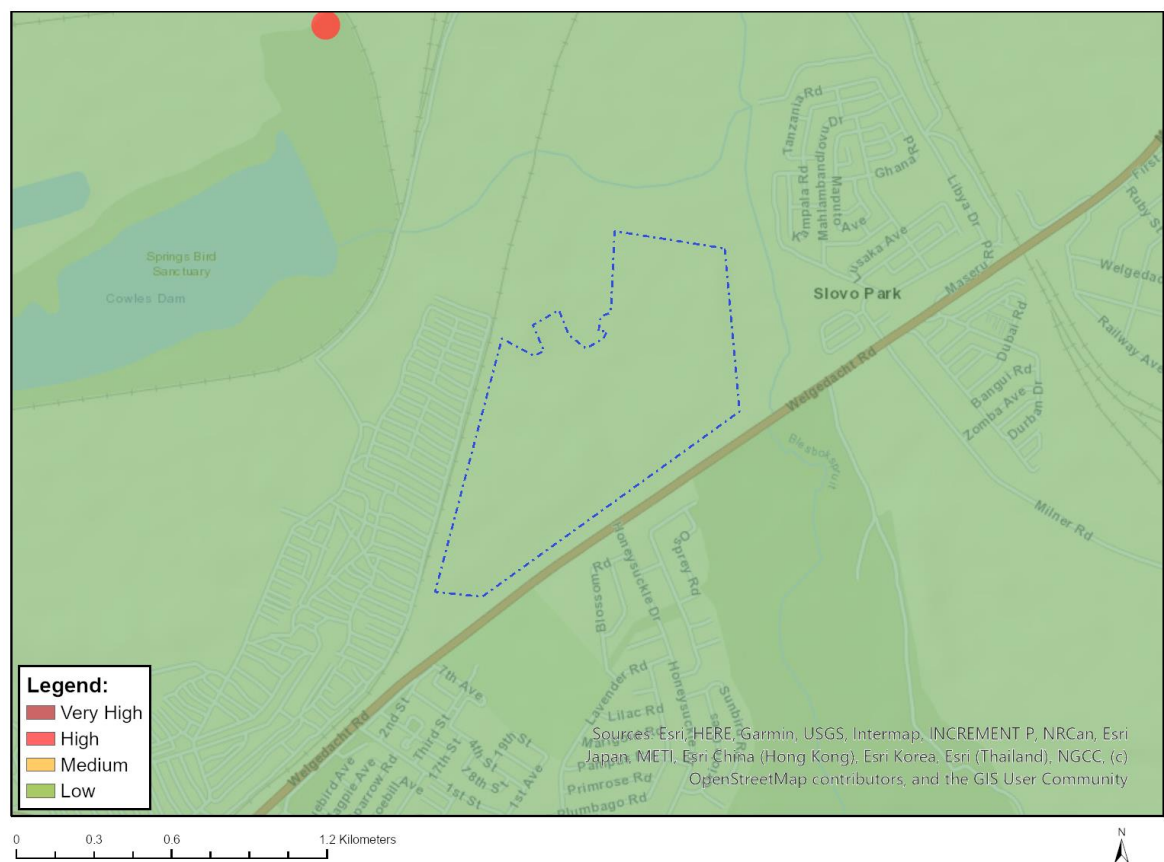


Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
X			

Sensitivity Features:

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Low	Low Sensitivity
Very High	Wetlands_Unchannelled valley-bottom
Very High	Rivers

MAP OF RELATIVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE THEME SENSITIVITY

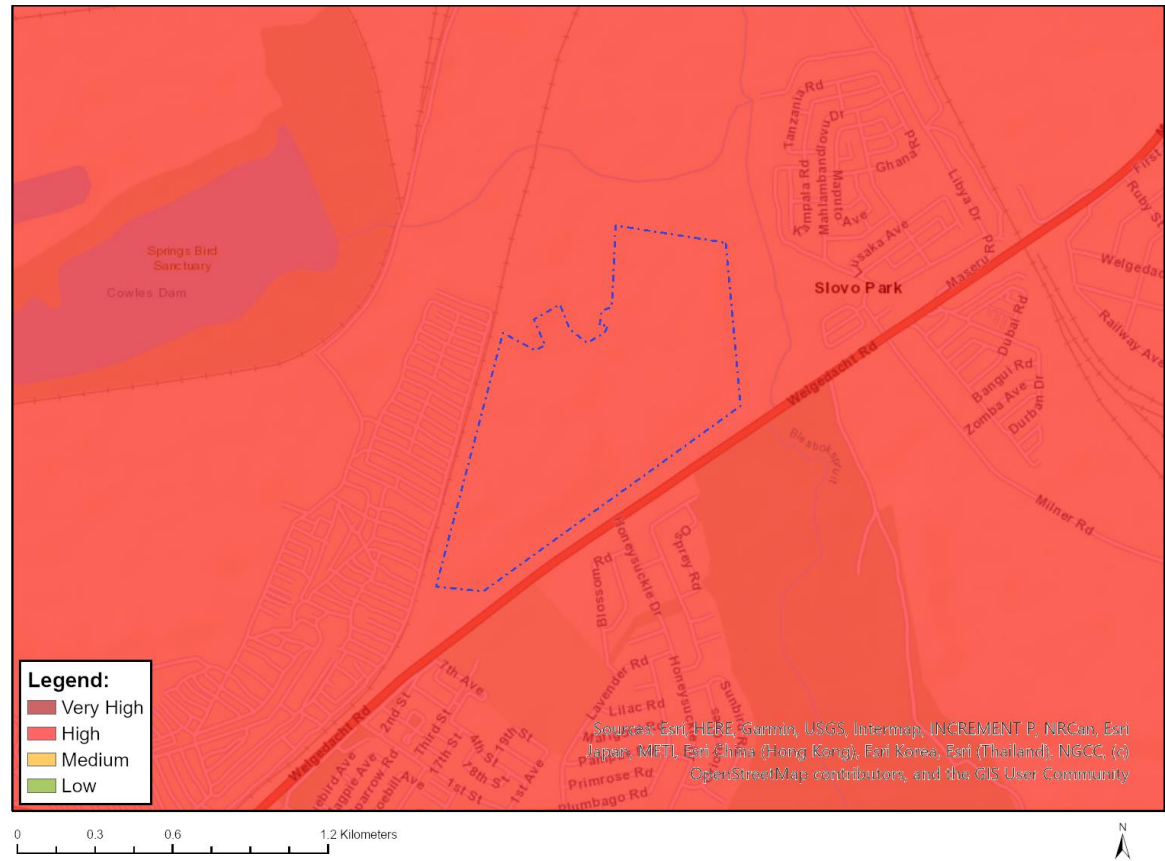


Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
			X

Sensitivity Features:

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Low	Low Sensitivity

MAP OF RELATIVE CIVIL AVIATION THEME SENSITIVITY

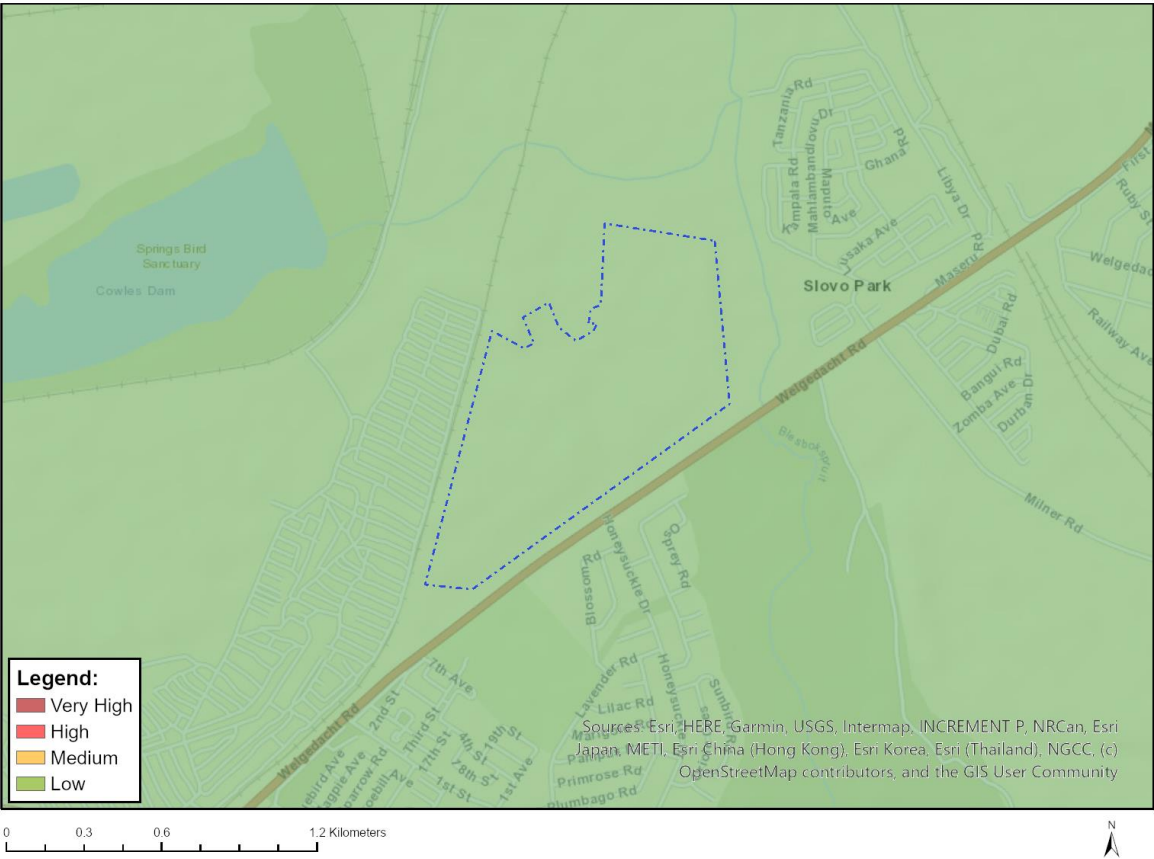


Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
	X		

Sensitivity Features:

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
High	Within 8 km of other civil aviation aerodrome
Medium	Between 15 and 35 km from a civil aviation radar
Medium	Between 15 and 35 km from a major civil aviation aerodrome
Medium	Between 8 and 15 km of other civil aviation aerodrome

MAP OF RELATIVE DEFENCE THEME SENSITIVITY

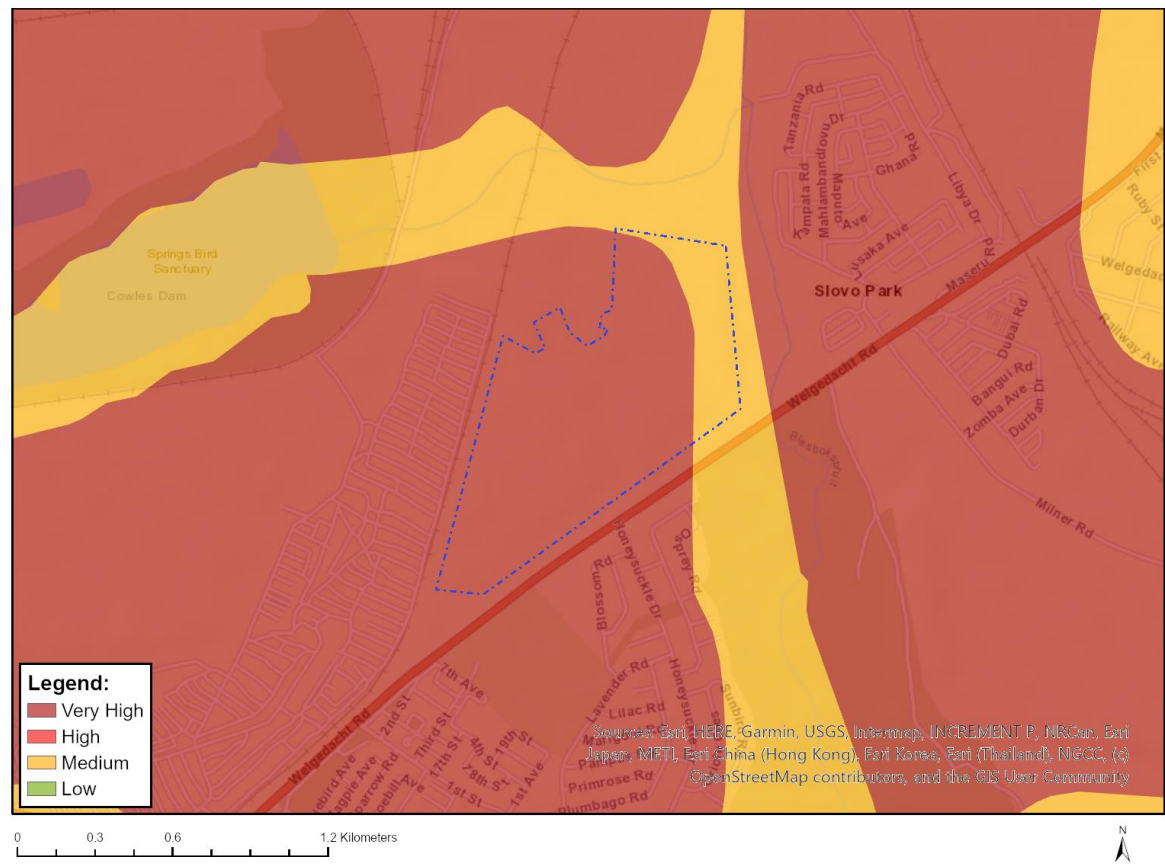


Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
			X

Sensitivity Features:

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Low	Low Sensitivity

MAP OF RELATIVE PALEONTOLOGY THEME SENSITIVITY

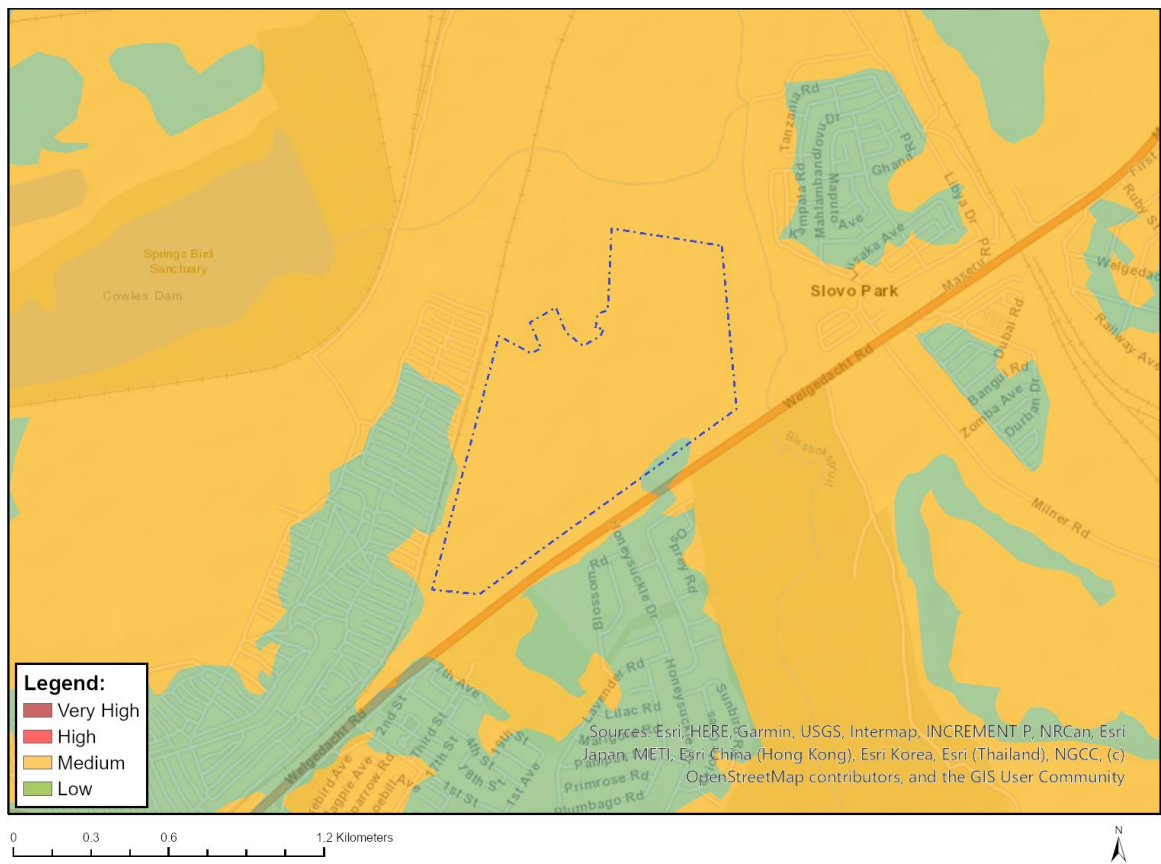


Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
X			

Sensitivity Features:

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Medium	Features with a Medium paleontological sensitivity
Very High	Features with a Very High paleontological sensitivity

MAP OF RELATIVE PLANT SPECIES THEME SENSITIVITY



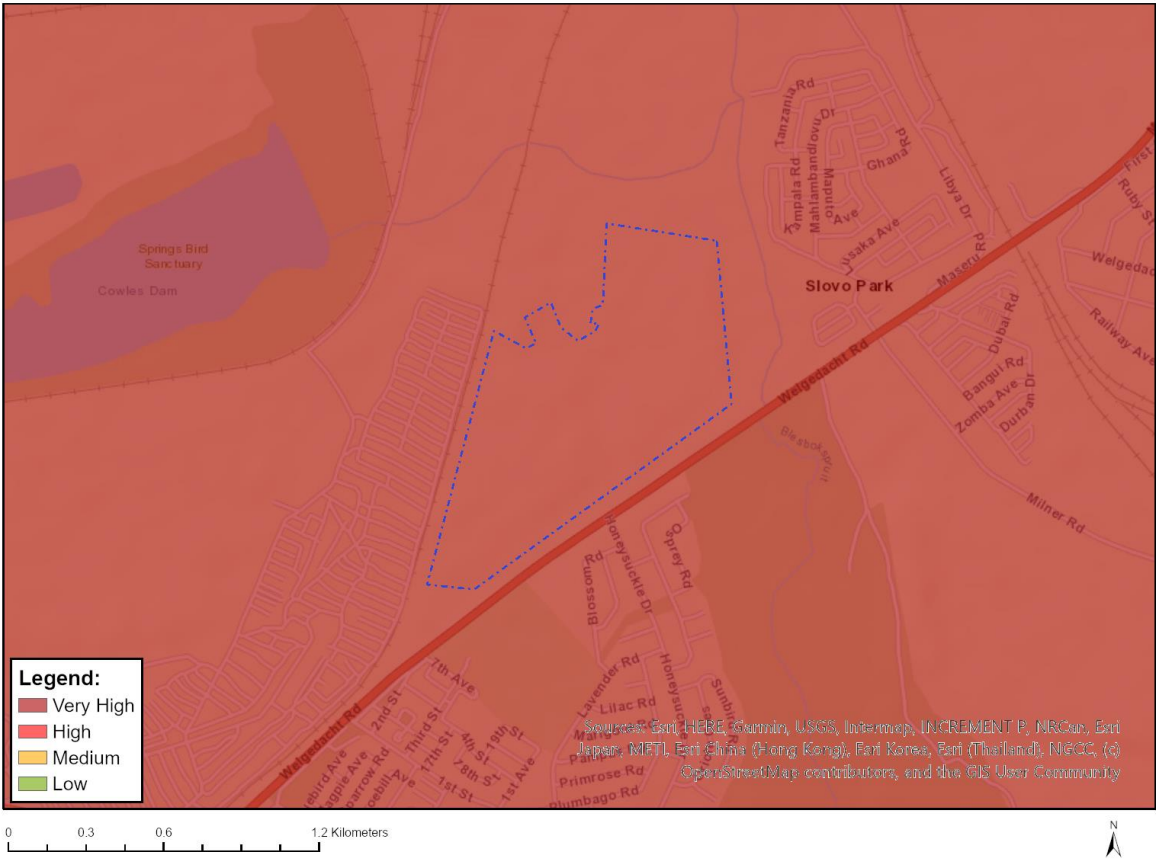
Where only a sensitive plant unique number or sensitive animal unique number is provided in the screening report and an assessment is required, the environmental assessment practitioner (EAP) or specialist is required to email SANBI at eiadatarequests@sanbi.org.za listing all sensitive species with their unique identifiers for which information is required. The name has been withheld as the species may be prone to illegal harvesting and must be protected. SANBI will release the actual species name after the details of the EAP or specialist have been documented.

Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
		X	

Sensitivity Features:

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Low	Low Sensitivity
Medium	Sensitive species 196
Medium	Pachycarpus suaveolens

MAP OF RELATIVE TERRESTRIAL BIODIVERSITY THEME SENSITIVITY



Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
X			

Sensitivity Features:

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Very High	CBA 1
Very High	National Protected Area Expansion Strategy (NPAES)
Very High	VU_Soweto Highveld Grassland