Integrated Water Use Licence Application for the Goldplat Reclamation Project located in the City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality Gauteng Province

DWS Reference Number: WU48373

Background Information Document

Purpose of the Document

This Background Information Document (BID) aims to provide information regarding:

- The project background of the Goldplat Reclamation Project ("the Project"), located in the City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality (CoE), Gauteng Province;
- Water Use Licence (WUL) approval requirements;
- The Public Participation Process (PPP) that will be undertaken as part of the Project's Integrated Water Use Licence Application (IWULA), and comment period for the draft Integrated Water and Waste Management Plan (IWWMP); and
- How to register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) and be kept informed about the Project's developments.

Project Background

Goldplat Recovery (Pty) Ltd ('Goldplat') proposes to reclaim and reprocess its 'Top' and 'Rooidam' Stock Dams with the objective of recovering residual gold using the hydraulic reclamation method.

Hydraulic reclamation is a water-based process with a lower risk profile than conventional underground or open-cast mining. During hydraulic reclamation, a high-pressure water monitor is used to erode the sides of the existing stock dam compartments and the process water then mixes with the unconsolidated material forming a slurry. The slurry reports via gravity feed to a pumpstation, where it is then pumped and conveyed via a new pipeline to a gold processing plant. The existing Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd ('Ergo') gold plant is proposed to be used to reprocess the reclaimed tailings on behalf of Goldplat as well as provide the source of process water.

A WUL is required for the Project activities that may impact water resources. Kongiwe Environmental (Pty) Ltd ('Kongiwe') has been appointed by Goldplat to undertake the IWULA for the Project.

An IWULA will 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 will be supported by an IWWMP. The IWULA will be reviewed and considered by the Vaal-Orange Catchment Management Agency (VOCMA) as the Competent Authority (CA) presiding over the application, ensuring that all water-related aspects of the Project comply with the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998).

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Method of Reclamation

The proposed reclamation method which will be used to reclaim the stock dam compartments is referred to as a top-down hydraulic reclamation process. It must be noted that only the Rooidam and Top stock dams are earmarked for reclamation as part of this project, and not all the Goldplat TSFs. This technique uses high-pressure water monitors to erode unconsolidated tailings material within the stock dam compartments. The water from the water monitor mixes with the tailings and forms a slurry. The slurry then flows under gravity feed to a collection sump which is positioned at the lowest elevation of the bench being reclaimed.

At the sump, finger screens remove any detritus that may impact pumping operations, and the screened slurry then flows into the sump and is subsequently conveyed to the pump station. The position of the collection sump will change as the reclamation progresses. To control the volume of slurry reporting to the reclamation station, valves are used to hold and release slurry contained in the collection sump. From the pumpstation, located at the lowest point of a stock dams, slurry will then be pumped and conveyed, via a new pipeline, to the Ergo Plant for reprocessing. Approximately 50 000 tons per month of slurry will be pumped to the Ergo Plant. Process water used in the reclamation activities will be sourced from Ergo through the same pipeline route.

Ensuing tailings from the Ergo Plant will be deposited onto the Brakpan/Withok TSF.

Infrastructure for the Proposed Project

The following infrastructure will be utilised:

- Reclamation infrastructure at the Rooidam and Top stock dam areas, consisting of a pump station which includes:
  - Slurry sump including a floating pontoon;
  - Vibrating Screen;
  - Water tank;
  - Motor control centre; and
  - Slurry and associated Pumps.
- Stormwater management infrastructure associated with the stock dams, including:
  - Lined catchment paddock; and
  - Perimeter berm.
- 11 kV overhead powerlines capable of transmitting 3 kVA of electricity and electricity reticulation, sourced from the Goldplat plant or Eskom;
- Existing administration buildings, including change houses and ablution facilities at the Goldplat plant;
- Existing access roads;
- Construction contractors' yards (temporary facilities); and
- Slurry and process water pipelines running 15.6 km on the same route:
  - One slurry pipeline of 300 mm in diameter to Ergo Plant; and
  - One process water pipeline of 250 mm in diameter from the Ergo Plant.

Figure 1 presents the site infrastructure layout for the Project.

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Project Location

Figure 2 presents the local context of the project area. The Project is located approximately 7 km east of the Benoni CBD within the CoE. The Modder Bee Road is situated to the west to northwest of the Project, while the R51 is to the east, and the N12 to the north of the Project.

The residential suburb of New Modder is situated to the west of the Project and the residential suburb of Rynsoord is situated to the southwest of the Project.

The process water and slurry pipelines are proposed to run from the Goldplat stock dam area and extend all the way to the Ergo Plant. They will run past residential areas, open areas, wetlands and industrial areas.

Land Use

The Project area is predominantly surrounded by mining areas, industrial areas, residential areas, railway infrastructure, and existing road networks. Most of the Project area has been subject to significant disturbance due to past mining activities and urban infrastructure.

Access

The major access routes in the vicinity of Goldplat include the R51, which provides connectivity to the Modder Bee Road, leading to access to the Goldplat area.

Existing on-site access roads will be utilised.

Power and Water Supply

Power supply for the reclamation activities will be sourced from Eskom and connected at the existing Goldplat plant.

Potable water will be sourced from the existing Goldplat plant.

Process water required for the reclamation activity will be sourced from the Ergo Plant and conveyed through a new process water pipeline to the Project site for reuse in a closed-circuit system. The pipeline will follow existing servitudes / Surface Right Permits (SRPs) held by Ergo and in agreement with Ergo.

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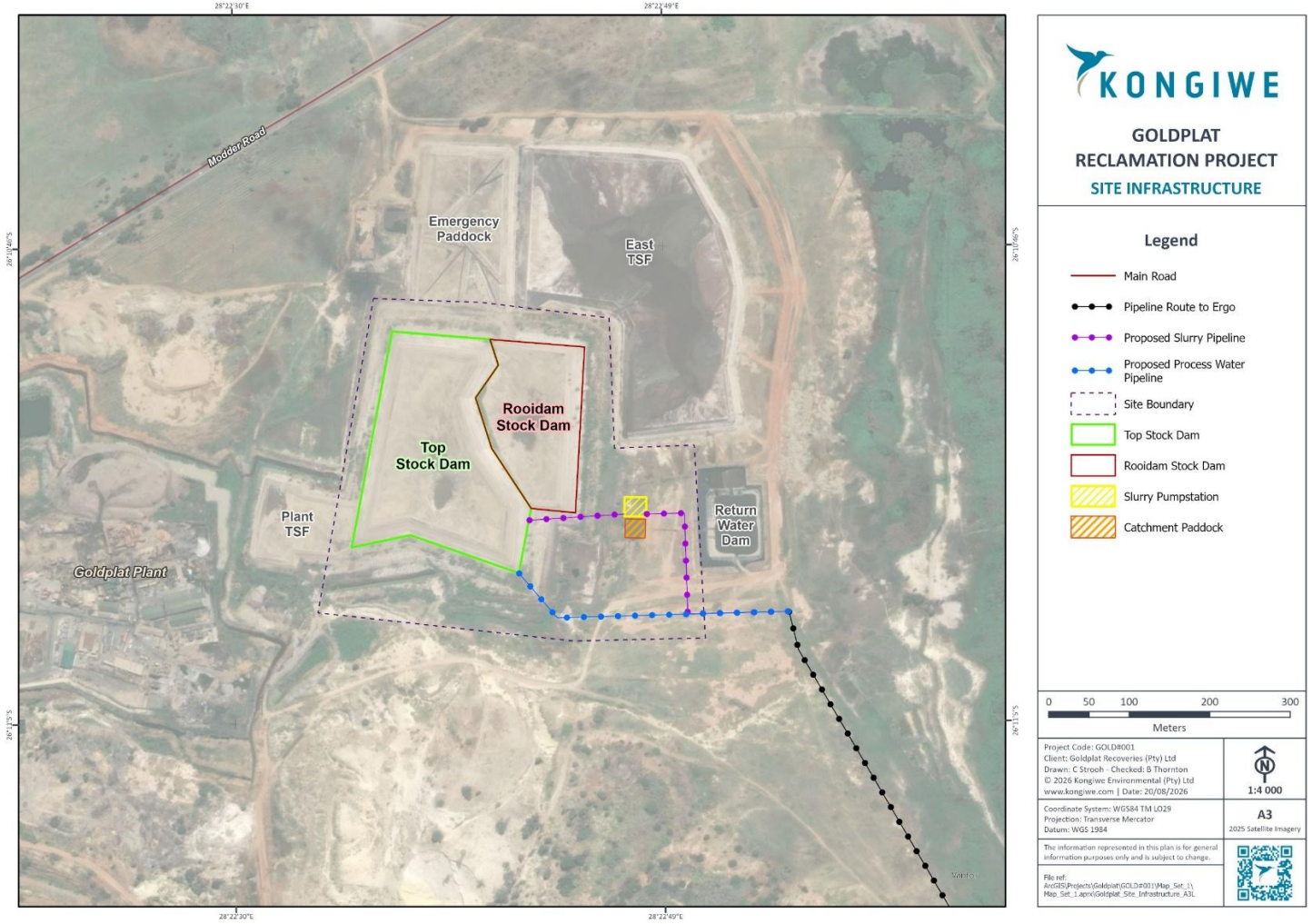

Figure 1: Proposed Infrastructure

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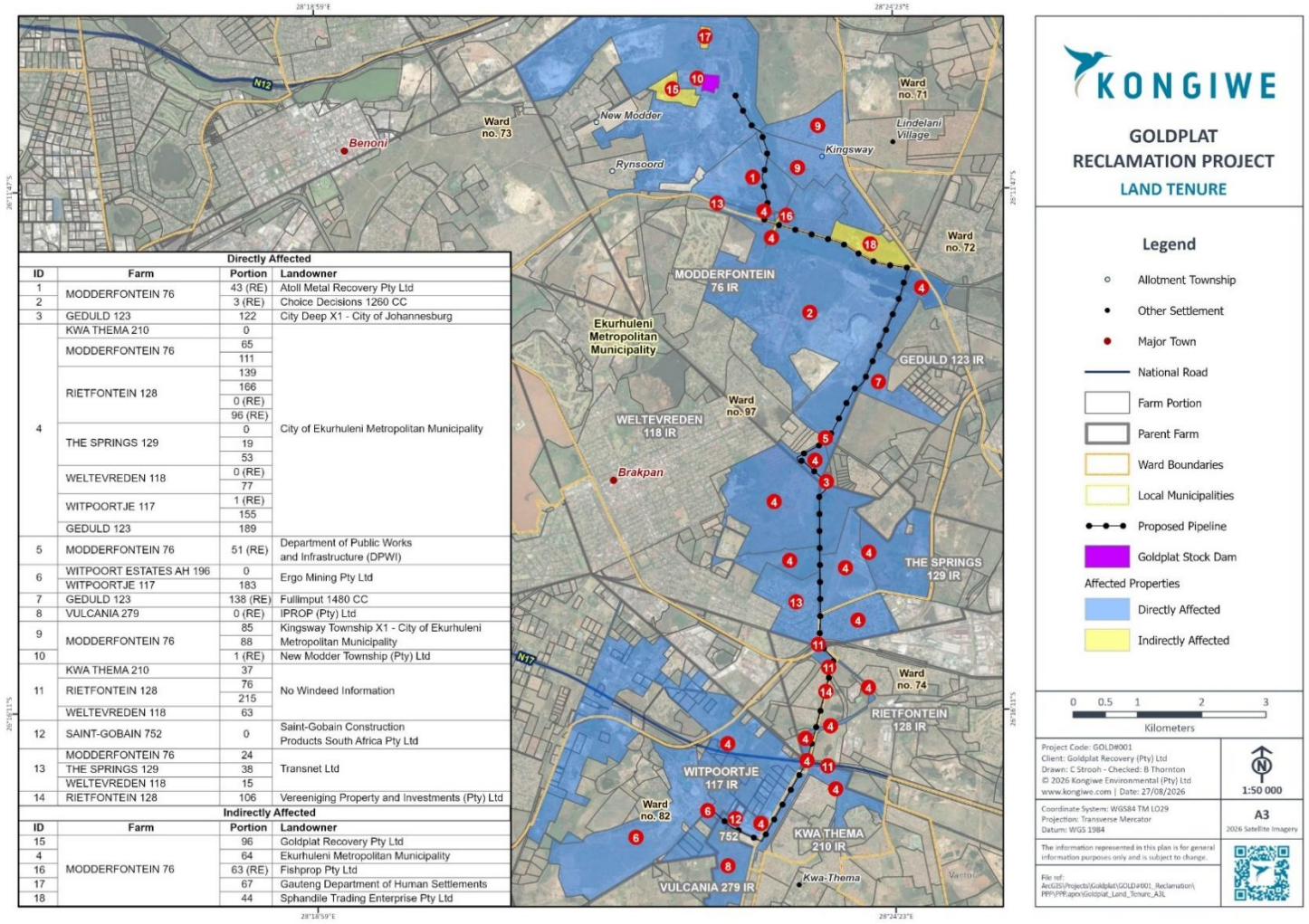

Directly Affected

ID	Farm	Portion	Landowner
1	MODDERFONTEIN 76	43 (RE)	Atoll Metal Recovery Pty Ltd
2		3 (RE)	Choice Decisions 1260 CC
3	GEDULD 123	122	City Deep X1 - City of Johannesburg
4	KWA THEMA 210	0	City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality
	MODDERFONTEIN 76	65	
		111	
	RIETFONTEIN 128	139	
		166	
		0 (RE)	
		96 (RE)	
	THE SPRINGS 129	0	
		19	
		53	
	WELTEVREDEN 118	0 (RE)	
		77	
	WITPOORTJE 117	1 (RE)	
		155	
	GEDULD 123	189	
5	MODDERFONTEIN 76	51 (RE)	Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI)
6	WITPOORT ESTATES AH 196	0	Ergo Mining Pty Ltd
	WITPOORTJE 117	183	
7	GEDULD 123	138 (RE)	Fullimput 1480 CC
8	VULCANIA 279	0 (RE)	IPROP (Pty) Ltd
9	MODDERFONTEIN 76	85	Kingsway Township X1 - City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality
		88	
10		1 (RE)	New Modder Township (Pty) Ltd
11	KWA THEMA 210	37	No Windeed Information
	RIETFONTEIN 128	76	
		215	
	WELTEVREDEN 118	63	
12	SAINT-GOBAIN 752	0	Saint-Gobain Construction Products South Africa Pty Ltd
13	MODDERFONTEIN 76	24	Transnet Ltd
	THE SPRINGS 129	38	
	WELTEVREDEN 118	15	
14	RIETFONTEIN 128	106	Vereeniging Property and Investments (Pty) Ltd

Indirectly Affected

ID	Farm	Portion	Landowner
15	MODDERFONTEIN 76	96	Goldplat Recovery Pty Ltd
4		64	Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality
16		63 (RE)	Fishprop Pty Ltd
17		67	Gauteng Department of Human Settlements
18		44	Sphandile Trading Enterprise Pty Ltd

Figure 2: Locality Map

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Life of Operation

The life of the Project is expected to be five years. An estimated maximum amount of 50 000 tons/month of slurry is expected to be pumped from Goldplat via a new pipeline to the Ergo Plant 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. The resultant stock dam footprints may then be reused as a future site for tailings deposition.

Purpose of an IWWMP

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

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

From a legal perspective, an approved IWWMP fulfils the requirement of an IWULA and provide a comprehensive plan for managing water uses, as outlined in Section 21 of the NWA.

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

Legislative Requirements

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

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

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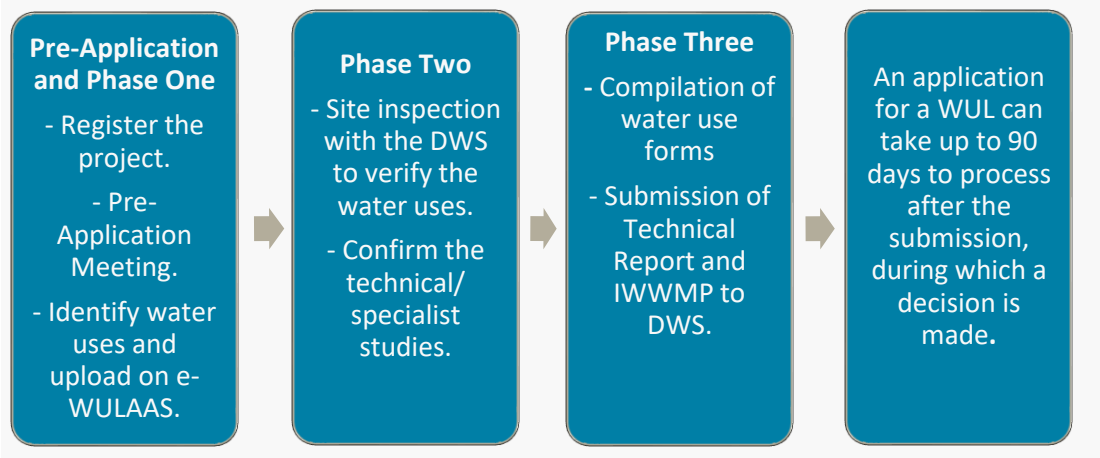

Figure 3: IWULA Process

Specialist Studies

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

- Groundwater Impact Assessment;
- Surface water Impact Assessment; and
- Wetland Impact Assessment.

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

Public Participation Process

The PPP will form an integral part of the IWULA process. The PPP is intended to ensure that stakeholders are adequately informed about the Project and are provided with reasonable opportunities to participate in the process, raise issues and concerns, provide relevant information and local knowledge, and make suggestions regarding potential measures to enhance Project benefits and address potential impacts. The PPP also sets out the various mechanisms through which the Project team will provide information, engage with stakeholders and receive and consider comments throughout the IWULA process.

The PPP has been developed to ensure compliance with the relevant legislation and facilitate meaningful stakeholder engagement for the IWULA process. Comments, concerns and relevant information received from stakeholders will be documented and considered, where relevant, as part of the IWULA process.

Availability of the Draft IWWMP for Public Review and Comment

The Draft IWWMP for the Project will be made available for public review and comment for 60 days, from **Tuesday, 6 October 2026 to Friday, 4 December 2026**.

A notification of the availability of the draft IWWMPs for public review and comment will be distributed on **Tuesday, 29 September 2026** to all stakeholders on the database.

The Draft IWWMP will be made available as follows:

- An electronic copy on Kongiwe's website: https://kongiwe.com/projects/

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- A hard copy of the draft IWWMP at the Lawrence Bongani Sibanyoni Public Library (Kingsway). Contact details are shown in
- Table 1.

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

Location	Physical Address	Contact Person
Draft IWWMP available at:		
Lawrence Bongani Sibanyoni Library	Cnr Ndlovele and Isibusisu Streets, Kingsway, Benoni, 1501	Mr Mfundo Nxumalo – (072) 212 2884 Monday - Friday Open: 08:00 – 16:30 First Saturday of the month Open: 08:00 – 13:00

Stakeholder Engagement Meetings

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

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

Table 2: Stakeholder Meeting

Proposed Dates	Available Time Slot	Method of Engagement
Online Meeting		
Wednesday, 28 October 2026	10H00 – 11H00	Microsoft Teams

Invitation to participate as a Stakeholder

Kongiwe has put measures in place to ensure that all stakeholders are meaningfully engaged throughout the consultation process through a range of communication channels, documents and online platforms. The proposed methods of engagement for the Project are as follows:

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

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The above-mentioned methods of engagement are intended to facilitate meaningful dialogue with stakeholders and provide opportunities to raise comments, concerns and/or suggestions regarding the Project. Minutes of stakeholder meetings will be compiled and included in the Comments and Responses Report (CRR).

Stakeholders are encouraged to indicate their preferred method of engagement on the Registration Form attached to this BID.

POPIA Disclaimer: Safeguarding Registered Person's Personal Information

In terms of Section 19 of the Protection of Personal Information Act (POPIA), a responsible party must, subject to Sections 9 and 11 of the Act, ensure the integrity and confidentiality of personal information in its possession or under its control by taking appropriate, reasonable technical and organisational measures to prevent loss of, damage to or unauthorised destruction of personal information, unlawful access to or processing of personal information. POPIA requires that personal information should be adequately protected to avoid unauthorised access. Therefore, 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 to whom the information is supplied.

For an Inclusive Consultation Process, Stakeholders are Encouraged to:

- Register as an I&AP;
- Inform other people whom you believe may be interested in and/or affected by the Project;
- Provide comments, concerns and/or suggestions regarding the Project;
- Ensure that comments are submitted within the specified timeframes;
- Provide relevant information and/or local knowledge regarding the Project area and its environment; and
- Attend meetings scheduled throughout the process to obtain information, raise concerns and participate in discussions regarding the Project.

Comments, Objections and Queries

For any comments, objections or queries, I&APs are encouraged to complete the *Registration and Comments Form* attached to this BID. Completed Registration and Comments Forms may be submitted via email. For further information regarding the Project, the consultation process, or the submission of comments, please contact a representative of Kongiwe's Stakeholder Engagement Team, as shown in Table 3.

Table 3: Kongiwe Contact Details

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

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

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