

Environmental impact statement

Taking the assessment of potential impacts into account, herewith please receive an environmental impact statement that summarises the impact that the proposed activity may have on the environment after the management and mitigation of impacts have been taken into account, with specific reference to types of impact, duration of impacts, likelihood of potential impacts actually occurring and the significance of impacts.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT			
<u>SITE ALTERNATIVE 1</u>			
<u>TYPE OF IMPACT</u>	<u>Duration</u>	<u>Likelihood</u>	<u>Significance</u>
<p><u>Site Establishment & Infrastructure Development:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Alteration of the agricultural sense of place. ➤ Loss of agricultural land for duration of mining. ➤ Visual intrusion as a result of site establishment. ➤ Potential impact on vegetation and listed and/or protected plant species. ➤ Potential impact on fauna within the footprint area. ➤ Potential impact on archaeological artefacts. ➤ New job opportunities as a result of the mining operation (Positive Impact) 	<p>Duration of site establishment phase (±1 month)</p>	<p>Possible</p> <p>Definite</p> <p>High Possibility</p> <p>Low Possibility</p> <p>Low Possibility</p> <p>Low Possibility</p> <p>Definite (+)</p>	<p>Medium Concern</p> <p>Medium Concern</p> <p>Low-Medium Concern</p> <p>Low Concern</p> <p>Low Concern</p> <p>Low- Concern</p> <p>High (+)</p>
<p><u>Stripping and Stockpiling of Topsoil and/or Overburden:</u></p>	<p>Duration of site establishment phase (±1 month)</p>	<p><u>Likelihood</u></p>	<p><u>Significance</u></p> <p>Medium Concern</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Visual intrusion caused by mining activities. ■ Loss of stockpiled topsoil during mining and stockpiling. ■ Dust nuisance as a result of the disturbance of soil. ■ Noise nuisance generated by earthmoving machinery. ■ Infestation of the topsoil heaps and mining area with weeds or invader plant species. ■ Potential impact on local fauna due to disturbance and loss of available habitat. ■ Potential erosion of denuded areas. ■ Potential contamination of footprint area and surface runoff as a result of hydrocarbon spillages. 		<p>High Possibility</p> <p>Low Possibility</p>	<p>Low Concern</p> <p>Low Concern</p> <p>Low-Medium Concern</p> <p>Low Concern</p> <p>Low Concern</p> <p>Low Concern</p> <p>Low Concern</p> <p>Low Concern</p>
<p><u>Drilling and Blasting:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Health and safety risk posed by blasting activities. ■ Dust nuisance caused by blasting activities. ■ Noise nuisance as a result of blasting. 	<p>Duration of operational phase (5 years maximum)</p>	<p><u>Likelihood</u></p> <p>Low Possibility</p> <p>Low Possibility</p> <p>Possible</p>	<p><u>Significance</u></p> <p>Low Concern</p> <p>Low Concern</p> <p>Low-Medium Concern</p>
<p><u>Excavation, Loading and Hauling to the Processing Plant:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Dust nuisance due to excavation and from loading and vehicles transporting the material. ■ Noise nuisance as a result of the mining activities. ■ Unsafe working environment for employees. 	<p>Duration of operational phase (5 years maximum)</p>	<p><u>Likelihood</u></p> <p>Low Possibility</p> <p>Low Possibility</p> <p>Low Possibility</p>	<p><u>Significance</u></p> <p>Low Concern</p> <p>Low-Medium Concern</p> <p>Low Concern</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Soil contamination from hydrocarbon spills and/or littering. ■ Potential impact on areas of palaeontological concern. ■ Facilitation of erosion due to mining activities. 		<p>Low Possibility</p> <p>Low Possibility</p> <p>Low Possibility</p>	<p>Low Concern</p> <p>Low Concern</p> <p>Low Concern</p>
<p><u>Processing, Stockpiling and Transporting of Material:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Dust nuisance generated at the processing plant. ■ Noise nuisance stemming from operation of the processing plant. ■ Potential contamination of environment due to improper waste management. ■ Overloading of trucks impacting road infrastructure. ■ Degradation of the access road. 	<p>Duration of operational phase</p> <p>(5 years maximum)</p>	<p><u>Likelihood</u></p> <p>Low Possibility</p> <p>Low Possibility</p> <p>Low Possibility</p> <p>Low Possibility</p> <p>Low Possibility</p>	<p><u>Significance</u></p> <p>Low Concern</p> <p>Low-Medium Concern</p> <p>Low Concern</p> <p>Low Concern</p> <p>Low Concern</p>
<p><u>Cumulative Impacts:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Impact the broad-scale ecological processes. ■ Impact on existing infrastructure as a direct result of the mining operation. 	<p>Duration of operational phase</p> <p>(5 years maximum)</p>	<p><u>Likelihood</u></p> <p>Low Possibility</p> <p>Low Possibility</p>	<p><u>Significance</u></p> <p>Low Concern</p> <p>Low Concern</p>
<p><u>Sloping and Landscaping during Rehabilitation:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Safety risk posed by un-sloped areas. ■ Erosion of returned topsoil after rehabilitation. ■ Infestation of the reinstated areas by weeds and invader plant species. 	<p>Duration of decommissioning phase</p> <p>(±1 month)</p>	<p><u>Likelihood</u></p> <p>Low Possibility</p> <p>Low Possibility</p> <p>Low Possibility</p> <p>Low Possibility</p>	<p><u>Significance</u></p> <p>Low Concern</p> <p>Low Concern</p> <p>Low Concern</p> <p>Low Concern</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Potential impact associated with litter/waste left at the mining area. ■ Return of the mining area to agricultural use upon closure (Positive Impact)		Definite (+)	Medium-High (+)
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