# MINING OF AGGREGATE ON PORTION 18 (PORTION 2) OF THE FARM LOUTERBRONNEN 250, THEUNISSEN DISTRICT FREE STATE PROVINCE

## ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT / ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT REPORT



DMR REFERENCE NUMBER:	FS 30/5/1/2/2/10040 MR
AUDIT PERIOD:	May 2024 – June 2025

#### PREPARED FOR:

Vengablox (Pty) Ltd

Contact person: Mr. M. du Plessis

Cell: 083 410 8286 Fax: 086 546 0579 Postal Address: PO Box 204 Brandfort 9400



#### PREPARED BY:

Greenmined Environmental (Pty) Ltd Auditor: Christine Fouche Cell: 082 811 8514

> Postal Address: Suite 62 Private Bag x15 Somerset West 7129



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#### 1. PROJECT SPECIFIC DETAIL

ITEM	MINING RIGHT/PERMIT HOLDER				
Company Name	Vengablox (Pty) Ltd				
Contact Person	Mr. M. du Plessis				
Tel Number	N/A				
Cell Number	083 410 8286				
Postal Address	PO Box 202, Theunissen, 9410				
ITEM	AUTHOR CONSULTANT DETAIL				
Company Name	Greenmined Environmental (Pty) Ltd				
Contact Person	Christine Fouché				
Cell Number	082 811 8514				
E-mail Address	Christine.f@greenmined.co.za				
Postal Address	Postnet Suite 62 Private Bag x15 Somerset West 7129				
ITEM	LOCATION AND AREA INFORMATION				
Site Name	Louterbronnen Aggregate Quarry				
Property Description  Farm Name: Portion 18 (Portion 2) of the farm Louterbronn 21 Digit Surveyor General Code: F03300000000025000018					
Location	±2 km south-east of Theunissen				
Size of Mining Area	17.9 ha				
	A. 28°24'44.18" S; 26°43'37.23" E				
	B. 28°24'46.62" S; 26°43'32.64" E				
Site Coordinates:	C. 28°24'49.91" S; 26°43'31.86" E				
	D. 28°25'04.37" S; 26°43'39.34" E				
	E. 28°24'57.48" S; 26°43'53.11" E				



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#### 2. ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT REPORT

#### **PROJECT DETAIL**

Permit / Right Number:	FS 30/5/1/2/2/10040 MR	Date of Commencement:	15 May 2019
Site Name:	Louterbronnen Quarry	Inspection Date:	26 June 2025
Permit / Right Holder:	Vengablox (Pty) Ltd	Other Authorisations:	General Authorisation:
Report Number:	EPA 06	Other Authorisations.	27/2/1/C741/13

### <u>DETAIL OF AUDITOR</u> (APPENDIX 7 SUB-REGULATION 3(A) & (B)):

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ECO:	Christine Fouché
EXPERTISE:	Ms Fouche has a Diploma in Nature Conservation and a BSc in Botany and Zoology with eighteen years experience in doing environmental impact assessments and compliance monitoring in South Africa.
DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE:	<ul> <li>I Christine Fouche declare that –</li> <li>I act as independent environmental control officer in this compliance audit;</li> <li>I will perform the work relating to the audit in an objective manner, even if the results and findings are not favourable to the holder of the authorisation;</li> <li>I have expertise in conducting environmental compliance audits, including knowledge of the Act and regulations that have relevance to the activity;</li> <li>I will adhere to and comply with all responsibilities as indicated in the National Environmental Management Act and Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations.</li> <li>I do not have and will not have any vested interest in the activity other than remuneration for work performed in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014.</li> </ul> Christine Fouché Signature of ECO Date: 08/07/2025



### SCOPE & PURPOSE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT (APPENDIX 7 SUB-REGULATION 3(C)):

This environmental performance assessment (EPA) / environmental audit report (hereafter referred to as the EPA) was compiled in terms of the requirements of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, (as amended).

#### **OBJECTIVE:**

The objective of the EPA is to evaluate compliance of the operational activities with the environmental management programme (EMPR) and Environmental Authorisation as approved by the DMRE.

#### **INSPECTED AREAS:**

The inspection included an assessment of the following areas:

- Office and parking area;
- Workshop and wash bay;
- Diesel tank, and chemical storage area;
- Washing and screening plant area;
- Settlement pond for processing water;
- Quarry pit;
- Overburden and topsoil dumps;
- Stockpile area; and
- General working areas;

In order to establish the environmental compliance assessment of the operation, the mining site was inspected on foot by the Environmental Control Officer, Christine Fouche of Greenmined Environmental accompanied by site management.

#### ASSUMPTIONS, UNCERTAINTIES OR GAPS IN KNOWLEDGE (APPENDIX 7 SUB-REGULATION 3(F)):

The assumptions made in this document, stem from specific information gathered during the site audit and background information gathered from site management.



#### **LOCATION**

Site Location:	approved over the entire extent of Portion	of Theunissen. The mining footprint was a 18 (Portion 2) of the farm Louterbronnen attrance of the site are 28°24'44.17"S;
Site Map:	Blazecor, Crus	nage © 2024 Airbus
	28°24'44.18" S	S 26°43'37.23" E
Site Coordinates:	28°24'46.62" S 28°24'49.91" S	S 26°43'32.64" E S 26°43'31.86" E
Site Coordinates:	28°25'04.37" S	S 26 43 31.86 E S 26 43 39.34" E
	28°24'57.48" S	S 26°43'53.11" E

#### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The right holder mines the quarry for dolerite by blasting, using explosives in order to loosen the hard rock. The material is then loaded and hauled to the existing crushing, screening and washing plants where it is processed into different sized dolerite. The dolerite is stockpiled where after it is transported to clients using trucks and trailers via the existing access roads linking the farm to the R708. All activities are contained within the boundaries of the site.

#### **SITE CONDITIONS**

Cloudy cold windless day with dry soil conditions.

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#### **REPORTABLE ENVIRONMENTAL INCIDENTS**

Incident Date:	N/A		
Incident No:	N/A		
Incident:	No environmental incidents at this stage		
How addressed:	N/A		
When addressed:	N/A		

### ADOPTED METHODOLOGY (APPENDIX 7 SUB-REGULATION 3(D):

COMPLIANCE SCORE	DESCRIPTION			
1	Task not achieved			
2	Task 20% achieved			
3	Task 50% achieved			
4	Task 80% achieved			
5	Task 100% achieved in accordance with the EMP			

NON-COMPLIANCE SCORE	DESCRIPTION
1	LOW – Mitigation not needed / mitigation measures to be maintained
2	MEDIUM – Mitigation should be considered
3	HIGH – Mitigation compulsory



#### **INSPECTION ASPECTS**

DESCRIPTION	COMPLIANC E SCORE	NON- COMPLIANC E SCORE	STATUS	COMMENTS		
LEGISLATION COMPLIANCE:						
National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014	5	-	Compliant	-		
Copy of the EA and EMPR available on site	5	-	Compliant	-		
Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No 28 of 2002)	5	-	Compliant	-		
Mining right available on site	5	-	Compliant	-		
Mine plan annually reviewed	5	-	Compliant	Management must annually supply DMRE with a copy of the mine plan.		
National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No 59 of 2008)	5	-	Compliant	-		
National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998)	5	-	Compliant	-		
GA Authorisation on site	5	-	Compliant	-		
National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004 (Act No 10 of 2004) (NEM:BA)	4	3	Ongoing	Site management continuously remove the problem plants that germinate on site.		
Hazardous Substances Act, 1973 (Act 15 of 1973)	5	-	Compliant	-		
National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No 25 of 1999)	5	-	Compliant	The heritage site is fenced and protected from impacts.		
Mine Works Programme	5	-	Compliant	-		
Social Labour Plan	5	-	Compliant	-		
Copies of Financial Provision Calculation (2024) and Annual Performance Audit (2024) present	5	-	Compliant	-		
Waste register and Permits for waste removal	5	-	Compliant	-		
Complaints Register Present	5	-	Compliant	-		
Environmental Awareness training	5	-	Compliant	-		
			ECTED ENVIRON			
	Topsoil: Overburden Management (EMP PG: 55, 97, 100)					
Topsoil stripping	5	-	Compliant	-		
Topsoil storage (heaps not exceeding 1.5 m)	5	-	Compliant	-		

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DESCRIPTION	COMPLIANC	NON- COMPLIANC	STATUS	COMMENTS
	E SCORE	E SCORE		
Topsoil heaps that are stored for longer than 6 months:	5	-	Compliant	-
Naturally or artificially vegetated with, indigenous				
grass species.				
Overburden stripped & stockpiled	5	-	Compliant	-
Stockpiles monitored for erosion, weeds and foreign	4	3	Ongoing	Problem plants are continuously removed from the stockpiles
matter				and work areas.
				The litter delivered with the stockpiled material must constantly be removed.
Topsoil returned to rehabilitated area	N/A	-	-	No rehabilitation occurred during the audit period.
	V	egetation (EM	IP PG: 57, 100, 103	3)
Protected plants (if any) sheltered from mining activities	N/A	-	-	No protected, endangered or declining species have been recorded within the mining area.
Removal of vegetation limited to smallest possible	5	-	Compliant	-
area				
Aliens & weeds controlled on site	5	-	Ongoing	-
		Fauna (EMP	PG: 58, 59, 103):	
All animals, birds and reptiles protected on site.	5	-	Compliant	-
	Air Q	uality and Nois	se (EMP PG: 56, 9	8, 99):
Dust monitoring plan implemented	5	-	Compliant	-
Dust suppression implemented	5	-	Compliant	-
Speed on access road limited to 40 km/h	5	-	Compliant	This appeared to be true at the time of the inspection.
Dust monitoring equipment operational	5	-	Compliant	-
Mining equipment serviced regularly to ensure noise emissions are minimized	5	-	Compliant	-
Noise control	5	-	Compliant	The noise exposure of the employees are monitored by EEC.
Blasting vibration and blast noise monitoring implemented on site	5	-	Compliant	All blasting related documents are present on site.
I&AP and stakeholders informed prior to a blast.	5	-	Compliant	The proof of blasting notifications are available on site.
	Surface and	Storm Water N	lanagement (EMP	PG: 57, 101):
Storm water Management Plan implemented on site	5	-	Compliant	-
Storm water diverted around the mining area and access roads to prevent erosion	5	-	Compliant	Where possible.



DESCRIPTION	COMPLIANC E SCORE	NON- COMPLIANC E SCORE	STATUS	COMMENTS	
Mining conducted in accordance with the Best Practice Guidelines for small scale mining	5	-	Compliant	At the time of the inspection this appeared to be true.	
Areas with erosion reinstated	N/A	-	-	No areas of concern were noted on site.	
	Vis	ual Exposure	(EMP PG: 55, 97,	55):	
Is the contractor implementing good visual and housekeeping standards	4	3	Ongoing	The litter that originates from the stockpiles must continuously be removed from site.	
Height of product stockpiles determined based on the visibility of the site	5	-	Compliant	-	
	Hazardous C	hemical Mana	gement (EMP PG:	58, 102, 103):	
Hazardous material stored within a bunded area (110% capacity)	4	3	To be addressed	All hazardous chemicals/used oil must be contained a bunded area.	
Regular vehicle management is done at the workshop	5	-	Compliant	-	
Drip trays present when refuelling is done outside the service bay	5	-	Compliant	-	
Mining equipment mechanically sound without visible oil leaks	5	-	Compliant	This appeared true at the time of the inspection.	
Hazardous spills cleaned up, stored and disposed of according to the acceptable procedures and methods	5	-	Compliant	-	
Hazardous waste removed by a registered waste handling contractor	5	-	Compliant	Oilkol (Pty) Ltd collects the used oil from the site, and HazQuip (Pty) Ltd collects the remaining hazardous waste.	
	Was	ste Manageme	ent (EMP PG: 58, 1		
Site free of day-to-day litter	4	3	Being addressed	The litter blowing from the stockpiled material must continuously be cleaned from the mining area.	
Suitable covered receptacles available at all times and conveniently placed for the disposal of waste	5	-	Compliant	-	
General waste dumped at a recognised landfill site	5	-	Compliant	Records are available on site.	
No waste stockpile area allowed outside the boundaries of the mining area	5	-	Compliant	-	
Proper sanitation facilities available to employees	5	-	Compliant	-	
Potable Water and Ablution Facilities					
Ablution facilities available on site more than 200 m from a watercourse	5	-	Compliant	-	



DESCRIPTION	COMPLIANC	NON- COMPLIANC	STATUS	COMMENTS		
BESSIAII HOIY	E SCORE	E SCORE	OTATOO	OSIMINENTO		
Potable water available on site for use of workers	5	-	Compliant	-		
Effluent water from the camp washing facility disposed	N/A	-	-	-		
of in a French drain, situated more than 200 m from a watercourse						
Fire Management						
Firefighting equipment available on-site	5	-	Compliant	-		
No open fires at mining site allowed	5	-	Compliant	-		
	Mi	ne and Equipr	ment Management			
Mining area demarcated with visible beacons	5	-	Compliant	The mining area is fenced.		
Mining conducted within approved footprint area	5	-	Compliant	-		
Unnecessary surface disturbance avoided	5	-	Compliant	-		
Access Roads, Vehicle and Transporting of Material (EMP PG: 59, 104, 105):						
Access road maintained	5	-	Compliant	-		
Movement of project related vehicles and machinery	5	-	Compliant	-		
restricted to the approved mining area						
All trucks weighed before leaving the site in order to	5	-	Compliant	-		
prevent overloading						
Speed limits enforced within the mining area	5	-	Compliant	-		
Weighbridge slips filled on-site and are available for	5	-	Compliant	-		
auditing						
		nd Safety Man	agement (EMP PC	6: 59, 104):		
Workers inducted and informed of EMP conditions	5	-	Compliant	-		
Workers provided with PPE	5	-	Compliant	-		
Appropriate notification signage erected at the mining	5	-	Compliant	-		
site, warning the public about the hazard around the						
mining site & presence of heavy vehicles within the						
mining area.						
Weatherproof, durable, legible notices displayed at the entrance to the site.	5	-	Compliant	-		
Effective access control to prevent unauthorised entry.	5	-	Compliant	-		
Surrounding land users informed of blasting events	5	-	Compliant	-		



DESCRIPTION	COMPLIANC E SCORE	NON- COMPLIANC E SCORE	STATUS	COMMENTS
Audible warning of a pending blast must be given at least 3 minutes in advance of the blast	5	-	Compliant	-
Measures implemented to limit fly rock	5	-	Compliant	-
Fly rock that falls beyond the working area collected and removed	5	-	Compliant	-



#### COMMENTS OR COMPLAINTS RECEIVED FROM I&AP'S

(APPENDIX 7 SUB-REGULATION 3(G) & (J)):

No written complaints were received during the audit period.

### AUDITING OF EMP AND REPORTING THEREOF (REGULATION 34):

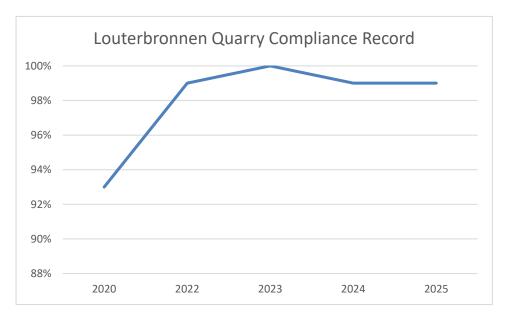
Date of previous	
EAR/EPA:	May 2024
Proof of submission	
of previous EAR/EPA	The previous EPA was submitted to the DMRE on 13 June 2024.
to DMRE available:	
EAR/EPA compiled	
by independent	Greenmined Environmental (Pty) Ltd compiled the EPA.
person with	
environmental	
auditing expertise:	
Potential and	
registered I&AP's	No registered I&AP's exist that needs to be notified of the document. The EPA is
notified within 7 days	however available on the Greenmined website that is a publicly accessible
of the submission	website.
date, and report	
available on publicly	
accessible website	

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#### **GENERAL REPORT**

Compliance of the mining site with the EMPR and EA approved by DMRE was reviewed during the site assessment. The mining area recorded a compliance score of 99% for the audit period.



The overall appearance of the site is neat and maintained in accordance with acceptable standards. As previously mentioned, hazardous waste is removed from site by HazQuip, while used oil is collected by Oilkol. General waste is disposed of at the municipal landfill site, and proof of disposal is available for inspection on site.

Category 1b alien and invasive plant species, as listed in the Alien and Invasive Species List (2016), are actively and continuously removed from the site.

Site management indicated that scrap metal will be sold once a full load has been accumulated.

As noted earlier, all chemicals and hazardous waste—such as used oil—must be stored within bunded areas. All refuse bins must remain fitted with lids at all times to prevent windblown litter and contamination.

The former access road into the quarry pit has been blocked off, as the water pump has been relocated and no longer requires access via the old route. Currently, there is only one access point into the excavation.

Management is in the process of improving the design and functioning of the on-site settling ponds.

As discussed, any litter arriving with stockpiled material must be regularly removed from both the stockpiles and surrounding areas. No litter may be allowed to accumulate or be windblown from the mining area.



#### **DOCUMENT CHECKLIST:**

RELEVANT DOCUMENTATION	PRESENT ON SITE	<u>COMMENTS</u>
Mining right	Yes	-
Mine works programme	Yes	-
Social and labour plan	Yes	-
Approved EMPR	Yes	-
EA	Yes	-
Regulation 42 Mine Plan (annually updated)	Yes	-
Financial Provision Calculation (2024)	Yes	-
EPA (2024)	Yes	-
General Authorisation	Yes	-
Waste register and Permits for waste	Yes	-
removal		
Incidents register	Yes	-
Complaints register	Yes	-
Proof of environmental awareness training	Yes	-
MSDS's for chemicals	Yes	-
Written notice to neighbours of each blasting	Yes	-
event		
Appointment of an on-site ECO	Yes	-
Emergency Preparedness Plan	Yes	-
Invasive plant species plan (part of the EIAr	Yes	-
and EMPr – Appendix J)		

#### **MATTERS TO BE ADDRESSED:**

- Continuously remove the invasive plants from the mining area;
- Remove the litter from the stockpiled material and surroundings;
- Contain all hazardous materials/waste in a bunded area.

### ABILITY OF EMP TO ADEQUATELY MANAGE OR MITIGATE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS (APPENDIX 7 SUB-REGULATION 3(E):

The approved EMPR and EA of the mine adequately manage/mitigate the environmental impacts on site, and no need was identified to amend the said documents.

#### FINANCIAL PROVISION:

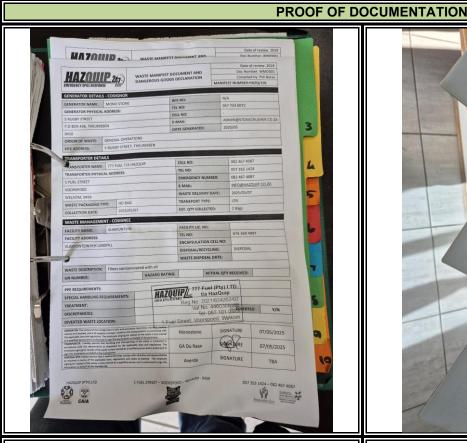
This EPA is accompanied by the annual review of the financial provision amount for the rehabilitation of the mining area. The right holder has a financial guarantee of R 1 069 891.00 lodged with the DMRE. The 2025 financial provision required to rehabilitate the mining area in accordance with the Guideline Document for the Evaluation of the Quantum of Closure-related Financial Provision by a Mine and as prescribed in terms of Regulation 54 (1) is R 1 012 966.47. The 2025 financial provision does not exceed the value of rehabilitation amount in place at the DMRE, and the right holder therefore does not have to provide a shortfall.

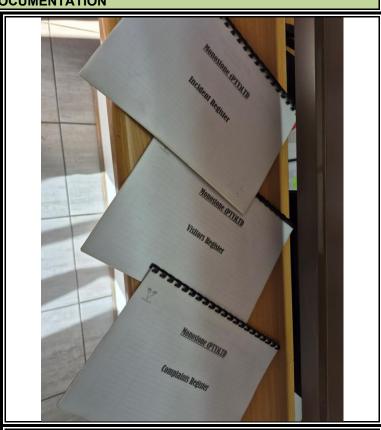
#### **ECO SIGNATURE**

NAME:	SIGNATURE:	DATE:
Christine Fouché	Christine Fouché	08 July 2025

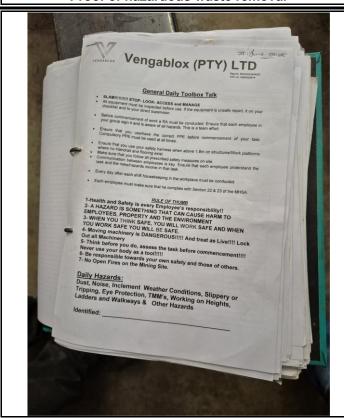


#### **PHOTOGRAPHS**

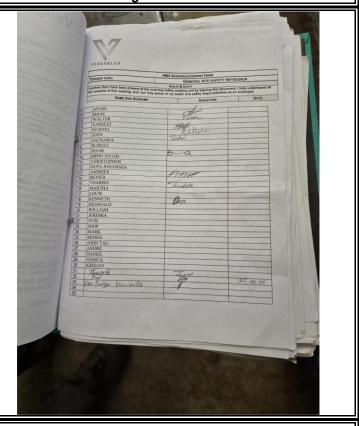




Proof of hazardous waste removal

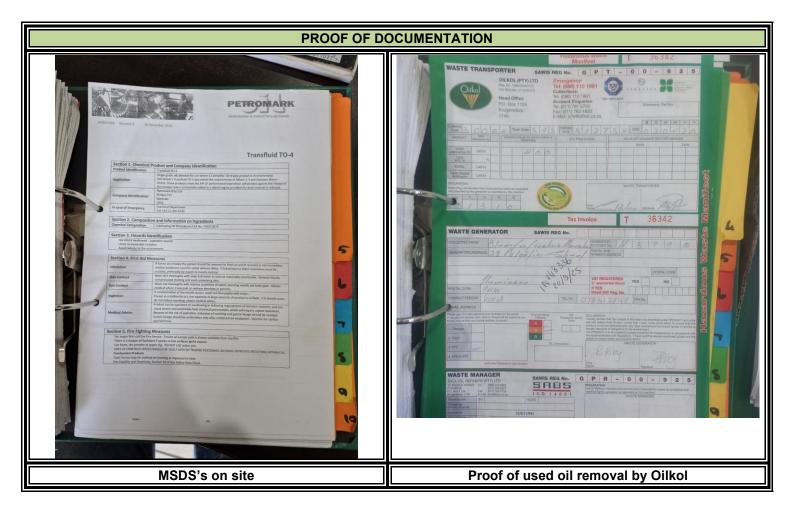


Registers on site



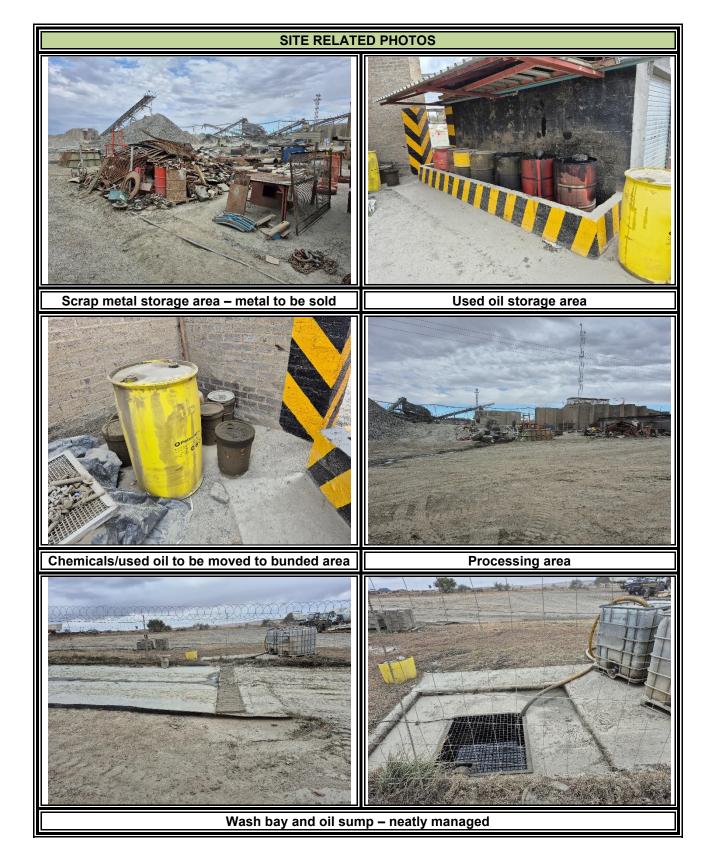
Toolbox talks with employees













#### **SITE RELATED PHOTOS**





Drip trays used at parking area





Invasive plant species removed from site















