

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

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

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FINAL PROJECT PROPOSAL

<u>Drilling and Blasting</u> ❖ Health and safety risk posed by blasting activities. ❖ Dust nuisance caused by blasting activities. ❖ Noise nuisance because of blasting.	Duration of operational phase (Maximum 5 years)	<u>LIKELIHOOD</u> Low Possibility Low Possibility Low Possibility	<u>SIGNIFICANCE</u> Low Concern Low-Medium Concern Low Concern
<u>Excavation, Loading and Hauling to the Processing Plant</u> ❖ Visual intrusion associated with the excavation activities. ❖ Dust nuisance due to excavation and from loading and vehicles transporting the material. ❖ Noise nuisance because of the mining activities. ❖ Unsafe working environment for employees. ❖ Soil contamination from hydrocarbon spills and/or littering. ❖ Facilitation of erosion due to mining activities.	Duration of operational phase (Maximum 5 years)	<u>LIKELIHOOD</u> Possible Low Possibility Low Possibility Low Possibility Low Possibility Low Possibility	<u>SIGNIFICANCE</u> Low-Medium Concern Low Concern Low Concern Low Concern Low Concern Low Concern
<u>Crushing, Washing, Stockpiling and Transporting of Material</u> ❖ 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. ❖ Infestation of the area with invader plant species. ❖ Potential increase in runoff from bare areas and associated accelerated erosion. ❖ Loss of stockpiled material due to ineffective stormwater control. ❖ Increased fire risk due to mining activities.	Duration of operational phase (Maximum 5 years)	<u>LIKELIHOOD</u> Low Possibility Low Possibility Low Possibility Low Possibility Low Possibility Low Possibility Low Possibility	<u>SIGNIFICANCE</u> Low Concern Low Concern Low Concern Low Concern Low Concern Low Concern Low Concern

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<u>Cumulative Impacts</u>		<u>LIKELIHOOD</u>	<u>SIGNIFICANCE</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Direct physical loss or modification of the watercourses and/or wetland should the buffer zone not be maintained ❖ Cumulative dust nuisance when quarry is operational and construction of the MNWP WEF commences. ❖ Cumulative noise nuisance when quarry and construction of the MNWP WEF occur simultaneously. ❖ Cumulative visual impact when quarry and MNWP WEF is developed. ❖ Cumulative impact on overall species and ecosystem diversity. ❖ Cumulative impact of invader plants in both the quarry and MNWP WEF footprints. ❖ Presence of mining contractor negatively affecting safety and security of the surrounding properties. ❖ Cumulative impact on job opportunities when quarry and MNWP WEF is in construction. 	Duration of operational phase (Maximum 5 years)	Low Possibility Possible Possible Definite Possible Possible Possible Definite	Low Concern Low-Medium Concern Low-Medium Concern Medium Concern Low Concern Low-Medium Concern Low Concern High (+)
<u>Sloping and Landscaping During Rehabilitation</u>		<u>LIKELIHOOD</u>	<u>SIGNIFICANCE</u>
<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. ❖ Potential impact associated with litter/waste left at the mining area. ❖ Use of the excavation as spoil site for natural materials (Positive Impact) 	Duration of decommissioning phase (±3 months)	Low Possibility Low Possibility Low Possibility Low Possibility Definite	Low Concern Low Concern Low Concern Low Concern Medium-High (+)