THABA STONE QUARRY PORTION 2 AND REMAINING EXTENT OF THE FARM UITKOMST NO 558, THABA NCHU FREE STATE PROVINCE

ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT



DMPR REFERENCE NUMBER:	FS 30/5/1/2/2/195 MR
AUDIT PERIOD:	August 2024 – August 2025

PREPARED FOR:

Thaba Stone (Pty) Ltd Contact Person: Mr E Agresti Cell: 083 639 6749

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Greenmined Environmental





1. PROJECT SPECIFIC DETAIL

ITEM	MINING RIGHT/PERMIT HOLDER	
Company Name	Thoma Stane (Dtv) Ltd	
Company Name	Thaba Stone (Pty) Ltd	
Contact Person	Mr Enzo Agresti	
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	P.O. Box 768	
Postal Address	Bloemfontein	
	9301	
ITEM	CONSULTANT DETAIL	
Company Name	Greenmined Environmental (Pty) Ltd	
Contact Person	Christine Fouché	
Tel Number	021 851 2673	
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	Thaba Stone Quarry	
Property Description	Portion 2 and the Remaining Extent of the farm Uitkomst No 558	
Location	The quarry is located ±2.5 km east of Thaba Nchu and ±18 km west of Tweespruit. Access to the quarry is directly of the N8 that passes the site to the south.	
Size of Mining Area	80.9896 ha	



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2. ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT REPORT

PROJECT DETAIL

Permit / Right		Date of	
Number:	FS 30/5/1/2/2/195 MR	Commencement:	2008
Site Name:	Thaba Stone Quarry	Inspection Date:	14 August 2025
Permit / Right			
Holder:	Thaba Stone (Pty) Ltd	Other Authorisations:	General Authorisation:
Report Number:	05		27/2/1/C252/27

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

ECO:	Christine Fouché
EXPERTISE:	Ms Fouche has a Diploma in Nature Conservation and a BSc in Botany and Zoology with nineteen years experience in doing environmental impact assessments and compliance monitoring in South Africa.
DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE:	 I, Christine Fouche, in my capacity as environmental control officer declare that— I act as independent environmental control officer in this compliance audit; 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; I have expertise in conducting environmental compliance audits, including knowledge of the Act and regulations that have relevance to the activity; I will adhere to and comply with all responsibilities as indicated in the National Environmental Management Act and Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations. 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 (as amended).



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

This environmental audit report was compiled in terms of the requirements of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended).

OBJECTIVE:

The objective of the environmental audit report (EAR) is to evaluate compliance of the operational activities with the Environmental Management Programme Report (EMPR) as approved by the Department of Minerals and Petroleum Resources (DMPR).

INSPECTED AREAS:

The inspection included an assessment of the following areas:

- Office area;
- Hard rock quarry;
- Stockpile areas;
- Ready-mix plant;
- Borrow-pit areas; and
- Historic borrow pit.

To establish the environmental compliance assessment of the operation, the mining site was inspected by the Environmental Control Officer, Christine Fouché, of Greenmined Environmental (Pty) Ltd.

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. No uncertainties or gaps in knowledge could be identified that is applicable during this audit period.



LOCATION

Site Location:	The quarry is located ±2.5 km east of Thaba Nchu and ±18 km west of Tweespruit. Access to the quarry is directly of the N8 that passes the site to the south.			
Site Map:	©1 Q1	(B1) Image © 2024 Airbus Imagery Date: 4/6/2024 lat -29,220882° lon 26,879613°.		
	A1 29°12'54.36" S	26°52'21.28" E		
	B1 29°13'18.75" S A 29°13'26.93" S	26°52'57.21" E 26°53'09.21" E		
	F1 29°13'31.84" S	26°53'07.89" E		
	C1 29°13'28.00" S	26°52'54.22" E		
Site Coordinates:	D1 29°13'26.02" S	26°52'45.28" E		
	G1 29°13'25.09" S	26°52'42.44" E		
	H1 29°13'38.93" S	26°52'35.80" E		
	I1 29°13'35.77" S	26°52'23.55" E		
	J1 29°13'20.05" S E1 29°13'12.15" S	26°52'31.15" E 26°52'13.11" E		
	E1 29 13 12.13 3	20 02 13.11 E		



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Thaba Stone Quarry entails the mining of aggregate from Portion 2 and the Remaining Extent of the farm Uitkomst No. 558. The Right Holder implements the opencast mining method where the available topsoil (if any) is stripped and stockpiled separately. Gravel and weathered dolerite is removed with earthmoving equipment, loaded onto trucks and transported to the stockpile area from where it is sold to clients. The hard rock dolerite is mined by drilling and blasting to loosen the material, upon which earthmoving equipment loads the loosened stone onto trucks that transport it to the crushing and screening plant where it is reduced and screened to the various sized stockpiles.

SITE CONDITIONS

Sunny windless day with dry soil conditions.

REPORTABLE ENVIRONMENTAL INCIDENTS

Incident Date:	
Incident No:	The mine has not been operational since April 2024 and there were no incidents
Incident:	reported during the audit period.
How addressed:	
When addressed:	

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	COMPLIANCE SCORE	NON- COMPLIANCE SCORE	STATUS	COMMENTS	
	L	EGISLATION CON	IPLIANCE:		
National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (as amended 2017)	5	-	Compliant	The competent authority deems the approved EMPR and MR of the quarry compatible with an Environmental Authorisation in terms of NEMA, 1998.	
Copy of the EA and EMPR available on site	N/A	-	-	-	
Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No 28 of 2002)	5	-	Compliant	The Right Holder has a Section 11 application (in terms of the MPRDA) pending with the DMPR, and the amendment EMPR was submitted on 14 July 2025 to the Department for approval.	
Mining right available on site	5	-	Compliant	-	
Mine plan annually reviewed	5	-	Compliant	The mine plan was updated in May 2025 and a copy is available with the MR Holder.	
National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act, 2004 (Act No 39 of 2004)	5	-	Compliant	Although the activities at the mine does not require an air emissions licence, the requirements of the NEM:AQA is considered on site.	
National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No 59 of 2008)	4	3	To be addressed	Site management must obtain safe disposal certificates for all waste removed from site.	
National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998)	5	-	Compliant	Water use is Generally Authorised.	
National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004 (Act No 10 of 2004) (NEM:BA)	4	3	Management to be intensified	The listed weeds/invader plants that germinated at the mine must be removed.	
Hazardous Substances Act, 1973 (Act 15 of 1973)	5	-	Compliant	On the day of the audit, the chemicals used at the Tau Pele site camp, were neatly stored and the MSDS's were available.	
TOPSOIL & OVERBURDEN MANAGEMENT:					
Topsoil stripping	N/A	-	-	The mine has very little stockpiled topsoil. As mining	
Topsoil storage/stockpiling (<2.5 m)	N/A	-	-	temporarily ceased in April 2024, no topsoil were stripped or stockpiled during the audit period.	



DESCRIPTION	COMPLIANCE SCORE	NON- COMPLIANCE SCORE	STATUS	COMMENTS
Overburden stripped & stockpiled	5	-	Compliant	-
Topsoil returned to rehabilitated area	N/A	-	-	No areas where rehabilitated during the audit period.
		VEGETATIO	N:	
Protected plants (if any) sheltered from mining activities	N/A	-	ı	No protected plants were identified in the active mining footprint.
Riparian vegetation protected	N/A	-	•	There are no riparian areas on site.
Aliens & weeds controlled on site	4	3	To be addressed	The invader plants noted during the audit must be removed prior to it setting seed.
Indigenous grassmix used to rehabilitate	N/A	-	-	As no areas where rehabilitated, no seeding was done.
Recent vegetated areas protected against grazing.	N/A	-	1	-
No unauthorised collection of firewood	5	-	Compliant	-
		FAUNA:		
All animals, birds and reptiles protected on site	5	-	Compliant	-
Operation pits providing an escape route for trapped animals	5	-	Compliant	-
Operational areas daily inspected for signs of trapped animals	5	-	Compliant	-
		AIR QUALITY &	NOISE:	
Dust suppression implemented	5	-	Compliant	The Tau Pele truck waters the road ways used by the trucks transporting material from site.
Monthly fallout dust monitoring implemented	1	3	To be addressed	Monthly fallout dust monitoring must be reinstated once mining recommences.
Processing plant fitted with water sprayers	N/A	-	-	There are no crushing plant at the mine presently.
Machinery and the plant regularly cleaned to prevent accumulation of dust.	N/A	-	ı	Not presently applicable.
Speed of vehicles controlled to lessen dust generation and road deterioration	5	-	Compliant	-
Noise control	5	-	Compliant	-
Hearing protection available to employees	5	-	Compliant	-
Mining equipment serviced regularly to ensure noise emissions are minimized	5	-	Compliant	-
Blasting limited to twice a year	N/A	-	-	The last blast was set off in April 2024.



DESCRIPTION	COMPLIANCE SCORE	NON- COMPLIANCE SCORE	STATUS	COMMENTS
I&AP's and stakeholders informed prior to a blast	N/A	-	-	Not applicable for this audit period.
Operation hours restricted to office hours.	5	-	Compliant	-
	ARCHAEOL	OGICAL AND CU	LTURAL INTER	
Archaeological and/or cultural remnants protected.	N/A	-	-	To date no archaeological or cultural remnants were discovered at the mine.
		SURFACE WA	TER:	
Storm water diverted around the stockpiled area and access roads to prevent erosion	5	-	Compliant	No erosion problems were noted at the time of the inspection.
Vehicle repairs contained to workshop, or drip trays used during emergency break downs	N/A	-	ı	As most of the mining equipment left the site, no repairs took place outside the workshop area.
Areas with erosion reinstated	N/A	•	-	No signs of erosion were noted during the site inspection.
No water used for mining activities	5	-	Compliant	-
		VISUAL EXPOS	SURE:	
Is the contractor implementing good visual and housekeeping standards.	5	-	Compliant	At the time of the inspection the site was neat and well managed.
Open pits progressively backfilled and made safe	5	-	Compliant	The historic excavation near the entrance to the mine is being backfilled with unwanted building material.
	MANAGEMENT	OF FUEL AND HA	ZARDOUS PR	
Hazardous material stored within a bunded area (110% capacity)	N/A	-	-	No chemicals/hazardous materials were stored on site during the audit period.
Management of fuel and oil spills	N/A	-	-	No spills were noted on the day of the audit.
Drip trays present when refuelling is done outside the service bay	5	-	Compliant	Site management confirmed that drip trays are used when refuelling occurs.
Mining equipment mechanically sound without visible oil leaks	5	-	Compliant	As mentioned earlier, the mining equipment has temporarily left the mining area. The trucks transporting material for Tau Pele appeared to be mechanically sound on the day of the audit.
Sump and oil separator operational	N/A	-	-	Not applicable during the audit period.
Complete oil spill kit available on site	N/A	-	-	The oil spill kits were removed by Danoher when they left the mining site.
Material safety data sheets (MSDS) available on site.	N/A	-	-	Not presently applicable.



DESCRIPTION	COMPLIANCE SCORE	NON- COMPLIANCE SCORE	STATUS	COMMENTS		
WASTE MANAGEMENT:						
Site free of day-to-day litter	5	-	Compliant	The site was free of litter on the day of the audit.		
Waste collected in sealable containers	5	-	Compliant	The mine has general waste bins.		
General waste dumped at a recognised landfill site	TBC	-	To be confirmed	Proof of safe disposal must be filed on site.		
Hazardous waste removed by a registered waste handling contractor	N/A	-	-	According to site management, no hazardous waste was removed from site during the audit period.		
Hydrocarbon spills cleaned from site	N/A	-	-	-		
Spillages not disposed of into the environment, ditches, drains or water courses	N/A	-	-	According to site management no spills occurred during the audit period.		
Waste disposal permits on site	4	3	To be obtained	The proof of safe disposal of the general waste must be filed for auditing purposes.		
No waste stockpile area allowed outside the boundaries of the mining area	5	-	Compliant	-		
Proper sanitation facilities available to employees.	5	-	Compliant	-		
		FIRE MANAGEI	MENT:			
Firefighting equipment available on-site	5	-	Compliant	-		
Fires contained to facilities specially constructed for the purpose	N/A	-	-	No fires allowed on site.		
Employees trained in firefighting	5	-	Compliant	-		
Combustibles kept away from fuel storage receptacles.	N/A	-	-	No fuel stored on site during the audit period.		
Vegetation in vicinity of fuel storage removed	N/A	-	-			
Major fires or explosions reported.	N/A	-	-	No major fires/explosion occurred during the audit period.		
MINE & EQUIPMENT MANAGEMENT:						
Mining area demarcated with visible beacons	5	-	Compliant	Due to the large size of the mining footprint (±80 ha) and the fact that only ±13 ha of the area has been altered for mining related activities, the placing of beacons on the corners of the mining area is deemed impractical. The boundary of the hard rock quarry is demarcated with overburden berms for safety purposes and the larger mining area is fenced.		



DESCRIPTION	COMPLIANCE SCORE	NON- COMPLIANCE SCORE	STATUS	COMMENTS
No permanent buildings established on site	N/A	1	-	The office and weigh bridge buildings at the property will remain upon rehabilitation of the mine for future use by the landowner. The development of the buildings adds value to the property and this requirement was removed from the amended EMPR to be approved by the DMPR.
Mining contained to designated mining area	5	-	Compliant	-
Unnecessary surface disturbance avoided	5	•	Compliant	-
Progressive rehabilitation of mined out areas	N/A	-	-	Not applicable during the audit period.
Gates and fences erected/maintained in consultation with landowner	N/A	-	-	No new gates/fences were erected.
	ACCESS ROADS, V	VEHICLES & TRAN	SPORTING OF	MATERIAL:
Existing roads used and access road maintained.	5	-	Compliant	-
Movement of project related vehicles and machinery restricted to the approved mining area. No crisscrossing through undisturbed areas.	5	-	Compliant	-
Vehicle repairs only conducted in service bay area, and waste products disposed of in containers/bins.	N/A	-	-	Not applicable during the audit period.
Speed limit enforced within the mining area	5	=	Compliant	-
	EMPLO'	YEE AND SAFETY	MANAGEMEN	Т:
Workers inducted and informed of EMPr conditions	5	-	Compliant	-
Proof of training available	5	-	Compliant	-
Workers daily transported to site	5	-	Compliant	The weighbridge personnel is daily transported to site.
Workers provided with PPE	5	-	Compliant	-
Are there signs present, indicating the mining site and speed restrictions	5	-	Compliant	-
Effective access control to prevent unauthorised entry.	5	-	Compliant	-
Hauling routes clearly marked with appropriate signage.	5	-	Compliant	-



COMMENTS OR COMPLAINTS RECEIVED FROM I&AP'S

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

No written environmental related complaints were received during the audit period.

AUDITING OF EA, EMPR AND REPORTING THEREOF (REGULATION 34):

Date of previous	
EAR/EPA:	August 2024
Proof of submission to DMPR available:	The 2024 EPA/EAR was submitted to the DMPR on 30 August 2024. Proof of submission of the EPA/EAR is available from Greenmined Environmental (Pty) Ltd.
EAR/EPA compiled by independent person with environmental auditing expertise:	The 2025 EAR was compiled by Greenmined Environmental (Pty) Ltd.
Potential and registered I&AP's notified within 7 days of the submission date, and report available on publicly accessible website	No I&AP's were identified that had/has to be informed of the submission of the EAR/EPA. The 2025 document will however be loaded onto the Greenmined website that is publicly accessible.

GENERAL REPORT

Compliance with EMPR (2008):

Compliance of the mining site with the EMPR (2008) was reviewed during the site assessment. The mining area recorded a compliance score of 97% for the audit period.

Mining operations at Thaba Stone Quarry temporarily ceased in April 2024. Stockpiled material is currently being transported by Tau Pele for use in a nearby road construction contract. Tau Pele also established a small site camp on the quarry stockpile area, which was found to be neatly managed on the day of the audit. Site management was reminded that no machinery or vehicles may be washed on site.

The workshop and storage areas of the quarry were vandalised, resulting in theft losses. However, as there are no active mining activities on site, these areas will only be repaired once mining resumes.

Mining of the borrow pits (south-east) also ceased, and according to site management, no gravel was removed from this area during the audit period.



Waste Management:

According to site management, no hazardous waste had to be removed from site during the audit period. The chemical ablutions were removed when the mining contractor (Danoher) departed. Ablutions at the weighbridge office and site office drain into a septic tank, which did not require servicing during the audit period.

As mentioned earlier, the site must provide proof of general waste disposal. No waste may be buried or burned on the property. Waste mixed with building rubble that was spoiled at the historical excavation site must be removed. Only inert materials may be spoiled at the excavation, and site management must ensure that no waste is included.

Weeds and/or Invader Plant Species:

At the time of the inspection, Mexican Poppy (*Argemone mexicana*) plants were observed on some denuded areas in and around the mining footprint (refer to photos). Management is reminded that all species listed as Category 1a or 1b invasive species in terms of the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004, and the Alien and Invasive Species Regulations, 2016 (as amended), must be controlled.

In terms of this legislation, Category 1a and 1b species are invasive and must be controlled, and, whenever possible, removed and destroyed. Trade or planting of such species is strictly prohibited. As Mexican Poppy is classified as a Category 1b species, it must be removed from the mining area as soon as possible.

Amendment of the EMPR

The original 2008 Environmental Management Programme (EMPR) was approved prior the introduction of the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014 (as amended). As a result, it does not fully align with the regulatory requirements of Appendix 4 of Government Notice Regulation (GNR) 982. Since its approval, various operational changes and site improvements have occurred, necessitating an update to ensure legal compliance and improved environmental management.

Following the findings of the 2024 Environmental Performance Assessment (EPA), it was recommended that the EMPR be amended to:

- Align with current NEMA EIA Regulations and DMPR requirements.
- Address the environmental impacts and management measures associated with ongoing mining activities.
- Incorporate updated mitigation strategies for air quality, water management, biodiversity conservation, waste management, and land rehabilitation.
- Establish a monitoring and reporting framework to ensure compliance with environmental obligations throughout the operational and decommissioning phases.

The 2025 Amended EMPR was submitted to the DMPR on 14 July 2025 and will replace the 2008 EMPR upon approval.

DOCUMENT CHECKLIST:

Mining right
Mine works program
Social and labour plan
Approved EMPR
Updated Mine Plan
Financial provision (2024)
Environmental Assessment Report (2024)
Present
Present
Present
Present



General Authorisation - Copy to be obtained

Proof of waste removal - To be obtained

Monitoring results - Not presently applicable

Incidents register - Present
Complaints Register - Present
Environmental Awareness Training - Present

Material Safety Data Sheets - Not presently applicable

MATTERS TO BE ADDRESSED:

- 1. Proof of safe disposal of the general waste must be obtained.
- 2. The Mexican Poppy plants must be removed from the work areas.
- 3. Remove all waste from the historic borrow pit being used as spoil site.

ABILITY OF EMPR TO ADEQUATELY MANAGE OR MITIGATE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND NEED FOR AMENDMENT (APPENDIX 7 SUB-REGULATION 3(E):

The 2008 EMPR of the Quarry was amended and the 2025 version of the EMPR was submitted to the DMPR on 14 July 2025 for decision making. The 2008 EMPR will remain in effect until the 2025 EMPR is approved.

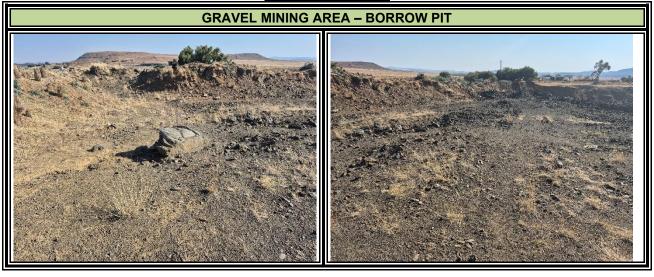
FINANCIAL PROVISION:

This report is accompanied by a reassessment of the financial provision calculation for the year 2025 that amounts to R 751 079.89. The 2025 financial provision does not exceed the financial guarantee in place with the DMPR and the MR Holder does not have to provide a shortfall.

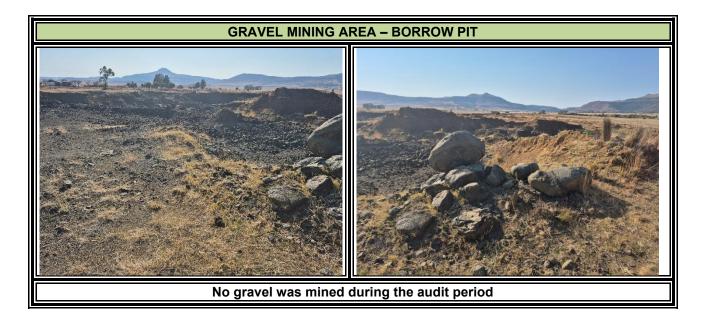
ECO SIGNATURE

NAME:	SIGNATURE:	DATE:
Christine Fouché	Christine Fouché	22 August 2025

PHOTOGRAPHS





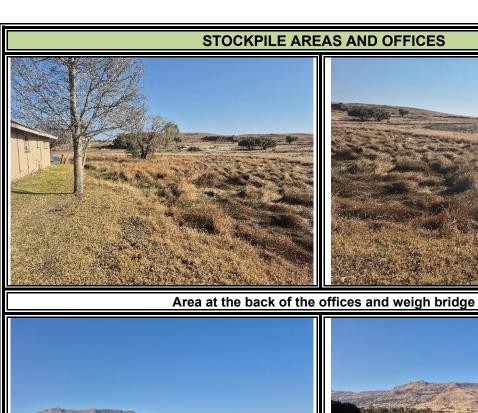


















Dust suppression on roadways



STOCKPILE AREAS AND OFFICES





Chemicals and hazardous waste removed from storage area

Site camp used by Tau Pele





Mexican Poppy plants to be removed from the berms





Workshop and storage areas vandalised



