



**Applicant:**  
 Yomba Umgodi Mining Supplies (Pty) Ltd  
 P.O. Box 13057  
 Arboretum,  
 Bloemfontein  
 9305  
 Tel: 051 433 2964/5

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT**

28 March 2019

To whom it may concern

**RE: NOTICE OF APPLICATION IN TERMS OF SECTION 22 OF THE MINERALS AND PETROLEUM RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT, 2002 (ACT NO. 28 OF 2002) AND THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998 (ACT NO. 107 OF 1998 NEMA) AS WELL AS THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS, 2014 (AS AMENDED)**

Yomba Umgodi Mining Supplies (Pty) Ltd (“Applicant”) intends to apply for a Mining Right to mine 38.6 ha of dolerite on an un-surveyed state land near Qunu (known as Ngqunge, Location 18) within the King Sabata Dalindyebo Local Municipality and Magisterial District of Umtata in the Eastern Cape Province

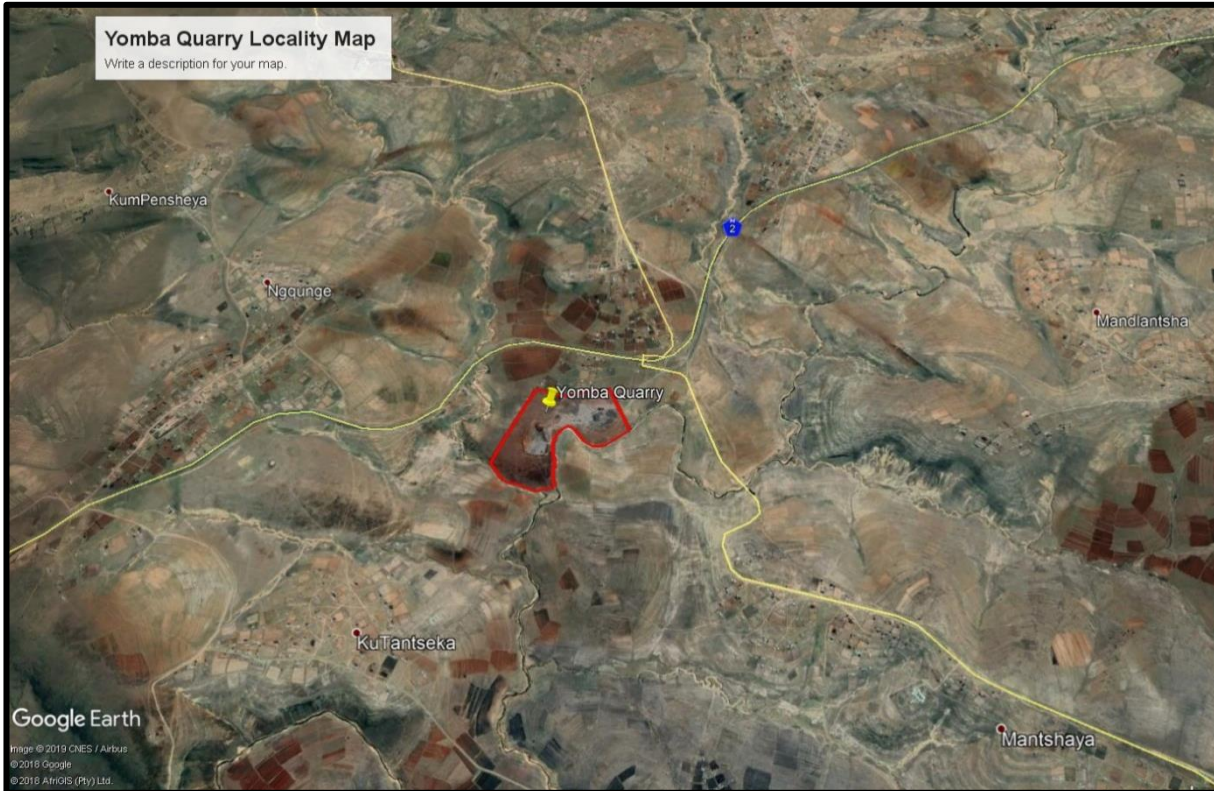
**SITE DESCRIPTION**

The application area is situated approximately ±33km southwest of Umtata and ±2.18 km southeast of the Ngqunge township, Eastern Cape Province. The extent of the proposed mining area is approximately 38.6 ha, and the GPS coordinates of the area to be applied for are as listed below.

<b>GPS COORDINATES OF MINING RIGHT AREA DECIMAL DEGREES</b>	
<b>LATITUDE</b>	<b>LONGITUDE</b>
a. -31.836760°;	a. 28.553325°;
b. -31.841949°;	b. 28.550558°;
c. -31.843007°;	c. 28.551536°;
d. -31.843221°;	d. 28.552064°;
e. -31.843310°;	e. 28.552649°;
f. -31.843703°;	f. 28.553983°;
g. -31.843407°;	g. 28.555378°;
h. -31.842201°;	h. 28.555140°;
i. -31.841998°;	i. 28.555273°;
j. -31.840666°;	j. 28.554936°;
k. -31.839171°;	k. 28.555966°;
l. -31.840540°;	l. 28.557870°;
m. -31.840446°;	m. 28.558695°;
n. -31.839298°;	n. 28.560522°;
o. -31.836506°;	o. 28.558777°;
p. -31.837152°;	p. 28.555206°;

**the goal isn't to live forever, it is to protect a planet that will**

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT



**Figure 1: Google Earth (2018) Satellite view of the proposed Yomba Mining Right area**

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

### LEGAL COMPLIANCE

An application for a mining right in terms of Section 22 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002) [MPRDA] will be submitted to the Department of Mineral Resources (DMR).

The proposed project triggers the following listed activities in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) [NEMA] and the Environmental Impact Assessment [EIA] Regulations 2014 (as amended 2017) and therefore requires an environmental impact assessment to be carried out in order to obtain environmental authorisation:

#### GNR Listing notice 1

■ GNR 327 Listing Notice 1 of 2017 Activity 22 (Mining Area):

*The decommissioning of any activity requiring –*

- i) a closure certificate in terms of section 43 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (act No. 28 of 2002); or*
- ii) a prospecting right, mining right, mining permit, production right or exploration right, where the throughput of the activity has reduced by 90% or more over a period of 5 years excluding where the competent authority has in writing agreed that such reduction in throughput does not constitute closure.*

*but excluding the decommissioning of an activity relating to the secondary processing of a –*

- (a) mineral resource, including the smelting, beneficiation, reduction, refining, calcining or gasification of the mineral resource; or*
- (b) petroleum resource, including the refining of gas, beneficiation, oil or petroleum products; – in which case activity 31 in this Notice applies.*

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

■ GNR 327 Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations Listing Notice 1 of 2014 Activity 28 (Mining and Stockpile area):

*Residential, mixed, retail, commercial, industrial or institutional developments where such land was used for agriculture, game farming, equestrian purposes or afforestation on or before 01 April 1998 and where such development will occur outside an urban area, where the total land to be developed is bigger than 1 hectare.*

■ GNR 327 Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations Listing Notice 1 of 2014 Activity 35 (Mining and Stockpile area)

*The expansion of residential, retail, recreational, tourism, commercial or institutional developments on land previously used for mining or heavy industrial purposes, where the increased development footprint will exceed 1 000 square meters; excluding—*

- (i) where such land has been remediated in terms of part 8 of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008) in which case the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 applies; or*
- (ii) where an environmental authorisation has been obtained for the decommissioning of such a mine or industry in terms of this Notice or any previous NEMA notice; or*
- (iii) where a closure certificate has been issued in terms of section 43 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002) for such land.*

### **GNR Listing Notice 2**

■ GNR 325 Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations Listing Notice 2 of 2014 Activity 15:

The clearance of an area of 20 hectares or more of indigenous vegetation, excluding where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for— (i) the undertaking of a linear activity; or (ii) maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

■ GNR 325 Listing Notice 2 of 2017 Activity 17 (Mining Right Area):

*Any activity including the operation of that activity which requires a mining right as contemplated in section 22 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002), including –*

- (a) Associated infrastructure, structures and earthworks, directly related to the extraction of a mineral resource; or*
- (b) The primary processing of a mineral resource including winning, extraction, classifying, concentrating, crushing, screening or washing but excluding the secondary processing of a mineral resource, including the smelting, beneficiation, reduction, refining, calcining or gasification of the mineral resource in which case activity 6 in this Notice applies.*

### **OTHER LEGISLATION TRIGGERED BY THE PROPOSED PROJECT:**

- An application for a Mining Right in terms of Section 22 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No 28 of 2002) will be submitted to the Department of Mineral Resources – Eastern Cape.
- An application for a Water Use License (General Authorisation) in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No 36 of 1998) has to be submitted to the Department of Water and Sanitation.
- A Heritage Impact Assessment under the South African National heritage Resources Act, 199 (Act No 25 of 1999) will be submitted to the South African Heritage and Resources Agency.

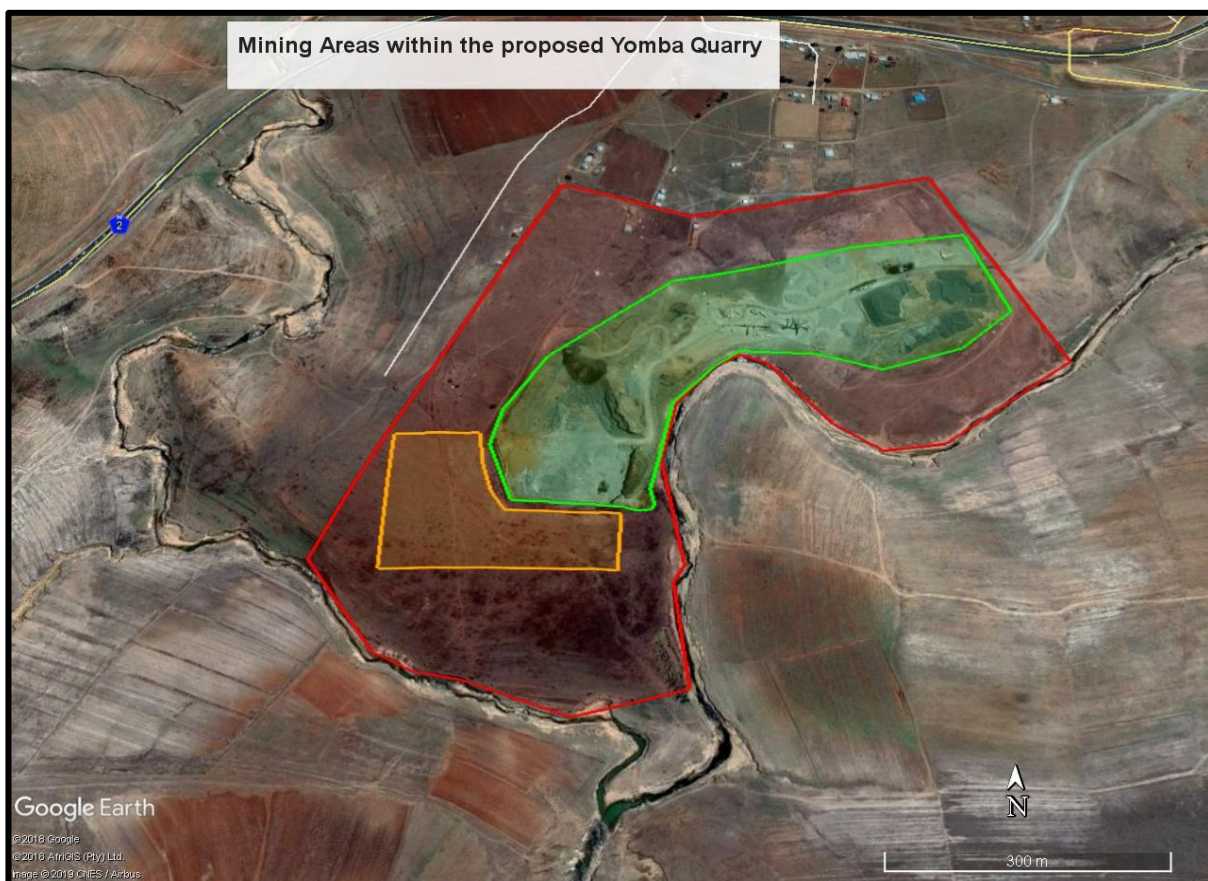
### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

Yomba Umgodi Mining Supplies (Pty) Ltd currently holds a mining permit (with reference number EC30/5/1/3/2/10240 MP) for the proposed mining of aggregate / stone / gravel. The site is a Greenfield whereby no mining has taken place. SANRAL has two mining permits located adjacent to each other where mining of aggregate / stone / gravel has ceased. The stockpiles are on site and will be removed. Yomba Umgodi Mining Supplies (Pty) Ltd intends to apply for a Mining Right covering the two SANRAL Mining Permits areas (as illustrated as figure 2 below). The proposed Mining Right will enclose the Mining Permit areas.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

Owing to the availability of the product in question, Yomba Umgodi Mining Supplies (Pty) Ltd intends to apply for a Mining Right to mine on the 38.6 ha on an un-surveyed State land near Qunu (known as Ngqunge, Location 18). The area earmarked for the proposed Mining Right application falls within the King Sabata Dalindyebo Local Municipality and Magisterial District of Umtata Eastern Cape Province.

The mining methods will make use of blasting means of explosives in order to loosen the hard rock, the material will then be loaded and hauled out of the excavation to the mobile crushing and screening plants. The aggregate will be stockpiled and transported to clients via truck. All activities will be contained within the boundaries of the site. The applicant intends to win material from the area for at least 30 years. The aggregate to be removed from the quarry will be used for road construction, with specific reference to the N2 in the vicinity.



**Figure 2: Illustration of the mining areas within the Proposed Yomba Quarry Mining Area**

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

### **THE MINING ACTIVITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING:**

The mining activities will consist of the following:

- 1 Stripping and stockpiling of topsoil;
- 2 Blasting;
- 3 Establishing the proposed new quarry, expanding and excavating the existing quarry;
- 4 Crushing and Screening;
- 5 Stockpiling and transporting;
- 6 Sloping and landscaping upon closure of the site; and
- 7 Replacing the topsoil and vegetation the disturbed area.

The mining site will consists of the following:

- 1 Drilling equipment;
- 2 Excavating equipment;
- 3 Earth moving equipment;
- 4 Mobile crushing and screening plants;
- 5 Weighbridge;
- 6 Containers for administration, storage and workshop purposes;
- 7 Ablution facilities;
- 8 Generator; and
- 9 Water winning and storage equipment.

In the interim, the applicant will make use of temporary equipment. Permanent structures will be erected upon increase in sales of the materials.

### **ACCESS ROUTE:**

- Access to the farm is from the provincial surfaced road N12 and the secondary road from the Qunu town.
- The applicant will strive to make use of the existing farm roads as far as possible, however some new roads, or upgrading of existing roads may be required to reach allowable mining areas. The construction of a new access road will be in consultation with the landowner and will as far as possible be kept to already disturbed areas following fence lines or similar infrastructure.

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT**

- Haul roads will be extended as mining progress, and will be rehabilitated as part of the final reinstatement of the area.
- Informal roads already exist on site and no new roads will be constructed. Vehicular movement will be restricted to existing access routes to prevent crisscrossing of tracks through undisturbed areas.
- Should any other access roads to the mining area be required it will be established in consultation with the landowner however existing roads will be used as far as practicable.

### **WATER USE:**

- Water for processing purposes will be extracted from the Qunu River.
- Potable water will be obtained from a potential borehole within the site or will be brought into the site from the Mthata town.

### **ELECTRICITY:**

- The applicant will make use of generators to power the site in the beginning until the mine sales are stable. A connection to the Eskom grid will be used at a later stage.

### **EMPLOYMENT:**

- It is proposed that the project will create 19 employment opportunities.

## **BRIEF SITE DESCRIPTION**

### **VISUAL EXPOSURE:**

- The nature of the proposed mining method and the use of temporary infrastructure does not create a significant visual impact, and the activities will be screened by the existing vegetation of the study area. Unless mining takes place immediately adjacent to the provincial road, no mining activities will be visible to road users, and it is believed that the negative visual impact on the landowners will be of low significance should the applicant rehabilitated as mining progress.
- The applicant should however ensure that housekeeping is managed to standard, as this will mitigate the visual impacts during the operational phase of the mine.
- Upon closure the site will be rehabilitated and sloped to ensure that the visual impact on the aesthetic value of the area is kept to a minimum.



## BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

- The site will have a neat appearance and be kept in good condition at all times.
- Upon final closure, it will be ensured that all disturbed areas are rehabilitated and sloped to return the footprint to its previous- or a better state.

### GEOLOGY AND SOILS

- The area falls within the Karoo Supergroup, more specifically the Beaufort Group. Mudstone with subordinate sandstone of the Aldelaide Subgroup underlines most of the area and is intruded by Karoo dolerite dykes and sills. The substrate is primarily loamy soils, but there is significant variability. The area was classified into a variety of land types, with Fa and Fb dominant. The geological formations of the Beaufort Group are outcrop over approximately 145 000 km<sup>2</sup>, attaining a total thickness of around 6000 m thick at its thickest outcrops. In the west, the lowermost Beaufort Group rocks are found east of Laingsburg and remain continuous eastward to East London (Mucina & Rutherford, 2006).
- The soils are described as with dark coloured, well-structured topsoil and high base status (melanic soils). In addition, one or more of vertic and red structured soils may be present. They are dark clay soils, often shallow, on hard or weathering rock. Erosion is considered very low to moderate in the area.

### FLORA

- The property falls within the Savanna Biome, with reference to the Bhishe Thornveld SVs7. Undulating to moderately steep slopes, sometimes in shallow, incised drainage valleys occur. Open savanna characterised by small trees of *Acacia natalita* with short to medium, dense, sour grassy understorey, usually dominated by *Themeda triandra* when in good condition. A diversity of other woody species also occur, often increasing under conditions of overgrazing.
- The vegetation cover of the application area varies from highly degraded to natural with a well-established layer of indigenous vegetation.
- A list of red data and / or protected species that may be present within the natural areas will be compiled during the Environmental Impact Assessment, and the applicant will have to obtain the necessary permits from the Eastern Cape Department of Economic Development and Environmental Affairs prior to the removal, translocation or destruction of the said species.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

- Upon rehabilitation, the disturbed footprint will be vegetated with locally adapted indigenous grass species.
- According to SANBI, the area has a likelihood of alien and weed plant infestation. As illustrated in figure 10 below, the property may be affected by alien plants at a 5.1 – 10 % density.
- A weed and invader plant control management plan must be implemented at the site to ensure eradication of all listed invader plants in terms of the National Environmental Biodiversity Act [NEMBA] (Act No. 10 of 2004) Alien and Invasive Species Regulation GNR 598 and 599 of 2014 Species regarded as need to be eradicated from the site on final closure.

### **SURFACE AND GROUND WATER:**

- The proposed mining site falls between Mzimvubu to Kieskamma Water Management Areas (WMA) and within the Mbashe Sub Water Management Area. The Qunu River flows through the northern section of the site.
- The areas consists of various wetlands however, there are no wetlands within the site. A wetland is situated less than 500m from the property (approximately 375m south of the property).
- Ground water will not be affected with this activity of mining. Although the depth of the groundwater is unknown, mining at the proposed site is expected to be up to a maximum depth of 10m and therefore the impact on the groundwater will need continuous monitoring should ground water be intersected.
- A Water Use Licence Application (General Authorisation) will be submitted for extracting water from the Qunu River.

### **SITES OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL INTEREST**

- Due to the cultural and town planning setting of the area, graves are found within the yards of the settlements.
- Under the two mining permits, some graves were relocated to accommodate the mining activities.
- A few graves were observed in some homesteads.
- No other sites of archaeological or cultural importance were identified at the proposed mining area during the site inspection.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

### POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

#### DUST:

- After hours, excavation- and earthmoving equipment will remain on-site to lessen the traffic volume on the farm roads.
- The speed of mining equipment travelling on the access roads will be limited to 30 km/h to prevent the generation of excessive dust.
- Roads will be sprayed with water or an environmentally friendly dust-allaying agent that contains no PCB's (e.g. DAS products) if dust is generated above acceptable limits.
- Stockpile- and denuded areas will be moistened when necessary to suppress fugitive dust.
- All disturbed or exposed areas will be re-vegetated as soon as possible during mining to prevent any dust source from being created.
- Water from the existing quarry will be extracted and reused for mineral processing and dust suppression.

#### FAUNA:

- The fauna at the site will not be impacted by the proposed mining activity as it will be able to move away or through the site, without being harmed.
- Operational areas will be fenced to prevent domestic animal and / or game entering the work areas getting trapped in excavations.

#### NOISE:

- It will be ensured that employees and staff conduct themselves in an acceptable manner while on site.
- All mining vehicles will be equipped with silencers and maintained in a road worthy condition in terms of the Road Transport Act (Act 93 of 1996).
- The noise generated from the mining machinery will be similar to noise generated along the R58 by public vehicles. Blasting noise will be instantaneous and of short duration.
- The type, duration and timing of the blasting procedures will be planned with due cognisance of other land users and structures in the vicinity.
- Surrounding land owners will be notified in writing prior to blasting occasions.

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT**

### **ABLUTION, WASTE WATER & WASTE DISPOSAL:**

- Ablution facilities will drain into a septic tank that will be pumped, when necessary, by the municipality or a similar qualified contractor.
- Any effluents containing oil, grease or other industrial substances will be collected in a suitable receptacle and removed from the site, either for resale or for appropriate disposal at a recognised facility.
- Spills will be cleaned up immediately to the satisfaction of the Regional Manager by removing the spillage together with the polluted soil and by disposing of it at a recognised facility.
- Non-biodegradable refuse such as glass bottles, plastic bags, metal scrap, etc., will be stored in a container at a collecting point and collected on a regular basis and disposed of at a recognised landfill site. Biodegradable refuse generated will be handled as indicated above.
- No waste will be burned or buried on site.

### **FINAL REHABILITATION**

- Rehabilitation of all the disturbed surface areas shall entail landscaping, levelling, top dressing, land preparation, and weed / alien clearing.
- Replacing the topsoil and vegetation the disturbed area.
- Seasonal hydro seeding (if required) will take place.
- Waste material of any description, including receptacles, scrap, rubble and tyres, will be removed entirely from the mining area and disposed of at a recognized landfill facility. It will not be permitted to be buried or burned on the site.
- Weed / Alien clearing will be done in a sporadic manner during the life of the mining activities. Species categorised as weeds according to the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (Act No. 10 of 2004) [NEMBA] Alien and Invasive Species Regulation GNR 598 and 599 of 2014 Species regarded as need to be eradicated from the site on final closure.
- Final rehabilitation shall be completed within a period specified by the Regional Manager.

### **APPLICATION FOR CLOSURE**

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

Once the full mining area is rehabilitated the mining right holder will submit a closure application to the Department Of Mineral Resources in accordance with Section 43(4) of the MPRDA, 2002 that states: “*an application for a closure certificate must be made to the regional manager in whose region the land in question is situated within 180 days of the occurrence of the lapsing, abandonment, cancellation, cessation, relinquishment or completion contemplated in subsection (3) and must be accompanied by the prescribed environmental risk report*”.

The closure application will be submitted in terms of Regulation 62 of the MPRDA, 2002, and Government Notice 940 of NEMA, 1998.

### **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT & EIA PROCESS**

This document is to inform you about the proposed activity and to determine whether there are any concerns or objections from Interested and Affected Parties (I&AP's) that need to be considered.

As an Interested and Affected Party you are kindly requested to complete the comment form and give any comment / concern or input with regard to the current land use of the area, the environment as well as socio-economic conditions that you feel might be affected by the proposed activity. When submitting response please provide suggestions to mitigate the anticipated impact of each identified activity.

Please contact Kagiso Mohlamme at the contact details as presented in the letterhead or at [kagiso.m@greenmined.co.za](mailto:kagiso.m@greenmined.co.za) through any means should you need more information, have concerns or comments that need to be considered or if you want to be registered as an interested and / or affected party and would like to receive a copy of the Draft Scoping Report (DSR) on or before **2 May 2019**. If no comment(s) is received from you on or before **2 May 2019**, it will be accepted that you do not have any objections / comments with regard to the project and do not require any further documentation.

A register of Interested and Affected Parties (I&AP's) will be opened and maintained containing the names, contact details and address of all persons who have submitted written comments, attended meetings or have in writing requested to be registered and all organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the activity. Please note that only registered I&AP's and stakeholders will be entitled to comment on reports and plans to be submitted to the Department provided that the party provide its name, contact details and address and discloses any direct business, financial, personal or other interest which he / she may have in the approval or refusal of the applications.

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT**

The Draft Scoping Report (DSR) will be submitted to the Department of Mineral Resources – Eastern Cape (DMR) for review purposes. This report will also be made available to the public for a **30 days** review period. An electronic copy of the report will be published on the Greenmined Environmental website ([www.greenmined.com](http://www.greenmined.com)). All registered I&AP's and stakeholders will be notified of the commenting period in advance as above.

The DSR will then be updated to reflect the comments received during the public commenting period. Thereafter, Final Scoping Report (FSR) will be submitted to DMR for its consideration as part of the authorization process in terms of the NEMA, 2014 regulations (as amended 2017). A copy of the FSR will be made available on the Greenmined Environmental website. Once the Final Scoping Report has been accepted by the DMR, the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (DEIAR) will be prepared and also made available to the public for a 30-day commenting period. An electronic copy of the DEIAR report will also be published on the Greenmined Environmental website. All registered I&AP's and stakeholders will be notified of the commenting period in advance.

Upon expiry of the commenting period the DEIAR will be updated to reflect the comments received during the public commenting period. Thereafter, the Final EIAR will be submitted to the DMR for its consideration as part of the authorization process in terms of the NEMA 2014 regulations (as amended by GNR 326 effective 7 April 2017). A copy of the final report will be made available on the Greenmined Environmental website. All registered I&AP's and stakeholders will be notified in writing within 14 days of the date of the decision of the outcome of the application, including the reasons for the decision and the right of appeal.

Upon the cessation of the mining activities, the applicant will apply for closure certificate as per the Government Notice 940 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 [NEMA] (Act No. 107 of 1998) together with section 43, Regulation 55, 60 and 62 of the Minerals and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (MPRDA) (Act No. 28 of 2002). The post land use mining will be at the discretion of the Landowner.



**Applicant:**  
Yomba Umgodi Mining Supplies (Pty) Ltd  
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Bloemfontein  
9305  
Tel: 051 433 2964/5

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

### CONTACT DETAILS

Name/Name	
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Interest/Belange	
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Tel	
Fax/Faks	
E-mail/E-pos	

**the goal isn't to live forever, it is to protect a planet that will**

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Greenmined Environmental (Pty) Ltd | Tel: 021 851 2673 | Fax: 086 546 0579  
Unit M01, Office No 36, AECI Site, Baker Square, Paardevlei, De Beers Avenue, Somerset West, 7130  
Postnet Suite 62, Private Bag x15, Somerset West, 7129  
Directors: S Smit; R L Shedlock; C Weideman | Reg No: 2012/055565/07 | VAT No. 4040263032

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT**

**COMMENTS/ OPMERKINGS**

<b>Objection / No Objection:</b>	
<b>Request additional information:</b>	
<b>Concerns:</b>	

*You can add more pages if need be.*

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_



## BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

**Are there any other organisations or individuals that you feel should be invited to comment? If so, please provide their contact details:**

Contact name:
Organisation (if applicable):
Address:
Tel:
Fax
E-mail

Your feedback is valued and will be addressed appropriately.

Kind Regards



.....  
Kagiso Mohlamme  
Greenmined Environmental