Ref No: EC 30/5/1/3/3/2/1/10980MP

EA Holder:

Power Construction (Pty) Ltd
PO Box 129,
Blackheath
7580
Tel: 021 907 1374
E-mail: nbezuidenhout@powergrp.co.za

To whom it may concern 09 November 2026

RE: APPROVAL OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998 (ACT NO 107 OF 1998) AS AMENDED, AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) REGULATIONS, 2014 (AS AMENDED), FOR ACTIVITIES RELATED TO A MINING PERMIT APPLICATION IN TERMS OF THE MINERALS AND PETROLEUM RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT, 2002 (ACT NO 28 OF 2002) (MPRDA) SUBMITTED BY POWER CONSTRUCTION (PTY) LTD. REF NR: EC 30/5/1/3/3/2/1/10980MP

Notice is hereby given that authorisation was granted through an Environmental Authorisation (EA) in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 as amended (NEMA), and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014 (as amended) for Power Construction (Pty) Ltd to carry out the following activity:

- Mining of stone aggregate and gravel on a portion of Portion 0 of Farm 94, in the Magisterial District of Aberdeen, Eastern Cape Province (mining permit area of approximately 5 ha).

A copy of the Environmental Authorisation can be obtained from Greenmined Environmental (Pty) Ltd upon request or downloaded from the company website at https://www.greenmined.com/mining-permits/. Please contact Sonette Smit at (084) 585 5706 or Tel (021) 851 2673, (Fax) (086) 546 0579, (email) comments@greenmined.co.za.

Holder of the Environmental Authorisation:

Holder:	Power Construction (Pty) Ltd
Responsible person:	Mr Nelis Bezuidenhout
Postal address:	PO Box 127, Blackheath, 7581
Tel / Cell:	021 907 1374 / 082 301 6989
E-mail:	nbezuidenhout@powergrp.co.za

Date of Decision:	05 November 2026
Date of Issue of Decision:	06 November 2026
Reasons for Decision:	See attached EA
Departmental Standard Conditions:	See attached EA

Appeal Procedure: Any registered I&AP may lodge an appeal against the decision in terms of the National Appeal Regulations of 2025. An appellant must submit the appeal to the Minister of the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment and a copy of such appeal to the Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources (Eastern Cape Regional Office), within 20 days from the date of

notification (09 November 2026), and such appeal must be lodged as prescribed by Chapter 2 of the National Appeal Regulations of 2025, by means of the methods as prescribed below:

Appeal to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

Attention:	Directorate Appeals and Legal Review
Email:	appeals@environment.gov.za & JMakhaza@dffe.gov.za
By post:	Private Bag X447, Pretoria, 0001
By hand:	Environmental House, Corner Steve Biko and Soutpansberg Street, Arcadia, Pretoria, 0083

Copy of the lodged appeal to the Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources:

Attention:	Regional Manager: Eastern Cape Region
By facsimile:	(041) 403 6616
E-mail:	Brenda.Ngebulana@dmpr.gov.za & Jonga.Gaqa@dmpr.gov.za
By post:	Private Bag X6076, Port Elizabeth, 6001
By hand:	3rd Floor, Pier 14 Building, 444 Govan Mbeki Avenue, North End, Port Elizabeth, 6000

Should you decide to appeal the decision, you must comply with the National Appeal Regulations of 2025 in relation to notification of the applicant and all registered interested and affected parties. A copy of the official appeal form can be obtained from the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment.

We trust you will find this in order. Please do not hesitate to contact us in the event of any uncertainties.

Kind Regards



Sonette Smit
Greenmined Environmental (Pty) Ltd

mineral & petroleum resources
Department:
Mineral and Petroleum Resources
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 6076, Port Elizabeth, 6000, Tel: 041 403 6600, Fax: 086 710 1055
DMR Building, 444 Govan Mbeki Avenue, Pier 14 Building (3rd Floor), North End, Port Elizabeth

Enquiries: Mr. Jonga Gaqa
Sub-Directorate: Mine Environmental Management
E-Mail Address: Jonga.Gaqa@dmre.gov.za
Ref: (EC) 30/5/1/3/3/2/1/**10980MP**

REGISTERED LETTER

POWER CONSTRUCTION (PTY) LTD
PO Box 127
Blackheath
7581

Attention	: Mr. Nelis Bezuidenhout
Cell	: 082 301 6989
Tel	: 021 907 1374
Email	: nbezuidenhout@powergrp.co.za

Dear Sir

ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998 (NEMA) AS AMENDED, READ IN CONJUCTION WITH THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) REGULATIONS, 2014 AS AMENDED FOR MINING PERMIT APPLICATION IN RESPECT OF STONE AGGREGATE; GRAVEL MINING ACTIVITIES ON A PORTION OF FARM 94 SITUATED IN THE MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT OF ABERDEEN IN THE EASTERN CAPE.

With reference to the above-mentioned application, please be advised that the Department has decided to grant Environmental Authorisation in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998). The Environmental Authorisation and reasons for the decision are attached herewith.

In terms of Regulation 4(2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations of 2014 as amended, you are instructed to notify all registered interested and affected parties, in writing within 14 (fourteen) calendar days, from the date of the Department's decision in respect of your application and the relevant

provisions regarding the lodgement of appeal must be provided for in terms of the National Appeal Regulations of 2025.

Should you wish to appeal any aspect of the decision, you must submit the appeal to the Minister of Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment and a copy of such appeal to the Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources (Eastern Cape Regional Office), within 20 days from the date of notification, and such appeal must be lodged as prescribed in by Chapter 2 of the National Appeal Regulations of 2025, by means of the methods as prescribed below:

Appeal to the Department of Fisheries Forestry and the Environment.

Attention : Directorate Appeals and Legal Review
Email : appeals@environment.gov.za & JMakhaza@dffe.gov.za
By post : Private Bag X 447, **PRETORIA**, 0001
By hand : Environmental House, Corner Steve Biko and Soutpansberg Street, Arcadia, **Pretoria,** 0083

Copy of the lodged appeal to the Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources

Attention : Regional Manager: Eastern Cape Region
By facsimile : (041) 403 6616
E-mail : Brenda.Ngebulana@dmre.gov.za & Jonga.Gaqa@dmre.gov.za
By post : Private Bag X 6076, Port Elizabeth, 6001
By hand : 3rd Floor Pier 14 building, 444 Govan Mbeki Avenue, North End, Port Elizabeth, 6000

Should you decide to appeal, you must comply with the National Appeal Regulation of 2025 in relation to notification of all registered interested and affected, and a copy of the official appeal form can be obtained from the **Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment.**

Kind Regards,

.....

BRENDA NGEBULANA
REGIONAL MANAGER: MINERAL AND PETROLEUM REGULATION
EASTERN CAPE REGIONAL OFFICE
DATE: 05/11/2026

mineral &
petroleum resources
Department:
Mineral and Petroleum Resources
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 6076, Port Elizabeth, 6000, Tel: 041 403 6600, Fax: 086 710 1055
DMR Building, 444 Govan Mbeki Avenue, Pier 14 Building (3rd Floor), North End, Port Elizabeth

ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORIZATION

Reference number:	(EC) 30/5/1/3/3/2/1/**10980MP**
Last Amended	First Issue
Holder of Environmental Authorisation:	Power Construction (Pty) Ltd
Location of activities:	On a Portion of Farm 94 situated in the Magisterial District of Aberdeen in the Eastern Cape.

DECISION

ACRONYMS

DEPARTMENT:	Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources
ECO:	Environmental Control Officer
EA:	Environmental Authorisation
EIA:	Environmental Impact Assessment
EIA REGULATIONS:	EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended
EMPr:	Environmental Management Programme
EIR:	Environmental Impact Report
ECHRA:	Eastern Cape Heritage Resource Agency
I&AP:	Interested and Affected Parties
MPRDA:	Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act 28 of 2002), as amended
NEMA:	National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998), as amended
NEMWA:	National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act 59 of 2008), as amended
SAHRA:	South African Heritage Resources Agency

The Department is satisfied, on the basis of information available to it and subject to compliance with the conditions of this EA that the applicant should be authorised to undertake **NEMA** listed activity (ies) specified below. Details regarding the basis on which the Department reached this granting decision are set out in **Annexure "1"** and **"2"** of this EA.

NEMA EIA LISTED ACTIVITIES AUTHORISED

By virtue of the powers conferred on it by NEMA the Department hereby **grants-** an application for Environmental Authorisation by **Power Construction (Pty) Ltd** with the following contact details –

POWER CONSTRUCTION (PTY) LTD
PO Box 127
Blackheath
7581

Attention	: Mr. Nelis Bezuidenhout
Cell	: 082 301 6989
Tel	: 021 907 1374
Email	: nbezuidenhout@powergrp.co.za

to undertake the following activities (hereafter referred to as "the activities"):

Listed Activities	
Activity 21 of Government notice No. R 983 as amended by GN 517 of 11 June 2021 Any activity including the operation of that activity which requires a mining permit in terms of section 27 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, as well as any other applicable activity as contained in this Listing Notice or in Listing Notice 3 of 2014, required to exercise the mining permit.	The project or development involves application for mining permit. The proposed mining area is approximately 5ha.

Detailed description of the activities are as follows:

Key Mining Activities

- Stripping and stockpiling of topsoil
- Drilling and blasting of rocks
- Excavation, crushing, screening and stockpiling of aggregate.
- Hauling and transportation of material

- Progressive rehabilitation including sloping, landscaping, and revegetation of disturbed areas.

Infrastructure and Onsite Facilities

- Site office and workshop containers
- Parking and laydown area
- Chemical ablution facilities
- Bunded diesel and oil storage facilities
- Generator (and solar power supply)
- Weighbridge
- Designated general and hazardous waste storage area.

Access to the Site

- Access to the site will be through an existing gravel road branching R61

Site description and location:

Mining activities will be conducted on a Portion of Farm 94 situated in the Magisterial District of Aberdeen in the Eastern Cape:

- Mining Permit area = **5ha**

GPS coordinates for the proposed mining areas are provided below:

Nr	Latitude	Longitude
	DECIMAL DEGREE	
A	-32.470068	23.817027
B	-32.469767	23.818586
C	-32.469467	23.818519
D	-32.469155	23.820315
E	-32.470186	23.820572
F	-32.469867	23.823161
G	-32.470491	23.823576
H	-32.470537	23.823431
I	-32.470049	23.823062
J	-32.470395	23.820621
K	-32.470753	23.818808

L	-32.471025	23.818808
M	-32.471300	23.817469
A	-32.470068	23.817027

The SG code for each farm portion is: **C00100000000000094000000**

SCOPE OF THE AUTHORISATION

The granting of this EA is subject to the conditions set out below (site specific) and in Annexure 2 (Departmental standard conditions). The Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) attached as part of the reports for the above development submitted as part of the application for an EA complies with section 24N of NEMA, Appendix 4 of the NEMA: EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended and is hereby approved and must be adhered to throughout the life cycle of the operation.

ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION SITE SPECIFIC CONDITIONS

1. Mining activities must be conducted in accordance with the approved Environmental Management Programme, including recommendations of the specialist and the attached layout plan.

2. The top 30cm of topsoil must be stripped, kept separate from the overburden, safely stockpiled within permit mining area and returned when mining is completed. Management of topsoil must be done as per the approved EMPr and the conditions of this EA.

3. Vegetation clearance must be limited to the approved mining permit area as indicated on the mine plan.

4. Prior to any blasting, the community must be forewarned in advance with respect to the days when blasting is to take place, to ensure the safety of both animals and the people. People and animals must all moved to a safe distance from the site before commencement of any blasting activities.

5. The DMPR Principal Inspector of mines must be in attendance during the first blast to ensure that all MHS procedures are adhered to.

6. Mining activities must be conducted concurrently with rehabilitation and measures such as immediate levelling the floor must be implemented.

7. All stockpiles must not exceed 3m and they must be protected from and/ or against losses by water and wind erosion.

8. Once mining activities have ceased, the disturbed mining permit area must be rehabilitated to resemble the surrounding landscape (natural/open).

9. Access to the site must be through an existing access road as construction of new access road will trigger a listed activity.

10. Vehicles and equipment used in the mining operation must be adequately maintained so that no spillage of hydrocarbons occurs.

11. Dust suppression measures must be implemented during mining activities and this may include spraying the mining area and access road with an environmentally friendly dust-allaying agent. Dust must be compatible with the national dust fall standard.

12. Alien vegetation must be prevented and managed in all stages of the mining activities through an alien control plan as set out in of the FBAR/EMPr report.

13. An integrated waste management approach which is based on waste minimisation and incorporates reduction, recycling, re-use and disposal where appropriate must be used.

14. Should any Archaeological material be found, SAHRA must be informed immediately and work stopped in the area until the area has been assessed by a qualified archaeologist specialist. Should culturally significant material or skeletal remains be exposed all activities must be suspended pending investigation by a qualified archaeologist.

15. All recommendations and conditions set out in the specialist reports and approved EMPr must be strictly adhered to.

ANNEXURE 1: REASONS FOR THE DECISION

1. Key factors considered in making the decision.

All the information presented to the Department was considered during the Department consideration of the application. A summary of the issues which, in the Department's view, were of the most significance are set out below: -

a) The information contained in the application form received by the Department on 25 February 2026.

b) The information contained in the FBAR and EMPr received by the Department on 06 July 2026.

c) Public Participation Process Report (PPP) is attached as Appendix 3 of the FBAR&EMPr received by the Department on 06 July 2026. The Public Participation Process (PPP) that was undertaken by the Applicant has satisfied the minimum requirements prescribed in the EIA Regulations R982 of 2014 as amended for public involvement and the PPP results shows that the concerns raised by the I&APs and the Authorities were addressed by the EAP in the FBAR&EMPr.

d) The objectives and requirements of the applicable and relevant legislation, frameworks and development plans, policies and guidelines, and the EIA Regulations of 2014 as amended.

e) The environmental impacts associated with the proposed activities outlined in the FBAR&EMPR will be addressed through the implementation of the proposed mitigation measures outlined in the EMPr compiled by Mrs Sonnette Smit of Greenmined Environmental (Pty) Ltd.

f) The Comments from Mine Health and Safety are in support of the proposed project and mitigation measures outlined will be implemented during the relevant phase within the lifecycle of the project.

g) The Heritage Impact Assessment report dated 1 April 2026 prepared by Alvord Nhundu of KMG Environmental Solution Services (Pty) Ltd attached as Appendix M3.1 in the FBAR & EMPR received by the Department on 06 July 2026. The recommendations and mitigation measures outlined in the report will be implemented during the relevant phase within lifecycle of the project

h) The Phase 1 Palaeontology Impact Assessment report dated 1 April 2026 prepared by Dr Nonhlanhla Vilakazi of KMG Environmental Solution Services (Pty) Ltd attached as Appendix M3.2 in the FBAR & EMPR received by the Department on 06 July 2026. The recommendations and mitigation measures outlined in the report will be implemented during the relevant phase within lifecycle of the project

i) The Avifaunal Impact Assessment report dated April 2026 compiled by Robyn Phillips of Cossypha Ecological attached as Appendix M4 in the FBAR & EMPR received by the Department on 06 July 2026. The recommendations and mitigation measures outlined in the report will be implemented during the relevant phase within lifecycle of the project.

j) The Terrestrial Ecological Assessment report dated April 2026 compiled by Darious van Rensburg of DPR Ecological & Environmental Services attached as Appendix M2 in the FBAR & EMPR received by the Department on 06 July 2026. The recommendations and mitigation measures outlined in the report will be implemented during the relevant phase within lifecycle of the project.

k) The Aquatic Assessment report dated 17 April 2026 prepared by Dr. Brian Colloty of EnviroSci (Pty) Ltd attached as Appendix M1 in the FBAR & EMPR received by the Department on 06 July 2026. The recommendations and mitigation measures outlined in the report will be implemented during the relevant phase within lifecycle of the project.

l) The closure plan attached as Appendix L in the FBAR & EMPR received by the Department on 06 July 2026. The rehabilitation measures outlined in the report will be implemented during the relevant phase within lifecycle of the project.

m) The final comments from Eastern Cape Provincial Heritage Resource Agency dated 25 June 2026.

n) The Applicant has complied with Section 24P of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998) and provided the financial provision for the management of environmental impacts.

2. Findings

After consideration of the information and factors listed above, the Department made the following findings –

a) The potential impacts on the proposed site were clearly investigated, and mitigation measures were outlined. The impacts from mining activities will be managed through the implementation of mitigation measures proposed in the EMPr and specialist studies.

b) The need and desirability of the project was clearly addressed and covered all the main factors.

c) The Basic Impact Assessment and Environmental Management Programme report have thoroughly investigated the impacts on the receiving environment and outline sound mitigation measures.

d) The Avifaunal Impact Assessment report compiled by Robyn Phillips indicated that the impact on avifauna and avifaunal habitat would be low to negligible considering the small size of the proposed development footprint, and that the proposed project may bee authorised subject to the recommendations in the EMPr being adhered to.

e) The Terrestrial Ecological Assessment report compiled by Darious van Rensburg indicated that the impact significance has been determined and should mining take place without mitigation some impacts may be high, but most impacts will however be moderate. The report further noted that, should adequate mitigation be implemented as described all impacts can be reduced to being moderate.

f) The Aquatic Assessment report compiled by Dr. Brian Colloty indicated that during the assessment it became evident that several watercourses mostly ephemeral alluvial channels with riparian vegetation were in close proximity to the proposed activities. The report noted that with suitable mitigation, such as suitable stormwater management as a minimum, obtaining a general authorisation from DWS, the author has no objection to the authorisation of this project.

g) The Heritage Impact Assessment report compiled by Alvord Nhundu concluded that there are no fatal heritage constraints that would preclude the proposed development from proceeding. The report further notes that from a heritage perspective, the project is considered acceptable, provided that all recommended mitigation measures are implemented and that compliance with applicable heritage legislation is maintained.

h) The Phase 1 Palaeontology Impact Assessment report compiled by Dr Nonhlanhla Vilakazi indicated that although no fossils were identified during the site inspection visit, the potential for subsurface fossil material remains significant. The report therefore recommended that the proposed development may proceed, subject to the implementation of appropriate mitigation measures to safeguard the potential palaeontological resources

i) The final comments from Eastern Cape Provincial Heritage Resource Agency dated 25 June 2026 indicated that there are no objections to the proposed development and the project may proceed as

planned provided that the specialist's recommendations are adhered to, including those of ECPHRA

j) Public Participation Process complied with Chapter 6 of the 2014 EIA Regulations R.982 as amended by (GN 326). The PPP included, *inter-alia*, the following:

- Advertisements, notifying the public of the submission of the Environmental Authorisation (EA) application and the Mining Permit application requesting I&AP's to register their comments with Greenmined Environmental (Pty) Ltd was placed on a The Suid-Kaap Forum newspaper on 29 May 2026.
- Notice boards were erected at key locations surrounding the project site on 26 May 2026, to inform surrounding communities and adjacent landowners of the proposed development.
- A notification letter inviting comments on the draft BAR/EMPr was sent on 05 June 2026 to neighbouring landowners; Dr Beyers Naude Local Municipality; Ward 1 Councillor (Dr Beyers Naude Local Municipality); SANRAL, Department of Labour; Department of Transport; Eastern Cape Provincial Heritage Agency (ECPHRA); Eastern Cape Parks and Tourism Agency; South African Heritage Resource Agency; Eskom; Land Claims Commissioner; Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism; Department of Agriculture, Rural Development and Agrarian; Department of Agriculture, Rural Development and Land Reform and Department of Water and Sanitation.
- All stakeholders were provided with 30 days commenting period from 05 June 2026 to 06 July 2026 for the draft BAR/EMPr.
- Proof of consultation and comments received from the Interested and Affected Parties are included in the BAR and EMPr.
- Comments and issues raised by interested and affected parties were adequately addressed and issues and responses summary are attached in the FBAR and EMPr; and
- The register of interested and affected parties was opened and is included in the FBAR /EMPr.

ANNEXURE 2: DEPARTMENTAL STANDARD CONDITIONS

1 SCOPE OF AUTHORISATION

1.1 The holder of the EA must be responsible for ensuring compliance with the conditions contained in the EA. This includes any person acting on the holder's behalf, including but not limited to an agent, servant, contractor, subcontractor, employee, consultant or any person rendering a service to the holder of EA.

1.2 Any changes to or deviation from the project description set out in this EA must be approved in writing by this Department before such changes or deviation may be effected. In assessing whether to grant such approval or not, the Department may request such information as is deemed necessary to evaluate the significance and impacts of such changes or deviation and it may be necessary for the holder of the EA to apply for further Authorisation in terms of the EIA Regulations as amended.

1.3 The activities which are authorised, must only be carried out at the property indicated in the EA and the approved EMPr.

1.4 When any of the holders of the EA contact details change including name of the responsible person, physical or postal address or telephonic details, the holder of the EA must notify the Department as soon as the new details become known to the holder of the EA.

1.5 The EA does not negate the responsibility of the holder to comply with any other statutory requirements that may be applicable to the undertaking of such activity (ies).

1.6 The holder of EA must ensure that all areas where the authorised activities occur have controlled access to ensure safety of people and animals.

2 APPEAL OF AUTHORISATION

2.1 The holder of the EA must in writing, within 14 (fourteen) calendar days from the date of this decision and in accordance with EIA Regulation 4(2) do the following:

2.2 Notify all registered I&APs of –

2.2.1 The outcome of the application;

2.2.2 The date of the decision;

2.2.3 The date of issue of the decision and;

2.2.4 The reasons for the decision as included in Annexure 1 and Departmental standard conditions in Annexure 2.

2.3 Draw the attention of all registered I&APs to the fact that an appeal may be lodged against the decision in terms of the National Appeals Regulations.

2.4 Draw the attention of all registered I&APs to the manner in which they may access the decision.

2.5 Provide the registered I&APs with:

2.5.1 Name of the holder (entity) of this EA;

2.5.2 Name of the responsible person for this EA;

2.5.3 Postal address of the holder;

2.5.4 Telephonic and fax details of the holder and

2.5.5 E-mail address of the holder if any.

3. COMMENCEMENT OF THE ACTIVITY (IES)

3.1 In order to ensure safety, all employees must be given the necessary personnel protective equipment (PPE) and any employee without PPE must not be allowed on site.

3.2 This EA must be provided to the site operator and the requirements thereof must be made fully known to him or her.

3.3 Hauling routes for mining vehicles and machinery must be clearly marked and appropriate signaling must be posted to that effect. Furthermore, movement of vehicles and machinery must be restricted to the approved mining area.

3.4 Appropriate notification signs must be erected at the mining site, warning the public (residents, visitors etc.) about the hazard around the mining area and presence of mining vehicles and machinery.

3.5 Construction must include design measures that allow surface and subsurface movement of water along the drainage lines so as not to impede natural surface and subsurface water flow, and drainage measures must promote the dissipation of storm water runoff.

3.6 Vegetation clearance must be limited to the actual mining footprint in accordance to the approved layout plan, and mitigation measures must be implemented to reduce the risk of erosion and alien species invasion.

3.7 The holder of EA must note that in terms of the National Forest Act (Act No.84 of 1998) protected plant species, must not be cut, disturbed, damaged, destroyed and their product must not be possessed, collected, removed, transported, exported, donated, purchased or sold unless permission is granted by the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development.

3.8 Construction area (e.g. material lay down areas), topsoil and subsoil must be protected from contamination or pollution. Stockpiling must not take place in drainage lines or areas where it will impede surface water runoff.

3.9 If any soil contamination is noted at any phase of the proposed activity (ies), the contaminated soil must be removed to a licensed waste disposal facility designed for such waste and the site must be rehabilitated to the satisfaction of the Department and Department of Water and Sanitation. The opportunity for the onsite remediation and re-use of contaminated soil must be investigated prior to the disposal and this Department must be informed in this regard.

3.10 An integrated waste management approach that is based on waste minimization (waste management hierarchy) must be implemented and must incorporate avoidance, reduction, recycling, treat, reuse and disposal where appropriate. Ensure that no refuse generated in the prospecting area is placed, buried, dumped or deposited on the adjacent properties or public places and open space.

3.11 In terms of sections 28 and 30 of NEMA, and sections 19 and 20 of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998), any costs incurred to remedy environmental damage must be borne by the person responsible for the damage. It is therefore imperative that the holder of the IEA reads through and understand the legislative requirements pertaining to the project. It is the Applicant's responsibility to take reasonable measures which include informing and educating

contractors and employees about environmental risks of their work and training them to operate in an environmentally acceptable manner.

3.12 Construction vehicle must be serviced and maintained in the manner whereby no excessive smokes and noise production is reduced to acceptable levels, and to prevent oil leaks. Contaminated soil must be remediated on site or removed to an authorised landfill site.

3.13 Residents (if any) on the property and surrounding areas must be informed of if any unusual noise activities are planned in the mining area.

3.14 Dust suppression measures must be implemented on all exposed surface and access road to minimize and control airborne dust.

3.15 Mixing of cement, concrete, paints, solvent, sealants and adhesive must be done in specified area on concrete aprons or on protected plastic linings to contain spillage or overview onto soil to avoid contamination of underground water and environmental damage.

3.16 The protection of all historical and pre-historical cultural resources must remain on site and no mining activity/-ies is/are allowed within 100 diameters from those resources. Should any heritage remains be exposed during operation or any actions on the site, the following shall be applied:

i. All work at the affected area must cease;
ii. These must immediately be reported to the South African Heritage Resource Agency (SAHRA) and or Eastern Cape Provincial Heritage Resource Agency (in accordance with the applicable legislation). Heritage remains uncovered or disturbed during earthworks must not be further disturbed until the necessary approval has been obtained from the South SAHRA and or Eastern Cape Provincial Heritage Resource Agency;
iii. The area should be demarcated in order to prevent any further work there until an investigation has been completed;
iv. An archaeologist should be contacted immediately to provide advice on the matter;
v. Should it be a minor issue, the archaeologist will decide on future action. Depending on the nature of the find, it may include a site visit;
vi. If needed the necessary permit will be applied for with SAHRA. This will be done in conjunction with the appointed archaeologist;

vii. The removal of such archaeological material will be done by the archaeologist in lieu of the approval given by SAHRA, including any conditions stipulated by the latter;

viii. Work on site will only continue after the archaeologist/ SAHRA has agreed to such a matter. Heritage remains include: archaeological remains (including fossil bones and fossil shells); coins; maddens, indigenous and/or colonial ceramics; any articles of value or antiquity; marine shell heaps; stone articrafts and bone remains; structures and other built features; rock art and rock engravings; shipwrecks; and graves or unmarked human burials. A qualified archaeologist must be contracted where necessary (at the expense of the applicant and in consultation with the relevant authority) to remove any human remains in accordance with the requirements of the relevant authority.

3.17 Care must be taken to ensure that the material and excavated soil required for backfilling are free of contamination from hydrocarbons.

3.18 Hydraulic fluid or chemicals required must be stored in a concrete lined surface with bund walls, designed in such a manner that any spillage can be contained and reclaimed without any impact on the surrounding environment. Should any spills occur, it should be cleaned immediately by removing spillage together with the polluted solids and disposing of it in the authorised disposal site permitted of such waste. The regional office of the Department of Water and Sanitation must be notified within 24 hours of an incident that may pollute surface and underground water resources.

3.19 Chemical sanitation facilities or systems such as toilets that do not rely on the seepage of liquids must be provided with a ratio of 1 for every 15 workers. These must be placed such that they prevent spills or leaks to the environment and must be maintained according to the operating instructions, and the content thereof must be disposed of at an authorised wastewater treatment works. Proof of disposal must be kept on site and be produced upon request.

3.20 The holder of an EA must ensure that any water uses listed in terms of Section 21 of National Water Act must get authorisation from Department of Water and Sanitation prior to the commencement of such activity (ies).

3.21 This EA does not purport to absolve the holder of an EA from its common law obligations towards the owner of the surface of land affected.

3.22 The holder of EA must ensure that rehabilitation of the disturbed areas caused by operation at all times comply with the approved EMPr.

3.23 This EA may be amended or withdrawn at any stage for non-compliance and provides no relief from the provisions of any other relevant statutory or contractual obligations.

3.24 The holder of an EA must note that in terms of Section 43A of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008), residue deposit must be deposited and managed in a prescribed manner on any site demarcated for that purpose in the Environmental Management Programme. No person may temporary or permanently deposits residue stockpile or residue deposit on any area or site other than on site indicated on the Environmental Management Programme.

3.25 The holder of an EA must note that in terms of Section 20 of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No.59 of 2008), no person may commence, undertake or conduct a waste management activity, except in accordance, with the requirements of norms and standards determined in terms of Section 19 (3) for that activity or a waste management license is issued in respect of that activity if license is required.

3.26 An appeal under Section 43(7) of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), Act 107 of 1998 (as amended) suspend an EA or exemption or any provisions of conditions attached hereto, or any directive unless the Minister directs otherwise.

3.27 Should you be notified by the Minister of a suspension of the authorisation pending appeal procedure, you may not commence with the activity (ies) until such time that the Minister allows you to commence with such activity (ies) in writing.

3.28 The Department reserves the right to audit and/or inspect the activity (ies) without prior notification at any reasonable time and at such frequency as may be determined by the Regional Manager.

3.29 The waste storage site must have a firm, impermeable, chemical resistant floors and a roof to prevent direct sunlight and rainwater from getting in contact with the waste.

3.30 The storage of hydrocarbons must have bund walls with adequate capacity to contain the maximum volume that is stored in the area. Uncontaminated storm water must be prevented from coming into contact with the waste and must be diverted away from the storage site.

3.31 Subject to the commencement and duration requirements of the MPRDA, the EA is valid for the period for which the aforesaid permit/right is granted. When the renewal application of the permit/right is lodged; the EA validity, obligations and liabilities which were attached thereto immediately before the date on which it lapsed continue to be valid until the decision of the renewal is made and become valid again with the intervals of the approved renewal period.

3.32 This EA will only be effective on the event that a corresponding Prospecting Right is issued in terms of MPRDA as amended and none of the activities listed in this EA may commence without a Prospecting Right.

3.33 The listed activity (ies), including site preparation, must not commence within 30 (thirty) calendar days of the date of the notification of the decision being sent to the registered I&APs. This is inclusive of the 10-day condonation. In the event that an appeal is lodged with the appeal administrator, the effect of this environmental authorisation is suspended until such time as the appeal is decided.

3.34 Should there be any conflicting conditions between this EA and other approval granted by other authorities, it is upon the holder of EA to bring it to the attention of the Department for resolution.

4 MANAGEMENT OF ACTIVITY (IES)

4.1 A copy of the EA and EMPr must be kept at the property or on site office where the activities will be undertaken. The EA and EMPr must be produced to any authorised officials of the Department who request to see it and must be made available for inspection by any employee or agent of the holder of the EA who works or undertakes work at the property (ies).

4.2 The contents of the EMPr and its objectives must be made known to all contractors, subcontractors, agent and any other people working on the site, and any updates or amendments to the EMPr must be submitted to the Department for approval.

4.3 Regular monitoring and maintenance of storm water drainage facilities must be conducted at all times, if damaged as directed by the Department or any other relevant authority.

4.4 Any complaint received from the I&AP during all phases of the operation must be attended to as soon as possible and addressed to the satisfaction of all concerned interested and affected parties.

4.5 The holder of the EA must prevent nuisance conditions or health hazards, or the potential creation of nuisance conditions or health hazards.

4.6 The holder of the EA must ensure that all non-recyclable waste is disposed of at a waste management facilities licensed to handle such waste, and all recyclable waste are collected by licensed waste management facilities for recycling, reuse or treatment.

4.7 Non-compliance with any condition of this EA and the approved EMPr is an offence in terms of section 49A(1)(c) of NEMA and may result in criminal proceedings and issuing of a directive in terms of Section 28 and or a compliance notice in terms of section 31L of NEMA.

4.8 Only listed activity (ies) that are expressly specified in the EA must be undertaken, any additional or new activities not specified herein must be applied for by the holder and authorised by the competent authority before such activities may be commenced with. This condition is also applicable in the case of the amendment, addition, substitution, correction, and removal or updating of any detail in the aforesaid EA.

4.9 Rehabilitation of the disturbed surface caused by operation at all times must comply with the approved EMPr.

4.10 The Holder of EA must appoint the ECO before commencement of mining activities and ensure that the name and contact details of the ECO is made available to the Regional Manager within 30 days of commencement. The holder of EA must also ensure that an ECO is readily available on site to ensure that activities at all times comply with the issued EA and approved EMPr.

4.11 The ECO must:

4.11.1 Keep and maintain a detailed incident register (including any spillages of fuels, chemicals or any other material).

4.11.2 Keep a complaint register on site indicating the complaint and how the issues were addressed, what measures were taken and what the preventative measures were implemented to avoid re-occurrence of complaints.

4.11.3 Keep records relating to monitoring and auditing on site and avail them for inspection to any relevant authorised officials.

4.11.4 Keep copies of all environmental reports submitted to the Department.

4.11.5 Keep the records of all permits, licences and authorisations required by the operation.

4.11.6 Compile a monthly monitoring report and make it available to the Department if requested.

4.11.7 The duties and responsibility of the ECO must not be seen as exempting the holder of the EA from the legal obligations in terms of the NEMA.

4.12 The footprint of the activities must be limited on the areas authorised for the actual mining works and operational activities and all areas outside of the footprint must be regarded as a "no go" areas.

4.13 Erosion and soil loss must be prevented by minimizing the construction site exposed to the surface water run-off. Where necessary erosion stabilizing action such as gabions or re-vegetation must be implemented to prevent further habitat deterioration.

4.14 The holder of the EA must ensure that all personnel who work with hazardous waste are trained to deal with these potential hazardous situations so as to minimize the risk involved. Record of training and verification of competence must be kept by the holder of the EA.

4.15 In order to prevent nuisance conditions, the holder of the EA must ensure that all storage skips and bins are not overfilled. The holder of the EA must also make sure that littering of waste within the mining area is prohibited.

5 REPORTING TO THE DEPARTMENT

5.1 The holder of EA must:

5.1.1 Submit an Environmental Audit Report to this Department biennially and such report must be done by qualified independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner and the audit report must specify whether conditions of this environmental authorisation and EMPr/closure plan are adhered to;

5.1.2 The audit report must be in accordance to appendix 7 of the 2014 EIA regulations as amended;

5.1.3 identify and assess any new impacts and risks as a result of undertaking the activities, if applicable;

5.1.4 identify shortcomings in the EMPr/closure plan, if applicable;

5.1.5 identify the need, if any, for any changes to the management, avoidance and mitigation measures provided for in the EMPr;

5.1.6 if applicable, specify that the corrective action/s taken for the previous audit's non-conformities, was adequate and must;

5.1.7 be submitted by the holder to the competent authority within 30 days from the date on which the auditor finalised the audit.

5.2 Should any shortcomings in terms of Regulation 34(4) be identified, the holder must submit recommendation to amend the EMPr/closure plan in order to rectify any shortcomings identified with the aforementioned audit report.

5.3 The holder of the EA must annually assess the environmental liabilities of the operation by using the master rates in line with the applicable Consumer Price Index (CPI) at the time and address the shortfall on the financial provision submitted in terms of section 24P of NEMA.

5.4 The holder of the EA must, within 24 hours of any incidents occurring, notify the Competent Authority of the occurrence or detection of any incident on the site, or incidental to the operation of the site, which has the potential to cause, or has caused pollution of the environment, health risks, nuisance conditions or water pollution.

5.5 The holder of the EA must, within 14 days, or a shorter period of time, if specified by the Competent Authority from the occurrence or detection of any incident referred to in condition 5.4, submit an action plan, which must include a detailed time schedule, and resource allocation signed off by top management, to the satisfaction of the Competent Authority of measures taken to –

5.5.1 Correct the impact resulting from the incident;

5.5.2 Prevent the incident from causing any further impact; and

5.5.3 Prevent a recurrence of a similar incident.

5.5.4 In the event that measures have not been implemented within 21 days of the incident referred to in condition 5.4, or measures which have been implemented are inadequate, the Competent Authority may implement the necessary measures at the cost of the holder of the EA.

6 SITE SECURITY AND ACCESS CONTROL

6.1 The holder of the EA must ensure effective access control to the site to reasonably prevent unauthorised entry. Signs indicating the risks involved in unauthorised entry must be displayed at the entrance.

6.2 The mining area must be fenced off and lockable gates must be installed to restrict unauthorised access to the site.

6.3 Weatherproof, durable and legible notices in at least three official languages applicable in the area must be displayed at the entrance to the site. These notices must prohibit unauthorised entry and state the hours of operation, the name, address and telephone number of the holder of the EA and the person responsible for the operation of the site.

7 EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLAN

7.1 The holder of the EA must draft, maintain and implement an emergency preparedness plan and review it annually when conducting audit and after each emergency and or major accident. The plan must, amongst others, include:

7.1.1 Site Fire

7.1.2 Spillage

7.1.3 Natural disasters such as floods

7.1.4 Industrial action

7.1.5 Contact details of police, ambulances and any emergency center closer to the site.

7.2 The holder of EA must ensure that an up to date emergency register is kept during all phases of the operation. This register must be made available upon request by the Department.

8 INVESTIGATIONS

8.1 If, in the opinion of the Competent Authority, nuisances or health risks may be or is occurring on the site, the holder of the EA must initiate an investigation into the cause of the problem or suspected problem.

8.2 If, in the opinion of the Competent Authority, pollution may be or is occurring, the holder of the EA must initiate an investigation into the cause of the problem or suspected problem. Such investigation must include the monitoring of the water quality variables and air quality, at those monitoring points and such frequency as may be specified by the Competent Authority.

8.3 Investigations carried out in terms of conditions 8.1 and 8.2 above must include the monitoring of the relevant environmental pollution and/or degradation, nuisance and health risk variables, at those monitoring points and such frequency to be determined in consultation with the Competent Authority.

8.4 Should the investigation carried out as per conditions 8.1 and 8.2 above reveal any unacceptable levels of pollution, the holder of the EA must submit mitigation measures to the satisfaction of the Competent Authority.

8.5 The holder of the EA must comply with Section 28 of the NEMA and conduct mining activities in an environmentally friendly manner.

9 COMMISSIONING AND DECOMMISSIONING

9.1 The commissioning and decommissioning of individual activity within the overall listed mining activities must take place within the phases and timeframes as set out in EMPr.

10 SITE CLOSURE

10.1 The holder of EA must apply for a closure certificate in terms of Section 43 of Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act (Act 28 of 2002), as amended within 180 days of occurrence of lapsing, abandonment, cancellation, cessation, relinquishment and completion of development.

10.2 The application for closure indicated above must be submitted together with all relevant documents as indicated in Section 43 of Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act (Act 28 of 2002), as amended.

10.3 No exotic but, only indigenous plants must be utilized for rehabilitation purposes.

10.4 The holder of EA remains responsible for any environmental liability, pollution or ecological degradation, the pumping and treatment of extraneous water, compliance with the conditions of EA, management and sustainable closure thereof until the Minister has issued a Closure Certificate in terms of Section 43 of Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act (Act 28 of 2002). Where necessary the Minister may retain certain portion of financial provision for residual, health or environmental impacts that might be known in future.

11 NEMA PRINCIPLES

The NEMA Principles (set out in Section 2 of NEMA, which apply to the actions of all Organs of State, serve as guidelines by reference to which any Organ of State must exercise any function when taking any decision, and which must guide the interpretation, administration and implementation of any other law concerned with the protection or management of the environment), *inter alia*, provides for:

- the effects of decisions on all aspects of the environment to be taken into account;
- the consideration, assessment and evaluation of the social, economic and environmental impacts of activities (disadvantages and benefits), and for decisions to be appropriate in the light of such consideration and assessment;
- the co-ordination and harmonisation of policies, legislation and actions relating to the environment;
- the resolving of actual or potential conflicts of interest between Organs of State through conflict resolution procedures; and
- the selection of the best practicable environmental option.

12 DISCLAIMER

The Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources in terms of the conditions of this environmental authorisation shall not be responsible for any damages or losses suffered by the holder, developer or

his/her successor in any instance where construction or operation subsequent to construction is temporarily or permanently stopped for reasons of non-compliance with the conditions as set out herein or any other subsequent document or legal action emanating from this decision.

13 RECOMMENDATIONS

In view of the above, the NEMA principles, compliance with the conditions stipulated in this EA, and compliance with the EMPr/closure plan, the competent authority is satisfied that the proposed listed activities will not conflict with the general objectives of Integrated Environmental Management stipulated in Chapter 5 of NEMA, and that any potentially detrimental environmental impacts resulting from the listed activities can be mitigated to acceptable levels. **The authorisation is accordingly granted**.

Your interest in the future of our environment is appreciated.

Kind Regards

.....

BRENDA NGEBULANA

REGIONAL MANAGER: MINERAL AND PETROLEUM REGULATION

EASTERN CAPE REGIONAL OFFICE

DATE: 05/11/2026