

Basic Assessment for the proposed Kimberley Ekapa Mining Joint Venture Slimes Pipeline Project, Kimberley, Northern Cape

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

July 2017



PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

This Background Information Document (BID) has been structured to provide all potential Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) with a concise overview of the proposed project activities as well as the associated Environmental Authorisation Processes. Furthermore this BID is also intended to provide I&APs with information relating to the manner in which I&APs can voice any issues concerning the proposed project. The compilation and distribution of this BID form part of the Public Participation Process for this project.

When you complete and return the registration form included with the BID, you will be included in the project stakeholder database and receive further documents for review and comment/s. Your comments will ensure that all issues of concern are incorporated. To raise your concerns, please complete the enclosed registration sheet, write a letter, call or e-mail the public participation office. All documents will be available on the internet at www.zitholele.co.za

For enquiries, please contact:
Environmental Assessment Practitioner:
Zitholele Consulting
Contact: Shandré Laven
Physical Address: Building 1, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Corner of Allandale Road & Maxwell Drive, Waterfall City, Midrand, 1685
Tel: 011 207 2060
Fax: 086 676 9950
E-mail: shandrel@zitholele.co.za

1. BACKGROUND

a) Proponent

Petra Diamonds and Ekapa Mining have entered into a joint venture agreement which combines the respective operations owned and operated by the joint venture partners in the Kimberley area into an unincorporated joint venture named the Kimberley Ekapa Mining Joint Venture (KEM JV). The proponent (i.e. entity intending to submit an application for Environmental Authorisation) for the proposed project is therefore the KEM JV.

b) Project Overview

KEM JV proposes to construct a slimes pipeline which will extend from the Combined Treatment Plant (CTP) to the Bultfontein Pit. The pipeline will be constructed within the existing mining right area. Slimes consist of ground rock and process effluents that are generated in a mine processing plant. The unrecoverable and uneconomic minerals, organics and process water are discharged, normally as slimes. No chemical are used in the process which is adopted to extract the kimberlitic ore to recover diamonds. Accordingly the slimes does not contain any chemical constituents. A pipe with a diameter of 350mm will be used to pump slimes from the point of production (i.e. CTP) to the Bultfontein Pit for in-pit deposition.



Figure 1: Overburden stockpiles at KEM JV

c) Technical Specifications of pipeline

The proposed pipeline will have a length of 12.2 meters. The pipe will be internally lined with 10mm High-Density Polyethylene. The external pipe wire will be brushed and coated with one coat of red oxide followed by one coat of bituminous based aluminium paint.

2. PROJECT LOCALITY

The proposed project will take place within the boundaries of the Kimberley Ekapa Mine Boundary. The KEM JV mine falls within the Sol Plaatje Local Municipality which forms part of the greater Frances District Municipality. A locality Map of the proposed project can be found in Appendix A.

3. LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The NEMA (1998) is regarded as South Africa's framework legislation which is centred on facilitating the protection of the environment through the use of various tools to ensure integrated environmental management of activities. The activities associated with the proposed slimes, fall within the ambit of the National Environmental Management Act (107 of 1998) (NEMA). Furthermore the project activities trigger activities listed in the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations Listing Notice 1 published in Government Notice (GN) R. 983 on 04 December 2014. The EIA regulations and Listing Notices were amended by GN R. 327 published on 07 April 2017. Accordingly Environmental Authorisation must be granted before the project activities may be implemented. The proposed activities prompt a Basic Assessment Process. A summary of the listed activities triggered by the proposed Kimberley Ekapa Mine slimes pipeline project is provided in Table 1.

Table 1: Applicable Listed Activities

LISTING NOTICE	DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT ACTIVITY
GN R.983 (Listing Notice 1), Activity 10	The development and related operation of infrastructure exceeding 1000 metres in length for the bulk transportation of sewage, effluent, process water, waste water, return water, industrial discharge or slimes – (i) with an internal diameter of 0,36 metres or more; or (ii) with a peak throughput of 120 litres per second or more

The Basic Assessment Process is required to identify and anticipate the nature and extent of the consequences of the proposed project activities on the receiving environment. The Basic Assessment Process is also intended to provide the Competent Authority, the Department of Mineral Resources for this Environmental Authorisation (EA) application, with sufficient information to make an informed decision with regards to granting or refusing EA.

4. BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS

A Basic Assessment (BA) is used to obtain an objective view of the potential environmental and social impacts that could arise during the investigation, construction and operation of a proposed project. A critical element of the BA Process is the Public Participation Process that gives Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) an opportunity to provide comments on a proposed development. The outcome of the Basic Assessment Process will be documented in the BAR. The BAR will also include the following:

- Identify the potential impacts of the proposed development;
- Record the issues, concerns and suggestions raised by I&APs; and;
- Outline the measures to be taken to avoid or reduce negative impacts and enhance positive impacts.

The Technical component is divided into two phases: The Inception Phase; and the Basic Assessment and Investigation Phase.

a) Application / Notification Phase

During the Inception / Notification Phase, alternatives are identified, where applicable, as well as possible impacts and issues that could result from the proposed activities. A field inspection of the sites is undertaken by the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) and independent specialists that has been commissioned to investigate impacts expected to have a significant effect on the receiving environment. Once the Inception Phase has been concluded the terms of reference for specialist studies will be confirmed and investigations will commence.

b) Basic Assessment and Investigation Phase

During the Basic Assessment Phase, the identified Specialist Studies will be carried out to inform the BA Process. A heritage assessment, and wetland and aquatic assessment have been identified to be undertaken for this project. The findings of the Specialist Studies, together with input from the Public Participation Process will be incorporated into the BAR. The BAR will be available for public comment before the document is finalised and submitted to the DEA, for review and decision-making.

c) Basic Assessment Report

The Basic Assessment Report (BAR), which will provide a detailed account of the Basic Assessment Process and proposed project activities, will be placed in public venues for public review for a period of 30 days. All I&APs will be notified of the availability of the BAR. Comments on the proposed project and BAR that are received from I&APs, during the commenting period, will be responded to and recorded in the final BAR. The final BAR will be submitted to the DMR (for review and decision making).

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

A Public Participation Process (PPP) will be conducted as part of the Basic Assessment Process. The steps which will be undertaken as part of the PPP conforms to the requirements laid down in Regulation 41 of the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014, as amended. The PPP will provide Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) with a platform to voice any matters or issues relating to the proposed project. Throughout the course of the BA Process, I&APs will be afforded the following opportunities to provide comment regarding the proposed project:

- By completing and submitting the I&AP Registration Form; and
- Review and provide comment on the Basic Assessment Report and supporting documentation during the public review period.

The overarching steps of the PPP include:

- Publishing an advertisement in the local newspaper announcing the project and commencement of the PPP;
- Placement of site notice boards and distribution of Background Information Document;
- Documenting I&APs comments in the Comments and Responses Report (CRR) which forms part of the BAR that will be made available for public review;
- Notifying stakeholders when the Final BAR is submitted to the Decision Making Authority (i.e. Department of Mineral Resources); and
- Notifying registered I&APs of decision taken by DMR with regards to granting Environmental Authorisation.

6. PUBLIC REVIEW OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

A BA Report for the proposed project will be subject to a 30-days public review period, from 24 July 2017 – 24 August 2017. Hard copies of the mentioned draft document will be made available at the Beaconsfield Library (39 Central Road, Beaconsfield, Kimberley), and the reception of the Kimberley Ekapa Mine (1 Molyneaux Road, Kimberley). An electronic copy of the BA Report will also be available on www.zitholele.co.za.

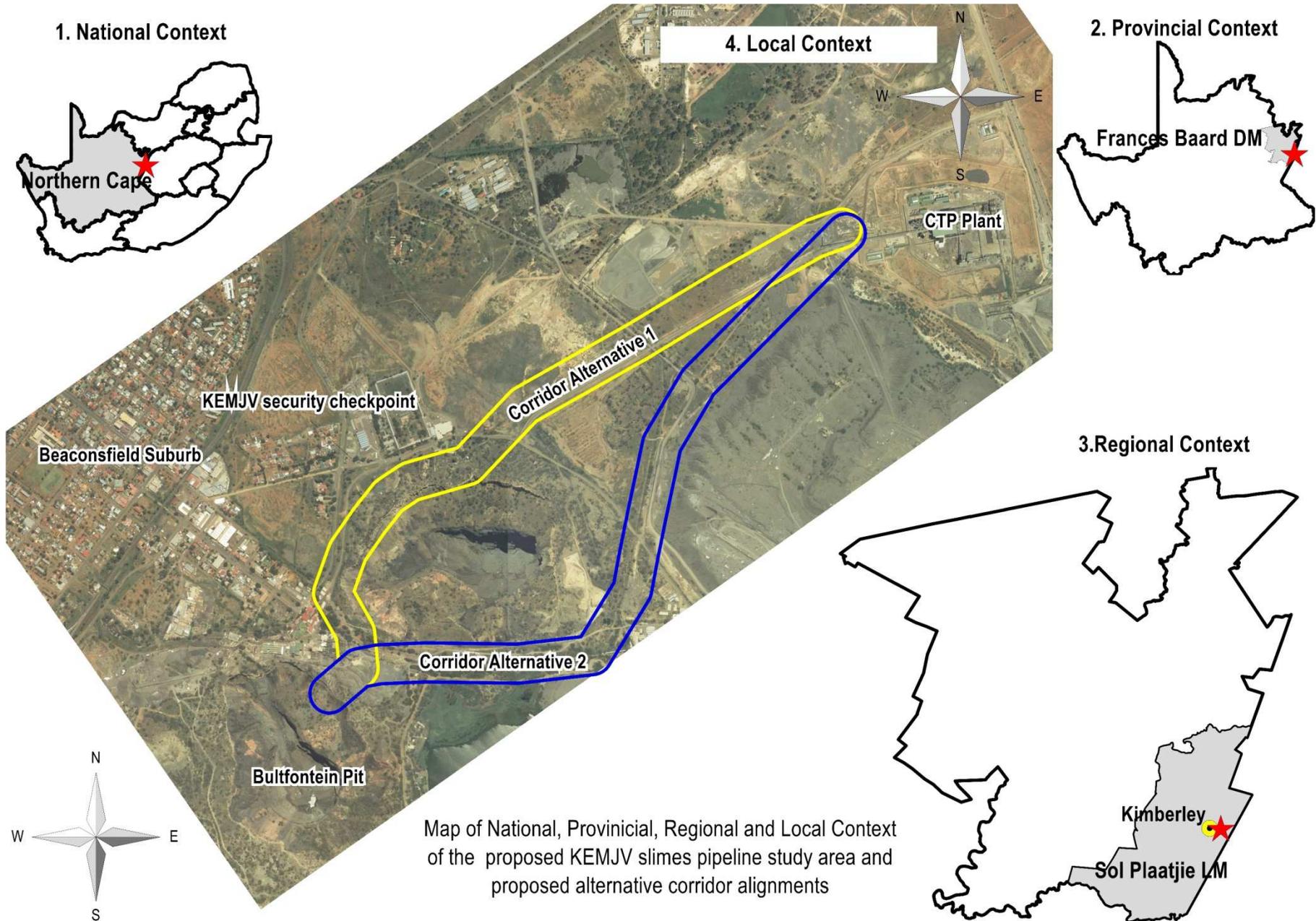
7. DECISION-MAKING (ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION)

Based on the information provided in the final Basic Assessment Report, the DMR will make a decision regarding the granting of EA. The granting of EA will allow the Applicant to proceed with implementing the proposed project activities. Once the Competent Authority has reached a decision, with regards to granting EA, all registered I&APs will be notified thereof within 14 days of the date of the decision.

8. MAP OF PROJECT LOCATION

A map of the proposed study area is provided in Appendix A for reference.

Appendix A: Locality Map



REGISTRATION AND COMMENT SHEET

**BASIC ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED KIMBERLEY
EKAPA MINING JOINT VENTURE SLIMES PIPELINE
PROJECT, KIMBERLEY, NORTHERN CAPE**

July 2017

Environmental Assessment Practitioner

Mrs. Shandr  Laven
Zitholele Consulting (Pty) Ltd

P O Box 6002, Halfway House, 1685
Tel: (011) 207 2060 - Fax: 086-676-9950
Email: shandrel@zitholele.co.za



*Please complete by **Friday, 25August 2017** and return to the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (as above)*

TITLE		NAME	
SURNAME			
ORGANISATION <small>(Please do not use any acronyms)</small>			
ADDRESS			POSTAL CODE
TELEPHONE NO		FAX NO	
E-MAIL ADDRESS			
CELLPHONE NO			
DATE		SIGNATURE	

Please formally register me as an interested and/or affected party (I&AP) so that I may receive further information and notifications during the Basic Assessment process	YES	NO
I would like to receive documents for comment as follows:	By e-mail	
	By post	
	By fax	
	By SMS	
In terms of Regulations GN R 982 – Regulation Gazette No. 10328 of 04 December 2014, Regulation 43(1) I disclose below any direct business, financial, personal or other interest that I may have in the approval or refusal of the application (please use additional sheet if required):		
.....		
.....		

COMMENTS (please use separate sheets if you wish)

I suggest that the following issues of concern be considered in the Basic Assessment:

.....

.....

Please register the following colleagues/friends/neighbors as I&APs for this project:

.....

.....

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION