

**APPLICATION FOR A MINING RIGHT – MMAKAU COAL (PTY) LTD**

**SCHURVEKOP 227 IS, BETHAL, MPUMALANGA**

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Mmakau Coal (Pty) Ltd intends to submit an application for a mining right in terms of the Minerals and Petroleum Resources Development Act, Act 28 of 2002 (MPRDA) over Portions 6, 8, RE15, 16, 17, 18, 19 and 20 of the farm Schurvekop 227 IS.

The proposed mining right area comprises +696.57 hectares and is located approximately 20km north of the town of Bethal, within the Govan Mbeki Local Municipality (MP307), Mpumalanga (Figure 1).

This application for a mining right is subject to an application for an Environmental Authorisation in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), Act 107 of 1998.

In addition to this, the project will also require a waste management license in terms of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act (NEM:WA), Act 59 of 2008 and a water use license in terms of the National Water Act, Act No. 36 of 1998 (NWA).

Cabanga has been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to complete the necessary environmental applications and oversee the various specialist studies.

## 2. PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

This document (the Background Information Document or "BID") has been compiled to provide you, the Interested and Affected Party (I&AP), with information on the proposed project and the associated environmental authorisation process.

You are hereby invited to participate freely and submit any questions or information you feel may contribute to the process. All comments received will be recorded and addressed as part of the environmental impact assessment process.

Please complete the attached questionnaire and return to us on Fax: 011 794 6946 or [michelle@cabangaenvironmental.co.za](mailto:michelle@cabangaenvironmental.co.za) to register as an I&AP. Alternatively call us on Tel: 011 794 7534.

## 3. PROJECT OVERVIEW

Mineral: Coal

Mining Method: Underground bord-&-pillar

Depth of mining: 60m below surface

Life of Mine: +14 years

Product Market: Eskom

The underground will be accessed via a boxcut adit. It is proposed that the boxcut, plant and associated mine infrastructure be located on Portion 8, 18 and 19 of the farm Schurvekop 227 IS (Figures 2 and 3).

Coal will be transferred from the underground to surface by means of a conveyor belt. Whereby, it will be sent to the plant area for processing (crushing, screening and washing).

Mine residue from the plant will be disposed of onto an integrated disposal dump.

Product coal will be sized and stockpiled in designated areas for pre-qualification prior to being trucked to market.

It is currently anticipated that the plant will run 24/7.

### Service Requirements:

- Electricity for the operation will be sourced from Eskom (8MVA required).
- Process water will be sourced from the underground workings.
- It is envisaged that potable/ domestic water will be sourced from boreholes on site, other alternatives are also being considered.
- General waste will be collected for disposal at the Municipal dump.
- Industrial waste will be collected for disposal at a suitably licensed facility.
- Sewage will be collected within conservancy tanks to be emptied by honey sucker for treatment at a suitably licensed facility. Alternatively a small, package sewage plant will be installed on site.

**Employment:**

- The project will create employment for approximately 267 people.

**4. ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESS**

Following the submission of an application for an environmental authorisation the applicant is required to subject the application to either a Basic Assessment or a Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process.

During this process the positive and negative impacts associated with the development are assessed; and suitable alternatives and/or management measures are proposed to reduce the environmental impacts.

As the application relates to mining activities (Listing Notice 2), a full Scoping and EIA process will be followed. The steps in this process are briefly outlined below:

- **Pre-application Phase**
  - Finalise project description
  - Identify I&APs
  - Circulate BIDs, place site notices and advertisements
  - Submit application forms to the Department of Mineral Resources (DMR)
- **Scoping**
  - Consider baseline environment (commence with specialist studies)
  - Identify potential impacts for further consideration
  - Initial public meeting to identify I&AP issues and concerns
  - Assess alternatives
  - Identify plan of study for the EIA
  - The Scoping Report is then compiled and put out for public review for a period of 30 days
  - Scoping Report is finalised and submitted to DMR
- **EIA / EMP Phase**
  - Specialist studies are finalised
  - Impacts are rated and mitigation measures proposed where possible
  - Monitoring programmes proposed to ensure mitigation measures are efficient;
  - EIA/EMP Report is compiled and put out for public review for a period of 30 days
  - 2nd Public meeting is held to present the EIA/EMP Report and note any additional comments and concerns

43 Days

44 Days

106 Days

- EIA/EMP Report is finalised and submitted to DMR

**Decision**

- DMR makes a decision on the application and issues a record of decision
- All I&APs are notified of the outcome of application, and their right to appeal.

107 Days

The Scoping and EIA/EMP reports will be compiled in the format prescribed by the DMR, in accordance with NEMA and NEM:WA (integrated application).

The overall timeframe for the environmental authorisation process is approximately 300 days as regulated by NEMA.

**5. LISTED ACTIVITIES**

The following table summarises the preliminary list of activities identified in terms of NEMA and NEM:WA. These activities will be included in the application for environmental authorisation:

GOVERNMENT NOTICE:	ACTIVITY NO.:
GNR 983, Listing Notice: 1	11, 12, 13, 22, 24, 27 & 30
GNR 984, Listing Notice: 2	6, 15, 17 & 21
GNR 985, Listing Notice: 3	2, 4, 10, 12 & 14
GNR 921 of NEM: Waste Act	Category A: Activity 14 Category B: Activity 7, 10 & 11

**6. WATER USES**

The lead authority for the authorisation of water uses in terms of the NWA is the Department of Water Affairs and Sanitation (DWS). In terms of Section 21 of the NWA, all water uses that are not deemed to be Schedule 1 uses must be licensed with DWS. The following water uses are anticipated to occur on site:

- 21(a) Abstraction from a borehole
- 21(c) and (i) Activities within 500m of a wetland
- 21(g) Dust suppression
- 21(g) Coal stockpiling
- 21(g) Mine Residue Disposal
- 21(g) Dirty water dam(s)
- 21(j) Dewatering the underground workings

## 6. POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

The following potential impacts have been identified and will be assessed further during the environmental authorisation process:

- Potential to alter the topography
- Loss of soil characteristics - erosion and compaction
- Change in land use from farming to mining
- Loss of biodiversity – vegetation clearance and habitat destruction
- Potential for alien invasive establishment
- Reduced flow to downstream water catchment
- Potential pollution to water resources (surface and groundwater)
- Drawdown cone from dewatering activities (groundwater quantity)
- Increased dust and emissions
- Increased noise levels
- Visual aesthetics and sense of place will be altered
- Damage to property/infrastructure from blast events
- Potential damage to heritage sites (grave and/or archaeological artefacts)
- Influx of job seekers to the area
- Increased traffic – coal haulage

The following specialist studies are currently proposed:

- Air quality
- Blasting and vibration
- Aquatic
- Fauna and flora
- Wetlands
- Surface water
- Groundwater
- Soils, land use and land capability
- Heritage
- Traffic

## 7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

Public involvement is an essential component of the environmental process. It addresses the right of I&APs to be informed of the proposed activities and to be involved in decisions that affect them. It also affords the environmental assessment practitioner the opportunity to assess and address the issues and concerns raised by I&APs thus allowing us to assess all the potential impacts of the proposed project.

It is envisaged at this stage that two public meetings will be held during the course of the application.

- A Scoping Phase meeting has been scheduled (see details below) to introduce the project and discuss the proposed way forward regarding the applications.
- An EIA/EMP Phase feedback meeting will be held to report back specialist findings, the final impacts identified by specialists focussing on critical or sensitive impacts identified and the mitigation of these impacts. You will be notified by SMS/Fax/E-mail of the proposed time and location of the EIA/EMP Phase meeting, once you have registered as an I&AP.

### You are hereby invited to attend the Scoping Phase Public Meeting:

**Date:** Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> November 2016

**Time:** 11:00 am- 13:00 pm

**Venue:** Bethal Local Library, Danie Nortje St.

(Please note that this meeting will be held in English)

Please note that the various environmental reports will be made available for public review and comment for a minimum period of thirty (30) days. All registered I&APs will be notified once available.

### Contact Us

Michelle Venter

Cabanga Environmental

Tel: 011 794 7534 / Fax: 011 794 6946

[michelle@cabangaenvironmental.co.za](mailto:michelle@cabangaenvironmental.co.za)

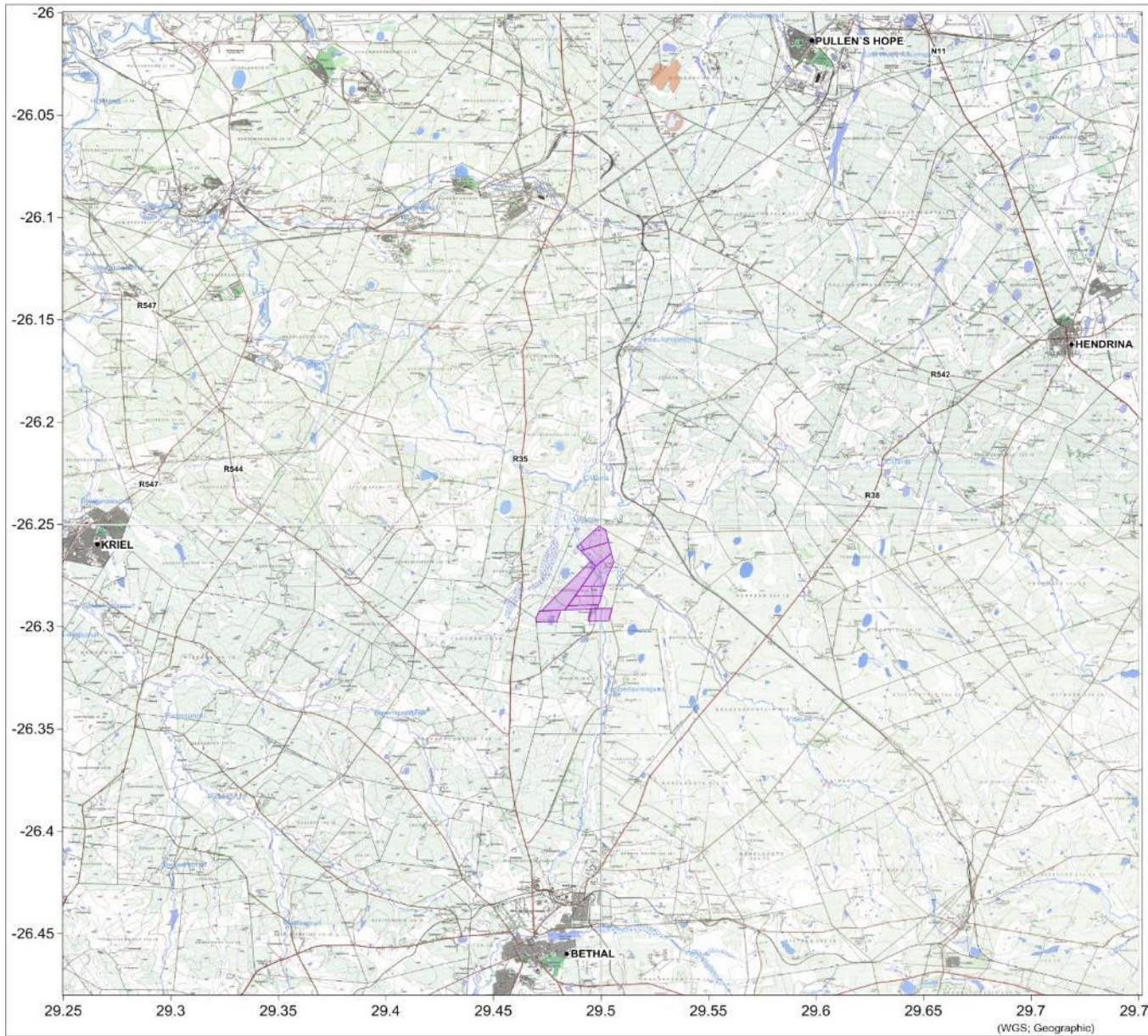
Postnet Suite 470

Private Bag X3

Northriding

2162





## LEGEND

- Mining Right Application Area
- National Road
- Provincial Road
- River
- Railway Line

TITLE: Regional Locality Plan

DRAWN BY: Shelton Tsanga (B.Sc)

REVIEWED BY: Jane Barrett (B.Sc)

DATE: OCTOBER 2016

CLIENT: **Mmakau Coal (Pty) Ltd**

PROJECT: Schurvekop Mine

LOCATION: Bethal, Mpumalanga

SCALE: 0 5 10 (km)

MAP: Topographic 1:50 000; 2629AB,  
2629AD, 2629BA, 2629BC



6 Beyers Office Park Tel: +27(0)11 794 7534  
Bosbok Road Fax: +27(0)11 794 6946  
Randparkridge Email: info@cabangaenvironmental.co.za

Figure 1: Regional Plan

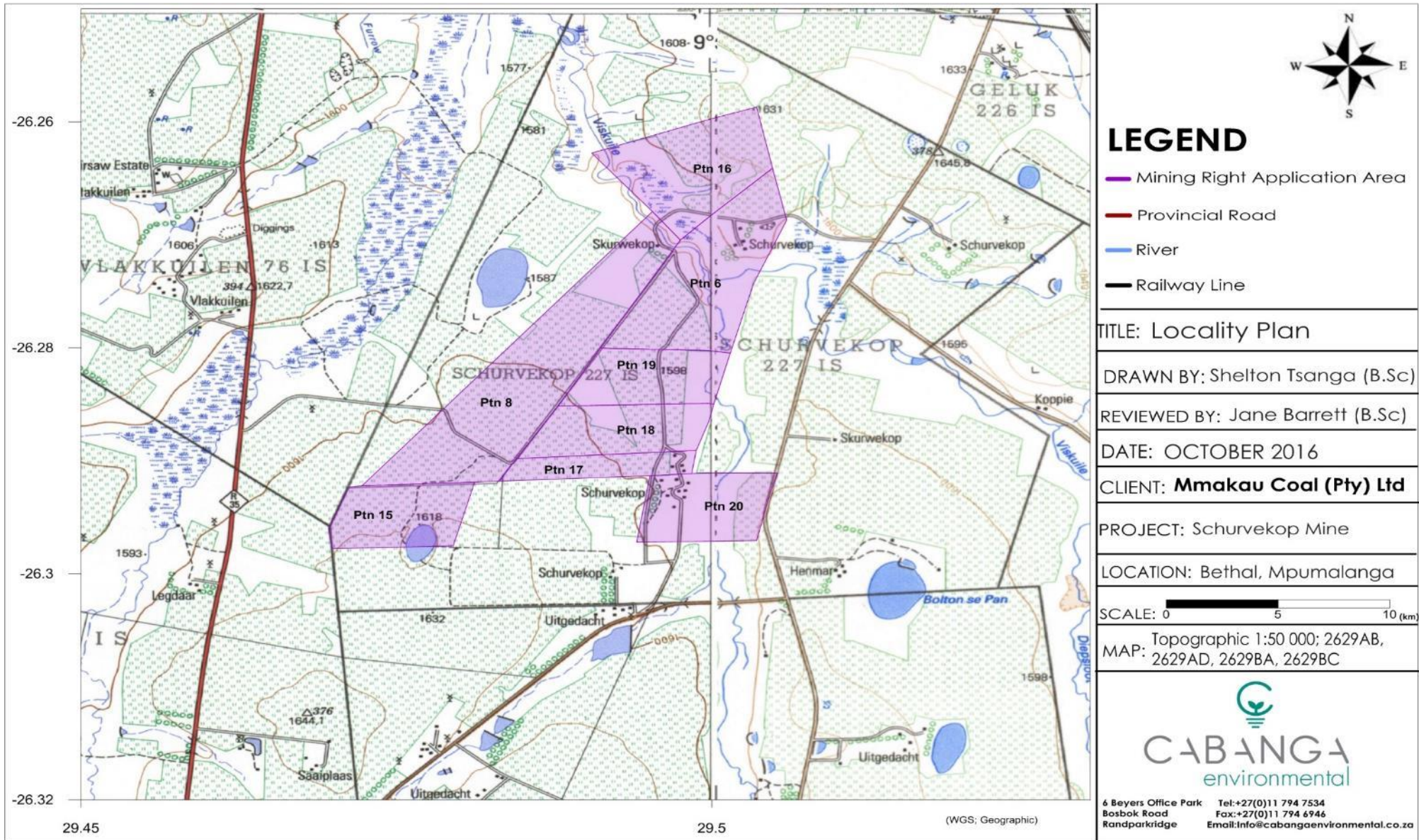
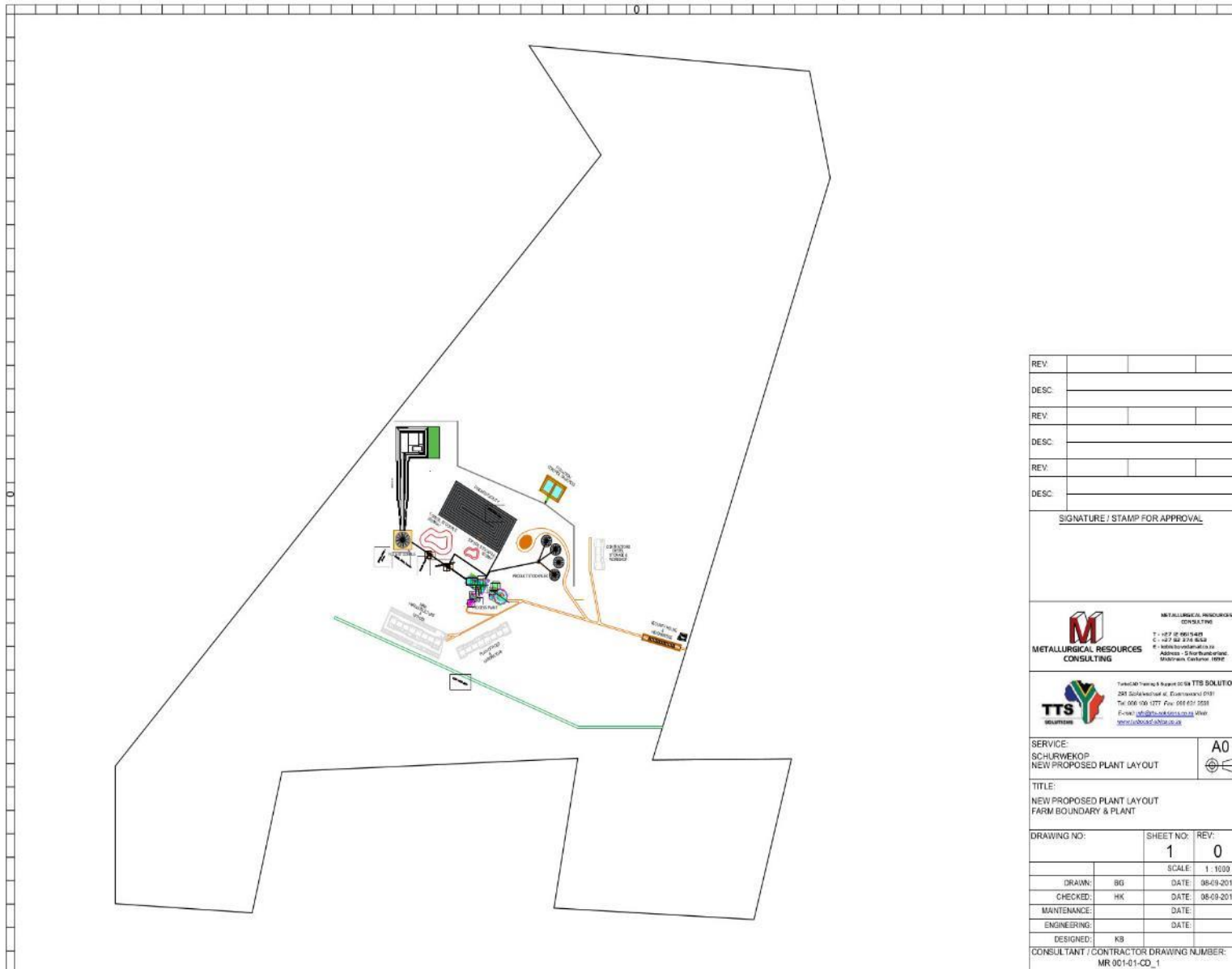


Figure 2: Locality Plan



REV:		
DESC:		
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SIGNATURE / STAMP FOR APPROVAL		
		
<p><b>METALLURGICAL RESOURCES CONSULTING</b></p> <p>T: +27 (0) 853 4425  F: +27 (0) 853 8543  E: info@metres.co.za  Address: 218 Waterlooplein, Grahamstown, Eastern Cape, 6160</p>		
		
<p><b>TTS SOLUTIONS</b></p> <p>Head Office: 11111 11111 TTS SOLUTIONS  222 222 222 222 222  Tel: 006 100 1234 Fax: 006 652 5678  E-mail: info@ttsolutions.co.za  www.ttsolutions.co.za</p>		
SERVICE: SCHURWEKOP NEW PROPOSED PLANT LAYOUT	A0 	
TITLE: NEW PROPOSED PLANT LAYOUT FARM BOUNDARY & PLANT		
DRAWING NO:	SHEET NO: 1	REV: 0
	SCALE: 1 : 1000	
DRAWN: BG	DATE: 08-09-2016	
CHECKED: HK	DATE: 08-09-2016	
MAINTENANCE:	DATE:	
ENGINEERING:	DATE:	
DESIGNED: KB		
CONSULTANT / CONTRACTOR DRAWING NUMBER: MR 001-01-QD_1		

Figure 3: Proposed Layout

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION QUESTIONNAIRE: SCHURVEKOP**

To register as an I&AP, please complete and return to Cabanga via e-mail, fax or post:

[michelle@cabangaenvironmental.co.za](mailto:michelle@cabangaenvironmental.co.za); Fax: (011) 794 6946

Postnet Suite 470, P/Bag X3, Northriding, 2162

Alternatively please register on [www.cabangaenvironmental.co.za](http://www.cabangaenvironmental.co.za) click on "Public Participation"

<b>Name:</b>		<b>Surname:</b>	
<b>Telephone No.:</b>		<b>Fax No.:</b>	
<b>Post:</b>			
<b>E-mail:</b>			
<b>How would you prefer to be contacted:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> E-mail <input type="checkbox"/> Fax <input type="checkbox"/> Post <input type="checkbox"/> Telephone <input type="checkbox"/> SMS		
<b>Are you an immediately affected or adjacent landowner or user?</b> <b>If no, what is your interest in the project?</b> <b>If yes, please indicate your farm / property name as well as details on the current land use.</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
<b>Do you have any vested interest in the approval or refusal of this project?</b> <b>If yes, please elaborate.</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
<b>Do you feel that the proposed activities will impact on you and / or your socio-economic conditions?</b> <b>How?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
<b>Do you have any specific concerns with regards to the project (e.g. water, air pollution)?</b>			
<b>Are you aware of any sensitive areas that should be avoided (i.e. graves, cultural sites, endangered species, special environmental features or areas etc.)</b>			
<b>Do you have any other questions or concerns regarding the project?</b>			
<b>Do you know of any other persons, organisations or parties that should be notified?</b> <b>Please provide contact details.</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		