



mineral resources

Department:
Mineral Resources
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

NAME OF APPLICANT: Witkop Fluorspar (Pty) Ltd

REFERENCE NUMBER: NC 30/5/1/1/2/12069 PR

REPORT ON THE RESULTS OF CONSULTATION

WITH COMMUNITIES AND INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES

AS REQUIRED IN TERMS OF SECTIONS, 16(4)(b) or 27 (5) (b) OF THE MINERAL AND PETROLEUM RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT (ACT 28 of 2002), AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STANDARD DIRECTIVE FOR THE COMPILATION THEREOF AS PUBLISHED ON THE OFFICIAL WEBSITE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES.

A. Definitions

'consultation' means a two way communication process between the applicant and the community or interested and affected party wherein the former is seeking, listening to, and considering the latter's response, which allows openness in the decision making process.

'community' means a group of historically disadvantaged persons with interest or rights in a particular area of land on which the members have or exercise communal rights in terms of an agreement, custom or law: Provided that, where as a consequence of the provisions of the Act negotiations or consultations with the community are required, the community shall include the members or part of the community, directly affected by prospecting or mining, on land occupied by such members or part of the community.

'Interested and affected' parties include, but are not limited to; –

- (i) Host Communities
- (ii) Landowners (Traditional and Title Deed owners)
- (iii) Traditional Authority
- (iv) Land Claimants
- (v) Lawful land occupier
- (vi) The Department of Land Affairs,
- (vii) Any other person (including on adjacent and non-adjacent properties) whose socio-economic conditions may be directly affected by the proposed prospecting or mining operation
- (viii) The Local Municipality,
- (ix) The relevant Government Departments, agencies and institutions responsible for the various aspects of the environment and for infrastructure which may be affected by the proposed project.

B. Report on the results of consultation

1. Methodology applied to consultation.

1.1. Name the community or communities identified, or explain why no such community was identified.

No communities were identified on the farms included in the application.

1.2. Specifically state whether or not the Community is also the landowner.

As above, no communities were identified thus no community is the landowner.

1.3. State whether or not the Department of Land Affairs been identified as an interested and affected party.

The Department of Land Affairs has been listed as an interested and affected party. Correspondence with a Ryan Oliver and a Nqabisa Mkalipi has taken place.

1.4. State specifically whether or not a land claim is involved.

There is no official land claim. A copy of the correspondence can be found under Annexure VI.

1.5. Name the Traditional Authority identified

Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs.

1.6. List the landowners identified by the applicant. (Traditional and Title Deed owners)

Verdoorst Kolk No. 342 Portion Re: Dotcom Trading 849 CC

Verdoorst Kolk No. 342 Portion 1: Dotcom Trading 849 CC

Verdoorst Kolk No. 342 Portion 2: PPC Cement SA Pty Ltd

1.7. List the lawful occupiers of the land concerned.

Verdoorst Kolk No. 342 Portion Re: Jaco Bothma

All other farms are vacant of lawful occupiers.

1.8. Explain whether or not other persons' (including on adjacent and non-adjacent properties) socio-economic conditions will be directly affected by the proposed prospecting or mining operation and if not, explain why not.

As this is a prospecting application, the activities on site are limited to borehole drilling to a maximum depth of 5m. The activity is site specific and should not affect adjacent persons as the activities are very site specific and will be short lived.

1.9. Name the Local Municipality identified by the applicant

The local and district municipalities were identified:

Namaqwa District Municipality

Hantam Local Municipality

1.10. Name the relevant Government Departments, agencies and institutions responsible for the various aspects of the environment and for infrastructure which may be affected by the proposed project.

No infrastructure will be affected by the proposed prospecting activities. Several Government Departments, agencies and institutions were identified in terms of environmental aspects of the property being:

- Department of Mineral Resources**
- Department of Water Affairs and Sanitation**
- Northern Cape Environmental Department**
- Northern Cape Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development**
- Northern Cape Heritage Authority**
- Department of Rural Development and Land Reform**
- Lower Orange Catchment Management Agency**
- Human Settlements & Traditional Affairs**
- Department of Justice- Environmental and Nature Conservation department**
- South African Heritage Resources Agency**

1.11. Submit evidence that the landowner or lawful occupier of the land in question, and any other interested and affected parties including all those listed above, were notified.

Proof that landowners and lawful occupiers and other I&AP's were notified can be found under Appendix III.

2. Description of the existing status of the cultural, socio-economic or biophysical environment, as the case may be, prior to the proposed prospecting or mining operation.

2.1.1. Confirm that the identified and consulted interested and affected parties agree on the description of the existing status of the environment.

All I&AP's were given a chance to comment on the description of the environment in the Background Information Document (BID); there is also a response sheet on the BID. To date, there have been no comments from I&AP's in this regard.

2.1.2. Describe the existing status of the cultural environment that may be affected

The project area was used by stone age peoples. Historical residential remains were noted on two different sites in the project area which could date back to the late 19th /early 20th century. Both these sites were rated with a high cultural significance.

Brandvlei is a small town with not much employment for the locals. The source of employment comes from the agricultural sector or working in the town at the local shops.

The major economic activity for the greater area is agriculture; although the project site itself cannot accommodate agriculture due to the shallow soils.

2.1.3. Describe the existing status of any heritage environment that may be affected

There were approximately 16 graves identified on the site. Some were well preserved where others were not. The date of those that were not well preserved is unknown; therefore they are seen as heritage graves. All of the graves were over sixty years old with the exception of one and all graves were rated with a high cultural significance.

These sites will not be affected by the prospecting activity according to the proposed plan; however they will still be demarcated and managed as no-go areas.

2.1.4. Describe the existing status of any current land uses and the socio-economic environment that may be directly affected

The source of employment comes from the agricultural sector or working in the town at the local shops.

The major economic activity for the greater area is agriculture although the project site itself cannot accommodate agriculture due to the shallow soils. Small herds of cattle are present near the project area where additional feed is brought in.

Positive affects on the socio-economic environment are as follows:

- **With the acceptance of this project, additional business may be brought into the town for the duration of the project such as the purchasing of local goods and use of local facilities eg. guest houses.**
- **If a Mining Right is applied for once the Prospecting Right expires, this will bring additional business to the area and possibly help with the development of new businesses as more cash flow is brought into the town. If there is a Mining Right the project life will be longer than the project life for a Prospecting Right**
- **The proposed project will make a small contribution to local taxes as well as the GDP.**

2.1.5. Describe the existing status of any infrastructure that may be affected.

The proposed project involves auger drilling therefore it is not anticipated that any infrastructure will be affected.

The existing infrastructure are as follows: homesteads, farmsteads and the associated infrastructure.

2.1.6. Describe the existing status of the biophysical environment that will be affected, including the main aspects such as water resources, flora, fauna, air, soil, topography etc.

Geology:

The project area is underlain with quaternary alluvium, the soils are calcareous and gypsiferous soils. There are also quaternary gravels, silts and sands. The above mentioned overlie the Prince Albert Formation and Karoo Dolerite Suite. The proposed project site is partially covered by Jurassic dolerite dykes. The Prince Albert Formation is part of the Ecca Group which falls under the Karoo Supergroup. This area has green to brown mudstone, shale, sandstone and dolomite limestone.

Climate:

A twenty-four year historical weather dataset is available from the South African Weather Service for the years 1994- 2017. During the twenty four years of monitoring, the highest annual rainfall recorded was 21.02mm in 1996; with the lowest being 2.4mm in 2003.

The project is located in the Bushmanland region, which is characterized by an arid, seasonal climate with a bimodal precipitation regime – i.e. having two rain peaks, one in March and another in November. The long-term mean annual

precipitation (MAP) is around 141 mm, which ranges from 91 mm in western Bushmanland to 306 mm at northern edges of the Roggeveld. This region is known for thermic extremes, both annually and daily. Mean temperatures range from over 32°C to around zero in January to July where temperatures can have an amplitude (range) of around 25°C in one day. Frost occurrence is frequent in winter months.

The average wind speed ranges from 1m/s- 4m/s; the highest wind speeds are experienced during the summer months.

Topography:

The study area is characterized by extremely flat and open landscapes, which are distributed with depressions/pans. The project area itself is located within one of these pans - i.e. Verdoorskolk.

Soils & Land Capability:

Soil depths range from 0 – 300 mm in the project area, where the residing soil type (80%) in this area are shallow Hutton soils and Mispah. Gypsum rock (calcrete) outcrops were noted on the Western side of the project area during the site visit which indicates that there is the presence of lime.

The project area has a land type Ia16 and the land capability is a class VII; meaning there are unfavourable conditions for agriculture such as shallow soils, salts, sodicity or adverse climatic conditions. This area is unable to support cultivation therefore it can only accommodate grazing, woodland or wildlife.

Natural vegetation:

The study site is located in the Nama Karoo biome of the Northern Cape Province, and is associated with two nationally defined vegetation types being the Bushmanland Vloere (Azi5) and the Bushmanland Basin Shrubland (NKb6) (Mucina and Rutherford, 2012).

The Vloere of the Northern Cape refer to the ephemeral pans and riverbeds of the Bushmanland basin. In general the center of these pans (such as that associated with this project area) are usually devoid of vegetation during dry periods; however loosely patterned scrub are found around it are dominated by *Rhigozum trichotomum* and various species of *Salsola* and *Lycium*, with a mixture of nonsucculent dwarf shrubs of Nama-Karoo relationship. In places loose thickets of *Parkinsonia africana*, *Lebeckia lineariifolia* and *Acacia karoo* can be found (Mucina and Rutherford, 2006).

These species are listed as Least Threatened by Mucina and Rutherford.

According to the desktop studies there are plant species of conservation concern, there are ten that are listed as South African endemics and one is listed as rare. The rare species is the *Polycarena filiformis*.

During the survey of the project area, eight plant species were recorded where no species of conservation concern were noted. The alien invasive *Prosopis glandulosa* was common, which is able to affect the hydrology of the ecosystem in which they reside.

Fauna:

The desktop biodiversity study stated that there are expected to be about 87 bird species in the project area. Two species are Endangered such as Ludwig's Bustard and Martial Eagle, two are Vulnerable being Lanner Falcon and Secretarybird, and six are Near Threatened, such as Karoo Korhaan and Kori Bustard.

During the literature study of the area it found that 48 mammal species, thirteen reptile species and six amphibians were expected to be in the area. One mammal is listed as Critically Endangered (Riverine Rabbit), one as Vulnerable (Leopard) and one as Near Threatened (Littledale's Whistling Rat). One reptile, the Cape Sand snake, is listed as Vulnerable. Of the amphibians, the Giant bullfrog is listed as Near Threatened.

During the site visit, ten of the expected bird species were observed. Six mammals were observed on site but a further twelve more were confirmed by conversing with the local landowners. The species of conservation concern in the area is the Brown Hyena and is listed as Near Threatened. One reptile was observed while a further four species were confirmed to be present by the landowners. No amphibians were observed during the survey, lack of animal species observed on site were due to time constraints. Furthermore, it must be stated that site assessments were done in a peak dry season.

Surface water:

There are no perennial nor non-perennial rivers running through the project area. Approximately fourteen kilometres North West of the project area is the first perennial river, Katkop. The other perennial rivers in the greater area are Stinkput and Sak. However, there are many drainage lines that lead into the ephemeral pan wetland, which is wet only in high rainfall years. When the pan is in flood, there is extensive open water that supports a large diversity of aquatic and terrestrial flora and fauna.

The catchment area falls under the Lower Orange. The Quaternary catchment for the project area is D57D, which is a large catchment.

Groundwater:

The aquifers on which the project falls on are a mix between fractured and weathered.

Air quality & noise:

Not much information has been published for the Northern Cape regarding air quality and municipalities do not enforce control for pollutants. There is no formal coordinated pollution monitoring network in the Northern Cape. The main source of pollutants in the Northern Cape are from the mining industry and scheduled processes such as a crematorium and a brickworks, but these are localised and occur around “hot spots” where these industries and processes are. It can be noted that the project area is not in a “hot spot” therefore pollutants are not likely to be an issue.

The area is flat and dry therefore dust will possibly be an issue as opposed to pollutants. Due to shallow soil and climatic conditions this area cannot support crops thus pesticides should not be an issue and won't affect air quality.

The project area is isolated and the R27 is approximately 14 kilometres away. There is not much development and sparse homes/inhabitants in this area so noise is minimal. From the site visit of this area the only audible sound heard is wind and rustling of vegetation.

Sites of archaeological and cultural interest:

Rock engravings have been known to occur near Brandvlei and Middle Stone Age tools have been found in this area. The archaeological study undertaken (Van Vollenhoven, 2017) noted six areas of cultural interest. There were approximately 16 graves identified on the site within four different areas. Some were well preserved where others were not. Those that were not well preserved were unable to be given a date; therefore they are by default seen as heritage graves. All of the graves were over sixty years old with the exception of one and all graves were rated with a high cultural significance.

Historical residential remains were noted on two different sites on the project area which could date back to the late 19th /early 20th century. Both these sites were rated with a high cultural significance.

2.1.7. Provide any relevant additional information.

Location, Population and distribution:

Brandvlei falls under Hantam Local Municipality which falls under the greater Namaqwa District Municipality, where Calvinia is the magisterial district. The Hantam Local Municipality spans 36,128km² which includes, Calvinia, Brandvlei, Loeriesfontein, Middelpoos, Nieuwoudtville and Swartkop. The population of Brandvlei is approximately 2859 over an area of 29.25 km² (Census: 2011). The percentage of males in Brandvlei are 50.09% and females are 49.91%.

The predominant language spoken is Afrikaans, where 94.86% of the population speak Afrikaans as a first language. The demographics of the town consist of 89.93% Coloured, 5% White, and 4.34% Black African, 0.45% Indian or Asian and 0.28% being other.

Major economic activities and sources of employment:

Brandvlei is a small town with not much employment for the locals. The source of employment comes from the agricultural sector or working in the town at the local shops.

The major economic activity for the greater area is agriculture although on the project site itself cannot accommodate agriculture due to the shallow soils. A small herd of cattle is found on the farm.

Unemployment estimate for the area:

Unemployment is high in this area as the town is small and does not offer a lot of employment for the locals. The unemployment for the district municipality is at approximately 20% according to the 2011 census. The overall unemployment in the Namaqwa District Municipality for the 2011 census is the lowest in comparison to the 2001 and 1996 census.

Social infrastructure:

Since 1996 the access to electricity has increased in the Namaqwa District Municipality, where in some instances it has increased by almost 40%. The distribution of households in the 2011 census with access to electricity for lighting is 86.5%, heating 65.7% and for cooking 81.3%.

82.2% of the households in Namaqwa have their refuse removed by the municipality or a private company, 13.9% dump their waste at a communal refuse dump and 2.6% of the population have no rubbish disposal.

71.7% of the households have a flushable/chemical toilets and 5.5% do not have access to a toilet.

Water supply:

Namaqwa District Municipality water supply via pipe located inside the yard/dwelling reaches 95.4% of the households. Water supply via pipe on a

communal stand is only for 2.2% of the households and 2.4% of households do not have access to water.

Power supply: Power supply to the region is from the Eskom grid.

3. The anticipated environmental, social or cultural impacts identified.

3.1. Confirm that the community and identified interested and affected parties have been consulted and that they agree that the potential impacts identified include those identified by them.

3.1.1. Provide a list and description of potential impacts identified on the cultural environment.

Auger drilling activities and the movement of vehicles on and off farm tracks across the site may disturb unidentified sites of archaeological and cultural interest. However, an archaeologist has been to the proposed project site and known archaeological and cultural sites of interest will be avoided.

3.1.2. Provide a list and description of potential impacts identified on the heritage environment, if applicable.

Auger drilling activities and the movement of vehicles on and off farm tracks across the site may disturb unidentified sites of archaeological and cultural interest. However, an archaeologist has been to the proposed project site and known archaeological and cultural sites of interest will be avoided.

3.1.3. Provide a list and description of potential impacts identified on the socio-economic conditions of any person on the property and on any adjacent or non adjacent property who may be affected by the proposed prospecting or mining operation.

A positive impact on the local socio-economic condition is expected, although very minimal such as the use of local guest houses/accomodation. The prospecting project is very limited, thus there will be no opportunity for local employment at this stage.

3.1.4. Provide a list and description of potential impacts (positive & negative) identified on: employment opportunities, community health, community proximity.

A positive impact is expected as described above; although limited in extent.

3.1.5. Provide a list and description of potential impacts identified on the biophysical environment including but not be limited to impacts on: flora, fauna, water resources, air, noise, soil etc.

- **Hydrocarbon contamination of near-pristine and highly sensitive environment.**
- **Creation of new tracks, compaction of soils and general disturbance to site. Note: hyper-arid climate has very slow regeneration rate.**

- Contamination of site from portable toilet leaks.
- Disturbance to near-pristine and sensitive vegetation and soils across all wetland areas and their buffer areas. Note areas are of critical biodiversity importance.
- Further disturbance to near-pristine and sensitive vegetation and soils across all pan and buffer area. Near-permanent damage to vegetation and possibly zooplankton egg banks. Natural restoration rate is extremely slow in this system. Note areas are of critical biodiversity importance.
- Drilling will lead to the ancient and intact pan geological profile being impacted through the perforation of the consolidated layers, which have led to the wetland habitat forming. Realised impacts to the functioning of the hydrogeological system are uncertain; but may result in localised dewatering of rain water as intact impermeable layers are disturbed.
- Introduction and establishment of alien invasive plant species
- Loss of displacement of faunal species of conservation concern.
- Six sites were identified with high cultural significance. Whilst no sites currently are directly impacted by the proposed borehole locations, secondary impacts to these areas may occur if unmanaged.
- Soil compaction
- Contamination of soil from oil and diesel spillages.

3.1.6. Provide a description of potential cumulative impacts that the proposed operation may contribute to considering other identified land uses which may have potential environmental linkages to the land concerned.

The proposed project area is largely natural. The overall area has agriculture and grazing but due to shallow soil depth there is no agriculture on the project site. Prospecting is not expected to influence the land use.

The area is very dry therefore the auger drilling and vehicle movement could contribute to increased dust levels. Dust suppression will take place if the dust levels are high.

A positive impact will be felt on the local economy through the use of local guest houses/accommodation.

The auger drilling could cause an increase in noise but within acceptable limits.

4. Land use or development alternatives, alternative means of carrying out the proposed operation, and the consequences of not proceeding with the proposed operation.

4.1. Provide a list of and describe any alternative land uses that exist on the property or on adjacent or non-adjacent properties that may be affected by the proposed mining operation.

The surrounding land uses are for agriculture and grazing. There are farmsteads and homesteads on the prospecting site area. The prospecting activities and auger drilling

is not anticipated to affect the current land use thus no alternatives have been considered.

4.2. Provide a list of and describe any land developments identified by the community or interested and affected parties that are in progress and which may be affected by the proposed mining operation.

No land developments have been identified by the community or interested and affected parties. Therefore no land developments will be affected by the proposed prospecting operation.

4.3. Provide a list of and describe any proposals made in the consultation process to adjust the operational plans of the mine to accommodate the needs of the community, landowners and interested and affected parties.

This application is for prospecting. No proposals nor comments have been made during the consultation process to date.

4.4. Provide information in relation to the consequences of not proceeding with proposed operation

The gypsum reserve will not be defined and will not be utilized. The advantages of having a new operation in the area will not be felt if the proposed operation does not go forward.

5. Description of the process of engagement referred to in 3.2.1 and 3.2.2 above with identified communities, landowners and interested and affected parties.

5.1. Provide a description of the information provided to the community, landowners, and interested and affected parties to inform them in sufficient detail of what the prospecting or mining operation will entail on the land, in order for them to assess what impact the prospecting will have on them or on the use of their land;

Background Information Documents (BIDs) were compiled in English and Afrikaans and were distributed via e-mail and post to all the identified authorities and organs of state as discussed above. In addition the BID was uploaded onto the Cabanga website.

Hard Copies were hand delivered on the 7th and 8th November 2017 to directly affected parties (land owners and users) where possible. In some cases no one could be located on the property; in such a case the BID was attached to the property gate or left in a post box (when available).

The purpose of the BID was to:

- **Introduce the project to the I&APs;**
- **Inform them of the proposed applications and associated regulatory processes;**
and
- **Initiate a process of public consultation to record perceptions and issues.**

A copy of the BID has been included in Annexure II for reference and proof of notification has been included in Annexure III.

Advertisements, informing people of the proposed activities and requesting readers to register as I&APs, were placed in one local newspapers (in both English and Afrikaans):

- **Noordwester, published on 10 November 2017**

Please refer to Annexure IV for a copy of this advertisement.

A2 posters, written in English and Afrikaans, informing people of the proposed activities and requesting I&APs to register were placed at various locations around the site. There was a poster put on the boundary of the proposed project area as well as in several locations around Brandvlei and Kenhardt.

Posters in Brandvlei:

- **Voorsorg Vleis**
- **Kaap Agri**
- **SASSA**
- **Petrol station beside Windpomp Restaurant**
- **KLK**
- **Hantam Local Municipality**
- **Public Library**
- **Post Office**

Posters in Kenhardt:

- **KLK**
- **Petrol Station**

- Bazaar

Please refer to Annexure V for a copy of the posters, and photographic evidence thereof.

The Draft Basic Assessment Report will be made available to the public and to the various authorities for review and comment over a period of thirty (30) days. In terms of NEMA and its EIA Regulations, the 15th December 2017 to 5th January 2018 is excluded from the reckoning of days for any action for which a timeframe is prescribed. Thus, the public review period has been extended and the Basic Assessment Report will be made available from 1 December 2017 to 23 January 2018.

All registered I&APs will be informed of the reports' availability through SMS and e-mail on the 1 December 2017.

The Draft Basic Assessment Report will be made available at the following locations:

- Online at www.cabangaconcepts.co.za/public-documents;
- Brandvlei Public Library (behind the Hantam Local Municipality building)

5.2. Provide a list of which of the identified communities, landowners, lawful occupiers, and other interested and affected parties were in fact consulted.

An I&AP database was compiled using Windeed details for farms and adjacent farms. I&AP's to include were also received from the DMR Acceptance of Prospecting Application letter. Local authorities were included in the I&AP database. The database was updated when BID's were hand delivered and locals signed the register as proof of receiving the BID. Please see Annexure I for a copy of the full I&AP database.

5.3. Provide a list of their views raised in regard to the existing cultural, socio-economic or biophysical environment, as the case may be.

No comments have been received to date. A copy of the Table 1: Issues and Responses is included at the end of this report.

5.4. Provide a list of their views raised on how their existing cultural, socio-economic or biophysical environment potentially will be impacted on by the proposed prospecting or mining operation.

No comments have been received to date. A copy of the Table 1: Issues and Responses is included at the end of this report.

5.5. Provide list of any other concerns raised by the aforesaid parties.

No comments have been received to date. A copy of the Table 1: Issues and Responses is included at the end of this report.

5.6. Provide the applicable minutes and records of the consultations as appendices.

The monthly Brandvlei Agricultural Society meeting was attended on the 8th November 2017. A brief summary of the proposed project was presented to the attendees. There are no minutes of this meeting as the meeting was not called specifically for the proposed project, this was a private farmers meeting. Annexure VII displays pictures of where the meeting took place.

Annexure VI also shows the correspondence with Authorities.

5.7. Provide information with regard to any objections received.

No objections have been made thus far.

6. Describe the most appropriate means to carry out the proposed operation with due accommodation of the issues raised in the consultation process.

The proposed operation is to be carried out in line with the Prospecting Works Programme.

C. IDENTIFICATION OF THE REPORT

The report on the results of consultation must, at the end of the report include a certificate of identification as follows;

Herewith I, the person whose name and identity number is stated below, confirm that I am the person authorised to act as representative of the applicant in terms of the resolution submitted with the application, and confirm that the

above report comprises the results of consultation as contemplated in Section 16 (4) (b) or 27 (5) (b) of the Act, as the case may be.

Full Names and Surname	Johannes Jacobus Christoffel Erasmus
Identity Number	700209 5012 083

- END -