
**SAMIN GROUP PTY LTD PROSPECTING RIGHT APPLICATION WITH
BULK SAMPLING ON UNSURVEYED STATE LAND 440MT & 442MT,
AREA OF GUMBU / MASISI, MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT OF MUSINA,
LIMPOPO PROVINCE**

SCOPING AND EIA PROCESS

FOCUS GROUP MEETING BETWEEN SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL DEFENCE
FORCE (SANDF) AND NALEDZI ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS
DMR REF. LP30/5/1/1/2/13050EM

MINUTES OF SANDF FOCUS GROUP MEETING

MEETING DATE	12 February 2018
VENUE	Naledzi EC Offices, Polokwane
TIME	14:00HRS – 15:00HRS

Attendees:

Naledzi Environmental Consultants CC (NEC)

- Independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP): Desmond Musetsho (DM)

South African National Defence Force (SANDF)

- Hennie Davel (HD) Regional Environmental Manager (EM) for SANDF

Refer to attached Attendance Register under Appendix A.

Meeting Facilitator: Mr Desmond Musetsho – NEC

DISCUSSIONS

1. Agenda and Purpose of meeting:

- 1.1 DM, from NEC introduced himself as the EAP for the project and, provided the SANDF opportunity to introduce themselves;
- 1.2 The agenda was announced which included discussion on the project background, Scoping and EIA Process and the Public Participation Process. A discussion session would follow.
- 1.3 HD indicated that the SANDF requested the meeting to provide NEC with information of the proposed project site based on it being used as a military training area.

2. Project Overview and Background:

- 2.1 DM from NEC indicated that the NEMA EIA regulations requires SAMIN Group, applicant of the prospecting right, to conduct an EIA Study in respect of the proposed prospecting activities. Prospecting is a listed activity in terms of the EIA Regulation

scheduled listing notices of 2014 and requires an EIA Study. NEC has been appointed as the independent EAP to undertake the required EIA Process.

2.2 DM explained that prospecting is a process whereby a company searches for certain mineral deposits by determining its quality and quantity through either drilling or bulk sampling. The SAMIN prospecting application triggers a full Scoping and EIA Process since its prospecting methods will include bulk sampling.

3. Scoping and EIA Process & Public Participation:

3.1 HD from the SANDF requested DM from NEC to avoid the discussion since both processes were well understood by the attendees.

4. Discussion Session:

4.1 DM opened the opportunity for discussion. Refer to 4.2 in table format, overleaf for comments raised during the focus group meeting and associated responses.

5. Way Forward & Closure:

5.1 DM indicated NEC will confirm the quantities of the samples to be extracted for bulk sampling and lab testing. The National Department of Public Works would be notified of the project as requested.

5.2 DM closed the meeting.

5.3 **Post meeting note 19/02/2018:** Point 5.1 is addressed under Item 4.2.1 under post meeting note 1 and under item 4.2.3 under post meeting note 6.

Refer to 4.2 in table format overleaf, which contains comments and issues raised at the meeting with associated responses.

4.2 Comments and Responses recorded at the Focus Group Meeting of 12 February 2018

NO	Comment	Commenter	Response
4.2.1	<p>The SANDF oppose the proposed prospecting right application due to the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The land has been used for military training since 1960's and is currently registered under the Department of Public Works. ▪ SANDF spent R 100 billion to sweep/clean the area from land mines so land could be used for agricultural purposes. ▪ There are still landmines present in the area, to depths of 4m below ground. A civilian was killed whilst handling a land mine for the purpose of collecting it for scrap metal. The area is not safe yet. ▪ The Madimbo Corridor is the only base available to the SANDF for training. There is continuous training in the corridor. ▪ The project site is a declared Nature Reserve ▪ The project area still needs to be cleaned / swepted for further concealed unexploded bombs (UXO's). ▪ Rumours indicate ammunition was dumped into the old Gumbu Mine. ▪ Only the western side from Beacon 5 towards Musina would have been given back to the community, as it has been cleaned from all UXO's ▪ Vigorous training is still undertaken on the eastern side of Beacon 5. ▪ A land claim has been lodged against the project site, and is yet to be finalised. 	<p>Lt Cl. Hennie Davel SANDF Regional EM</p>	<p>All comments have been noted. DM from NEC responded the aim of the public participation is to record all issues from interested and affected parties and to address such through the EIA Process to assist the DMR in decision making.</p> <p><u>Post meeting notes on 19/02/2018:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) NEC is aware that the prospect site is registered under the National Department of Public Works (DPW). The DPW is a registered I&AP on the project database. NEC informed the DPW, Property Manager of Facilities, Mr. Yuza Siwela of the application. The project Background Information Document, Notification letter including the availability of the draft Scoping Report was emailed to the DPW on 16/01/2018. (2) NEC takes note of the project site being a nature reserve; it falls within the Vhembe Biosphere Reserve which is a UNESCO biosphere reserve. The impact on biodiversity will be considered in the EIA Process. (3) The unsafe nature of the eastern portion of the project site will be recorded in the Scoping Report and made known to the applicant and decision making authority. (4) NEC has obtained Land Claim results on 10/01/2018 from the Commissioner on Restitution on Land Rights. The results stipulate the claimants of the land are Gumbu, Masisi, Tshenzelani, Sigonde Community, Mutale Community. Yet it states the claim has been settled. NEC will reconfirm the status with the Commissioner.

4.2.2	The National Department of Public Works, Mr Siweya needs to be notified of the application since the DPW is the current landowner of the area under claim.	Lt Cl Hennie Davel SANDF Regional EM	<u>Post meeting note (5) 19/02/2018:</u> Please refer to point 4.2.1 post meeting note 1 for response.
4.2.3	What volumes of sampling will be taken at the site?	Lt Cl Hennie Davel SANDF Regional EM	DM from NEC indicated the exact volumes of sampling would be confirmed. <u>Post meeting note (6) 19/02/2018:</u> The legal maximum allowed volume for bulk sampling is 500 000 tons/annum. The old Gumbu Mine is the only current target area selected for bulk sampling at 500 000 tons/annum. The other target areas for prospecting would include trenching, with an extent of 1m x 1m x 20m long/ trench. Most target areas will comprise 5 trenches. The volumes of material excavated from each target site would vary from 30m ³ up to 280m ³ . The average volume of excavation would be 100m ³ .
4.2.4	Would a mining permit be applied for after the prospecting phase?	Lt Cl Hennie Davel SANDF Regional EM	DM from NEC confirmed that the applicant would apply for a mining permit from the DMR should the prospecting programme yield positive results.
4.2.5	What will be implemented to close the trenches opened during bulk sampling?	Lt Cl Hennie Davel SANDF Regional EM	DM confirmed NEC will prepare a rehabilitation plan with measures to be implemented at the end of the prospecting phase.
4.2.6	Will sampling of soil be done on site?	Lt Cl Hennie Davel SANDF Regional EM	DM from NEC confirmed SAMIN Group intends sampling the soils at labs.

ANNEXURE A
Attendance Register

**ATTENDANCES REGISTER – MEETING BETWEEN SANDF AND NALEDZI
SCOPING PHASE MEETING WITH COMMUNITIES OF GUMBU, MALALE, SIGONDE, TSHENDZHELANI, MASISI
AND BENDE MUTALE**

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS IN SUPPORT OF A PROSPECTING RIGHT APPLICATION BY SAMIN
GROUP (PTY) LTD IN THE MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT OF MUSINA, AREA OF GUMBU, LIMPOPO PROVINCE
(DMR REF: LP30/5/1/1/2/13050 EM)

DATE: MONDAY, 12 FEBRUARY 2018 FROM 2PM – 4PM
VENUE: NALEDZI ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICE – 141 THABO MBEKI STREET, PLK

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