



## **VENTERSBURG B PROSPECTING RIGHT PROJECT**

### **COMMENTS AND RESPONSES REPORT**

**Submitted in support of the Prospecting Right and Environmental Authorisation Applications**

**Prepared on Behalf of  
Western Allen Ridge Gold Mines (Pty) Ltd**

**DMR REFERENCE NUMBER  
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**14<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2018**

# VENTERSBURG B PROSPECTING RIGHT PROJECT

## COMMENTS AND RESPONSES REPORT

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## Definitions

### Abbreviation

### Definition

<b>EA</b>	Environmental Authorisation. This constitutes the approval or dismissal of a project as issued by the relevant Competent Authority.
<b>Applicant</b>	The person or party applying for Environmental Authorisation for a listed activity and who is responsible for ensuring the development complies with all relevant legislation whether or not they are the land owner.
<b>BAR and EMPR</b>	Basic Assessment Report and Environmental Management Programme. DMR document for joint BAR and EMP related for mineral applications.
<b>CA</b>	Competent Authority.
<b>DEA</b>	The National Department of Environmental Affairs.
<b>DMR</b>	The Department of Mineral Resources. CA in South Africa for mineral right applications.
<b>DWS</b>	The Department of Water and Sanitation – both national offices and their various regional offices, which are divided across the country on the basis of water catchment areas.
<b>EAR</b>	Environmental Audit Report.
<b>EAP</b>	Environmental Assessment Practitioner.
<b>ECO</b>	Environmental Control Officer.
<b>EIA Regulations</b>	Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations.
<b>EIR and EMP</b>	Environmental Impact Report and Environmental Management Programme. DMR document for joint EIR and EMP related to mineral applications.
<b>Environment</b>	The Environment is defined in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) as the surroundings within which humans exist and that are made up of: The land, water and atmosphere of the earth: micro-organisms, plant and animal life, any part or combination of the first three items and the inter-relationships between them the physical, chemical, aesthetic and cultural properties and conditions of the foregoing that influence human health and wellbeing.
<b>FP</b>	Financial Provision.
<b>FP Regulations</b>	Regulations pertaining to the financial provision for prospecting, exploration, mining or production operations No. 1147 (effective 20 November 2015).
<b>FRDCP</b>	Final Rehabilitation, Decommissioning and Closure Plan.
<b>Fauna</b>	All living biological creatures, usually capable of motion, including insects and predominantly of protein-based consistency.
<b>Fence</b>	A physical barrier in the form of posts and barbed wire or any other concrete construction, (“palisade”-type fencing included), constructed with the purpose of keeping humans and animals within or out of defined boundaries.
<b>Flora</b>	All living plants, grasses, shrubs, trees, etc., usually incapable of easy natural motion and usually capable of photosynthesis.
<b>GN</b>	Government Notice.
<b>HSE</b>	Health, Safety and Environment.
<b>I&amp;AP</b>	Interested and Affected Parties.
<b>MPDRA</b>	Minerals and Petroleum Development Act, No 28 of 2002.
<b>PPP</b>	Public Participation Process in terms of the NEMA and MPRDA.
<b>MPDRA</b>	Minerals and Petroleum Development Act, No 28 of 2002.
<b>MP</b>	Mining Permit in terms of the MPRDA.
<b>MR</b>	Mining Right in terms of the MPRDA.
<b>PR</b>	Prospecting Right in terms of the MPRDA.
<b>SAHRA</b>	South African Heritage and Resources Act, No 25 of 1999.
<b>SAMRAD</b>	The web-based portal for mineral right applications and management – managed by the DMR.

# 1 INTRODUCTION

This Comments and Responses Report (CRR) has been compiled as an appendix to the final Basic Assessment Report (BAR) and Environmental Management Programme (EMPR) for the Ventersburg B Prospecting Right project in the Free State Province of South Africa. This CRR outlines the Public Participation Process (PPP) followed for an application for a Prospecting Right (PR) and Environmental Authorisation (EA). Shango Solutions was appointed by Western Allen Ridge Gold Mines (Pty) Ltd as an independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to assist in undertaking a PPP, conducting a Basic Assessment (BA) and submitting the BAR and an EMPR in support of the PR and EA application for the Ventersburg B project.

South Africa, being one of the countries with the most progressive constitutions, enshrined the public's right to be involved in decisions. Section 57(1) of the new Constitution that provides: "The National Assembly may (b) make rules and orders concerning its business, with due regard to representative and participatory democracy, accountability, transparency and public involvement". This provision, along with several others gave rise to many new trends in South African legislation. In environmental legislation, the idea of public participation (or stakeholder engagement) features strongly and especially the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998, NEMA – as amended) and the recent regulations passed under the auspices of this Act make very strict provisions for public participation in environmental decision-making.

Public participation can be defined as..."a process leading to a joint effort by stakeholders, technical specialists, the authorities and the proponent who work together to produce better decisions than if they had acted independently" (Greyling, 1999). From this definition, it can be seen that the input of the public is regarded as very important indeed.

The PPP is designed to provide sufficient and accessible information to Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) in an objective manner to assist them to:

1. Raise issues of concern and suggestions for enhanced benefits
2. Verify that their issues have been recorded
3. Assist in identifying reasonable alternatives
4. Contribute relevant local information and knowledge to the environmental assessment
5. Comment on the findings of the environmental assessments
6. Obtain information on the outcome, i.e. the competent authority's decision, and how and by when the decision can be appealed

This CRR lists all verbal and written issues raised by I&APs and stakeholders during the public participation period undertaken for the BA process. A breakdown of the PPP is given within the following sections.

## 2 LEGAL COMPLIANCE

The PPP must comply with the two important sets of legislation that require public participation as part of an application for authorisation or approval; namely:

1. The Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act 28 of 2002 – MPRDA)
2. The National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998 - NEMA)

Adherence to the requirements of the above-mentioned Acts will allow for an Integrated PPP to be conducted. In so doing, the requirement for public participation referenced in the Acts is satisfied. The details of the Integrated PPP are provided below.

## 3 METHODOLOGY

The PPP follows the requirements of Chapter 6 Regulation 41 of GNR. 326 of the EIA Regulations, (2017), promulgated under Section 24 (5) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998 - NEMA), as amended.

### 3.1 IDENTIFICATION OF INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES (I&APS)

An initial I&AP list was compiled using WinDeed searches to determine the registered landowners of the project affected land portions. The I&AP database was compiled containing the following categories of stakeholders:

1. National, provincial and local government
2. Agricultural sector
3. Organised business
4. Host and adjacent communities
5. Land claimants
6. Other organisations, clubs, communities and unions
7. Various Non-Government Organisations (NGOs)

Affected and adjacent landowners have been notified about the project via post, fax and/or e-mail and were invited to participate in the BA process. Affected and adjacent landowner contact details were obtained via the following process:

- A WinDeed search was conducted to obtain the contact details of the affected landowners, where available
- Where the property was owned by a company, an internet search was carried out to identify the owners and their contact details
- Where the property was owned by a Trust, efforts were made to solicit contact details from the relevant municipalities

### **3.2 LIST OF AUTHORITIES IDENTIFIED AND NOTIFIED**

The following authorities have been identified and notified of the Ventersburg B Prospecting Right application:

1. National Department of Mineral Resources
2. National Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
3. National Department of Rural Development and Land Reform
4. South African National Roads Agency Ltd (SANRAL)
5. South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) – National
6. Free State Department of Mineral Resources
7. Free State Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
8. Free State Department of Cooperative Governance, Traditional Affairs and Human Settlements
9. Free State Department of Economic Development, Tourism, Environmental Affairs and Small Business
10. Free State Department of Police, Roads and Transport
11. Free State Department of Public Works
12. Free State Department of Water and Sanitation
13. Matjhabeng Local Municipality
14. Lejweleputswa District Municipality
15. Eskom
16. Transnet

### **3.3 LIST OF KEY STAKEHOLDERS IDENTIFIED AND NOTIFIED**

The following key stakeholders have been identified and notified of the Ventersburg B Prospecting Right application:

1. The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research
2. Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA)
3. Agri South Africa
4. Agri Free State
5. Catchment Management Agency
6. South African National Parks (SANParks)
7. Federation for a Sustainable Development
8. Birdlife South Africa
9. Agricultural Research Council
10. Endangered Wildlife Trust

### **3.4 LIST OF SURFACE RIGHTS/LAND OWNERS IDENTIFIED AND NOTIFIED**

The following surface right/landowners have been notified of the Ventersburg B Prospecting Right application:

1. Victoriaspruit Trust
2. Fritz Harwood Relling Family Trust
3. Margaretha Wagner
4. Francois Els Trust
5. Aletta Johanna Jubelius
6. Eendracht Trust
7. Heyns Michiel Ignatius

Please refer to Appendix E1 for the I&AP Database which represents the pre-identified I&APs as well as the I&APs that have registered during the course of this PR and EA application.

### **3.5 NOTIFICATION OF I&APS**

This section provides details on the notification that was distributed as part of the BA process to date.

#### **3.5.1 INITIAL NOTIFICATION**

The PPP commenced on the 21<sup>st</sup> September 2018 with an initial notification and call to register within the period ending on the 25<sup>th</sup> October 2018. Initial notification was given in the following manner:

##### **3.5.1.1 REGISTERED LETTERS, FAXES AND E-MAILS**

Notification documents were prepared in three dominant languages spoken within the application area, namely, English, Afrikaans and Sesotho. Notification letters, faxes and e-mails were distributed to all pre-identified I&APs including affected and adjacent surface landowners, government organisations, NGOs, relevant municipalities, ward councillors and other organisations that might be affected. The notification letters included the following information:

1. List of anticipated activities to be authorised
2. Scale and extent of activities to be authorised
3. Sufficient detail of the intended operation (to enable I&APs to assess/surmise what impact the activities will have on them or on the use of their land)
4. The purpose of the proposed project
5. Details of the affected properties (including a locality map)
6. Details of the MPRDA and NEMA Regulations that must be adhered to
7. Date by which any request to register as an I&AP must be forwarded through to Shango Solutions

#### 8. Contact details of the EAP

In addition, a questionnaire was included in the registered letters, e-mails and facsimiles that were sent during the initial notification. The questionnaire requested the following information from I&APs:

1. Information on any potential impacts from the proposed project
2. Suggestions on potential mitigation measures for their anticipated impacts
3. Information on current land uses and their location within the area
4. Information on the location of any environmental features of note within and in the vicinity of the study area
5. Details of the landowner and information (contact details) of lawful property occupiers, if any
6. Details of any other I&APs that should be notified
7. Details on any land developments proposed in the near future
8. Any specific comments or concerns regarding the application

#### **3.5.1.2 BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT (BID)**

A Background Information Document (BID) was prepared. The BID included the following information:

1. Project name
2. Applicant name
3. Project location
4. Map of affected project area
5. Description of the application process
6. Information on document review
7. Relevant Shango Solutions contact person for the project
8. Please refer to Appendix E2 for the I&AP initial notification.

#### **3.5.1.3 NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENT**

Newspaper advertisements describing the proposed project and BA process featured in a local newspaper with adequate circulation in the area. The advertisements were featured in The Free State Sun (in English and Afrikaans and Sesotho) on the 21<sup>st</sup> September 2018. The adverts included the following information:

1. Project name
2. Applicant name

3. Project location
4. Nature of the activity
5. Relevant Shango Solutions contact person
6. Please refer to Appendix E3 for proof of advertisement placement.

#### **3.5.1.4 SITE NOTICE PLACEMENT**

11 A1 Correx site notices (in English, Afrikaans and Sesotho) were placed along and within the perimeter of the proposed project area on the 25<sup>th</sup> September 2018. The on-site notices included the following information:

1. Project name
2. Applicant name
3. Project location
4. Map of proposed project area
5. Project description
6. Legislative requirements
7. Relevant Shango Solutions contact person

#### **3.5.1.5 POSTER PLACEMENT**

A3 posters in English, Afrikaans and Sesotho were placed at the Ventersburg Spar. The notices and written notification afforded all pre-identified I&APs the opportunity to register for the project as well as to submit their issues/queries/concerns and indicate the contact details of any other potential I&APs that should be contacted. The contact details of the EAP/EP were clearly stated on the notification. Comments/concerns and queries were encouraged to be submitted in either of the following manners:

1. Electronically (fax, e-mail)
2. Telephonically
3. Written letters

Please refer to Appendix E4 for proof of site notice and poster placement.

### **3.5.2 AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT BAR AND EMPR NOTIFICATION**

The draft BAR and EMPR were made available for public review and comment for a total period of 30 days, from the 13<sup>th</sup> November 2018 until 13<sup>th</sup> December 2018. All registered I&APs were notified of the availability of the BAR and EMPR and where to locate them. I&APs were informed to provide comment either in writing or telephonically, to Shango Solutions by no later than the 13<sup>th</sup> December 2018.

Notification regarding the availability of the Draft BAR and EMPR was given in the following manner:

1. Notification letters (in English and Afrikaans), faxes and/or e-mails were distributed to all pre-identified I&APs, I&APs registered during the initial notification period and the BA notification period, as well as affected and adjacent surface landowners.

The BAR and EMPR were accessible at a public area for perusal and comment by all I&APs. Furthermore, the BAR and EMPR were accessible online (on the Shango Solutions website) for download. Comments received from I&APs during the draft BAR and EMPR review period have been included in this Comments and Responses Report to be submitted to the DMR for consideration as part of the final BAR and EMPR.

Furthermore, the draft BAR and EMPR was uploaded on the Shango Solutions website on the 13<sup>th</sup> November 2018 for download. Please refer to Appendix E5 for proof of the draft BAR and EMPR availability and Open Day notification.

### 3.5.3 PUBLIC MEETING/OPEN DAY

During the draft BAR and EMPR review period, an Open Day was held to present findings of the Basic Assessment process. The Open Day took place on the 28th November 2018 at the OVK Conference Room from 09:00 to 17:00. During the Open Day session, informative A1 posters were displayed on the walls prior to the open session. English A4 versions of the Open Day poster were provided to I&APs. The EAP was available during the public Open Day for one-on-one discussions and questions from the public. Please refer to Appendix E6 for proof of the Open Day minutes and the attendance register and Appendix E7 for the Open Day Pictures. Table 1 below summarises the PPP.

Table 1: Opportunities provided for public participation.

Public Participation Phase			
Action	Description	Publication/Place	Date
Initial public notification (announcement of project)	Newspaper advertisement	Newspaper	21 September 2018
	Notification of landowners and key I&APs	I&APs were notified via advertisement, site notice, e-mail, fax, and/or post	21 September 2018
	Placement of posters	A3 posters were placed at key public places within the site area	25 September 2018
	Placement of site notices	A1 site notices within and around the site area (11 locations)	25 September 2018
Announcement for public review of draft BAR and EMPR and details of the Open Day	Notification of landowners and key I&APs	I&APs were notified via e-mail, fax, and/or post	12 November 2018

Public Participation Phase			
Announcement of public review of final BAR and EMPR	Notification of landowners and key I&APs	I&APs will be notified via e-mail, fax, and/or post	13 December 2018

## 4 COMMENTS RAISED

The comments and responses below are those that have been received and addressed to date.

## 5 HOW ISSUES RAISED WERE ADDRESSED

Comments raised were addressed in a transparent manner and included in the compilation of the BAR and EMPR in the following manner:

- Issues raised were used quantitatively to calculate the significance of impacts, both real and perceived
- Issues raised were used to provide further suggestions and recommendations with regard to technical management options for impacts

Comments received by the EAP to date have been included in this report as part of the report submission to the DMR (the Competent Authority). Please refer to Appendix E8 for copies of correspondence.

Table 2: Comments raised by I&amp;APs.

I&AP	Consulted	Date comments received	Comment received	Response issued
<b>Key Stakeholders</b>				
<b>Landowner/s</b>				
Victoriaspruit Trust	X		No comment received to date.	
Fritz Harwood Relling Family Trust	X		No contact details sourced for this landowner.	
Margaretha Wagner	X		No comment received to date.	
Francois Els Trust	X		No contact details sourced for this landowner.	
Aletta Johanna Jubelius	X		No comment received to date.	
Eendracht Trust	X		No contact details sourced for this landowner.	
Heyns Michiel Ignatius	X		No comment received to date.	
<b>Lawful Occupier/s</b>				
NA				
<b>Adjacent Landowners</b>				
NA				

I&AP	Consulted	Date comments received	Comment received	Response issued
<b>Local Municipality – Matjhabeng Local Municipality</b>				
Executive Mayor	X		No comment received to date.	
Municipal Manager	X		No comment received to date.	
Speaker	X		No comment received to date.	
Ward 3 Councillor	X		No comment received to date.	
<b>District Municipality – Lejweleputswa District Municipality</b>				
Municipal Manager	X		No comment received to date.	
<b>Communities</b>				
N/A	X		No comment received to date.	
<b>Traditional Leaders</b>				
N/A	X		No comment received to date.	
<b>Organs of State</b>				
National Department of Mineral Resources	X		No comment received to date.	
National Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	X		No comment received to date.	

I&AP	Consulted	Date comments received	Comment received	Response issued
National Department of Rural Development and Land Reform	X		No comment received to date.	
South African National Roads Agency Ltd (SANRAL)	X		No comment received to date.	
South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) – National	X	13 <sup>th</sup> November 2018	<p>Good morning,</p> <p>Please upload the draft BAR to your application on SAHRIS:  <a href="https://www.sahra.org.za/sahris/cases/ventersburg-b-prospecting-right">https://www.sahra.org.za/sahris/cases/ventersburg-b-prospecting-right</a> and make sure to change the case status to “submitted” when it is uploaded. Please also note the contents of the letter issued on 8 November 2018 and attached to your application.</p> <p>Kind regards,                      Ragna Redelstorff</p>	<p>Good day,</p> <p>Thank you for your correspondence.</p> <p>Please be advised that the Draft Basic Assessment Report and Environmental Management Programme Report as well as the accompanying Heritage Impact Assessment and Desktop Palaeontological Impact Assessment for the above mentioned project have been uploaded onto SAHRIS.</p> <p>Should you have any further queries in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact me.</p> <p>Regards                      Nyandala Adi Ramaru</p>
Free State Department of Mineral Resources	X		No comment received to date.	

I&AP	Consulted	Date comments received	Comment received	Response issued
Free State Department of Agriculture and Rural Development	X		No comment received to date.	
Free State Department of Cooperative Governance, Traditional Affairs & Human Settlements	X		No comment received to date.	
Free State Department of Economic Development, Tourism, Environmental Affairs & Small Business	X		No comment received to date.	
Free State Department of Police, Roads and Transport	X		No comment received to date.	
Free State Department of Public Works	X		No comment received to date.	
Free State Department of Public Works	X		No comment received to date.	
Free State Department of Water and Sanitation	X		No comment received to date	
Eskom	X	25 <sup>th</sup> September 2018	Please send me KMZ files of the affected properties. Please find attached general requirements for works at or near Eskom servitudes and infrastructure  Regards	Good day  Thank you for your interest in the Ventersburg B Prospecting Right and Environmental Authorisation application project.

I&AP	Consulted	Date comments received	Comment received	Response issued
			<p>John Geeringh (Pr Sci Nat)</p> <p>Attached Eskom requirements for work in or near Eskom servitude:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Eskom's rights and services must be acknowledged and respected at all times.</li> <li>2. Eskom shall at all times retain unobstructed access to and egress from its servitudes.</li> <li>3. Eskom's consent does not relieve the developer from obtaining the necessary statutory, land owner or municipal approvals.</li> <li>4. Any cost incurred by Eskom as a result of non-compliance to any relevant environmental legislation will be charged to the developer.</li> <li>5. If Eskom has to incur any expenditure in order to comply with statutory clearances or other regulations as a result of the developer's activities or because of the presence of his equipment or installation within the servitude restriction area, the developer shall pay such costs to Eskom on demand.</li> <li>6. The use of explosives of any type within 500 metres of Eskom's services shall only occur with Eskom's previous written permission. If such permission is granted the developer must give at least fourteen working days prior notice of the commencement of blasting. This allows</li> </ol>	<p>As per your request, please find the attached KMZ files of the proposed prospecting area and the proposed drillhole positions.</p> <p>The general requirements for works at or near Eskom servitudes and infrastructure have been noted.</p> <p>Should you have any further queries in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact me.</p> <p>Regards</p> <p>Nyandala Adi Ramaru</p>

I&AP	Consulted	Date comments received	Comment received	Response issued
			<p>time for arrangements to be made for supervision and/or precautionary instructions to be issued in terms of the blasting process. It is advisable to make application separately in this regard.</p> <p>7. Changes in ground level may not infringe statutory ground to conductor clearances or statutory visibility clearances. After any changes in ground level, the surface shall be rehabilitated and stabilised so as to prevent erosion. The measures taken shall be to Eskom's satisfaction.</p> <p>8. Eskom shall not be liable for the death of or injury to any person or for the loss of or damage to any property whether as a result of the encroachment or of the use of the servitude area by the developer, his/her agent, contractors, employees, successors in title, and assignees. The developer indemnifies Eskom against loss, claims or damages including claims pertaining to consequential damages by third parties and whether as a result of damage to or interruption of or interference with Eskom's services or apparatus or otherwise. Eskom will not be held responsible for damage to the developer's equipment.</p> <p>9. No mechanical equipment, including mechanical excavators or high lifting machinery, shall be used in the vicinity of Eskom's apparatus and/or services, without prior written permission having</p>	

I&AP	Consulted	Date comments received	Comment received	Response issued
			<p>been granted by Eskom. If such permission is granted the developer must give at least seven working days' notice prior to the commencement of work. This allows time for arrangements to be made for supervision and/or precautionary instructions to be issued by the relevant Eskom Manager</p> <p>Note: Where an electrical outage is required, at least fourteen work days are required to arrange it.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10. Eskom's rights and duties in the servitude shall be accepted as having prior right at all times and shall not be obstructed or interfered with.</li> <li>11. Under no circumstances shall rubble, earth or other material be dumped within the servitude restriction area. The developer shall maintain the area concerned to Eskom's satisfaction. The developer shall be liable to Eskom for the cost of any remedial action which has to be carried out by Eskom.</li> <li>12. The clearances between Eskom's live electrical equipment and the proposed construction work shall be observed as stipulated by <i>Regulation 15</i> of the <i>Electrical Machinery Regulations of the Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993 (Act 85 of 1993)</i>.</li> <li>13. Equipment shall be regarded electrically live and therefore dangerous at all times.</li> </ol>	

I&AP	Consulted	Date comments received	Comment received	Response issued
			<p>14. In spite of the restrictions stipulated by Regulation 15 of the Electrical Machinery Regulations of the Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993 (Act 85 of 1993), as an additional safety precaution, Eskom will not approve the erection of houses, or structures occupied or frequented by human beings, under the power lines or within the servitude restriction area.</p> <p>15. Eskom may stipulate any additional requirements to highlight any possible exposure to Customers or Public to coming into contact or be exposed to any dangers of Eskom plant.</p> <p>16. It is required of the developer to familiarise himself with all safety hazards related to Electrical plant.</p> <p>Any third party servitudes encroaching on Eskom servitudes shall be registered against Eskom's title deed at the developer's own cost. If such a servitude is brought into being, its existence should be endorsed on the Eskom servitude deed concerned, while the third party's servitude deed must also include the rights of the affected Eskom servitude.</p>	
		26 <sup>th</sup> September 2018	<p>Good day Nyandala,</p> <p>Eskom Transmission is not affected by this application, however Eskom Distribution Free State Operating Unit is affected. Kindly send this application to Rene De Bruin on dBruinER@eskom.co.za</p>	<p>Good day</p> <p>Thank you for your response.</p> <p>The application will be forwarded to the relevant unit.</p> <p>If you have any further questions in</p>

I&AP	Consulted	Date comments received	Comment received	Response issued
			Ziyanda Maqubela	<p>this regard, please do not hesitate to contact me.</p> <p>Regards</p> <p>Nyandala Ramaru</p>
		1 <sup>st</sup> November 2018	<p>Good morning Nyandala</p> <p>Please find necessary comments from Eskom regarding the application for prospecting rights in the Ventersburg area.</p> <p>Kind regards</p> <p>Rene</p> <p>Attached document:</p> <p>I refer to your letter dated 21<sup>st</sup> September 2018, and wish to advise that the application for a prospecting site is affected by Eskom Powerlines as indicated on the attached sketch.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hennenman Rural – Samore 11kV overhead electrical power line with a tree and building restriction of 9 meters on each side of the centre of the line (Wayleave).</li> <li>2. Hennenman Rural – Kroonstad Switching Station 132kV Overhead electrical Powerline with a building restriction of 15,5m on both sides the powerline, a servitude width of 31m.</li> </ol> <p>The aforementioned Eskom services affects the site depicted for Mining permit and Eskom therefore cannot approve the application.</p> <p><b>Alternatively</b></p>	<p>Good day</p> <p>Thank you for your correspondence. Eskom's comments have been noted.</p> <p>Should you have any further questions in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact me.</p> <p>Regards</p> <p>Nyandala Ramaru</p>

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			<p>The Applicant will have to apply to Eskom for the relocation of the affected Hennenman – Samore 11kV Powerline and the cost will be to the developers account. The affected Eskom services will have to be relocated before Eskom can approve the proposed project.</p> <p>No Blasting activities should take place within 500m from the HEnnenman Rural – Kroonstad SW Stn 132kV powerline.</p> <p>For the re-location of any Eskom’s services, our customer service centre should be contacted on <b>051-404 2211</b>.</p> <p>Should your client wish to move the 11kV Powerline and no blasting activities will take place close to the 132kV powerline and it is agreed and approved, then Eskom Dx will have no objection to the proposed prospecting site on condition Eskom’s conditions are always respected and adhered to when working near or closer to our services:</p> <p>Please find Eskom’s conditions which must always be respected when working near or closer to our services:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Eskom Dx shall at all times retain unobstructed access to and egress from its servitudes.</li> <li>2. Eskom Dx’s consent does not relieve the applicant from obtaining the necessary statutory, land owner or municipal approvals.</li> <li>3. The applicant will adhere to all relevant environmental legislation. Any cost incurred by Eskom Dx as a result of non-compliance will be charged to the applicant.</li> </ol>	

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			<p>4. No drilling shall take place within 11 metres from any Eskom Dx power line structure.</p> <p>5. All work within Eskom Dx's servitude areas shall comply with the relevant Eskom earthing standards in force at the time.</p> <p>6. If Eskom Dx has to incur any expenditure in order to comply with statutory clearances or other regulations as a result of the applicant's activities or because of the presence of his equipment or installation within the servitude area, the applicant shall pay such costs to Eskom Dx on demand.</p> <p>7. The use of explosives of any type within 500 metres of Eskom Dx's services shall only occur with Eskom Dx's prior written permission. If such permission is granted the applicant must give at least fourteen working days prior notice of the commencement of blasting. This allows time for arrangements to be made for supervision and/or precautionary instructions to be issued in terms of the blasting process. If blasting becomes necessary, application in this regard should be made separately.</p> <p>8. Changes in ground level may not infringe statutory ground to conductor clearances or statutory visibility clearances. After any changes in ground level, the surface shall be rehabilitated and stabilised so as to prevent erosion. The measures taken shall be to Eskom Dx's requirements.</p> <p>9. Eskom Dx shall not be liable for the death of or injury to any person or for the loss of or damage to any property whether as a result of the encroachment or of the use of the servitude area by the applicant, his/her agent, contractors,</p>	

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			<p>employees, successors in title, and assigns. The applicant indemnifies Eskom Dx against loss, claims or damages including claims pertaining to consequential damages by third parties and whether as a result of damage to or interruption of or interference with Eskom Dx's services or apparatus or otherwise. Eskom Dx will not be held responsible for damage to the applicant's equipment.</p> <p>10. No mechanical equipment, including mechanical excavators or high lifting machinery, shall be used in the vicinity of Eskom Dx's apparatus and/or services, without prior written permission having been granted by Eskom. If such permission is granted the applicant must give at least seven working days prior notice of the commencement of work. <b>This allows time for arrangements to be made for supervision and/or precautionary instructions to be issued by the relevant Technical Service Centre.</b></p> <p>11. No work shall commence unless Eskom Dx has received the applicant's written acceptance of the conditions specified in the letter of consent and/or permit.</p> <p>12. Eskom Dx's rights and duties in the servitude shall be accepted as having prior right at all times and shall not be obstructed or interfered with. Note: Where an electrical outage is required, at least fourteen work days are required to arrange same.</p> <p>13. Under no circumstances shall rubble, earth or other material be dumped within the servitude area. The applicant shall maintain the area concerned to Eskom Dx's satisfaction. The applicant shall be liable to Eskom Dx for the cost of any remedial action which has to be carried out by</p>	

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			<p>Eskom Dx.</p> <p>14. The clearances between Eskom Dx's live electrical equipment and the proposed construction work shall be observed as stipulated by <i>Regulation 15 of the Electrical Machinery Regulations of the Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993 (Act 85 of 1993)</i>.</p> <p><b>15. Eskom shall be regarded electrically live and therefore dangerous at all times.</b></p> <p>16. In spite of the restrictions stipulated by Regulation 15 of the Electrical Machinery Regulations of the Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993 (Act 85 of 1993), as additional safety precaution, Eskom Dx will not approve the erection of houses or structures occupied or frequented by human beings under the power lines or within the servitude area.</p> <p>17. Eskom Dx may stipulate any additional requirements to illuminate any possible exposure to Customers or Public to coming into contact or be exposed to any dangers to Eskom plant.</p> <p>18. It is required of the applicant to familiarise him/herself with all safety hazards related to Electrical plant.</p> <p>Should the applicant or his/her contractor damage any of Eskom's services during execution of any work whatsoever, the incident must be reported to Eskom's Technical service centre, <b>Margaret Charlie @ 056-216 6713 and 732 515 131</b> immediately. The same person must be contacted <b>before</b> commencement of the project as well.</p> <p>The above conditions should be accepted in writing</p>	

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			<p>before any work within Eskom Services commences and the Technical service centre must be informed of the future activities.</p> <p>For any further information please contact the writer at the above mentioned telephone number.</p> <p>Yours sincerely</p> <p>R. de Bruin</p>	
		20 <sup>th</sup> November 2018	<p>Good morning Nyandala</p> <p>Please find Eskom's comments as per e-mail sent on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2018</p> <p>Kind regards</p> <p>Rene de Bruin</p>	<p>Good day Rene,</p> <p>Eskom's comments as per e-mail sent on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2018 have been noted.</p> <p>No blasting is going to be performed for this project. Should the Prospecting Right be granted, 3 drillholes will be drilled during year 4. The drillsite located closest to any Eskom powerline is drillsite 1; it is located 150 metres east of the Hennenman Rural Kroonstad Switching station Overhead powerline. Please find the attached KMZ file of the drillsite locations for your convenience.</p> <p>The drillhole will be drilled utilising a drill rig mounted on a vehicle and the drill pad will have a disturbance area of approximately 10 square metres. Due to this reason, it is not deemed necessary to relocate any of the powerlines in question as they will not be affected by the drilling, nor by any</p>

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				of the other prospecting activities. Should you have any further queries in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact me. Regards Nyandala Ramaru
		4 <sup>th</sup> December 2018	Hello Nyandala Thank you for your feedback. Please just contact the Eskom representative <b>Margaret Charlie @ 056-216 6713 and 732 515 131</b> before drilling. Kind regards Rene	Good day Rene Thank you. Regards Nyandala Ramaru
Transnet	X		No comment received to date.	
<b>Other Affected Parties</b>				
The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research	X		No comment received to date.	
Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA)	X		No comment received to date.	
Agri South Africa	X		No comment received to date.	
Agri Free State	X		No comment received to date.	
South African National	X		No comment received to date.	

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Parks (SANParks)				
Federation for a Sustainable Development	X		No comment received to date.	
Birdlife South Africa	X		No comment received to date.	
Agricultural Research Council	X		No comment received to date.	
Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT)	X		No comment received to date.	
Catchment Management Agency	X		No comment received to date.	
<b>Registered Interested and Affected Parties</b>				
Sello Professor Lehlekiso	X	5 <sup>th</sup> October 2018	<p>GOOD MORNING MS ZIZO SIWENDU AND MRS SIBONGILE MTHOMBENI</p> <p>I hereby like to know more about this project that is proposed here in Ventersburg as I'm the resident of here Mmamahabane Ventersburg.</p> <p>Can you please notify me with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Where &amp; when will public participation take place?</li> <li>* The exact location of this project in/around Ventersburg.</li> <li>* When will this project start? (if you can estimate)</li> <li>* How many people from Ventersburg are going to benefit on this project?</li> </ul>	<p>Good day Mr Lehlekiso</p> <p>Thank you for showing interest in the Ventersburg B Prospecting Right (PR) and Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application project.</p> <p>As per your request, you have been registered as an Interested and Affected Party (I&amp;AP).</p> <p>Please find the attached Ventersburg B project map and Background Information Document for your convenience.</p> <p>The Public Participation Process commenced on the 21<sup>st</sup> of September</p>

I&AP	Consulted	Date comments received	Comment received	Response issued
			<p>I hope you find all in order and hope to hear from you soon.</p> <p>Regards</p> <p>Sello Lehlekiso</p>	<p>2018 with the issuing of initial notification. Further correspondence will be sent out with regards to the availability of the draft Basic Assessment Report and Environmental Management Programme Report (BAR and EMPR). This correspondence will also include the details of the Open Day which will be held for this project. As a registered I&amp;AP, this information will be conveyed to you.</p> <p>The final BAR and EMPR will be submitted on the 24<sup>th</sup> of October 2018. The Department of Mineral Resources will have 106 days in which to make a decision to either grant or reject the PR and EA application. The project will start upon execution of the right.</p> <p>The majority of the planned activities for this project are desktop based and do not require any on-site work. However, in year 4, there is the proposed drilling of 3 diamond drillholes. This will create possible temporary employment for the local residents.</p> <p>Should you have any further questions in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact me.</p> <p>Regards</p>

I&AP	Consulted	Date comments received	Comment received	Response issued
				Nyandala Adi Ramaru
		13 <sup>th</sup> November 2018	Good Day. I have received it, thanks, Please confirm if there is a need to register to attend the open day session/meeting at the mentioned venue? And please advise on what should we bring on the day? Regards Sello Lehlekiso	Good day sir, There is no need to register and you are not required to bring anything. There will be information documents on the project available for Interested and Affected Parties and the Environmental Assessment Practitioner will be present to address any questions and comments. Should you have any further questions in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact me. Regards Nyandala Adi Ramaru
Patrick Lebatla	X	8 <sup>th</sup> October 2018	Good day. I hereby like to know more about the project that is proposed here in Ventersburg as I am the resident of here, Mmamahabane Ventersburg. Can you please notify with: * Where & when public participation will take place? * The exact location of the project in/around Ventersburg * When will this project start? * How many people from Ventersburg are going to benefit from this project?	Good day Mr Lebatla Thank you for showing interest in the Ventersburg B Prospecting Right (PR) and Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application project. As per your request, you have been registered as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP). Please find the attached Ventersburg B project map and Background Information Document for your convenience. The Public Participation Process

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				<p>commenced on the 21<sup>st</sup> of September 2018 with the issuing of initial notification. Further correspondence will be sent out with regards to the availability of the draft Basic Assessment Report and Environmental Management Programme Report (BAR and EMPR). This correspondence will also include the details of the Open Day which will be held for this project. As a registered I&amp;AP, this information will be conveyed to you.</p> <p>The final BAR and EMPR will be submitted on the 24<sup>th</sup> of October 2018. The Department of Mineral Resources will have 106 days in which to make a decision to either grant or reject the PR and EA application. The project will start upon execution of the right.</p> <p>The majority of the planned activities for this project are desktop based and do not require any on-site work. However, in year 4, there is the proposed drilling of 3 diamond drillholes. This will create possible temporary employment for the local residents.</p> <p>Should you have any further questions in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact me.</p> <p>Regards</p>

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				Nyandala Adi Ramaru
Pitso Nkhatho	X	8 <sup>th</sup> October 2018	<p>Good Day</p> <p>Its Pitso Andrew Nkhatho from Ventersburg, a ward committee member of ward 1 and holding a Portfolio of SMME's in the ward committee.</p> <p>As a community member and an entrepreneur would like to have the following information about the Project of Ventersburg:</p> <p># When is it going to be held?</p> <p># How the community is it going to benefit?</p> <p># In terms of skills development and Unemployment rate how are you going to handle it?</p> <p># In terms of Social responsibility, how are you going to address it?</p> <p>Regards</p> <p>Pitso Andrew Nkhatho</p>	<p>Good day Mr Nkhatho</p> <p>Thank you for showing interest in the Ventersburg B Prospecting Right (PR) and Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application project.</p> <p>As per your request, you have been registered as an Interested and Affected Party (I&amp;AP).</p> <p>Please find the attached Ventersburg B project map and Background Information Document for your convenience.</p> <p>The Public Participation Process commenced on the 21<sup>st</sup> of September 2018 with the issuing of initial notification. Further correspondence will be sent out with regards to the availability of the draft Basic Assessment Report and Environmental Management Programme Report (BAR and EMPR). This correspondence will also include the details of the Open Day which will be held for this project. As a registered I&amp;AP, this information will be conveyed to you.</p> <p>The final BAR and EMPR will be submitted on the 24<sup>th</sup> of October 2018. The Department of Mineral Resources will have 106 days in which to make a</p>

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				<p>decision to either grant or reject the PR and EA application. The project will start upon execution of the right.</p> <p>The majority of the planned activities for this project are desktop based and do not require any on-site work. However, in year 4, there is the proposed drilling of 3 diamond drillholes. This will create possible temporary employment for the local residents. Shango Solutions will not be involved in the hiring and training of the employees. The applicant, White Rivers Exploration (Pty) Ltd, will administer the process.</p> <p>Should the PR be executed and White Rivers Exploration (Pty) Ltd further applies for a Mining Right, they have to produce a Social and Labour Plan which will address matters of social responsibility and local economic development. As this is just a PR application, it is currently not deemed necessary.</p> <p>Should you have any further questions in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact me.</p> <p>Regards Nyandala Adi Ramaru</p>
Hashtag Community Life	X	4 <sup>th</sup> December 2018	Attention : Ms Zizo Siwendu & Ms Nyandala	Good day

I&AP	Consulted	Date comments received	Comment received	Response issued
Innovators			<p>Ramaru</p> <p>Re: Organisation's registration as an Interested and Affected party for the Ventersburg B Prospecting Right Project (DMR Ref: FS 30/5/1/1/3/2/1/105828 EM)</p> <p>We, as above-mentioned Non-Profit Organization, hereby apply to become an I&amp;AP for the Ventersburg B Prospecting Right Project, as we are NPO based here in Mmamahabane Ventersburg. We attended the open day meeting which was scheduled on the 28<sup>th</sup> November 2018 at OVK Conference Room, on 25 Voortereker street, Ventersburg,</p> <p>As we have mentioned during the briefing/meeting, the reason why we see the need for a Local Organising Committee (LOC) to be formed is that it will enable or fasten the process of prospecting right and environmental authorisation application for Western Allen Ridge Gold Mine (Pty) Ltd in order to prospect or mine at the surrounding application areas in Ventersburg,</p> <p>We, as above-mentioned NPO, are hereby requesting that Shango Solutions and Western Allen Ridge Gold Mine (Pty) Ltd approve our registration as I&amp;AP and to work with the organisation hand-in-hand with any public participation meetings and allow the organisation to be the direct link between the community of Mmamahabane/Ventersburg and also to communicate any public participation message directly to the community,</p> <p>Hashtag Community Life Innovators' request is</p>	<p>Thank you for showing interest in the Ventersburg B Prospecting Right and Environmental Authorisation Application project. You have been registered as an Interested &amp; Affected Party.</p> <p>Furthermore, thank you for your correspondence and for attending the Open Day; your comments have been noted.</p> <p>Should you have any further questions in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact me.</p> <p>Regards</p> <p>Nyandala Adi Ramaru</p>

I&AP	Consulted	Date comments received	Comment received	Response issued
			<p>based upon organisational objectives ,as stipulated in our organisational funding documents, as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To eradicate the scourge of substance abuse within our community</li> <li>2. To help youngsters and our off-school youth with skills development activities such as life skills, mentoring and empowerment, education and advocacy etc.</li> <li>3. To help and nurture youth's talent by engaging them in arts and culture activities.</li> </ol> <p>We hope that Shango Solutions and Western Allen Ridge Gold Mine (Pty) Ltd will acknowledge our registration and approve it as we have the intention to work hand-in-hand with both companies, We want the Mmamahabane Ventersburg Community to prosper and benefit from this project. Furthermore, we wish both companies success &amp; a prosperous Christmas and Happy New Year. We hope that you will revert as soon as possible.</p>	
Tumelo Isaac Lebatla	X	6 <sup>th</sup> December 2018	<p>Request for registration for the Ventersburg B Prospecting Right Project .DMR Ref. Fs 30/5/1/1/3/2/1/10528EM.</p> <p>I would like to get more information about this project. The first meeting was held at OVK company for introduction. NB: The next meeting must be held at Public community buildings such as a public library or community halls. That's my biggest problem.</p>	<p>Good Day Tumelo</p> <p>Thank you for showing interest in the Ventersburg B Prospecting Right and Environmental Authorisation Applications Project.</p> <p>As per your request, you have been registered as an Interested and Affected Party.</p> <p>Your comment has been noted with</p>

I&AP	Consulted	Date comments received	Comment received	Response issued
			<p>I hope my request will be higher accepted.</p> <p>Tumelo Isaac Lebatla</p>	<p>regards to hosting meetings at a public community building.</p> <p>Should you have further queries in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact me.</p> <p>Regards</p> <p>Nyandala Adi Ramaru</p>

## 6 REFERENCES

- Constitution of the Republic of South Africa .1996. Republic of South Africa, 216pp.
- Department of Mineral Resources. 2002. Minerals and Petroleum Resources Development Act (Act 28 of 2002). Cape Town, 62pp.
- Department of Environmental Affairs. 1998. National Environmental Assessment Management Act (Act 107 of 1998). Cape Town, 96pp.
- Department of Environmental Affairs. 2017. National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998) - Amendments to the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014. South Africa, 66pp.
- Greyling, T. 1999. Towards Managing Environmental Disputes: Appropriate Public Participation. Prepared for Conference on Environmental Dispute Resolution 10-11 June 1998, Fourways, Gauteng, Manyaka Greyling Meiring (Pty) Ltd, South Africa, 21pp.