

**Public Participation Report for the Seriti MMS
General Authorisation for the Drilling of
Exploration Boreholes for Resource
Quantification on Portions 15 & the Remaining
Extent of Portion 0 of the Farm Middeldrift 42 Is,
Near Middelburg (WU47590)**

Prepared for

Seriti Power (Pty) Ltd



Document Detail

| | | | |
|------------------------|---|-----------------------------|---------|
| Project Number: | SER17 | Authority Reference: | WU47590 |
| Report Title: | WU47590: Seriti MMS General Authorisation for the Drilling of Exploration Boreholes for Resource Quantification on Portions 15 & the Remaining Extent of Portion 0 of the Farm Middeldrift 42 Is, Near Middelburg | | |
| Project Name: | Proof of Public Participation for the General Authorisation Application for the proposed Drilling of Exploration Boreholes for Resource Quantification (WU47590) | | |
| Client Name: | Seriti Power (Pty) Ltd | | |
| EAP: | Niara Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd | | |

Document History

| Revision | EAP/Author | Reviewed By | Date of Issue | Comments |
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| 0 | Vumile Ribeiro | Anela Sotashe | 13 November 2025 | |

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Declaration of Independence

Specialist Declaration form for assessments undertaken for application for authorisation in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended (the Regulations)

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Declaration by the Specialist

I Vumile Ribeiro, as duly authorised representative of Niara Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd., hereby confirm my independence and declare that I:

- I act as the independent specialist in this application;
- I am aware of the procedures and requirements for the assessment and minimum criteria for reporting on identified environmental themes in terms of sections 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), 1998, as amended, when applying for environmental authorisation which were promulgated in Government Notice No. 320 of 20 March 2020 (i.e. “the Protocols”) and in Government Notice No. 1150 of 30 October 2020.
- I will perform the work relating to the application in an objective manner, even if this results in views and findings that are not favourable to the applicant;
- I declare that there are no circumstances that may compromise my objectivity in performing such work;
- I have expertise in conducting the specialist report relevant to this application, including knowledge of the Act, Regulations and any guidelines that have relevance to the proposed activity;
- I will comply with the Act, Regulations and all other applicable legislation;
- I have no, and will not engage in, conflicting interests in the undertaking of the activity;
- I undertake to disclose to the applicant and the competent authority all material information in my possession that reasonably has or may have the potential of influencing:
 - any decision to be taken with respect to the application by the competent authority; and;
 - the objectivity of any report, plan or document to be prepared by myself for submission to the competent authority;
- All the particulars furnished by me in this form are true and correct; and
- I realise that a false declaration is an offence in terms of Regulation 48 and is punishable in terms of section 24F of the NEMA Act.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Signature of the Specialist: | <i>V. Ribeiro</i> |
| Name of Company: | Niara Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd |
| Date: | 13 November 2025 |

Undertaking under Oath/Affirmation

I Vumile Ribeiro, swear under oath / affirm that all the information submitted or to be submitted for the purposes of this application is true and correct.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Signature of the Specialist: | <i>V. Ribeiro</i> |
| Name of Company: | Niara Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd |
| Date: | 13 November 2025 |

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Glossary

| Term | Definition |
|--|---|
| Aquifer | A geological formation capable of storing and transmitting groundwater. |
| Background Information Document (BID) | A summary document provided to stakeholders during PPP to inform them of the proposed project, processes, and participation opportunities. |
| Borehole | A drilled cylindrical opening used to extract core samples or investigate geological conditions. |
| Catchment | An area in which surface water drains into a common outlet such as a river or dam. |
| Cement Plugging / Borehole Sealing | The process of permanently closing a completed or abandoned borehole using cement to prevent contamination, ingress or collapse. |
| Competent Authority | The government department legally responsible for considering and deciding on the application—in this case, the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS). |
| Core Sample | A cylindrical section of rock or soil extracted from a borehole for geological analysis. |
| Delineation (Wetland/Riparian) | The process of identifying and mapping the precise boundaries of a watercourse or wetland. |
| Drilling Crew | A team of trained personnel responsible for operating drilling rigs and conducting drilling activities. |
| Drilling Pad | A prepared surface or platform on which a borehole is drilled. |
| EAP (Environmental Assessment Practitioner) | A qualified professional appointed to manage environmental processes, compile reports, and conduct stakeholder engagement. |
| EIA Regulations | The Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (2014, as amended), outlining processes for assessment and public participation. |
| Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) | A legally required document outlining how environmental impacts must be managed during project activities. |
| Environmental Risk Assessment (ERA) | A structured evaluation of potential environmental risks associated with the proposed activity. |
| Exploration Drilling | Drilling conducted to investigate and quantify subsurface mineral resources. |
| General Authorisation (GA) | A mechanism under the National Water Act allowing certain water uses without a full licence provided thresholds and conditions are met. |
| GN 509 | Government Notice 509 of 2016 prescribing the risk assessment methodology for Section 21(c) and (i) water uses. |
| GN 538 | Government Notice 538 (Procedural Requirements for Water Use Licensing), setting out application procedures, PPP requirements and DWS processes. |

| Term | Definition |
|---|---|
| Hydrogeology | The study of groundwater, its movement and its interaction with geological materials. |
| Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) | Individuals, organisations, communities or organs of state who may be interested in, or affected by, the proposed project. |
| Issues and Responses Register | A record of comments received from I&APs along with responses provided by the applicant/EAP. |
| Job Safety Analysis (JSA) | A formal risk assessment conducted before commencement of work activities to identify hazards and mitigation measures. |
| Karoo Supergroup | A major geological sequence in South Africa containing coal-bearing formations, including the Ecca Group. |
| Mean Annual Precipitation (MAP) | Average amount of rainfall a region receives annually. |
| Mean Annual Runoff (MAR) | The average annual surface runoff generated within a catchment. |
| Mining Right (MR) | A legal right granted under the MPRDA allowing the holder to mine mineral resources within a defined area. |
| Mitigation Measures | Actions taken to prevent, minimise, or offset environmental impacts. |
| National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) | South Africa's framework environmental legislation governing sustainable development and environmental management principles. |
| National Water Act (NWA) | Legislation governing the protection, use, development and management of South Africa's water resources. |
| Non-Perennial Watercourse | A watercourse that flows only seasonally or after rainfall events. |
| Outrigger | Stabilising legs of a drilling rig that prevent tipping or movement during operation. |
| Permit-to-Work (PTW) | A formalised safety permit required for high-risk or non-routine tasks. |
| POPIA | Protection of Personal Information Act regulating the lawful handling of personal data of stakeholders. |
| Present Ecological State (PES) | Rating of the current condition of a watercourse relative to its natural state. |
| Public Participation Process (PPP) | A structured and legally required process for engaging stakeholders in environmental decision-making. |
| Quaternary Catchment | The smallest hydrological unit in South Africa's catchment hierarchy, used for water resource planning. |
| Resource Quantification | Determination of the size, grade and characteristics of a mineral deposit through exploration techniques. |

| Term | Definition |
|---|--|
| Risk Assessment Matrix | A formal tool used to evaluate the significance of risks by analysing likelihood and consequence. |
| Section 21 Water Uses | Specific water uses defined in the National Water Act which may require authorisation, including altering a watercourse (c & i). |
| Site Notices | Posters placed in public locations to inform the public of the proposed project and their right to participate. |
| Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) | Detailed instructions established by the contractor or mine to ensure safe, standardised activities. |
| Stakeholder Database | A structured list of all identified I&APs and their contact information used for communication throughout the PPP. |
| Stratigraphy | The study of layered sedimentary rock sequences to understand geological history. |
| Sub-Quaternary Reach (SQR) | A hydrological segment used to describe specific portions of a river within a quaternary catchment. |
| Sump | An excavated pit used to collect and contain drilling water and cuttings. |
| Vegetation Clearing | Removal of vegetation within the immediate drilling footprint to allow access and safe operation. |
| Watercourse | A natural or artificial channel, wetland, river, stream or drainage feature defined under the National Water Act. |
| Wetland | Land where water, soils and vegetation interact to support species adapted to saturated or waterlogged conditions. |

List of Abbreviations and Acronyms

| Abbreviation | Meaning |
|--------------|---|
| BA | Basic Assessment (as defined in the NEMA EIA Regulations) |
| BID | Background Information Document |
| DWS | Department of Water and Sanitation |
| DMRE | Department of Mineral Resources and Energy |
| EA | Environmental Authorisation (issued in terms of NEMA) |
| EAP | Environmental Assessment Practitioner |
| EAPASA | Environmental Assessment Practitioners Association of South Africa |
| EIA | Environmental Impact Assessment |
| EIS | Ecological Importance and Sensitivity |
| EMPr | Environmental Management Programme Report |
| ERA | Environmental Risk Assessment |
| GA | General Authorisation (for Section 21(c) & (i) water uses under the NWA) |
| GDP | Gross Domestic Product |
| GN 509 | Government Notice 509 of 2016 (Risk Assessment for Section 21 water uses) |
| GN 538 | Government Notice 538 of 2016 (Procedural Requirements for Water Use Licensing) |
| HSEC | Health, Safety, Environment and Community |
| I&APs | Interested and Affected Parties |
| IDP | Integrated Development Plan (municipal planning instrument) |
| IWUL | Integrated Water Use Licence |
| IWULA | Integrated Water Use Licence Application |
| JSA | Job Safety Analysis |
| LM | Local Municipality |
| MAP | Mean Annual Precipitation |
| MAR | Mean Annual Runoff |
| MHSA | Mine Health and Safety Act, 1996 |

| Abbreviation | Meaning |
|---------------------|--|
| MMS | Middelburg Mine Services |
| MPRDA | Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 |
| MR | Mining Right |
| NACA | National Association for Clean Air |
| NEMA | National Environmental Management Act, 1998 |
| NEM:BA | National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004 |
| NEMPAA | National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act, 2003 |
| NFEPA | National Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Area |
| NHRA | National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 |
| NWRS | National Water Resource Strategy (II or III) |
| NWA | National Water Act, 1998 |
| PES | Present Ecological State (rating of watercourse condition) |
| POPIA | Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 |
| PPP | Public Participation Process |
| PTW / PTO | Permit-to-Work / Permit-to-Operate |
| RE | Remaining Extent (portion of a farm) |
| ROM | Run-of-Mine |
| SDF | Spatial Development Framework |
| SG Code | Surveyor General's cadastral reference code |
| SOP | Standard Operating Procedure |
| SQR | Sub-Quaternary Reach (hydrological unit) |
| WMA | Water Management Area |
| WULA | Water Use Licence Application |
| WU | Water Use (as referenced by DWS project number) |

1 Introduction

Seriti Coal (Pty) Ltd (“Seriti”) has appointed Niara Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd (“Niara”) to compile a General Authorisation (GA) for the drilling of exploration boreholes. The drilling of these exploration boreholes is required to increase confidence and to assess the quantity, quality, and distribution of mineral resources and to understand the geological characteristics, stratigraphy, and structure of the subsurface. A total of 22 exploration holes are proposed within a 500m of several wetlands.

Middelburg Mine Services (MMS) operations, owned and operated by Seriti, aims to drill exploration boreholes in order to quantify the mineral resource potential in an area where mining rights have been approved but the resource remains unquantified. Through the systematic drilling of boreholes and subsequent analysis of core samples, the project seeks to provide valuable data for accurate resource estimation, supporting informed decision-making regarding potential mining operations.

The overall objectives of the proposed MMS Project include:

- **Resource Assessment:** Determine the quantity, quality, and distribution of mineral resources within the designated area.
- **Geological Understanding:** Gain insights into the geological characteristics, stratigraphy, and structure of the subsurface to understand the resource formation and distribution.
- **Risk Mitigation:** Identify potential geological hazards, such as unstable formations or igneous intrusions, to mitigate risks associated with future mining operations.
- **Regulatory Compliance:** Ensure compliance with local, national, and international regulations governing mineral exploration and environmental protection.

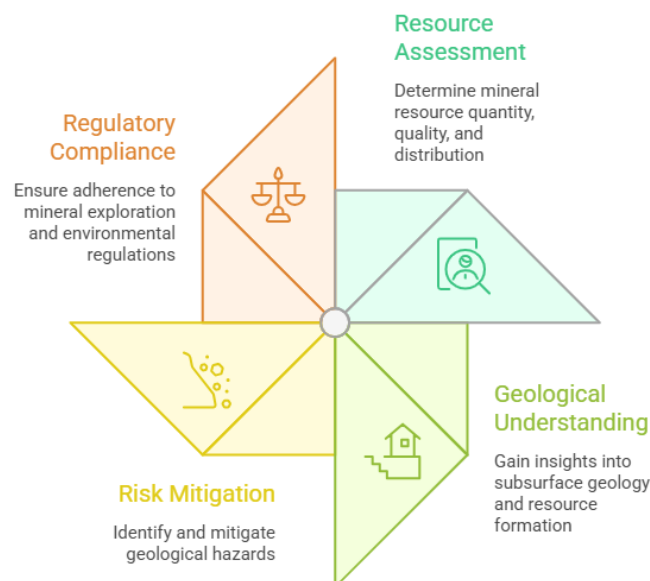


Figure 1-1: MMS Objectives overview

Niara Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd (“Niara”) has been appointed as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) responsible for the stakeholder engagement and preparation of this Public Participation Process (PPP) Report.

The purpose of this report is to document the PPP undertaken in accordance with the requirements of:

- Section 41 of the National Water Act (NWA), 1998
- GN 538 (Procedural Requirements for Water Use Licensing)
- The General Authorisation for Section 21(c) and (i) Water Uses (2023)
- The principles of Section 2 of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), 1998
- Relevant NEMA EIA Regulations for stakeholder engagement (2014, as amended)
- Protection of Personal Information Act (POPIA), 2013

This PPP Report provides a clear record of the identification of stakeholders, the communication tools used, the notification undertaken, the availability of documentation for comment, and the outcomes of the engagement period.

1.1 Applicant Contact information

Seriti Power (Pty) Ltd is the applicant for the GA associated with the proposed drilling of exploration boreholes within the Albion North Section of the MMS operation. Seriti is an established mining company operating within the Mpumalanga coalfields and holds the approved Mining Right over the project area. The contact details of the applicant and responsible representative are provided in Table 1-1 below.

Table 1-1: Applicant Contact Information

| Project Applicant: | Seriti Power (Pty) Ltd |
|---------------------------|--|
| Registration number: | 1963/000537/07 |
| Responsible Person: | Shaakira Akhalwaya |
| Contact person: | Shaakira Akhalwaya |
| Physical address: | R575 Van Dyksdrift Road Middelburg 1050 |
| Postal address: | PO Box 61820 Marshalltown 2107 |
| Telephone: | (013) 689 4028 |
| Email: | Shaakira.Akhalwaya@seritiza.com |

1.2 Project Locality

The proposed Albion North Exploration Drilling Project is situated on portions 15 and the Remaining Extent (RE) of Portion 0 the farm Middeldrift 42 IS, within Ward 32 of the eMalahleni Local Municipality (LM), under the jurisdiction of the Nkangala District Municipality, in the Mpumalanga Province of South Africa. The project area forms part of Seriti Coal (Pty) Ltd's operational footprint associated with the Middelburg Mine Services (MMS) and is locally referred to as the Albion Section. This section lies within the broader Albion North Extension area. The project area lies within the Upper Olifants Water Management Area (WMA), specifically the B11G Quaternary Catchment. The nearest significant drainage feature is an unnamed tributary of the Olifants River, forming part of the B11G-01225 Sub-Quaternary Reach (SQR). These watercourses are non-perennial and are characterised by low baseflow and high seasonal variability. The site does not fall within a National Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Area (NFEPA).

The project area is positioned approximately 10 km northwest of eMalahleni (Witbank) and is accessible via the R547 regional road, which traverses the central portion of the project footprint in an east–west orientation. The Albion Section lies in a region characterised by extensive coal mining operations, agricultural fields, and associated mining infrastructure, including access roads, haul routes, and conveyor corridors.

The area experiences a summer rainfall pattern, with the Mean Annual Precipitation (MAP) estimated at approximately 680 mm/year. The highest monthly rainfall typically occurs between December and February, with long-term data indicating peaks up to 345 mm/month. The Mean Annual Runoff (MAR) from the B11G catchment is approximately 20 mm/year. Temperatures range from 0°C in winter to above 30°C in summer, with occasional frost events recorded during June and July.

The site does not fall within a National Freshwater Priority Area. The Olifants river drains west of the site and continues north through Witbank Dam, towards Loskop dam. It is forced east by the Transvaal Drakensberg, cutting through at the Abel Erasmus Pass and then flowing east further across the Lowveld to join the Letaba River.

Water users in the catchment are mostly related to domestic, irrigation, aquatic ecosystems, and recreation.

Table 1-2: Local setting of farm portions

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Closest town | eMalahleni |
| District Municipality | Nkangala District Municipality |
| Local Municipality | eMalahleni Local Municipality |
| Catchment Zone | B11E |
| Water Management Area | Upper Olifants WMA |

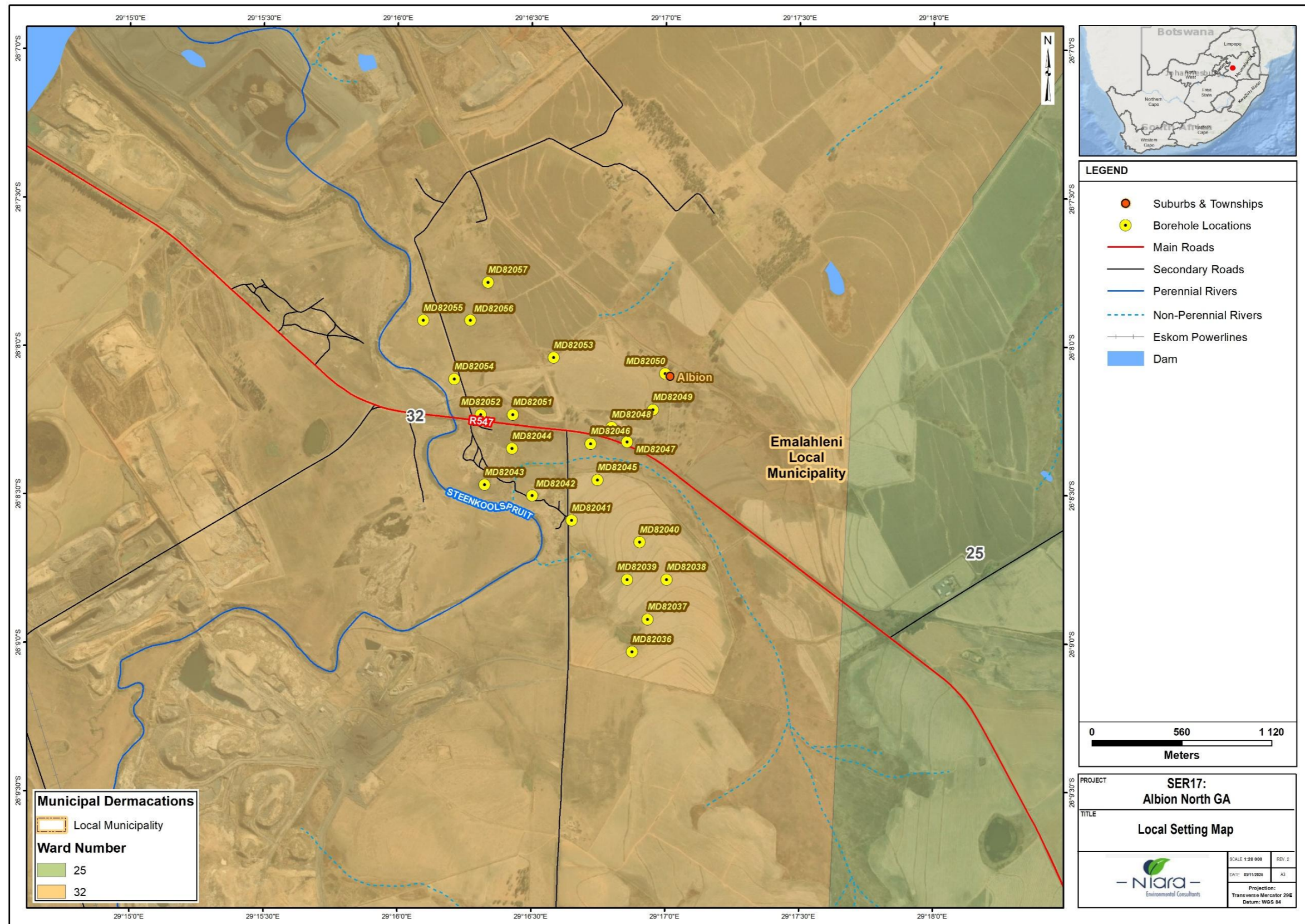


Figure 1-2: Locality Map

2 Legislative Framework

The proposed exploration drilling activities at the Albion North Section of Middelburg Mine Services (MMS) are regulated under several national legislative instruments that collectively govern water use, environmental management, stakeholder engagement, health and safety, and land-use considerations. This section outlines the key legislation applicable to the project and explains the obligations of the applicant and Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) in ensuring compliance.

2.1 National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998)

The National Water Act (NWA) is the primary legislation regulating water resource protection, water use and water management in South Africa. The proposed drilling programme may trigger the following water uses under Section 21:

- Section 21(c): Impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse
- Section 21(i): Altering the bed, banks, course or characteristics of a watercourse

Since several of the proposed boreholes occur within 500 m of delineated wetlands and watercourses, the activity requires a GA in terms of the 2023 GA for Section 21(c) and (i) water uses.

Under the NWA, the applicant must:

- Notify interested and affected parties (Section 41(4));
- Provide adequate opportunity for written submissions;
- Demonstrate how issues raised have been addressed;
- Submit technical reports that evaluate risks to water resources;
- Ensure the protection of watercourses and adhere to mitigation measures.

GN 538 of 2016 (Procedural Requirements for Water Use Licensing) further outlines the process for stakeholder engagement, timeframes, application requirements, and reporting.

2.2 General Authorisation for Section 21(c) and (i) Water Uses (2023)

The General Authorisation permits certain water uses without requiring a full Water Use Licence Application (WULA), provided that:

- The activity falls within the thresholds specified;
- Impacts on watercourses are low to moderate;
- Mitigation measures are applied;
- A Public Participation Process (PPP) is undertaken;

- A technical assessment of risks is submitted;
- The activity is recorded in the National Water Use Registration system.

Compliance with the GA requires:

- Submission of a GA Technical Document;
- A minimum 30-day public review period;
- A risk assessment in terms of GN 509;
- Measures to protect resource quality, ecological integrity and hydrological functioning.

2.3 GN 509 of 2016 – Risk Assessment for Section 21(c) and (i) Water Uses

GN 509 prescribes the method for determining the significance of impacts on watercourses.

The risk assessment must consider:

- Nature, intensity and duration of proposed activities;
- Present Ecological State (PES);
- Ecological Importance and Sensitivity (EIS);
- Extent of hydrological connectivity;
- Recommended mitigation measures.

The outcome guides whether the activity remains within GA thresholds or escalates to a full WULA.

2.4 National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), 1998 (Act 107 of 1998)

NEMA provides overarching environmental management principles applicable to all activities that may influence the environment, including water resources. Key applicable sections include:

2.4.1 Section 2 – Environmental Management Principles

These principles guide decision-making and require:

- Preventative, precautionary approaches;
- Transparent decision-making;
- Open and accessible engagement with stakeholders;
- Consideration of cumulative impacts;

- Avoidance, minimisation, or remediation of environmental harm.

2.4.2 Duty of Care (Section 28)

- Holds the applicant responsible for preventing pollution and degradation, including spill management, groundwater protection, and rehabilitation of drilling sites.
- Although exploration drilling is not listed under the EIA Regulations (2014), the NEMA principles apply by default because the drilling occurs near sensitive water resources.

2.5 5. NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended)

While the GA process is separate from NEMA EIA requirements, the public participation provisions of the EIA Regulations inform best practice for engagement.

Relevant components include:

- Requirements for identifying and notifying I&APs;
- Minimum requirements for site notices, newspaper adverts and written notices;
- Timeframes for public comment;
- Compilation of an Issues and Responses Register;
- A transparent record of stakeholder inclusion.

These principles guide the PPP undertaken for this project.

2.6 National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (NEM:BA), 2004

Although the activity is small in physical footprint, NEM:BA is relevant because:

- The site falls within Eastern Highveld Grassland, listed as Endangered on the National List of Threatened Terrestrial Ecosystems (GN 1002 of 2011).
- Any clearance of indigenous vegetation must avoid or minimise loss of threatened ecosystems.
- Protection of biodiversity and ecological processes is required even when the transformation footprint is limited (e.g., borehole pads).

Mitigation includes:

- Limiting vegetation disturbance;
- Avoiding wetland and riparian vegetation;

- Implementing rehabilitation after drilling.

2.7 National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act (NEMPAA), 2003

The project area does **not** fall within a protected area, buffer zone or conservation estate. However, if drilling were to occur near protected ecosystems or biodiversity stewardship sites, NEMPAA would apply. This is noted for completeness.

2.8 National Water Resource Strategy (NWRS II & III)

The NWRS guides water management nationally and requires:

- Sustainable water use in mining;
- Protection of ecological infrastructure;
- Precautionary and preventative measures during high-risk activities;
- Integration with water quality objectives of the Upper Olifants Catchment.

2.9 Municipal Planning Legislation

2.9.1 eMalahleni Local Municipality By-laws

Relevant provisions include:

- Access to municipal roads and servitudes;
- Protection of municipal infrastructure (stormwater, drainage channels, servitudes);
- Land development and land-use restrictions.

2.9.2 Spatial Development Framework (SDF) & IDP

The area is identified as part of the historical coal mining belt, where mining and related activities are compatible with regional land-use planning.

2.10 Mine Health and Safety Act (MHSA), 1996

Since the drilling operations occur within a mining right area, Seriti must comply with MHSA requirements relating to:

- Safety of personnel;
- Safe positioning and operation of drilling equipment;
- Emergency plans and controls;

- Reporting of hazards and incidents.

Environmental controls (e.g., sumps, spill prevention, safe storage of materials) are also governed by MHSA protocols.

2.11 National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA), 1999 (Act 25 of 1999)

Although heritage impacts are unlikely given the small drilling footprint, compliance requires:

- Avoidance of graves, artefacts and heritage sites;
- Reporting of any chance finds (Section 35);
- Consultation where culturally sensitive areas are identified.

A chance finds procedure must be included in the environmental management measures.

2.12 Protection of Personal Information Act (POPIA), 2013

POPIA applies to the management of the I&AP database. Niara must:

- Obtain consent for storing personal information;
- Securely maintain contact details;
- Use the data solely for engagement purposes;
- Include POPI Consent Forms in the PPP pack.

The proposed exploration drilling activities must comply with a suite of environmental, water and safety legislation. The most critical instruments regulating this project include:

- NWA
- GA for Section 21(c) and (i) water uses (2023)
- GN 538 (Procedural Requirements for Water Use Licensing)
- GN 509 (Risk Assessment)
- NEMA & EIA Regulations (2014, as amended)
- POPIA
- MHSA
- NEM:BA

Compliance with these instruments ensures that the project proceeds in a lawful, transparent and environmentally responsible manner.

3 Conceptualisation of the Activity

The proposed exploration drilling programme forms part of Seriti Power's efforts to quantify the mineral resource potential within the Albion Section of MMS. The project involves the drilling of exploration boreholes to delineate coal reserves, evaluate their quality and extent, and ensure compliance with relevant regulatory requirements, including the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998).

The activity will follow a structured methodology, encompassing site preparation and establishment, drilling operations, and closure and rehabilitation, each underpinned by stringent safety, environmental and quality control protocols.

3.1 Site Preparation and Establishment

Before drilling commences, each borehole location will be staked out under the supervision of a Mine Surveyor or Geologist, in line with the Laying Out and Staking Exploration Boreholes Protocol. Key preparatory steps include:

- Site Inspections: Joint inspections by the Drilling Crew and Supervisor to identify hazards (muddy patches, dragline cables, power lines, etc.).
- Job Safety Analysis (JSA): Conducted daily and at the start of each borehole, signed off by the Supervisor or Safety Officer prior to work commencing.
- Contractor Site Establishment Procedure: Implementation of direction boards, barricading, updated information boards, and predetermined escape routes.
- Safety Measures: Placement of sump guards, clearance of core packing areas, provision of firefighting and first aid equipment, portable lightning detection, and safe distancing of operations ($\geq 30\text{m}$ from hazards unless otherwise approved).

Environmental and operational considerations during this phase include:

- Access Planning: Use of existing disturbed areas and tracks where possible, minimising new track construction and avoiding wetland channels.
- Track Management: Align tracks parallel to contours to reduce erosion risk.
- Borehole Positioning: Use of GPS to set out borehole positions while avoiding saturated soils.
- Vegetation Clearing: Restricted to immediate borehole areas; alien vegetation to be removed and disposed of appropriately.

3.2 Operations

Exploration drilling will be undertaken in strict adherence to the Mine's Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and the Contractor's Health, Safety, Environment and Community (HSEC) protocols.

Key operational controls include:

- **Competence & Oversight:** All Drill Operators and Assistants must be trained, competent, and authorised. The Project Manager will spend at least 60% of their time on-site.
- **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):** Mandatory PPE includes level 5 cut-resistant gloves, hearing protection, and spare PPE on-site.
- **Operational Protocols:** Grounding all outriggers during drilling, maintaining a clean drill site, safe placement of drill rods ($\geq 3\text{m}$ from borehole), and strict adherence to two-man lifting/loading protocols.
- **Safety Procedures:** Regular gas testing, 5m exclusion zone around boreholes, daily safety meetings, and Permit-to-Work (PTO) for high-risk or non-routine tasks.
- **Repairs & Relocation:** Onsite repairs only by qualified Artisans under strict lockout/tagout procedures. Hitching/unhitching of rigs must comply with Contractor SOPs.

3.3 Drilling Operations

The safety of the Drill Rig Operator is a fundamental priority during all drilling activities. The Operator must always be positioned in a manner that allows unrestricted access to the machine controls while maintaining a safe distance from moving and rotating components. To reduce risk from falling objects such as quill rods or pulleys, the drill rig is equipped with a protective canopy. The Operator is required to conduct all operations from beneath this canopy, thereby minimising the likelihood of injury from mechanical or structural hazards.

As an additional safeguard, the slide gate on the canopy must remain locked at all times during drilling. This control measure prevents inadvertent contact with rotating or moving parts of the rig, ensuring both the Operator's safety and the safe functioning of the equipment. Strict adherence to these protocols is essential to reducing accident potential and maintaining both operational efficiency and regulatory compliance.

Beyond operator safety, the drilling programme also incorporates a range of operational and environmental management measures to ensure responsible and effective implementation:

- **Borehole Drilling:** An NQ2 drill rig will be employed to drill boreholes with an approximate diameter of 76 mm. Emphasis will be placed on achieving high-quality core recovery from both overburden and rock strata.

- **Fluid Management:** Drilling water will be channelled into lined sumps or berms to prevent downslope spillage and contamination. All fluids, oils, and greases will be carefully handled and stored in accordance with site safety and environmental protocols.
- **Waste Disposal:** Drilling fluids, additives, and any potentially toxic substances will be disposed of responsibly to prevent environmental damage. Sealed plastic drop sheets will be used as a precaution against accidental spills or leaks.
- **Borehole Profiling:** Boreholes will be profiled in line with Southern African methodologies. Soil and rock horizons recovered from the core will be sampled, logged, and catalogued for geological analysis.
- **Rehabilitation:** Upon completion of drilling, sumps will be backfilled and boreholes rehabilitated. Excavated materials will be replaced in their correct stratigraphic order, and sites will be left clean, safe, and free of debris.
- **Vehicle Management:** Machinery will exit using the same access routes used for entry. Routes will be surveyed post-operation for ruts, with deep ruts filled or plugged to prevent erosion. No vehicle servicing, cleaning, or fuel storage will be permitted on-site to safeguard against environmental risks.

By implementing these combined safety, operational, and environmental protocols, the project ensures that drilling activities are conducted in a controlled, compliant, and sustainable manner, safeguarding personnel, the environment, and overall project outcomes.

3.4 Closure and Rehabilitation

Rehabilitation following drilling activities is a critical component of the exploration programme, aimed at minimising environmental impacts, restoring site integrity, and ensuring compliance with applicable legislation and best practice standards. Rehabilitation measures are designed in alignment with the findings of the Environmental Risk Assessment (ERA), ensuring that potential risks are proactively managed and mitigated.

Drill rigs will only be demobilised once all associated sumps and disturbed areas have been adequately backfilled, stabilised, and rehabilitated. Sumps must be filled and clearly demarcated using chevron tape to prevent accidental disturbance. Where non-biodegradable oils or other contaminants have been utilised, enhanced measures will be implemented. These include the application of approved biodegradation agents to contaminated soils or, where necessary, the excavation, removal, and rehabilitation of impacted material.

The Operational Geologist bears responsibility for overseeing all rehabilitation activities and ensuring compliance with prescribed standards. This includes:

- Conducting regular inspections of rehabilitated drill sites.
- Documenting outcomes on the official Borehole Header Sheet for record-keeping and accountability.

- Initiating thorough investigations in the event of environmental non-conformances, identifying root causes, and implementing corrective and preventative actions.

Proper management of drill core is also an essential element of closure. Drill core recovered from environmentally restricted areas will be handled in strict compliance with environmental authorisation conditions. Depending on the site context, core may either:

- Be disposed of at designated, approved areas following logging and sampling, or
- Remain on-site where future mine workings are planned in that direction, provided this does not contravene environmental or safety requirements.

3.5 Sealing of Boreholes

The sealing of boreholes is a critical step in ensuring the integrity and safety of drilling sites, and it is governed by specific protocols to adhere to regulatory and safety standards. As part of this process, the Drilling Company is responsible for sealing the borehole and issuing a sealing certificate to the Geologist, confirming that the borehole has been properly sealed. In areas where underground mining is either likely to take place, has occurred, or is indicated by the Environmental Risk Assessment, or at the request of the Geologist, drill holes must be sealed with cement up to 1 meter from the collar. This precautionary measure helps to prevent potential underground issues and ensures the stability of the surrounding geological formations.

To ensure consistency and compliance with established procedures, the sealing of boreholes follows the guidelines outlined in the contractor's SOP. Adherence to these SOPs guarantees that the sealing process is conducted efficiently and effectively, minimizing the risk of environmental contamination and maintaining the overall integrity of the drilling site.

4 Purpose of the Exploration Drilling

Exploration drilling represents a critical initial phase in the mine development process, designed to generate accurate geological data that will underpin informed decision-making. The programme is specifically aimed at quantifying the coal resource potential of the Albions North Section and establishing the technical and economic viability of future mining operations.

The key purposes of the exploration drilling are as follows:

- **Resource Confirmation:** To verify the presence, distribution, and continuity of coal seams within the target area, ensuring that the geological model reflects actual site conditions.
- **Quality and Quantity Determination:** To obtain detailed information on the thickness, grade, calorific value, and other physical and chemical characteristics of the coal. This allows for an assessment of both the quality and the quantity of coal that can be economically extracted.

- **Subsurface Data Collection:** To recover continuous core samples for geological, structural, and mineralogical analysis. These core logs provide insight into stratigraphy, lithology, seam composition, and potential geological structures (e.g., faults, dykes, intrusions) that may influence mining.
- **Mine Planning and Feasibility Support:** To generate the baseline information required for mine design, scheduling, and operational planning. Data from drilling will inform feasibility studies, cost projections, and risk assessments, thereby reducing uncertainty in project investment decisions.
- **Environmental and Risk Management:** To contribute towards identifying geohydrological and environmental considerations, such as aquifer depth, groundwater inflows, and potential interaction with sensitive water resources. These insights support environmental risk assessments and compliance with regulatory requirements.



Figure 4-1: Exploration drilling process

5 Potential Water Uses

In terms of Section 21 of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998), water uses that may be triggered by exploration drilling include:

- Section 21(c): Impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse.
- Section 21(i): Altering the bed, banks, course or characteristics of a watercourse.

Table 5-1: S21 (c & i) Borehole locations

| Borehole Reference | Farm Name | Portion | SG Code | Coordinates | |
|--------------------|-------------------|---------|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| | | | | Latitude | Longitude |
| MD82036 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 9' 1.702" S | 29° 16' 52.614" E |
| MD82037 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 55.105" S | 29° 16' 56.088" E |
| MD82038 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 47.055" S | 29° 17' 0.364" E |
| MD82039 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 47.072" S | 29° 16' 51.491" E |
| MD82040 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 39.528" S | 29° 16' 54.254" E |
| MD82041 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 35.152" S | 29° 16' 39.010" E |
| MD82042 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 30.124" S | 29° 16' 30.188" E |
| MD82043 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 27.983" S | 29° 16' 19.489" E |
| MD82044 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 20.658" S | 29° 16' 25.663" E |
| MD82045 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 26.969" S | 29° 16' 44.801" E |
| MD82046 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 19.654" S | 29° 16' 43.276" E |
| MD82047 | Middeldrift 42 IS | 15/42 | TOIS00000000004200015 | 26° 8' 19.272" S | 29° 16' 51.443" E |
| MD82048 | Middeldrift 42 IS | 15/42 | TOIS00000000004200015 | 26° 8' 16.275" S | 29° 16' 47.948" E |
| MD82049 | Middeldrift 42 IS | 15/42 | TOIS00000000004200015 | 26° 8' 12.756" S | 29° 16' 57.233" E |
| MD82050 | Middeldrift 42 IS | 15/42 | TOIS00000000004200015 | 26° 8' 5.451" S | 29° 16' 59.952" E |
| MD82051 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 13.796" S | 29° 16' 25.813" E |
| MD82052 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 13.810" S | 29° 16' 18.641" E |
| MD82053 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 2.247" S | 29° 16' 34.936" E |
| MD82054 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 6.623" S | 29° 16' 12.709" E |
| MD82055 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 7' 54.782" S | 29° 16' 5.700" E |
| MD82056 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 7' 54.763" S | 29° 16' 16.250" E |
| MD82057 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 7' 47.067" S | 29° 16' 20.227" E |

A risk assessment matrix will be prepared in line with GN 509 of 2016, taking into account:

- The nature, scale and duration of the proposed activities.
- Potential risks to resource quality and mitigation measures.
- The Present Ecological State (PES) and Ecological Importance and Sensitivity (EIS) of watercourses within the project area.

This process ensures that all potential impacts, whether positive or negative, are assessed and effectively managed.

6 Objectives of the Public Participation Process

The PPP objectives are to:

- Comply with the legal requirements;
- Inform and consult stakeholders regarding the proposed project;

- Provide stakeholders with accurate project information;
- Provide stakeholders the opportunity to participate in the process and provide comment;
- Verify that stakeholder comments will be recorded.
- Project Need and Desirability

7 Public Participation Process

The PPP is a critical component of transparent and inclusive environmental governance. It ensures that all stakeholders who may be interested in, or affected by, the proposed exploration drilling activities are informed of the project and provided an opportunity to comment, raise concerns, and contribute local knowledge to the decision-making process.

For this GA application, the PPP has been undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Section 41(4) of the NWA, the procedural guidance in GN 538 of 2016, the principles of Section 2 of the NEMA, and the best-practice provisions for public engagement contained in the NEMA 2014 EIA Regulations (as amended). Although this process does not trigger a Basic Assessment (BA) or full EIA, the principles and methods used remain consistent with legally recognised stakeholder-engagement standards.

Public participation is defined as the involvement of stakeholders and I&APs in environmental decision-making. Its primary aim is to enrich decisions by ensuring that they are informed by community perspectives, specialist inputs, local knowledge, and transparent information-sharing. Section 23(2)(d) of NEMA reinforces this by declaring that environmental management must “ensure adequate and appropriate opportunity for public participation in decisions that may affect the environment.”

If PPP is poorly conducted, non-transparent, exclusive, or procedurally inadequate, it has the potential to undermine stakeholder trust and negatively influence perceptions of the proposed project. It can also compromise the integrity of the regulatory process. For this reason, Niara Environmental Consultants has implemented a structured, inclusive, and legally defensible PPP for the Albion North GA application.

The overarching objectives of the PPP are to:

- Facilitate meaningful and timeous participation by all I&APs;
- Identify and document key issues, concerns, and questions raised by stakeholders;
- Promote transparency and understanding of the proposed drilling activities and their potential environmental (biophysical and social) implications;
- Ensure accountability by providing clear information on how issues raised will be addressed;
- Establish a formal communication channel between the project team, stakeholders, and competent authority;
- Assist in the early identification of potential environmental risks and opportunities;

- Promote inclusivity, ensuring that the needs, interests, and values of diverse stakeholder groups are considered.

This structured approach aligns with the principles of Integrated Environmental Management (IEM) and supports balanced, informed decision-making.

7.1 Details of the Public Participation Process Followed

The PPP for this GA application followed a sequence of legislatively compliant notification steps designed to ensure broad and accessible communication. All stakeholders were provided with adequate opportunity to register as I&APs and to review and comment on the GA Technical Document.

The following notification actions were implemented:

a) Placement of Site Notices

Visible site notices were erected at strategic locations along the project area and in surrounding public spaces. These notices provided project details, contact information, and instructions for registering as an I&AP.

b) Distribution of Written Notification and BID

On 13 November 2025, written notices and the Background Information Document (BID) were emailed to:

- Identified landowners and lawful occupiers;
- Adjacent property owners;
- The eMalahleni Local Municipality and Nkangala District Municipality;
- Relevant organs of state;
- Interested organisations and community stakeholders.

The notification invited stakeholders to register and submit comments during the 30-day review period.

c) Newspaper Advertisement

A formal notice of the proposed project was published in the Middelburg Observer on 7 November 2025, thereby extending awareness to the wider public and ensuring compliance with GN 538 notification requirements.

d) Publication of the GA Technical Document, Wetlands Baseline Report, Section 27 Motivation Report and Proof of Public Consultation on the Niara Website

On 13 November 2025, the full GA Technical Document, together with supporting appendices, was uploaded to the Niara Environmental Consultants website under www.niara.co.za → Downloads, making it accessible to any member of the public.

e) Notification of Documentation Availability

Registered I&APs were informed via email that the GA Technical Document had been released for public review and was accessible online or by request from the EAP.

f) Ongoing Access to Documentation

The GA Technical Document will remain available for the full 30-day review period, enabling stakeholders to provide written comments should they wish to do so.

8 Conclusion

The PPP for the MMS Albion North General Authorisation application has been initiated in accordance with the requirements of the NWA, GN 538, and the GA for Section 21(c) and (i) water uses. All required notification measures, including email distribution of the BID, placement of site notices, publication of a newspaper advertisement, and uploading of the GA Technical Document to the Niara website, were implemented on 13 November 2025, marking the start of the statutory 30-day comment period.

The PPP comment period is currently open and will run from 13 November 2025 to 15 December 2025.

At the time of compiling this interim PPP Report, no comments had been received, although stakeholders still have the full duration of the review period to submit inputs.

A Final PPP Report will be prepared after the close of the comment period. This final version will include:

- A complete Issues and Responses Register;
- A record of all comments received;
- Proof of all submissions and notifications;
- Confirmation of whether any substantive issues were raised.

Only once the PPP period has closed and all inputs have been addressed will Niara be able to confirm full compliance with the procedural requirements for the GA application.

Appendix 1: Announcement Phase - BID, Notification Letter and POPI Consent Form

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

MIDDELBURG MINE SERVICES (MMS) GENERAL AUTHORISATION FOR THE DRILLING OF EXPLORATION BOREHOLES FOR RESOURCE QUANTIFICATION ON PORTIONS 15 & THE REMAINING EXTENT OF PORTION 0 OF THE FARM MIDDELDRIFT 42 IS, NEAR MIDDELBURG, IN THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCE (WU47590)

1 Project Background

Seriti Power (Pty) Ltd (“Seriti”) has appointed Niara Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd (“Niara”) as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to compile a General Authorisation (GA) application in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998). The GA pertains to proposed exploration drilling activities within the Albion North Section of the existing Middelburg Mine Services (MMS) Mining Right Area, located near Middelburg in the Mpumalanga Province.

The drilling programme forms part of Seriti’s ongoing geological evaluation and resource development initiative aimed at quantifying and improving confidence in coal resource estimates within already authorised mining areas. The proposed activity involves the drilling of 22 exploration boreholes, some of which are situated within 500 metres of wetland systems and other surface water features identified during preliminary site screening.

The purpose of the drilling is to obtain geological and geotechnical data that will assist in defining the quantity, quality, and distribution of coal resources across the project area. This information will contribute to a more accurate understanding of the subsurface stratigraphy, lithology, and structure, and will support long-term mine planning, operational safety, and environmental management.

The exploration programme represents a low-impact activity, with drilling operations to be conducted using standard exploration rigs under controlled conditions and in accordance with Seriti’s Environmental Management Standards and relevant legal requirements.

The overall objectives of the proposed MMS drilling project are to:

- Resource Assessment: Quantify the volume, grade, and distribution of coal resources within the designated area.
- Geological Understanding: Enhance the geological model through analysis of core samples and subsurface data.
- Risk Mitigation: Identify potential geological constraints or hazards (e.g. unstable formations, igneous intrusions) that could influence future mine design or environmental performance.
- Regulatory Compliance: Ensure that all activities are conducted in accordance with local, national, and international best practice standards, including compliance with the National Water Act, NEMA, and other applicable legislation governing mineral exploration and environmental protection.

Gauteng Office

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22 Bram Fischer Drive, Linden, Johannesburg, 2195

Mpumalanga Office

22 Lowveld Country Manor, Aurora
Drive, Steiltes, Nelspruit, 1201

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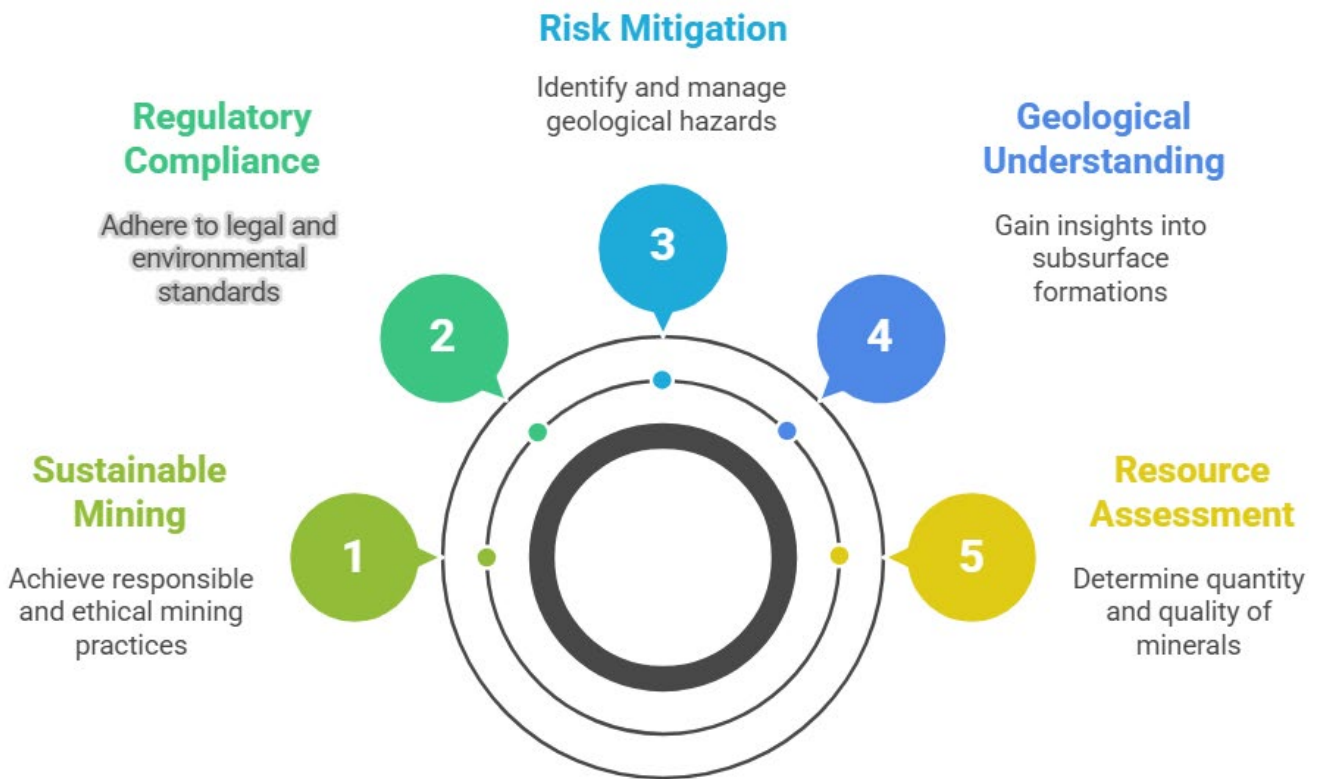


Figure 1-1: MMS Objectives overview

2 Purpose Of This Document

This Background Information Document (BID) introduces all stakeholders to the Environmental Authorisation application process for the Proposed General Authorisation for the drilling of exploration boreholes.

The BID serves as an initial point of engagement with Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs), ensuring that relevant information is made available at an early stage of the environmental authorisation process. It aims to promote transparency, facilitate meaningful public participation, and invite comments, questions, or concerns that stakeholders may have regarding the proposed development. By doing so, the BID supports informed decision-making and helps identify any site-specific issues or community insights that should be considered during the General Authorisation processes. This BID also aims to provide I&APs with an understanding of the required Environmental Authorisation Application Process to be undertaken as well as to provide stakeholders with the following information:

- Project overview;
- Locality of the Project Area;
- Legal Framework and Environmental Regulatory Process to be followed;
- How stakeholders can be involved in the Project through the Public Participation Process;
- Availability of the Draft GA Technical Report for public review and comment;
- How to access the Reports;

- Invitation to Stakeholder Engagement Meetings;
- How the public can register as Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs);

Enclosed to this document is the Comments and Registration form. You are kindly requested to complete the Comments and Registration form. This is to ensure that we record your comments and register you as an I&AP. This will ensure that you receive up-to-date and relevant information regarding the Project.

3 Project Locality

The proposed Albion North Exploration Drilling Project is situated on portions 15 and the Remaining Extent (RE) of Portion 0 the farm Middeldrift 42 IS, within Ward 32 of the eMalahleni Local Municipality (LM), under the jurisdiction of the Nkangala District Municipality, in the Mpumalanga Province of South Africa. The project area forms part of Seriti's operational footprint associated with the Middelburg Mine Services (MMS) and is locally referred to as the Albion Section. This section lies within the broader Albion North Extension area. The project area lies within the Upper Olifants Water Management Area (WMA), specifically the B11G Quaternary Catchment. The nearest significant drainage feature is an unnamed tributary of the Olifants River, forming part of the B11G-01225 Sub-Quaternary Reach (SQR). These watercourses are non-perennial and are characterised by low baseflow and high seasonal variability. The site does not fall within a National Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Area (NFEPA).

The project area is positioned approximately 10 km northwest of eMalahleni (Witbank) and is accessible via the R547 regional road, which traverses the central portion of the project footprint in an east-west orientation. The Albion Section lies in a region characterised by extensive coal mining operations, agricultural fields, and associated mining infrastructure, including access roads, haul routes, and conveyor corridors.

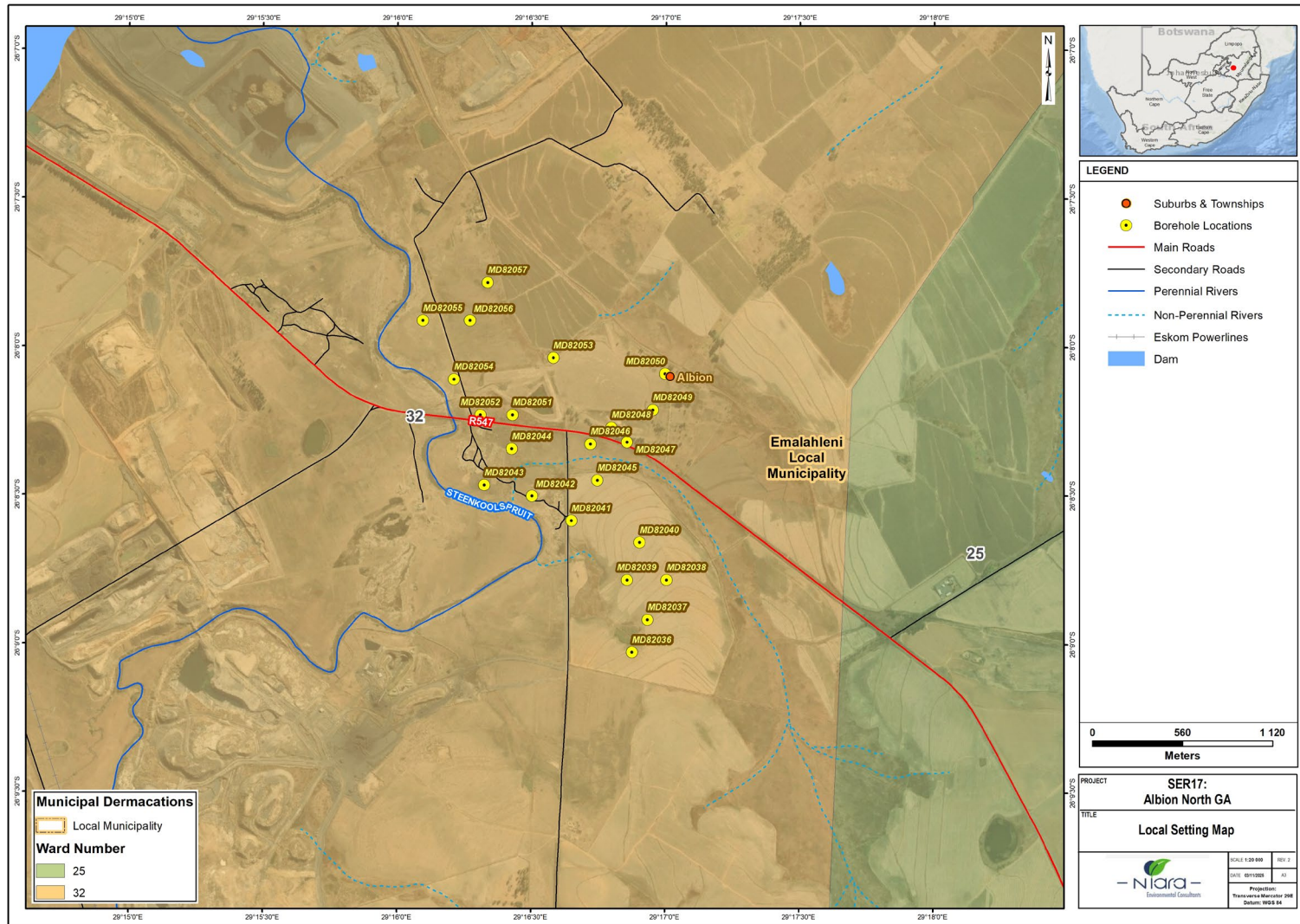
The area experiences a summer rainfall pattern, with the Mean Annual Precipitation (MAP) estimated at approximately 680 mm/year. The highest monthly rainfall typically occurs between December and February, with long-term data indicating peaks up to 345 mm/month. The Mean Annual Runoff (MAR) from the B11G catchment is approximately 20 mm/year. Temperatures range from 0°C in winter to above 30°C in summer, with occasional frost events recorded during June and July.

The site does not fall within a National Freshwater Priority Area. The Olifants river drains west of the site and continues north through Witbank Dam, towards Loskop dam. It is forced east by the Transvaal Drakensberg, cutting through at the Abel Erasmus Pass and then flowing east further across the Lowveld to join the Letaba River.

Water users in the catchment are mostly related to domestic, irrigation, aquatic ecosystems, and recreation.



| | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Farm: | Middeldrift 42 IS |
| Portions: | 15 and RE of Pnt 0 |
| Closest town: | eMalahleni |
| Catchment Zone: | B11E |
| Water Management Area: | Upper Olifants WMA |
| District Municipality: | Nkangala District Municipality |
| Local Municipality: | eMalahleni Local Municipality |
| Ward: | 32 |



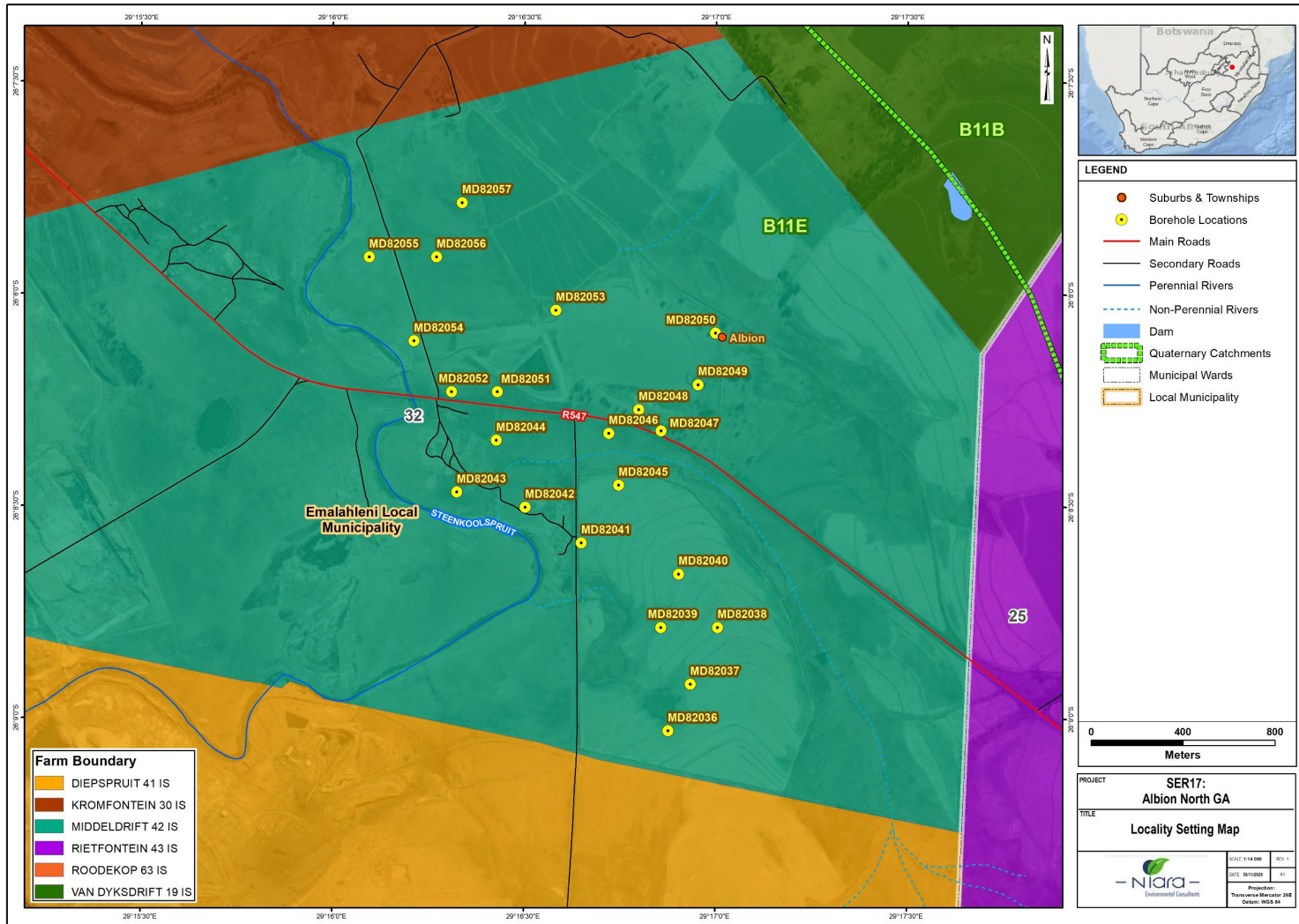


Figure 3-1: Project Locality

4 Conceptualisation of the Activity

The proposed exploration drilling programme forms part of Seriti Power's efforts to quantify the mineral resource potential within the Albion Section of MMS. The project involves the drilling of exploration boreholes to delineate coal reserves, evaluate their quality and extent, and ensure compliance with relevant regulatory requirements, including the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998).

The activity will follow a structured methodology, encompassing site preparation and establishment, drilling operations, and closure and rehabilitation, each underpinned by stringent safety, environmental and quality control protocols.

4.1 Site Preparation and Establishment

Before drilling commences, each borehole location will be staked out under the supervision of a Mine Surveyor or Geologist, in line with the Laying Out and Staking Exploration Boreholes Protocol. Key preparatory steps include:

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- Safety Measures: Placement of sump guards, clearance of core packing areas, provision of firefighting and first aid equipment, portable lightning detection, and safe distancing of operations ($\geq 30\text{m}$ from hazards unless otherwise approved).

Environmental and operational considerations during this phase include:

- Access Planning: Use of existing disturbed areas and tracks where possible, minimising new track construction and avoiding wetland channels.
- Track Management: Align tracks parallel to contours to reduce erosion risk.
- Borehole Positioning: Use of GPS to set out borehole positions while avoiding saturated soils.
- Vegetation Clearing: Restricted to immediate borehole areas; alien vegetation to be removed and disposed of appropriately.

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Key operational controls include:

- Competence & Oversight: All Drill Operators and Assistants must be trained, competent, and authorised. The Project Manager will spend at least 60% of their time on-site.

- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): Mandatory PPE includes level 5 cut-resistant gloves, hearing protection, and spare PPE on-site.
- Operational Protocols: Grounding all outriggers during drilling, maintaining a clean drill site, safe placement of drill rods ($\geq 3\text{m}$ from borehole), and strict adherence to two-man lifting/loading protocols.
- Safety Procedures: Regular gas testing, 5m exclusion zone around boreholes, daily safety meetings, and Permit-to-Work (PTO) for high-risk or non-routine tasks.
- Repairs & Relocation: Onsite repairs only by qualified Artisans under strict lockout/tagout procedures. Hitching/unhitching of rigs must comply with Contractor SOPs.

4.2.1 Drilling Operations

The safety of the Drill Rig Operator is a fundamental priority during all drilling activities. The Operator must always be positioned in a manner that allows unrestricted access to the machine controls while maintaining a safe distance from moving and rotating components. To reduce risk from falling objects such as quill rods or pulleys, the drill rig is equipped with a protective canopy. The Operator is required to conduct all operations from beneath this canopy, thereby minimising the likelihood of injury from mechanical or structural hazards.

As an additional safeguard, the slide gate on the canopy must remain locked at all times during drilling. This control measure prevents inadvertent contact with rotating or moving parts of the rig, ensuring both the Operator's safety and the safe functioning of the equipment. Strict adherence to these protocols is essential to reducing accident potential and

maintaining both operational efficiency and regulatory compliance.

Beyond operator safety, the drilling programme also incorporates a range of operational and environmental management measures to ensure responsible and effective implementation:

- Borehole Drilling: An NQ2 drill rig will be employed to drill boreholes with an approximate diameter of 76 mm. Emphasis will be placed on achieving high-quality core recovery from both overburden and rock strata.
- Fluid Management: Drilling water will be channelled into lined sumps or berms to prevent downslope spillage and contamination. All fluids, oils, and greases will be carefully handled and stored in accordance with site safety and environmental protocols.
- Waste Disposal: Drilling fluids, additives, and any potentially toxic substances will be disposed of responsibly to prevent environmental damage. Sealed plastic drop sheets will be used as a precaution against accidental spills or leaks.
- Borehole Profiling: Boreholes will be profiled in line with Southern African methodologies. Soil and rock horizons recovered from the core will be sampled, logged, and catalogued for geological analysis.
- Rehabilitation: Upon completion of drilling, sumps will be backfilled and boreholes rehabilitated. Excavated materials will be replaced in their correct stratigraphic order, and sites will be left clean, safe, and free of debris.

- Vehicle Management: Machinery will exit using the same access routes used for entry. Routes will be surveyed post-operation for ruts, with deep ruts filled or plugged to prevent erosion. No vehicle servicing, cleaning, or fuel storage will be permitted on-site to safeguard against environmental risks.

By implementing these combined safety, operational, and environmental protocols, the project ensures that drilling activities are conducted in a controlled, compliant, and sustainable manner, safeguarding personnel, the environment, and overall project outcomes.

4.3 Closure and Rehabilitation

Rehabilitation following drilling activities is a critical component of the exploration programme, aimed at minimising environmental impacts, restoring site integrity, and ensuring compliance with applicable legislation and best practice standards. Rehabilitation measures are designed in alignment with the findings of the Environmental Risk Assessment (ERA), ensuring that potential risks are proactively managed and mitigated.

Drill rigs will only be demobilised once all associated sumps and disturbed areas have been adequately backfilled, stabilised, and rehabilitated. Sumps must be filled and clearly demarcated using chevron tape to prevent accidental disturbance. Where non-biodegradable oils or other contaminants have been utilised, enhanced measures will be implemented. These include the application of approved biodegradation agents to contaminated soils or, where necessary, the excavation, removal, and rehabilitation of impacted material.

The Operational Geologist bears responsibility for overseeing all rehabilitation activities and ensuring compliance with prescribed standards. This includes:

- Conducting regular inspections of rehabilitated drill sites.
- Documenting outcomes on the official Borehole Header Sheet for record-keeping and accountability.
- Initiating thorough investigations in the event of environmental non-conformances, identifying root causes, and implementing corrective and preventative actions.

Proper management of drill core is also an essential element of closure. Drill core recovered from environmentally restricted areas will be handled in strict compliance with environmental authorisation conditions. Depending on the site context, core may either:

- Be disposed of at designated, approved areas following logging and sampling, or
- Remain on-site where future mine workings are planned in that direction, provided this does not contravene environmental or safety requirements.

4.3.1 Sealing of Boreholes

The sealing of boreholes is a critical step in ensuring the integrity and safety of drilling sites, and it is governed by specific protocols to adhere to regulatory and safety standards. As part of this process, the Drilling Company is responsible for sealing the borehole and issuing a sealing certificate to the Geologist, confirming that the borehole has been properly sealed. In areas where underground mining is either likely to take place, has occurred, or is indicated by the

Environmental Risk Assessment, or at the request of the Geologist, drill holes must be sealed with cement up to 1 meter from the collar. This precautionary measure helps to prevent potential underground issues and ensures the stability of the surrounding geological formations.

To ensure consistency and compliance with established procedures, the sealing of boreholes follows the guidelines outlined in the contractor's SOP. Adherence to these SOPs guarantees that the sealing process is conducted efficiently and effectively, minimizing the risk of environmental contamination and maintaining the overall integrity of the drilling site.

5 Purpose of the Exploration Drilling

Exploration drilling represents a critical initial phase in the mine development process, designed to generate accurate geological data that will underpin informed decision-making. The programme is specifically aimed at quantifying the coal resource potential of the Albions North Section and establishing the technical and economic viability of future mining operations.

The key purposes of the exploration drilling are as follows:

- **Resource Confirmation:** To verify the presence, distribution, and continuity of coal seams within the target area, ensuring that the geological model reflects actual site conditions.
- **Quality and Quantity Determination:** To obtain detailed information on the thickness, grade, calorific value, and other physical and chemical characteristics of the coal. This allows for an assessment of both the quality and the quantity of coal that can be economically extracted.
- **Subsurface Data Collection:** To recover continuous core samples for geological, structural, and mineralogical analysis. These core logs provide insight into stratigraphy, lithology, seam composition, and potential geological structures (e.g., faults, dykes, intrusions) that may influence mining.
- **Mine Planning and Feasibility Support:** To generate the baseline information required for mine design, scheduling, and operational planning. Data from drilling will inform feasibility studies, cost projections, and risk assessments, thereby reducing uncertainty in project investment decisions.
- **Environmental and Risk Management:** To contribute towards identifying geohydrological and environmental considerations, such as aquifer depth, groundwater inflows, and potential interaction with sensitive water resources. These insights support environmental risk assessments and compliance with regulatory requirements.



Figure 3-2: Exploration drilling process

6 Potential Water Uses

In terms of Section 21 of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998), water uses that may be triggered by exploration drilling include:

- Section 21(c): Impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse.
- Section 21(i): Altering the bed, banks, course or characteristics of a watercourse.

Table 2-1: S21 (c & i) Borehole location

| Borehole Reference | Farm Name | Portion | SG Code | Coordinates | |
|--------------------|-------------------|---------|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| | | | | Latitude | Longitude |
| MD82036 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 9' 1.702" S | 29° 16' 52.614" E |
| MD82037 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 55.105" S | 29° 16' 56.088" E |
| MD82038 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 47.055" S | 29° 17' 0.364" E |
| MD82039 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 47.072" S | 29° 16' 51.491" E |
| MD82040 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 39.528" S | 29° 16' 54.254" E |
| MD82041 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 35.152" S | 29° 16' 39.010" E |
| MD82042 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 30.124" S | 29° 16' 30.188" E |
| MD82043 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 27.983" S | 29° 16' 19.489" E |
| MD82044 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 20.658" S | 29° 16' 25.663" E |

| Borehole Reference | Farm Name | Portion | SG Code | Coordinates | |
|--------------------|--------------------|---------|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| | | | | Latitude | Longitude |
| MD82045 | Middel drift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 26.969" S | 29° 16' 44.801" E |
| MD82046 | Middel drift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 19.654" S | 29° 16' 43.276" E |
| MD82047 | Middel drift 42 IS | 15/42 | TOIS00000000004200015 | 26° 8' 19.272" S | 29° 16' 51.443" E |
| MD82048 | Middel drift 42 IS | 15/42 | TOIS00000000004200015 | 26° 8' 16.275" S | 29° 16' 47.948" E |
| MD82049 | Middel drift 42 IS | 15/42 | TOIS00000000004200015 | 26° 8' 12.756" S | 29° 16' 57.233" E |
| MD82050 | Middel drift 42 IS | 15/42 | TOIS00000000004200015 | 26° 8' 5.451" S | 29° 16' 59.952" E |
| MD82051 | Middel drift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 13.796" S | 29° 16' 25.813" E |
| MD82052 | Middel drift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 13.810" S | 29° 16' 18.641" E |
| MD82053 | Middel drift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 2.247" S | 29° 16' 34.936" E |
| MD82054 | Middel drift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 6.623" S | 29° 16' 12.709" E |
| MD82055 | Middel drift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 7' 54.782" S | 29° 16' 5.700" E |
| MD82056 | Middel drift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 7' 54.763" S | 29° 16' 16.250" E |
| MD82057 | Middel drift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 7' 47.067" S | 29° 16' 20.227" E |

A risk assessment matrix will be prepared in line with GN 509 of 2016, taking into account:

- The nature, scale and duration of the proposed activities.
- Potential risks to resource quality and mitigation measures.
- The Present Ecological State (PES) and Ecological Importance and Sensitivity (EIS) of watercourses within the project area.

This process ensures that all potential impacts, whether positive or negative, are assessed and effectively managed.

7 Legislative Framework

The proposed exploration drilling activities by MMS fall within the legislative framework of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998), the primary piece of legislation under the jurisdiction of the DWS. The NWA seeks to ensure that the nation's water resources are protected, used, developed, conserved, managed, and controlled in ways that promote equitable and sustainable socio-economic development.

7.1 Applicable Legislation and Authorisation Requirements

In terms of the NWA, any activity that has the potential to impede or divert the flow of water in a watercourse or alter the bed, banks, course, or characteristics of a watercourse constitutes a water use as defined in Section 21(c) and Section 21(i) of the Act.

The proposed drilling of 22 exploration boreholes on Portion 15 and the Remaining Extent of Portion 0 of the Farm Middeldrift 42 IS, within the Albion North Section, triggers these two water uses as some boreholes are located within 500 metres of delineated wetlands and drainage features.

Accordingly, Seriti Power, through MMS, is required to obtain authorisation from the DWS prior to commencing any such activities. Given the limited extent, temporary nature, and low environmental risk associated with the proposed drilling programme, the application qualifies for consideration under a General Authorisation (GA) rather than a full Water Use Licence (WUL).

7.2 General Authorisation (GN 509 of 2016)

The GA for Section 21(c) and (i) water uses, published under Government Notice No. 509 of 2016 (as amended), allows certain low-risk water uses to proceed without the need for a full WUL, provided that the activity:

- Falls within the scope and thresholds outlined in GN 509 of 2016;
- Is supported by a General Authorisation Technical Report demonstrating compliance with the conditions set by the Minister; and
- Does not pose significant risk to water resource quality, ecosystem integrity, or downstream users.

The GA Technical Report for the MMS exploration drilling project has been compiled in accordance with these requirements and includes:

- Identification and mapping of watercourses within the project area;
- Assessment of potential impacts of drilling activities on surface and groundwater resources;
- Development of mitigation and management measures to prevent contamination or disturbance of watercourses; and
- Documentation of the Public Participation Process (PPP) conducted in compliance with Section 41(4) of the NWA.

7.3 Compliance with DWS Regulatory Directives

The DWS is the competent authority for the consideration and approval of the GA application. All submissions, including the General Authorisation Technical Report, site notices, landowner notifications, and Comments and Response Report (CRR), will be lodged with the relevant DWS regional office.

Niara Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd, acting on behalf of Seriti Power, confirms that all activities related to this GA application are being undertaken in accordance with:

- The National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998);
- Government Notice No. 509 of 2016, as amended;

- The DWS General Authorisation Guidelines (2016); and
- The DWS Risk Assessment Matrix (2015), used to evaluate the significance of potential impacts.

7.4 Associated Legislative Alignment

While the DWS is the primary authority for this authorisation, the project also aligns with the broader environmental legislative framework, including:

- The National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998): providing the overarching environmental management principles applicable to all authorisations; and
- The National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008): relevant only insofar as it governs waste management during drilling operations (e.g., disposal of drilling muds and domestic waste).

However, no separate environmental authorisation under NEMA is required at this stage, as the proposed activity is limited in scope and subject to DWS's jurisdiction under the General Authorisation framework.

8 General Authorisation Technical Report

The GA Technical Report serves as a supporting document to accompany an application submitted in terms of Section 39 of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998). Its primary purpose is to provide the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) with sufficient technical and environmental information to enable an informed decision on whether the proposed activity may be authorised under the General Authorisation provisions, rather than requiring a full Water Use Licence (WUL).

The Report demonstrates that the proposed water uses, typically Section 21(c) (impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse) and Section 21(i) (altering the bed, banks, course, or characteristics of a watercourse), are of limited extent and low risk, provided that mitigation and management measures are properly implemented.

Specifically, the General Authorisation Technical Report aims to:

- Describe the nature, purpose, and location of the proposed activity;
- Identify and map watercourses and potentially affected areas;
- Assess potential environmental risks associated with the proposed water uses;
- Outline mitigation and management measures to prevent or minimise impacts on water resources;
- Demonstrate compliance with Government Notice No. 509 of 2016, which sets out the requirements and conditions for General Authorisations; and
- Provide evidence of stakeholder notification and public participation, as required under Section 41(4) of the Act.

In summary, the GA Technical Report provides a scientific, legal, and procedural basis for DWS to determine whether the proposed activity qualifies for authorisation under the General Authorisation framework, ensuring that water resource protection, sustainability, and regulatory compliance are maintained.

9 Public Participation Process

In accordance with Section 41(4) of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) and the DWS General Authorisation Guidelines (Government Notice No. 509 of 2016), a PPP is being undertaken to ensure that all I&APs are informed of the proposed GA Application and are provided an opportunity to submit comments.

The PPP is designed to promote transparency, inclusivity, and meaningful stakeholder engagement, in line with both national legislative requirements and best practice principles.

- Step 1: Preparation of Stakeholder Database
 - Identify and compile a list of Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs), including landowners, lawful occupiers, ward councillors, traditional authorities, municipal departments, and relevant Organs of State.
- Step 2: Preparation of Notification Materials
 - Develop the BID summarising project purpose, location, and potential impacts.
 - Prepare site notices (bilingual), landowner letters, and newspaper adverts in line with DWS requirements.
- Step 3: Placement of Site Notices
 - Display laminated A2 site notices at visible, publicly accessible locations within and around the project area (e.g., farm gates, intersections, community boards).
 - Record GPS coordinates, photographs, and dates of placement for proof of compliance.
- Step 4: Distribution of Written Notifications
 - Send formal written notices and BIDs to identified stakeholders and Organs of State (DWS, DARDLEA, DRDLR, Nkangala DM, eMalahleni LM, etc.).
 - Include project reference number, comment period, and contact details for submissions.
- Step 5: Newspaper Advertisement
 - Publish a public notice in at least one local newspaper circulating in the project area to ensure broad stakeholder reach.
- Step 6: Commencement of 30-Day Comment Period

- Open a minimum 30-day review period (as per Section 41(4) of the NWA).
- Make the GA Technical Report available (electronically and/or hard copy) for public review from the start date of the comment period.
- Step 7: Registration of I&APs
 - Register all parties who respond, comment, or request information during the review period.
 - Maintain a Stakeholder Register with names, contact details, and interest categories.
- Step 8: Receipt and Management of Comments
 - Collect written comments, queries, and objections submitted during the 30-day period.
 - Acknowledge receipt of comments and clarify issues where necessary.
- Step 9: Compilation of the CRR
 - Capture all comments verbatim and provide responses from the applicant or EAP.
 - Append the CRR to the final GA submission to DWS as evidence of stakeholder engagement.
- Step 10: Submission to DWS
 - Submit the complete GA Application Package, including the GA Technical Report, proof of notices and adverts, Stakeholder Register, and CRR, to the DWS Regional Office for review.
- Step 11: Post-Submission Communication
 - Notify all registered I&APs that the application has been submitted to DWS and that the department will make the final decision.



The key objectives of the PPP are to:

- Inform stakeholders and surrounding communities of the proposed exploration drilling activities;
- Provide accessible information on the nature and purpose of the project, potential environmental implications, and the regulatory process;
- Allow I&APs the opportunity to register, raise concerns, or provide comments; and
- Document all stakeholder engagement efforts in a Comments and Response Report (CRR) to be submitted to DWS as part of the final GA application.

10 Availability of the Report

The GA Technical Report will be made available for a 30-day public review and comment period, commencing on **Thursday, 13 November 2025** and closing on **Monday, 15 December 2025**. During this period, I&APs are invited to review the report and submit written comments, queries, or objections to Niara Environmental Consultants using the contact details provided in Section 8 of this BID.

11 Your Responsibility

As a stakeholder, you are encouraged to review the information provided and to contribute actively to the application process. You are invited to examine the documentation, pose questions if uncertainties arise, and submit your formal comments or concerns during the stipulated comment period. To continue to receive updates and direct notifications about the project's progress and outcomes, it is advisable to register as an Interested and Affected Party. Your insights, experience, and feedback are essential for ensuring that the permitting process remains open, responsive, and aligned with community and environmental priorities.



12 Comments and Queries

Your comments/ inputs regarding the proposed Project are valuable. For your convenience, a registration and/or comment sheet is appended to this document. Should you wish to be registered as an I&AP, to obtain additional information or comment on the proposed Project, please use the contact details below, using the Niara reference number **SER17**.

Contact person: Mrs Vumile Ribeiro
Telephone: +27 66 526 5099
Email: stakeholder@niara.co.za
Postal Address: Office 1 Palm Place Office Park, 22 Bram Fischer Drive, Linden, Johannesburg, 2195

In order to ensure that you are identified as an interested and/or affected party, please submit your name, contact information and interest in the Project to the contact person preferably within 30 days of receipt of this document.

UMBHALO WOLWAZI OLUSENDELENI

IMVUME EJWAYELEKILE YEMIGODI YASE-MIDDELBURG (MMS) YOKUMBIWA KWEMIGODI YOKUHLOLA UKUTHOLA UKULINGANISWA KWEMITHOMBO EZINGXENYENI 15 NESIGABA ESISELE SENGXENYE 0 YEPULAZI I-MIDDELDRIFT 42, EDUZE KWE-MIDDELBURG, ESIFUNDAZWENI SASE-MPUMALANGA (WU47590)

1 Isizinda Sephrojekthi

I-Seriti Power (Pty) Ltd (“Seriti”) iqoke i-Niara Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd (“Niara”) njengoMqondisi Ozimele Wokuhlola Imvelo (EAP) ukuze ahlanganise isicelo se-General Authorisation (GA) ngokwemigomo yoMthetho Kazwelonke Wamanzi, 1998 (uMthetho No. 36 ka-1998). I-GA iphathelele nemisebenzi yokumba ehlongozwayo ngaphakathi kwe-Albion North Section ye-Middelburg Mine Services (MMS) Mining Right Area ekhona, eseduze ne-Middelburg eSifundazweni saseMpumalanga.

Uhlelo lokumba luyingxenye yohlelo oluqhubekayo lwe-Seriti lokuhlola i-geological kanye nokuthuthukiswa kwezinsiza oluhlose ukulinganisa nokuthuthukisa ukuzethemba ekulinganisweni kwezinsiza zamalahle ngaphakathi kwezindawo zokumba ezigunyaziwe kakade. Umsebenzi ohlongozwayo uhlela ukumba ama-borehole okuhlola angu-22, amanye awo atholakala ngaphakathi kwamamitha angu-500 ezinhlelo zamanzi nezinye izici zamanzi angaphezulu ezitholwe ngesikhathi sokuhlolwa kokuqala kwendawo.

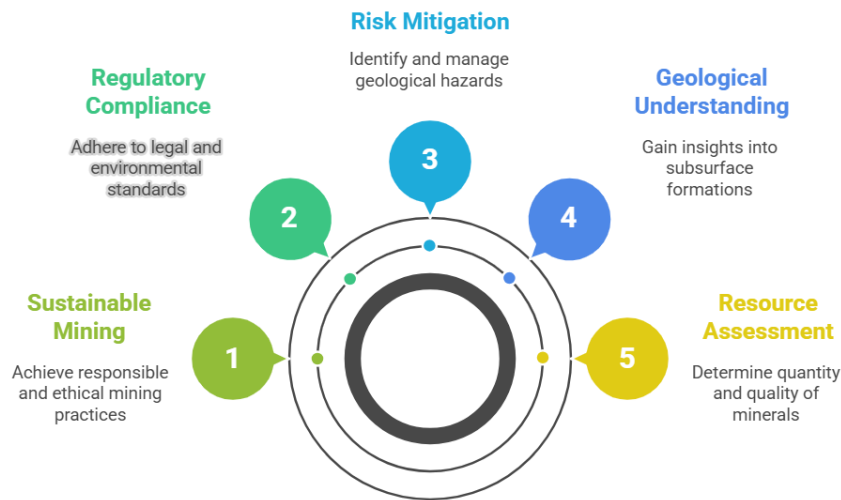
Inhloso yokumba ukuthola idatha ye-geological kanye neye-geotechnical ezosiza ekuchazeni inani, ikhwalithi, kanye nokusatshalaliswa kwezinsiza zamalahle kulo lonke indawo yephrojekthi. Lolu lwazi luzosiza ekuqondeni okunembile kwe-stratigraphy engaphansi komhlaba, i-lithology, kanye nesakhiwo, futhi luzosekela ukuhlela izimayini zesikhathi eside, ukuphepha kokusebenza, kanye nokuphathwa kwemvelo.

Uhlelo lokuhlola lumelela umsebenzi onomthelela omncane, lapho imisebenzi yokumba izoqhutshwa kusetshenziswa imishini yokuhlola ejwayelekile ngaphansi kwezimo ezilawulwayo nangokuhambisana nezindinganiso zokuphathwa kwemvelo zikaSeriti kanye nezidingo zomthetho ezifanele.

Izinhloso eziphelele zephrojekthi yokubhoboza i-MMS ehlongozwayo uku:

- Ukuhlolwa Kwezinsizakusebenza: Bala inani, izinga, kanye nokusatshalaliswa kwezinsizakusebenza zamalahle endaweni ekhethiwe.
- Ukuqonda Ngezemvelo: Thuthukisa imodeli yezemvelo ngokuhlaziya amasampula ayinhloko kanye nedatha engaphansi komhlaba.
- Ukunciphisa Ingozi: Thola imikhawulo noma izingozi ezingaba khona ze-geological (isb. ukwakheka okungazinzile, ukungena kwe-igneous) okungathinta umklamo wezimayini zesikhathi esizayo noma ukusebenza kwemvelo.

- Ukuthobela Imithetho: Qinisekisa ukuthi yonke imisebenzi yenziwa ngokuhambisana nezindinganiso zokwenza okuhle kakhulu zendawo, zezwe, nezamazwe ngamazwe, okuhlanganisa nokuthobela uMthetho Kazwelonke Wamanzi, i-NEMA, kanye neminye imithetho esebenzayo elawula ukuhlola amaminerali kanye nokuvikelwa kwemvelo..



Umfanekiso 1-1: Ukubuka konke kwezinhloso ze-MMS

2 Inhloso Yalo Mbhalo

Lo Mbhalo Wolwazi Oluyisisekelo (i-BID) wethula bonke abathintekayo enkambisweni yesicelo seMvume Yezemvelo yeMvume Ejwayelekile Ehlongozwayo yokumba imigodi yokuhlola.

I-BID isebenza njengendawo yokuqala yokuxhumana nabantu abanentshisekelo nabathintekayo (ama-I&AP), iqinisekisa ukuthi ulwazi olufanele luyatholakala esigabeni sokuqala senqubo yokugunyazwa kwemvelo. Ihlose ukukhuthaza ukucaca, ukwenza kube lula ukubamba iqhaza komphakathi okunenjongo, nokumema imibono, imibuzo, noma ukukhathazeka ababathintekayo abangaba nakho mayelana nentuthuko ehlongozwayo. Ngokwenza kanjalo, i-BID isekela ukwenziwa kwezinqumo ezinolwazi futhi isiza ekuboneni noma yiziphi izinkinga ezithile zesayithi noma ukuqonda komphakathi okufanele kucatshangelwe ngesikhathi senqubo yokugunyazwa Okujwayelekile. Le BID ihlose futhi ukunikeza ama-I&AP ukuqonda inqubo yesicelo seMvume Yezemvelo edingekayo okufanele yenziwe kanye nokunikeza ababathintekayo ulwazi olulandelayo.:

- Ukubuka konke kweprojekthi;
- Indawo Yendawo Yeprojekthi;
- Uhlaka Lwezomthetho kanye Nenqubo Yokulawula Imvelo okumele ilandelwe;
- Indlela ababambiqhaza abangabandakanyeka ngayo kuprojekthi ngenqubo Yokubamba Iqhaza Komphakathi;
- Ukutholakala Kombiko Wezobuchwepheshe we-GA Owuhlaka ukuze umphakathi ubuyekeze futhi uphawule;
- Indlela yokufinyelela Imibiko;
- Isimemo Semihlangano Yokubandakanya Ababambiqhaza;
- Indlela umphakathi ongabhalisa ngayo njengabantu abanentshisekelo nabathintekayo (ama-I&AP)

Kuleli dokhumenti kukhona ifomu lemibono nokubhalisa. Uyacelwa ukuthi ugcwalise ifomu lemibono nokubhalisa. Lokhu kwenzelwa ukuqinisekisa ukuthi siqopha imibono yakho futhi sikubhalise njenge-I&AP. Lokhu kuzoqinisekisa ukuthi uthola ulwazi olusesikhathini nolufanele mayelana nephrojekthi.

3 Indawo Yephrojekthi


Iphrojekthi Yokubhola Ehlongozwe e-Albion North Exploration itholakala ezingxenyeni ezingu-15 kanye neSahluko Esisele (RE) seNgxenywe 0 yepulazi iMiddeldrift 42 IS, ngaphakathi kweWadi 32 yoMasipala Wendawo waseMalahleni (LM), ngaphansi komthetho kaMasipala Wesifunda saseNkangala, eSifundazweni saseMpumalanga saseNingizimu Afrika. Indawo yephrojekthi iyingxenywe yomsebenzi kaSeriti ohlobene neMiddelburg Mine Services (MMS) futhi ibizwa ngokuthi i-Albion Section endaweni ebanzi. Lesi sigaba singaphakathi kwendawo ebanzi ye-Albion North Extension. Indawo yephrojekthi ingaphakathi kwe-Upper Olifants Water Management Area (WMA), ikakhulukazi i-B11G Quaternary Catchment. Indawo yokudonsa amanzi eseduze kakhulu. Isici siwumfulana ongashiwongo ngegama woMfula i-Olifants, owakha ingxenywe ye-B11G-01225 Sub-Quaternary Reach (SQR). Lezi zindawo zamanzi azihlali isikhathi eside futhi zibonakala ngokugeleza kwamanzi okuphansi kanye nokuguquguquka okuphezulu kwesizini. Indawo ayiweli ngaphansi kweNational Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Area (NFEPA).

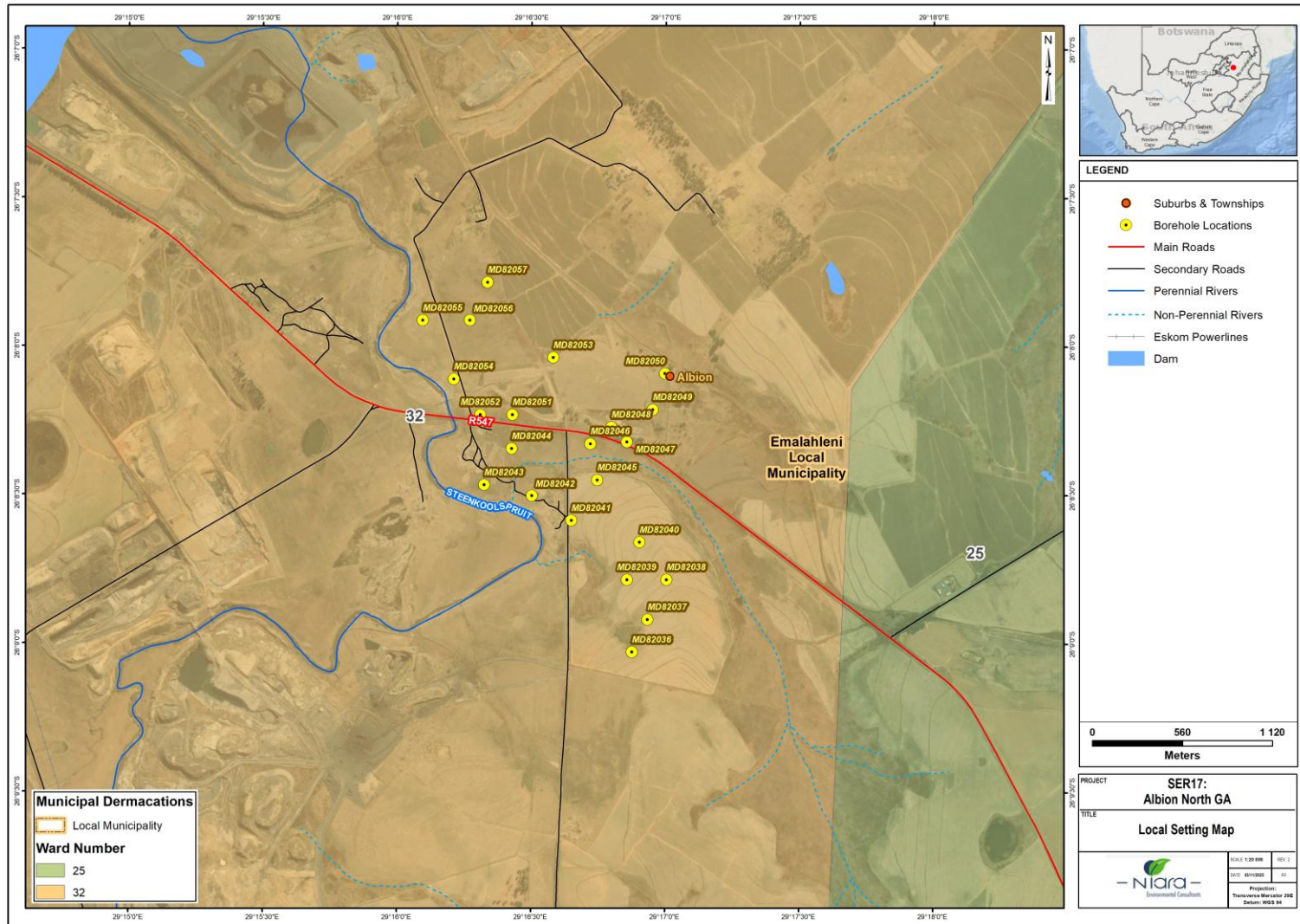
Indawo yephrojekthi isendaweni engaba ngamakhilomitha ayi-10 enyakatho-ntshonalanga ye-eMalahleni (eWitbank) futhi ingafinyeleleka ngomgwaqo wesifunda i-R547, odlula engxenyeni ephakathi yephrojekthi ngendlela esukela empumalanga kuya entshonalanga. Isigaba se-Albion sisesifundeni esiphawulwa yizimayini ezinkulu zamalahle. imisebenzi, amasimu ezolimo, kanye nengqalasizinda yezimayini ehlobene, okuhlanganisa imigwaqo yokufinyelela, imizila yokuthutha, kanye nemizila yokuthutha.

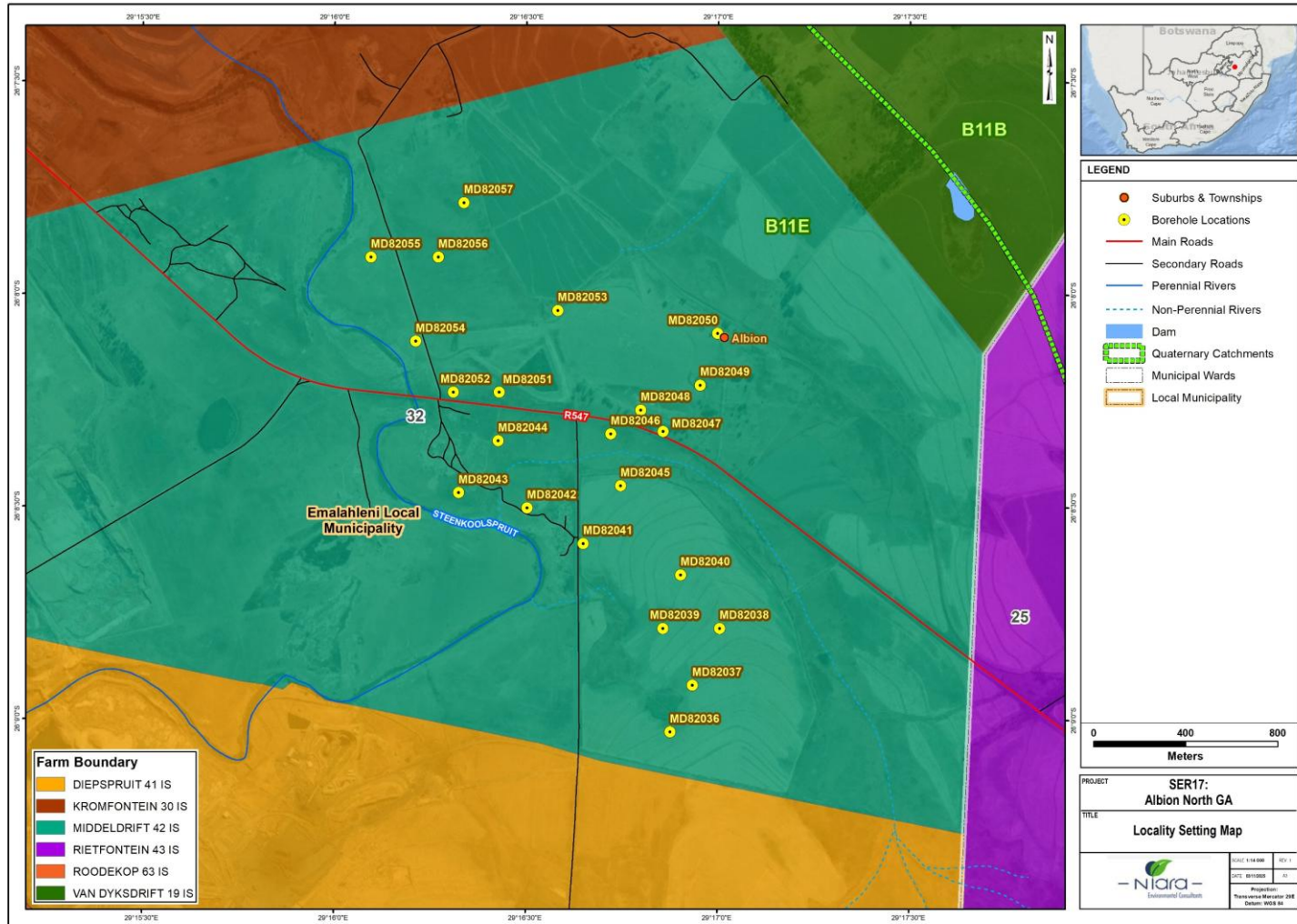
Le ndawo ihlangabezana nephethini yemvula yasehlobo, kanti i-Mean Annual Precipitation (MAP) ilinganiselwa cishe ku-680 mm ngonyaka. Imvula ephezulu kakhulu yanyanga zonke ivame ukuba phakathi kukaDisemba noFebhuwari, kanti idatha yesikhathi eside ibonisa ukuthi ifinyelela ku-345 mm ngenyanga. I-Mean Annual Runoff (MAR) evela endaweni yokukhongozela i-B11G cishe ingama-20 mm ngonyaka. Amazinga okushisa aqala ku-0°C ebusika aye ngaphezu kuka-30°C ehlobo, kanti izenzakalo zeqhwa eziqoshwe ngezikhathi ezithile ngoNhlagulana noNtulikazi.

Indawo ayiweli ngaphansi kweNational Freshwater Priority Area. Umfula i-Olifants ugeleza entshonalanga yendawo futhi uqhubekela enyakatho udlule eWitbank Dam, ubheke edamini laseLoskop. Uphonswa empumalanga yiTransvaal Drakensberg, unqamule e-Abel Erasmus Pass bese ugeleza ubheke empumalanga udlule eLowveld ukuze ujoyine uMfula iLetaba.

Abasebenzisi bamanzi endaweni yokudonsa amanzi bahlobene kakhulu nekhaya, ukunisela, imvelo yasemanzini, kanye nokuzilibazisa.

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| Farm: | Middeldrift 42 IS |  |
| Portions: | 15 and RE of Pnt 0 | |
| Closest town: | eMalahleni | |
| Catchment Zone: | B11E | |
| Water Management Area: | Upper Olifants WMA | |
| District Municipality: | Nkangala District Municipality | |
| Local Municipality: | eMalahleni Local Municipality | |
| Ward: | 32 | |





Umfanekiso 3-1: Indawo Yephrojekthi

4 Ukuqonda Umsebenzi

Uhlelo lokumba oluhlongozwayo luyingxenywe yemizamo yeSeriti Power yokulinganisa amandla emithombo yamaminerali ngaphakathi kweSigaba se-Albion se-MMS. Lo msebenzi uhlela ukumba imigodi yokuhlola ukuze kuchazwe izindawo zokugcina amalahle, kuhlolwe ikhwalithi kanye nobukhulu bawo, futhi kuqinisekise ukuhambisana nezidingo zomthetho ezifanele, okuhlanganisa noMthetho Kazwelonke Wamanzi, 1998 (uMthetho No. 36 ka-1998).

Lo msebenzi uzolandela indlela ehlekile, ehlanganisa ukulungiswa nokusungulwa kwendawo, imisebenzi yokumba, kanye nokuvalwa nokuvuselelwa, ngakunye okusekelwe yizinqubo zokuphepha eziqinile, ezemvelo kanye nokulawula ikhwalithi.

4.1 Ukulungiswa Kwendawo Nokusungulwa Kwayo

Ngaphambi kokuba kuqale ukumba, indawo ngayinye yemigodi izobekwa ngaphansi kokuqondisa koMhloli Wezimayini noma isazi seJiyoloji, ngokuhambisana ne-Laying Out and Staking Exploration Boreholes Protocol. Izinyathelo ezibalulekile zokulungiselela zifaka phakathi:

- Ukuhlolwa Kwendawo: Ukuhlolwa Okuhlangene Kweqembu Lokubhoboza kanye Nomphathi ukuze kutholakale izingozi (ama-patches odaka, izintambo zokudonsa, izintambo zikagesi, njll.).
- Ukuhlaziywa Kokuphepha Komsebenzi (JSA): Kwenziwa nsuku zonke futhi ekuqaleni kwemibobo ngayinye, kusayinwe yiSupervisor noma i-Safety Officer ngaphambi kokuba umsebenzi uqale.
- Inqubo Yokusungulwa Kwendawo Yomakhi: Ukuqaliswa kwamabhodi okuqondisa, ukuvimba,

amabhodi olwazi abuyekeziwe, kanye nezindlela zokubaleka ezinqunywe.

- Izinyathelo Zokuphepha: Ukubekwa kwezivikelo ze-sump, ukuhlanzwa kwezindawo zokupakisha eziyinhloko, ukuhlinzekwa kwemishini yokulwa nomlilo kanye neyosizo lokuqala, ukubona umbani ophathekayo, kanye nokuqhelelana okuphephile kwemisebenzi ($\geq 30m$ ezingozini ngaphandle uma kuvunyelwe ngenye indlela.).

Izinto okufanele zicatshangelwe emvelweni kanye nokusebenza phakathi nalesi sigaba zifaka phakathi:

- Ukuhlela Ukufinyelela: Ukusetshenziswa kwezindawo ezikhona eziphazamisekile kanye nemizila lapho kungenzeka khona, ukunciphisa ukwakhiwa kwemizila emisha kanye nokugwema imisele yamanzi.
- Ukuphathwa Kwethrekhi: Qondanisa imizila ngokuhambisana nemingcele ukuze unciphise ingozi yokuguguleka komhlabathi.
- Ukubekwa Kwemigodi: Ukusetshenziswa kwe-GPS ukuze kubekwe izindawo zemigodi ngenkathi kugwenywa inhlabathi egcwele amanzi.
- Ukuhlanzwa Kwezitshalo: Kukhawulelwe ezindaweni eziseduze nemigodi yamanzi; izitshalo zakwamanye amazwe kufanele zisuswe futhi zilahlwe ngendlela efanele.

4.2 Imisebenzi

Ukumba ukuhlola kuzokwenziwa ngokulandela ngokuqinile izinqubo zokusebenza eziwayelekile zemayini (ama-SOP) kanye nezinqubo zempilo, ukuphepha, indawo kanye nomphakathi (i-HSEC) zomkontileka.

Izilawuli zokusebenza ezibalulekile zifaka phakathi:

- Ubuchule Nokwengamela: Bonke Abaqhubi Bemishini Yokubhoboza kanye Nabasizi kumele baqeqeshwe, babe nekhono, futhi bagunyazwe. Umphathi Weprojekthi uzochitha okungenani u-60% wesikhathi sakhe endaweni.
- Imishini Yokuzivikela Yomuntu Siqu (i-PPE): I-PPE ephoqelekile ifaka amagilavu aqinile anganqunywanga ezingeni lesi-5, isivikelo sokuzwa, kanye ne-PPE eyengeziwe endaweni.
- Iziqubo Zokusebenza: Ukubeka phansi zonke izimbobo ngesikhathi sokubhoboza, ukugcina indawo yokubhoboza ihlanzekile, ukubeka ngokuphephile izinduku zokubhoboza ($\geq 3m$ ukusuka emgodini), kanye nokunamathela ngokuqinile ezinqubweni zokuphakamisa/ukulayisha zabantu ababili.
- Iziqubo Zokuphepha: Ukuhlolwa kwegesi okuvamile, indawo yokukhipha amanzi engamamitha angu-5 eduze kwemigodi yamanzi, imihlangano yokuphepha yansuku zonke, kanye ne-Permit-to-Work (PTO) yemisebenzi enobungozi obukhulu noma engeyona ejwayelekile..
- Ukulungiswa Nokuthuthwa: Ukulungiswa kwendawo kwenziwa kuphela yizingcweti eziqeqeshiwe ngaphansi kwezinqubo eziqinile zokukhiya/ukukhipha izintambo. Ukubopha/ukukhulula ama-rig kumele kuhambisane nemithetho ye-SOP yezinkontileka.

4.2.1 Imisebenzi Yokubhoboza

Ukuphepha koMsebenzi we-Drill Rig kuyinto ebaluleke kakhulu kuyo yonke imisebenzi yokubhoboza. Umqhubi kumele ahlale ebekwe ngendlela evumela ukufinyelela okungenamkhawulo ezilawulini zomshini ngenkathi egcina ibanga eliphephile kusuka ezingxenyeni ezihambayo nezijikelezayo. Ukuze kuncishiswe ingozi yezinto eziwayo njengezinduku ze-quill noma ama-pulley, umshini wokubhoboza ufakwe uphahla oluvikelayo. Umqhubi kudingeka enze yonke imisebenzi ngaphansi kwalolu phahla, ngaleyo ndlela anciphise amathuba okulimala okuvela ezingozini zemishini noma zesakhiwo.

Njengesivikelo esengeziwe, isango lesilayidi kuphahla kumele lihlale likhiyiwe ngaso sonke isikhathi ngesikhathi sokubhoboza. Lesi sinyathelo sokulawula sivimbela ukuthintana ngengozi nezingxenywe ezijikelezayo noma ezihambayo ze-rig, okuqinisekisa kokubili ukuphepha koMsebenzi kanye nokusebenza okuphephile kwemishini. Ukunamathela ngokuqinile kulezi zinqubo kubalulekile ekunciphiseni amathuba engozi kanye nokugcina ukusebenza kahle kanye nokuhambisana nomthetho..

Ngale kokuphepha komqhubi, uhlelo lokubhoboza luhlanganisa nezindlela ezahlukene zokuphatha ukusebenza kanye nezemvelo ukuqinisekisa ukuqaliswa okunesibopho nokusebenzayo:

- Ukubhoboza Imigodi: Kuzosetshenziswa umshini wokubhoboza we-NQ2 ukubhoboza imigodi enobubanzi obungango-76 mm. Kuzogxilwa ekufinyeleleni ekubuyiselweni kwekwalithi ephezulu kwengqikithi kokubili ekucindezelweni okukhulu kanye nasezindaweni zamatshe.

- Ukuphathwa Koketshezi: Amanzi okubhoboza azofakwa ezitsheni noma emathunjini agcwele ukuvimbela ukuchitheka nokungcola phansi. Zonke izinto eziwuketshezi, uwoyela, kanye namafutha kuzophathwa ngokucophelela futhi kugcinwe ngokuhambisana nezinqubo zokuphepha kwendawo kanye nezemvelo.
- Ukulahlwa Kwemfucuza: Izinto zokubhoboza, izithasiselo, nanoma yiziphi izinto ezingaba yingozi kuzolahlwa ngendlela efanele ukuze kuvinjelwe umonakalo emvelweni. Amashidi okulahla epulasitiki avaliwe azosetshenziswa njengesivikelo ekuchithekeni noma ukuvuza ngengozi.
- Ukuhlela Imigodi: Imigodi izohlelwa ngokuhambisana nezindlela zaseNingizimu Afrika. Inhlabathi namadwala atholakale enkabeni azothathwa amasampula, abhalwe phansi, bese efakwa ohlwini ukuze ahlolwe ngokwejiyoloji.
- Ukuvuselelwa: Uma sekuqediwe ukubhoboza, amapayipi amanzi azogcwaliswa futhi kulungiswe imigodi yamanzi. Izinto ezimbiwe zizoshintshwa ngokulandelana kwazo okuqondile, futhi izindawo zizoshiywa zihlanzekile, ziphephile, futhi zingenazo imfucuza.
- Ukuphathwa Kwezimoto: Imishini izophuma kusetshenziswa izindlela zokungena ezifanayo ezisetshenziswa ekungeneni. Imizila izohlolwa ngemva kokusebenza kwemizila, lapho imizila ejulile igcwele noma ivaliwe ukuze kuvinjelwe ukuguguleka. Akukho ukulungiswa kwezimoto, ukuhlanza, noma indawo yokugcina uphethiloli

ezovunyelwa endaweni ukuze kuvikelwe ezingozini zemvelo.

Ngokusebenzisa lezi zinqubo zokuphepha ezihlangene, ukusebenza, kanye nezemvelo, iphrojekthi iqinisekisa ukuthi imisebenzi yokubhoboza yenziwa ngendlela elawulwayo, ethobela imithetho, futhi eqhubekayo, ivikela abasebenzi, imvelo, kanye nemiphumela yephrojekthi iyonke.

4.3 Ukuvalwa Nokuvuselelwa

Ukuvuselelwa ngemva kwemisebenzi yokumba kuyisici esibalulekile sohlelo lokuhlola, okuhloswe ngalo ukunciphisa imiphumela yezemvelo, ukubuyisela ubuqotho bendawo, nokuqinisekisa ukulandelwa kwemithetho esebenzayo kanye nezindinganiso zokusebenza ezinhle kakhulu. Izinyathelo zokuvuselela zenzelwe ukuhambisana nokutholakele kwe-Environmental Risk Assessment (ERA), ukuqinisekisa ukuthi izingozi ezingaba khona ziphathwa futhi zincishiswe ngendlela efanele.

Ama-drill rig azosuswa kuphela uma wonke ama-sump ahlobene nezindawo eziphazamisekile sezigcwaliswe ngokwanele, zizinzile, futhi zivuselelwe. Ama-sump kumele agcwaliswe futhi ahlukaniswe ngokucacile kusetshenziswa i-chevron tape ukuvimbela ukuphazamiseka ngengozi. Lapho kusetshenziswe khona uwoyela ongaboli noma ezinye izinto ezingcolisayo, kuzosetshenziswa izinyathelo ezithuthukisiwe. Lokhu kufaka phakathi ukusetshenziswa kwama-ejenti okubola avunyiwe enhlabathini engcolile noma, lapho kudingeka, ukumba, ukususa, kanye nokuvuselela izinto ezithintekile..

I-Operational Geologist inesibopho sokuqondisa yonke imisebenzi yokuvuselela nokuqinisekisa ukulandelwa kwezindinganiso ezibekiwe. Lokhu kufaka phakathi:

- Ukwenza ukuhlolwa okuvamile kwezindawo zokubhoboza ezilungisiwe.
- Ukubhala phansi imiphumela ephapheni elisemthethweni lesihloko se-Borehole ukuze kugcinwe amarekhodi kanye nokuziphendulela.
- Ukuqala uphenyo olunzulu uma kwenzeka ukungalandeli imithetho yemvelo, ukuthola izimbangela eziyinhloko, kanye nokusebenzisa izinyathelo zokulungisa nezokuvimbela.

Ukuphathwa kahle kwe-drill core nakho kuyisici esibalulekile sokuvala. I-drill core etholakale ezindaweni ezivinjelwe imvelo izophathwa ngokulandela ngokuqinile imibandela yokugunyazwa kwemvelo. Kuye ngomongo wendawo, i-core ingase ibe noma yikuphi:

- Zilahlwe ezindaweni ezikhethiwe, ezivunyiwe ngemuva kokugawulwa kwezihlahla nokuthatha amasampula, noma
- Hlala endaweni lapho kuhlelwa khona imisebenzi yezimayini esikhathini esizayo ngaleyo ndlela, uma nje lokhu kungaphuli izidingo zemvelo noma zokuphepha.

4.3.1 Ukuvalwa Kwemigodi

Ukuvalwa kwemigodi yamanzi kuyisinyathelo esibalulekile ekuqinisekiseni ubuqotho nokuphepha kwezindawo zokumba, futhi kulawulwa yizinqubo ezithile zokunamathela ezindinganisweni zomthetho nezokuphepha. Njengengxenywe yale nqubo, iNkampani Yokumba inesibopho sokuvala imigodi yamanzi nokukhipha isitifiketi sokuvala kuSosayensi Yezinto Zomhlaba, okuqinisekisa ukuthi imigodi yamanzi ivalwe kahle. Ezindaweni lapho kungenzeka khona ukumbiwa komhlabathi ngaphansi komhlaba, kwenzeke, noma

kukhonjiswe yi-Environmental Risk Assessment, noma ngesicelo se- Isazi se-geology, imigodi yokubhoboza kumele ivalwe ngosimende kuze kufike kumitha eli-1 ukusuka ekhola. Lesi sinyathelo sokuqapha sisiza ukuvimbela izinkinga ezingaba khona ngaphansi komhlaba futhi siqinisekisa ukuzinza kwezakhiwo ze-geological ezizungezile.

Ukuqinisekisa ukuvumelana nokuhambisana nezinqubo ezimisiwe, ukuvalwa kwemigodi kulandela iziqondiso ezichazwe ku-SOP yomenzi wenkontileka. Ukunamathela kulezi zi-SOP kuqinisekisa ukuthi inqubo yokuvala iqhutshwa kahle nangendlela ephumelelayo, kunciphisa ingozi yokungcoliswa kwemvelo nokugcina ubuqotho bendawo yokubhoboza.

5 Inhloso Yokubhoboza Ukuhlola

Ukumba ukuhlola kumelela isigaba sokuqala esibalulekile enkambisweni yokuthuthukiswa kwemayini, eyenzelwe ukukhiqiza idatha enembile yejiyoloji ezosekela ukwenziwa kwezinqumo ezinolwazi. Loluhlelo luhloselwe ngqo ukubala amandla emithombo yamalahlwe yeSigaba sase-Albions North kanye nokusungula ukusebenza kobuchwepheshe kanye nomnotho kwemisebenzi yokumba yesikhathi esizayo.

Izinjongo ezibalulekile zokumba ukuhlola yilezi ezilandelayo:

- Ukuqinisekiswa Kwemithombo: Ukuqinisekisa ukuba khona, ukusatshalaliswa, kanye nokuqhubeka kwemigqa yamalahlwe ngaphakathi kwendawo okuqondiwe kuyo, ukuqinisekisa ukuthi imodeli yejiyoloji ibonisa izimo zangempela zendawo.
- Ukunqunywa Kwekhwalihi Nobuningi: Ukuthola ulwazi oluningiliziwe ngokujijya, ibanga, inani lama-calorie, kanye nezinye izici zomzimba nezamakhemikhali zamalahlwe. Lokhu kuvumela

ukuhlolwa kokubili ikhwalithi kanye nenani lamalahle angakhishwa ngokwezomnotho.

- Ukuqoqwa Kwedatha Engaphansi Komhlaba: Ukubuyisa amasampula aqhubekayo angaphakathi ukuze kuhlaziywe nge-geological, structure, kanye ne-mineralogical. Lezi zingodo ezingaphakathi zinikeza ukuqonda nge-stratigraphy, i-lithology, ukwakheka komthungo, kanye nezakhiwo ezingaba khona ze-geological (isb., amaphutha, ama-dykes, ukungena) okungase kuthonye ukumbiwa kwemigodi.
- Ukuhlela Izimayini Nokusekelwa Kokwenzeka: Ukukhiqiza ulwazi oluyisisekelo oludingekayo ukuklama, ukuhlela, kanye nokuhlela ukusebenza

kwezimayini. Idatha evela ekubholeni izokwazisa ngezifundo zokwenzeka, ukubikezela izindleko, kanye nokuhlolwa kwezingozi, ngaleyo ndlela kuncishiswe ukungaqiniseki ezinqumweni zokutshalwa kwezimali kweprojekthi.

- Ukuphathwa Kwezemvelo Nezingozi: Ukufaka isandla ekuboneni izinto ezicatshangelwayo ze-geohydrological kanye nezemvelo, njengokujula kwamanzi angaphansi komhlaba, ukugeleza kwamanzi angaphansi komhlaba, kanye nokusebenzisana okungenzeka nezinsiza zamanzi ezibucayi. Lokhu kuqonda kusekela ukuhlolwa kwezingozi zemvelo kanye nokuhambisana nezidingo zomthetho.



Figure 3-2: Exploration drilling process

6 Ukusetshenziswa Kwamanzi Okungaba Khona

NgokweSigaba 21 soMthetho Kazwelonke Wamanzi, 1998 (uMthetho No. 36 ka-1998), ukusetshenziswa kwamanzi okungase kuqalwe ukumba ukuhlola kufaka phakathi:

- Isigaba 21(c): Ukuvimbela noma ukuphambukisa ukugeleza kwamanzi emzileni wamanzi.

- Isigaba 21(i): Ukushintsha umbhede, amabhange, umzila noma izici zomzila wamanzi.

Ithebula 3-1: S21 (c & i) Indawo yemigodi

| Inkomba Yemigodi Engaphansi Kwemigodi | Igama Lepulazi | Ingxenye | Ikhodi ye-SG | Ama-Coordinates | |
|---|-------------------|----------|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| | | | | I-Latitude | I-Longitude |
| MD82036 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | T0IS00000000004200000 | 26° 9' 1.702" S | 29° 16' 52.614" E |
| MD82037 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | T0IS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 55.105" S | 29° 16' 56.088" E |
| MD82038 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | T0IS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 47.055" S | 29° 17' 0.364" E |
| MD82039 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | T0IS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 47.072" S | 29° 16' 51.491" E |
| MD82040 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | T0IS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 39.528" S | 29° 16' 54.254" E |
| MD82041 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | T0IS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 35.152" S | 29° 16' 39.010" E |
| MD82042 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | T0IS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 30.124" S | 29° 16' 30.188" E |
| MD82043 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | T0IS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 27.983" S | 29° 16' 19.489" E |
| MD82044 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | T0IS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 20.658" S | 29° 16' 25.663" E |
| MD82045 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | T0IS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 26.969" S | 29° 16' 44.801" E |
| MD82046 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | T0IS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 19.654" S | 29° 16' 43.276" E |
| MD82047 | Middeldrift 42 IS | 15/42 | T0IS00000000004200015 | 26° 8' 19.272" S | 29° 16' 51.443" E |
| MD82048 | Middeldrift 42 IS | 15/42 | T0IS00000000004200015 | 26° 8' 16.275" S | 29° 16' 47.948" E |
| MD82049 | Middeldrift 42 IS | 15/42 | T0IS00000000004200015 | 26° 8' 12.756" S | 29° 16' 57.233" E |
| MD82050 | Middeldrift 42 IS | 15/42 | T0IS00000000004200015 | 26° 8' 5.451" S | 29° 16' 59.952" E |
| MD82051 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | T0IS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 13.796" S | 29° 16' 25.813" E |
| MD82052 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | T0IS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 13.810" S | 29° 16' 18.641" E |
| MD82053 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | T0IS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 2.247" S | 29° 16' 34.936" E |
| MD82054 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | T0IS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 6.623" S | 29° 16' 12.709" E |
| MD82055 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | T0IS00000000004200000 | 26° 7' 54.782" S | 29° 16' 5.700" E |
| MD82056 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | T0IS00000000004200000 | 26° 7' 54.763" S | 29° 16' 16.250" E |
| MD82057 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | T0IS00000000004200000 | 26° 7' 47.067" S | 29° 16' 20.227" E |

Kuzolungiswa i-matrix yokuhlola ubungozi ngokuhambisana ne-GN 509 ka-2016, kucatshangelwa:

- Uhlobo, ubukhulu kanye nobude bemisebenzi ehlongozwayo.
- Izingozi ezingaba khona ekhwalithini yezinsiza kanye nezinyathelo zokunciphisa.

- Isimo Semvelo Samanje (i-PES) kanye Nokubaluleka Nokuzwela Kwemvelo (i-EIS) kwemisele yamanzi endaweni yephrojekthi.

Le nqubo iqinisekisa ukuthi yonke imiphumela engaba khona, kungaba emihle noma emibi, iyahlolwa futhi iphathwe ngempumelelo.

7 Uhlaka Lomthetho

Imisebenzi yokumba ehlongozwayo ye-MMS iwela ngaphansi kohlaka lomthetho loMthetho Kazwelonke Wamanzi, ka-1998 (uMthetho No. 36 ka-1998), umthetho oyinhloko ngaphansi kwegunya le-DWS. I-NWA ihlose ukuqinisekisa ukuthi imithombo yamanzi yesizwe ivikelwe, isetshenziswa, ithuthukiswe, ilondolozwe, iphathwa, futhi ilawulwa ngezindlela ezikhuthaza intuthuko yezenhlalo nezomnotho elinganayo neqhubekayo.

7.1 Izidingo Zomthetho Osebenzayo kanye Nemvume

Ngokwe-NWA, noma yimuphi umsebenzi ongakwazi ukuphazamisa noma ukuphambukisa ukugeleza kwamanzi emfuleni wamanzi noma ukuguqula umbhede, amabhange, umzila, noma izici zomzila wamanzi uhlanganisa ukusetshenziswa kwamanzi njengoba kuchaziwe kuSigaba 21(c) kanye neSigaba 21(i) soMthetho.

Ukumba okuhlongozwayo kwemigodi yokucwaninga engu-22 eNgxenyeni 15 kanye neNgxenyeni Esole yeNgxenyeni 0 yeFarm Middeldrift 42 IS, ngaphakathi kweSigaba sase-Albion North, kuqalisa lokhu kusetshenziswa kwamanzi okubili njengoba eminye imigodi itholakala ngaphakathi kwamamitha angu-500 ezindawo ezizimane ezichazwe kahle kanye nezici zokukhipha amanzi.

Ngokunjalo, iSeriti Power, nge-MMS, iyadingeka ukuthola imvume evela ku-DWS ngaphambi kokuqala noma yimiphi imisebenzi enjalo. Njengoba kunesilinganiso esilinganiselwe, isimo sesikhashana, kanye nengozi ephansi yemvelo ehlobene nohlelo lokumba oluhlongozwayo, isicelo siyafaneleka ukucatshangelwa ngaphansi kweMvume Ejwayelekile (GA) kunelayisensi Yokusebenzisa Amanzi ephelele (WUL).

7.2 Imvume Ejwayelekile (GN 509 ka-2016)

I-GA yeSigaba 21(c) kanye (i) sokusetshenziswa kwamanzi, eshicilelwe ngaphansi kweSaziso Sikahulumeni No. 509 sika-2016 (njengoba sichitshiyelwe), ivumela ukusetshenziswa kwamanzi okuthile okunengozi encane ukuthi kuqhubekwe ngaphandle kwesidingo se-WUL ephelele, uma nje umsebenzi:

- Ingena ngaphansi kobubanzi kanye nemingcele echazwe ku-GN 509 ka-2016;
- Isekelwa yi-General Authorisation Technical Report ekhombisa ukuthobela imibandela ebekwe nguNgqongqoshe; futhi
- Ayibeki ingozi enkulu kwikwalithi yemithombo yamanzi, ubuqotho bezinto eziphilayo, noma abasebenzisi abangaphansi komfula. The GA Technical Report for the MMS exploration drilling project has been compiled in accordance with these requirements and includes:

Ukuhlonza kanye nokuhlela imephu yemizila yamanzi ngaphakathi kwendawo yephrojekthi;

- Ukuhlolwa kwemiphumela engaba khona yemisebenzi yokumba emithonjeni engaphezulu nangaphansi komhlaba;
- Ukuthuthukiswa kwezinyathelo zokunciphisa nokuphatha ukuvimbela ukungcola noma ukuphazamiseka kwemizila yamanzi; kanye
- Ukubhalwa kweMibhalo yeNqubo Yokubamba Iqhaza Komphakathi (PPP) eqhutshwa ngokuhambisana neSigaba 41(4) se-NWA..

7.3 Ukuthobela Iziqondiso Zokulawula ze-DWS

I-DWS iyigunya elifanele lokucatshangelwa nokuvunyelwa kwesicelo se-GA. Zonke iziphakamiso, okuhlanganisa noMbiko Wobuchwepheshe Wokugunyazwa Okujwayelekile, izaziso zendawo, izaziso zomnikazi womhlaba, kanye noMbiko Wezimvo Nezimpendulo (i-CRR), zizofakwa ehovisi lesifunda le-DWS elifanele.

I-Niara Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd, esebenza egameni le-Seriti Power, iqinisekisa ukuthi yonke imisebenzi ehlobene nalesi sicelo se-GA yenziwa ngokuhambisana ne-:

- UMthetho Kazwelonke Wamanzi, ka-1998 (Umthetho No. 36 ka-1998);
- Isaziso Sikahulumeni No. 509 sika-2016, njengoba sichitshiyelwe;
- Iziqondiso Zokugunyazwa Okujwayelekile ze-DWS (2016); kanye
- I-DWS Risk Assessment Matrix (2015), esetshenziselwa ukuhlola ukubaluleka kwemithelela engaba khona.

7.4 Ukulungiswa Kwemithetho Okuhlobene

Nakuba i-DWS iyigunya eliyinhloko lalokhu kugunyazwa, le phrojekthi iphinde ihambisane nohlaka olubanzi lwemithetho yezemvelo, okuhlanganisa:

- UMthetho Kazwelonke Wokuphathwa Kwemvelo, ka-1998 (Umthetho No. 107 ka-1998): ohlinzeka ngezimiso zokuphathwa kwemvelo ezibanzi ezisebenza kuzo zonke izigunyazo; kanye
- UMthetho Kazwelonke Wokuphathwa Kwemvelo: Udoti, ka-2008 (Umthetho No. 59 ka-2008): usebenza kuphela uma ulawula ukuphathwa kwemfucuzo ngesikhathi sokumba (isb., ukulahlwa kodaka lokumba kanye nemfucuzo yasekhaya)

Kodwa-ke, akukho mvume ehlukile yezemvelo edingekayo kulesi sigaba, njengoba umsebenzi ohlongozwayo ulinganiselwe futhi ungaphansi kwamandla e-DWS ngaphansi kohlaka Lokugunyazwa Okujwayelekile.

8 Umbiko Wezobuchwepheshe Wokugunyazwa Okuvamile

Umbiko Wezobuchwepheshe we-GA usebenza njengombhalo osekelayo ohambisana nesicelo esithunyelwe ngokweSigaba 39 soMthetho Kazwelonke Wamanzi, 1998 (uMthetho No. 36 ka-1998). Inhloso yawo eyinhloko ukunikeza uMnyango Wezamanzi Nokuhlazeka (i-DWS) ulwazi olwanele lobuchwepheshe nolwezemvelo ukuze kuvunyelwe isinqumo esinolwazi sokuthi umsebenzi

ohlongozwayo ungagunyazwa yini ngaphansi kwezinhlinzeko Zogunyazo Olujwayelekile, kunokuba kudingeke iLayisensi Yokusetshenziswa Kwamanzi ephelele (i-WUL).

Umbiko ubonisa ukuthi ukusetshenziswa kwamanzi okuhlongozwayo, ngokuvamile iSigaba 21(c) (ukuvimbela noma ukuphambukisa ukugeleza kwamanzi emfuleni wamanzi) kanye neSigaba 21(i) (ukushintsha umbhede, amabhange, umzila, noma izici zomzila wamanzi), kuncane kakhulu futhi kuyingozi encane, uma nje izinyathelo zokunciphisa nokuphatha zisetshenziswa kahle.

Ngokukhethekile, uMbiko Wobuchwepheshe Wokugunyazwa Okujwayelekile uhlose:

- Chaza uhlobo, inhloso, kanye nendawo yomsebenzi ohlongozwayo;
- Khomba futhi udwebe imephu yemifudlana yamanzi kanye nezindawo ezingase zithinteki;
- Hlola izingozi ezingaba khona zemvelo ezihlobene nokusetshenziswa kwamanzi okuhlongozwayo;
- Veza izindlela zokunciphisa nokuphatha ukuvimbela noma ukunciphisa imiphumela emithonjeni yamanzi;
- Khombisa ukuthobela iSaziso Sikahulumeni No. 509 sika-2016, esichaza izidingo nemibandela yezigunyazo ezijwayelekile; kanye
- Nikeza ubufakazi besaziso sabathintekayo kanye nokubamba iqhaza komphakathi, njengoba kudingeka ngaphansi kweSigaba 41(4) soMthetho.

Ngamafuphi, uMbiko Wezobuchwepheshe we-GA unikeza isisekelo sesayensi, sezomthetho, nesenqubo se-DWS ukunquma ukuthi umsebenzi ohlongozwayo uyafaneleka yini ukugunyazwa ngaphansi kohlaka Logunyazo Olujwayelekile, ukuqinisekisa ukuthi ukuvikelwa kwemithombo yamanzi, ukusimama, kanye nokuhambisana nemithetho kuyagcinwa..

9 Inqubo Yokubamba Iqhaza Komphakathi

Ngokuhambisana neSigaba 41(4) soMthetho Kazwelonke Wamanzi, 1998 (uMthetho No. 36 ka-1998) kanye neZiqondiso Zokugunyazwa Okujwayelekile ze-DWS (Isaziso Sikahulumeni No. 509 sika-2016), kwenziwa i-PPP ukuqinisekisa ukuthi bonke abantu abathintekayo nabathintekayo bayazisiwe ngeSicelo se-GA esihlongozwayo futhi banikezwa ithuba lokuthumela imibono.

I-PPP iklanyelwe ukukhuthaza ukucaca, ukubandakanya, kanye nokuzibandakanya okunenjongo kwababambiqhaza, ngokuhambisana nezidingo zomthetho kazwelonke kanye nezimiso zokuziphatha okuhle..

- Isinyathelo 1: Ukulungiswa Kwesizindalwazi Sababambiqhaza
 - Khomba futhi uhlanganise uhlu lwabantu abanentshisekelo nabathintekayo (ama-I&AP), okuhlanganisa abanikazi bomhlaba, abahlali abasemthethweni, amakhansela amawadi, iziphathimandla zendabuko, iminyango kamasipala, kanye nezinhlaka zikahulumeni ezifanele..
- Isinyathelo 2: Ukulungiswa Kwezinto Zokwazisa

- Thuthukisa i-BID efingqa inhloso yeprojekthi, indawo, kanye nemiphumela engaba khona.
- Lungisa izaziso zendawo (ezibhalwe ngezilimi ezimbili), izincwadi zomnikazi wendawo, kanye nezikhangiso zamaphephandaba ngokuhambisana nezidingo ze-DWS.
- Isinyathelo 3: Ukubekwa Kwezaziso Zesiza
 - Bonisa izaziso zesayithi le-A2 elibekwe phezu kwe-laminate ezindaweni ezibonakalayo, ezifinyeleleka emphakathini ngaphakathi naseduze kwendawo yeprojekthi (isb., amasango epulazi, izinkundla zokuxhumana, amabhodi omphakathi).
 - Qopha izixhumanisi ze-GPS, izithombe, kanye nezinsuku zokubekwa ukuze uthole ubufakazi bokuthobela imithetho..
- Isinyathelo 4: Ukusatshalaliswa Kwezaziso Ezibhaliwe
 - Thumela izaziso ezibhaliwe ezisemthethweni kanye nama-BID kubabambiqhaza abahlonziwe kanye nezinhloko zikahulumeni (i-DWS, i-DARDLEA, i-DRDLR, i-Nkangala DM, i-eMalahleni LM, njll.).
 - Faka inombolo yereferensi yeprojekthi, isikhathi sokuphawula, kanye nemininingwane yokuxhumana ukuze kuthunyelwe..
- Isinyathelo 5: Isikhangiso Sephephandaba
 - Shicilela izaziso somphakathi okungenani ephephandabeni elilodwa lendawo elisakazwa endaweni yeprojekthi ukuqinisekisa ukuthi kufinyelelwa kabanzi kubabambiqhaza.
- Isinyathelo 6: Ukuqala Kwesikhathi Sokuphawula Sezinsuku Ezingama-30
 - Vula isikhathi sokubuyezwa okungenani sezinsuku ezingu-30 (njengokweSigaba 41(4) se-NWA).
 - Yenza uMbiko Wezobuchwepheshe we-GA utholakale (nge-elektroniki kanye/noma ikhophi ephrintiwe) ukuze umphakathi uwubukeze kusukela ngosuku lokuqala kwesikhathi sokuphawula.
- Isinyathelo 7: Ukubhaliswa kwama-I&AP
 - Bhalisa bonke abantu abaphendula, abaphawulayo, noma abacela ulwazi ngesikhathi sokubuyezwa.
 - Gcina iRejista Yababambiqhaza enamagama, imininingwane yokuxhumana, kanye nezigaba zentshisekelo.
- Isinyathelo 8: Ukwamukelwa Nokuphawula Kwemibono

Qoqa imibono ebhaliwe, imibuzo, kanye nokuphikisa okulethwe phakathi nenkathi yezinsuku ezingu-30.

- Vuma ukuthi uthole imibono futhi ucacise izinkinga lapho kudingeka khona.
- Isinyathelo 9: Ukuhlanganiswa kwe-CRR
 - Thwebula yonke imibono njengoba injalo bese unikeza izimpendulo ezivela kumfakisicelo noma ku-EAP.
 - Faka i-CRR ekuthunyelweni kokugcina kwe-GA ku-DWS njengobufakazi bokubandakanyeka kwabathintekayo.
- Isinyathelo 10: Ukuthumela ku-DWS
 - Thumela iphakheji ephelele yesicelo se-GA, okuhlanganisa noMbiko Wezobuchwepheshe we-GA, ubufakazi bezaziso nezikhangiso, iRejista Yababambiqhaza, kanye ne-CRR, eHhovisi Lesifunda le-DWS ukuze libuyezwe.



- Isinyathelo 11: Ukuxhumana Ngemva Kokuthumela

- Yazisa bonke ababhalisile abathintekayo nabathintekayo ukuthi isicelo sesithunyelwe ku-DWS nokuthi umnyango uzothatha isinqumo sokugcina.

Izinhloso ezibalulekile ze-PPP uku:

- Yazisa ababambiqhaza kanye nemiphakathi ezungezile ngemisebenzi yokumba ehlongozwayo yokuhlola;
- Nikeza ulwazi olutholakala kalula ngohlobo kanye nenhloso yephrojekthi, imiphumela engaba khona kwezemvelo, kanye nenqubo yokulawula;
- Nika ama-I&AP ithuba lokubhalisa, ukuphakamisa ukukhathazeka, noma ukunikeza imibono; kanye

- Bhala phansi yonke imizamo yokubandakanya ababambiqhaza eMbikweni Wemibono Nezimpendulo (CRR) ozothunyelwa ku-DWS njengengxenywe yesicelo sokugcina se-GA.

10 Ukutholakala Kombiko

Umbiko Wezobuchwepheshe we-GA uzotholakala ukuze ubuyekezwe umphakathi kanye nesikhathi sokuphawula sezinsuku ezingu-30, kusukela ngoLwesine, mhla ziyi-**13 kuLwezi 2025** bese uvala ngoMsombuluko, mhla ziyi-**15 kuZibandlela 2025**. Phakathi nalesi sikhathi, ama-I&AP ayamenywa ukuthi abukeze umbiko futhi athumele imibono ebhaliwe, imibuzo, noma iziphikiso ku-Niara Environmental Consultants besebenzisa imininingwane yokuxhumana enikezwe kuSigaba 8 sale BID.

11 Umthwalo Wakho Wemfanelo

Njengomuntu othintekayo, uyakhuthazwa ukuthi ubuyekeze ulwazi olunikeziwe futhi unikele ngenkuthalo enqubweni yesicelo. Uyamenywa ukuthi uhlole amadokhumenti, ubuze imibuzo uma kuvela ukungaqiniseki, futhi uthumele imibono noma ukukhathazeka kwakho okusemthethweni ngesikhathi sokuphawula esibekiwe. Ukuze uqhubeke nokuthola izibuyekezo nezaziso eziqondile mayelana nenqubekela phambili nemiphumela yeprojekthi, kuyalulekwa ukuthi ubhalise njengoMuntu Onesithakazelo Nothintekayo. Ukuqonda kwakho, ulwazi, kanye nempendulo kubalulekile ekuqinisekiseni ukuthi inqubo yokuvumela ihlala ivulekile, iphendula, futhi ihambisana nezinto eziza kuqala emphakathini kanye nezemvelo.



12 Amazwana kanye nemibuzo

Imibono/imibono yakho mayelana nephrojekthi ehlongozwayo iwusizo. Ukuze kube lula kuwe, ukubhalisa kanye/noma iphepha lokuphawula lifakwe kulo mbhalo. Uma ufisa ukubhaliswa njenge-I&AP, ukuze uthole ulwazi olwengeziwe noma ukuphawula

ngephrojekthi ehlongozwayo, sicela usebenzise imininingwane yokuxhumana engezansi, usebenzisa inombolo yereferensi ye-Niara **SER17**.

Umuntu othintwayo: UNksz Vumile Ribeiro
Ucingo: +27 66 526 5099
I-imeyili: stakeholder@niara.co.za
Ikheli Leposi: Office 1 Palm Place Office Park, 22 Bram Fischer Drive, Linden, Johannesburg, 2195

Ukuze uqinisekise ukuthi uhlonzwa njengomuntu onentshisekelo kanye/noma othintekayo, sicela uthumele igama lakho, imininingwane yokuxhumana kanye nentshisekelo yakho kuphrojekthi kumuntu oxhumana naye okungcono zingakapheli izinsuku ezingama-30 kusukela uthole le dokhumenti.

13 November 2025

NOTIFICATION LETTER

MIDDELBURG MINE SERVICES (MMS) GENERAL AUTHORISATION FOR THE DRILLING OF EXPLORATION BOREHOLES FOR RESOURCE QUANTIFICATION ON PORTIONS 15 & THE REMAINING EXTENT OF PORTION 0 OF THE FARM MIDDELDRIFT 42 IS, NEAR MIDDELBURG, IN THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCE (WU47590)

Dear Stakeholder,

Notice is hereby given in terms of Section 41(4) of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998), that Middelburg Mine Services (MMS), a subsidiary of Seriti Power (Pty) Ltd, intends to apply for a General Authorisation (GA) to undertake exploration drilling activities for coal resource quantification purposes within the Albion North Section, located in Ward 32 of the eMalahleni Local Municipality, under the Nkangala District Municipality, Mpumalanga Province.

The proposed project involves the drilling of approximately 22 exploration boreholes on Portions 15 and the Remaining Extent (RE) of Portion 0 of the Farm Middeldrift 42 IS, situated approximately 10 km northwest of eMalahleni (Witbank) and accessible via the R547 regional road. The purpose of the drilling is to confirm the quantity, quality, and distribution of coal resources within the existing MMS Mining Right Area.

In terms of Section 21(c) and 21(i) of the National Water Act, the proposed drilling activities may involve the following water uses:

- Section 21(c): Impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse; and
- Section 21(i): Altering the bed, banks, course, or characteristics of a watercourse.

A Technical Report supporting the GA Application has been compiled in accordance with Government Notice 509 of 2016 and relevant Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) guidelines.

The overall objectives of the proposed MMS Project include:

- Resource Assessment: Determine the quantity, quality, and distribution of mineral resources within the designated area.
- Geological Understanding: Gain insights into the geological characteristics, stratigraphy, and structure of the subsurface to understand the resource formation and distribution.
- Risk Mitigation: Identify potential geological hazards, such as unstable formations or igneous intrusions, to mitigate risks associated with future mining operations.

- **Regulatory Compliance:** Ensure compliance with local, national, and international regulations governing mineral exploration and environmental protection.

It is a requirement that Niara comply with the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act No. 4 of 2013) (POPI Act) which took effect on 01 July 2021. The POPI Act sets out the minimum standards regarding accessing and 'processing' of any personal information belonging to another.

AVAILABILITY OF THE REPORT

The national South African Regulatory Framework requires a Public Participation Process (PPP) to be undertaken as part of an Environmental Authorisation application. A PPP involves notifying stakeholders of the proposed project and provides Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) with enough information to enable effective engagement. To satisfy the requirements of Regulations 40 through 44 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), this notification letter serves to inform you as a potential I&AP of the proposed project, the associated Environmental Authorisation process and the availability of the Draft GA Technical Report for public review.

Niara hereby informs all Interested and Affected Parties that the Technical Report in support of the General Authorisation will be made available for public review and comment from 13th November 2025 until 15 December 2025 (30 days public review period) at the following locations:

| Location | Contact person |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| Niara website: www.niara.co.za under 'Downloads' | Mrs Vumile Ribeiro (+27 66 526 5099) |

Virtual stakeholder engagement meetings using online video conferencing tools such as Microsoft Teams, Skype and Zoom will be used to engage with stakeholders for online discussions if required. The purpose of these engagements is to discuss the proposed Project, the Draft GA Technical Report, potential impacts and mitigation measures. Stakeholders will also be provided with an opportunity to engage with the project team and raise their issues of concern.

COMMENTS AND QUERIES

Your comments/ inputs regarding the proposed project are valuable. For your convenience, a comment sheet is appended to this document. Please complete and return the attached registration and comment form to Niara if you wish to register as a stakeholder, as well as indicate your interest in receiving further information regarding the Environmental Authorisation process. Your comments and feedback are highly valued.

You may direct any queries using the contact details below, using the Niara reference number SER17:

Contact person: Mrs Vumile Ribeiro **Telephone:** +27 66 526 5099
Email: stakeholder@niara.co.za
Postal Address: Office 1 Palm Place Office Park, 22 Bram Fischer Drive, Linden, Johannesburg, 2195

INCWADI YESAZISO

IMVUME EJWAYELEKILE YEMIGODI YASE-MIDDELBURG (MMS) YOKUMBIWA KWEMIGODI YOKUHLOLA UKUTHOLA UKULINGANISWA KWEMITHOMBO EZINGXENYENI 15 NESIGABA ESISELE SENGXENYE 0 YEPULAZI I-MIDDELDRIFT 42, EDUZE KWE-MIDDELBURG, ESIFUNDAZWENI SASE-MPUMALANGA (WU47590)

Mhlanganyeli Othandekayo,

Isaziso sinikezwa ngokweSigaba 41(4) soMthetho Kazwelonke Wamanzi, ka-1998 (uMthetho No. 36 ka-1998), sokuthi iMiddelburg Mine Services (MMS), inkampani engaphansi kweSeriti Power (Pty) Ltd, ihlose ukufaka isicelo seMvume Ejwayelekile (GA) yokwenza imisebenzi yokumba ukuhlola ngenhloso yokulinganisa izinsiza zamalahle ngaphakathi kweSigaba sase-Albion North, esitholakala kuWadi 32 kuMasipala Wendawo waseMalahleni, ngaphansi koMasipala Wesifunda saseNkangala, eSifundazweni saseMpumalanga.

Iphrojekthi ehlongozwayo ihilela ukumba amabhomu okuhlola angaba ngu-22 eZigabeni 15 kanye neNgxenye Esele (RE) yeSigaba 0 sePulazi iMiddeldrift 42 IS, etholakala cishe ngamakhilomitha ayi-10 enyakatho-ntshonalanga yeMalahleni (Witbank) futhi efinyeleleka ngomgwaqo wesifunda i-R547. Inhloso yokumba ukuqinisekisa ubuningi, ikhwalithi, kanye nokusatshalaliswa kwezinsiza zamalahle ngaphakathi kweNdawo Yokuvukuza ye-MMS ekhona.

NgokweSigaba 21(c) kanye no-21(i) soMthetho Kazwelonke Wamanzi, imisebenzi yokumba ehlongozwayo ingase ihilele ukusetshenziswa kwamanzi okulandelayo:

- Isigaba 21(c): Ukuvimbela noma ukuphambukisa ukugeleza kwamanzi emzileni wamanzi; kanye
- Isigaba 21(i): Ukushintsha umbhede, amabhange, umzila, noma izici zomzila wamanzi.

Umbiko Wobuchwepheshe osekela Isicelo se-GA uhlanganiswe ngokuhambisana neSaziso Sikahulumeni 509 sika-2016 kanye neziqondiso zoMnyango Wezamanzi Nokuhlazeka (i-DWS) ezifanele.

Izinhloso eziphelele zeProjekthi ye-MMS ehlongozwayo zifaka phakathi:

- Ukuhlolwa Kwezinsizakusebenza: Nquma inani, ikhwalithi, kanye nokusatshalaliswa kwezinsizakusebenza zezimbiwa ngaphakathi kwendawo eqokiwe.
- Ukuqonda Kwezinto Eziphilayo: Thola ukuqonda ngezici zezinto eziphilayo, i-stratigraphy, kanye nesakhiwo sendawo engaphansi komhlaba ukuze uqonde ukwakheka nokusatshalaliswa kwezinsizakusebenza.
- Ukunciphisa Ingozi: Thola izingozi ezingaba khona zezinto eziphilayo, njengokwakheka okungazinzile noma ukungena kwe-igneous, ukuze kuncishiswe izingozi ezihlobene nemisebenzi yezimayini yesikhathi esizayo.

- Ukuthobela Imithetho: Qinisekisa ukuhambisana nemithethonqubo yendawo, kazwelonke, kanye neyamazwe ngamazwe elawula ukuhlolwa kwezimbiwa kanye nokuvikelwa kwemvelo.

Kuyimfuneko ukuthi iNiara ihambisane noMthetho Wokuvikelwa Kolwazi Lomuntu Siqu, 2013 (uMthetho No. 4 ka-2013) (uMthetho we-POPI) owaqala ukusebenza ngomhlaka-01 Julayi 2021. UMthetho we-POPI ubeka amazinga aphantsi maqondana nokufinyelela kanye 'nokucutshungulwa' kwanoma yiluphi ulwazi lomuntu siqu olungolunye.

UKUTHOLAKALA KOMBIKO

Uhlaka Lokulawula lukazwelonke lwaseNingizimu Afrika ludinga ukuthi kwenziwe Inqubo Yokubamba Iqhaza Komphakathi (i-PPP) njengengxenye yesicelo Sokugunyazwa Kwezemvelo. I-PPP ihlela ukwazisa abathintekayo ngephrojekthi ehlongozwayo futhi ihlinzeka Abantu Abanentshisekelo Nabathintekayo (ama-I&AP) ngolwazi olwanele ukuze kube nokuzibandakanya okuphumelelayo. Ukuze kuhlantshezwane nezidingo zeMithethonqubo 40 kuya ku-44 yeMithethonqubo ye-NEMA EIA, 2014 (njengoba ichitshiyelwe), le ncwadi yesaziso ihlose ukukwazisa njengomuntu ongaba yi-I&AP ngephrojekthi ehlongozwayo, inqubo Yokugunyazwa Kwezemvelo ehambisanayo kanye nokutholakala koMbiko Wobuchwepheshe we-GA ohlongozwayo ukuze ubuyekwezwe umphakathi.

I-Niara yazisa bonke Abantu Abanentshisekelo Nabathintekayo ukuthi uMbiko Wobuchwepheshe osekela Ukugunyazwa Okujwayelekile uzokwenziwa utholakale ukuze ubuyekwezwe umphakathi futhi kuphawulwe kusukela mhla ziyi-13 kuNovemba 2025 kuze kube ngumhla ziyi-15 kuDisemba 2025 (isikhathi sokubuyekwezwa komphakathi sezinsuku ezingama-30) ezindaweni ezilandelayo:

| Indawo | Umuntu Othintwayo |
|---|--|
| Iwebhusayithi ye-Niara: www.niara.co.za ngaphansi kuka 'Downloads' | UNksz Vumile Ribeiro (+27 66 526 5099) |

Imihlangano yokubandakanya abathintekayo nge-inthanethi esebenzisa amathuluzi okuhlangana ngevidiyo aku-inthanethi njengeMicrosoft Teams, Skype kanye ne-Zoom izosetshenziselwa ukubandakanya abathintekayo ezingxoxweni eziku-inthanethi uma kudingeka. Inhloso yalokhu kukhumana ukuxoxa ngeProjekthi ehlongozwayo, uMbiko Wezobuchwepheshe we-GA Owuhlaka, imiphumela engaba khona kanye nezinyathelo zokunciphisa. Abathintekayo bazophinde banikezwe ithuba lokuxhumana nethimba lephrojekthi futhi baveze izinkinga zabo ezibakhathazayo.

IMIBONO NEMIBUZO

Imibono/imibono yakho mayelana nephrojekthi ehlongozwayo iwusizo. Ukuze kube lula kuwe, kufakwe iphepha lokuphawula kulo mbhalo. Sicela ugcalise bese ubuyisela ifomu lokubhalisa nelokuphawula elinamathiselwe ku-Niara uma ufisa ukubhalisa njengomuntu othintekayo, kanye nokukhombisa intshisekelo yakho yokuthola ulwazi olwengeziwe mayelana nenqubo Yokugunyazwa Kwemvelo. Imibono yakho kanye nempendulo yakho kuyaziswa kakhulu.

Ungathumela noma yimiphi imibuzo usebenzisa imininingwane yokuxhumana engezansi, usebenzisa inombolo yereferensi ye-Niara SER17:

Umuntu othintwayo: UNksz Vumile Ribeiro

Ucingo: +27 66 526 5099

I-meyili: stakeholder@niara.co.za

Ikheli Leposi: Office 1 Palm Place Office Park, 22 Bram Fischer Drive, Linden, Johannesburg, 2195

13 November 2025

POPI ACT CONSENT LETTER

MIDDELBURG MINE SERVICES (MMS) GENERAL AUTHORISATION FOR THE DRILLING OF EXPLORATION BOREHOLES FOR RESOURCE QUANTIFICATION ON PORTIONS 15 & THE REMAINING EXTENT OF PORTION 0 OF THE FARM MIDDELDRIFT 42 IS, NEAR MIDDELBURG, IN THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCE (WU47590)

Dear Stakeholder,

Seriti Power (Pty) Ltd ("Seriti") has appointed Niara Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd ("Niara") to compile a General Authorisation (GA) application for the drilling of exploration boreholes. The purpose of this work is to increase confidence in the existing geological model by assessing the quantity, quality, and distribution of coal resources, as well as understanding the geological characteristics, stratigraphy, and structure of the subsurface.

A total of 22 exploration boreholes are proposed, located within 500 metres of several wetlands on Portions 15 and the Remaining Extent of Portion 0 of the Farm Middeldrift 42 IS, near Middelburg in the Mpumalanga Province.

Middelburg Mine Services (MMS), owned and operated by Seriti, seeks to drill these boreholes in order to quantify the mineral resource potential within an area where mining rights have already been granted, but where detailed resource data remains outstanding. Through systematic drilling and analysis of core samples, the project aims to generate reliable data to support informed decision-making regarding future mining operations.

The overall objectives of the proposed MMS Project include:

- **Resource Assessment:** Determine the quantity, quality, and distribution of mineral resources within the designated area.
- **Geological Understanding:** Gain insights into the geological characteristics, stratigraphy, and structure of the subsurface to understand the resource formation and distribution.
- **Risk Mitigation:** Identify potential geological hazards, such as unstable formations or igneous intrusions, to mitigate risks associated with future mining operations.
- **Regulatory Compliance:** Ensure compliance with local, national, and international regulations governing mineral exploration and environmental protection.
- It is a requirement that Niara comply with the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act No. 4 of 2013) (POPI Act) which took effect on 01 July 2021. The POPI Act sets out the minimum standards regarding accessing and 'processing' of any personal information belonging to another.

In terms of the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act No. 4 of 2013) ("POPI Act"), which came into effect on 1 July 2021, Niara is required to uphold the highest standards for accessing, processing, and safeguarding personal information.

All Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) who register for this project will be included in a Stakeholder Database maintained by Niara. In accordance with regulatory requirements, all comments received from I&APs will be captured in a Comments and Response Report (CRR), which includes names and contact details, and will form part of the documentation submitted to the Competent Authority (CA) for decision-making purposes.

By registering as an I&AP, you hereby grant consent for Niara to use your personal information solely for the purposes of this project and in line with the requirements of the POPI Act.

Consent Declaration

By signing the consent form below, I acknowledge and agree that:

- I am aware of my right to privacy and the lawful processing of my personal information.
- I consent to Niara collecting, processing, and storing my personal information solely for the purposes of this project.
- I consent to Niara keeping my personal information up to date.
- I understand that I may request access to review and verify the accuracy of my personal information held by Niara.
- I confirm that the information provided below is submitted voluntarily and without coercion.

All parties undertake to comply with the POPI Act and to process personal data only for the purposes outlined above.

SIGNATORIES

| Interested and Affected Person | | | |
|--------------------------------|--|-----------------|--|
| Name: | | Surname: | |
| Contact Number: | | Date: | |
| Email Address: | | | |
| Signature: | | | |

Should you wish to withdraw your consent for Niara to retain or use your contact information, please notify us in writing using the contact details below:

Reference number: SER17
Contact person: Mrs Vumile Ribeiro
Telephone: +27 66 526 5099
Email: stakeholder@niara.co.za
Postal Address: Office 1 Palm Place Office Park, 22 Bram Fischer Drive, Linden, Johannesburg, 2195

INCWADI YEMVUME YE-POPI ACT

IMVUME EJWAYELEKILE YEMIGODI YASE-MIDDELBURG (MMS) YOKUMBIWA KWEMIGODI YOKUHLOLA UKUTHOLA UKULINGANISWA KWEMITHOMBO EZINGXENYENI 15 NESIGABA ESISELE SENGXENYE 0 YEPULAZI I-MIDDELDRIFT 42, EDUZE KWE-MIDDELBURG, ESIFUNDAZWENI SASE-MPUMALANGA(WU47590)

Mhlanganyeli Othandekayo,

I-Seriti Power (Pty) Ltd (“Seriti”) iqoke i-Niara Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd (“Niara”) ukuthi ihlanganise isicelo se-General Authorisation (GA) sokumba ama-borehole okuhlola. Inhloso yalo msebenzi ukwandisa ukuzethemba kumodeli we-geological okhona ngokuhlola ubuningi, ikhwalithi, kanye nokusatshalaliswa kwezinsiza zamalahle, kanye nokuqonda izici ze-geological, i-stratigraphy, kanye nesakhiwo se-subsurface.

Kuphakanyiswe ama-borehole okuhlola angu-22, atholakala ngaphakathi kwamamitha angu-500 ukusuka emanzini amaningana ezingxenyeni ezingu-15 kanye neNgxenywe Esole yeNgxenywe 0 yePulazi iMiddeldrift 42 IS, eduze neMiddelburg eSifundazweni saseMpumalanga.

I-Middelburg Mine Services (MMS), ephethwe futhi iqhutshwa yiSeriti, ihlose ukumba la ma-borehole ukuze ilinganise amandla ezinsiza zezimbiwa endaweni lapho amalungelo okumba asevele enikeziwe, kodwa lapho idatha yezinsiza eneminingwane ihlala ivelele khona. Ngokumba okuhlekile kanye nokuhlaziywa kwamasampula ayisisekelo, iphrojekthi ihlose ukukhiqiza idatha ethembekile yokusekela ukwenza izinqumo ezinolwazi mayelana nemisebenzi yokumba yesikhathi esizayo.

Izinhloso eziphelele zeProjekthi ye-MMS ehlongozwayo zifaka phakathi:

- Ukuhlolwa Kwezinsizakusebenza: Nquma inani, ikhwalithi, kanye nokusatshalaliswa kwezinsizakusebenza zezimbiwa ngaphakathi kwendawo eqokiwe.
- Ukuqonda Kwezinto Eziphilayo: Thola ukuqonda ngezici zezinto eziphilayo, i-stratigraphy, kanye nesakhiwo sendawo engaphansi komhlaba ukuze uqonde ukwakheka nokusatshalaliswa kwezinsizakusebenza.
- Ukunciphisa Ingozi: Thola izingozi ezingaba khona zezinto eziphilayo, njengokwakheka okungazinzile noma ukungena kwe-igneous, ukuze kuncishiswe izingozi ezihlobene nemisebenzi yezimayini yesikhathi esizayo.
- Ukuthobela Imithetho: Qinisekisa ukuthobela imithetho yendawo, yezwe, kanye neyamazwe ngamazwe elawula ukuhlola amaminerali kanye nokuvikelwa kwemvelo.

Gauteng Office

Office 1 Palm Place Office Park,
22 Bram Fischer Drive, Linden, Johannesburg, 2195

Mpumalanga Office

22 Lowveld Country Manor, Aurora
Drive, Steiltes, Nelspruit, 1201

KwaZulu Natal Office

59 Beaumont Road,
Bluff, Durban, 4052

Niara Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd

Co. Reg. 2012/018290/07
C +27827672786 | F 0865314434
info@niara.co.za | www.niara.co.za

- Kuyimfuneko ukuthi iNiara ihambisane noMthetho Wokuvikelwa Kolwazi Lomuntu Siqu, 2013 (uMthetho No. 4 ka-2013) (uMthetho we-POPI) owaqala ukusebenza ngomhlaka-01 Julayi 2021. UMthetho we-POPI ubeka amazanga aphantsi mayelana nokufinyelela kanye 'nokucutshungulwa' kwanoma yiluphi ulwazi lomuntu siqu olungolunye.

NgokoMthetho Wokuvikelwa Kolwazi Lomuntu Siqu, ka-2013 (uMthetho No. 4 ka-2013) ("uMthetho we-POPI"), owaqala ukusebenza ngomhlaka-1 kuJulayi 2021, i-Niara iyadingeka ukuthi igcine amazanga aphezulu okufinyelela, ukucubungula, nokuvikela ulwazi lomuntu siqu.

Bonke Abantu Abanentshisekelo Nabathintekayo (ama-I&AP) ababhalisela le phrojekthi bazofakwa kuDathabheyisi Yababambiqhaza egcinwe yi-Niara. Ngokuhambisana nezidingo zomthetho, yonke imibono etholwe kuma-I&AP izofakwa kuMbiko Wezimvo Nezimpendulo (i-CRR), ohlanganisa amagama neminingwane yokuxhumana, futhi izoba yingxenywe yemibhalo ethunyelwe kwiGunya Elifanele (i-CA) ngezinjongo zokwenza izinqumo.

Ngokubhalisa njenge-I&AP, unikeza imvume i-Niara yokusebenzisa ulwazi lwakho lomuntu siqu kuphela ngezinjongo zale phrojekthi futhi ngokuhambisana nezidingo zoMthetho we-POPI.

Isimemezelo Semvume

Ngokusayina ifomu lemvume elingezansi, ngiyavuma futhi ngiyavuma ukuthi:

- Ngiyazi ngelungelo lami lobumfihlo kanye nokucutshungulwa ngokusemthethweni kolwazi lwami lomuntu siqu.
- Ngiyavuma ukuthi iNiara iqoqe, icubungule, futhi igcine ulwazi lwami lomuntu siqu kuphela ngezinjongo zalo msebenzi.
- Ngiyavuma ukuthi iNiara igcine ulwazi lwami lomuntu siqu lusesikhathini.
- Ngियाqonda ukuthi ngingacela ukufinyelela ukuze ngibuyekeze futhi ngiqinisekise ukunemba kolwazi lwami lomuntu siqu oluphethwe yiNiara.
- Ngियाqinisekisa ukuthi ulwazi olunikezwe ngezansi luthunyelwa ngokuzithandela futhi ngaphandle kokuphoqwa.

Bonke abantu bathembisa ukuthobela uMthetho we-POPI nokucubungula idatha yomuntu siqu kuphela ngezinhliso ezichazwe ngenhla.

ABASAYINI

| Umntu Onesithakazelo Nothintekayo | | | |
|--|--|------------------|--|
| Igama: | | Isibongo: | |
| Inombolo Yokuxhumana: | | Usuku: | |
| Ikheli le-imeyili: | | | |
| Isiginesha: | | | |

Uma ufisa ukuhoxisa imvume yakho yokuthi iNiara igcine noma isebenzise iminingwane yakho yokuxhumana, sicela usazise ngokubhaliwe usebenzisa iminingwane yokuxhumana engezansi:

Inombolo yereferensi: SER17 **Umntu othintwayo:** UNksz Vumile Ribeiro
Ucingo: +27 66 526 5099 **I-imeyili:** stakeholder@niara.co.za
Ikheli Leposi: Office 1 Palm Place Office Park, 22 Bram Fischer Drive, Linden, Johannesburg, 2195

Appendix 2: Site Notices Report

Applicant: Seriti Power (Pty) Ltd
Project Location: Portions 15 and the Remaining Extent of Portion 0 of the Farm Middeldrift 42 IS, Within Ward 32 of the Emalahleni Local Municipality, Under the Jurisdiction of the Nkangala District Municipality, in the Mpumalanga Province
Project Name: MMS General Authorisation for the Drilling of Exploration Boreholes for Resource Quantification
Project Code: SER17

Notice is hereby given in terms of Section 41(4) of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) that Middelburg Mine Services (MMS), a subsidiary of Seriti Coal (Pty) Ltd, intends to apply for a General Authorisation (GA) to undertake exploration drilling activities for coal resource quantification purposes within the Albion North Section, located in Ward 32 of the eMalahleni Local Municipality, under the Nkangala District Municipality, Mpumalanga Province. The proposed project involves the drilling of approximately 22 exploration boreholes on portions 15 and the Remaining Extent (RE) of Portion 0 of the farm Middeldrift 42 IS, approximately 10 km northwest of eMalahleni (Witbank) and accessible via the R547 regional road. The purpose of the drilling is to confirm the quantity, quality, and distribution of coal resources within the existing Middelburg Mine Services (MMS) Mining Right Area.

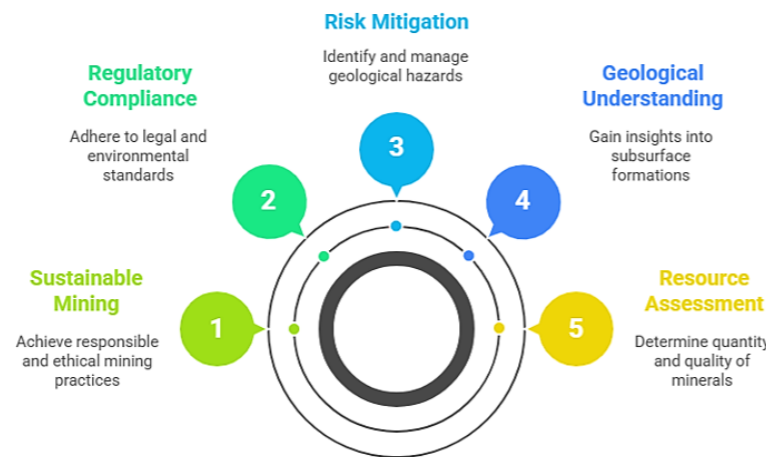
In terms of Section 21(c) and 21(i) of the National Water Act, the proposed drilling activities may involve:

- (c) Impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse; and
- (i) Altering the bed, banks, course, or characteristics of a watercourse.

A Technical Report supporting the General Authorisation application has been compiled in accordance with the requirements of Government Notice 509 of 2016 and relevant Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) guidelines.

OBJECTIVES:

- Resource Assessment:** Determine the quantity, quality, and distribution of mineral resources within the designated area.
- Geological Understanding:** Gain insights into the geological characteristics, stratigraphy, and structure of the subsurface to understand the resource formation and distribution.
- Risk Mitigation:** Identify potential geological hazards, such as unstable formations or igneous intrusions, to mitigate risks associated with future mining operations.
- Regulatory Compliance:** Ensure compliance with local, national, and international regulations governing mineral exploration and environmental protection.



AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT REPORT FOR PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT

The General Authorisation Technical Report will be available for public review and comment for a 30-day period commencing on **Thursday, 13 November 2025**, until **Monday, 15 December 2025**. The exploration drilling Project aims to quantify the mineral resource potential within an area where mining rights have been granted but resource estimates remain unconfirmed. By systematically drilling boreholes and analysing core samples, this Project will generate essential data for precise resource estimation, enabling informed decision-making regarding future mining operations.

Kindly note that the documents are being made available to ensure transparency and to keep Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) fully informed. While the documents are primarily for review purposes, we welcome any feedback or inquiries to enhance stakeholder engagement:

| Location | Contact person |
|---|--------------------|
| Niara website: www.niara.co.za under 'Downloads' | Mrs Vumile Ribeiro |

Online stakeholder engagement meetings using video conferencing tools such as Microsoft Teams, Skype and Zoom will be used to engage with stakeholders for online discussions if required. The purpose of these engagements would be to discuss the content of the GA Technical Report, potential impacts and mitigation measures. Stakeholders will also be provided with an opportunity to engage with the project team and raise any issues of concern.

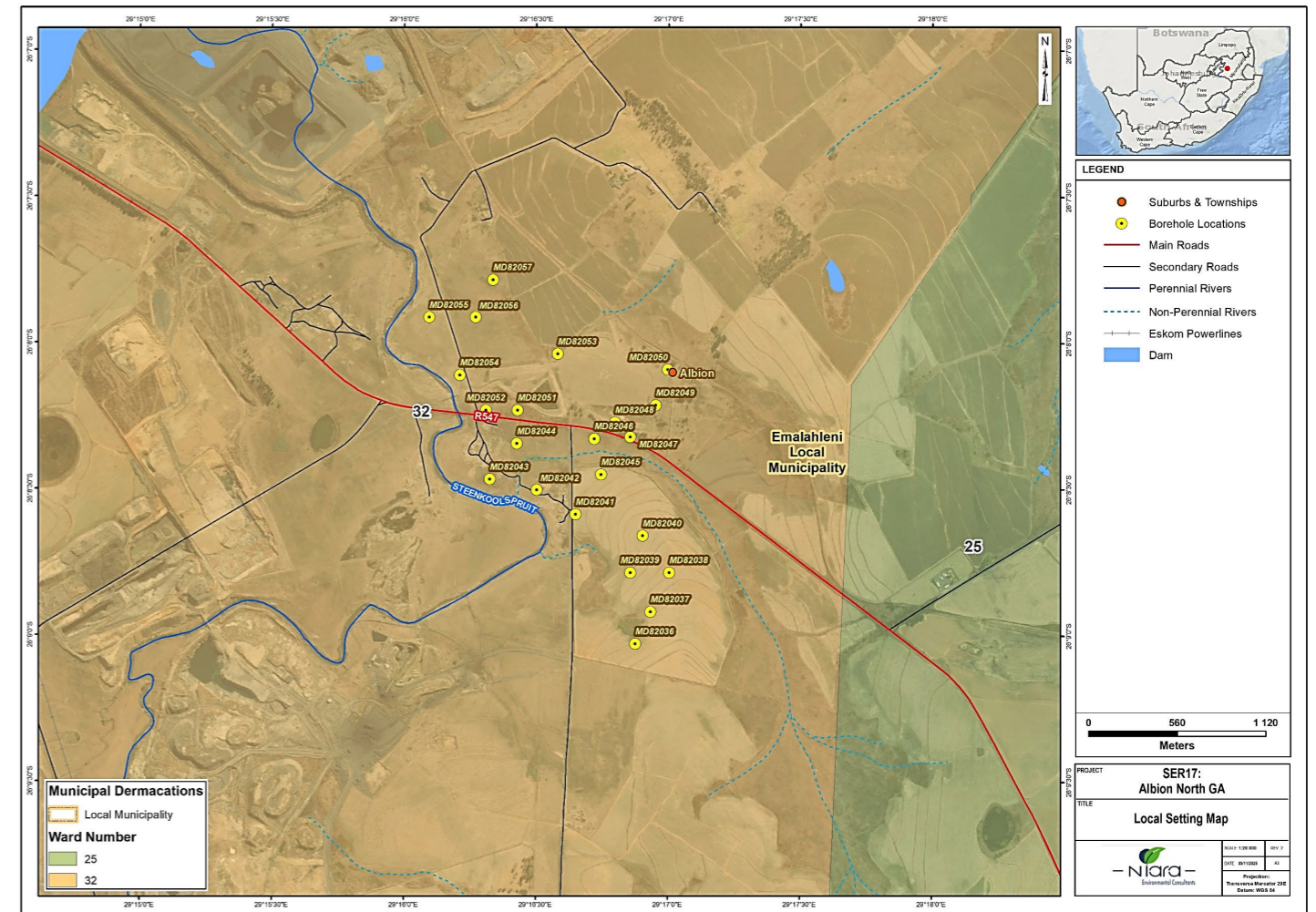


Figure 1: Locality Setting of Project Area

REGISTRATION AS AN INTERESTED AND / OR AFFECTED PARTY

Should you wish to be registered as an I&AP, to obtain additional information or comment on the proposed project, please use the contact details below, using the Niara reference number **SER17**.

Contact person: Mrs Vumile Ribeiro
Tel: +27 66 526 5099
Email: stakeholder@niara.co.za
Postal Address: Office 1 Palm Place Office Park, 22 Bram Fischer Drive, Linden, Johannesburg, 2195

Applicant: Seriti Power (Pty) Ltd
Project Location: Portions 15 and the Remaining Extent of Portion 0 of the Farm Middeldrift 42 IS, Within Ward 32 of the Emalaheni Local Municipality, Under the Jurisdiction of the Nkangala District Municipality, in the Mpumalanga Province
Project Name: MMS General Authorisation for the Drilling of Exploration Boreholes for Resource Quantification
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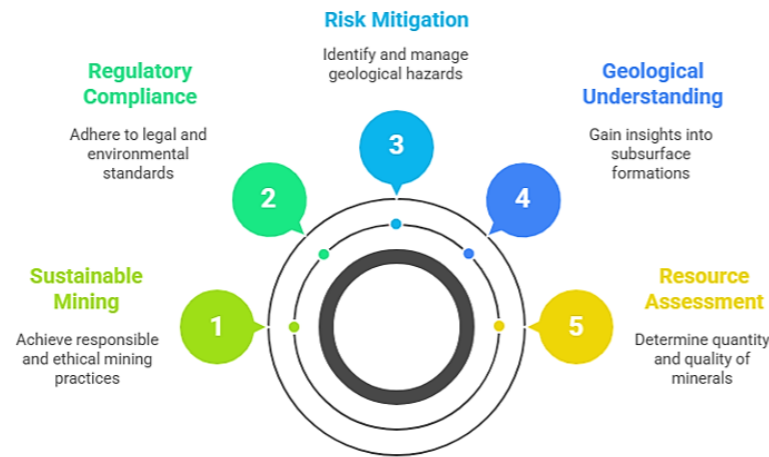
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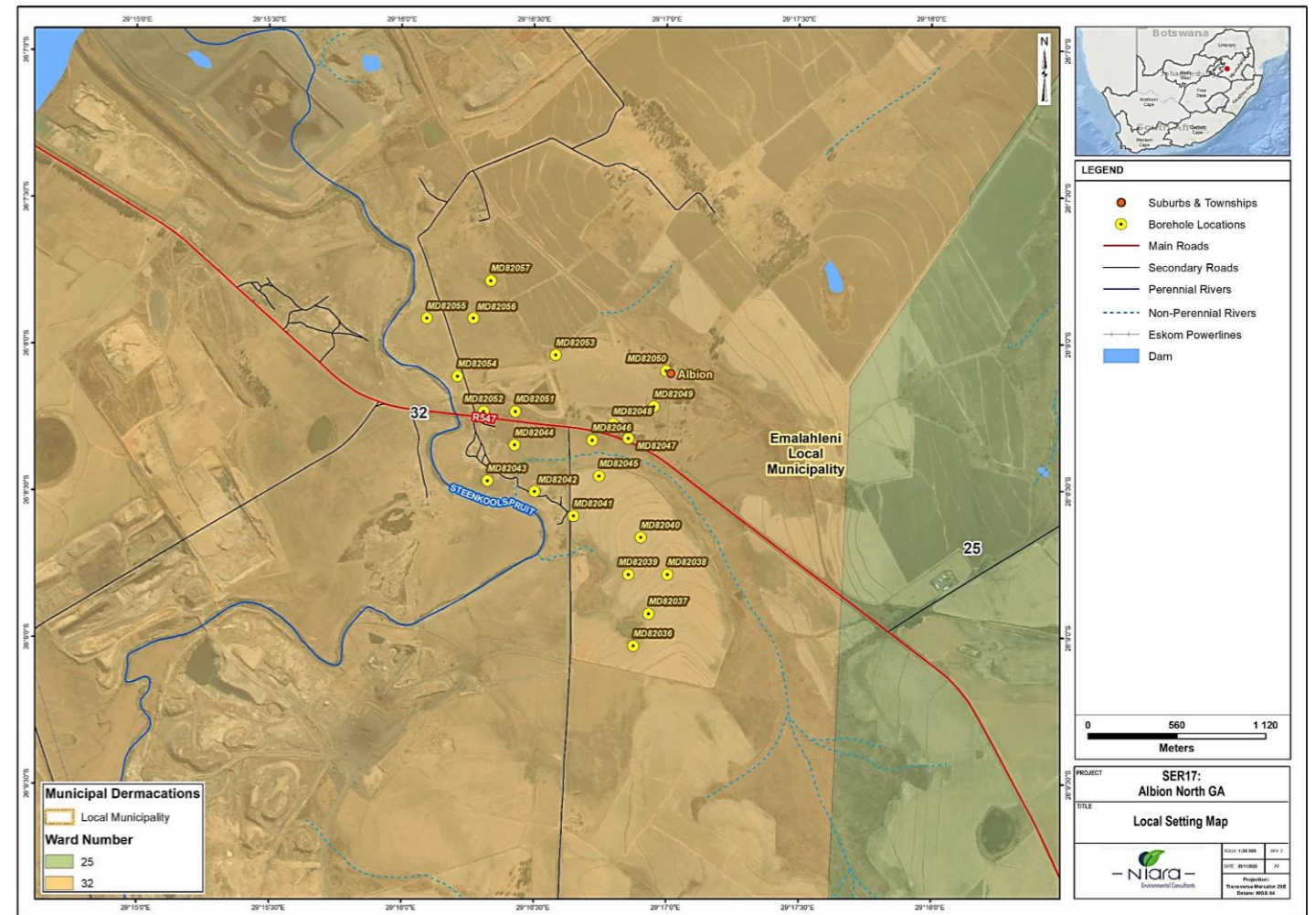


Figure 1: Locality Setting of Project Area

AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT REPORT FOR PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT

The General Authorisation Technical Report will be available for public review and comment for a 30-day period commencing on **Thursday, 13 November 2025**, until **Monday, 15 December 2025**. The exploration drilling Project aims to quantify the mineral resource potential within an area where mining rights have been granted but resource estimates remain unconfirmed. By systematically drilling boreholes and analysing core samples, this Project will generate essential data for precise resource estimation, enabling informed decision-making regarding future mining operations.

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Contact person: Mrs Vumile Ribeiro
Tel: +27 66 526 5099
Email: stakeholder@niara.co.za
Postal Address: Office 1 Palm Place Office Park, 22 Bram Fischer Drive, Linden, Johannesburg, 2195

**Site Notice Report: MMS General Authorisation
for the Drilling of Exploration Boreholes for
Resource Quantification on Portions 15 & the
Remaining Extent of Portion 0 of the Farm
Middeldrift 42 IS, near Middelburg (WU47590)**

Prepared for

Seriti Power (Pty) Ltd



Document Detail

| | | | |
|------------------------|--|-----------------------------|---------|
| Project Number: | SER17 | Authority Reference: | WU47590 |
| Report Title: | Site Notice Report: MMS General Authorisation for the Drilling of Exploration Boreholes for Resource Quantification on Portions 15 & the Remaining Extent of Portion 0 of the Farm Middeldrift 42 IS, near Middelburg (WU47590) | | |
| Project Name: | Middelburg Mine Services (MMS) General Authorisation for the Drilling of Exploration Boreholes for Resource Quantification on Portions 15 & the Remaining Extent of Portion 0 of the Farm Middeldrift 42 IS, Near Middelburg, in the Mpumalanga Province | | |
| Client Name: | Seriti Power (Pty) Ltd | | |
| EAP: | Niara Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd | | |

Document History

| Revision | EAP/Author | Reviewed By | Date of Issue | Comments |
|----------|----------------|--------------------|------------------|----------|
| 0 | Vumile Ribeiro | Shaakira Akhalwaya | 13 November 2025 | |

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1 Introduction

Seriti Power (Pty) Ltd (“Seriti”) has appointed Niara Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd (“Niara”) as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to facilitate the preparation of a General Authorisation (GA) application in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998). The GA pertains to proposed exploration drilling activities to be undertaken by Middelburg Mine Services (MMS), a subsidiary of Seriti Power, within the Albion North Section of the existing mining right area near Middelburg, Mpumalanga Province.

The purpose of the proposed drilling programme is to enhance geological confidence by assessing the quantity, quality, and distribution of coal resources and to improve understanding of the subsurface geological structure, stratigraphy, and lithology. A total of 22 exploration boreholes are proposed, some of which are located within 500 metres of wetland features identified in the area.

The drilling campaign forms part of Seriti’s ongoing resource development strategy to quantify mineral resources within areas where mining rights have been granted but resource data remains incomplete. Data collected through core sampling and geological logging will contribute to improved resource estimation, operational planning, and environmental risk assessment.

This Report documents the placement of site notices in compliance with the public participation requirements outlined in Section 41(4) of the National Water Act and associated Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) guidelines. The purpose of the site notices is to inform Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) of the proposed activities and to invite them to review and comment on the GA Technical Report during the 30-day public participation period.

The overall objectives of the proposed MMS Project include:

- **Resource Assessment:** Determine the quantity, quality, and distribution of mineral resources within the designated area.
- **Geological Understanding:** Gain insights into the geological characteristics, stratigraphy, and structure of the subsurface to understand the resource formation and distribution.
- **Risk Mitigation:** Identify potential geological hazards, such as unstable formations or igneous intrusions, to mitigate risks associated with future mining operations.
- **Regulatory Compliance:** Ensure compliance with local, national, and international regulations governing mineral exploration and environmental protection.

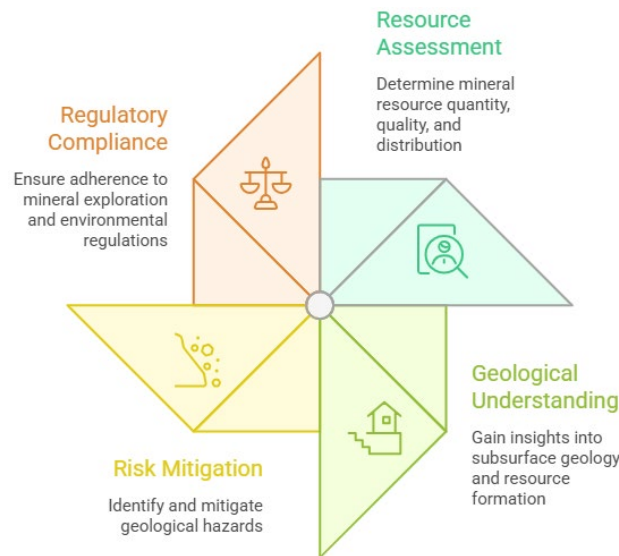


Figure 1-1: MMS Objectives overview

1.1 Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this Site Notices Report is to provide documentary evidence of the notification process, including photographs, coordinates, and placement details of all site notices displayed within the project area, thereby demonstrating compliance with the statutory public participation requirements.

1.2 Applicant Contact information

The proposed GA application is being undertaken by Seriti Power (Pty) Ltd, a registered South African company that owns and operates MMS. Seriti Power is the project proponent responsible for ensuring compliance with the requirements of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) and associated environmental legislation. Niara Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd has been appointed as the independent EAP to facilitate the GA application process on behalf of the applicant.

Table 1-1: Applicant Contact Information

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Project Applicant: | Seriti Power (Pty) Ltd |
| Registration number: | 1963/000537/07 |
| Responsible Person: | Shaakira Akhalwaya |
| Contact person: | Shaakira Akhalwaya |
| Physical address: | R575 Van Dyksdrift Road Middelburg 1050 |
| Postal address: | PO Box 61820 Marshalltown 2107 |

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Project Applicant: | Seriti Power (Pty) Ltd |
| Telephone: | (013) 689 4028 |
| Email: | Shaakira.Akhalwaya@seritiza.com |

1.3 Project Locality

The proposed Albion North Exploration Drilling Project is situated on portions 15 and the Remaining Extent (RE) of Portion 0 the farm Middeldrift 42 IS, within Ward 32 of the eMalahleni Local Municipality (ELM), under the jurisdiction of the Nkangala District Municipality, in the Mpumalanga Province of South Africa. The project area forms part of Seriti Power's operational footprint associated with the MMS and is locally referred to as the Albion Section. This section lies within the broader Albion North Extension area. The project area lies within the Upper Olifants Water Management Area (WMA), specifically the B11G Quaternary Catchment. The nearest significant drainage feature is an unnamed tributary of the Olifants River, forming part of the B11G-01225 Sub-Quaternary Reach (SQR). These watercourses are non-perennial and are characterised by low baseflow and high seasonal variability.

The project area is positioned approximately 10 km northwest of eMalahleni (Witbank) and is accessible via the R547 regional road, which traverses the central portion of the project footprint in an east–west orientation. The Albion Section lies in a region characterised by extensive coal mining operations, agricultural fields, and associated mining infrastructure, including access roads, haul routes, and conveyor corridors.

The area experiences a summer rainfall pattern, with the Mean Annual Precipitation (MAP) estimated at approximately 680 mm/year. The highest monthly rainfall typically occurs between December and February, with long-term data indicating peaks up to 345 mm/month. The Mean Annual Runoff (MAR) from the B11G catchment is approximately 20 mm/year. Temperatures range from 0°C in winter to above 30°C in summer, with occasional frost events recorded during June and July.

The site does not fall within a National Freshwater Priority Area (NFEP). The Olifants river drains west of the site and continues north through Witbank Dam, towards Loskop dam. It is forced east by the Transvaal Drakensberg, cutting through at the Abel Erasmus Pass and then flowing east further across the Lowveld to join the Letaba River.

Water users in the catchment are mostly related to domestic, irrigation, aquatic ecosystems, and recreation.

Table 1-2: Local setting of farm portions

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Closest town | eMalahleni |
| District Municipality | Nkangala District Municipality |
| Local Municipality | eMalahleni Local Municipality |
| Catchment Zone | B11E |
| Water Management Area | Upper Olifants WMA |

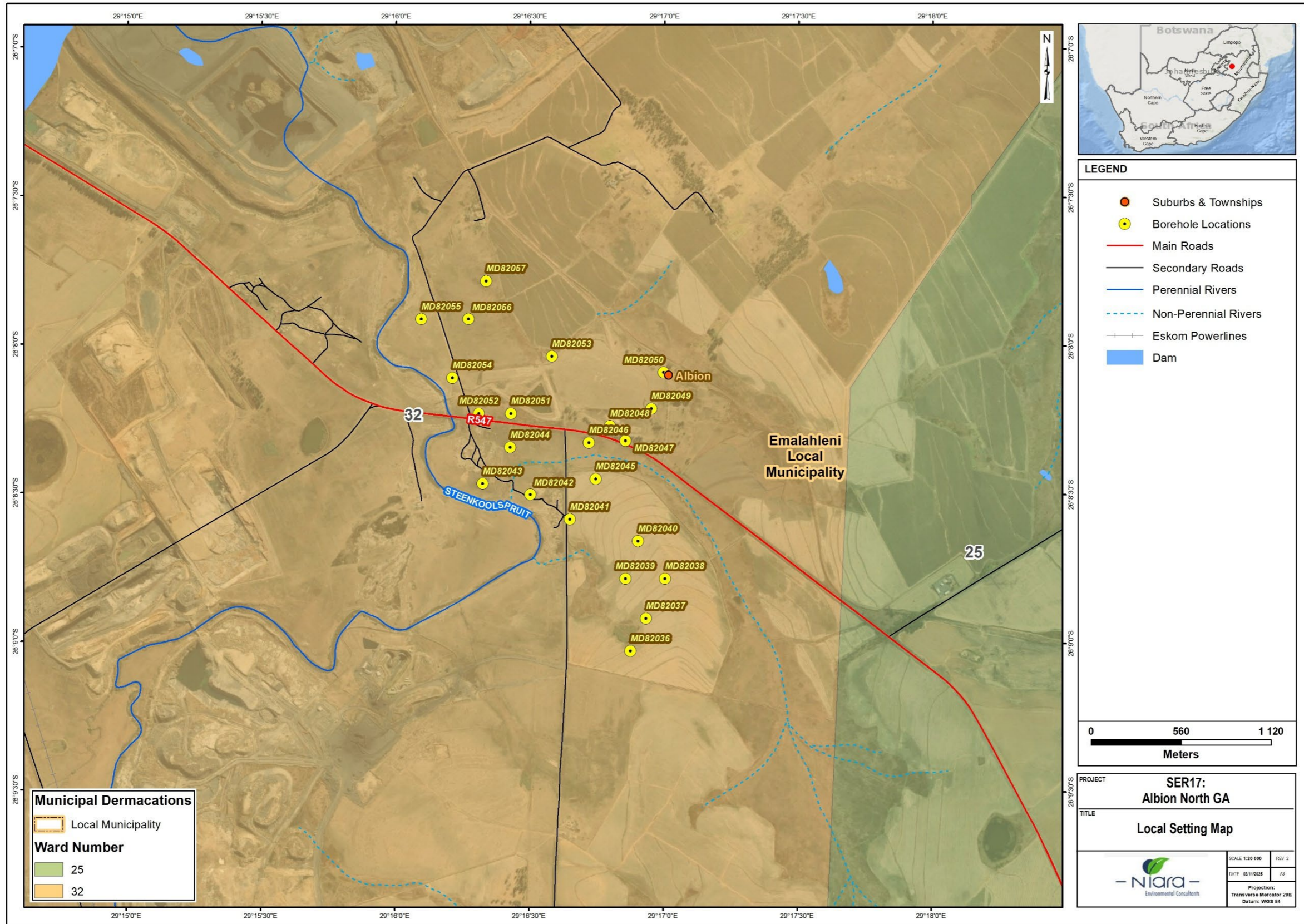


Figure 1-2: Locality Map

2 Conceptualisation of the Activity

The proposed exploration drilling programme forms part of Seriti Power's efforts to quantify the mineral resource potential within the Albion Section of MMS. The project involves the drilling of exploration boreholes to delineate coal reserves, evaluate their quality and extent, and ensure compliance with relevant regulatory requirements, including the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998).

The activity will follow a structured methodology, encompassing site preparation and establishment, drilling operations, and closure and rehabilitation, each underpinned by stringent safety, environmental and quality control protocols.

2.1 Site Preparation and Establishment

Before drilling commences, each borehole location will be staked out under the supervision of a Mine Surveyor or Geologist, in line with the Laying Out and Staking Exploration Boreholes Protocol. Key preparatory steps include:

- Site Inspections: Joint inspections by the Drilling team and Supervisor to identify hazards (muddy patches, dragline cables, power lines, etc.).
- Job Safety Analysis (JSA): Conducted daily and at the start of each borehole, signed off by the Supervisor or Safety Officer prior to work commencing.
- Contractor Site Establishment Procedure: Implementation of direction boards, barricading, updated information boards, and predetermined escape routes.
- Safety Measures: Placement of sump guards, clearance of core packing areas, provision of firefighting and first aid equipment, portable lightning detection, and safe distancing of operations ($\geq 30\text{m}$ from hazards unless otherwise approved).

Environmental and operational considerations during this phase include:

- Access Planning: Use of existing disturbed areas and tracks where possible, minimising new track construction and avoiding wetland channels.
- Track Management: Align tracks parallel to contours to reduce erosion risk.
- Borehole Positioning: Use of GPS to set out borehole positions while avoiding saturated soils.
- Vegetation Clearing: Restricted to immediate borehole areas; alien vegetation to be removed and disposed of appropriately.

2.2 Operations

Exploration drilling will be undertaken in strict adherence to the Mine's Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and the Contractor's Health, Safety, Environment and Community (HSEC) protocols.

Key operational controls include:

- **Competence & Oversight:** All Drill Operators and Assistants must be trained, competent, and authorised. The Project Manager will spend at least 60% of their time on-site.
- **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):** Mandatory PPE includes level 5 cut-resistant gloves, hearing protection, and spare PPE on-site.
- **Operational Protocols:** Grounding all outriggers during drilling, maintaining a clean drill site, safe placement of drill rods ($\geq 3\text{m}$ from borehole), and strict adherence to two-man lifting/loading protocols.
- **Safety Procedures:** Regular gas testing, 5m exclusion zone around boreholes, daily safety meetings, and Permit-to-Work (PTO) for high-risk or non-routine tasks.
- **Repairs & Relocation:** Onsite repairs only by qualified Artisans under strict lockout/tagout procedures. Hitching/unhitching of rigs must comply with Contractor SOPs.

2.3 Drilling Operations

The safety of the Drill Rig Operator is a fundamental priority during all drilling activities. The Operator must always be positioned in a manner that allows unrestricted access to the machine controls while maintaining a safe distance from moving and rotating components. To reduce risk from falling objects such as quill rods or pulleys, the drill rig is equipped with a protective canopy. The Operator is required to conduct all operations from beneath this canopy, thereby minimising the likelihood of injury from mechanical or structural hazards.

As an additional safeguard, the slide gate on the canopy must remain locked at all times during drilling. This control measure prevents inadvertent contact with rotating or moving parts of the rig, ensuring both the Operator's safety and the safe functioning of the equipment. Strict adherence to these protocols is essential to reducing accident potential and maintaining both operational efficiency and regulatory compliance.

Beyond operator safety, the drilling programme also incorporates a range of operational and environmental management measures to ensure responsible and effective implementation:

- **Borehole Drilling:** An NQ2 drill rig will be employed to drill boreholes with an approximate diameter of 76 mm. Emphasis will be placed on achieving high-quality core recovery from both overburden and rock strata.
- **Fluid Management:** Drilling water will be channelled into lined sumps or berms to prevent downslope spillage and contamination. All fluids, oils, and greases will be carefully handled and stored in accordance with site safety and environmental protocols.
- **Waste Disposal:** Drilling fluids, additives, and any potentially toxic substances will be disposed of responsibly to prevent environmental damage. Sealed plastic drop sheets will be used as a precaution against accidental spills or leaks.

- Borehole Profiling: Boreholes will be profiled in line with Southern African methodologies. Soil and rock horizons recovered from the core will be sampled, logged, and catalogued for geological analysis.
- Rehabilitation: Upon completion of drilling, sumps will be backfilled and boreholes rehabilitated. Excavated materials will be replaced in their correct stratigraphic order, and sites will be left clean, safe, and free of debris.
- Vehicle Management: Machinery will exit using the same access routes used for entry. Routes will be surveyed post-operation for ruts, with deep ruts filled or plugged to prevent erosion. No vehicle servicing, cleaning, or fuel storage will be permitted on-site to safeguard against environmental risks.

By implementing these combined safety, operational, and environmental protocols, the project ensures that drilling activities are conducted in a controlled, compliant, and sustainable manner, safeguarding personnel, the environment, and overall project outcomes.

2.4 Closure and Rehabilitation

Rehabilitation following drilling activities is a critical component of the exploration programme, aimed at minimising environmental impacts, restoring site integrity, and ensuring compliance with applicable legislation and best practice standards. Rehabilitation measures are designed in alignment with the findings of the Environmental Risk Assessment (ERA), ensuring that potential risks are proactively managed and mitigated.

Drill rigs will only be demobilised once all associated sumps and disturbed areas have been adequately backfilled, stabilised, and rehabilitated. Sumps must be filled and clearly demarcated using chevron tape to prevent accidental disturbance. Where non-biodegradable oils or other contaminants have been utilised, enhanced measures will be implemented. These include the application of approved biodegradation agents to contaminated soils or, where necessary, the excavation, removal, and rehabilitation of impacted material.

The Operational Geologist bears responsibility for overseeing all rehabilitation activities and ensuring compliance with prescribed standards. This includes:

- Conducting regular inspections of rehabilitated drill sites.
- Documenting outcomes on the official Borehole Header Sheet for record-keeping and accountability.
- Initiating thorough investigations in the event of environmental non-conformances, identifying root causes, and implementing corrective and preventative actions.

Proper management of drill core is also an essential element of closure. Drill core recovered from environmentally restricted areas will be handled in strict compliance with environmental authorisation conditions. Depending on the site context, core may either:

- Be disposed of at designated, approved areas following logging and sampling, or

- Remain on-site where future mine workings are planned in that direction, provided this does not contravene environmental or safety requirements.

2.5 Sealing of Boreholes

The sealing of boreholes is a critical step in ensuring the integrity and safety of drilling sites, and it is governed by specific protocols to adhere to regulatory and safety standards. As part of this process, the Drilling Company is responsible for sealing the borehole and issuing a sealing certificate to the Geologist, confirming that the borehole has been properly sealed. In areas where underground mining is either likely to take place, has occurred, or is indicated by the Environmental Risk Assessment, or at the request of the Geologist, drill holes must be sealed with cement up to 1 meter from the collar. This precautionary measure helps to prevent potential underground issues and ensures the stability of the surrounding geological formations.

To ensure consistency and compliance with established procedures, the sealing of boreholes follows the guidelines outlined in the contractor's SOP. Adherence to these SOPs guarantees that the sealing process is conducted efficiently and effectively, minimizing the risk of environmental contamination and maintaining the overall integrity of the drilling site.

3 Purpose of the Exploration Drilling

Exploration drilling represents a critical initial phase in the mine development process, designed to generate accurate geological data that will underpin informed decision-making. The programme is specifically aimed at quantifying the coal resource potential of the Albions North Section and establishing the technical and economic viability of future mining operations.

The key purposes of the exploration drilling are as follows:

- **Resource Confirmation:** To verify the presence, distribution, and continuity of coal seams within the target area, ensuring that the geological model reflects actual site conditions.
- **Quality and Quantity Determination:** To obtain detailed information on the thickness, grade, calorific value, and other physical and chemical characteristics of the coal. This allows for an assessment of both the quality and the quantity of coal that can be economically extracted.
- **Subsurface Data Collection:** To recover continuous core samples for geological, structural, and mineralogical analysis. These core logs provide insight into stratigraphy, lithology, seam composition, and potential geological structures (e.g., faults, dykes, intrusions) that may influence mining.
- **Mine Planning and Feasibility Support:** To generate the baseline information required for mine design, scheduling, and operational planning. Data from drilling will inform feasibility studies, cost projections, and risk assessments, thereby reducing uncertainty in project investment decisions.

- Environmental and Risk Management: To contribute towards identifying geohydrological and environmental considerations, such as aquifer depth, groundwater inflows, and potential interaction with sensitive water resources. These insights support environmental risk assessments and compliance with regulatory requirements.

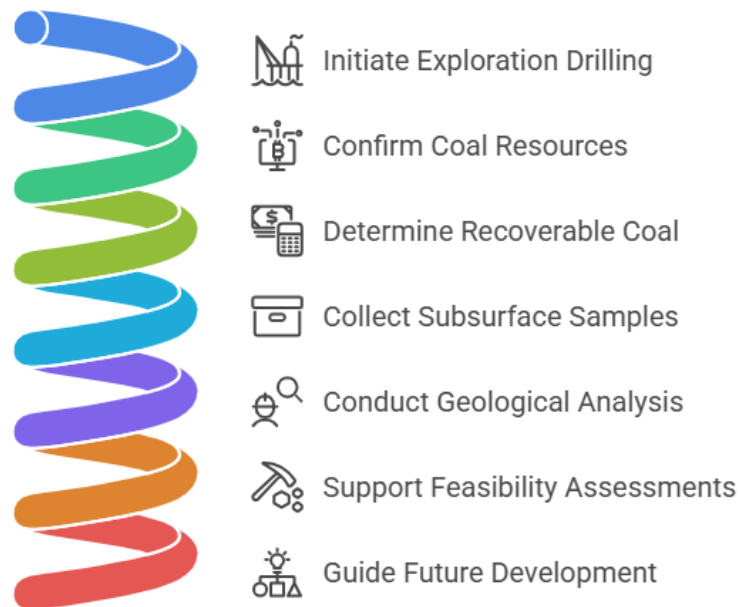


Figure 3-1: Exploration drilling process

4 Potential Water Uses

In terms of Section 21 of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998), water uses that may be triggered by exploration drilling include:

- Section 21(c): Impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse.
- Section 21(i): Altering the bed, banks, course or characteristics of a watercourse.

Table 4-1: S21 (c & i) Borehole location

| Borehole Reference | Farm Name | Portion | SG Code | Coordinates | |
|--------------------|-------------------|---------|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| | | | | Latitude | Longitude |
| MD82036 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 9' 1.702" S | 29° 16' 52.614" E |
| MD82037 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 55.105" S | 29° 16' 56.088" E |
| MD82038 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 47.055" S | 29° 17' 0.364" E |
| MD82039 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 47.072" S | 29° 16' 51.491" E |
| MD82040 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 39.528" S | 29° 16' 54.254" E |
| MD82041 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 35.152" S | 29° 16' 39.010" E |
| MD82042 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 30.124" S | 29° 16' 30.188" E |
| MD82043 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 27.983" S | 29° 16' 19.489" E |
| MD82044 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 20.658" S | 29° 16' 25.663" E |
| MD82045 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 26.969" S | 29° 16' 44.801" E |
| MD82046 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 19.654" S | 29° 16' 43.276" E |
| MD82047 | Middeldrift 42 IS | 15/42 | TOIS00000000004200015 | 26° 8' 19.272" S | 29° 16' 51.443" E |
| MD82048 | Middeldrift 42 IS | 15/42 | TOIS00000000004200015 | 26° 8' 16.275" S | 29° 16' 47.948" E |
| MD82049 | Middeldrift 42 IS | 15/42 | TOIS00000000004200015 | 26° 8' 12.756" S | 29° 16' 57.233" E |
| MD82050 | Middeldrift 42 IS | 15/42 | TOIS00000000004200015 | 26° 8' 5.451" S | 29° 16' 59.952" E |
| MD82051 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 13.796" S | 29° 16' 25.813" E |
| MD82052 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 13.810" S | 29° 16' 18.641" E |
| MD82053 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 2.247" S | 29° 16' 34.936" E |
| MD82054 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 8' 6.623" S | 29° 16' 12.709" E |
| MD82055 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 7' 54.782" S | 29° 16' 5.700" E |
| MD82056 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 7' 54.763" S | 29° 16' 16.250" E |
| MD82057 | Middeldrift 42 IS | RE/42 | TOIS00000000004200000 | 26° 7' 47.067" S | 29° 16' 20.227" E |

A risk assessment matrix will be prepared in line with GN 509 of 2016, taking into account:

- The nature, scale and duration of the proposed activities.
- Potential risks to resource quality and mitigation measures.
- The Present Ecological State (PES) and Ecological Importance and Sensitivity (EIS) of watercourses within the project area.

This process ensures that all potential impacts, whether positive or negative, are assessed and effectively managed.

5 Purpose of the Site Notices

The site notices were erected in compliance with Regulation 41(2)(a) of the EIA Regulations (GN R. 982 of 2014, as amended), to:

- Inform Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) of the proposed project.
- Provide details on the project scope and potential environmental impacts.
- Notify I&APs of opportunities to register and participate in the PPP.

The site notices were erected in accordance with the requirements of Regulation 41 of GN R.982 of 2014 (as amended) under NEMA. The notices were visible, durable, and placed at points frequented by the public, ensuring reasonable opportunity for I&APs to become aware of the project and to register as stakeholders.

6 Methodology

This section outlines the methodology followed for the placement of site notices in accordance with the public participation requirements stipulated under Section 41(4) of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) and the General Authorisation Guidelines (GN 509 of 2016) issued by the DWS.

The purpose of the site notice placement was to ensure that I&APs within and surrounding the project area were adequately informed of the proposed GA application and given an opportunity to submit written comments during the 30-day public review period.

6.1 Approach

Niara Environmental Consultants implemented a structured, transparent, and verifiable approach to the placement of notices, ensuring accessibility and visibility to all potentially affected stakeholders. The following approach was applied:

- Identification of accessible and high-visibility public areas in proximity to the project site, including main access routes, community facilities, and farm entrances.
- Preparation of bilingual (English and isiZulu) site notices that included the project description, public participation timeframes, and contact details for comment submission.
- Printing and laminating A2-sized posters to ensure durability under outdoor conditions.
- Placement of the site notices at all identified locations in the presence of Niara field representatives.
- Recording of Global Positioning System (GPS) coordinates, date, and time of placement for each site notice.
- Photographing of each site notice as proof of placement and legibility.

6.2 Locations of Site Notices

Site notices were strategically placed at locations within and adjacent to the project area to ensure maximum visibility and compliance with regulatory requirements. These locations included:

- The main access route via the R547 regional road near Middelburg;

- Entry points to Portion 15 and the Remaining Extent of Portion 0 of the Farm Middeldrift 42 IS;
- Nearby intersections and public thoroughfares; and
- Community focal points such as local notice boards and farm entrances (where applicable).

6.3 Documentation and Evidence

Each site notice placement was photographically documented, with accompanying GPS coordinates, dates, and descriptions of the immediate surroundings to serve as verifiable evidence of compliance. All records are presented in Section 3 of this report.

6.4 Date of Placement

Notices were erected on: 11 November 2025.

Each site notice was displayed in durable, laminated format (A2 size) to ensure legibility throughout the public participation period (13 November 2025 – 15 December 2025). Regular field checks will be undertaken to verify that the notices remain intact and accessible to the public for the full 30-day duration.

6.5 Languages Used

English and isiZulu (to accommodate the dominant local languages).

7 Conclusion

The placement of site notices for the MMS GA Application was carried out in accordance with the requirements of Section 41(4) of the National Water Act and the relevant DWS General Authorisation Guidelines (GN 509 of 2016).

Site notices were strategically positioned at publicly accessible and high-visibility locations within and around the project area to ensure that all I&APs were adequately informed of the proposed activity and given an opportunity to participate in the process. Each notice clearly outlined the project details, purpose, review period, and contact information for comment submissions.

The placement of notices was photographically documented, with GPS coordinates and placement details recorded for verification purposes. The evidence provided in this report demonstrates that all statutory notification requirements have been fulfilled.

Niara Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd confirms that the public participation measures implemented meet the procedural requirements stipulated by DWS for General Authorisation applications. The site notices will remain displayed for the full 30-day public review period (13 November 2025 – 15 December 2025) to ensure transparency and accessibility throughout the consultation process.


Site Notices: Evidence of Placement

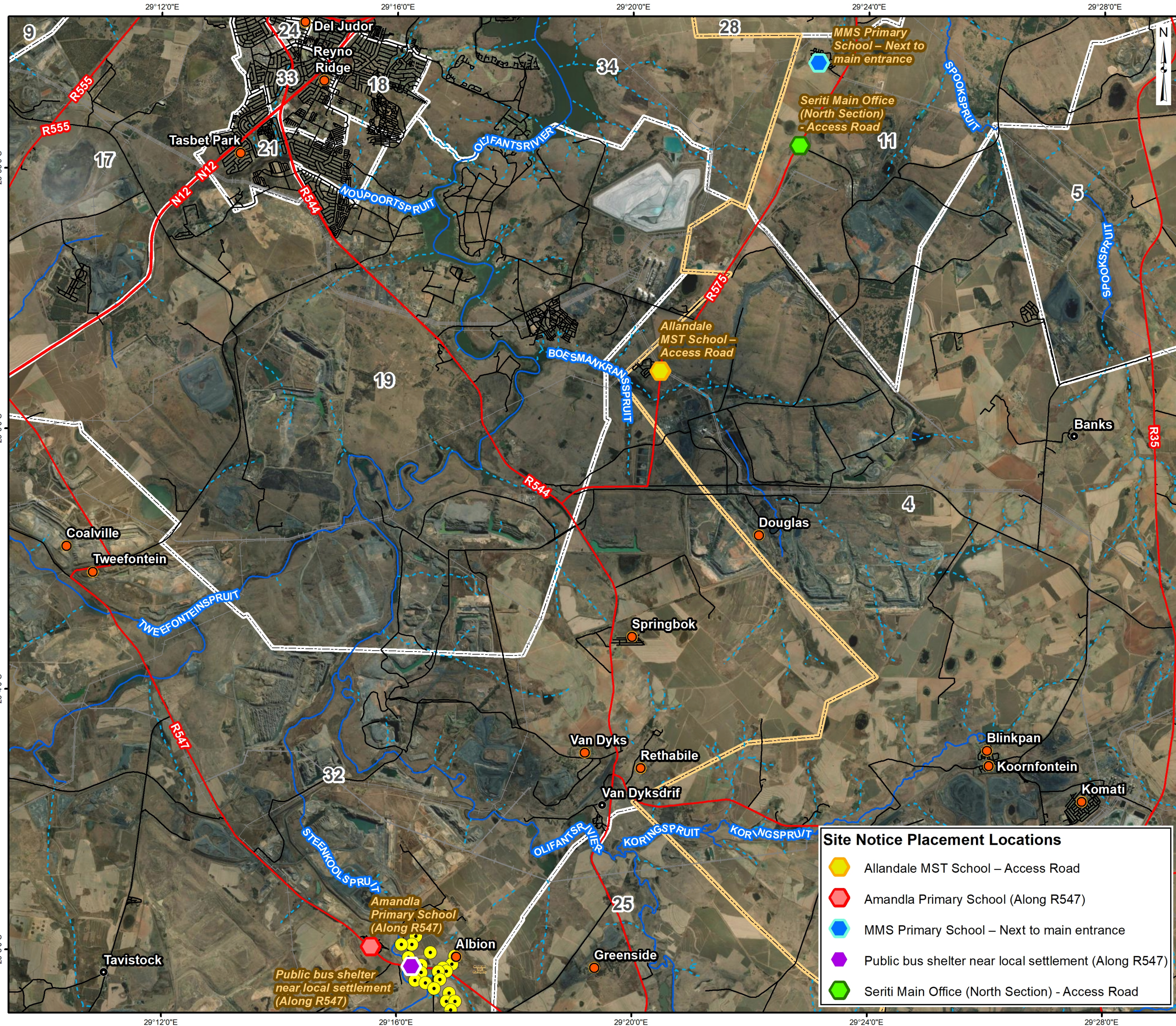
As detailed in Table 2 Site Notices were placed on 11 November 2025

Table 2: Site Notice Coordinates

| No. | Location Description | GPS Coordinates (WGS84) | Date of Placement | Description of Placement Point | Photo Reference |
|-----|--|----------------------------------|-------------------|---|---|
| 1 | Seriti Main Office (North Section) - Access Road | Lat -25.927187 Long 29.380492 | 11 November 2025 | Attached to pole for public visibility |  |
| 2 | MMS Primary School – Next to main entrance | Lat -25.905993 Long 29.385780 | 11 November 2025 | Attached to fence post at entry point to the school |  |

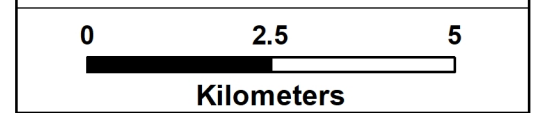
| No. | Location Description | GPS Coordinates (WGS84) | Date of Placement | Description of Placement Point | Photo Reference |
|-----|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|--|--|
| 3 | Allendale MST School – Access Road | Lat -25.985000 Long 29.341087 | 11 November 2025 | Displayed on road-facing pole near MMS access junction |  |
| 4 | Amandla Primary Scool (Along R547) | Lat -26.132448 Long 29.259452 | 11 November 2025 | Attached to fence post at entry point to the school |  |

| No. | Location Description | GPS Coordinates (WGS84) | Date of Placement | Description of Placement Point | Photo Reference |
|-----|--|----------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| 5 | Public bus shelter near local settlement (Along R547) | Lat -26.137517 Long 29.271052 | 11 November 2025 | Attached to the bus shelter |  |



LEGEND

- Suburbs & Townships
- Village
- Borehole Locations
- Main Roads
- Secondary Roads
- Perennial Rivers
- - - Non-Perennial Rivers
- +— Eskom Powerlines
- Municipal Wards
- Local Municipality



Site Notice Placement Locations

- Allandale MST School – Access Road
- Amandla Primary School (Along R547)
- MMS Primary School – Next to main entrance
- Public bus shelter near local settlement (Along R547)
- Seriti Main Office (North Section) - Access Road

PROJECT: **SER17: Albion North GA**

TITLE: **Site Notices Plan**

SCALE: 1:102 906 REV: 2

DATE: 13/11/2025 A3

Projection: Transverse Mercator 29E
Datum: WGS 84

Appendix 3: Newspaper Advertisements

MMS GENERAL AUTHORISATION FOR THE DRILLING OF EXPLORATION BOREHOLES FOR RESOURCE QUANTIFICATION ON PORTIONS 15 & THE REMAINING EXTENT OF PORTION 0 OF THE FARM MIDDELDRIFT 42 IS, NEAR MIDDELBURG, IN THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCE

Notice is hereby given in terms of Section 41(4) of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) that Middelburg Mine Services (MMS), a subsidiary of Seriti Coal (Pty) Ltd, intends to apply for a General Authorisation (GA) to undertake exploration drilling activities for coal resource quantification purposes within the Albion North Section, located in Ward 32 of the eMalahleni Local Municipality, under the Nkangala District Municipality, Mpumalanga Province. The proposed project involves the drilling of approximately 22 exploration boreholes on portions 15 and the Remaining Extent (RE) of Portion 0 of the farm Middeldrift 42 IS, approximately 10 km northwest of eMalahleni (Witbank) and accessible via the R547 regional road. The purpose of the drilling is to confirm the quantity, quality, and distribution of coal resources within the existing Middelburg Mine Services (MMS) Mining Right Area.

In terms of Section 21(c) and 21(i) of the National Water Act, the proposed drilling activities may involve:
(c) Impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse; and
(i) Altering the bed, banks, course, or characteristics of a watercourse.

A Technical Report supporting the General Authorisation application has been compiled in accordance with the requirements of Government Notice 509 of 2016 and relevant Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) guidelines.

OBJECTIVES:

- **Resource Assessment:** Determine the quantity, quality, and distribution of mineral resources within the designated area.
- **Geological Understanding:** Gain insights into the geological characteristics, stratigraphy, and structure of the subsurface to understand the resource formation and distribution.
- **Risk Mitigation:** Identify potential geological hazards, such as unstable formations or igneous intrusions, to mitigate risks associated with future mining operations.
- **Regulatory Compliance:** Ensure compliance with local, national, and international regulations governing mineral exploration and environmental protection.

AVAILABILITY OF PROJECT DOCUMENTATION: The General Authorisation Technical Report will be available for public review and comment for a 30-day period commencing on Thursday, 13 November 2025, until Monday, 15 December 2025. The exploration drilling Project aims to quantify the mineral resource potential within an area where mining rights have been granted but resource estimates remain unconfirmed. By systematically drilling boreholes and analysing core samples, this Project will generate essential data for precise resource estimation, enabling informed decision-making regarding future mining operations.

Kindly note that the documents are being made available to ensure transparency and to keep Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) fully informed. While the documents are primarily for review purposes, we welcome any feedback or inquiries to enhance stakeholder engagement.

For further inquiries, please contact: Niara Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd

• **Contact person:** Mrs Vumile Ribeiro • **Tel:** 066 526 5099 • **Email:** stakeholder@niara.co.za

• **Postal Address:** Office 1 Palm Place Office Park, 22 Bram Fischer Drive, Linden, Johannesburg, 2195

Kindly ensure that the Project reference SER17 is referenced in all correspondence related to this Project.

SCHOOLS SKOLE SPORT at a glance in 'n blik



'Middie Vyf' vir Koedoekop gholfers

'n Groot 'Middie Vyf' vir Laerskool Middelburg se gholfspelers wat 'n ongelooflike seisoen gehad het. Tydens die Mpumalanga uitspele wen die seuns die Zero Voorgee-afdeling. Die dogters is beide die Mpumalanga IPS en Zero Voorgee naaswenners.

- Aldrie die skool se gholfspanne was ligawenners met die Seuns A-span wat die IPS- en Zeroliga wen. Die seuns B1-span wen die IPS B-liga en die dogters A1-span die IPS-liga.



Miëtte Jordaan en Deoné Botha, Laerskool Middelburg se dogters gholfspan.



Die seuns gholfspan. Mason Niemand, Deandré Greyling en Zandré Botha. Afwesig: Lafras Joubert.

Voor: Janru van den Heever, Hlelo Radebe. Middel: Zandre Botha, Hansie de Beer, Ryan Briggs, Logan Mclean, Deandre Greyling. Agter: Alexander Nel, Grant Nel, Darius Botha (afrigter), Juhan Kruger, Lafras Joubert, Vaughn van Niekerk, Juandre Nel (afrigter) en mnr. Gerrie van der Merwe (hoof).

Koedoekoppe Mpumalanga krieketskampioene!

Laerskool Middelburg se o/13 krieketspan is vir die derde agtereenvolgende jaar Mpumalanga kampioene!

Die span het in 'n harde wedstryd teen Laerskool Nelspruit in die finaal met 30 lopies gewen.

- Daar moet melding gemaak word van Zandré Botha wat 112 lopies van 69 balle geslaan het.

- Na die wedstryd, wat by Hoërskool Middelburg beslis is, het die seuns spontaan 'n kringetjie gemaak en saam gebid.



Die span maak 'n kringetjie en bid saam nadat hulle teen Nelspruit gewen het. FOTO: Tobie van den Bergh.

Kanonkop slaan kishou op kishou!

Laerskool Kanonkop se dogterstennisspan het pas teruggekeer vanaf die Nasionale Rising Star kampioenskappe in Benoni waar hulle algeheel sesde uit 12 skole in die land geëindig het! Beide die skool se seuns- en dogtersspan het die afgelopen seisoen kookwater tennis gespeel. Albei spanne was Nkangala wenners.

Die seuns is Mpumalanga naaswenners nadat hulle in die uitspele vir Laerskool JJ van der Merwe geklop en verloor het teen Curro Nelspruit. Die dogters is ook Mpumalanga naaswenners. In die uitspele pak hulle Laerskole Secunda en Laeveld.

Hoewel hul Laeveld wen met een spel, eindig hulle tweede omdat Laeveld in totaal meer spelle gekry het na afloop van die rondomtalie.

Op hul wenpad was die dogters ook die Rising Star Nkangala en Mpumalanga wenners, met die seuns as Nkangala wenners en Mpumalanga naaswenners.

Afrigter André Janeke is baie trots op die spanne. "Wat die prestasies van die seuns só besonders maak, is dat al die ander spanne se spelers uit een graad ses spelers bestaan. Ons span bestaan uit een graad ses speler en drie graad vyf spelers!"



Die seunspan. Jean-Pierre Klopper, Nathan Gouveia, Molebogeng Penn en Onkgopotse Komane.



Die dogterspan. Miné Nel, Chané Hallatt, Kayleigh Gouveia, Annika Smit saam met afrigter André Janeke.

Advertorial

RADA Inspires Action for Vulnerable Children and Their Caregivers

During November, RADA turns the spotlight on vulnerable children and the extraordinary individuals who care for them. Every child deserves to feel safe, loved and valued, yet many grow up without the protection and guidance of parents or guardians.

age homes, shelters, early childhood development centres and schools. Monthly deliveries provide essentials such as food, clothing, bedding, educational toys and books.

Vulnerable children find strength through the dedication of caregivers, teachers, volunteers and community members who step forward to guide and support them. These individuals build the foundation of self-belief and resilience that helps young lives rise above hardship. Their compassion turns uncertainty into hope and gives children the courage to keep moving forward. By creating a sense of belonging and possibility, they open the door to a future every child deserves.

Behind every child's success is someone who chooses to care.

Among RADA's recent adoptions are Early Bee Day Care and Rainbow Star Makers Crèche. Each partnership represents a commitment to providing environments where children feel secure and hopeful.

Caring for vulnerable children demands emotional strength and compassion. RADA applauds those who rise to this calling, ensuring that no child feels forgotten or excluded. The organisation encourages everyone to play a role in uplifting young lives, whether it is by donating books, volunteering at a local centre or simply showing empathy and attention to a child in need.

The RADA Inspire campaign celebrates these dedicated caregivers while raising awareness of the ongoing needs of orphans and vulnerable children in communities across South Africa. RADA currently supports 39 adopted homes, centres and projects in Gauteng, Limpopo, Free State, Mpumalanga and the North West. These include orphanages, homes for the disabled, old

Small acts of kindness have the power to change lives. Together, we can build a world where every child is valued and cared for. It begins with love, kindness and a willingness to act.

Be the Way ...Be the Change ... One Day at a Time.

Creating a better tomorrow today

Follow us @RADAhealing

Donate At RADA.co.za/donate RADA Inspire - Orphan Awareness

Enough! IS ENOUGH!

Speak out against GBV

Call: 0800 428 428 or SMS 'help' to 31531

www.gbv.org.za

NARA Environmental Consultants

MMS GENERAL AUTHORISATION FOR THE DRILLING OF EXPLORATION BOREHOLES FOR RESOURCE QUANTIFICATION ON PORTIONS 15 & THE REMAINING EXTENT OF PORTION 0 OF THE FARM MIDDELDRIFT 42 IS, NEAR MIDDELBURG, IN THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCE

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In terms of Section 21(c) and 21(f) of the National Water Act, the proposed drilling activities may involve:

- (c) Impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse; and
- (f) Altering the bed, banks, course, or characteristics of a watercourse.

A Technical Report supporting the General Authorisation application has been compiled in accordance with the requirements of Government Notice 509 of 2016 and relevant Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) guidelines.

OBJECTIVES:

- **Resource Assessment:** Determine the quantity, quality, and distribution of mineral resources within the designated area.
- **Geological Understanding:** Gain insights into the geological characteristics, stratigraphy, and structure of the subsurface to understand the resource formation and distribution.
- **Risk Mitigation:** Identify potential geological hazards, such as unstable formations or igneous intrusions, to mitigate risks associated with future mining operations.
- **Regulatory Compliance:** Ensure compliance with local, national, and international regulations governing mineral exploration and environmental protection.

AVAILABILITY OF PROJECT DOCUMENTATION: The General Authorisation Technical Report will be available for public review and comment for a 30-day period commencing on **Thursday, 13 November 2025, until Monday, 15 December 2025.** The exploration drilling Project aims to quantify the mineral resource potential within an area where mining rights have been granted but resource estimates remain unconfirmed. By systematically drilling boreholes and analysing core samples, this Project will generate essential data for precise resource estimation, enabling informed decision-making regarding future mining operations.


Kindly note that the documents are being made available to ensure transparency and to keep Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) fully informed. While the documents are primarily for review purposes, we welcome any feedback or inquiries to enhance stakeholder engagement.










For further inquiries, please contact: Niara Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd
 • Contact person: Mrs Vumile Ribeiro • Tel: 066 526 5099 • Email: stakeholder@niara.co.za
 • Postal Address: Office 1 Palm Place Office Park, 22 Bram Fischer Drive, Linden, Johannesburg, 2195

Kindly ensure that the Project reference SER17 is referenced in all correspondence related to this Project.

Appendix 4: Notification of Documentation Availability

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT: SER17_MMS GENERAL AUTHORISATION FOR THE DRILLING OF EXPLORATION BOREHOLES FOR RESOURCE QUANTIFICATION ON PORTIONS 15 & THE REMAINING EXTENT OF PORTION 0 OF THE FARM MIDDELDRIFT 42 IS (WU47590)

 **From** Niara Stakeholder Engagement <stakeholder@niara.co.za>
To Stakeholder <stakeholder@niara.co.za>
Date 2025-11-13 10:55

 SER17_Albian North GA_Notification Letter_20251112_FINAL.pdf (~138 KB)  SER17_Albian North GA_Comment Reg Form_20251112_FINAL.pdf (~156 KB)
 SER17_Albian North GA_BID_20251112_FINAL.pdf (~1.6 MB)  SER17_Albian North GA_POPIA Letter_20251112_FINAL.pdf (~136 KB)
 SER17_Albian North GA_BID_20251112_IsiZulu_FINAL.pdf (~1.0 MB)  SER17_Albian North GA_Notification Letter_20251112_IsiZulu_FINAL.pdf (~135 KB)
 SER17_Albian North GA_Comment Reg Form_20251112_IsiZulu_FINAL.pdf (~144 KB)
 SER17_Albian North GA_POPIA Letter_20251112_IsiZulu_FINAL.pdf (~135 KB)  SER17_Albian North_GA_Plans_20251113_reduced.pdf (~796 KB)

Dear Stakeholder,

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT: MMS GENERAL AUTHORISATION FOR THE DRILLING OF EXPLORATION BOREHOLES FOR RESOURCE QUANTIFICATION ON PORTIONS 15 & THE REMAINING EXTENT OF PORTION 0 OF THE FARM MIDDELDRIFT 42 IS (WU47590)

Notice is hereby given, in terms of Section 41(4) of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998), that Middelburg Mine Services (MMS), a division of Seriti Power (Pty) Ltd, is applying for a General Authorisation (GA) for the drilling of exploration boreholes for resource quantification purposes on Portion 15 and the Remaining Extent of Portion 0 of the Farm Middeldrift 42 IS, near Middelburg in the Mpumalanga Province.

Niara Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd (“Niara”) has been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to compile and manage the GA application process.

The exploration drilling forms part of Seriti’s ongoing resource development initiative within the Albion North Section of MMS. Although mining rights exist for the area, certain coal resource estimates require confirmation through systematic exploration.

The drilling of 22 boreholes, some of which fall within 500 m of delineated wetlands and drainage features, triggers Section 21(c) and 21(i) water uses, necessitating authorisation in terms of the National Water Act.

The Project objectives are as follows:

- Resource Assessment: Confirm the quantity, quality, and distribution of coal resources.
- Geological Understanding: Improve subsurface models by analysing core samples, lithology, and stratigraphy.
- Risk Mitigation: Identify geological hazards such as dykes, faults, or unstable formations.
- Regulatory Compliance: Ensure full compliance with the National Water Act, GN 509 of 2016, and applicable environmental protection standards.

The Draft General Authorisation Technical Report will be available for a 30-day public review and comment period as follows:

- Review Period: 13 November 2025 – 15 December 2025

The Report will also be uploaded to the Niara Environmental Consultants website at www.niara.co.za under the “Downloads” tab

To support full transparency and informed participation, the following documents are attached:

- Background Information Document (BID) in English and isiZulu – Overview of the project and process
- Notification Letter in English and isiZulu – Formal notice in line with NWA requirements
- POPI Consent Letter in English and isiZulu – Ensuring compliance with the Protection of Personal Information Act
- Comments and Registration Form in English and isiZulu– For stakeholders to submit inputs and register as Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs_
- Locality Setting Plan
- Land Tenure Plan

We encourage all stakeholders to review these documents and participate meaningfully in the process.

Stakeholders are invited to submit written comments, questions, or objections on or before 15 December 2025.

Contact Person:

Mrs Vumile Ribeiro

Email: stakeholder@niara.co.za

Tel: +27 66 526 5099

Postal Address: Office 1 Palm Place Office Park, 22 Bram Fischer Drive, Linden, Johannesburg, 2195

Reference Number: **SER17** or **WU47590**

Your participation is highly valued. By registering as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP), you will be kept informed of all further project developments and regulatory submissions.

Kind regards,

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Environmental Consultants
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