



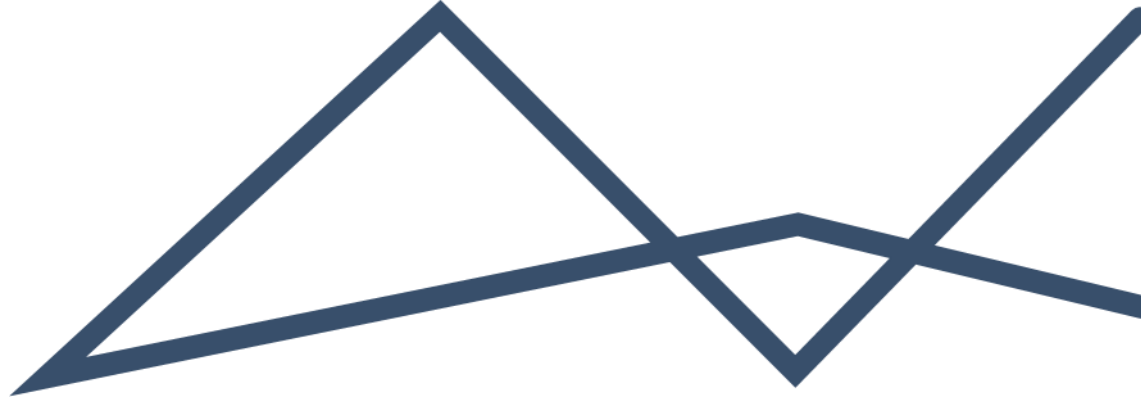
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T 011 789 7170 E [info@eims.co.za](mailto:info@eims.co.za) W [www.eims.co.za](http://www.eims.co.za)

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION REPORT

GLENCORE CHARTECH PROJECT





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<b>CHECKED:</b>	Qaphela Magaqa		2026/02/18
<b>AUTHORIZED:</b>	Liam Whitlow		2026/02/18

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#### ABBREVIATION LIST:

BAR:	Basic Assessment Report
CER:	Centre for Environmental Rights
DFFE:	Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment
DMRE:	Department of Mineral Resources and Energy
DWS:	Department of Water and Sanitation
EA:	Environmental Authorisation
EAP:	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
EIMS:	Environmental Impact Management Services
EWT:	Endangered Wildlife Trust
FSE:	Federation for a Sustainable Environment
I&APs :	Interested and Affected Parties
MACUA:	Mining Affected Communities United in Action
MDED:	Mpumalanga Department of Economic Development and Tourism
MTPA:	Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency
NEMA:	National Environmental Management Act
NERSA:	National Energy Regulators of South Africa
NUMSA:	National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa
PPP:	Public Participation Process
SACAA:	South African Civil Aviation Authority
SANRAL:	South African Heritage Resources Agency
SANRAL:	South African National Roads Agency
WESSA:	Wetlands and Environmental Society South Africa



# 1 INTRODUCTION

Glencore Char Technology (Pty) Ltd (hereafter referred to as the applicant) has appointed Environmental Impact Management Services (Pty) Ltd (EIMS) as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to assist with undertaking the required authorisation processes (including the statutory public participation), and to compile and submit the required documentation in support of application for:

- Environmental Authorisation (EA) in accordance with the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA- Act 107 of 1998) - Listed activity.
  - GN R983 Listing Notice 1 – Activity 34.
- Atmospheric Emissions Licence (AEL) amendment in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act (NEMA: AQA - Act No. 39 of 2004) – Listed Activities:
  - GN R 893, Category 4-
    - Subcategory 4.1: “Drying and Calcining
    - Subcategory 4.18: “Vanadium ore processing

The Applicant proposes the Char Technology VCN Project, which entails the addition of a Vanadium Carbon Nitride (VCN) furnace onto the existing licensed facility. The facility currently operates under an approved AEL with reference number NDM/AEL/MP312/13/06. The proposed VCN furnace will not be newly constructed on site but will be assembled and installed on the existing structural footprint, requiring minor refurbishment of current structures. The introduction of the new furnace constitutes a Listed Activity and represents a change to the approved operational processes; accordingly, an amendment to the existing AEL will be required to authorise the proposed activity.

The proposed project is located on Erf No 43 and 44, Ferrobank Township, on 50 Van Eck Road, Ferrobank, Emalahleni Local Municipality, Mpumalanga. The site is approximately 5km North West of eMalahleni Central Business District. The centre point of the site is 25°51'09.01"S; 29° 09'52.59"E.

# 2 OBJECTIVES OF THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

Public participation can be defined as...*“a process leading to a joint effort by stakeholders, technical specialists, the authorities and the proponent who work together to produce better decisions than if they had acted independently”*<sup>1</sup>. From this definition, it can be seen that the input of the public is regarded as very important indeed.

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

During the Environmental Authorisation (EA) Process:

- Verify that their issues have been recorded;
- Comment on the findings of the environmental assessments; and
- Provide relevant local information and knowledge to the environmental assessment.



The PPP is a requirement of several pieces of South African Legislation and aims to ensure that all relevant I&APs are consulted, involved and their opinions are taken into account and a record included in the reports submitted to Authorities. The process ensures that all stakeholders are provided this opportunity as part of a transparent process which allows for a robust and comprehensive environmental study. The PPP for the necessary authorisation required for the project needs to be managed sensitively and according to best practises in order to ensure and promote:

- Compliance with international best practice options;
- Compliance with national legislation;
- Establishment and management of relationships with key stakeholder groups; and
- Encouragement of involvement and participation in the environmental study and authorisation/approval process.

As such, the purpose of the PPP and stakeholder engagement process is to:

- Introduce the proposed project and process for the authorisation project;
- Explain the environmental authorisation;
- Determine and record issues, concerns, suggestions, and objections to the project;
- Provide opportunity for input and gathering of local knowledge;
- Establish and formalise lines of communication between the I&APs and the project team;
- Identify all significant issues for the project; and
- Identify possible mitigation measures or environmental management plans to minimise and/or prevent negative environmental impacts and maximise and/or promote positive environmental impacts associated with the project.

This Public Participation Report (PPR) lists all verbal and written issues raised by I&APs during the call to register period from the 09<sup>th</sup> of December 2025 to date. A breakdown of the PPP is given within the remaining sections of this PPR.

### 3 LEGAL COMPLIANCE

The PPP must comply with all environmental legislation that requires public participation as part of an application for authorisation or approval; namely, the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA, Act No. 107 of 1998).

Adherence to the requirements of the above-mentioned Act will allow for an Integrated PPP to be conducted, and in so doing, satisfy the requirements for public participation referenced in the Act. The details of the Integrated PPP are provided below.

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

An initial I&AP database has been compiled from existing stakeholder database(provided by applicant), historic projects in the area, and Windeed searches were conducted to obtain the contact details of the surrounding landowners. The I&APs referred to in the PPR include:

- Pre-identified and registered landowners and surrounding landowners;
- Pre-identified and registered key stakeholders;



- Regulatory authorities;
- Specialist interest groups; and
- All I&APs who responded to the initial notifications and requested to be registered.

Efforts to pre-identify key I&APs involved various avenues such as consultation with the proponent and known landowners within the study area, review of related previously conducted studies, and identification of key interest groups and authorities within the vicinity of the study area and municipality. Refer to APPENDIX 1 for the Key Stakeholder/I&AP Database.

#### 4.1 LIST OF ORGANS OF STATE IDENTIFIED AND NOTIFIED

The following key I&APs, but not limited to, were notified of the proposed project and invited to participate in the public participation process:

- Emalahleni Local Municipality
- Eskom
- Mpumalanga Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, and Environmental Affairs
- Mpumalanga Department of Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs
- Mpumalanga Department of Economic Development and Tourism (MPDEDT)
- Mpumalanga Department of Health
- Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency (MPTA)
- National Energy Regulators of South Africa (NERSA)
- National Department of Agriculture
- National Department of Co-operative Governance
- National Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment (DFFE)
- National Department of Health
- National Department of Human Settlements
- National Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE)
- National Department of Tourism
- National Department of Traditional affairs
- National Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)
- National House of Traditional Leaders
- Nkangala District Municipality
- South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA)
- South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)
- South African National Roads Agency (SANRAL)
- Transnet

#### 4.2 LIST OF OTHER KEY I&APS IDENTIFIED AND NOTIFIED

- Pre-identified and registered landowners and surrounding landowners.
- BirdLife South Africa
- Bushveld Vanchem
- Centre for Environmental Rights (CER)
- Council for Geoscience
- CULISA Umphakathi
- EarthLife Africa
- ECUFE Business Hub
- Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT)
- Federation for a Sustainable Environment (FSE)
- GroundWork South Africa
- Mining Affected Communities United in Action (MACUA)
- Mpumatech Stainless Tube (Pty) Ltd
- National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa (NUMSA)
- Natural Justice
- Nzalo Yelanga
- Rise and Shine
- South Durban Community Environmental Alliance
- the Green Connection
- Tracks of Africa
- Wetlands and Environmental Society South Africa (WESSA)



## 5 NOTIFICATION OF INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES

This section provides details on the notifications that were distributed as part of the consultation process to date.

### 5.1 INITIAL NOTIFICATION OF KEY I&APS

The PPP commenced on the 9<sup>th</sup> of December 2025 with an initial call to register notification. Notification during this initial consultation was given in the manner described below.

#### 5.1.1 FAXES, REGISTERED MAIL AND EMAILS

Notification letters (in English and Isizulu) were distributed to pre-identified I&APS through either faxes, SMSs, registered mail, and/or emails on the 12<sup>th</sup> of December 2025.

The notification documents included the following information:

- Authorisations required;
- Sufficient detail of the proposed development to enable I&APs to assess/surmise what impact the development will have on them or the use of their land;
- The purpose of the proposed project;
- Details of the application processes associated with proposed activities;
- Details of the affected properties;
- Details of the South African environmental legislation that must be adhered to;
- Relevant EIMS contact person for the project.

Please refer to **APPENDIX 2** for initial notification and proofs.

#### 5.1.2 NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENTS

Advertisements (in English and Isizulu) describing the proposed project and Basic Assessment (BA) process were placed in the Witbank News Newspaper with circulation in the vicinity of the study area on the 12<sup>th</sup> of December 2025. The newspaper adverts included the following information:

- Project name;
- Applicant name;
- Project location;
- Nature of the activity;
- Legislative requirements; and
- Relevant EIMS contact person for the project.

Please refer to **APPENDIX 3** for proof of the advert placed.

#### 5.1.3 SITE NOTICE PLACEMENT

Six (6) A1 Correx site notices (in English and Isizulu) were placed at 6 locations around the proposed project study area on the 9<sup>th</sup> of December 2025. The on-site notices included the following information:

- Project name;
- Applicant name;
- Project location;
- Map of proposed project area;





- Project description;
- Legislative requirements; and
- Relevant EIMS contact person for the project.

Please refer to **APPENDIX 4** for proof of site notice and site notice distribution.

## 5.2 NOTIFICATION OF INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT AVAILABILITY

Notification (in English and Isizulu) regarding the availability of the Basic Assessment Report for public review and comment will be provided to pre-identified and registered I&APs. The notifications will be distributed through either email, registered mail, fax, and/or SMS, where contact details are available.

Contact details will be provided to I&APs should they require assistance accessing the information or require copies of the reports.

A hard copy of the Basic Assessment Report will be placed at the Lynville Library for a period of 30 days. An electronic copy of the Basic Assessment Report will be made available on the EIMS Public Participation Website.

## 6 SUMMARY OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES

The table below provides a summary of the opportunities provided to I&APs for participation in the public participation process to date.

Table 1: Summary of Public Participation Opportunities

Action	Description	Publication/Place	Date
<b>Initial Call to Register</b>	Notification of landowners, occupiers, and other key I&APs.	Affected landowners and key I&APs were notified via email, fax, SMSs and/or post.	12 December 2025
	Placement of site notices.	Six (6) A1 Correx site notices (in English and Isizulu) were placed at 6 locations along the proposed project study area.	09 December 2025
	Newspaper advertisement.	Advertisements (in English and Isizulu) describing the proposed project and BA process were placed in the Witbank News Newspaper.	12 December 2025
<b>Availability of Basic Assessment Report for public review</b>	Placement of hard copy Basic Assessment Report.	One (1) hard copy of the report will be placed at Emalahleni Main Public Library where members of the public could access the report.	TBA
	Placement of Basic Assessment Report electronic copy.	An electronic copy of the report will be placed on the EIMS website. A data free service will be made available to anyone who has limitations with respect to data downloads.	TBA



## 7 RECORD OF ISSUES RAISED

Comments on the proposed project were solicited from pre-identified and registered I&APs and key stakeholders. To date, the following comments have been received:

- I&AP registration.
- SANRAL stated that they had no objections to the proposed project.
- Transnet Properties has no objections to the proposed project.
- I&APs raised interest on the measures to be taken to ensure environmental protection.
- I&APs enquired about how the community will benefit from the proposed project.

All comments and/or queries received to date are included in this report and presented in **APPENDIX 5**. Please refer to **APPENDIX 6** for proof of correspondence.

## 8 CONCLUSION

The comments received during the comment and review period were used to inform the compilation of this PPR and the final BAR. This report has been updated for submission to the Mpumalanga Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA), the competent authority, following the 30-day public review period of the draft BAR and associated appendices.



## 9 APPENDICES

### APPENDIX 1: IAP DATABASE

Please note that in an effort to protect the personal information of the Registered I&AP's the contact information of the I&APs will not be made publicly available. Should you require access to this document for the purposes of fulfilling your obligations under the NEMA EIA Regulations or other lawful right, please feel free to contact the EIMS Information officer at 011 789 7170 or [popia@eims.co.za](mailto:popia@eims.co.za)

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## APPENDIX 2: INITIAL NOTIFICATION PROOF

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## APPENDIX 3: NEWSPAPER NOTICE PROOF



## APPENDIX 4: SITE NOTICE PROOF



## APPENDIX 5: TABLE OF CORRESPONDENCE



## APPENDIX 6: CORRESPONDENCE DOCUMENT

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