



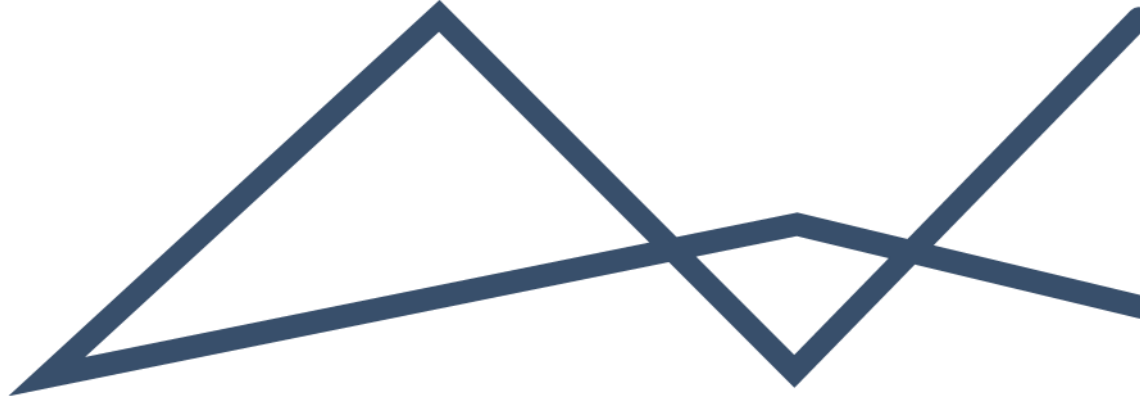
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## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION REPORT

BMM SANDGAT PROSPECTING RIGHT





#### DOCUMENT DETAILS

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#### ABBREVIATION LIST:

BAR:	Basic Assessment Report
CER:	Centre for Environmental Rights
CoGTA:	Gauteng Department of Corporate Governance and Traditional Affairs
DFFE:	Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and Environment
DHS:	Department of Human Settlements
DMPR:	Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources
DSD:	Department of Social Development
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
NC DR&PW:	Northern Cape Department of Roads & Public Works
NCDEDT:	Northern Cape Department of Economic Development and Tourism
NCDENC:	Northern Cape Department of Environment and Nature Conservation
NCEDA:	Northern Cape Economic Development, Trade and Investment Promotion Agency
NERSA:	National Energy Regulators of South Africa
PPP:	Public Participation Process
SACAA:	South African Civil Aviation Authority
SAHRA:	South African Heritage Resources Agency
SANBI:	South African National Biodiversity Institute
WESSA:	Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa
WWF:	World Wildlife Fund



# 1 INTRODUCTION

Notice is given in terms of Section 16 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002) (MPRDA), and Chapter 6 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014 (Government Notice R982) as amended promulgated under the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMA, as amended), of application for a prospecting right and Environmental Authorisation. The applications will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the MPRDA and the NEMA and the associated regulations, and has been lodged at the Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources (DMPR) – Northern Cape. The prospecting application has been accepted and the reference number is: NC30/5/1/1/2/14410 PR. The environmental authorisation application has been acknowledged and the reference number is: (NC) 30/5/1/1/3/2/1 (14410) PR.

Black Mountain Mining (Pty) Ltd (BMM) (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 20 and 27;
  - GN R985 Listing Notice 3: Activity 12 and 14.

Additional listed activities and/or water uses may be identified during the process.

The applicant aims to prospect for ferrous & base metals (Copper Ore, Iron Ore, Lead Ore, Zinc Ore, Manganese Ore, Nickel and Molybdenum) and associated metals and minerals, precious metals (Gold Ore, Silver Ore), gemstones, and/or nuclear fuels/Ferrous and Base metals (Uranium ore) and all associated metals and minerals. The applicant also aims to ascertain if economically viable mineral deposits exist within the application area. The proposed activities include both Non-Invasive Prospecting Techniques such as desktop assessments, geological field mapping and semi-regional Geophysical Survey as well as Invasive Prospecting Techniques such as exploration boreholes and Resource Definition Drilling.

The area is located approximately 75 to 138 km east of Aggeneys and 31 to 85 km south-east of Pofadder, Namaqualand District, Northern Cape Province. The associated farms of the PR area are located across the Kai !Garib Local Municipality of the ZF Mgcawu District Municipality, as well as the Khâi-ma Local Municipality of the Namakwa District Municipality, in the Northern Cape Province. The area is ~ 46 940.02 hectares). The prospecting area cover twelve (12) farm portions namely:

- Remaining Extent of farm Lovedale 201;
- Remaining Extent of farm Quagga- Maag 200;
- Remaining Extent of farm Haartebeest-vlei 199;
- Remaining Extent of farm Vaal-kop 225;
- Portion 1 of the Farm Vaal-kop 225;
- Remaining Extent of farm Adjoining Geelvloer 197;
- Portion 8 of farm Adjoining Geelvloer 197;
- Portion 1 of farm Adjoining Geelvloer 197;
- Portion 2 of farm Adjoining Geelvloer 197;
- Portion 4 of farm Adjoining Geelvloer 197;
- Portion 3 of farm Adjoining Geelvloer 197; and



- Portion 6 of farm Adjoining Geelvloer 197.

## 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:

- 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 April 2026 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 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:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| • Agricultural Research Council            | • Mainstream Renewable Power Development - S.A                                   |
| • Augrabies Falls National Park            | • Namakwa District Municipality  |
| • Conservation South Africa (CSA)          | • National Department of Agriculture, Land Reform And Rural Development (DALRRL) |
| • Department of Science and Technology     | • National Department of Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs (CoGTA) |
| • Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) | • National Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)          |
| • Earth Life Africa                        |  |
| • Eskom                                    |  |
| • Khai-Ma Local Municipality               |  |



- National Department of Human Settlements (DHS)
- National Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources (DMPR)
- National Department of Tourism
- National Department of Transport
- National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA)
- National House of Traditional Leaders
- Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Land Reform and Rural Development
- Northern Cape Department of Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (NC COGHSTA)
- Northern Cape Department of Economic Development and Tourism (NCDEDAT)
- Northern Cape Department of Environment and Nature Conservation (NCDENC)
- Northern Cape Department of Roads & Public Works (NC DR&PW)
- Northern Cape Department of Social Development (NCDSD)
- Northern Cape Department of Water and Sanitation
- Northern Cape Economic Development Agency
- Northern Cape Economic Development, Trade and Investment Promotion Agency (NCEDA)
- Northern Cape Heritage Resources Authority (NCHRA)
- Northern Cape Protech and Agri Revolution (Pty) Ltd
- Northern Cape Tourism Authority
- Renewable Energy Initiatives
- South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA)
- South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)
- South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI)
- South African National Parks (SanParks)
- South African National Roads Agency Ltd (SANRAL)
- Transnet Soc Ltd
- World Wide Fund South Africa
- ZF Mgcawu District Municipality

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

- Pre-identified and registered landowners and surrounding landowners.
- Agri Northern Cape
- Agri SA
- BirdLife South Africa
- Botanical Society
- Centre For Environmental Rights (CER)
- Council of Geoscience
- Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT)
- Federation For A Sustainable Environment (FSE)
- Groundwork South Africa
- National Khoisan Council
- Natural Justice
- Northern Cape Protech And Agri Revolution (Pty) Ltd
- Northern Cape Wetland Forum
- Wildlife And Environment Society Of South Africa (WESSA)
- World Wildlife Fund (WWF)





## 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 09<sup>th</sup> of April 2026 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 Afrikaans) were distributed to pre-identified I&APS through either faxes, SMSs, registered mail, and/or emails on the 30<sup>th</sup> of April 2026.

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;
- Contact details of the EAP.

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

#### 5.1.2 NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENTS

Advertisements (in English and Afrikaans) describing the proposed project and Basic Assessment (BA) process were placed in the Gemsbok Newspaper with circulation in the vicinity of the study area on the 1<sup>st</sup> of May 2026. 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 adverts placed.

#### 5.1.3 SITE NOTICE PLACEMENT

Nine (9) A1 Correx site notices (in English and Afrikaans) were placed at 3 locations around the proposed project study area on the 09<sup>th</sup> of April 2026. 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 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 Scoping Report will be placed at an appropriate location where I&APs can access it for a period of 30 days. An electronic copy of the Scoping 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
Initial Call to Register	Notification of landowners, occupiers, and other key I&APs.	Affected landowners and key I&APs were notified via email, fax, SMSs and/or post.	30 April 2026
	Placement of site notices.	Six (6) A1 Correx site notices (in English and Afrikaans) were placed at 6 locations along the proposed project study area.	09 April 2026



Action	Description	Publication/Place	Date
	Newspaper advertisement.	Advertisements (in English and Afrikaans) describing the proposed project and EA process were placed in the Gemsbok Newspaper.	01 May 2026
Availability of Basic Assessment Report for public review	Placement of hard copy Basic Assessment Report.	One (1) hard copy of the report will be placed at an appropriate location where members of the public could access the report.	<b>TBA</b>
	Placement of Scoping 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.	<b>TBA</b>

## 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
- I&APs requested transparency in through the EA application process.
- Landowners requested that the applicant maintain sustainable farming standards.
- Request that all activities should avoid environmental harm.
- Landowners requested that they be kept informed at all times.
- Request for compensation on all activities that affect farming.
- A request that care needs to be taken for all activities that have an environmental impact.



- A request that no trees should be destroyed during prospecting.
- No collection of wood should be done in landowner properties.
- A request that the applicant no extract water from the land without prior agreements.
- SANRAL requested further information on 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 initial call to register period to date were used to inform the compilation of this PPR.



## 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 AND GAZETTE NOTICE PROOF



## APPENDIX 4: SITE NOTICE PROOF





## APPENDIX 5: TABLE OF CORRESPONDENCE



## APPENDIX 6: CORRESPONDENCE DOCUMENT

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