



Tronox KZN Sands (Pty) Ltd

BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME

Fairbreeze Mine Extension into Heleza Moya
Farm: Comments and Responses Report





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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

Tronox KZN Sands (Pty) Ltd (Tronox) has operated the Fairbreeze Mine, located south-west of Mtunzini, for nearly 10 years. The mine comprises four approved mining areas (Pits A, B, C and C-Extension), an onsite Primary Wet Plant (PWP) and a fines residue storage facility (RSF). Heavy mineral concentrate from the PWP containing ilmenite, zircon, rutile and other mining co-products, is transported 47km by road to the Tronox Central Processing Complex (CPC) in Empangeni which includes a Mineral Separation Plant (MSP) and Smelter where titanium slagdioxide and pig iron are produced.

In 2022 Tronox acquired the 118 ha Heleza Moya property (Remainder of Portion 3 of Lot Emoyeni No. 9105), located between the Fairbreeze PWP and the Pit B mining area, and incorporated this property into the Fairbreeze Mining Rights Area (MRA). Tronox is now making an application to extend their mineral sands mining into parts of Heleza Moya to enable this area to be mined together with the approved Pit B orebody which lies on the immediate north and west of Heleza Moya.

Although the Heleza Moya property has been consolidated into the MRA of Fairbreeze Mine (MR reference: KZN/30/5/1/2/2/123MR), the area was not included in the mining work programme(MWP)no application to mine this land has been made. The Mining Work Programme (MWP) and an Environmental Authorisation (EA) application to mine identified parts of Heleza Moya were submitted to the DMRE KZN Regional Office and a Basic Assessment (BA) process is being undertaken in support of this application.

1.2 PURPOSE OF THE STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT REPORT

This stakeholder engagement report (SER) is prepared as part of the BA process for the Fairbreeze Mine Extension into Heleza Moya Farm. The purpose of the SER is to create a single document that fulfils the following objectives:

- Document the public participation activities conducted thus far; and
- Outline the way forward for I&APs to get involved in the project.

2 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION TO DATE

2.1 PRE-APPLICATION PHASE STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Tasks undertaken during the Pre-Application Phase are detailed in the following Sections.

2.1.1 IDENTIFICATION OF KEY STAKEHOLDERS

- The Pre-application Phase commenced with the compilation of a stakeholder database to include relevant stakeholders, such as Commenting Authorities (CAs), landowners/users, and Ward Councillors, as well as any other interested and affected parties (I&APs) who may be interested or affected by the project. A copy of the stakeholder database is included in Appendix B5.
- Relevant authorities (Organs of State) have been automatically registered as I&APs. In accordance with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (2014, as amended) of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) as amended, (NEMA), all other persons must request in writing to be placed on the register, submit written comments or attend meetings to be registered as stakeholders and included in future communication regarding the project.
- Section 41 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 states that written notices must be given to identified stakeholders as outlined in **Table 2-1**.

Table 2-1 - I&AP Table

NEMA REQUIREMENT	DISCUSSION
<i>(i) the owner or person in control of that land if the applicant is not the owner or person in control of the land</i>	The applicant is the landowner.
<i>(ii) the occupiers of the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken or to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken</i>	The applicant is the landowner and occupant.
<i>(iii) owners and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken or to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken</i>	The applicant is the landowner and occupant.
<i>(iv) the municipal councillor of the ward in which the site or alternative site is situated and any organisation of ratepayers that represent the community in the area</i>	The Ward Councillors from Wards 11, 18, 19 and 20 of Umhlathuze Local Municipality has been included on the stakeholder database.
<i>(v) the municipality which has jurisdiction in the area</i>	The King Cetshwayo District Municipality and Umhlathuze Local Municipality have been included on the stakeholder database.

NEMA REQUIREMENT	DISCUSSION
<i>(vi) any organ of state having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the activity</i>	The DMRE has been consulted as the CA regarding the application.
<i>(vii) any other party as required by the competent authority.</i>	All tiers of government, namely, national, provincial, local government and parastatals have been included on the stakeholder database.

2.2 BASIC ASSESSMENT PHASE

The Draft BAR was placed on public review for at least 30 days from 28 November 2023 to 19 January 2024 at the Mtunzini Library. Additionally, an electronic version of the report was placed on the WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) website to be accessed by the public at the following link: <https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>.

Since the review period extended beyond the regulated period within which public participation cannot take place, the review period was greater than 30 days.

A soft copy of the draft BAR was also uploaded to the South African Heritage Resources Information System (SAHRIS), administered by SAHRA.

2.2.1 DIRECT NOTIFICATION

Notification of the proposed Project was issued to potential I&APs and stakeholders, via direct correspondence (i.e. site notices, email and SMS) on 28 November 2023. The purpose of the notification was to offer potential I&APs and stakeholders the opportunity to register on the project database and provide input into the process to ensure the major concerns had been considered adequately, reducing the potential for amendments to the report. Proof of notification is included in Appendix B.

Stakeholders were notified on 11 December 2023 that Appendix C9 of the Basic Assessment Report (Heritage and Palaeontological Study) had been re-uploaded onto the WSP websites. On 08 January 2024, stakeholders were sent a reminder of the public review period.

2.2.2 ADVERTISEMENT

Notification of the proposed Project was issued to the general public via an advertisement published in the Eyethu Baywatch and Zululand Observer newspapers on 22 and 24 November 2023, in English and isiZulu. As mentioned above, the purpose of the advertisement was to notify the general public of the proposed Project and to provide an opportunity to register on the project database and provide input into the process through the availability of the draft BA. A copy of the advertisement is included in Appendix B.

2.2.3 2.2.3 SITE NOTICES

The EIA Regulations, 2014 require that site notices be fixed at places conspicuous to the public at the boundary or on the fence of the site where the activity (to which the application relates) is to be undertaken, as well as at any alternative sites. Posters (in English), conforming to the size

specifications as per the EIA Regulations, 2014 were placed on Friday, 17 November 2023, at the following points:

- Mtunzini Golf Club
- Mtunzini Spar
- Fairbreeze Mine Main entrance
- Fairbreeze intersection with N2
- Heleza Moya entrance

A copy of the site notice and proof of placement are included in Appendix B.

2.2.4 MEETINGS

- A Focus Group meeting was held on 30 November 2023 with the Traditional Councils at the Fairbreeze Training Center at 10:00. A copy of the public meeting presentation, attendance register and meeting minutes are included in Appendix B.
- A public meeting was also convened on 30 November 2023 at the Mtunzini Country Club as part of the consultation with the public. A copy of the public meeting presentation, attendance register and meeting minutes are included in Appendix B.

3 CONCLUSION

Communication with I&APs, especially the communities surrounding the site, should continue. This is to ensure informed decision-making and a clear process throughout.



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