NOTIFICATION OF WATER USE LICENCE APPLICATION IN TERMS OF SECTION 21 OF THE NATIONAL WATER ACT, 1998 (ACT NO. 36 OF 1998) (NWA) FOR WATER USE ACTIVITIES TAKING PLACE AT THE NKOMATI NICKEL MINE, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE

WATER USE LICENCE APPLICATION

Notice issued in terms of Government Gazette 40713, Regulation 267 dated 24 March 2017 (Procedural Requirements for the Water Use Licence Application and Appeals)

Africa Rainbow Minerals Limited operates the Nkomati Nickel Mine (Nkomati Mine). Nkomati is located in the Albert Luthuli Local Municipality, within the Gert Sibande District Municipality, Mpumalanga Province, approximately 35 km east of eNtokozweni (Machadodorp) which falls within the quaternary catchment area X11J.

Nkomati was issued with several Water Use Licences (WULs), of which the most recent is WUL 05/X11J/F/16885 dated 19 September 2025, which supersedes WUL 05/X11J/CFI/15488 dated 19 December 2024. This WUL authorises Section 21(c), 21(f) and 21(i) water uses, namely three pipeline crossings over non-perennial streams and the discharge of up to 5 456 750 m³/a of treated mine-affected water from the Reverse Osmosis (RO) plant into the Adit stream (a tributary of the Gladdespruit).

Nkomati proposes to treat and discharge additional water from the authorised RO plant into the Adit stream. The total treated water discharge which will take place on Portion 0 of farm Uitkomst 541 JT will be 8 011 750 m³/a. The proposed additional treated water to be discharged will not require any changes to the existing authorisation (DMRE Reference: (MP) 30/5/1/2/3/2/1(146) EM) and discharge infrastructure (dispersion structure.

The following water use form part of the project:

- Section 21(f): Discharge waste or water containing waste into a water resource through a pipe, canal, sewer, sea outfall or other conduit.

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP), an independent environmental and engineering consultant, has been appointed to undertake the public participation process for the Water Use Licence Application (WULA) in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998) (NWA).

PUBLIC COMMENT INVITED ON THE WATER USE AUTHORISATION PROCESS

Stakeholders are invited to register as Interested and Affected Parties and to lodge written comments regarding the proposed water use authorisation process by ***12 February 2027.*** The 60-day comment period will start ***20 November 2026*** and conclude on ***12 February 2027.*** An online registration and comment sheet is available at the following website: https://www.wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents.

WSP will be processing certain personal information about you as an interested and affected party (I&AP) for purposes of enabling your registration as an I&AP and storing of your details on our database, if you consent for us to do so. WSP will use these details to contact you about other relevant projects in the future. WSP will always process your personal information in accordance with the Protection of Personal Information Act 4 of 2013. You are entitled to exercise your rights as a data subject and let us know if you wish to be deregistered as an I&AP or if you no longer want your contact details to be included on our database.	**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:** Public Participation Office; WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd; Tel: 011 361 1300; E-mail: pp@wsp.com **WSP Reference No:** ZA0085608.7908	**Or scan the QR code**

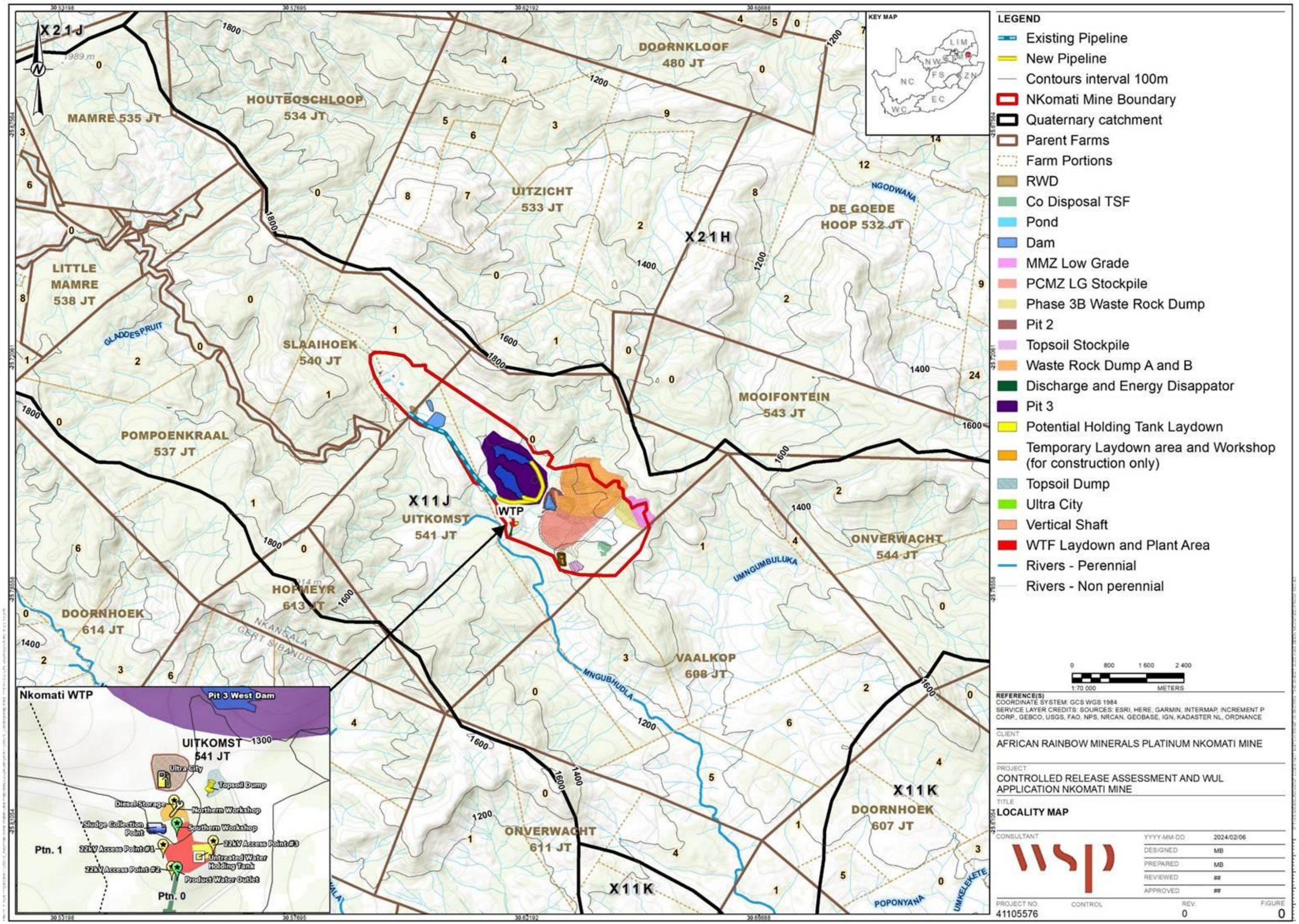


Figure 1: Locality of the project site