

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Taking the assessment of potential impacts into account, herewith please receive an environmental impact statement that summarises the impact that the activity may have on the environment after the management and mitigation of impacts have been considered, with specific reference to types of impact, duration of impacts, likelihood of potential impacts occurring and the significance of impacts.

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EXPANSION ACTIVITIES – SITE ESTABLISHMENT PHASE

<u>TYPE OF IMPACT</u>	<u>DURATION</u>	<u>LIKELIHOOD</u>	<u>SIGNIFICANCE</u>
<u>Stripping and Stockpiling of Topsoil and/or Overburden:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Visual intrusion because of the expansion activities. ❖ Dust nuisance due to the movement of the soil. ❖ Noise nuisance caused by earthmoving machinery. ❖ Potential contamination of footprint area and surface runoff because of hydrocarbon spillages. ❖ Loss of vegetation cover and riparian vegetation. ❖ Potential impact on faunal species. ❖ Infestation of the topsoil heaps and mining area with invader plant species. ❖ Potential increase in runoff from denuded areas and associated accelerated erosion. ❖ Runoff from the mining area potentially affecting the water quality of the Gcuwa River. 	Site establishment and Operational phase (±14 years)	Definite Low Possibility Low Possibility Low Possibility Definite Low Possibility Possible Low Possibility Low Possibility	Low-Medium Concern Low Concern Low Concern Low Concern Low-Medium Concern Low Concern Low Concern Low-Medium Concern Low-Medium Concern

OPERATIONAL AND EXPANSION ACTIVITIES – OPERATIONAL PHASE

<u>TYPE OF IMPACT</u>	<u>DURATION</u>	<u>LIKELIHOOD</u>	<u>SIGNIFICANCE</u>
<u>Drilling and Blasting:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Alteration of the existing topography. ❖ Health and safety risk posed by blasting activities. ❖ Dust nuisance caused by blasting activities. ❖ Noise nuisance caused by blasting activities. ❖ Flyrock falling beyond the mining area. 	Operational phase (±14 years)	Definite Low Possibility Possible Definite Low Possibility	Medium Concern Low Concern Medium Concern Medium Concern Low Concern

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Potential damage to the municipal wastewater treatment works. 		Low Possibility	Low Concern
<p><u>Excavation, Processing, Loading and Hauling of Aggregate:</u></p>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Alteration of the existing topography. 		Definite	Medium Concern
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Dust nuisance caused by earthmoving machinery. 		Possible	Low Concern
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Noise nuisance because of the mining activities. 		Low Possibility	Low-Medium Concern
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Unsafe working environment for employees. 		Low Possibility	Low-Medium Concern
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Soil contamination from hydrocarbon spills and/or littering. 		Low Possibility	Low Concern
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Flooding of the excavation due to ingress from the river. 		Possible	Low-Medium Concern
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Runoff from mining area potentially impacting the Gcuwa River and/or surface water. 		Low Possibility	Low-Medium Concern
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Infestation of the mining area with invader plant species. 		Possible	Low Concern
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Overloading of trucks having an impact on the public roads. 		Low Possibility	Low Concern
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Continued employment opportunities (+) 		Definite	High (+)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Continued provision of building material to the region (+) 		Definite	High (+)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Continued social support to local community (+) 		Definite	High (+)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Development direction away from the neighbouring residents (+) 		Definite	Medium-High (+)
<p><u>Cumulative Impacts:</u></p>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Flooding of the quarry excavation upon closure poses a safety risk to people and livestock. 		Definite	Low-Medium Concern
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Alteration of hydrological and geomorphological processes. 		Low Possibility	Low Concern
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Impact on downstream users should mining affect the water quality of the Gcuwa River. 		Low Possibility	Low Concern
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Impact on overall species and ecosystem diversity. 		Low Possibility	Low Concern
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Impacts to ecological connectivity and/or ecological disturbance impacts. 		Low Possibility	Low Concern
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Cumulative visual impact when the Quarry footprint is expanded. 		Definite	Medium Concern

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

❖ Cumulative disturbance caused by night shift operations.		Possible	Medium Concern
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OPERATIONAL AND EXPANSION ACTIVITIES – DECOMMISSIONING PHASE

<u>TYPE OF IMPACT</u>	<u>DURATION</u>	<u>LIKELIHOOD</u>	<u>SIGNIFICANCE</u>
<u>Sloping and Landscaping During Rehabilitation:</u> ❖ Health and safety risk posed by unrehabilitated quarry excavations. ❖ Erosion of returned topsoil after rehabilitation. ❖ Infestation of the reinstated area with invader plant species. ❖ Potential impact associated with litter left at the mining area.	Decommissioning Phase (±4 months)	Low Possibility Low Possibility Possible Low Possibility	Low Concern Low Concern Low Concern Low Concern