

22 April 2026

Dear Interested and Affected Party,

**SOUTHERN SPHERE PLATINUM PROPRIETARY LIMITED: STEELPOORT PROJECT
NOTICE OF THE APPLICATION FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORIZATION, WASTE
MANAGEMENT LICENSE AND WATER USE LICENSE, AND DRAFT SCOPING REPORT
REVIEW PERIOD FOR THE PROPOSED STEELPOORT MINING PROJECT WITHIN THE
FETAKGOMO TUBATSE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, WITHIN THE SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT
MUNICIPALITY, LIMPOPO PROVINCE**

Notice is given in terms of Regulation 21 and 24 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, promulgated under the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No.107 of 1998) (NEMA); the National Environmental Management Waste Act, 2008 (Act No.59 of 2008) (NEM:WA); and the National Water Act, 1998 (act 36 of 1998) (NWA), for applications for Environmental Authorisation (EA), Waste Management Licence (WML), and Water Use License (WUL) for the Steelpoort Mining Project (application in support of a Section 102 application).

This letter serves as a Background Information Document ("BID") and aims to provide potential Interested and Affected Parties ("I&APs") a brief introduction to the Steelpoort Project and provide details of where further information can be obtained, as well as the opportunity I&APs have to comment on the draft Scoping Report ("DSR").

BACKGROUND TO THE PROJECT

Southern Sphere Platinum Proprietary Limited (Registration No. 1970/014926/07) ("Southern Sphere") intends to progress with a mine called the Steelpoort Project ("Steelpoort Project"), located approximately 7 km south-west of Steelpoort town in Limpopo Province (*Figure 1*). The Project falls within Ward 27 and 31 of the Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality within the Sekhukhune District Municipality.

The integrated application for EA is submitted in support of the section 102 application, including to seek EA and a WML for the proposed mining and mining-related activities associated with the Steelpoort Project. A separate WUL Application ("WULA") will be submitted for water uses associated with the Project.

The main elements of the project consist of three opencast pit areas, from which underground mining extensions will occur, related mining infrastructure, a PGM and chromite processing plant, a tailings storage facility and a renewable solar power facility and associated energy infrastructure.

NOTICE OF THE APPLICATION FOR AN EA, WML & WULA FOR THE STEELPOORT PROJECT

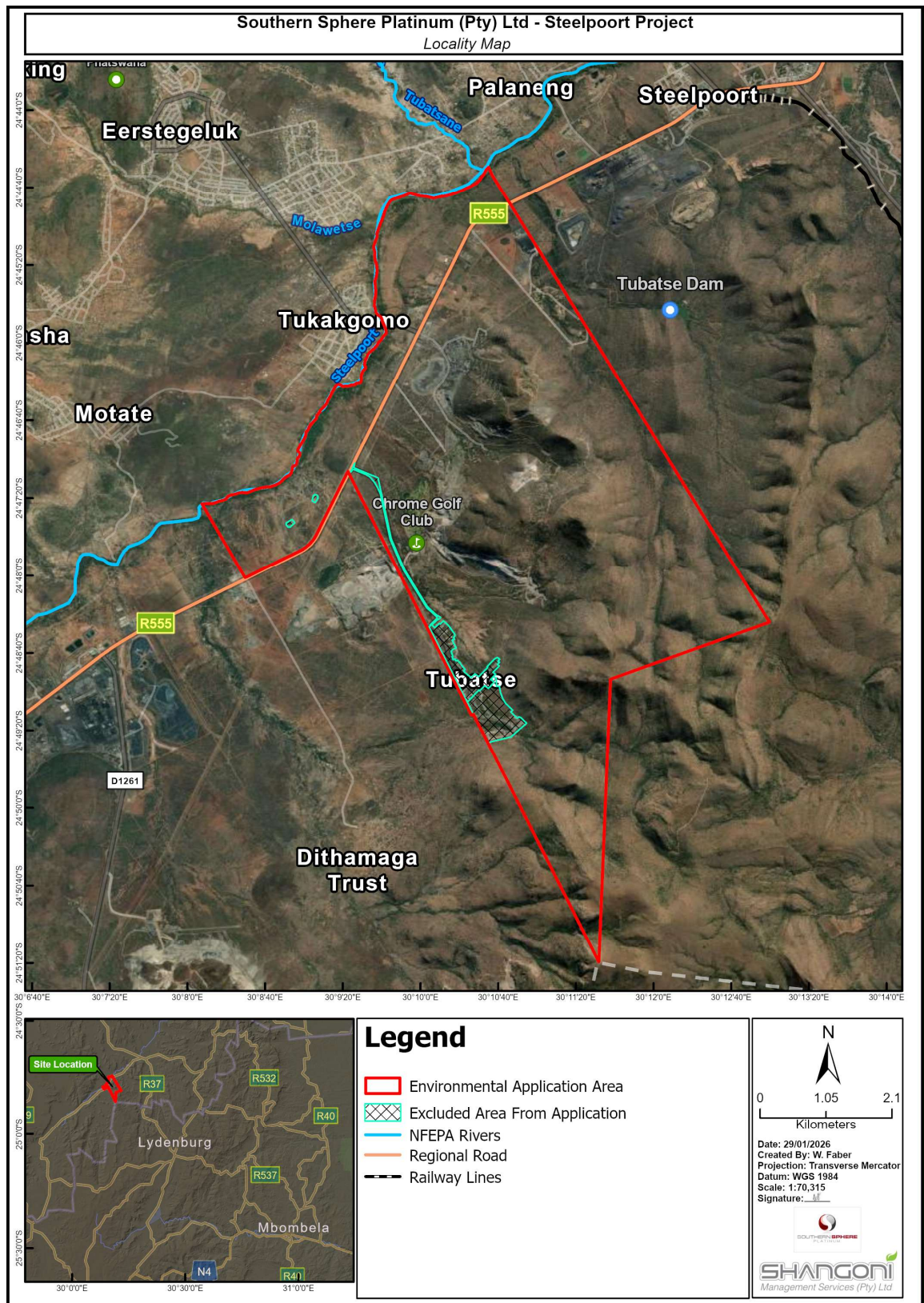


Figure 1: Locality map

NOTICE OF THE APPLICATION FOR AN EA, WML & WULA FOR THE STEELPOORT PROJECT

Section 102 application to the Mining Right:

Southern Sphere are the holders of mining right **LP 10190 MR** which provides for the mining of “*all minerals excluding chrome*” covering the farm Grootboom 336KT. A Section 102 application has been lodged by Southern Sphere to:

1. Amend and vary mining right LP30/5/1/1/2/10190 MR by:
 - Including the whole of the farm Annex Grootboom 335KT in respect of:
 - Chromite in the UG1, UG2 including any sub facies thereof, including leader seams and split seams and associated upper group layers on Annex Grootboom 335 KT (but excludes the chromite in the MG and LG layers which remain with Samancor Chrome).
 - Platinum, palladium, rhodium, iridium, ruthenium, osmium, gold, silver, cobalt, nickel ore and copper ore over the entire Annex Grootboom 335 KT including in the MG and LG layers.
 - Pyroxenite, gabbro and norite, except for these three minerals which may be found in the MG and LG seams over the entire Annex Grootboom 335 KT.

Note: Samancor shall, continue to retain the right to chromite, pyroxenite, gabbro and norite found directly within the MG and LG layers.

 - Including a 14.5585 hectares portion of portion 28 Spitskop 333 KT in respect to platinum, palladium, rhodium, iridium, ruthenium, osmium, gold, silver, cobalt, nickel, copper, pyroxenite, anorthosite, gabbro, norite and chromite.
 - Including an area measuring 184.9486 hectares over portions 1 and a portion of portion 2 and 3 of Spitskop 333 KT in respect of pyroxenite, anorthosite, gabbro and norite.
2. Amend the Mine Works Programme (“MWP”) to provide for both opencast and underground mining methods. Whereas the current MWP is for underground operations.
3. Amend the Environmental Authorisation (EA) to authorise both opencast (x3 main areas) and underground mining, to reflect the revised locations of the processing plant, TSF, site offices, laydown areas, the mine’s power supply infrastructure including; the substations, switching stations, powerlines, battery storage facility, and solar plant(s), and generally to authorise all other ancillary and supporting infrastructure necessary for the implementation and operation of the amended mining activities.

Figure 2 below provides a visual indication of the following:

- The original mining right area (area to the north of the blue line highlighted by “Original LP 10190 MR”).
- The expanded mining right area (shown in red) which includes the adjacent farm, Annex Grootboom 335KT, a slither of portion 28, portion 1 and a portion of portions 2 and 3 of Spitskop 333 KT.

Environmental Application:

The scope of this environmental authorisation application covers the proposed mining activities to be undertaken on the farms Grootboom 336KT, Annex Grootboom 335KT, the slither of portion 28

NOTICE OF THE APPLICATION FOR AN EA, WML & WULA FOR THE STEELPOORT PROJECT

of Spitskop 333KT and portions of portions 1, 2 and 3 the farm Spitskop 333KT which could be mined for pyroxenite, anorthosite, gabbro and norite and be used for subsidiary activities (i.e. mining offices, overburden or topsoil dumps, a pollution control dam, laydown areas and a renewable project).

The environmental application specifically excludes; 2 declines portals located on the farm Spitskop 333 KT and the Tubatse village which is contained within Steelpoort Extensions 1 and 2.

Figure 3 provides a visual indication of the extent of the area covered by this environmental authorisation application (in red), of which ~ 1000 hectares of the area could be used for surface activities associated with the Southern Sphere Steelpoort project, and, excluded areas are highlighted in blue.

High-level description of the proposed activities to be undertaken:

The current project consists of three opencast pits (Sunbird pit, Kingfisher pit & Sugarbird pit), mining multiple reefs rich in PGM and chromite.

Each pit will be developed by stripping and stockpiling topsoil (where available) followed by free dig of soft overburden and then drilling and blasting activities of hard overburden to access and extract mineral bearing reefs, from surface outcrops to a maximum depth (in the Kingfisher pit) of up to 110 m below current surface. The mining waste (overburden) generated to expose the reefs will be used both as backfill into mined out areas and / or be deposited in above ground overburden dumps. Where possible, overburden will be used for internal construction and operational purposes and/or sold to external third parties.

Sections of each pit will be left partially open (i.e. not completely backfilled) to allow for future underground extensions, once opencast mining is established.

Additional ore bearing resources will be sourced from, accepting ore from Samancor mining activities (Hoopoe) the reprocessing of existing Samancor tailings (Loerie) and existing discard dumps (Wagtail) to recover the remaining minerals contained therein. The activities used to access these minerals will involve either hydro mining or mining with trucks, shovels and front-end loaders.

All ore will be processed through a centralised PGM and chromite processing plant with the waste (tailings) being dewatered and transferred to a dry stack tailings storage facility ("DSTSF") at a maximum rate of 55 000 tonnes per month ("tpm") and / or co-mingled and internalised into the overburden dumps.

Up to 80 000 tonnes per month of run of mine ("ROM") and 40 000 tonnes of tails or discard dump material will be mined and delivered to a new processing plant which will have the ability to produce a saleable PGM, gold, nickel and copper concentrate and a saleable chromite concentrate.

NOTICE OF THE APPLICATION FOR AN EA, WML & WULA FOR THE STEELPOORT PROJECT

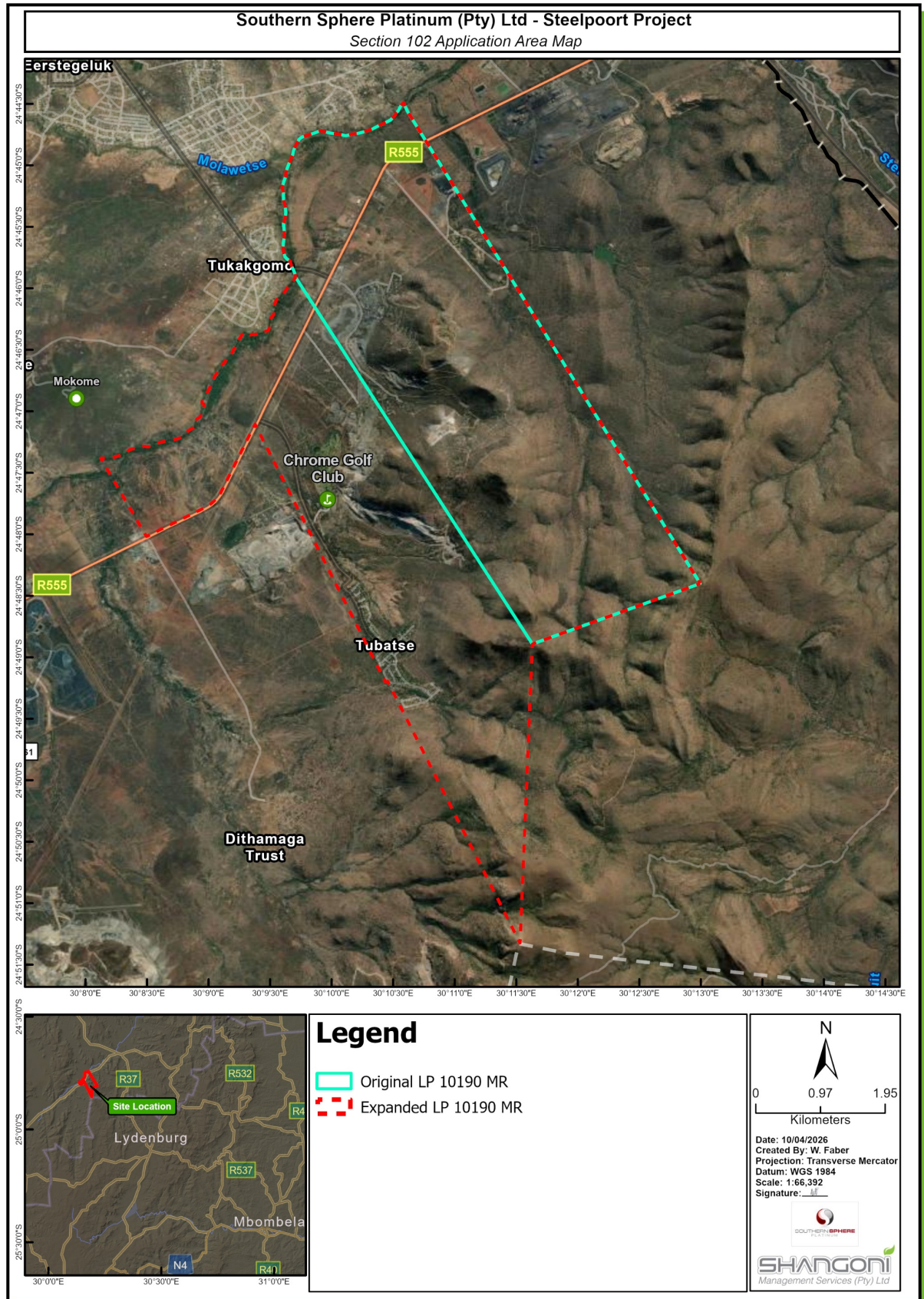


Figure 2: Visual indication of the area subject to the Section 102 application

NOTICE OF THE APPLICATION FOR AN EA, WML & WULA FOR THE STEELPOORT PROJECT

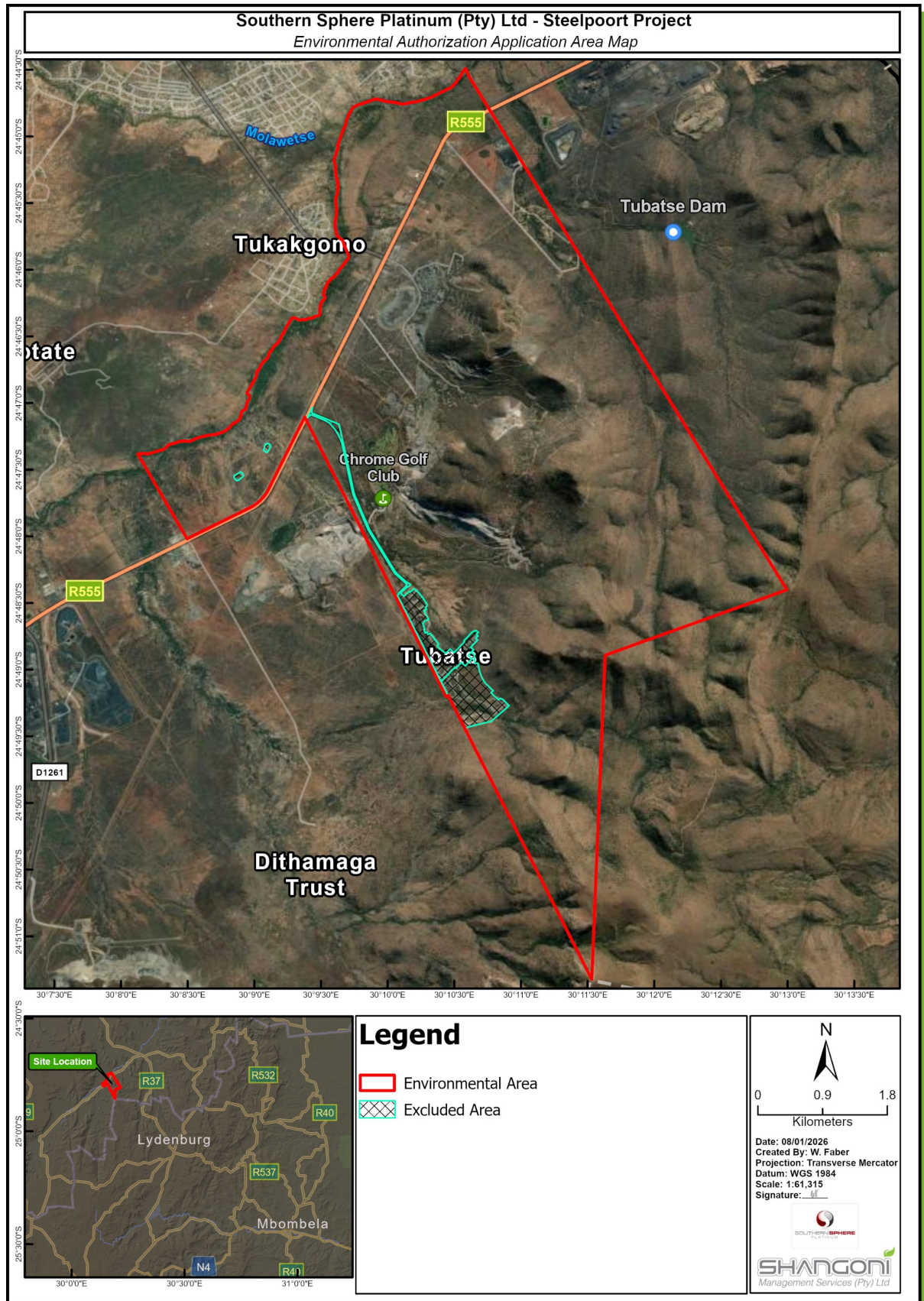


Figure 3: Scope of the Environmental Authorisation Application area covering the surface activities

NOTICE OF THE APPLICATION FOR AN EA, WML & WULA FOR THE STEELPOORT PROJECT

The PGM concentrate will be sold to an existing smelter for further refining while Samancor will have the first right to purchase the chromite concentrate.

Waste rock could be subject to crushing via a mobile crusher with the aggregate product used either internally for construction and maintenance requirements or sold locally.

The project will require typical services and infrastructure to support the mining operations of this nature.

To promote responsible resilient mining and to reduce the carbon footprint associated with the project, various areas within the project footprint has been identified for the establishment of a renewable energy project (solar photovoltaic facility) to support the power needs.

Once all environmental, other legal, financing, shareholder and board approvals have been obtained, the construction phase of the project will commence.

Key construction activities will include:

- Demarcating key project footprint areas (with either fences or berms).
- Establishing required intersections and access roads to the various project areas.
- Installation of initial infrastructure within the plant footprint and hard park and mining stockpile areas.
- Establishing electrical and water connection to plant area and constructing the package sewage plant.
- Development of initial storm water management requirements.
- Preparing the approved TSF footprint.
- Construction of the Chromite and PGM recovery plant.
- Construction of the renewable project, substation and powerlines.
- Construction of offices, conveyors, PCD's and laydown areas for the development of the open cast mining areas.
- Preparing road diversions.
- Conducting pre-stripping activities.

Figure 4 below provides a visual indication of the spatial orientation of main elements of the project covered by this application.

Further details regarding the project description are included in the Draft Scoping Report.

NOTICE OF THE APPLICATION FOR AN EA, WML & WULA FOR THE STEELPOORT PROJECT

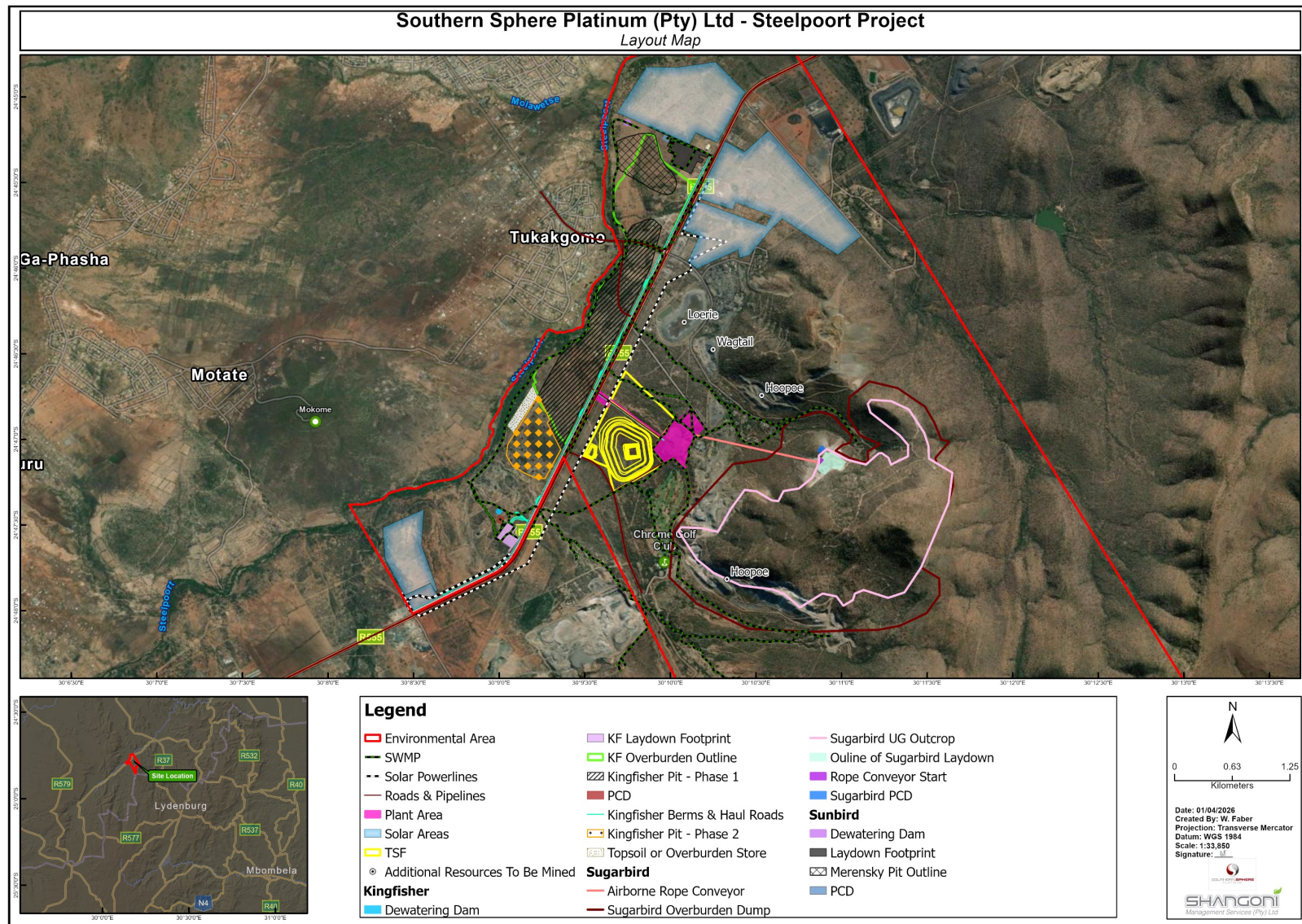


Figure 4: Project layout map

NOTICE OF THE APPLICATION FOR AN EA, WML & WULA FOR THE STEELPOORT PROJECT

LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Based on environmental sensitivities and the Project's activities the following applications are being undertaken:

1. An integrated Scoping and EIA in terms of the NEMA and NEM:WA for the:
 - Authorisation of the following listed activities contained in GNR 983, GNR 984 and GNR 985 of 4 December 2014, as amended, published in terms of the NEMA:
 - GNR 983 Listing Notice 1 Activity 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 19, 21D, 21F, 24, 25, 27, 28 and 56.
 - GNR 984 Listing Notice 2 Activity 1, 6, 15, 16 and 17.
 - GNR 985 Listing Notice 3 Activity 2, 4, 10, 12, 14 and 18.
 - Authorisation of the following listed waste management activities contained in GNR 921 of 29 November 2013, as amended, published in terms of the NEM:WA:
 - Category B, Waste Management Activity 10 and 11.
2. A WULA in terms of Section 21 of the NWA, for the following water use activities:
 - Section 21(a): Taking water from a water resource.
 - Section 21(b): Storage of clean water.
 - Section 21(c): Impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse.
 - Section 21(e): Engaging in a controlled activity (irrigation).
 - Section 21(f): Discharging waste or water containing waste into a water resource.
 - Section 21(g): Disposing of waste in a manner which may detrimentally impact on a water resource.
 - Section 21(i): Altering the bed, banks, course or characteristics of a watercourse.
 - Section 21(j): Removing, discharging, or disposing of water found underground.

APPLICATION STATUS

An integrated application for an EA and WML has been submitted on **23 April 2026** to the Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources ("DMPR"). The application is in the Scoping phase, and the draft Scoping Report ("DSR") is available for public comment 30-day review period (See *Figure 5* below). Once the final Scoping Report ("FSR") is submitted to the DMPR, the application will be proceeded to the EIA Phase, should the DMPR accept the Scoping Report.

The WULA process will be undertaken in terms of the Regulations Regarding the Procedural Requirements for Water Use Licence Applications and Appeals, GN R.267 of 2017 ("WULAAR") promulgated in terms of the NWA. In terms of these regulations, all WULAs must be undertaken and submitted through the DWS's online electronic submission portal referred to as the Electronic Water Use Licence Application and Authorisation System ("e-WULAAS"). Initial administrative steps have been compiled and submitted, such as linking the Applicant to the system and compiling the pre-application enquiry (collectively called 'pre-phase 1'). The WULA is currently on Phase 1 on e-WULAAS, and the draft Integrated Water and Waste Management Plan ("IWWMP") will be compiled and provided for review along with the draft EIA Report during the EIA phase of the EA application (refer to *Figure 5*).

NOTICE OF THE APPLICATION FOR AN EA, WML & WULA FOR THE STEELPOORT PROJECT

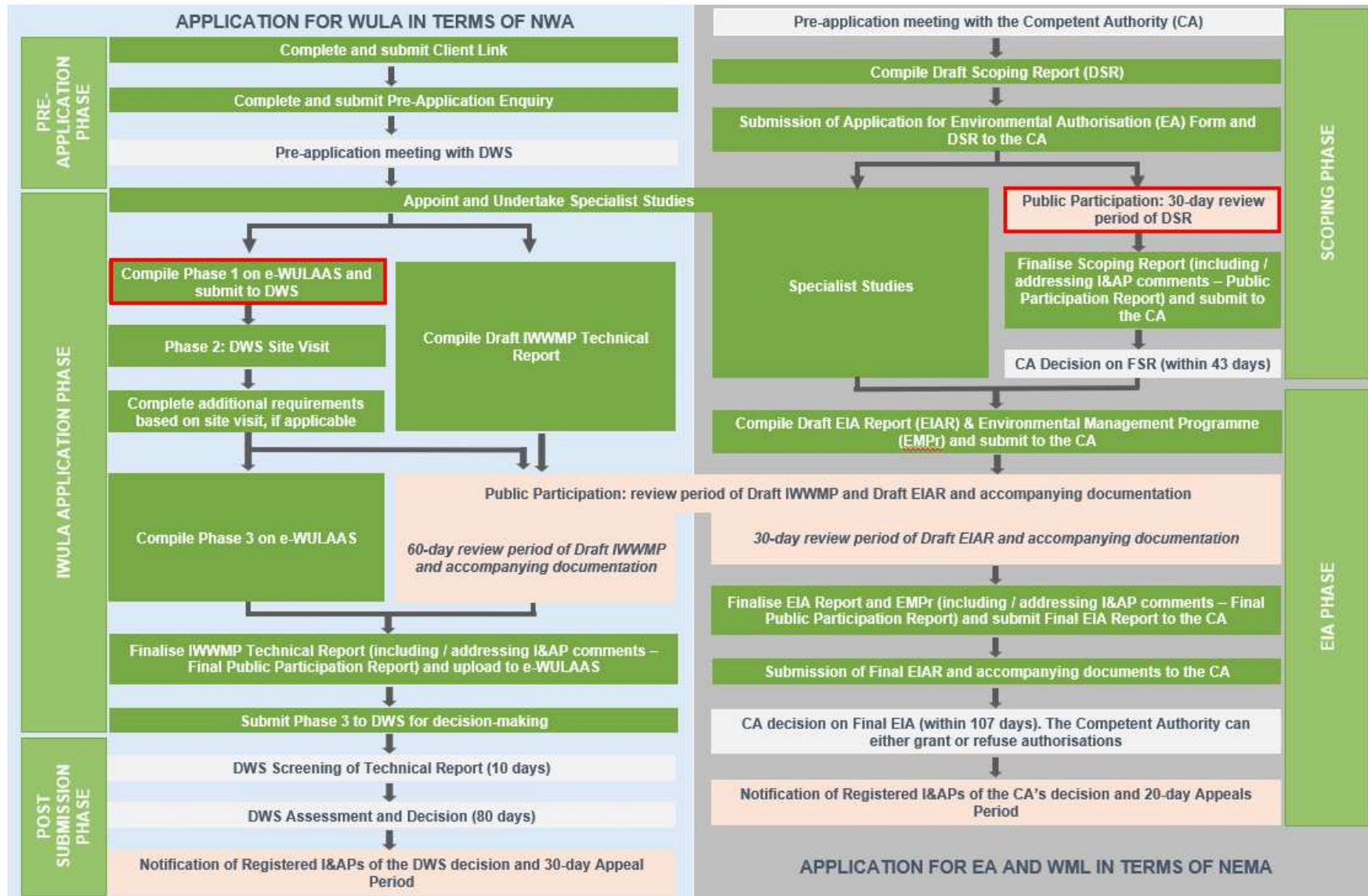


Figure 5: Scoping & EIA and WULA process flow (current application status indicated in red)

NOTICE OF THE APPLICATION FOR AN EA, WML & WULA FOR THE STEELPOORT PROJECT

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

People have a right to be informed about activities and potential impacts that may affect them and to be afforded the opportunity to participate in and influence the decisions and outcomes of the proposed project. This BID describes the various components of the project to enable I&APs to get a better understanding of potential environmental and social impacts that could be expected from the proposed project. It also outlines the application process and the opportunities for the public to become involved during the course of the application.

The Public Participation Process (PPP) will be undertaken as required in terms of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, in terms of NEMA; Section 41(4) of the NWA; and the WULAAR, as amended. Stakeholders have been identified and a stakeholder database will serve as the official register of I&APs, which will be updated and maintained throughout the application process. Steps included in the PPP are illustrated in *Figure 6* below. This BID forms part of the (i) project notification through which I&APs, Stakeholders and Authorities are notified of the integrated application for EA and WML and the WULA; and (ii) notification of the DSR review period. The PPP is ongoing throughout the application process and I&APs are invited to register, participate, and consult throughout the process.

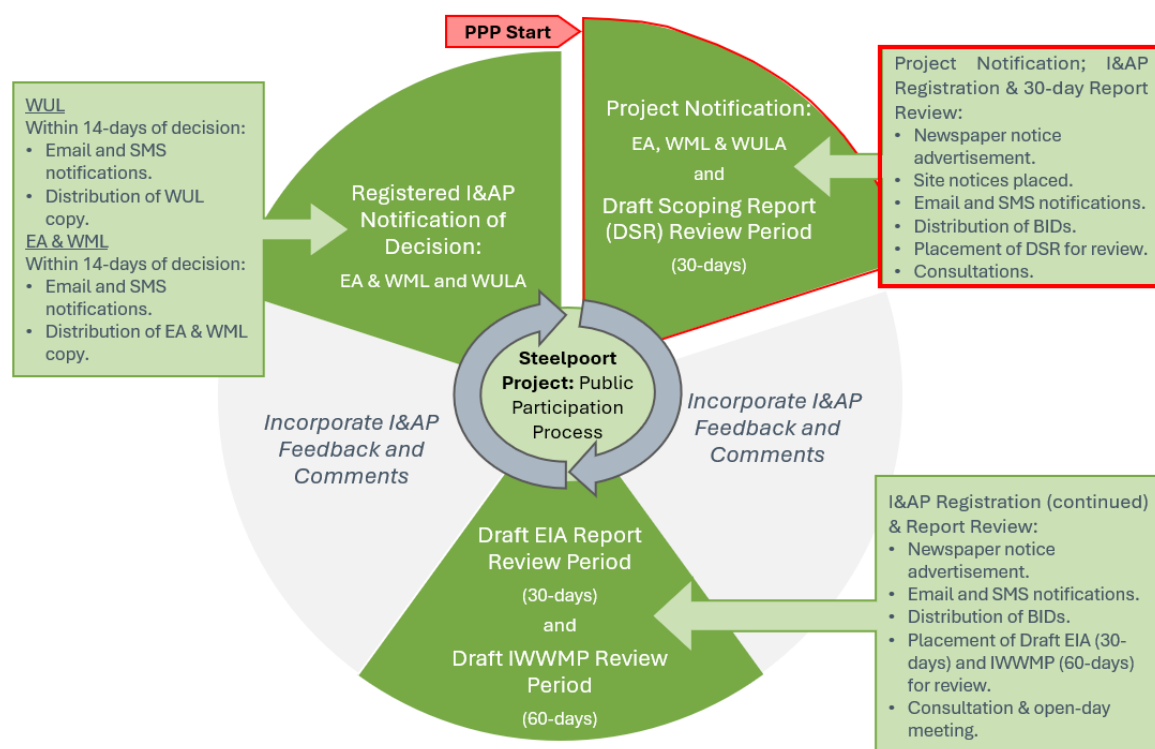


Figure 6: Public Participation Process (current status indicated in red)

REGISTRATION AS AN I&AP

People have a right to be informed about activities and potential impacts that may affect them and to be afforded the opportunity to participate in and influence the decisions and outcomes of the proposed project. To register as an I&AP of this project, and / or to obtain more information or

NOTICE OF THE APPLICATION FOR AN EA, WML & WULA FOR THE STEELPOORT
PROJECT

submit comments, please request a Registration Form from Shangoni and return it together with any comments to Shangoni by no later than 01 June 2026 at the details provided below.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Focus group meetings will be held with identified I&AP groups. In order to be as inclusive as possible, you are welcome to request a meeting by contacting the person below by **12 May 2026**.

AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT REPORT

The DSR is available to the public for review for a period of thirty (30) days, from **02 May 2026** to **01 June 2026**.

A Hard copy of the report is available at the Mapodile Library in Ga-Mapodila-A, and an electronic copy will be posted on Shangoni's website (<https://shangoni.co.za/public-documents/>).

Submit your comments on the DSR by phone or e-mail to Shangoni (details provided below) by no later than **01 June 2026**.

Kind regards,



Lee-Anne Fellowes

Shangoni Management Services: Environmental Assessment Practitioner

Contact person: Ms. Jacqui Davis

Tel: 012 807 7036

E-mail: Jacqueline@shangoni.co.za / leeanne@shangoni.co.za

Postal Address: P. O. Box 74726, Lynnwood Ridge, 0040

NOTICE OF THE APPLICATION FOR AN EA, WML & WULA FOR THE STEELPOORT PROJECT

REGISTRATION FORM

Please complete this form and return it to Shangoni Management Services (Pty) Ltd to ensure that you are registered as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP).

By answering the questions below, you will help us to develop a better understanding of your information requirements. The form also gives you the opportunity to make comments regarding the project. Additional pages may be attached should this be required.

I&AP Details:

Full name and surname: _____

Contact details: _____

Tel (w): _____ Tel (h): _____

Fax: _____ Cell: _____

e-mail: _____

Physical address: _____

Postal address: _____

Preferred method of communication: _____

☐ fax ☐ e-mail ☐ post

Preferred telephone number: _____

☐ cell ☐ home ☐ work

Organisation/Representative: _____

Farm name, number and subdivision or _____

Street Address (if applicable): _____

Questions

1) Where did you get information about the proposed project?

☐ Newspaper advertisement ☐ notice board ☐ flyer ☐ other (please specify)

2) Do you represent a company/organisation or is your interest on behalf of yourself?

3) Do you know of anyone that is affected by the proposed activity who was not informed of the project? (Please provide contact details)

4) Do you have any specific concerns or comments regarding the proposed project?

YES

NO

If yes, please indicate what the comments are?

NOTICE OF THE APPLICATION FOR AN EA, WML & WULA FOR THE STEELPOORT PROJECT

[illegible]

Signed

.....

Date

NOTE:

Please forward completed forms to Shangoni Management Services (Pty) Ltd by no later than to **01 June 2026** for the DSR.

Environmental Assessment Practitioner: Shangoni Management Services (Pty) Ltd, Lee-Anne Fellowes

Contact person: Jacquie Davis

Tel: 012 807 7036

E-mail: Jacqueline@shangoni.co.za / leeanne@shangoni.co.za

Postal Address: P. O. Box 74726, Lynnwood Ridge, 0040

SHANGONI
Management Services (Pty) Ltd