



ENVIRONMENTAL
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NON-TECHNICAL EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT

12/4/016 EA APPLICATION:

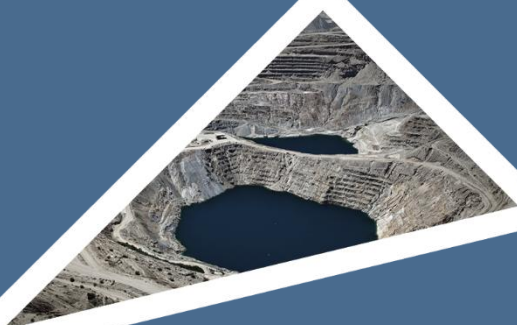
D3 ENERGY SOUTH AFRICA (PTY) LTD (PREVIOUSLY MOTUOANE
ENERGY (PTY) LTD.)

APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN VARIOUS
FARMS IN THE MATJHABENG AND MASILONYANA LOCAL
MUNICIPALITIES, LEJWELEPUTSWA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, FREE
STATE PROVINCE, SOUTH AFRICA.

PASA REFERENCE NUMBER: PR 12/4/016

EIMS REFERENCE NUMBER: 1709

SEPTEMBER 2026





1 INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

D3 Energy South Africa (Pty) Ltd (formerly Motuoane Energy (Pty) Ltd) has applied for a Production Right (PR 12/4/016) to extract and produce helium and methane gas from a portion of its existing approved exploration area in the Free State Province. The proposed Production Right area covers approximately 14 440 hectares and is located mainly southeast of Virginia within the Matjhabeng and Masilonyana Local Municipalities.

The project builds on the existing Exploration Right (ER315), which was originally granted in 2018. The proposed development includes:

- Up to 43 production wells and additional development wells;
- Seismic and/or Audio Magnetotelluric (AMT) surveys to improve understanding of underground gas resources;
- Underground gas gathering pipelines;
- A helium recovery facility;
- A methane gas processing plant capable of producing Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) and/or Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG);
- Access roads and supporting infrastructure; and
- Long-term operation and maintenance activities.

Construction activities are expected to occur mainly during the first five years of development, while the operational life of the project is anticipated to be approximately 30 years.

The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) was undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) to assess potential environmental, social and economic impacts of the proposed development and identify measures to avoid, minimise or manage these impacts.

2 PURPOSE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT

The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) was undertaken to carefully assess the possible environmental, social, economic and safety impacts of the proposed D3 Energy South Africa (Pty) Ltd Production Right Project before any final decision is made by the authorities. The EIA provides the information needed by decision-makers, landowners, communities and other stakeholders to understand both the benefits and potential risks of the project.

The main purpose of the EIA was to:

- Understand the existing environmental conditions within the project area, including water resources, wetlands, biodiversity, agricultural land, heritage resources and surrounding communities.
- Identify potential positive and negative impacts that may result from the construction, operation and eventual closure of the proposed helium and methane production activities.
- Assess the significance of these impacts and determine which environmental and social aspects are most sensitive and require protection.
- Investigate alternatives and identify the most suitable development approach that minimises environmental harm while allowing the project objectives to be achieved.
- Obtain input from landowners, communities, government authorities and other interested and affected parties to ensure that their concerns and recommendations are considered during project planning.



- Develop practical mitigation and management measures to avoid, minimise, rehabilitate or manage identified impacts throughout the life of the project
- Provide the competent authority with sufficient information to make an informed decision on whether the proposed Production Right should be authorised and under what conditions.

In simple terms, the EIA ensures that the potential benefits of the project, such as employment opportunities, local economic development, investment and the production of strategic helium and gas resources, are carefully weighed against possible environmental and social impacts. The process also ensures that appropriate safeguards, monitoring programmes and environmental management measures are put in place to protect people, natural resources and the surrounding environment.

Overall, the EIA serves as a planning and decision-making tool that helps ensure that the proposed development can proceed responsibly, sustainably and in compliance with South African environmental legislation, while taking into account the interests of affected stakeholders and future generations.

3 NEED AND DESIRABILITY OF THE PROJECT

Helium is a rare and non-renewable natural resource that cannot easily be replaced in many important applications. It is essential for:

- Medical MRI scanners;
- Semiconductor and electronics manufacturing;
- Fibre optic production;
- Scientific research;
- Aerospace and space technologies; and
- Specialised industrial processes.

Studies undertaken in the Virginia gas field indicate unusually high helium concentrations compared to many other gas fields worldwide. This presents an opportunity for South Africa to become an important supplier of helium, a resource that is increasingly scarce globally.

The project may also provide methane gas as a secondary product, contributing to South Africa's energy security and supporting the country's objective of maintaining a diverse energy mix. Potential benefits of the project include:

- Job creation during construction and operation;
- Skills development and training opportunities;
- Increased local procurement and business opportunities;
- Investment in local communities through Social and Labour Plan commitments;
- Improved national energy security; and
- Reduced reliance on imported gas resources.

4 IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND MITIGATION

A range of specialist studies were undertaken to evaluate environmental and social impacts associated with the project. These included assessments relating to biodiversity, wetlands, groundwater, hydrology, air quality, climate change, heritage resources, agriculture, noise, social impacts and safety risks.

- a. Biodiversity and Ecology



The study area contains natural vegetation, protected plant species, sensitive habitats and several conservation-important animal species. Construction activities may result in habitat disturbance and fragmentation. Mitigation measures include:

- Avoiding sensitive habitats where possible;
- Limiting disturbance footprints;
- Controlling invasive alien species;
- Restricting vehicle access;
- Rehabilitating disturbed areas; and
- Implementing biodiversity monitoring programmes.

b. Wetlands and Water Resources

Forty-two wetland units and several drainage systems occur within the project area. Potential impacts include erosion, sedimentation, altered drainage patterns and contamination from spills. Mitigation measures include:

- Avoidance of wetlands and buffer areas wherever possible;
- Careful design of unavoidable crossings;
- Stormwater management systems;
- Spill prevention and emergency response procedures;
- Environmental monitoring; and
- Rehabilitation of disturbed areas.

c. Groundwater

Groundwater is an important resource in the area for both agricultural and domestic use. Potential impacts may arise from drilling activities, well failure or accidental contamination. To reduce risks:

- Wells will be designed and constructed according to recognised industry standards;
- Multiple protective barriers will isolate groundwater aquifers;
- Hazardous materials will be stored within containment systems; and
- Ongoing groundwater monitoring will be implemented throughout the project life cycle.

d. Agriculture and Soils

Agriculture is the dominant land use within the project area. Potential impacts include soil compaction, erosion, loss of productive land and disruption to farming operations. Mitigation measures include:

- Careful siting of infrastructure;
- Limiting disturbance areas;
- Stockpiling and reusing topsoil;
- Erosion control measures; and
- Rehabilitation of disturbed land following construction.

e. Air Quality and Climate Change

Potential air quality impacts include construction dust, vehicle emissions, gas processing emissions and limited flaring activities. Climate change impacts are associated with greenhouse gas emissions. Mitigation measures include:

- Dust suppression through water spraying;



- Proper maintenance of equipment;
- Limiting flaring activities;
- Monitoring emissions; and
- Implementing operational controls to minimise emissions.

f. Heritage Resources

The heritage assessment identified 18 heritage features, of which 13 occur close to proposed infrastructure. These include cemeteries, historic farmsteads and a Stone Age site. The assessment concluded that all identified heritage resources can be avoided through:

- Buffer zones;
- Micro-siting of infrastructure;
- Pre-construction walk-down surveys; and
- A Chance Finds Procedure for previously undiscovered resources.

g. Social and Economic Impacts

The project is expected to create positive socio-economic benefits through employment, skills development and local economic growth. Potential negative social impacts include:

- Increased traffic;
- Safety concerns;
- Temporary disruption of agricultural activities;
- Expectations regarding employment opportunities; and
- Land-use conflicts.

Mitigation measures include:

- Ongoing stakeholder engagement;
- Local employment and procurement initiatives;
- Traffic management measures;
- Safety plans; and
- Compensation agreements where appropriate

h. Health and Safety

A Quantitative Risk Assessment found that the proposed facilities do not pose unacceptable risks to neighbouring communities and do not qualify as a Major Hazard Installation. Appropriate engineering design, emergency response planning and regulatory compliance will be required throughout the life of the project.

5 KEY FINDINGS

After implementation of mitigation measures, most impacts are expected to be reduced to Low or Medium-Low significance. The most significant residual impacts identified are:

- Potential impacts on groundwater quality;
- Potential impacts on wetlands and aquatic ecosystems;
- Potential impacts on agricultural soils and farming activities;
- Impacts on vegetation and wildlife habitats;



- Air quality and climate change impacts;
- Potential impacts on heritage resources;
- Potential interactions with other regional developments; and
- Safety-related operational risks.

Positive impacts include:

- Employment creation;
- Skills development;
- Increased local spending;
- Enhanced local business opportunities; and
- Potential contribution to South Africa's strategic helium supply and energy security.

6 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The public participation process for this application has been undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the NEMA EIA Regulations, and in line with the principles of Integrated Environmental Management (IEM). IEM implies an open and transparent participatory process, whereby stakeholders and other I&APs are afforded an opportunity to comment on the project and have their views considered and included as part of project planning. The purpose of the public participation process is to ensure that Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs), including landowners, communities, government departments, businesses and civil society organisations, have an opportunity to review project information and provide comments.

The PPP commenced on the 17th of November 2025 with an initial notification and call to register for a minimum period of 30 days. The initial notification was undertaken in English, Afrikaans and Sesotho and was given in the following manner:

- Registered letters, faxes, emails and sms's: Notification were distributed to all pre-identified I&APs including government organisations, NGOs, relevant municipalities, ward councillors, landowners and other organisations that may be interested or affected.
- Advertisements describing the proposed project and EIA process were published in the Vista Newspaper with circulation in the vicinity of the study area. The initial advertisements were placed in the Vista newspaper in English, Afrikaans and Sesotho on the 20th of November 2025 with a government gazette published (also in 3 languages) on the 14th of November 2025.
- A1 Correx site notices in English, Afrikaans and Sesotho were placed at 50 locations within and around the application area from 17th to 19th of November 2025.
- A3 posters in English, Afrikaans and Sesotho were placed at local public gathering places in Virginia, Welkom, Ventersburg and Theunissen.

Notification regarding the availability of the Scoping Report for public review was given in the following manner to all registered I&APs:

- Registered letters with details on where the scoping report can be obtained and/or reviewed, EIMS contact details as well as the public review comment period;
- Facsimile notifications with information similar to that in the registered letter described above; and/or
- Email notifications with a letter attachment containing the information described above.

The scoping report was made available for public review from the 23rd of January 2026 to 23rd of February 2026 for a period of at least 30 days.



Comments received during this EIA Report review period will similarly be collated and added to the Public Participation Report submitted to the Competent Authority (CA). This EIA Report has been made available for public review and commenting for a period of 30 days. **Comments should be submitted to EIMS by no later than the 28th of October 2026** through the following means:

- Environmental Impact Management Services (Pty) Ltd (EIMS)
- Phone: 011 789 7170 / Fax: 011 787 3059
- Contact: Mbali Tshabalala
- EIMS Reference No: 1709
- Email: motuoanepr@eims.co.za

At the time of finalization of this EIA Report, key concerns raised during consultation included:

- Potential impacts on groundwater;
- Effects on farming and agricultural activities;
- Wetland and biodiversity impacts;
- Noise and dust generation;
- Safety and security concerns;
- Traffic impacts;
- Impacts on heritage resources;
- Potential effects on nearby renewable energy developments; and
- Long-term environmental management.

These issues were considered during specialist assessments and incorporated into the impact assessment process. Additional comments, issues or concerns raised during the public review of the EIA Report will also be captured, adequately responded, considered and attached to the final report to be submitted to the Competent Authority.

7 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The Environmental Impact Assessment concluded that the proposed D3 Energy Production Right Project can be developed in an environmentally responsible manner provided that all recommended mitigation, monitoring and management measures are fully implemented.

Specialist studies found no fatal environmental, social or safety flaws that would prevent the project from proceeding. Most impacts are considered manageable through proper planning, environmental controls, monitoring and rehabilitation.

Based on the findings of the Environmental Impact Assessment, it is recommended that the application be favourably considered by the competent authority, subject to the implementation of the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr), environmental authorisation conditions, monitoring requirements and applicable regulatory approvals.

KAKARETSO E SA KENYELLETSENG LINTLHA TSE TEBILENG TSA TEKHENIKI EA TLALEHO EA TLHAHLOBO EA PHELLO TIKOLOHONG

12/4/016 KOPO YA EA:

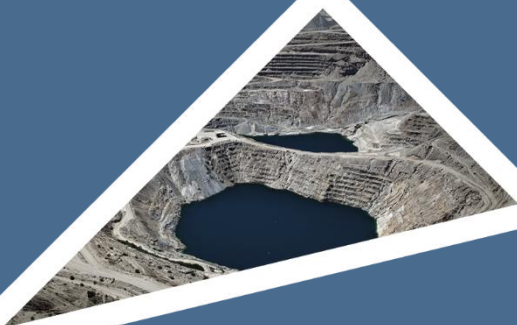
D3 ENERGY SOUTH AFRICA (PTY) LTD (PELE MOTUOANE ENERGY
(PTY) LTD.)

KOPO YA TOKELO YA TLHAHISO MAPOLASING A FAPANENG A
MASEPALA WA LEHAE WA MATJHABENG LE WA MASILONYANA,
TLASA MASEPALA WA SETEREKE SA LEJWELEPUTSWA PROFINSENG
YA FREE STATE, AFRIKA BORWA.

TŠUPISO EA PASA: PR 12/4/016

TŠUPISO EA EIMS: 1709

LOETSE 2026





1 SELELEKELA LE KAKARETSO

D3 Energy South Africa (Pty) Ltd (eo pele e neng e le Motuoane Energy (Pty) Ltd) e kopile Tokelo ea Tlhahiso (PR 12/4/016) ho ntša le ho hlahisa helium le khase ea methane karolong ea sebaka sa eona sa lipatlisiso se seng se amohetsoe Profenseng ea Free State. Sebaka sa Tokelo ea Tlhahiso se reriloeng se akaretsa lihekthere tse ka bang 14 440 'me se fumaneha haholo-holo ka boroa-bochabela ho Virginia ka har'a Metse ea Libaka ea Matjhabeng le Masilonyana .

Projeke e hahella hodima Tokelo ya ho Fuputsa e seng e ntse e le teng (ER315), eo qalong e ileng ya fanwa ka 2018. Ntlaflatso e sisintsweng e kenyeletsa:

- Liliba tsa tlhahiso tse fihlang ho tse 43 le liliba tse ling tsa nts'etsopele;
- Diphuputso tsa ho sisinyeha ha lefatshe le/kapa tsa Audio Magnetotelluric (AMT) ho ntlaflatsoa kutlwisiso ya mehlodi ya kgase e ka tlasa lefatshe;
- Liphaephe tsa ho bokella khase ka tlas'a lefatše;
- Setsi sa ho tsosolosa helium;
- Setsi sa ho sebetsana le khase ea methane se khonang ho hlahisa Khase ea Tlhaho e Hatelits'oeng (CNG) le/kapa Khase ea Tlhaho e Liquefied (LNG);
- Litsela tsa phihlello le meralo ea motheo e tšehetsang; le
- Mesebetsi ea nako e telele ea ts'ebetso le tlhokomelo.

Mesebetsi ea kaho e lebelletsoe ho etsahala haholo-holo nakong ea lilemo tse hlano tsa pele tsa nts'etsopele, ha nako ea ts'ebetso ea projeke e lebelletsoe ho ba lilemo tse ka bang 30.

Tlhahlobo ea Tšusumetso ea Tikoloho (EIA) e entsoe ho latela litlhoko tsa Molao oa Naha oa Tsamaiso ea Tikoloho (NEMA) ho lekola litlamorao tse ka bang teng tikolohong, sechabeng le moruong tsa nts'etsopele e reriloeng le ho khetholla mehato ea ho qoba, ho fokotsa kapa ho laola litlamorao tsena.

2 MORERO OA TLALEHO EA TLHAHLOBO EA TŠUSUMETSO EA TIKOLOHO

Tlhahlobo ea Tšusumetso ea Tikoloho (EIA) e entsoe ho hlahloba ka hloko litlamorao tse ka bang teng tikolohong, sechabeng, moruong le polokehong tsa Morero oa Tokelo ea Tlhahiso ea D3 Energy South Africa (Pty) Ltd o reriloeng pele ho etsoa qeto efe kapa efe ea ho qetela ke balaoli. EIA e fana ka tlhaiso-leseling e hlokoang ke baetsi ba liqeto, beng ba masimo, sechaba le bankakarolo ba bang ho utloisisa melemo le likotsi tse ka bang teng tsa projeke.

Morero o ka sehloohong oa EIA e ne e le ho:

- Utloisisa maemo a tikoloho a teng sebakeng sa projeke, ho kenyeletsoa mehloli ea metsi, libaka tse mongobo, mefuta-futa ea lintho tse phelang, mobu oa temo, mehloli ea lefa le metse e haufi.
- Hlalosa litlamorao tse ntle le tse mpe tse ka bang teng tse ka bakoang ke kaho, ts'ebetso le ho koaloa ha mesebetsi e reriloeng ea tlhahiso ea helium le methane.
- Lekola bohlokoa ba litlamorao tsena 'me u fumane hore na ke likarolo life tsa tikoloho le tsa kahisano tse amehang haholo le tse hlohang tšireletso.
- Batlisisa mekhoha e meng 'me u khetholle mekhoha o loketseng ka ho fetisisa oa nts'etsopele o fokotsang kotsi tikolohong ha ka nako e ts'oanang o lumella lipheo tsa projeke ho finyelloa.
- Fumana maikutlo ho tsoa ho beng ba masimo, sechaba, balaoli ba mmuso le batho ba bang ba nang le thahasello le ba amehang ho netefatsa hore matšoenyeho le likhothaletso tsa bona lia nahanoa nakong ea moralo oa projeke.



- Hlahisa mehato e sebetsang ea ho fokotsa le ho laola ho qoba, ho fokotsa, ho tsosolosa kapa ho laola litšusumetso tse fumanoeng bophelong bohle ba projeke.
- Fana ka tlhahisoleseding e lekaneng ho balaodi ba nang le bokgoni ho etsa qeto e nang le tsebo mabapi le hore na Tokelo e reriloeng ea Tlhahiso e lokela ho lumelloa le tlas'a maemo afe.

Ka mantsoe a bonolo, EIA e netefatsa hore melemo e ka bang teng ea projeke, joalo ka menyetla ea mesebetsi, nts'etsopele ea moruo oa lehae, matsete le tlhahiso ea mehloli ea helium le khase ea maano, li lekanngoa ka hloko khahlanong le litlamorao tse ka bang teng tikolohong le sechabeng. Ts'ebetso ena e boetse e netefatsa hore ho etsoa lits'ireletso tse loketseng, mananeo a tlhokomelo le mehato ea taolo ea tikoloho ho sireletsa batho, mehloli ea tlhaho le tikoloho e potolohileng.

Ka kakaretso, EIA e sebetsa e le sesebelisoa sa ho rera le ho etsa liqeto se thusang ho netefatsa hore nts'etsopele e sisintsweng e ka tsoela pele ka boikarabello, ka mokhoa o tsitsitseng le ka ho latela molao oa tikoloho oa Afrika Boroa, ha ho ntse ho nahanoa ka lithahasello tsa bankakarolo ba amehang le meloko e tlang.

3 TLHOKO LE TAKATSO EA MORERO

Helium ke mohloli oa tlhaho o sa tloaelehang le o sa ntjhafatswang o ke keng oa nkeloa sebaka habonolo lits'ebetsong tse ngata tsa bohlokoa. E bohlokoa bakeng sa:

- Li-scanner tsa MRI tsa bongaka;
- Tlhahiso ea semiconductor le lisebelisoa tsa elektroniki;
- Tlhahiso ea faeba ea optic;
- Lipatlisiso tsa saense;
- Mahlale a lifofane le a sebaka; le
- Mekhoa e ikhethileng ea indasteri.

Lithuto tse entsoeng tšimong ea khase ea Virginia li bontša hore ho na le maemo a phahameng a helium ka mokhoa o sa tloaelehang ha ho bapisoa le masimo a mang a mangata a khase lefatšeng ka bophara. Sena se fana ka monyetla bakeng sa Afrika Boroa oa ho ba mofani oa bohlokoa oa helium, mohloli o ntseng o haella lefatšeng ka bophara.

Projeke ena e ka boela ea fana ka khase ea methane e le sehlahisoa sa bobeli, e leng se tlatsetsang ts'ireletsong ea eneji ea Afrika Boroa le ho tšehetsa sepheo sa naha sa ho boloka motsoako o fapaneng oa eneji. Melemo e ka bang teng ea projeke e kenyelletsa:

- Tlhahiso ea mesebetsi nakong ea kaho le ts'ebetso;
- Ntlafatso ea tsebo le menyetla ea koetliso;
- Keketseho ea theko ea lehae le menyetla ea khoebo;
- Matsete metseng ea lehae ka boitlamo ba Moralo oa Sechaba le oa Basebetsi;
- Tšireletso e ntlafalitsoeng ea matla a naha; le
- Ho fokotseha ha ho itshetleha hodima mehlodi ya kgase e tswang kantle ho naha.

4 TLHAHLOBO EA TŠUSUMETSO LE PHOKOTSO

Ho entsoe lithuto tse fapaneng tsa litsebi ho lekola litlamorao tsa tikoloho le tsa sechaba tse amanang le projeke. Tsena li ne li kenyelletsa litlhahlobo tse amanang le mefuta-futa ea lintho tse phelang, libaka tse mongobo, metsi a ka tlas'a lefatše, metsi, boleng ba moea, phetoho ea tlelaemete, mehloli ea lefa, temo, lerata, litlamorao tsa sechaba le likotsi tsa polokeho.

- a. Mefuta-futa ea Liphedi le Tikoloho



Sebaka sa thuto se na le limela tsa tlhaho, mefuta ea limela tse sirelelitsoeng, libaka tsa bolulo tse bonolo le mefuta e 'maloa ea liphoofole tsa bohlokoa paballong. Mesebetsi ea kaho e ka fella ka tšitiso le ho arohana ha libaka tsa bolulo. Mehato ea ho fokotsa kotsi e kenyelletsa:

- Ho qoba libaka tse bonolo tsa bolulo moo ho khonehang;
- Ho fokotsa mehato e sitisang;
- Ho laola mefuta e meng e hlaselang ya dimela tse tswang kantle ho naha;
- Ho thibela phihlelo ea likoloi;
- Ho lokisa libaka tse tšoenyehileng; le
- Ho kenya tshebetsong mananeo a tlhokomelo ya mefutafuta ya diphedi.

b. Libaka tse Metsi le Mehloli ea Metsi

Diyuniti tse mashome a mane a metso e mmedi tsa dibaka tse nang le metsi le ditsamaiso tse mmalwa tsa ho ntsha metsi di etsahala sebakeng sa projeke. Ditlamorao tse ka bang teng di kenyeletsa kgoholeho ya mobu, ho thella ha mobu, dipaterone tse fetotsweng tsa ho ntsha metsi le tshilafatso e bakwang ke ho tsholoha ha metsi. Mehato ya ho fokotsa kotsi e kenyeletsa:

- Ho qoba libaka tse mongobo le libaka tse thibelang moo ho khonehang;
- Moralo o hlokolosi oa litšelo tse ke keng tsa qojoa;
- Mekhoa ea taolo ea metsi a pula;
- Mekhoa ea thibelo ea ho tšoloha le ea karabelo ea maemo a tšohanyetso;
- Tlhokomelo ea tikoloho; le
- Tsosoloso ea libaka tse tšoenyehileng.

c. Metsi a ka las'a lefatše

Metsi a ka las'a lefatše ke mohloli oa bohlokoa sebakeng seo bakeng sa tšebeliso ea temo le ea malapeng. Litlamorao tse ka bang teng li ka hlaha ka lebaka la mesebetsi ea ho cheka, ho senyeha ha liliba kapa tšilafalo e sa lebelloang. Ho fokotsa likotsi:

- Liliba li tla raloa le ho hahua ho latela maemo a indasteri a amohelehang;
- Litšitiso tse ngata tse sireletsang li tla arola metsi a ka las'a lefatše;
- Thepa e kotsi e tla bolokoa ka har'a litsamaiso tsa ho thibela; le
- Tlhokomelo e tswelang pele ya metsi a ka las'a lefatše e tla kenngwa tshebetsong nakong yohle ya potoloho ya bophelo ba projeke.

d. Temo le Mobu

Temo ke tšebeliso e ka sehloohong ea mobu sebakeng sa projeke. Litlamorao tse ka bang teng li kenyelletsa ho hatelloa ha mobu, khoholeho ea mobu, tahlehelo ea mobu o hlahisang le tšitiso mesebetsing ea temo. Mehato ea ho fokotsa kotsi e kenyelletsa:

- Ho beha meralo ea motheo ka hloko;
- Ho fokotsa libaka tse sitisang;
- Ho bokella le ho sebedisa mobu o ka hodimo hape;
- Mehato ea taolo ea khoholeho ea mobu; le
- Tsosoloso ea mobu o senyehileng kamora kaho.

e. Boleng ba Moea le Phetoho ea Tlelaemete



Litlamorao tse ka bang teng tsa boleng ba moea li kenyelletsa lerōle la kaho, mesi e tsoang likoloing, mesi e tsoang tsamaisong ea khase le mesebetsi e fokolang ea ho hotetsa. Litlamorao tsa phetoho ea tlelaemete li amahanngoa le mesi e tsoang likhase tse futhumatsang lefatše. Mehato ea ho fokotsa boemo ba leholimo e kenyelletsa:

- Ho thibela lerōle ka ho fafatsa ka metsi;
- Tlhokomelo e nepahetseng ea lisebelisoa;
- Ho fokotsa mesebetsi ea ho chesa mollo;
- Ho beha leihlo mesi e kotsi; le
- Ho kenya tshebetsong ditaolo tsa tshebetso ho fokotsa mesi e kotsi.

f. Lisebelisoa tsa Lefa

Tlhahlobo ea lefa e hlwaile litšobotsi tse 18 tsa lefa, tseo tse 13 tsa tsona li leng haufi le meralo ea motheo e reriloeng. Tsena li kenyelletsa mabitla, mapolasi a nalane le sebaka sa Mehla ea Majoe. Tlhahlobo e fihletse qeto ea hore mehloli eohle ea lefa e khethiloeng e ka qojoa ka:

- Libaka tsa ho boloka li-buffer;
- Ho lokisa meralo ya motheo ka bonyenyane;
- Diphuputso tsa pele ho kaho; le
- Mokhoa oa ho Fumana Monyetla bakeng sa mehloli e sa kang ea sibolloa pele.

g. Litlamorao tsa Sechaba le Moruo

Morero ona o lebelletsoe ho hlalisa melemo e metle ea moruo le sechaba ka mesebetsi, nts'etsopele ea tsebo le kholo ea moruo oa lehae. Litlamorao tse mpe tse ka bang teng sechabeng li kenyelletsa:

- Keketseho ea sephethephethe;
- Matšoenyeho a polokeho;
- Tšitiso ea nakoana ea mesebetsi ea temo;
- Litebello mabapi le menyetla ea mesebetsi; le
- Likhohlano tsa tšebeliso ea mobu.

Mehato ea ho fokotsa kotsi e kenyelletsa:

- Ho tswela pele ho kenya letsoho ha bankakarolo;
- Mesebetsi ea lehae le merero ea ho reka;
- Mehato ea taolo ea sephethephethe;
- Merero ea polokeho; le
- Litumellano tsa puseletso moo ho loketseng

h. Bophelo bo Botle le Polokeho

Tlhahlobo ea Kotsi ea Bongata e fumane hore mehato e reriloeng ha e bake likotsi tse sa amoheleng ho sechaba sa boahelani 'me ha e tšoanelehe e le Setsi sa Kotsi e Kholo. Moralo o loketseng oa boenjiniere, moralo oa karabelo ea maemo a tšohanyetso le ho latela melaoana ho tla hloka hloka bophelong bohle ba projeke.



5 LIPHIHLELO TSA BOHLOKOA

Kamora ho kenngwa tshebetso ha mehato ya ho fokotsa kotsi, bohloko ba ditlamorao bo lebelletswe ho fokotsa ho ya ho bohloko bo Tlase kapa bo Mahareng-Botlaaseng. Ditlamorao tse setseng tse bohloko ka ho fetisisa tse hlailweng ke:

- Litlamorao tse ka bang teng boleng ba metsi a ka tlas'a lefatše;
- Litlamorao tse ka bang teng libakeng tse mongobo le tikolohong ea metsi;
- Litlamorao tse ka bang teng mobung oa temo le mesebetsing ea temo;
- Litšusumetso limela le libaka tsa bolulo tsa liphoofolo tse hlaha;
- Boleng ba moea le litlamorao tsa phetoho ea tlelaemete;
- Litlamorao tse ka bang teng mehloling ea lefa;
- Likamano tse ka bang teng le ntshetsopele tse ding tsa lebatowa; le
- Likotsi tsa ts'ebetso tse amanang le polokeho.

Litlamorao tse ntle li kenyelletsa:

- Tlhahiso ea mesebetsi;
- Ntlafatso ea tsebo;
- Keketseho ea litšenyehelo tsa lehae;
- Menyetla e ntlafetseng ea khoebo ea lehae; le
- Monehelo o ka bang teng bakeng sa phepele ea helium ea maano le ts'ireletso ea eneji ea Afrika Boroa.

6 HO BA LE SEABO HA SECHABA

Ts'ebetso ea ho kenya letsoho ha sechaba bakeng sa kopo ena e entsoe ho latela litlhoko tsa Melawana ea NEMA EIA, le ho latela melao-motheo ea Tsamaiso e Kopaneng ea Tikoloho (IEM). IEM e bolela ts'ebetso e bulehileng le e pepeneneng ea ho kenya letsoho, moo bankakarolo le ba-I&AP ba bang ba fuoang monyetla oa ho fana ka maikutlo mabapi le projeke le hore maikutlo a bona a nahaneloe le ho kenyelletsoa e le karolo ea moralo oa projeke. Morero oa ts'ebetso ea ho kenya letsoho ha sechaba ke ho netefatsa hore Mekhatlo e nang le Khahleho le e Amehang (I&APs), ho kenyeletsoa beng ba masimo, sechaba, mafapha a mmuso, likhoebo le mekhatlo ea sechaba, ba na le monyetla oa ho hlahloba tlhahisoleseling ea projeke le ho fana ka maikutlo.

PPP e qalile ka la 17 ^{Pulungoana} 2025 ka tsebiso ea pele le mohala oa ho ingolisa bonyane matsatsi a 30. Tsebiso ea pele e entsoe ka Senyesemane, Seafrikanse le Sesotho 'me e fanoe ka tsela e latelang:

- Mangolo a ngodisitsweng, di-fax, di-imeile le di-sms : Tsebiso e ile ya ajwa ho bohle ba nang le thahasello le ba amehang ba hlailweng esale pele ho kenyeletswa le mekgatlo ya mmuso, mekgatlo e seng ya mmuso, bomasepala ba amehang, makhanselara a di-ward, beng ba masimo le mekgatlo e meng e ka bang le thahasello kapa ya angwa.
- Lipapatso tse hlahosang projeke e reriloeng le ts'ebetso ea EIA li phatlalalitsoe ho Vista Newspaper ka liphatlatlatso haufi le sebaka sa thuto. Lipapatso tsa pele li ile tsa beoa koranteng ea Vista ka Senyesemane, Seafrikanse le Sesotho ka la 20 ^{Pulungoana} 2025 ka koranteng ea mmuso e phatlalalitsoeng (le ka lipuo tse 3) ka la 14 ^{Pulungoana} 2025.
- Litsebiso tsa sebaka sa A1 Correx ka Senyesemane, Seafrikanse le Sesotho li behiloe libakeng tse 50 kahare le haufi le sebaka sa kopo ho tloha ka la 17 ^{ho} isa la 19 ^{Pulungoana} 2025.
- Liposkarete tsa A3 tse ngotsoeng ka Senyesemane, Seafrikanse le Sesotho li ile tsa beoa libakeng tsa kopano tsa sechaba tsa Virginia, Welkom, Ventersburg le Theunissen.



Tsebiso mabapi le ho fumaneha ha Tlaleho ea Scoping bakeng sa tlhahlobo ea sechaba e fanoe ka mokhoa o latelang ho I&AP tsohle tse ngolisitsoeng:

- Mangolo a ngodisitsweng a nang le dintlha tse qaqileng mabapi le moo tlaleho ya tlhahlobo e ka fumanwang teng le/kapa e ka hlahlojwang teng, dintlha tsa ho ikopanya le EIMS hammoho le nako ya maikutlo a tlhahlobo ya setjhaba;
- Litsebiso tsa fekse tse nang le tlhahisoleseding e tsoanang le e lengolong le ngolisitsoeng le hlalositsoeng ka holimo; le/kapa
- Litsebiso tsa imeile tse nang le sehokelo sa lengolo se nang le tlhahisoleseding e hlalositsoeng ka holimo.

Tlaleho ea tlhahlobo e ile ea fumaneha bakeng sa tlhahlobo ea sechaba ho tloha ka la 23^{Pherekhong} 2026 ho isa ho la 23^{Hlakola} 2026 ka nako ea bonyane matsatsi a 30.

Maikutlo a amohetsoeng nakong ena ea tlhahlobo ea Tlaleho ea EIA ka mokhoa o ts'oanang a tla bokelloa le ho eketsoa Tlalehong ea Bonkakaro ba Sechaba e rometsoeng ho Bolaoli bo nang le Matla (CA). Tlaleho ena ea EIA e se e fumaneha bakeng sa tlhahlobo ea sechaba le ho fana ka maikutlo ka nako ea matsatsi a 30. **Maikutlo a lokela ho romelloa ho EIMS pele ho la 28^{Mphalane} 2026** ka mekhoha e latelang:

- Litšebeletso tsa Tsamaiso ea Tšusumetso ea Tikoloho (Pty) Ltd (EIMS)
- Mohala: 011 789 7170 / Fekse: 011 787 3059
- Ikopanye le: Mbali Tshabalala
- Nomoro ea Referense ea EIMS: 1709
- Imeile: motuoanepr@eims.co.za

Nakong ea ho phetheloa ha Tlaleho ena ea EIA, matšoenyeho a bohlokoa a hlalositsoeng nakong ea lipuisano a ne a kenyelletsa:

- Litlamorao tse ka bang teng metsing a ka las'a lefatše;
- Litlamorao mesebetsing ea temo le ea temo;
- Litlamorao tsa libaka tse mongobo le mefuta-futa ea lintho tse phelang;
- Ho hlalisa lerata le lerōle;
- Matšoenyeho a polokeho le tšireletso;
- Litlamorao tsa sephethephethe;
- Litšusumetso mehloling ea lefa;
- Litlamorao tse ka bang teng mabapi le ntshetsopele ya enoji e ntjhafatswang e haufi; le
- Tsamaiso ea tikoloho ea nako e telele.

Litaba tsena li ile tsa nahanoa nakong ea litekolo tse khethehileng 'me tsa kenyelletsoa ts'ebetsong ea tlhahlobo ea tšusumetso. Maikutlo a mang, litaba kapa matšoenyeho a hlalositsoeng nakong ea tlhahlobo ea sechaba ea Tlaleho ea EIA le 'ona a tla nkuoa, a arabeloe ka ho lekaneng, a nahanoa 'me a hokeloe tlalehong ea ho qetela e tla romelloa ho Bolaoli bo nang le Matla.

7 POLELO EA TŠUSUMETSO EA TIKOLOHO

Tlhahlobo ea Tšusumetso ea Tikoloho e fihletse qeto ea hore Morero o sisintsoeng oa Tokelo ea Tlhahiso ea Matla a D3 o ka ntlafatsoa ka tsela e ikarabellang tikolohong ha feela mehato eohle e khothaletsoang ea ho fokotsa, ho beha leihlo le ho laola e kenngoa tšebetsong ka botlalo.



Lithuto tsa litsebi ha lia ka tsa fumana mefokolo e kotsi ea tikoloho, ea sechaba kapa ea polokeho e neng e tla thibela projeke ho tsoela pele. Litlamorao tse ngata li nkoa li laoleha ka ho rera hantle, ho laola tikoloho, ho beha leihlo le ho tsosolosa.

Ho latela diphihlello tsa Tlhahlobo ya Tshusumetso ya Tikoloho, ho kgothalletswa hore kopo e nahanelwe hantle ke bolaodi bo nang le bokgoni, ho itshelehile ka ho kenngwa tshebetsong ha Lenaneo la Tsamaiso ya Tikoloho (EMPr), maemo a tumello ya tikoloho, ditlhoko tsa tlhokomelo le ditumello tse sebetsang tsa taolo.



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NIE-TEGNIIESE UITVOERENDE OPSOMMING VAN DIE OMGEWINGSIMPAKASSESSERINGSVERSLAG

4/12/016 EA AANWYSING:

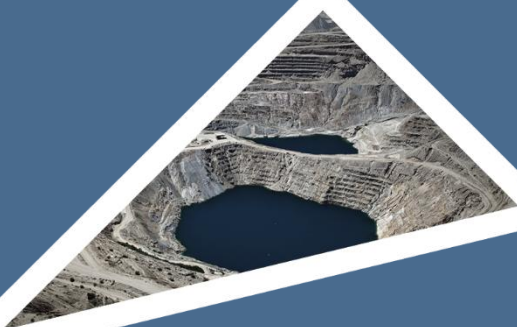
D3-ENERGIE SOUTH AFRICA (PTY) LTD (VOORHEEN MOTUOANE
ENERGY (PTY) LTD.)

PRODUKSIEREGTOEPASSING OP VERSKEIE PLASE IN MATJHABENG
EN MASILONYANA PLAASLIKE MUNISIPALITEITE, LEJWELEPUTSWA
DISTRIKSMUNISIPALITEIT IN DIE VRYSTAATPROVINSIE, SUID-AFRIKA

PASA VERWYSING: PR 12/4/016

EIMS VERWYSING: 1709

SEPTEMBER 2026





1 INLEIDING EN OORSIG

D3 Energy South Africa (Pty) Ltd (voorheen Motuoane Energy (Pty) Ltd) het aansoek gedoen vir 'n Produksiereg (PR 12/4/016) om helium- en metaangas uit 'n gedeelte van sy bestaande goedgekeurde eksplorasiegebied in die Vrystaatprovinsie te onttrek en te produseer. Die voorgestelde Produksiereggebied beslaan ongeveer 14 440 hektaar en is hoofsaaklik suidoos van Virginia geleë binne die Matjhabeng en Masilonyana Plaaslike Munisipaliteite.

Die projek bou voort op die bestaande Eksplorasiereg (ER315), wat oorspronklik in 2018 toegestaan is. Die voorgestelde ontwikkeling sluit in:

- Tot 43 produksieputte en addisionele ontwikkelingsputte;
- Seismiese en/of Audio Magnetotelluriese (AMT) opnames om die begrip van ondergrondse gasbronne te verbeter;
- Ondergrondse gasversamelingspypleidings;
- 'n Heliumherwinningsfasiliteit;
- 'n Metaangasverwerkingsaanleg wat in staat is om saamgeperste natuurlike gas (CNG) en/of vloeibare natuurlike gas (LNG) te produseer;
- Toegangspaaie en ondersteunende infrastruktuur; en
- Langtermynbedryf en instandhoudingsaktiwiteite.

Konstruksieaktiwiteite word verwag om hoofsaaklik gedurende die eerste vyf jaar van ontwikkeling plaas te vind, terwyl die operasionele leeftyd van die projek na verwagting ongeveer 30 jaar sal wees.

Die Omgewingsimpakbepaling (OIB) is uitgevoer in ooreenstemming met die vereistes van die Nasionale Omgewingsbestuurswet (NEMA) om potensiele omgewings-, sosiale en ekonomiese impakte van die voorgestelde ontwikkeling te evalueer en maatreëls te identifiseer om hierdie impakte te vermy, te minimaliseer of te bestuur.

2 DOEL VAN DIE OMGEWINGSIMPAKBEPALINGSVERSLAG

Die Omgewingsimpakbepaling (OIB) is uitgevoer om die moontlike omgewings-, sosiale, ekonomiese en veiligheidsimpakte van die voorgestelde D3 Energy South Africa (Pty) Ltd-produksieregprojek sorgvuldig te evalueer voordat enige finale besluit deur die owerhede geneem word. Die OIB verskaf die inligting wat besluitnemers, grondeienaars, gemeenskappe en ander belanghebbendes nodig om sowel die voordele as die potensiele risiko's van die projek te verstaan.

Die hoofdoel van die OIB was om:

- Die bestaande omgewingstoestand binne die projekgebied, insluitend waterhulpbronne, vleilande, biodiversiteit, landbougrond, erfenishulpbronne en omliggende gemeenskappe, te verstaan.
- Potensiele positiewe en negatiewe impakte te identifiseer wat uit die konstruksie, bedryf en uiteindelijke sluiting van die voorgestelde helium- en metaanproduksieaktiwiteite kan voortspruit.
- Die betekenisvolheid van hierdie impakte te evalueer en te bepaal watter omgewings- en sosiale aspekte die sensitiefste is en beskerming vereis.
- Alternatiewe te ondersoek en die geskikste ontwikkelingsbenadering te identifiseer wat omgewingskade tot die minimum beperk terwyl die projekdoelwitte bereik kan word.
- Insette van grondeienaars, gemeenskappe, regeringsowerhede en ander belanghebbende en geraakte partye te verkry om te verseker dat hul bekommernisse en aanbevelings tydens projekbeplanning in ag geneem word.



- Praktiese versagtings- en bestuursmaatreëls te ontwikkel om geïdentifiseerde impakte regdeur die projek se leeftyd te vermy, te beperk, te rehabiliteer of te bestuur.
- Die bevoegde owerheid van voldoende inligting te voorsien om 'n ingeligte besluit te neem oor of die voorgestelde Produksiereg gemagtig moet word en, indien wel, onder watter voorwaardes.

In eenvoudige terme verseker die OIB dat die potensiële voordele van die projek, soos werksgeleenthede, plaaslike ekonomiese ontwikkeling, belegging en die produksie van strategiese helium- en gasbronne, sorgvuldig teen moontlike omgewings- en sosiale impakte opgeweeg word. Die proses verseker ook dat toepaslike beskermingsmaatreëls, moniteringsprogramme en omgewingsbestuursmaatreëls ingestel word om mense, natuurlike hulpbronne en die omliggende omgewing te beskerm.

Algeheel dien die OIB as 'n beplannings- en besluitnemingsinstrument wat help verseker dat die voorgestelde ontwikkeling verantwoordelik, volhoubaar en in ooreenstemming met Suid-Afrikaanse omgewingswetgewing kan voortgaan, terwyl die belange van geraakte belanghebbendes en toekomstige geslagte in ag geneem word.

3 BEHOEFTE EN WENSLIKHEID VAN DIE PROJEK

Helium is 'n seldsame en nie-hernubare natuurlike hulpbron wat nie maklik in baie belangrike toepassings vervang kan word nie. Dit is noodsaaklik vir:

- Mediese MRI-skandeerders;
- Halfgeleier- en elektronikavervaardiging;
- Veseloptiese produksie;
- Wetenskaplike navorsing;
- Lugvaart- en ruimtetegnologieë; en
- Gespesialiseerde industriële prosesse.

Studies wat in die Virginia-gasveld uitgevoer is, dui op ongewoon hoë heliumkonsentrasies in vergelyking met baie ander gasvelde wêreldwyd. Dit bied 'n geleentheid vir Suid-Afrika om 'n belangrike verskaffer van helium te word, 'n hulpbron wat wêreldwyd al hoe skaarser word.

Die projek kan ook metaangas as 'n sekondêre produk lewer, wat tot Suid-Afrika se energieveiligheid bydra en die land se doelwit ondersteun om 'n gediversifiseerde energiemengsel te handhaaf. Potensiële voordele van die projek sluit in:

- Werkskepping tydens konstruksie en bedryf;
- Vaardigheidsontwikkeling en opleidingsgeleentheid;
- Verhoogde plaaslike verkrygings- en besigheidsgeleentheid;
- Belegging in plaaslike gemeenskappe deur Sosiale en Arbeidsplan-verbintenis;
- Verbeterde nasionale energieveiligheid; en
- Verminderde afhanklikheid van ingevoerde gasbronne.

4 IMPAKBEPALING EN VERSAGTING

'n Reeks spesialisstudies is uitgevoer om die omgewings- en sosiale impakte wat met die projek verband hou, te evalueer. Dit het assesserings van biodiversiteit, vleilande, grondwater, hidrologie, luggehalte, klimaatsverandering, erfenishulpbronne, landbou, geraas, sosiale impakte en veiligheidsrisiko's ingesluit.

- a. Biodiversiteit en Ekologie



Die studiegebied bevat natuurlike plantegroei, beskermde plantspesies, sensitiewe habitatte en verskeie dierspesies wat belangrik is vir bewaring. Konstruksie-aktiwiteite kan lei tot habitatversteuring en fragmentasie. Versagtingsmaatreëls sluit in:

- Vermy sensitiewe habitatte waar moontlik;
- Beperking van steuringsvoetspore;
- Beheer van indringende uitheemse spesies;
- Beperking van voertuigtoegang;
- Rehabilitasie van versteurde gebiede; en
- Implementering van biodiversiteitsmoniteringsprogramme.

b. Vleilande en Waterhulpbronne

Twee-en-veertig vleilandeenhede en verskeie dreineringsstelsels kom binne die projekgebied voor. Potensiële impakte sluit erosie, sedimentasie, veranderde dreineringspatrone en besoedeling weens stortings in. Versagtingsmaatreëls sluit in:

- Vermyding van vleilande en buffergebiede waar moontlik;
- Sorgvuldige ontwerp van onvermydelike kruisings;
- Stormwaterbestuurstelsels;
- Voorkoming van stortings en noodreaksieprosedures;
- Omgewingsmonitering; en
- Rehabilitasie van versteurde gebiede.

c. Grondwater

Grondwater is 'n belangrike hulpbron in die gebied vir beide landbou- en huishoudelike gebruik. Potensiële impakte kan ontstaan uit booraktiwiteite, putversaking of toevallige besoedeling. Om risiko's te verminder:

- Putte sal ontwerp en gebou word volgens erkende industriestandaarde;
- Veelvuldige beskermende versperrings sal grondwater-akwifers isoleer;
- Gevaarlike materiale sal binne beheerstelsels gestoor word; en
- Deurlopende grondwatermonitering sal regdeur die projeklewensiklus geïmplementeer word.

d. Landbou en Gronde

Landbou is die oorheersende grondgebruik binne die projekgebied. Potensiële impakte sluit grondverdigting, erosie, verlies van produktiewe grond en ontwrigting van boerderybedrywighede in. Versagtingsmaatreëls sluit in:

- Sorgvuldige ligging van infrastruktuur;
- Beperking van steuringsgebiede;
- Opberging en hergebruik van bogrond;
- Erosiebeheermaatreëls; en
- Rehabilitasie van versteurde grond na konstruksie.

e. Lugkwaliteit en Klimaatsverandering



Potensiële luggehalte-impakte sluit konstruksiestof, voertuigvrystellings, vrystellings uit gasverwerking en beperkte affakkelaktiwiteite in. Klimaatsveranderingsimpakte hou verband met kweekhuisgasvrystellings. Versagtingsmaatreëls sluit in:

- Stofonderdrukking deur waterspuit;
- Behoorlike instandhouding van toerusting;
- Beperking van affakkelaktiwiteite;
- Monitering van emissies; en
- Implementering van operasionele kontroles om emissies te minimaliseer.

f. Erfenishulpbronne

Die erfenisassessering het 18 erfenishulpbronne geïdentifiseer, waarvan 13 naby die voorgestelde infrastruktuur voorkom. Dit sluit begraafplase, historiese plaasopstalle en 'n Steentydperk-terrein in. Die assessering het tot die gevolgtrekking gekom dat alle geïdentifiseerde erfenishulpbronne vermy kan word deur:

- Buffersones;
- Mikroligging van infrastruktuur;
- Terreininspeksies voor konstruksie; en
- 'n Toevallige-vondste-prosedure vir voorheen onontdekte hulpbronne.

g. Sosiale en Ekonomiese Impakte

Daar word verwag dat die projek positiewe sosio-ekonomiese voordele sal skep deur indiensneming, vaardigheidsontwikkeling en plaaslike ekonomiese groei. Potensiële negatiewe sosiale impakte sluit in:

- Verhoogde verkeer;
- Veiligheidskwessies;
- Tydelike ontwigting van landbou-aktiwiteite;
- Verwagtinge rakende werksgeleenthede; en
- Grondgebruikkonflikte.

Versagtingsmaatreëls sluit in:

- Voortdurende betrokkenheid van belanghebbendes;
- Plaaslike indiensnemings- en verkrygingsinisiatiewe;
- Verkeersbestuursmaatreëls;
- Veiligheidsplanne; en
- Vergoedingsooreenkomste waar toepaslik

h. Gesondheid en Veiligheid

'n Kwantitatiewe risikobepaling het bevind dat die voorgestelde fasiliteite nie onaanvaarbare risiko's vir naburige gemeenskappe inhou nie en nie as 'n Groot Gevaarinstallasie kwalifiseer nie. Toepaslike ingenieursontwerp, noodreaksiebeplanning en regulatoriese nakoming sal deur die hele projek se leeftyd vereis word.

5 BELANGRIKE BEVINDINGS

Na implementering van versagtingsmaatreëls word verwag dat die meeste impakte tot Lae of Medium-Lae betekenis verminder sal word. Die mees beduidende residuele impakte wat geïdentifiseer is, is:

- Potensiële impakte op grondwaterkwaliteit;



- Potensiële impakte op vleilande en water-ekosisteme;
- Potensiële impakte op landbougronde en landbouaktiwiteit;
- Impakte op plantegroei en wildhabitate;
- Lugkwaliteit en klimaatsverandering-impakte;
- Potensiële impakte op erfenishulpbronne;
- Potensiële interaksies met ander streekontwikkelings; en
- Veiligheidsverwante operasionele risiko's.

Positiewe impakte sluit in:

- Werkskepping;
- Vaardigheidsontwikkeling;
- Verhoogde plaaslike besteding;
- Verbeterde plaaslike besigheidseleenthede; en
- Potensiële bydrae tot Suid-Afrika se strategiese heliumvoorsiening en energie-sekuriteit.

6 OPENBARE DEELNAME

Die openbare deelnameproses vir hierdie aansoek is uitgevoer in ooreenstemming met die vereistes van die NEMA OIB-regulasies en die beginsels van Geïntegreerde Omgewingsbestuur (IEM). IEM behels 'n oop en deursigtige deelnemende proses waardeur belanghebbendes en ander B&GP's die geleentheid gebied word om kommentaar op die projek te lewer en hul menings tydens projekbeplanning te laat oorweeg en insluit. Die doel van die openbare deelnameproses is om te verseker dat Belanghebbende en Geraakte Partye (B&GP's), insluitend grondeienaars, gemeenskappe, regeringsdepartemente, ondernemings en burgerlike organisasies, die geleentheid het om projekinligting te hersien en kommentaar te lewer.

Die PPP het op 17 November 2025 begin met 'n aanvanklike kennisgewing en oproep om vir 'n minimum tydperk van 30 dae te registreer. Die aanvanklike kennisgewing is in Engels, Afrikaans en Sesotho gedoen en is op die volgende wyse gegee:

- Geregistreerde briewe, fakse, e-posse en SMS'e: Kennisgewings is aan alle vooraf geïdentifiseerde B&GP's versprei, insluitend regeringsorganisasies, NRO's, tersaaklike munisipaliteite, wykraadslede, grondeienaars en ander organisasies wat moontlik belangstel of geraak word.
- Advertensies wat die voorgestelde projek en OIB-proses beskryf, is in die Vista-koerant, wat in die omgewing van die studiegebied versprei word, gepubliseer. Die aanvanklike advertensies is op 20 November 2025 in Engels, Afrikaans en Sesotho in die Vista-koerant geplaas, en 'n kennisgewing is op 14 November 2025 in die Staatskoerant gepubliseer, ook in die drie tale.
- A1 Correx-terreinkennisgewings in Engels, Afrikaans en Sesotho is van 17 tot 19 November 2025 op 50 plekke binne en rondom die aansoekgebied aangebring.
- A3-plakkate in Engels, Afrikaans en Sesotho is by plaaslike openbare byeenkomplekke in Virginia, Welkom, Ventersburg en Theunissen opgehang.

Kennisgewing oor die beskikbaarheid van die omvangverslag vir openbare hersiening is op die volgende wyses aan alle geregistreerde B&GP's gegee:

- Geregistreerde briewe met besonderhede oor waar die omvangverslag verkry en/of hersien kan word, EIMS-kontakbesonderhede sowel as die openbare hersieningskommentaarperiode;
- Faksimile-kennisgewings met inligting soortgelyk aan dié in die geregistreerde brief hierbo beskryf; en/of



- E-poskennisgewings met 'n briëfaanhangsel wat die inligting hierbo beskryf bevat.

Die omvangbepalingsverslag is beskikbaar gestel vir openbare hersiening van 23 Januarie 2026 tot 23 Februarie 2026 vir 'n tydperk van minstens 30 dae.

Kommentaar wat gedurende die hersieningstydperk vir hierdie OIB-verslag ontvang word, sal eweneens saamgevoeg en by die Openbare Deelnameverslag gevoeg word wat aan die Bevoegde Owerheid (BO) voorgelê word. Hierdie OIB-verslag is vir 'n tydperk van 30 dae vir openbare hersiening en kommentaar beskikbaar gestel.

Kommentaar moet nie later as 28 Oktober 2026 by EIMS ingedien word deur een van die volgende kanale:

- Environmental Impact Management Services (Pty) Ltd (EIMS)
- Telefoon: 011 789 7170 / Faks: 011 787 3059
- Kontak: Mbali Tshabalala
- EIMS Verwysing Nr: 1709
- E-pos: motuoanepr@eims.co.za

Ten tyde van die finalisering van hierdie OIB-verslag het sleutelkwessies wat tydens konsultasie geopper is, ingesluit:

- Potensiële impakte op grondwater;
- Effekte op boerdery en landbouaktiwiteite;
- Vleiland- en biodiversiteitsimpakte;
- Geraas- en stofgenerering;
- Veiligheid en sekuriteitskwessies;
- Verkeersimpakte;
- Impakte op erfenishulpbronne;
- Potensiële effekte op nabygeleë hernubare energie-ontwikkelings; en
- Langtermyn omgewingsbestuur.

Hierdie kwessies is tydens die spesialisassesserings oorweeg en by die impakbepalingsproses ingesluit. Bykomende kommentaar, kwessies of bekommernisse wat tydens die openbare hersiening van die OIB-verslag geopper word, sal ook aangeteken, behoorlik beantwoord en oorweeg word, en by die finale verslag aangeheg word wat aan die Bevoegde Owerheid voorgelê sal word.

7 OMGEWINGSIMPAKVERKLARING

Die Omgewingsimpakbepaling het tot die gevolgtrekking gekom dat die voorgestelde D3 Energy-produksieregprojek op 'n omgewingsverantwoordelike wyse ontwikkel kan word, mits alle aanbevole versagtings-, moniterings- en bestuursmaatreëls ten volle geïmplementeer word.

Spesialisstudies het geen wesenlike omgewings-, sosiale of veiligheidstekortkominge geïdentifiseer wat sou verhoed dat die projek voortgaan nie. Die meeste impakte word as hanteerbaar beskou deur behoorlike beplanning, omgewingsbeheer, monitering en rehabilitasie.

Gebaseer op die bevindings van die Omgewingsimpakbepaling, word aanbeveel dat die aansoek gunstig deur die bevoegde owerheid oorweeg word, onderhewig aan die implementering van die Omgewingsbestuursprogram (EMPr), omgewingsmagtigingsvoorwaardes, moniteringsvereistes en toepaslike regulatoriese goedkeurings.