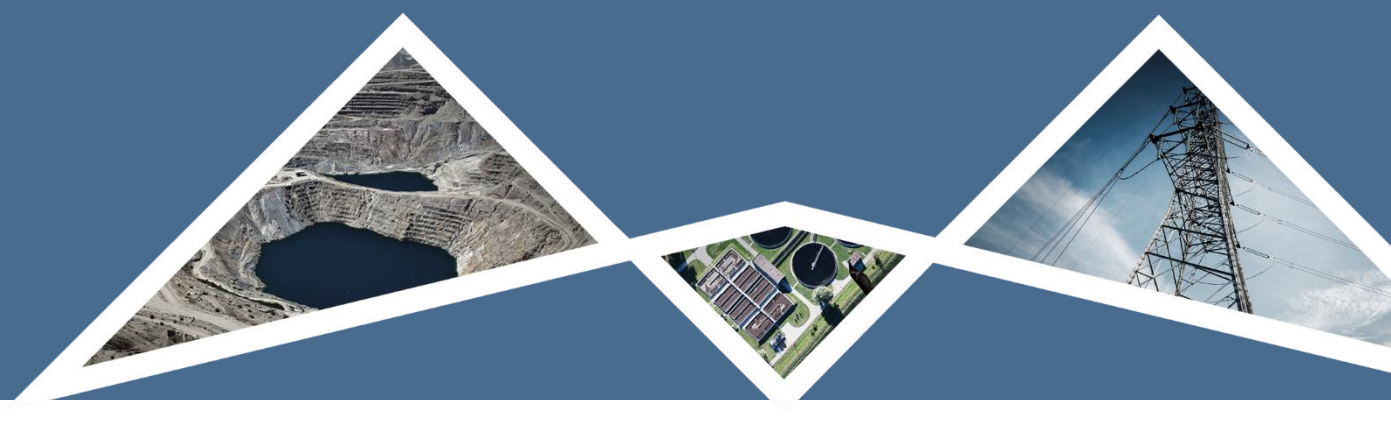
EIMS | ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT MANAGEMENT SERVICES

T 011 789 7170 E info@eims.co.za W www.eims.co.za

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION REPORT

HARMONY WEST WITS RECLAMATION AND DEPOSITION PROJECT



DOCUMENT DETAILS

EIMS REFERENCE: 1716

DOCUMENT TITLE: Public Participation Report - Harmony West Wits Reclamation And Deposition Project

DOCUMENT CONTROL

	NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE
COMPILED:	Mbali Tshabalala		2026/10/28
CHECKED:	John von Mayer		2026/10/28
AUTHORIZED:	Liam Whitlow		2026/10/28

REVISION AND AMENDMENTS

REVISION DATE:	REV #	DESCRIPTION
2026/04/08	ORIGINAL DOCUMENT	PPR
2026/06/01	REVISION 1	PPR for Final Scoping Report
2026/10/28	REVISION 2	PPR for EIR Public Review

This document contains information proprietary to Environmental Impact Management Services (Pty) Ltd. and as such should be treated as confidential unless specifically identified as a public document by law. The document may not be copied, reproduced, or used for any manner without prior written consent from EIMS. Copyright is specifically reserved.

Table of Contents

1 Introduction 1
2 Objectives Of The Public Participation 1
3 Legal Compliance 2
4 Identification of Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) 3
4.1 List of Organs Of State Identified And Notified 3
4.2 List of Other Key I&APs Identified and Notified 3
5 Notification of Interested and Affected Parties 4
5.1 Initial Notification of Key I&APs 4
5.1.1 Faxes, Registered Mail and Emails 4
5.1.2 Newspaper and Gazette Advertisements 4
5.1.3 Site Notice Placement 5
5.2 Initial Notification of Pre-identified and registered I&APs of Scoping Report Availability 5
5.2.1 Faxes, Registered Mail and Emails 5
5.2.2 Newspaper Advertisements 5
5.2.3 Public meeting 6
6 Summary of Public Participation Opportunities 6
7 Record of Issues Raised 8
8 Conclusion 9
9 Appendices 10

List of Tables

Table 1: Summary of Public Participation Opportunities 6

Appendices

APPENDIX 1: IAP DATABASE

APPENDIX 2: INITIAL NOTIFICATION PROOF

APPENDIX 3: NEWSPAPER AND GAZETTE NOTICE PROOF

APPENDIX 4: SITE NOTICE PROOF

APPENDIX 5: SCOPING REPORT AVAILABILITY AND PUBLIC MEETING NOTIFICATION PROOF

APPENDIX 6: NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENT PROOF

APPENDIX 7: PUBLIC MEETING DOCUMENTS

APPENDIX 8: TABLE OF CORRESPONDENCE

APPENDIX 9: CORRESPONDENCE DOCUMENT

ABBREVIATION LIST:

CER:	Centre for Environmental Rights
CoGTA:	Gauteng Department of Corporate Governance and Traditional Affairs
DFFE:	Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and Environment
DMPR:	Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources
DWS:	Department of Water and Sanitation
EA:	Environmental Authorisation
EAP:	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
EIA:	Environmental Impact Assessment
EIMS:	Environmental Impact Management Services
EWT:	Endangered Wildlife Trust
FSE:	Federation for a Sustainable Environment
GDARD:	Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
I&APs :	Interested and Affected Parties
MACUA:	Mining Affected Communities United in Action
MEJCONSA:	Mining and Environmental Justice Community Network of South Africa
MHSC:	Mine Health and Safety Council
NERSA:	National Energy Regulators of South Africa
PASA:	Petroleum Agency of South Africa
PPP:	Public Participation Process
SAHRA:	South African Heritage Resources Agency
SR:	Scoping Report
WESSA:	Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa
WWF:	World Wildlife Fund

1 INTRODUCTION

Randfontein Estates Limited (a subsidiary of Harmony Gold Mining Company) (hereafter referred to as the applicant) has appointed Environmental Impact Management Services (Pty) Ltd (EIMS) as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to assist with undertaking the required authorisation processes (including the statutory public participation), and to compile and submit the required documentation in support of application for:

- Environmental Authorisation (EA) in accordance with the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA- Act 107 of 1998)- Listed activities):
    - GN R983 activities: 10, 19 and 21(D);
    - GN R984 activities: 6 and 15; and
    - GN R985 activities: 12 and 14.
- Waste Management Licence in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act (NEM:WA- Act 59 of 2008) - Listed activities):
    - GN 921 activities: A(14), B(7), B(10) and B(11).
- Water Use Licence (WUL) in accordance with the National Water Act (NWA- Act 36 of 1998) - Listed activities:
    - Section: 21(g), 21(c) and 21(i).

The Applicant requires additional deposition capacity for West Wits region's operations. The applicant plans on constructing the Deelkraal 2 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) to cater for the additional future capacity. This TSF will receive residue from Kusasalethu, and Mponeng plants and will also assist in reclaiming the existing Deelkraal 1 TSF and Kusasalethu TSF for processing at Kusasalethu plant. Additional planned infrastructure includes slurry and return water pipelines, topsoil stockpiles, access roads, pump stations, a return water dam and a power line. Proposed upgrades to the existing Kusasalethu plant are also proposed as part of the project.

The proposed project is located on various properties Namely: Farm Driefontein 113 IQ, Portion 1; Farm Blyvooruitzicht 116 IQ, portions 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 13 24, 62, 93, 100 and 107; Farm Doornfontein 118 IQ, portions 1, 2, 11, 12, 13, 14, 25, 27, and 28; Farm Kleinfontein 143 IQ, portions 7 and 35; Farm Kleinfontein 141 IQ, portions 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6; Farm Deelkraal 142 IQ, portions 3, 23, 59 and 60; and Farm Buffelsdoorn 143 IQ, portions 1, 7, 9, 13, 31, and 35 in the Merafong City Local Municipality, West Rand District Municipality, Gauteng Province. The site is approximately 13km southwest of Carltonville. The centre point of the TSF site is approximately 26°28'10.51"S, 27°16'56.07"E.

2 OBJECTIVES OF THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

South Africa, being one of the countries with the most progressive constitutions, enshrined the public's right to be involved in decisions that may affect them in its Constitution. Section 57(1) of the new Constitution that provides: "*The National Assembly may (b) make rules and orders concerning its business, with due regard to representative and participatory democracy, accountability, transparency and public involvement".* This provision, along with several others gave rise to many new trends in South African legislation. In environmental legislation, the idea of public participation (or stakeholder engagement) features strongly and especially the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998, NEMA) and the recent regulations passed under the auspices of this Act makes very strict provisions for public participation in environmental decision-making.

Public participation can be defined as..."*a process leading to a joint effort by stakeholders, technical specialists, the authorities and the proponent who work together to produce better decisions than if they had acted independently*"[1]. From this definition, it can be seen that the input of the public is regarded as very important indeed.

The Public Participation Process (PPP) is designed to provide sufficient and accessible information to Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) in an objective manner to assist them to:

During the Environmental Authorisation:

- Verify that their issues have been recorded;
- Comment on the findings of the environmental assessments; and
- Provide relevant local information and knowledge to the environmental assessment.

The PPP is a requirement of several pieces of South African Legislation and aims to ensure that all relevant I&APs are consulted, involved and their opinions are taken into account and a record included in the reports submitted to Authorities. The process ensures that all stakeholders are provided this opportunity as part of a transparent process which allows for a robust and comprehensive environmental study. The PPP for the necessary authorisation required for the project needs to be managed sensitively and according to best practises in order to ensure and promote:

- Compliance with international best practice options;
- Compliance with national legislation;
- Establishment and management of relationships with key stakeholder groups; and
- Encouragement of involvement and participation in the environmental study and authorisation/approval process.

As such, the purpose of the PPP and stakeholder engagement process is to:

- Introduce the proposed project and process for the authorisation project;
- Explain the environmental authorisation;
- Determine and record issues, concerns, suggestions, and objections to the project;
- Provide opportunity for input and gathering of local knowledge;
- Establish and formalise lines of communication between the I&APs and the project team;
- Identify all significant issues for the project; and
- Identify possible mitigation measures or environmental management plans to minimise and/or prevent negative environmental impacts and maximise and/or promote positive environmental impacts associated with the project.

This Public Participation Report (PPR) lists all verbal and written issues raised by I&APs during the call to register period from the 06th of February 2026 to date. A breakdown of the PPP is given within the remaining sections of this PPR.

3 LEGAL COMPLIANCE

The PPP must comply with all environmental legislation that requires public participation as part of an application for authorisation or approval; namely, the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA, Act No. 107 of 1998).

Adherence to the requirements of the above-mentioned Act will allow for an Integrated PPP to be conducted, and in so doing, satisfy the requirements for public participation referenced in the Act. The details of the Integrated PPP are provided below.

4 IDENTIFICATION OF INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES (I&APS)

An initial I&AP database has been compiled from historic projects in the area, and Windeed searches were conducted to obtain the contact details of the surrounding landowners. The I&APs referred to in the PPR include:

- Pre-identified and registered landowners and surrounding landowners;
- Pre-identified and registered key stakeholders;
- Regulatory authorities;
- Specialist interest groups; and
- All I&APs who responded to the initial notifications and requested to be registered.

Efforts to pre-identify key I&APs involved various avenues such as consultation with the proponent and known landowners within the study area, review of related previously conducted studies, and identification of key interest groups and authorities within the vicinity of the study area and municipality. Refer to **APPENDIX 1** for the Key Stakeholder/I&AP Database.

4.1 LIST OF ORGANS OF STATE IDENTIFIED AND NOTIFIED

The following key I&APs, but not limited to, were notified of the proposed project and invited to participate in the public participation process:

- Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (GDARD)
- Gauteng Department of Corporate Governance and Traditional Affairs (CoGTA)
- Gauteng Department of Health
- Gauteng Department of Human Settlements
- Gauteng Department of Infrastructure Development
- Gauteng Department of Mineral Resources and Energy
- Gauteng Department of Roads and Transport
- Merafong City Local Municipality
- Mine Health and Safety Council (MHSC)
- National Energy Regulators of South Africa (NERSA)
- National Department of Agriculture
- National Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)
- National Department of Human Settlements
- National Department of Petroleum and Mineral Resources (DMPR)
- National Department of Treasury
- National Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)
- Petroleum Agency of South Africa (PASA)
- South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)
- The Fountain Private Hospital
- West Rand District Municipality

4.2 LIST OF OTHER KEY I&APS IDENTIFIED AND NOTIFIED

- Pre-identified and registered landowners and surrounding landowners.
- Agri South Africa
- Anglo American
- Atlantic Energy Solar
- Blyvoor Community Forum

- Botanical Society
- Carpe Diem Solar Development
- Centre for Environmental Rights (CER)
- Council for Geoscience
- Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT)
- Federation for a Sustainable Environment
- Gauteng Water Sector Forum
- GroundWork South Africa
- Lawyers for Human Rights
- Mining Affected Communities United in Action (MACUA)
- Mining and Environmental Justice Community Network of South Africa (MEJCONSA)
- Natural Justice
- Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA)
- Wildtrust
- World Wildlife Fund (WWF)

5 NOTIFICATION OF INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES

This section provides details on the notifications that were distributed as part of the consultation process to date.

5.1 INITIAL NOTIFICATION OF KEY I&APS

The PPP commenced on the 06th of February 2026 with an initial call to register notification. Notification during this initial consultation was given in the manner described below.

5.1.1 FAXES, REGISTERED MAIL AND EMAILS

Notification letters (in English, Afrikaans, and Setswana) were distributed to pre-identified I&APS through either faxes, SMSs, registered mail, and/or emails on the 06th of February 2026.

The notification documents included the following information:

- Authorisations required;
- Sufficient detail of the proposed development to enable I&APs to assess/surmise what impact the development will have on them or the use of their land;
- The purpose of the proposed project;
- Details of the application processes associated with proposed activities;
- Details of the affected properties;
- Details of the South African environmental legislation that must be adhered to;
- Contact details of the relevant EIMS contact person.

Please refer to **APPENDIX 2** for initial notification and proofs.

5.1.2 NEWSPAPER AND GAZETTE ADVERTISEMENTS

Advertisements (in English and Setswana) describing the proposed project and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process were placed in the Carletonville Herald with circulation in the vicinity of the study area on the 12th of February 2026. The Gazette Notice (in English and Afrikaans) was placed in the Gauteng Provincial Gazette on the 25th of March 2026. The newspaper and Gazette Notice adverts included the following information:

- Project name;
- Applicant name;

- Project location;
- Nature of the activity;
- Legislative requirements; and
- Relevant EIMS contact person for the project.

Please refer to **APPENDIX 3** for proof of the advert and gazette notice placed.

5.1.3 SITE NOTICE PLACEMENT

Ten (10) A1 Correx site notices (in English, Afrikaans, and Setswana) and two (2) A3 posters (in English, Afrikaans, and Setswana) were placed at 12 locations around the proposed project study area on the 06th of February 2026. The on-site notices included the following information:

- Project name;
- Applicant name;
- Project location;
- Map of proposed project area;
- Project description;
- Legislative requirements; and
- Relevant EIMS contact person for the project.

Please refer to **APPENDIX 4** for proof of site notice and site notice distribution.

5.2 INITIAL NOTIFICATION OF PRE-IDENTIFIED AND REGISTERED I&APS OF SCOPING REPORT AVAILABILITY

This section provides details on the notifications that were distributed as part of the Scoping Report availability.

5.2.1 FAXES, REGISTERED MAIL AND EMAILS

Notification letters (in English, Afrikaans, and Setswana) were distributed to pre-identified I&APS through either faxes, SMSs, registered mail, and/or emails on the 22nd of April 2026.

The notification documents included the following information:

- Sufficient detail of where the reports can be accessed to enable I&APs to understand how to access them;
- Details of the duration of public review;
- Contact details of the relevant EIMS contact person.

Please refer to **APPENDIX 5** for Scoping Report Availability notification and proofs.

5.2.2 NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENTS

Advertisements (in English, Afrikaans, and Setswana) notifying of the availability of the Scoping Report and an invitation to a scheduled public meeting were placed in the Carletonville Herald with circulation in the vicinity of the study area on the 30th of April 2026. The newspaper adverts included the following information:

- Applicant name;
- Nature of the activity;
- Legislative requirements; and
- Relevant EIMS contact person for the project.

Please refer to **APPENDIX 6** for proof of the adverts placed.

5.2.3 PUBLIC MEETING

A public meeting aimed at discussing the findings of the Scoping Report was scheduled and held. All pre-identified and registered I&APs were notified via either email, SMSs, fax, and/or registered mail (in English, Afrikaans, and Setswana). The public meeting was held on the 7th of May 2026 from 12H00 to 14H00 at the Elandsridge Community Hall.

Additionally, a focus group meeting with representatives of Sibanye Stillwater was held on the 22nd of May 2026 between 09H00 to 10H00 virtually.

Please refer to **APPENDIX 5** for proof of public meeting notifications, and **APPENDIX 7** for the public meetings documentation proof.

6 SUMMARY OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES

The table below provides a summary of the opportunities provided to I&APs for participation in the public participation process to date.

Table 1: Summary of Public Participation Opportunities

Action	Description	Publication/Place	Date
Initial Call to Register	Notification of landowners, occupiers, and other key I&APs.	Affected landowners and key I&APs were notified via email, fax, SMSs and/or post.	06 February 2026
	Placement of site notices.	Ten (10) A1 Correx site notices (in English, Afrikaans, and Setswana) and two (2) A3 posters (in English, Afrikaans, and Setswana) were placed at 12 locations along the proposed project study area.	06 February 2026

Action	Description	Publication/Place	Date
	Newspaper advertisement and Gazette Notice.	Advertisements (in English and Setswana) describing the proposed project and EIA process were placed in the Carletonville Herald Newspaper. The Gazette Notice was placed in the Gauteng Provincial Gazette	12 February 2026 (Newspaper) 25 February 2026 (Gazette Notice)
Notification of Scoping Report Availability	Notification of landowners, occupiers, and other key I&APs.	Affected landowners and key I&APs were notified via email, fax, SMSs and/or post.	22 April 2026
	Newspaper advertisement.	Advertisements (in English, Afrikaans, and Setswana) describing the Proposed project, availability of the Scoping Report, and an invitation to a public meeting were placed in the Carletonville Herald Newspaper.	30 April 2026

Action	Description	Publication/Place	Date
Public meeting	A Scoping Phase public meeting was scheduled.	Elandsridge Community Hall	7 May 2026 (12H00 to 14H00)

7 RECORD OF ISSUES RAISED

Comments on the proposed project were solicited from pre-identified and registered I&APs and key stakeholders. To date, the following key comments have been received:

- I&AP registration
- The National Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:
    - Allocated case officers for the proposed project.
    - Requested project documents.
- An I&AP requested for a virtual public participation engagement.
- A request from an I&AP for special attention to be given to the ground water and avoid contamination.
- A request for a comprehensive Air Quality and Biodiversity Assessments to be conducted.
- A suggestion from an I&AP that PP events be held at a reasonable location and time, including accessible reports.
- An I&AP enquired about languages used in the notification documents and a possible inclusion of other languages.
- I&APs requested for a virtual meeting.
- SANRAL indicated that they have no objections to the proposed project.
- An I&AP lodged an objection on the basis that they are property owners for certain properties where the TSF is located and do not wish activities to occur on their property.
- Sibanye shared comments regarding the fact that agreements would need to be in place for areas where the infrastructure is located on Sibanye-owned land.
- Concerns that there will be pollution since there is a water course along the proposed project area.
- Concerns regarding dust fallout.
- Requests from various I&APs that the Deelkraal community and other surrounding communities are prioritized with respect to employment opportunities.
- An I&AP enquired about Deposition sources of the TSF.
- An I&AP enquired about additional applications linked to the project.
- An I&AP enquired about water uses.

- I&APs raised concern regarding mining rights in the area.
- An I&AP raised concerns regarding the size of the TSF.
- Concerns that the design of the TSF cause a higher risk.
- Concerns that the proximity of the TSF to the Wonderfonteinspruit catchment cause significant risk.
- Recommendations that special attention should be given to biodiversity and wetlands.
- A recommendation that intensive air quality assessments should be conducted.
- A request for in-depth details on how climate resilience will be incorporated.
- A request for more information to be added during the EIA phase.
- An I&AP requested that there be a cumulative impact assessment of the project on the watercourse should be conducted.
- A request that proof should be submitted if a liner is going to be used and the specifications of the liner.
- An I&AP indicated that they require more consultation in relation to the water impact the proposed project will have on the community.
- A request from I&APs to engage the DWS.
- A request from I&APs to communicate with community members the dust management plan.

All comments and/or queries received to date are included in this report and presented in **APPENDIX 8**. Please refer to **APPENDIX 9** for proof of correspondence.

8 CONCLUSION

The comments received during the initial call to register period to date were used to inform the compilation of this PPR. All comments received have been included in this report and the Scoping report for submission to the Competent Authority, the Department of Petroleum and Mineral Resources.

9 APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1: IAP DATABASE

APPENDIX 2: INITIAL NOTIFICATION PROOF

APPENDIX 3: NEWSPAPER AND GAZETTE NOTICE PROOF

APPENDIX 4: SITE NOTICE PROOF

APPENDIX 5: SCOPING REPORT AVAILABILITY AND PUBLIC MEETING NOTIFICATION PROOF

APPENDIX 6: NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENT PROOF

APPENDIX 7: PUBLIC MEETING DOCUMENTS

APPENDIX 8: TABLE OF CORRESPONDENCE



APPENDIX 9: CORRESPONDENCE DOCUMENT