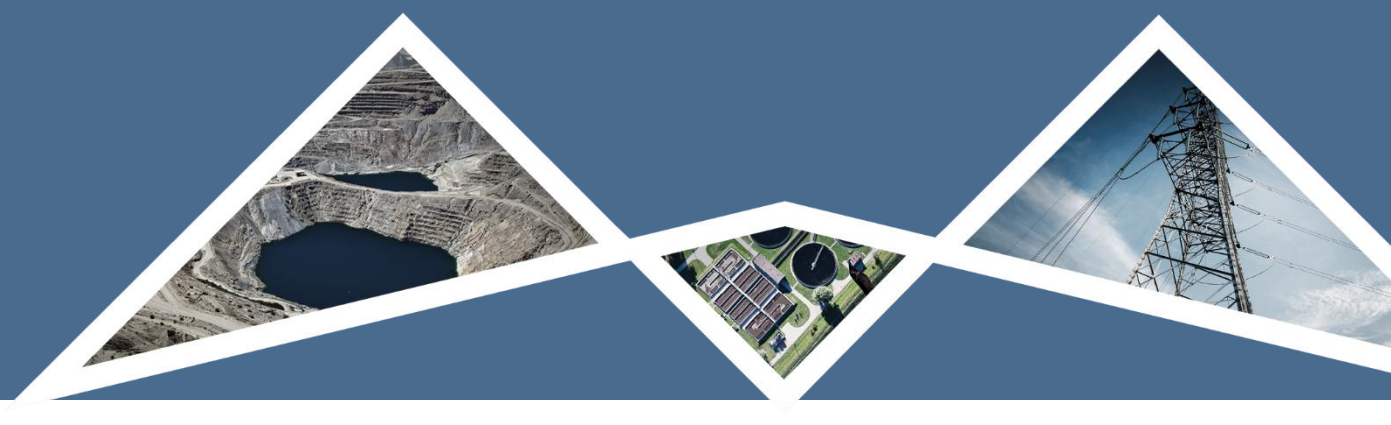
EIMS | ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT MANAGEMENT SERVICES

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PROPOSED HARMONY WEST WITS RECLAMATION AND DEPOSITION PROJECT AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE

(GP) 30/5/1/1/2/07MR



DOCUMENT DETAILS

EIMS REFERENCE: 1716

DOCUMENT TITLE: Proposed Harmony West Wits Reclamation and Deposition Project and Associated Infrastructure

DOCUMENT CONTROL

	NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE
COMPILED:	John von Mayer	Signed Electronically	2026/10/26
CHECKED:	John von Mayer	Signed Electronically	2026/10/26
AUTHORIZED:	Liam Whitlow	Signed Electronically	2026/10/26

REVISION AND AMENDMENTS

REVISION DATE:	REV #	DESCRIPTION
2026/10/26	ORIGINAL DOCUMENT	Executive Summary

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 Executive Summary 2
1.1 Purpose of the EIA Report 2
1.2 Public Participation Process 3
1.3 Project Alternatives 3
1.4 Environmental Impact Assessment 4
1.5 Conclusions and Recommendations 4

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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 an application for a proposed new West Wits Reclamation and Deposition Project. The West Wits project consists of the proposed Deelkraal II Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) and associated infrastructure on a site located approximately 13km southwest of Carletonville in the Merafong City Local Municipality, West Rand District Municipality, Gauteng Province.

The Applicant requires additional deposition capacity for West Wits region's operations. The applicant plans on constructing the Deelkraal II Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) to cater for the additional future capacity. The proposed Deelkraal II TSF will cover an area of approximately 430 ha. This TSF will receive residue from Kusasalethu, and Savuka plants and will also assist in returning process water for reclaiming the existing Deelkraal I TSF and Kusasalethu TSF for processing at Kusasalethu plant. Additional planned infrastructure includes various slurry, potable, process and return water pipelines, access roads, power lines, pump stations and new return water dams. Proposed upgrades to the existing Kusasalethu plant are also proposed as part of the project.

EIMS will compile and submit the required documentation in support of an application for:

- Environmental Authorisation (EA) and Waste Management License (WML) in accordance with the National Environmental Management Act – NEMA (Act 107 of 1998)- Listed activity: Listing Notice 2, Activity 6 and 15 and various Listing Notice 1 and 3 activities as well as the National Environmental Management: Waste Act – NEMWA (Act 59 of 2008)- Activity B7, B10 and B11;
- Water Use License (WUL) in accordance with the National Water Act – NWA (Act 36 of 1998). Water uses: Section 21 (c), Section 21 (i) and Section 21 (g). A separate application for a Water Use License (WUL) has been lodged with the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) for the water use triggers; and
- An Air Emissions License (AEL) in Accordance with the National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act, 2004 will be lodged for the planned plant upgrades.

1.1 PURPOSE OF THE EIA REPORT

The purpose of the EIA process is to:

- Determine the policy and legislative context within which the activity is located and document how the proposed activity complies with and responds to the policy and legislative context;
- Describe the need and desirability of the proposed activity, including the need and desirability of the activity in the context of the development footprint on the approved site as contemplated in the accepted Scoping report;
- Identify the location of the development footprint within the approved site as contemplated in the accepted Scoping report based on an impact and risk assessment process inclusive of cumulative impacts and a ranking process of all the identified development footprint alternatives focusing on the geographical, physical, biological, social, economic, heritage and cultural aspects of the environment;
- Determine nature, significance, consequence, extent, duration and probability of the impacts occurring to inform identified preferred alternatives and the degree to which these impacts can be reversed, may cause irreplaceable loss of resources and can be avoided, managed or mitigated;
- identify the most ideal location for the activity within the development footprint of the approved site as contemplated in the accepted Scoping report based on the lowest level of environmental sensitivity identified during the assessment;

- identify, assess, and rank the impacts the activity will impose on the development footprint on the approved site as contemplated in the accepted Scoping report through the life of the activity;
- identify suitable measures to avoid, manage or mitigate identified impacts; and
- identify residual risks that need to be managed and monitored.

1.2 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

The Public Participation Process (PPP) for the proposed project has been, and will continue to be, undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) in line with the principles of Integrated Environmental Management (IEM). The PPP commenced on 6 February 2026 with an initial notification and call to register as interested and affected parties (I&APs). The comments received from I&APs during the initial call to register and commenting period so far have been captured in Public Participation Report in **Error! Reference source not found.**.

Comments received during this EIA Report review period will also be collated and added to the Public participation report submitted to the Competent Authority (CA) with the Final EIA Report, including an EMPr, for decision-making.

This EIA Report is being made available for public review and comment for a period of 30 days.

1.3 PROJECT ALTERNATIVES

The TSF site selection demonstrated application of the mitigation hierarchy, with clear evidence of avoidance, minimization, and rehabilitation measures being prioritized and integrated into project planning. No other reasonable or feasible site alternatives could be identified due to space constraints and sensitivities identified around the site. The current Deelkraal II site is therefore considered the only suitable site for the TSF, given the volumes and space requirements and the disadvantages of the alternative sites.

Currently cyclone deposition is the vastly preferred method of deposition for the majority of Harmony's current TSF operations due to the reasons described above. The environmental impacts associated with each deposition method are similar however cyclone deposition has higher water recovery rates and is also preferred from a geotechnical perspective. The Deelkraal II TSF will be designed to utilize cyclone deposition.

From the outcomes of the specialist assessments Pipeline and Powerline Corridor 1 (southern corridor) is preferred due to lower impacts on wetlands and terrestrial biodiversity aspects. Corridor 1 is also preferred from a technical feasibility perspective. No preferences were presented in any of the specialist studies for Corridor 2. Corridor 1 (southern piping and powerline corridor) is therefore nominated as the preferred alternative.

It is expected that a liner such as the inverted barrier system will be suitable to prevent any potential contaminant impact on the groundwater in the immediate area. Based on the significant benefits as a result of lining the TSF the lined option is preferred.

Various iterations have been undertaken subsequent to the original layout provided for assessment in the EIA phase. All topsoil stockpiles, construction laydown areas and the Kusasalethu TSF reclamation pump station have been relocated from the original layout provided to avoid the wetlands and high sensitivity SEI areas as far as possible. The final layout presented in **Figure 69 and Figure 70** of The EIA Report presents the most suitable layout for the project based on all identified technical and environmental constraints.

Deelkraal II TSF will also cater for reworking of multiple TSFs across the West Wits area which would have a significant positive impact. TSFs will be reworked and processed at Kusasalethu plant. These TSFs will be fully reclaimed and then fully rehabilitated in the future. This will also allow Harmony to manage a single large TSF rather than having to deal with numerous smaller TSF sites, which should also improve the management related to the various environmental and social issues of the existing TSFs in the region. These opportunities will be lost if the project does not proceed. As such, the no go alternative is not considered feasible or reasonable.

1.4 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Each of the identified risks and impacts at the various project phases were assessed. The assessment criteria include the nature, extent, duration, magnitude / intensity, reversibility, probability, cumulative impact, and irreplaceable loss of resources.

The key negative and positive impacts have been assessed in this EIA report. Potential mitigation measures have been identified and have been refined based on input from the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP), public consultation, and specialist assessments during the EIA phase of the project. The associated EMPr identifies appropriate mitigation mechanisms for avoidance, minimisation and / or management of the negative impacts and enhancement of the positive aspects.

The most significant risks and impacts identified were those that remain high or moderately high in terms of significance even post mitigation measures being considered. The following identified impacts were determined to have a potentially moderate - high final significance:

- Surface water impacts from potential pollutants during closure;
- Decreased runoff during construction and operation;
- Degradation and demolition of wetlands due to TSF and intersecting infrastructure during construction and operation;
- Climate change impacts during operation;
- Destruction, further loss and fragmentation of the habitats and loss of SCC during construction;
- Destruction of non-resilient habitats during construction;
- TSF breaking the dam wall, resulting in massive sudden uncontrolled flood of liquid sludge;
- Employment, skills development and procurement opportunities during construction;
- Safety, Crime and theft during construction phase;
- Displacement and loss of livelihoods during construction phase; and
- Fear of failure during operation phase.

There are certain impacts, with respect to terrestrial biodiversity specifically, which retain a high residual impact after applying all reasonable and feasible mitigation. This implies or introduces the need for an offset to cater for these key residual impacts. Avoidance of certain sensitive areas has taken place with subsequent refinements to the project layout however complete avoidance of certain sensitive areas is not possible and an offset for these specific aspects will be required.

1.5 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The findings of the specialist studies conclude that there are no environmental fatal flaws that should prevent the proposed project from proceeding, provided that all the recommended mitigation and management measures are implemented and resolution and agreement on any required biodiversity offsets are in place prior to construction commencing. Based on the nature and extent of the proposed project, the local level of disturbance predicted as a result of the construction and operation of the mine, the findings of the EIA studies, and the understanding of the significance level of potential environmental impacts, it is the opinion of the EIA project team that the significance levels of the majority of identified negative impacts can generally be reduced by implementing the recommended mitigation measures.

Despite the negative impacts caused by the TSF, it must be considered that there are positive impacts as well, mostly based on the employment opportunities and Social & Labour Plan (SLP) initiatives. Based on the nature and extent of the proposed project and the predicted impacts as a result of the construction, operation and

closure of the facility, the findings of the EIA, and the understanding of the mostly low - moderate post-mitigation significance level of potential environmental impacts, it is the opinion of the EIA project team that the environmental impacts associated with the application for the proposed West Wits Reclamation and Deposition project can be mitigated to an acceptable level and the project should be authorized.