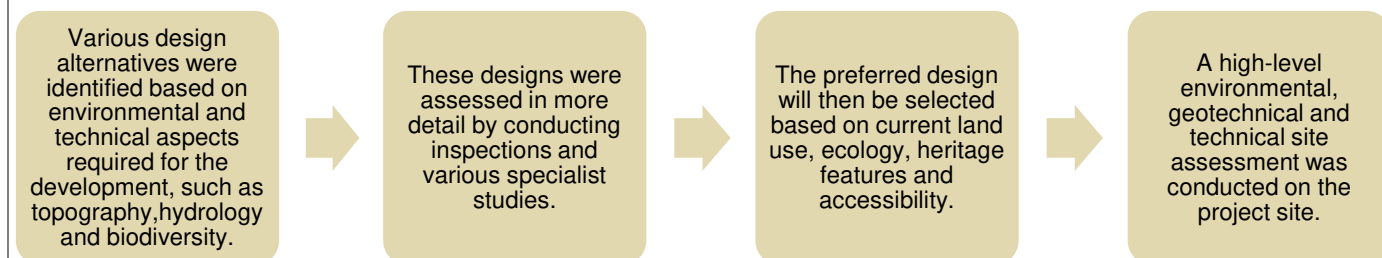


6. What is a Scoping and EIA process?

- This project requires Environmental Authorisation (EA) in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations Government Notices (GN) R982 and R985 of 2014.
 - The Scoping phase commences at the start of the environmental assessment process and focuses on a broad range of issues. The scoping report must provide sufficient information to facilitate an understanding of these issues.
 - Specialist input is used to identify the impacts, with ecological (flora, fauna and aquatic), social, heritage and visual specialists all forming part of the team.
- The goal of the Scoping phase is to:
 - identify the feasible and reasonable alternatives;
 - identify the preferred site;
 - identify and assess the key social and environmental issues, such as the potential for job opportunities and impacts on the surrounding environment;
 - invite initial stakeholder comments;
 - identify the legal and administrative requirements applicable to the proposed development; and
 - provide guidance for the EIA phase to follow.

7. What has been done to date?



8. Why are we sending you this notice?

- Zutari (Pty) Ltd was appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to manage the new application for an Environmental Authorisation (EA) and Water Use License (WUL) for this project.
 - This includes the Public Participation Process (PPP), in accordance with Chapter 6 of the EIA Regulations, (GN R 982 of 2014 as amended).
 - The public can help us to identify the possible positive and negative impacts the project might have on people and the environment.
 - This information is put into reports that are made available for everyone to read.
- The Competent Authority must give permission or deny permission for the project after they have read and assessed the environmental reports, which include comments received from interested and Affected Parties.
 - A Scoping Report (SR) will be compiled and made available to the interested and affected parties for a period of 30 days.
 - All issues and comments received during the public participation process will be captured in a Comments and Response Report (CRR) and will be incorporated into the SR as an appendix after the public comment period.
 - The SR will then be submitted to the Competent Authority to decide whether permission should be given for the project.
 - Once authorisation for the Scoping Phase has been acquired, the EIA phase will start.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: MONDAY 05 DECEMBER 2022 TO MONDAY 30 JANUARY 2023

The Draft SR is available for download at <https://www.zutari.com/bierspruit/>

Background Information Document for the Bierspruit Opencast at Amandelbult Mine, Thabazimbi, Limpopo Province

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1. What is planned?

Rustenburg Platinum Mines proposes extending the existing mining operations through the mining of shallow Merensky and UG2 reefs within the Amandelbult Mining Right Boundary.

The proposed project will be referred to as the Bierspruit Opencast project and is located to the east of the Tumela mine 16 West Shaft near Thabazimbi in the Limpopo Province, within the Amandelbult mining complex. The two main areas are dissected by a gravel road linking the R 510 to areas northwest of the planned opencast area. A culvert structure allows crossing of the Bierspruit between the two planned opencast areas.



The mining area intersects with numerous infrastructure components / land uses including (but not limited to) Eskom transmission lines, Mine owned transmission lines, Agricultural land, 100-year flood line of the Bierspruit River and Transnet railway line.

2. How to get involved

If you would like to register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) to receive information, if you want to comment on the project, or if you have any questions, please contact us via email, post, or phone no later than 30 January 2023.

Notification of meetings and documents available for comment will be sent to all registered I&APs.

PPP@Zutari.com

012 427 2072

PO Box 74381, Lynnwood Ridge, 0040, South Africa

3. Where is it planned?

The Proposed Bierspruit Opencast project will be located on the Remainders of the farms Schildpadnest 385 KQ and Zwartkop 369 KQ, in the Thabazimbi Local Municipality, Limpopo Province.

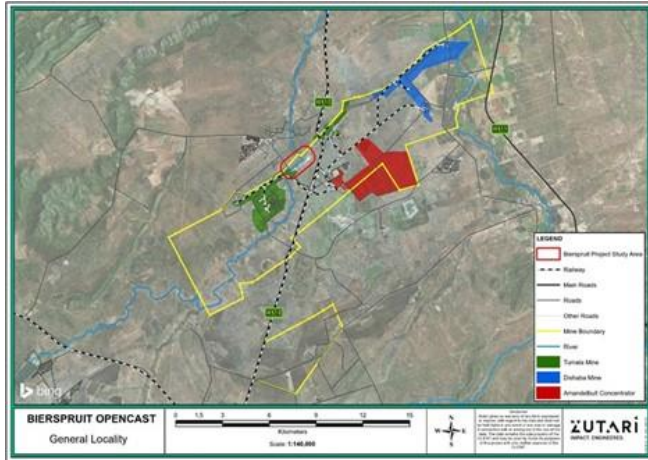


Figure 1 | General Locality of the Bierspruit Opencast Project

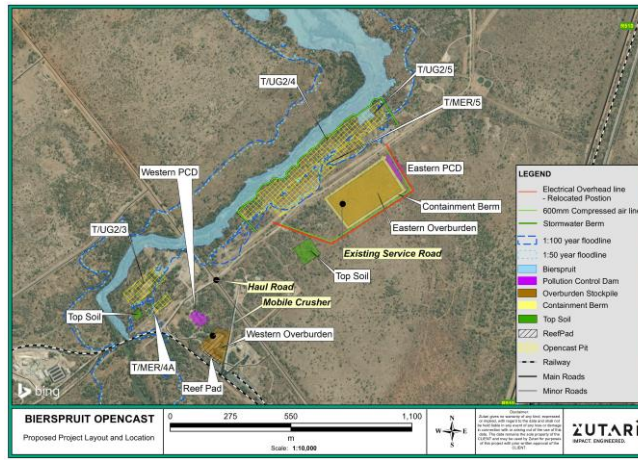


Figure 2 | Proposed project layout and location

4. Why is a new Environmental Authorisation application being done?

Notice is hereby given in terms of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act 28 of 2002) (amended 2008) ("MPRDA"), the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, under the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No.107 of 1998) ("NEMA") and the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act 59 of 2008) (NEMWA), that Rustenburg Platinum Mines proposes extending the existing mining operations through the mining of the shallow Merensky and UG2 reefs within the Amandelbult Mining Right Boundary and therefore have to apply for an Environmental Impact Assessment Environmental Authorisation to their existing Environmental Management Programme report (EMPr). An application for a Water Use Licence will also be submitted in terms of the National Water Act (NWA, Act No. 36 of 1998). The Environmental Management Programme report (EMPr) Addendum was initially approved by the Department of Mineral Resources: Directorate Mineral Development: Limpopo Region in 2002 (Reference number: 6/2/2/48).

The proposed mining operations are expected to consist of the following:

- ▶ **Opencast pits** for strip mining;
- ▶ **Overburden stockpile areas** (excess overburden which won't be used for the berms);
- ▶ **Pollution control dams**;
- ▶ **A topsoil stockpile area**;
- ▶ **A mobile crusher** (at the existing Tumela 10 West Raise-bore) and ore stockpile area;
- ▶ **Internal access and haul roads** for the removal of ore from within the pit;
- ▶ **Storm water management measures** around excavated and infrastructure areas in the form of berms to be constructed from overburden material;
- ▶ **A contractor's camp** (inclusive of parking); and
- ▶ **Perimeter fencing** around the proposed mining area

5. Listed activities

The following Listed Activities will be applied for in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, No. 107 of 1998 (NEMA), the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, No 59 of 2008 (NEM:WA) and the National Water Act, No. 36 of 1998 (NWA):

GN R983 of 2014 (Basic Assessment)

No.	Listed activity
9	The development of infrastructure exceeding 1 000 metres in length for the bulk transportation of water or storm water.
12	The development of infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more: where such development occurs — (a) within a watercourse.
19	The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 10 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock of more than 10 cubic metres from a watercourse.
24	The development of a road — (i) with a reserve wider than 13,5 meters, or where no reserve exists where the road is wider than 8 metres.
27	The clearance of an area of 1 hectares or more, but less than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation.

GN R984 of 2014 (Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment)

No.	Listed activity
6	The development of facilities or infrastructure which requires a permit or licence governing the generation or release of pollution.
15	The clearance of an area of 20 hectares or more of indigenous vegetation.
17	Any activity including the operation of that activity which requires a mining right as contemplated in section 22 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, No 28 of 2002.
19	The removal of minerals in terms of the MPRDA, including the primary processing of a mineral resource.

GN R985 of 2014 (Provincial BA activities)

4	The development of a road wider than 4 m with a reserve less than 13.5 m.
12	The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.

GN R921 of 2013

Cat B (10)	The construction of a facility for a waste management activity listed in Category B of this Schedule (not in isolation to associated waste management activity).
Cat B (11)	The establishment or reclamation of a residue stockpile or residue deposit resulting from activities which require a mining right, exploration right or production right in terms of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002).

National Water Act

21 (a)	Taking water from a water resource.
21 (c)	Impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse.
21 (g)	Disposing of waste in a manner which may detrimentally impact on a water resource.
21 (i)	Altering the bed, banks, courses, or characteristics of a watercourse
21 (j)	Removing, discharging, or disposing of water found underground if it is necessary of the efficient continuation of an activity or for the safety of the people.