



agriculture, land reform
& rural development

Department:
Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Directorate: Land and Soil Management

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DMR Reference Number: WC 30/5/1/2/3/2/1(401) EM

**RE: COMMENTS ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOR AN EXTENSION OF
DOLOMITIC LIMESTONE MINE AND CONSTRUCTION OF LIME KILNS ON FARM
WELVERDIEND NEAR VANRHYNSDORP, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE WESTERN CAPE.**

Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development; Directorate: Land and Soil Management administer and implement the Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act, (CARA) 43 of 1983). The Act is regarded as one of the principal Acts governing the protection of agricultural and other natural resources. The main aim of the Act is to control the utilization of natural agricultural resources to ensure the conservation of soil, water and vegetation, as well as the combating of alien and invasive plants. According to Section 1 of the Act, conservation of natural agricultural resources includes the protection, restoration as well as the reclamation thereof.

The objectives of CARA are to provide for the conservation of the natural agricultural resources through maintaining the production potential of the land, combating and prevention of erosion, preventing the weakening or destruction of the water resources, protecting the vegetation and

combating weeds and invader plant. An application in terms of the Subdivision of Agricultural Land Act, Act 70 of 1970 ("SALA") is required.

Kindly note the previous comments submitted from this office, dated 02 March 2020 are still valid. You therefore required complying with the following requirements.

- Monitoring and evaluation procedures should be put in place to determine if there is any improvement and to ascertain if more rehabilitation initiatives are needed or if the area should be left to spontaneously rehabilitate. However the continuous rehabilitation program will attempt the area to an acceptable standard to accommodate agricultural activities.
- Rehabilitation requires on-going monitoring and evaluation of the objectives to validate effectiveness techniques and management measures.
- All regulations of the Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act, (CARA) 43 of 1983 should at all time be observed, and the proposed mitigation measures as mentioned in the report.

Detailed rehabilitation plan including all mitigation plans must be included in EMP report, as the plan will be used as a guideline for ongoing monitoring of rehabilitation/ mitigation plans. Such plan should be considered for decommissioning and post closure of the proposed development in ascertaining all mitigations conditions are compiled and adhered to.

The Department encourages the applicant to take responsibility that all above mentioned conditions are compiled and adhered to. However, the department reserves the right to revise its initial comments and request further information from you based on any new or revised information received.

Yours sincerely



pp. EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Act No 43 OF 1983
Director: Land and Soil Management