

## 24G Rectification: RochGreys Forest Projects (Pty) Ltd

### Document Purpose

The purpose of this document is to inform interested and affected parties (I&APs) of the rectification process for the commencement and operations of an activity that has not obtained the necessary environmental authorisation. This document aims to provide I&APs with sufficient information to lodge an interest in the process currently under way.

In terms of Section 24(1) of the National Environmental Management Act (act 107 of 1998), the potential consequences for- or impacts on the environment of listed activities or specified activities must be considered, investigated, assessed, and reported on to the competent authority. This did not occur and as a result, the project proponent has been found in contravention of Section 24F (1), and a subsequent 24G application form is to be submitted to DEDEAT.

You are therefore encouraged to register as an I&AP by completing the registration form attached below which can be submitted to:

Attention: Evert Jacobs  
Email: [ppp@pdes.co.za](mailto:ppp@pdes.co.za)  
Tel: 069 808 1431 (WhatsApp)

Register Via WhatsApp on the number above. Please ensure to include the details as per the registration page.

### What is an Environmental Assessment?

In terms of Listing Notices 1, 2 and 3 of the Environmental Impact Assessment regulations of 2014, the required environmental authorisation process is described in Government Gazette Numbers R983, R984 and R985 as amended in 2017. Activities listed in Listing Notice 1 requires a Basic Assessment Process, whereas activities listed in Listing Notice 2 require a full Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment Report.

In terms of this project, the current activities are listed in Listing Notice 2 and therefore requires an Environmental Impact Assessment.

The specific activity triggered that requires Environmental Authorisation is:

**Listing Notice 2 Activity 6** which states:

The development of facilities or infrastructure for any process or activity which requires a permit or licence or an amended permit or licence in terms of national or provincial legislation governing the generation or release of emissions, pollution or effluent [...]

### Public Participation Process

In terms of the EIA Regulations, interested and affected parties should be provided with an opportunity to participate in the Environmental Authorisation process through providing comment on the proposed activities and reports provided as well as by raising potential issues and concerns to be addressed as part of the Environmental Authorisation Process.

In order to participate in this process, please register your interest by supplying the Environmental Assessment Practitioner with a copy of the completed registration form provided (last page of this document).

The draft Basic Assessment Report has been compiled, it will be available for public comment for a duration of 30 days, by registering or commenting as an Interested and Affected Party you will be notified of the future steps and outcomes when they become available.

The consultant responsible for conducting the Environmental Assessment is Proportio Divina Environmental Services and contact details of the Environmental Assessment Practitioner is provided in the first column of this page.

## Project Description

RochGreys Forest Projects (Pty) Ltd produce charcoal and briquettes from Black Wattle trees which are harvested on-site. Wood is cut, dried, and charred in kilns that are alternately fired. A detailed description of the various steps involved in the production of charcoal by RochGreys Forest Projects (Pty) Ltd include:

- Black Wattle is harvested from the farm on which the manufacturing plant is currently located. It is then cut and transported to the stockpile area on the plant premises.
- The wood is chopped into appropriate sizes for the kiln and left outside to dry.
- Once the wood has sufficiently dried, it is loaded into one of twelve kilns.
- The kiln is fired once it is fully loaded. The packed kiln's burner is ignited. The charge begins to raise the temperature inside to approximately 270 °C.
- Once the kiln reaches the optimal temperature, the airflow into the kiln is altered to create a reverse draft which mimics an oven. All the remaining moisture is driven out of the wood. The emissions from the stack will be white due to the moisture evaporation.
- After the water is driven off/evaporated. Temperature inside the kiln is raised to 400 to 500 °C to commence with carbonization. The emissions from the stack will be dark grey in colour.
- The airflow into the kiln is stopped, all vents are blocked, and the kiln is left overnight to cool.
- Once cooled, the kiln is opened, and the charcoal unloaded and bagged in to 40 to 60 kg bags. The bags are transported to the screening and packaging facility. The process takes approximately 2 days to complete.

- At the packaging facility the charcoal is screened to divide into different sized products
- The product is packed into packaging based on product differentiation.
- Smaller charcoal pieces are crushed and, along with fines, mixed with starch and water to create briquettes. Briquettes are dried using natural air and sunlight and packaged for the end user.

## Activities on Site



Figure 1. Stockpiling of wood outside kilns.

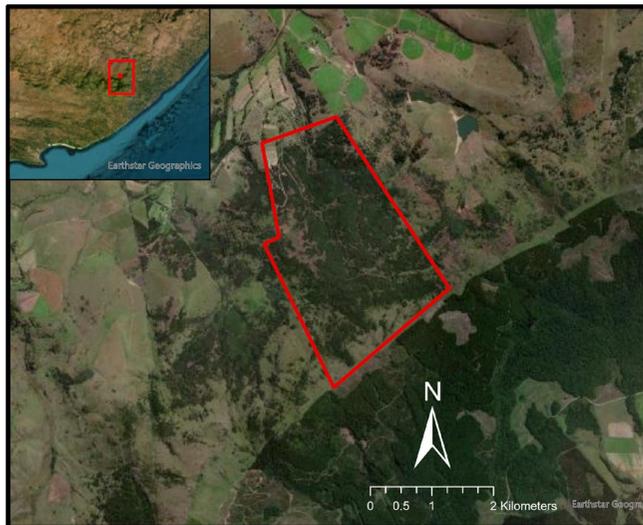
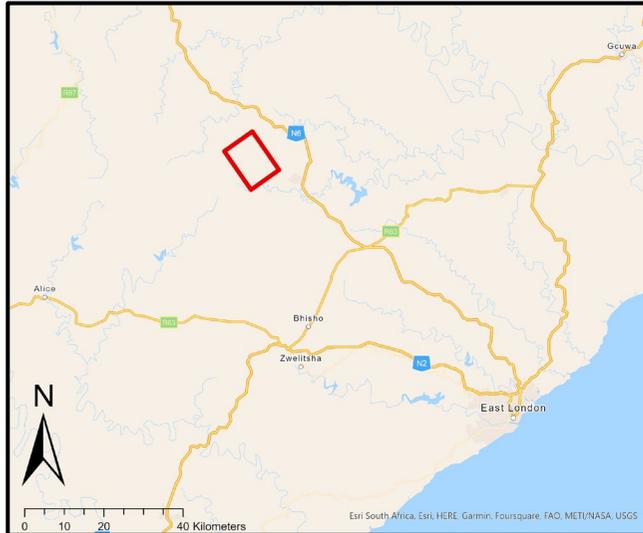


Figure 2. Wood loaded inside of kiln.



Figure 3. Kiln fired for carbonization.

## Location of the Activity



## Assessment Steps

### S24G Process Flow

