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19 March 2018

Dear Ms Erasmus

BLACK MOUNTAIN MINE: PROPOSED BIOREMEDIATION SITE (AGGENEYS)

Your query with regards to potential significant biodiversity features that may be impacted by the proposed construction of a 630 m² bioremediation site on Portion 1 of the Farm Aggeneys No. 56 has reference. The proposed bioremediation site will be located within the existing “Salvage Yard” at Black Mountain Mine (BMM) (Centre point: 29°15'12.23" S; 18°47'42.9" E).



Figure 1: Proposed bioremediation site at Black Mountain Mine within the larger “Salvage Yard”

The following were taken into account:

- The “salvage yard” is located on Portion 1 of Farm Aggeneys no. 56, which is part of the Black Mountain Mine (BMM).
- The “salvage yard” is an existing disturbed area specifically set aside for temporary storage, recovery and recycling activities (primarily waste related).
- According to the SA VegsMap (Mucina & Rutherford, 2006) the site and its immediate surroundings is expected to have been covered by Bushmanland Sandy Grassland, a vegetation type classified as **least threatened** (Government Notice 1002, 9 December 2011). However, it is important to note that no more natural veld remains on the proposed site or its immediate surroundings.

- The proposed development footprint will be 630 m² (less than the 1 ha threshold).
- The proposed site does not fall within a CBA or ESA and as such the 300 m² threshold is not triggered.

The author visited the site on numerous previous occasions and would like to confirm, that the site does not contain or support any significant botanical or even biodiversity features.



Photo 1: Showing a portion of the area that will be used for the proposed remediation site

Yours sincerely,

P.J.J. Botes (*Pr.Sci.Nat: 400184/05*)

Registered Professional Botanical, Environmental and Ecological Scientist