

NOTICE: Trans Hex

Marine Diamond Mining on the West Coast

The Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources (DMPR) has approved the amendment, upgrade and consolidation of the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) for Trans Hex Operations (Pty) Ltd.

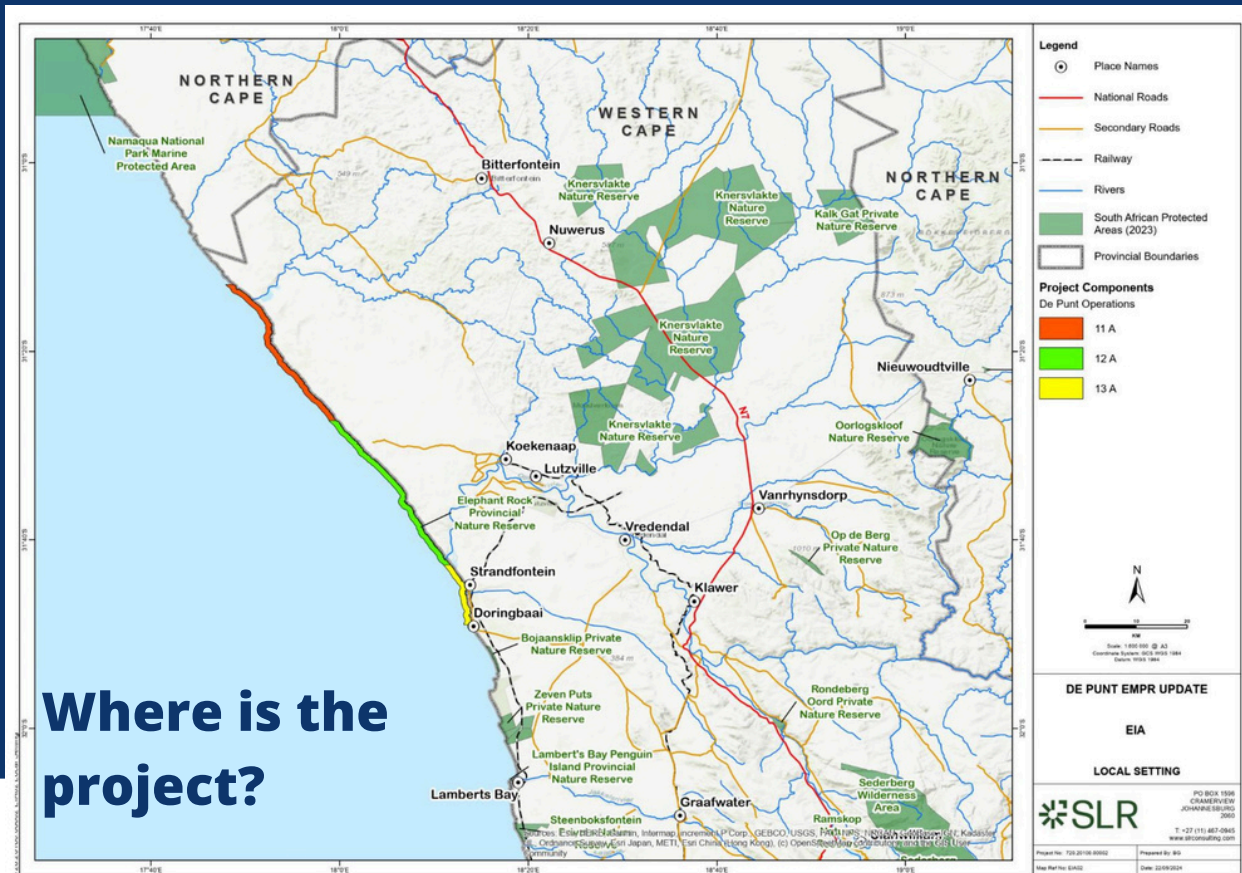
Appeals against the approval are due on 9 April 2026

Affected communities include small scale fishing towns along the **West Coast**, including **Elandsbaai, Lambertsbaai, Doringbaai, Strandfontein, Papendorp.**



Trans Hex Marine Diamond Mining on the West Coast

What you need to know:



What is this approval about?

Trans Hex Operations Pty Ltd (formerly Moonstone Diamond Marketing) holds **ten** converted **Mining Rights**. The Mining Rights have been renewed for 30 years.

In **2020**, Moonstone Diamond Marketing (now Trans Hex) received a directive from the Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources (DMPR) to update their EMPr to align with the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) and to address potential environmental and ecological harm.

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Moonstone continued to operate with their 2002 approved EMPr and in **2023**, Protect the West Coast NPC and local fishing communities went to Court. **The Western Cape High Court instructed Moonstone to upgrade their EMPr.**

Following a public participation process in 2024, Trans Hex then submitted an amended EMPr to DMPR which has now been approved.

Read the notice of approval of amended EMPr [here](#) and updated EMPr [here](#)

What is an EMPr?



An Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) is a legally required document that sets out **how mining activities must avoid, minimise, or manage harm to the environment and affected communities.**

Why is an EMPr important?

- It addresses the impacts, including all environmental, social and cultural impacts of the mining operations.
- It provides the management plan and steps to **avoid, reduce, resolve negative impacts** where possible.
- It ensures that any positive impacts are enhanced.
- It sets out the roles and duties, such as who must implement, monitor and report, including *how* and *when*.
- It provides a plan for the closure and rehabilitation plan for the mine. This long-term plan includes monitoring of rehabilitation of the environment at the mining site.

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Mining operations:

Trans Hex does not do all the mining itself and uses contractors for the operations. The diamond mining operations use the following three methods.

1. **Beach mining:** the top layer of sand on the beach is removed by heavy machines to reach the gravel underneath, where diamonds may be located.
2. **Shore-based mining:** divers use suction pumps to suck gravel from the seabed in depths of up to 10m.
3. **Vessel based mining:** divers work from boats and use suction pumps to suck gravel from the seabed in depths of up to 25m. Gravel is offloaded at Lambertsbaai or Doringbaai and then taken to the diamond extraction facilitated at De Punt.

Why does this decision matter?

Marine diamond mining can negatively affect **fishing livelihoods and marine resources** relied upon by coastal communities because the activity is located close to the shore.

Access to the sea and shore in the concession areas will be affected that may impact **cultural and community uses of the coast**.



Your Right to Appeal

If you have concerns or comments about this approval, the National Environmental Management Act: National Appeal Regulations of 2025 grants interested and affected people, including communities, the **right to appeal**.



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Who can appeal?

- All Interested and Affected parties (I&AP)
- Small scale fishers and local community members who are affected
- Community groups, NGOs and traditional leaders

How to appeal

Step 1 > Register as an I&AP

Step 2 > Write your appeal on the prescribed appeal form ([download here](#))

Step 3 > Submit your appeal (why you disagree with this decision) by **9 April 2026**.

Step 4 > Send your appeal to:

1 Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment: Appeals and Legal Review Directorate

Attention: Director: Appeals and Legal Review

Email: appeals@dfpe.gov.za

By post: Private Bag X 447, Pretoria, 0001

By hand: Environmental House, Corner Steve Biko and Soutpansberg Street, Arcadia, Pretoria, 0083

2 AND copy the Applicant:

Trans Hex Operations (Pty) Ltd

Attention: Elza Klopper

Email: elzak@transhex.co.za

By hand: 19 Chain Avenue, Montague Garden

3 AND copy the DMPR:

Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources (Western Cape Regional Office)

Attention: Regional Manager - Western Cape Region

Email: Pieter.Swart@dmpr.gov.za

Postal Address: Private Bag X09, Roggebaai, 8012

By hand: 7th Floor Map House, 44 Strand Street, Cape Town, 8000