

Client: BurnVoir Corporate Finance Ltd (ResGen Ltd)

Value: R800,000 (Fees)

Services: Mine planning and design; independent technical review

Project Duration: July 2012 – Oct 2012

Boikarabelo Coal Project, South Africa

Mine Development: Technical Review of Front-End Engineering Design

The Task

Coffey Mining (SA), together with a team of consultants (including Nurizon), was commissioned to undertake an independent technical review (ITR) of the Front-End Engineering Design (FEED) for the Boikarabelo Coal Project. The client was seeking to arrange a senior debt facility for the purpose of funding the development of the Boikarabelo Coal Mine project – a new 14.5Mt/a ROM production mine in the Waterberg Region of South Africa. The debt funding included the related infrastructure capex and working capital for the mine operations.

The mine was to be split into two distinct areas separated by the Zoetfontein fault line which traversed the site locality, i.e. open cast pit mining operations north of the fault and support infrastructure – Mine Infrastructure Area and Plant Infrastructure Areas including the Coal Processing Plant (CPP) to the south of the fault. The review focussed on the geotechnical, hydrological, mining design, CPP, infrastructure, financial aspects of the design.

Design Services

Nurizon was responsible for the hydrological and civil infrastructure design elements of the review, which was undertaken in light of the fact that designs should have been at a 'bankable' level in terms of design detail and cost accuracies.

The Result

The study found that the FEED report was lacking in technical infrastructure design detail which would have been expected for a BFS stage design. Funding negotiations are ongoing, however work on the mine development is continuing (Sept 2014).

