



the dedet

Department:
Economic Development, Environment and Tourism
MPUMALANGA PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

**Basic assessment report in terms of the
Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010, promulgated in terms of
the National Environmental Management Act, 1998(Act No. 107 of 1998), as
amended.**

(For applicant / EAP to complete)

File Reference Number:

17/2/3/E-200

Project Title:

**PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF NKAMBENI
REGIONAL CEMETERY**

Name of Responsible Official:

--

(For official use only)

NEAS Reference Number:

Date Received:

Kindly note that:

- Required information must be typed within the spaces provided in the form. The size of the spaces provided is not necessarily indicative of the amount of information to be provided. Tables can be extended as each space is filled with typing.
- Where applicable **black out** the boxes that are not applicable in the form.
- An incomplete report may be returned to the applicant for revision.
- The use of "not applicable" in the report must be done with circumspection because if it is used in respect of material information that is required by the competent authority for assessing the application, it may result in the rejection of the application as provided for in the regulations.
- All reports (draft and final) must be submitted to the Department at the address of the relevant **DISTRICT OFFICE** given below or by delivery thereof to the relevant **DISTRICT OFFICE**. Should the reports not be submitted at the relevant district office, they will not be considered.
- No faxed or e-mailed reports will be accepted.
- One copy of the draft version of this report must be submitted to the relevant district office. The case officer may request more than one copy in certain circumstances.
- Copies of the draft report must be submitted to the relevant State Departments / Organs of State for comment.** In order to give effect to Regulation 56(7), proof of submission/delivery of the draft documents to the State Departments / Organs of State must be attached to the draft version of this report.
- Unless protected by law, all information in the report will become public information on receipt by the competent authority. Any interested and affected party should be provided with the information contained in this report on request, during any stage of the application process.
- All specialist reports must be appended to this document, and all specialists must complete a declaration of independence, which is obtainable from the Department.

HEAD OFFICE (18 Jones Street, Nelspruit)	EHLANZENI DISTRICT (50 Murray Street, Nelspruit)	NKANGALA DISTRICT (Pavilion Centre, Cnr Botha & Northey Streets, Witbank)	GERT SIBANDE DISTRICT (13 De Jager Street, Ermelo)
----------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------

Attention: Directorate: Environmental Impact Management Private Bag X 11215 Nelspruit, 1200 Tel: (013) 759 4000 Fax (013) 759 4165	Attention: Directorate: Environmental Impact Management Private Bag X 11215 Nelspruit, 1200 Tel: Fax:	Attention: Directorate: Environmental Impact Management P. O. Box 7255 Witbank, 1035 Tel: Fax:	Attention: Directorate: Environmental Impact Management P. O. Box 2777 Ermelo, 2351 Tel: Fax:
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

SECTION A: BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Project applicant:	MBOMBELA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY		
Trading name (if any):			
Contact person:	FRANCE NYATHI		
Physical address:	7 JONES STREET, NELSPRUIT		
Postal address:	P O BOX 45, NELSPRUIT		
Postal code:	1200	Cell:	
Telephone:	013 759 2295	Fax:	086 295 4854
E-mail:	francem@mbombela.gov.za		

Environmental Assessment Practitioner:	WANDIMA ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES		
Contact person:	NONTOKOZO MAHLALELA		
Postal address:	P.O. BOX 1072, NELSPRUIT		
Postal code:	1200	Cell:	(+27)71 897 8753
Telephone:	(+27)13 752 5452	Fax:	(+27)13 752 6877
E-mail:	admin@wandima.co.za		
Qualifications:	BSC HONOURS IN GEOGRAPHY & BA IN ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT		
Professional affiliations (if any):			

SECTION B: DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTIVITY

Describe the activity, which is being applied for, in detail. The description must include the size of the proposed activity (or in the case of linear activities, the length) and the size of the area that will be transformed by the activity.

INTRODUCTION

The applicant, **MBOMBELA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY**, has appointed **WANDIMA ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES** as independent consultants, to undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process for the Proposed Establishment of Nkambeni Regional Cemetery.

The aim of the Environmental Impact Assessment is to ensure that,

- Potential environmental impact associated with the proposed activities are taken into consideration;
- Public Participation Process is conducted, i.e. to afford any Interested and/or Affected Party (I&AP) sufficient opportunity to provide comment; and
- Sufficient information is submitted to decision makers in order to ensure an informed decision making process

BACKGROUND

The increasing need for burial site, in the Nkambeni Area, has prompted the applicant, Mbombela Local Municipality, to consider a new bigger and better positioned site for burial purposes. The current cemetery is already running out of burial space, hence a need for another burial ground site. The proposed cemetery will

also cater for the nearby communities, Shabalala; Numbi; Mahushu; etc. The proposed cemetery establishment is to be situated on Portion A (a portion of portion 148) of the Farm Kaap Block Section F, colloquially known as Sand River, Numbi in Mbombela Local Municipality, Mpumalanga Province.

PROPOSED ACTIVITIES

The proposed project will involve the transformation of approximately 41 ha of vacant land into a public cemetery for the primary use of the residents of Nkambeni and nearby communities. It is proposed that the cemetery development will include the following:

- Grave cell for both adults and young.
- Palisade fencing and gate.
- A parking area.
- Ablution facilities.
- Security Offices.
- Two access road (Existing road to be utilized).

The cemetery will also be divided in to three sections: first sections for Muslim; second sections for Cultural and last section for Municipal. It is estimated that the grave yard will last for a life span of about 30-50 years.

ACTIVITY LISTING:

The establishment of a cemetery covering 2500m² or more is a listed activity according to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2010 and it must be adhered to in terms of Sections 24(2)(a) and 24(d) of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), Act no 107 of 1998. The proposed activity is listed in:

Listing Notice 1, R543 of June, 2010: Activity No 21: The establishment of cemeteries of 2500 square metres or more in size.

This listing requires the Applicant to carry out a Basic Assessment Process and no commencement of any listed activity may commence without environmental authorisation from the competent authority.

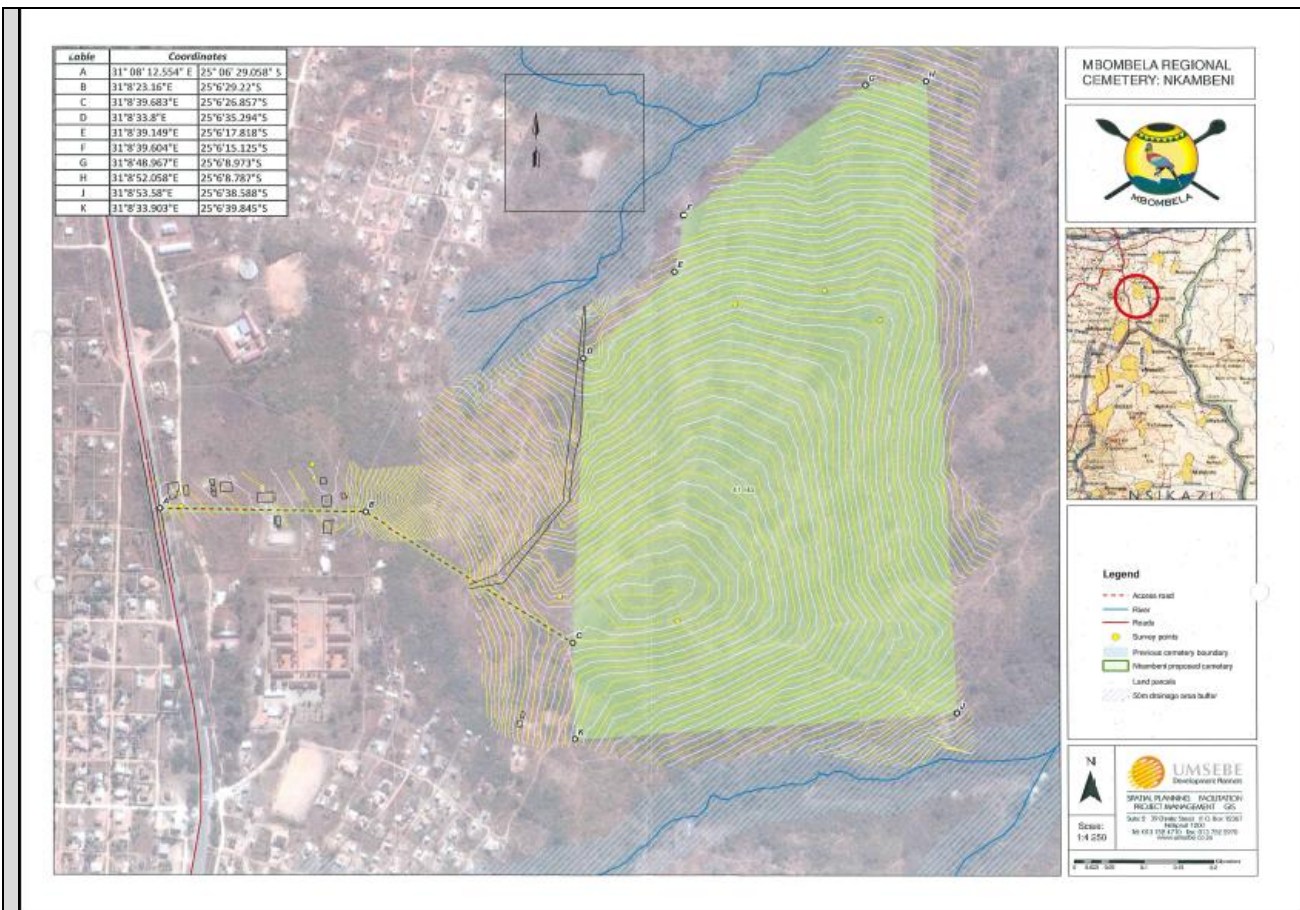


Figure 1.1: Proposed Development Area

SECTION C: PROPERTY/SITE DESCRIPTION

Provide a full description of the preferred site alternative (farm name and number, portion number, registration division, erf number etc.):

PARTICULARS OF PROPERTY

The proposed cemetery is to be situated on Portion A (a portion of portion 148) of the Farm Kaap Block Section F, colloquially known as Sand River, Numbi under the jurisdiction of the Mbombela Local Municipality, and the Ehlanzeni District Municipality, Mpumalanga Province. The proposed site is vacant with an aerial extent of approximately 41 hectares. It is bordered by rivers and drainage buffers north and south and Hazyview Comprehensive School and residences on the west and it's adjacent to the residential area known as Nkambeni. It is located approximately 1km from Hazyview Comprehensive School and approximately 7-kilometres south-southeast of Hazyview. The site is accessed off the R538 provincial road. The property is owned by the applicant and is currently zoned agricultural and occupying a spur sloping to the south, east and north, comprises virgin ground with grass veld, scattered trees and areas of dense scrub. The locals use this area for grazing of their livestock (mainly cattle), dumping of refuse and collecting of firewood.

Indicate the position of the activity using the latitude and longitude of the centre point of the preferred site alternative. The co-ordinates should be in degrees and decimal minutes. The minutes should have at least three decimals to ensure adequate accuracy. The projection that must be used in all cases is the WGS84 spheroid in a national or local projection. The position of alternative sites must be indicated in Section B of this document.

SITE CO-ORDINATES

Latitude (S):		Longitude (E):	
25°	06' 29"	31°	08' 12'

In the case of linear activities:

	Latitude (S):		Longitude (E):	
• Starting point of the activity	o	€	o	€
• Middle point of the activity	o	€	o	€
• End point of the activity	o	€	o	€

SITE OR ROUTE PLAN (Attached Appendix A)

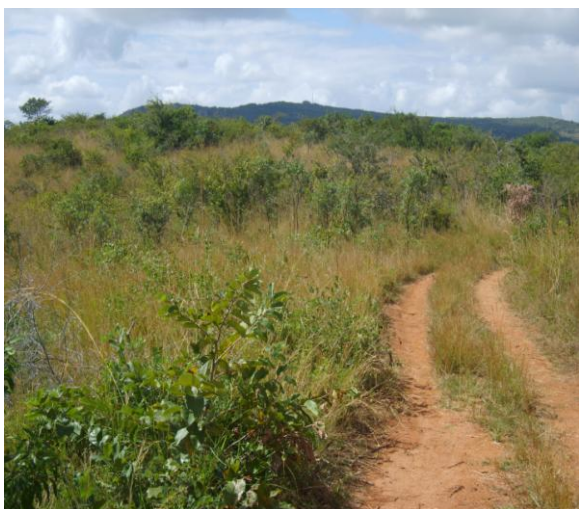
A detailed site or route plan(s) must be prepared for each alternative site or alternative activity. It must be attached as an appendix to this document.

The site or route plans must be at least A3 and must include the following:

- 6.1 a reference no / layout plan no., date, and a legend / land use table
- 6.2 the scale of the plan which must be at least a scale of 1:2000;
- 6.3 the current land use as well as the land use zoning of each of the properties adjoining the site or sites;
- 6.4 the exact position of each element of the application as well as any other structures on the site;
- 6.5 the position of services, including electricity supply cables (indicate above or underground), water supply pipelines, boreholes, street lights, sewage pipelines, storm water infrastructure and telecommunication infrastructure;
- 6.6 all indigenous trees taller than 1.8 metres and all vegetation of conservation concern (protected, endemic and/or red data species);
- 6.8 servitudes indicating the purpose of the servitude;
- 6.9 sensitive environmental elements within 100 metres of the site or sites including (but not limited thereto):
 - watercourses and wetlands;
 - the 1:100 year flood line;
 - ridges;
 - cultural and historical features
- 6.10 metre contour intervals

SITE PHOTOGRAPHS

Colour photographs from the centre of the site must be taken in at least the eight major compass directions with a description of each photograph. Photographs must be attached as an appendix to this form.



Photo#1: West-south of site- site is vacant



Photo#2: Vegetation of the site, dominated by dry grass and few trees



Photo#3: Geo-Tech test pit



Photo#4: Site is fit with the surround

FACILITY ILLUSTRATION

A detailed illustration of the activity must be provided at a scale of 1:200 as an appendix for activities that include structures. The illustrations must be to scale and must represent a realistic image of the planned activity. The illustration must give a representative view of the activity.

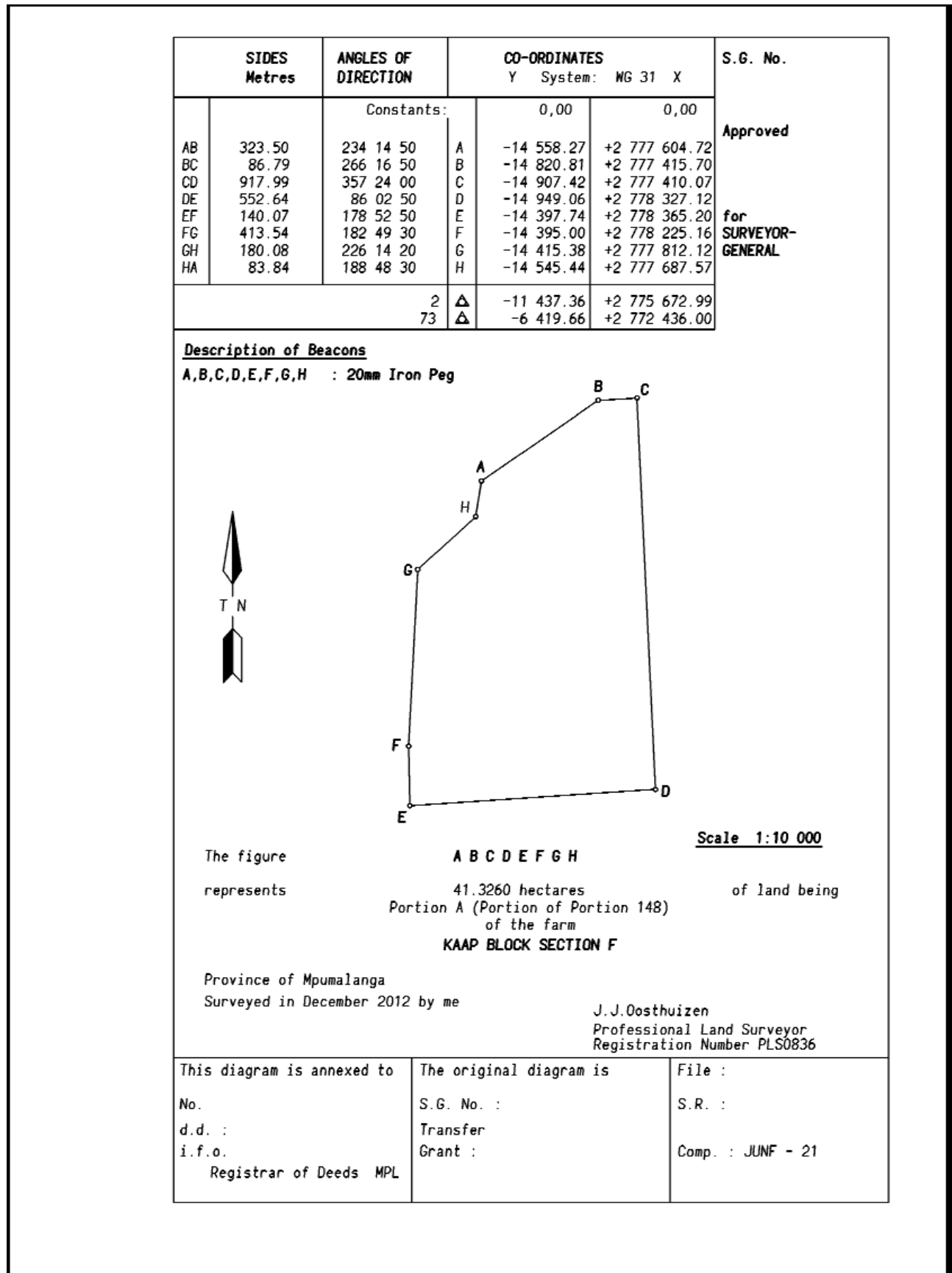


Figure 1.2: Facility illustration

SECTION D: BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

Prepare a basic assessment report that complies with Regulation 22 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010. The basic assessment report must be attached to this form and must contain all the information that is necessary for the competent authority to consider the application and to reach a decision contemplated in Regulation 25, and must include:

(Checklist for official use only)

1.	A description of the environment that may be affected by the proposed activity and the manner in which the geographical, physical, biological, social, economic and cultural aspects of the environment may be affected by the proposed activity.	
2.	An identification of all legislation and guidelines that have been considered in the preparation of the basic assessment report.	
3.	Details of the public participation process conducted in terms of Regulation 21(2)(a) in connection with the application, including – (i) the steps that were taken to notify potentially interested and affected parties of the proposed application; (ii) proof that notice boards, advertisements and notices notifying potentially interested and affected parties of the proposed application have been displayed, placed or given; (iii) a list of all persons, organisations and organs of state that were registered in terms of regulation 55 as interested and affected parties in relation to the application; and (iv) a summary of the issues raised by interested and affected parties, the date of receipt of and the response of the EAP to those issues;	
4.	A description of the need and desirability of the proposed activity;	
5.	A description of any identified alternatives to the proposed activity that are feasible and reasonable, including the advantages and disadvantages that the proposed activity or alternatives will have on the environment and on the community that may be affected by the activity;	
6.	A description and assessment of the significance of any environmental impacts, including— (i) cumulative impacts, that may occur as a result of the undertaking of the activity or identified alternatives or as a result of any construction, erection or decommissioning associated with the undertaking of the activity; (ii) the nature of the impact; (iii) the extent and duration of the impact; (iv) the probability of the impact occurring; (v) the degree to which the impact can be reversed; (vi) the degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources; and (vii) the degree to which the impact can be mitigated;	
7.	Any environmental management and mitigation measures proposed by the EAP;	
8.	Any inputs and recommendations made by specialists to the extent that may be necessary;	
9.	A draft environmental management programme containing the aspects contemplated in regulation 33;	
10.	A description of any assumptions, uncertainties and gaps in knowledge;	
11.	A reasoned opinion as to whether the activity should or should not be authorised, and if the opinion is that it should be authorised, any conditions that should be made in respect of that authorisation	
12.	Any representations, and comments received in connection with the application or the basic assessment report;	
13.	The minutes of any meetings held by the EAP with interested and affected parties and other role players which record the views of the participants;	
14.	Any responses by the EAP to those representations, comments and views;	
15.	Any specific information required by the competent authority; and	
16.	Any other matters required in terms of sections 24(4)(a) and (b) of the Act.	

The basic assessment report must take into account -

- (a) any relevant guidelines; and
- (b) any departmental policies, environmental management instruments and other decision making instruments that have been developed or adopted by the competent authority in respect of the kind of activity which is the subject of the application.

* In terms of Regulation 22(4), the EAP managing the application must provide the competent authority with detailed, written proof of an investigation as required by section 24(4)(b)(i) of the Act and motivation if no reasonable or feasible alternatives, as contemplated in subregulation 22(2)(h), exist.

Have reasonable and feasible alternatives been identified, described and assessed?	YES	NO
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----	----

If NO, the motivation and investigation required in terms of Regulation 22(4) must be attached as an Appendix to this document

SECTION E: CONSULTATION WITH OTHER STATE DEPARTMENTS

Provide a list of all State Departments / Organs of State that have been consulted and registered as interested and affected parties, and to whom draft reports have been submitted for comment. **Proof of submission / delivery of the draft report to all State Department / Organs of State must be attached to this document.**

Department:	DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT		
Contact person:	MR LOVE		
Postal address:	31 BROWN STREET , NELSPRUIT		
Postal code:	1200	Cell:	082 428 4480
Telephone:	013 754 0734	Fax:	
E-mail:	loves@nda.agric.za		

Department:	MPUMALANGA TOURISM PARKS AGENCY		
Contact person:	JOHAN ESKEEN		
Postal address:	PRIVATE BAG X11338, NELSPRUIT		
Postal code:	1200	Cell:	
Telephone:		Fax:	
E-mail:	johan@mtpa.co.za		

Department:	MBOMBELA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY (ENGINEERING)		
Contact person:	JACK DEVILLE		
Postal address:	P O BOX 35, NELSPRUIT		
Postal code:	1200	Cell:	
Telephone:	01 7 592 2201	Fax:	
E-mail:	deville@mbombela.gov.za		

Department:	DEPARTMENT OF WATER AFFAIRS		
Contact person:	SAMPIE SHABANGU		
Postal address:			
Postal code:	1200	Cell:	
Telephone:	013 753 7300	Fax:	
E-mail:	shabangus@dwa.gov.za		

Department:	MBOMBELA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY (ENVIRONMENT)		
Contact person:	SIHLE MTHEMBU		
Postal address:	7 JONES STREET, NELSPRUIT		
Postal code:	1200	Cell:	
Telephone:	013 759 2356	Fax:	013 759 2229
E-mail:	sihle.mthembu@mbombela.gov.za		

Department:			
Contact person:			
Postal address:			
Postal code:		Cell:	
Telephone:		Fax:	
E-mail:			

SECTION F: APPENDICES

The following appendices must be attached to the basic assessment report as appropriate:

- Site plan(s)
- Photographs
- Facility illustration(s)
- Specialist reports
- Comments and responses report
- Other information

1. DESCRIPTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

1.1 Geographical and Physical aspects

1.1.1 Topography

The geological study states that the recommended gradient for cemeteries is 2E to 6E3. Sites with slopes steeper than 6E are susceptible to erosion, while slopes shallower than 2E are susceptible to the ponding of surface water and development of areas with impeded drainage. The overall gradient of the proposed site is mostly less than 6E, although with sporadic slopes as steep as 8E; these steeper slopes, coupled with the non- or slightly cohesive surficial regolith, will make these localized areas more susceptible to erosion once denuded of vegetation.

1.1.2 Geology and Subsoils

The results from the fieldwork phase of the investigation (Geo-tech study) reveal the site is underlain by granite bedrock, albeit below a mantle of thin transported soils and residua. In terms of the published 1:250,000 scale geological series map of the area, Barberton 2530, the granite is grey to white in colour, coarse-grained and biotite-rich, and belongs to the Nelspruit Suite of Basement Granitic Rocks (Zn). The geology map also indicates the presence of a diabase sill, extending around the western and southern sides of the site and a shear zone some six kilometres to the east. The near horizontal sill intrusion is situated up-slope of the site and will not influence the hydro-geological or geotechnical characteristics of the site. Similarly, the shear zone is well beyond the influence of the site, i.e., beyond the Mbabala River that constitutes an area of recharge.

1.1.3 Climate

The Lowveld is subtropical, due to its proximity to the warm Indian Ocean and latitude. The summers are hot while the winters are cold and dry. Average daily temperatures range above 29°C in summer and are lower than 23°C in winter. Winter minimum ranges above 6°C in June, July and August. Annual rainfall ranges between 550 mm and 767 mm. The prevailing wind direction is from the northwest at an average speed of less than 5 m/s. The windiest months are September, October and November.

General climate conditions of the project area and those of the surrounding areas are dictated by the surrounding physiological conditions and activities that may affect the rainfall patterns of the area. Due to the topography, rainfall varies considerably according to altitude and compass direction. The climatic data presented so that the planning and implementation of the proposed project is planned for the less rain period to minimise stoppages of project implementation due to rains, which may be costly to the project.

The Numbi area is typical Lowveld climate with seasonal summer rainfall, warm temperatures and tries winter. The mean average precipitation (MAP) is 650mm ranging between 600 to 1100mm per year (increasing with altitude) with infrequent frost.

1.1.4 Vegetation and Fauna

1.1.4a Vegetation

The site's natural setting is mainly gently to moderately sloping upper pediment slopes with dense woodland including many medium to large shrubs often dominated by *Bauhinia galpini* and *Parinar curatellifolia* with *Panicum maximum* and *Hyperthelia dissoluta* in the undergrowth. Short thicket dominated by *Acacia Ataxantha* occurs on less rocky sites. Exposed granite outcrops have low vegetation cover, typically with *Englerophytum magalismontaanum*, *Aloe petricola*, and *Myrothamnus flabellifolia*. *Breonadia salina* and *Syzygium cordatum* dominate the riverine habitat.

Protected tree species whose range include the development site include: Cheesewood (*Pittosporum viridiflorum*), Red stinkwood (*Prunus Africana*), Wild teak (*Pterocarpus angolensis*), Pepper bark tree (*Warburgia salutaris*), Yellowwood (*Podocarpus falcatus*), Stinkwood (*Ocatea bullata*), Marula (*Sclerocarya birrea*), Yellowwood (*Podocarpus latifolius*), Protea (*Protea comptonii*), Apple leaf (*Philenoptera violecea*), Camel thorn Acacia (*Acacia orioloba*), Pod Mahogany (*Azelia quanzensis*), Torchwood (*Balanites mughnamii*), Shephard's tree (*Boscia albitrunca*), Bushmen's tree (*Catha edulis*), Breonadia (*Breonadia salina*), Asegai (*Curtisia dentate*), Leadwood (*Combretum imberbe*), Bushveld saffron (*Elaodendron transvalensis*).

1.1.4b Fauna

A few species of small to medium sized mammals will use the natural habitats on the site. The largest species expected to be present are common duiker, red duiker and bushbuck. The mobility of most mammals will ensure that they can adapt or relocate if disturbed by the activities.

Amphibians

Frogs will utilize the aquatic and terrestrial habitats on the site for various reasons, such as breeding purposes. Frogs are rather sensitive to pollution and ecological imbalances, which is why the presence of frogs in an area indicates that the habitat is healthy and of good ecological integrity. It is not anticipated that frog species will be adversely affected if the mitigation measures outlined in this report are implemented.

Reptiles

The reptile survey indicates that especially the rocky habitats are of high importance to reptiles, however all natural habitats will be utilized by reptiles on this property. Several important lizard species, is present on the rocky areas. However, it is not anticipated that these species will be adversely affected if given the necessary protection and habitat conservation.

The literature review indicates that a diverse group of birds may utilize the area. More than 200 species' range of distribution falls within and around the study area. Due to the topography and habitat types present in the study area, the expected birds will vary from commonly found savannah and bushveld to forest and grassland specific species.

1.2 Socio-economic Assessment

The proposed site is currently vacant and is used for grazing and wood collection, zoned agricultural and is dominated by dry grass and few trees. The site has no economic activities and service provision will be provided by Mbombela Local Municipality.

1.3 Cultural & Heritage Aspects

The survey by, *Adansonia Heritage Consultants*, revealed no archaeological or historical structures of significance in the study area. One broken lower grinder, an upper grinder and a few rough clay potsherds were observed and are believed to be of no significance. Mr. Billy Mphanga confirmed that he is also not aware of any graves or archaeological or historical structures in the study area.

Based on the survey and the findings in this report, *Adansonia Heritage Consultants* states that there are no compelling reasons which may prevent the proposed development to continue.

2 LEGISLATION AND GUIDELINES THAT HAVE BEEN CONSIDERED IN THE PREPARATION OF THE BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT.

Title of legislation, policy or guideline:	Administering authority:	Date:
Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (No. 108, 1996)	Parliament	1996
National Environmental Management Act, 107	Department of Environmental Affairs	1998
National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (No 10 of 1998)	Department of Environment	2004
National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act (No. 57, 2003) as amended by the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Amendment Act (No 31 of 2004)	Department of Environment	2004
National Environment Management: Waste Act, 2008 (No 59 of 2008)	Department of Environment	2008
National Water Act (No. 36, 1998)	Department of Water Affairs and Forestry	1998
National Heritage Resources Act (No 25, 1999)	Department of Arts and Culture	1999
Mpumalanga Nature Conservation Act (No 10 of 1998)	MTPA	1998
Occupational Health and Safety Act (No. 85, 1993)	Department of Labour	1993

Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act, 43	Department of Agriculture	1983
National Environment Conservation Act (No 73, 1989)	Department of Environmental Affairs	1989
National Roads Act, 7	Department of Public works	1998
Advertising on Roads and Ribbon Development Act, 21	Department of Public works	1940
Promotion of Access to Information Act (No. 2, 2000)	All Departments	2000
Electricity Regulation Act (No. 4, 2006)	Department of Environmental Affairs	2006
EIA regulations as listed in Government Notices R543 (18 June 2010)	Department of Environment	2010

3 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS CONDUCTED IN TERMS OF REGULATION 21(2)(A) IN CONNECTION WITH THE APPLICATION

3.1 Approach

A Public Participation Process (PPP) was followed in accordance with the DEA Guidelines (2006).

3.2 Issues Raised

After acknowledgement and receiving a reference number (Ref No: 17/2/3/E-200) from DEDET, the Public Participation Process (PPP) was initiated. All possible Interested & Affected Parties (I&APs) were contacted and afforded an opportunity to meaningfully participate on the proposed development. Contact was made with key Interested & Affected Parties. This was done through placing of site notices and distribution of Background Information Documents (BIDs) to adjacent property owners. Site notices were placed at strategic places, Hand delivered invites; loud hearing and adverts in the local newspaper (Lowvelder), so as to ensure maximum exposure to all the potential Interested and Affected Parties. All relevant Interested and Affected Parties were identified and notified.

All relevant Authorities, notably the Local Municipality, non governmental organizations, service providers as well as key stakeholders, were notified and invited to participate in the process. Two public meeting for the proposed project were held on Sunday, 19th of May 2013, at Nkambeni Primary School 08h00am and at Comprehensive play ground 10h00am. The aim of the meetings was to discuss the project and also to share background information in order to invite initial comments from the public and interested parties. Few objections were raised during the consultations. The minutes of the meeting and commence/issue sheet are recorded in the public participation report.

The Draft Basic Assessment Report (DBAR) will be submitted to the Competent Authority and State Departments (40 days) and the public (30 days) for scrutiny and comments. All I&APs will be notified of the availability of the Draft Basic Assessment Report (DBAR) at Nkambeni Primary School, Comprehensive School and on the Wandima Environmental Services website for download for other I&APs.

Further Participation will be communicated to all registered I&APs and they will be afforded the opportunity to comment. A Public Participation Report is attached as **Appendix E**.

4 NEED AND DESIRABILITY OF THE ACTIVITY

4.1 Need of the activity

The need for the intended development could be motivated as follows:

- The Mhawuli clan need the project, most of their grave yard are full and some are faced with challenges of water and stones in their existing grave yards
- The site is very well located for the proposed Cemetery
- If the property is not developed and utilised to a higher potential, there is an increase in risk of informal settlement on the area
- The development will contribute to public service as is of high importance to the government and that it needs help in assisting the growth and upgrade of any such service made available to the public.

4.2 Desirability

The desirability of the proposed project can be motivated as follows:

4.2.1 Accessibility

The property is accessed from R538 and two direct access roads will be constructed for easy access to the site.

4.2.2 Impact surrounding land uses:

It is envisaged that the proposed development will not have a negative impact on the surrounding land uses as most facilities and structures are not in place and the existing ones are not full operation, there is few existing household in the area and same are busy with construction.

4.2.3 Traffic impact

There will be very little additional traffic since burials are conducted mostly on weekends (Saturdays and Sundays) and are held in the mornings.

4.3 Policy environment

This section provides a brief overview of the Development Facilitation Act, 1995.

Development Facility Act:

The following principles contained in Chapter 1 of the development Facilitation Act 1995 (Act no.67 of 1995), apply to the proposed development:

- *Promote the integration of the social, economic, institutional and physical aspect of land development.*
- *Optimize the use of existing resources including such resource relating to agriculture, minerals, land bulk infrastructure, road, transportation and social facilities.*
- *Contribute to the optimum use existing infrastructure in excess of current need.*

5 PROJECT ALTERNATIVES

5.1 Activity Alternative

There are no alternatives for the proposed project.

5.2 Site Alternatives

There were alternative sites for the project , but Portion A was viewed as the best site for the project as the developer owns the proposed site, and a need for a cemetery development has been identified. The alternative sites have a number of flaws. These include, permeable soils coupled with a shallow, non-perennial perched, groundwater table, the sites' proximity to the adjacent drainage lines and the potential for grave instability near surface.

5.3 No Go Alternative

The no go alternative means that the area will not be developed into the proposed cemetery and that means the community of Nkambeni will not have a place to bury their loves ones, as well as possible job opportunities for the locals will be forfeited.

6. DESCRIPTION AND ASSESSMENT OF THE SIGNIFICANCE OF ANY ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Potential direct, indirect and cumulative property/activity/design/technology/operational alternative related impacts (as appropriate) that are likely to occur as a result of the planning and design phase, construction phase, operational phase, decommissioning and closure phase, including impacts relating to the choice of site/activity/technology alternatives as well as the mitigation measures that may eliminate or reduce the potential impacts listed.

6.1 Construction Impacts.

Table 1.

Potential impact on geographical and physical aspects:	
Nature of the impact:	<p>The proposed project will have a potential to encourage avenues for erosion in the footprint of the site during the construction and post construction phases. Intensive utilisation of service and access roads by construction vehicles may cause loss of stability of road surfaces which will result in soil erosion through wind and surface water run-off. Occasional deviation from the access and service roads by heavy construction machinery might result in most of the road-side vegetation being trampled thereby disabling the roots in their binding effect on the soil. This will enable surface run-off to cut the edges of the roads into undesired and uneven slopes.</p> <p>Newly created access roads might encourage erosion if not properly designed especially if located on steep slopes.</p>
Soil erosion	
Extent	Site (limited to the site boundaries)
Duration	Medium term (limited to the lifespan of the project and reversible over time if mitigated)
Intensity / Severity	Low (will have small negative impacts)
Probability / Certainty	Probable
Significance	Medium
<p>Proposed mitigation:</p> <p>It is imperative that movement of equipment and machinery be restricted to designated roads to access the site. Newly established access roads during the construction phase should be designed in such a way that steep slopes are avoided. If unavoidable, surface run-off humps should be made to direct the flow into vegetated surfaces in mitigation against soil erosion.</p> <p>Unused/abandoned roads or disturbed terrains should be tilled and reseeded with local vegetation during rehabilitation. Excavated areas should be backfilled to avoid unnecessary accumulation of surface water and high velocity overflow. Disturbed steep slopes should be supported with surface rock gladding or vegetation. Stipulations of the Environmental Management Programme (EMP) should be adhered to during the construction phase of the project till decommissioning.</p>	
Cumulative impacts post mitigation:	Low
Significance rating of impact after mitigation:	Low

Table 2.

Potential impacts on biodiversity	
Nature of impact	The main conservation concern is the loss of flora and fauna, especially protected species, during construction of site offices and storage facilities.
Disturbance of fauna and flora	Vegetation removal will be required for the purpose of construction of the cemetery. Impacts on both fauna and flora will be inevitable and this will result in habitat fragmentation and ultimate loss of a fair amount of vegetation and displacement of faunal species surviving in that particular habitat. A variety of bird species, reptiles and mammals are nomadic in the area and during construction displacement of terrestrial animals, insects and reptiles might occur. Also, the construction crew will be tempted to kill animals (snakes and reptiles) when they come across them, to hunt down birds and mammals, as well as felling trees to make firewood. Construction of the cemetery might have an impact on the vegetation. Deviation of heavy machinery from designated access roads might account for most of the vegetation being trampled thereby destroying the habitat of smaller faunal species.
Extent	Site
Duration	Short term
Intensity / Severity	Medium
Probability / Certainty	Definite
Significance	Low
Proposed mitigation:	
<p>The contractor should stick to the engineer's designs and recommendations by the consultant. Although the grassland and trees are low and disturbed, there is a variety of reptiles, amphibians, insects, mammals and birds that occur in this type of habitat. Care should be taken during the planning and construction phases to restrict the development to areas of lower biodiversity sensitivity. Vegetation removal should be restricted to areas where the development is to take place and undesired tree felling or vegetation removal should be avoided at all costs. Construction workers should be discouraged from killing of animals and birds for relish as this might interfere with the livelihood of the ecosystem and will encourage poaching. Activities associated with the construction should have an element of conservation through avoiding undesired destruction of wildlife within the site.</p>	
Cumulative impacts post mitigation:	Low
Significance rating of impact after mitigation:	Low

Table 3.

Potential impacts on the atmosphere	
Nature of impact	Increased vehicular traffic and numbers of construction crew during site clearance are likely to increase dust emission and ambient noise levels. Construction activities on site will lead to noise and dust from construction vehicles when they move in and out of the construction site for, excavation, loading, hauling and dumping of construction materials. Because of the temporary nature of site clearance, the impact is low, however, construction will be on-going for a few months, hence the duration of the impact.
Generation of dust and noise	
Extent	Site
Duration	Short term/ once off
Intensity / Severity	Low
Probability / Certainty	Probable
Significance	Low
<p>Proposed mitigation:</p> <p>Dust emission on access roads should be limited by using dust suppression methods such as water spraying through the use of water tanker lorry, equipped with a mounted water pump engine that will be used to sprinkle water on the road surface and suppress dust. All dumps and stockpiles must be arranged on site so as not to be exposed to the wind. Loading of equipment should be done in such a manner that items are placed tightly against each other so that they do not collide against each other as the truck rocks through unstable surfaces of the access roads. High speeding should be discouraged at all times as dust is generated the most with high speed. Construction vehicles should be serviced regularly and be kept in good working condition at all times. Vehicles in good condition are not likely to generate high pitched roars especially if operated properly. It is the responsibility of the contractor to ensure that dust and noise generated during site clearance and construction does not encroach on the aesthetic freedom of the surrounding areas. Construction will not be on weekends, during the week construction will be between 08h00 and 17h00. Vehicles used for loading of bins should be rubberised as that reduces rattling sounds.</p> <p>Construction workers should be alerted not to scream at the public especially as they pass by residential areas. The same applies to unnecessary hooting of construction vehicles.</p>	
Cumulative impacts post mitigation:	Low
Significance rating of impact after mitigation:	Low

Table 4.

Potential impact on road infrastructure	
Nature of impact	The proposed project site is situated along the R538 provincial road, regular road users (tourists, public and heavy haulage vehicles) of the roads will be disturbed by construction vehicles accessing the site during construction of the proposed cemetery.
Traffic disruption	
Extent	Local
Duration	Short term/ once off
Intensity / Severity	Low
Probability / Certainty	Probable
Significance	Low
Proposed mitigation:	
During construction signage and notifications through media should be considered so that road users and commuters are alerted of the intended use of the road by construction vehicles.	
Cumulative impacts post mitigation:	Low
Significance rating of impact after mitigation:	Low

Table 5.

Potential impact on skyline and immediate environs	
Nature of impact	During construction the site may be untidy, as unused items, spoil material as well as stockpile areas on site may not be visually attractive. However, this will be of a temporary nature to attain the operational phase. In order to lessen this impact, stockpiles have to be centralized and excavations and spoil materials must not be left unattended. The final product will be a well designed cemetery and no negative visual impacts are foreseen.
Visual impacts	
Extent	Local
Duration	Permanent
Intensity / Severity	Low
Probability / Certainty	Unsure
Significance	Low
Proposed mitigation:	
The construction site must be enclosed by a dark green or black shade cloth of no less than 2m high, to prevent any visual intrusion. The site must be kept tidy at all times, sufficient refuse bins must be provided for the construction crew, and they must be emptied regularly. Refuse or building rubble generated on the premises must not be deposited on adjacent properties, road verges or open spaces. It must be contained on site, then removed and disposed of at an approved dumping site at least every two weeks. Disturbed and open areas must be rehabilitated and re-vegetated as soon as possible after construction.	
Cumulative impacts post mitigation:	Low
Significance rating of impact after mitigation:	Low

Table 6.

Potential impacts on soil and water quality	
Nature of impact	The use of heavy construction machinery is associated with possible leaks, spillages of hydraulic oils, diesel fuels and grease. Such spillages can contaminate the soil, surface and underground water if in larger quantities. Such spillages are detrimental to biodiversity and are obviously poisonous. Signs of the impact can be seen as grass starts drying and dying. With this, all life forms depending on the grass material for food and shelter will be affected. In this case, the soil is regarded as dead. Smaller insects that survive on the water surface will be affected as diesel and oil create a layer on the water surface thereby disturbing them as they swim and suffocating as they get covered with in a layer of oil.
Pollution and spillages of hazardous waste	Disinfectants used in mobile toilets can also be detrimental to surface water and soil if not handled with care. Careless handling of full toilets during loading and transportation to sewerage treatment plant can result in spillages which might contaminate the ground and obviously surface water. Obnoxious smell of such spillage can attract flies which are capable of spreading diseases.
Extent	Site
Duration	Short term
Intensity / Severity	Low
Probability / Certainty	Unsure
Significance	Low
<p>Proposed mitigation:</p> <p>Machinery with hydraulic equipments like hydraulic jacks and lifts should be inspected and maintained on a daily basis to guard against possible leakages and malfunctioning. Refuelling of machinery and trucks should be done at a designated site and such site should be paved with a concrete slab to avoid soaking of oils into the ground in the event of accidental spillages. Storage facilities, fuels and related liquids should be located away from the vicinity of any water course. A concrete slab will be easy to clean prior to overflow and further contamination. Fuel containers should be inspected for possible leaks at all times. Used and empty drums that contained grease, diesel, hydraulic oil and petrol should be disposed of at a registered and licensed facility to avoid pollution and contamination of soil and water.</p> <p>Mobile toilets on site should be handled by experienced people during loading and transportation. Toilets should be inspected for leaks routinely. Antiseptic liquids should be handled and stored in a safe place in sealed containers.</p>	
Cumulative impacts post mitigation:	Low
Significance rating of impact after mitigation:	Low

Table 7.

Potential impact on neighbourhood (social) and site	
Nature of impact	Experience has proven that undisciplined contract workers pose a serious problem with the surroundings where they travel, work and live. Littering is one of the major challenges experienced in and around construction sites. Food packaging material is normally discarded wherever construction workers might be having their lunch and left lying all over. Possible consumption of plastic material by livestock can lead to death of the animal. As they travel along access roads, smokers will discard life cigarette buds which normally ignites veld fires, hence the grassland environment along the site.
Undisciplined contract workers	Screaming and insulting of community members by undisciplined contract workers is very common as they pass by residential areas to and from site. Interference with families located along construction sites where construction workers start relationships with married women is very common. Disputes between construction workers and families erupt in this instances resulting in social instability in individual families. Prostitution comes along with such relationships where construction workers spend their monies for such services and deprive their own families of the benefits from their work which impacts on families at remote distances. The result of this state of affairs has serious impacts on work performance on the part of the workers themselves.
Extent	Local
Duration	Short term
Intensity / Severity	Low
Probability / Certainty	Unsure
Significance	Low
Proposed mitigation:	
The contractor should have a code of conduct documented to address the required standards in terms of team member's behaviour. Workers should be allocated a site where they can have their lunch. It should be strictly noted that smokers should not discard life cigarette buds anywhere else other than a designated smoking area where the risk of veld fire is not eminent or such be placed in ashtrays.	
Workers should be warned not to insult the public and respect whoever they come across. Befriending locals especially women should be prohibited at all costs. In the event where a camp site is allocated, resident security guard should be deployed for the purpose of access control and monitoring. This will help in protecting property and equipment from theft and possible damage. Through the employee wellness programme, workers should be advised to take care of their benefits in order to see growth in their socio-economic conditions of their respective families. This will encourage them to perform better in their workplace.	
Cumulative impacts post mitigation:	Low
Significance rating of impact after mitigation:	Low

Table 8.

Potential impacts on regional environment and downstream	
Nature of impact	Spillages of diesel, hydraulic oil, grease and other volatile fuels can be carried away with surface water run-off. This can result in the water bodies being contaminated and aquatic life threatened. Spillages can soak into ground water thus impacting on the wetland.
Pollution and littering	Litter can be carried away through wind and surface run-off to the wetland and neighbouring properties away from the site. This might end up in storm water drainage lines and causing blockages. Litter deposited on drainage sites and scattered all over is unsightly and have a serious visual impact. Animal, the likes of dogs, has a tendency of swallowing plastic bags and related material which normally result into digestion complications and sudden loss of weight and sudden death.
Extent	Local
Duration	Medium term
Intensity / Severity	Medium
Probability / Certainty	Unsure
Significance	Low
Proposed mitigation:	
Storage facilities of fuels and related liquids should be locked and containers tightly closed to avoid accidental spillages in the event the container falling over. All surfaces where these liquids are stored should be paved with reinforced concrete slab to avoid cracks through which spillages can leak into the ground. Inspections should be conducted at all times to guard against hidden impacts occurring due to leaks.	
Routine litter picking should be conducted and litter bins be supplied on site.	
Cumulative impacts post mitigation:	Low
Significance rating of impact after mitigation:	Low

6.2 Operational Impacts

Table 1.

Potential impact on geographical and physical aspects:	
Nature of the impact:	Erosion is a long-term problem if allowed to occur as it leads to land degradation, where the soil types and slopes contribute to a high erosion hazard index. Construction developments often leave cleared areas unrehabilitated and the soil bare and prone to erosion. Unless mitigation measures are undertaken, soil erosion at exposed areas left by construction activities will continue on a permanent basis.
Soil erosion	
Extent	Site (limited to the site boundaries)
Duration	Long term (reversible over time if mitigated)
Intensity / Severity	High (will have a serious impact unless mitigation measures are implemented)
Probability / Certainty	Definite
Significance	Medium
Proposed mitigation:	
It is imperative that disturbed areas during construction are rehabilitated. Topsoil stockpiled during construction will be re-spread to all excavated areas after construction has been completed. Soil erosion prevention measures i.e., grass planting, must be implemented in all sections of the site. Indigenous vegetation needs to be re-introduced, and this, will enhance the aesthetic value of the site when the project is completed.	
Cumulative impacts post mitigation:	Low
Significance rating of impact after mitigation:	Low

Table 2.

Potential impacts on immediate environment	
Nature of impact	Unrehabilitated construction sites are a major environmental problem as they are an eyesore on the immediate landscape. When construction of the cemetery has been completed, all temporary structures must be decommissioned. The main problem that will likely arise at the construction site will be that of disposal of used items e.g., material stockpiles, spill containment, scrap metals, etc.
Visual impacts	
Extent	Local
Duration	Permanent (if not mitigated)
Intensity / Severity	Low
Probability / Certainty	Definite
Significance	Medium
Proposed mitigation:	
All temporary structures and their foundations used for construction purposes will be decommissioned prior at decommissioning phase. No waste material shall be left on site; usable panels will be packed for use by the contractor at future sites. Concrete slabs will be ripped and disposed off at an approved builder's rubble site or municipal landfill. Toilet dugouts will be left to dry before filling to compaction with locally sourced soil. The site must be fully rehabilitated.	
Cumulative impacts post mitigation:	Low
Significance rating of impact after mitigation:	Low

Table 3.

Potential impact on road infrastructure	
Nature of impact	The proposed project site is situated along the R538 provincial road, regular road users (tourists, public and heavy haulage vehicles) of the roads will be disturbed by mourners accessing the site during burial ceremonies.
Traffic disruption	
Extent	Local
Duration	Permanent
Intensity / Severity	Low
Probability / Certainty	Probable
Significance	Low
Proposed mitigation:	
To avoid accidents during operation, proper signage must be put in place to alert users of the busy R538 road and the other access roads about vehicles accessing the site.	
Cumulative impacts post mitigation:	Low
Significance rating of impact after mitigation:	Low

Table 4.

Potential impacts on regional environment and downstream	
Nature of impact	Litter can be carried away through wind and surface run-off to neighbouring properties away from the site. This might end up in storm water drainage lines and causing blockages. Litter deposited on drainage sites and scattered all over is unsightly and have a serious visual impact. Animals, the likes of dogs, have a tendency of swallowing plastic bags and related material which normally result into digestion complications and sudden loss of weight and sudden death.
Pollution and littering	
Extent	Local
Duration	Medium term
Intensity / Severity	Medium
Probability / Certainty	Unsure
Significance	Low
Proposed mitigation:	
The cemetery must be fenced off with a no less than 2m high steel/wall fence, to prevent encroachment and illegal dumping of refuse on nearby properties. Waste bins must be provided in strategic places and must be regularly maintained. Sign to encourage no littering must be placed at strategic points. A central point for waste collection must be established.	
Cumulative impacts post mitigation:	Low
Significance rating of impact after mitigation:	Low

7. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AND MITIGATION MEASURES PROPOSED BY THE EAP

All the environmental management and mitigation measures proposed by the EAP are recorded in the EMP, attached as **Appendix F**.

8. INPUTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY SPECIALISTS

There were no inputs and recommendation made by specialist to the extent that may be necessary. The following specialist studies, and summary of recommendations (see Appendix D), were conducted to assist in the basic Environmental Impact Assessment process for the proposed establishment of the cemetery.

- **Heritage study** – based on the heritage study, by *Adansonia Heritage Consultants*, no archaeological or heritage features of any significance were found on the proposed Nkambeni Cemetery. The terrain on site is even and visibility is fair, a few insignificant artifacts were identified such as a broken lower grinder, and rough clay potsherds. None of these items have any historic or cultural value which will be impacted upon by the proposed development.

No archaeological sites of significance, stone walls or graves were identified, and this was confirmed by one of the residents, Mr. Billy Mphanga.

- **Geo-technical and Hydro-technical Survey** -Based on the results of the investigation, together with the interpretation of aerial photographs, the site has been divided into three zones. These zones delineated contain similar soil profiles and development constraints. The proposed cemetery site has a number of flaws, these include, permeable soils coupled with a shallow, non-perennial perched, groundwater table, the sites' proximity to the adjacent drainage lines and the potential for grave instability near surface. Notwithstanding these constraints, and taking cognisance that they are characteristic of the area, it was of the specialists opinion that the current site can be pursued for a cemetery, providing the following mitigating measures are implemented:
 - A buffer at least 100m wide must be included around the perimeter of the site – extending up-slope from the centre of the adjacent streams;
 - deep-rooted, indigenous, hydrophilic vegetation/trees should be planted in this buffer to reduce the amount of percolating groundwater entering the adjacent streams.
 - The non- or slightly cohesive surficial regolith is susceptible to erosion. As such, it is recommended that a phased approach be undertaken to clearing and grubbing the site for use, i.e., areas up to 1-hectare only, should be cleared and grubbed for use as necessary.

- **Ecological Study**- Based on the ecological study, by *Ligoga Consulting & Trading*, the vegetation unit is considered endangered. The conservation target is 19%. About 2% is statutorily conserved mainly in the Bosbokrand and Barberton Nature Reserves; at least a further 2% is conserved in private reserves including the Mbesan and Kaapsehoop Reserves and Mondi Cycad Reserve. Scattered alien plants include *Lantana camara*, *Psidium guajava* and *Solanum mauritianum*. Erosion is very low to moderate.

The loss and modification of important habitats can only be minimized by firstly avoiding sensitive habitats by making use of existing access roads and disturbed areas, and secondly by positioning of the structures (buildings & other facilities) on pre-selected sites of low floral importance. The loss of individual plants of importance can also be minimized by the above measures and site selection must be done prior to construction with the aid of a specialist.

Reptiles and Amphibians, the possibility exists that several of the important reptiles and amphibians, may occur in the site. However, due to the mobility of most such fauna, it is not anticipated that any of the taxa will be directly threatened by the activities. Although the occurrence of some rabbits and duiker is highly likely, the species could not be scientifically confirmed. The occurrence of mice and rats cannot be ruled out as crop farming in proximity of the site is active. The major risk factors for mammals associated with the development are likely to be related to the increased levels of noise and human activity at the site

9. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME CONTAINING THE ASPECTS CONTEMPLATED IN REGULATION 33

The Environmental Management Programme (EMP) is the basic tool used to reduce the magnitude of impacts through practical measures. It is also used to measure compliance by the developer. It is this tool that gives guidance during monitoring, auditing and taking corrective actions during project implementation, thereby ensuring continuous monitoring of the environment. An EMP is developed after an environmental assessment, depending on the level of such assessment. It can also be drawn after the authorisation by the environmental authority, to incorporate the conditions of the authorization.

An EMP is implemented throughout the project life-cycle, i.e. during pre-construction, construction, operation and decommissioning, in order to minimize negative impacts and enhance positive ones. An effective EMP will be a practical working document that sets out the requirements and the goals required in mitigation. The main terms of the EMP have been detailed to achieve the following:

- To define measures to be taken during pre-construction, construction, and operation and decommissioning/closure;
- To define the actions needed to implement those measures;
- To describe how these will be achieved;
- To allocate responsibilities;
- To provide time frames.

The EMP is attached as **Appendix F**.

Table 1: Summary of impacts

ALTERNATIVE S1 (PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE)							
Phase	Nature of Impact	Extent	Duration	Intensity/ Severity	Probability/ Certainty	Significance	
						Before	After mitigation
Planning	Topography	Site	Long term	Low	Definite	Medium	Low
	Land use	Site	Long term	Low	Definite	Low	Low
	Geology	Site	Long term	Low	Probable	Low	Low
	Locality	Site	Long term	Low	Definite	Low	Low
Construction	Geology - Topography	Local	Short term	Medium	Probable	Medium	Low
	Surface & groundwater	Site	Short term	High	Definite	High	Medium
	Generation of spoil material and general waste	Site	Short term	Low	Definite	Medium	Low
	Loss of Fauna & Flora	Site	Long term	High	Definite	High	Medium
	Workforce management	Local	Short term	Low	Definite	Medium	Low
	Erosion	Local	Short term	Low	Probable	Medium	Low
	Visual impacts	Local	Short term	High	Definite	Medium	Low
Traffic and Neighbourhood disruptions	Local	Short term	Medium	Probable	Medium	Low	
Operational	Surface & groundwater	Local/ downstream	Long term	Low	Unlikely	Low	Low
	Erosion	Site	Long term	Low	Probable	Medium	Low
	Visual impacts	Site	Long term	High	Definite	High	Medium
	Availability of services and waste management	Local	Long term	Medium	Probable	Medium	Low
	Positive Social Impacts	Local	Long term	High	Definite	High	
	Negative Social Impacts (unavailability of employment)	Local	Long term	Medium	Definite	High	

10. REASONED OPINION AS TO WHETHER THE ACTIVITY SHOULD OR SHOULD NOT BE AUTHORISED

The activity should be authorised as is aimed to providing new burial space for the community of Nkambeni and to save as a public resource and development in the area. The proposed burial space is suitable for the community since they do not have to travel long distances to bury their loved ones. Also, the development aims at creating job opportunities and close work place for communities of the area and improve infrastructure. If the space is not use at a burial space people will use it for informal settlement which may lead into crime and challenge in service delivery, not to mention the challenge for the government to look for a new burial space that will be close by for the community. A condition that should be made in respect of the authorisation is that the development should not encroach in the other properties and must be fenced with a gate.

11. REPRESENTATIONS AND COMMENTS RECEIVED IN CONNECTION WITH THE APPLICATION OR THE BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

List the main issues raised by interested and affected parties.

- Would the community pay for using the cemetery?
- Would they book the cemetery (grave cells) in advance and would they be buried on tops of others?; and
- Who is the owner of the land the cemetery is proposed at?

Response from the practitioner to the issues raised by the interested and affected parties (A full response is given in the Comments and Response Report that is attached to this report as **Annexure E**):

Responses from the EAP regarding issues and concerns raised

- Yes but they and their council would decide on a price that would suit them, but a provision for the poor would be made.
- Yes a cemetery can be booked in advance, but if one buys it when cemeteries cost R600 and use it when cemeteries cost R1000 then that person will top up by R400; and
- Land affairs, and it's been given to Mbombela Local Municipality for the development of the cemetery.

12. MINUTES OF ANY MEETINGS HELD BY THE EAP WITH INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES AND OTHER ROLE PLAYERS WHICH RECORD THE VIEWS OF THE PARTICIPANTS

Two public meetings were held on Sunday, 19th of May 2013, one at Nkambeni Primary School 8h00am and another one at Comprehensive Play Ground 10h00am. Invitations were sent by emails; telephonically; Hand delivery invites and loud hailing (**Appendix E-5**). The purpose of the meeting was to inform all I&APs of the proposed development, discuss any issues or concerns they may have, obtain their inputs and comments and allow them an opportunity to register to participate in the process. A copy of the minutes of the meeting is attached as **Appendix E-6**.

13. RESPONSES BY THE EAP TO THOSE REPRESENTATIONS, COMMENTS AND VIEWS

Issues, comments and/or suggestions submitted by I&APs in the meeting, by e-mail, fax, post or telephonically and at the public meeting were captured in the Comment and Response Report which is attached as **Appendix E-7**. Further correspondence with I&APs will take place on an ongoing basis throughout the process and any comments, concerns, or issues will be captured on the Comments and Response Report, which will form part of all reports made available for Public Review and submitted to Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (DEDET).

14. SPECIFIC INFORMATION REQUIRED BY THE COMPETENT AUTHORITY

During the compiling of the Draft BAR there were no requests from the competent authority, and there were no matters required in terms of sections 24(4)(a) and (b) of the act.