

From: IQ <IQ@environment.gov.za>

Sent: Thursday, 02 July 2020 09:20

To: Gideon Raath <gideon@savannahsa.com>

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Subject: IQ/20/0242: RETRACTION: IQ/20/0140: Specialist protocols query

Importance: High

Dear Gideon

Please note that, upon discussions with the Department's Directorate: Legal Support - NEMA and having taken into account the attached judgment and also having given due consideration to the effect of the national lockdown announced on 27 March 2020, the previous response to your query (IQ/20/0140, dated 21 May 2020) is herewith withdrawn.

It is the Department's view that, irrespective of whether an application has been submitted or not, before 9 May 2020 - if the specialist assessment affected by any of the protocols was commissioned before 9 May 2020, then the applicant is allowed to continue and submit documents for decision-making, which do not need to comply with the requirements of the protocols. Proof that the specialist work was outsourced before 9 May 2020, is deemed to be sufficient to allow this, on a case by case basis and you are strongly advised to liaise with the relevant competent authority in this regard.

For the DEFF, kindly contact EIAAdmin@environment.gov.za for further guidance.

Regards

Chantal Engelbrecht