



destea

department of
economic, small business development,
tourism and environmental affairs
FREE STATE PROVINCE

DESTEA Ref No: EMS/1(ii), 9 (i) (ii), 19,
12 (iv), 13, 15, 16/22/06

NEAS Ref No: FSP/EIA/0000457/2022

Enquiries: Ms. Boipelo Mogorosi

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Attention: Candy Mahlangu

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd

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Cell: 067 212 4095

E-mail: candy@savannahsa.com

Dear Lehlogonolo,

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION TO SUBMIT THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED XHARIEP EXPORT PROGRAMME (XEP) AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, FREE STATE PROVINCE.

The Department of Economic, Small Business Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (DESTEA) - 'the Department' acknowledge receipt of the request for extension to submit the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) on 17 October 2022.

The Department hereby grants the extension as per regulation 3 (7) of the EIA Regulations 2014 as amended and agree that the EIAR must be submitted on **8 February 2023**. Failure to meet any of the timeframes in terms of Regulation 45 will lead to the lapsing of this application. Please indicate to the Department the EAP for this project as Lehlogonolo highlighted that He is no longer with your company.

Regards,

Ms. B. Mogorosi

Environmental Officer Production Grade B: EIM

Date: 25/10/22.

Sub-Directorate:
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Bloemfontein
9300

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AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, FREE STATE PROVINCE

**MEETING NOTES OF PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY THE 26 APRIL 2022 AT 10H00
VENUE: MS TEAMS PLATFORM**

Meeting notes prepared by:

Lehlogonolo Chuene
Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd
E-mail: lehlogonolo.c@savannahsa.com

***Please note that these notes are not verbatim, but a summary of the meeting.
Please address any comments to Savannah Environmental at the above address***

Jn Venter Beleggings Trust Agricultural development and associated infrastructure, Free State Province

Pre-Application Meeting 26 April 2022

MEETING ATTENDEES

Name	Organisation
Grace Mkhosana (GM)	Free State Department: Economic, Small Business Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (DESTEA)
Lorato Moloisi (LM)	
Nomonde Molokwane (NM)	
Tlotliso Ganong (TG)	
Reokeditswe	Savannah Environmental
Lehlogonolo Chuene (LC)	
Rendani Rasivhetshela (RR)	

OVERVIEW OF THE PROJECTS

Lehlogonolo Chuene (LC) provided a brief overview of the authorised project and the proposed amendments.

- The Applicant, the JN Venter Beleggings Trust is proposing an Agricultural Development and associated infrastructure on a site of approximately 2690ha in extent which is located southwest of Luckhoff and Koffiesfontein in the Free State Province
- The proposed site run through 10 interlinked properties (farm portions) owned by the Applicant. The area falls within the Letsemeng Local Municipality within the Xhariep District Municipality.
- The Agricultural Development will entail the following:
 - » Centre Pivot Areas (cultivation and irrigation System).
 - » Two Underground PVC fiberglass X 1.4m on 5.93km pipeline route.
 - » Two dams with three alternatives sites (capacity and characteristics not yet confirmed).
 - » 1 Pump station covering total surface area of 549m².
 - » A 9ha Solar PV With 4 alternatives and a 5MW overhead power line of 6.9km in length.
 - » A Battery Energy Storage System Covering Surface Area Of 0.36ha.

The presentation is included in Appendix A.

DISCUSSION SESSION

- » NM requested that Activity 27 of Listing notice 1 be removed because the activity is covered by the Activity 15 of the Listing Notice 2, and these two can not be applied for together.
- » NM also, indicated that Activity 12 of LN 1 should be included as being an activity to be triggered by the proposed development.
- » GM indicated that reports must also be sent to the SAHRIS for comments.

- » GM also indicated that only one hard copy (All EIA Phases) should be sent to the DESTEA for review and a soft copy in a form of either a CD or Flash Disk must be sent together with the hard copy.

CLOSURE

LC thanked the attendees for their inputs. The meeting was closed at 11H50.

APPENDIX A PRESENTATION



PROJECT TITLE:

**AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND
ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, FREE STATE
PROVINCE**

Applicant: JN Venter Beleggings Trust

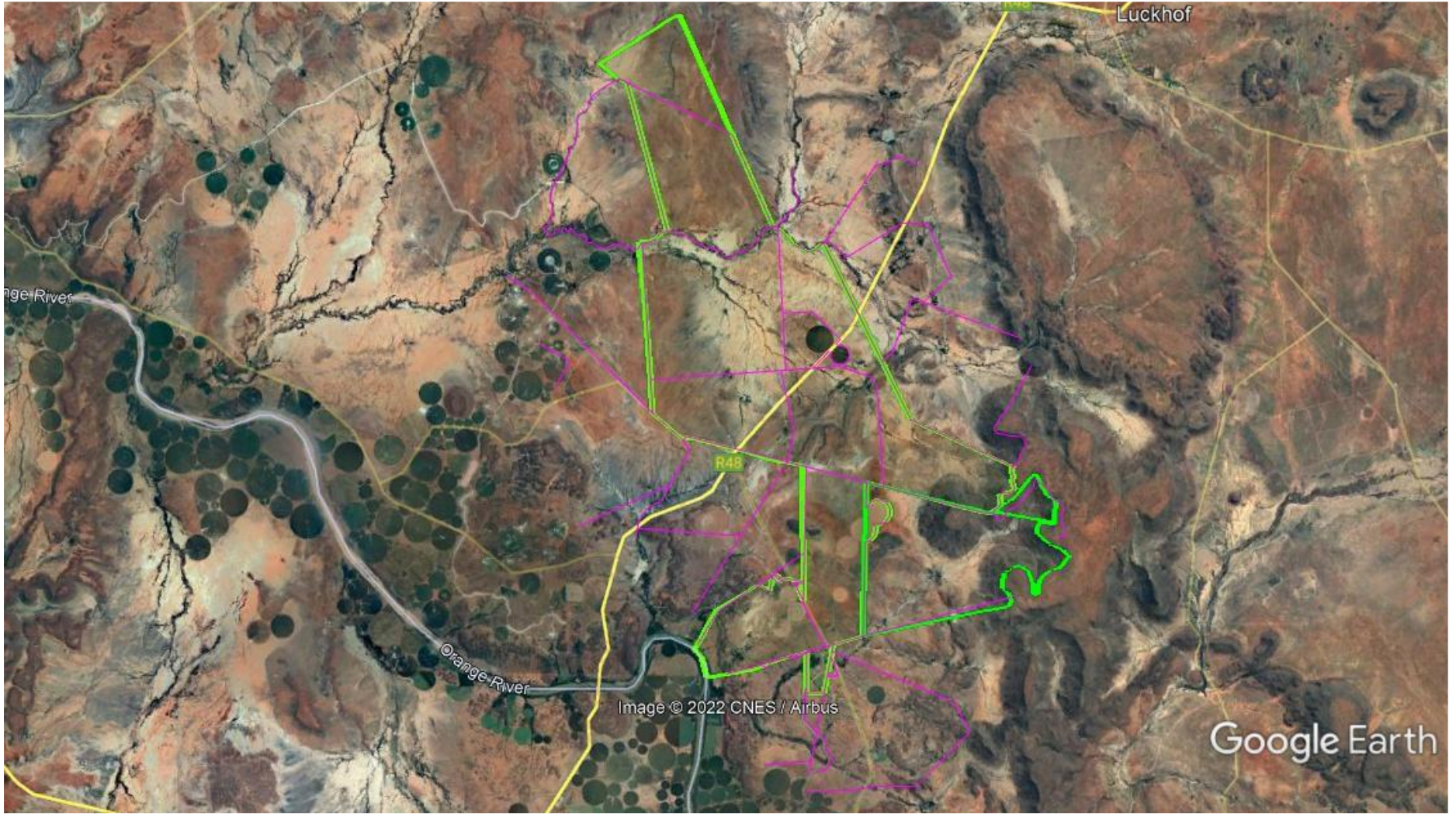


1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

JN Venter Beleggings Trust is proposing an Agricultural Development and associated infrastructure on a site of approximately 2690ha in extent which is located southwest of Luckhoff and Koffiesfontein in the Free State Province.

The proposed site runs through 10 interlinked properties (farm portions) owned by the Applicant. The area falls within the Letsemeng Local Municipality within the Xhariep District Municipality.

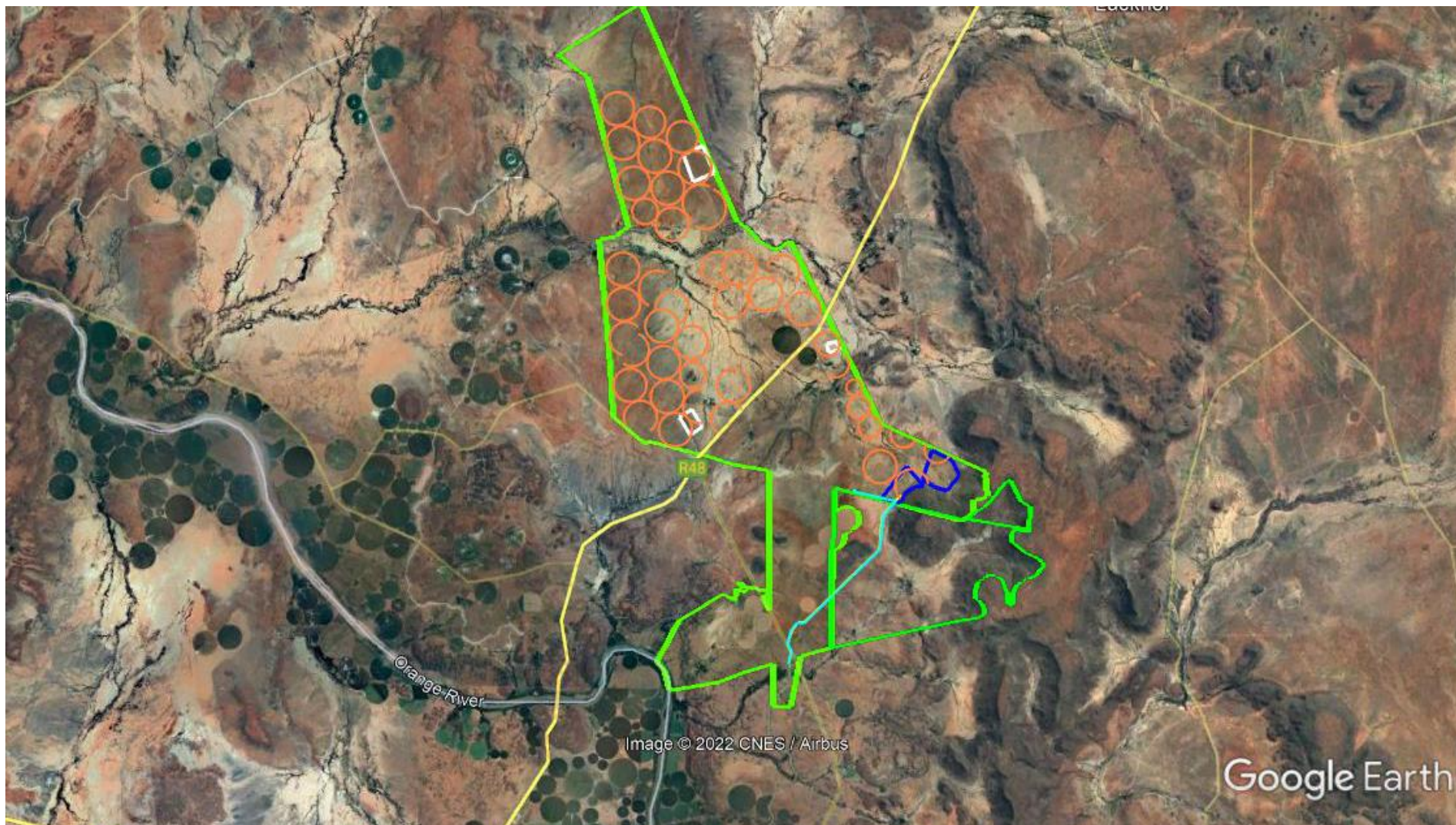






The Agricultural Development will entail the following

- » Centre Pivot Areas (Cultivation And Irrigation System);
- » Two Underground PVC fiberglass X 1.4m on 5.93km pipeline route;
- » Two dams with three alternatives sites (capacity and characteristics not yet confirmed);
- » 1 Pump station covering total surface area of 549m²;
- » A 9ha Solar PV With 4 alternatives and a 5MW overhead power line of 6.9km in length;
- » A Battery Energy Storage System Covering Surface Area Of 0.36ha.



TRIGGERED ACTIVITIES

Listing Notice 1 Activities:

- **Activity 9-**

“The development of infrastructure exceeding 1000 metres in length for the bulk transportation of water or storm water- (i) with an internal diameter of 0,36 metres or more; or (ii) with a peak throughput of 120 litres per second or more; excluding where (a) such infrastructure is for bulk transportation of water or storm water or storm water drainage inside a road reserve; or (b) where such development will occur within an urban area.

The proposed bulk water pipe to take water from the canal to the irrigation dams is proposed to be 5.3KM in extent, with internal diameter of 1.4m.

- **Activity 19-**

“The Infilling Or Depositing Of Any Material Of More Than 10m³ Into, Or The Dredging, Excavation, Removal Or Moving Of Soil, Sand, Shells, Shell Grit, Pebbles Or Rock Of More Than 10m³ From A Watercourse [With Certain Exclusions That Are Not Applicable To This Project

Material (Mainly Soil, Sand And Rock) Will Be Excavated, Moved And Deposited Within The Watercourse For The Purposed Instream Dam With 46ha Surface Area

- **Activity 27-**

“The clearance of an area of 1ha or more, but less than 20ha, of indigenous vegetation, except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for (i) the undertaking of a linear activity; or (ii) maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan. “

Clearance of approximately 2690ha in extent will take place for the cultivation sites and establishment of the proposed supporting infrastructures for the agricultural development.

Listing Notice 2 Activities

- **Activity 13-**

“The physical alteration of virgin soil to agriculture, or afforestation for the commercial tree, timber or wood production of 100 hectares or more.”

Approximately 2154ha or more within the 2690ha project site is proposed for cultivation of commercial crops such as maize, wheat, soy and possibly peanuts.

- **Activity 15-**

“The clearance of an area of 20 hectares or more of indigenous vegetation, excluding where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for (i) the undertaking of a linear activity; or (ii) maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan”

Approximately 2690ha in extent will take place for the cultivation sites and establishment of the proposed supporting infrastructures for the agricultural development.

- Activity 16-

“The development of a dam where the highest part of the dam wall, as measured from the outside toe of the wall to the highest part of the wall, is 5 metres or higher or where the high water mark of the dam covers an area of 10 hectares or more”

The surface area for the two proposed dams including the alternative dam sites covers more than 10ha surface area respectively.

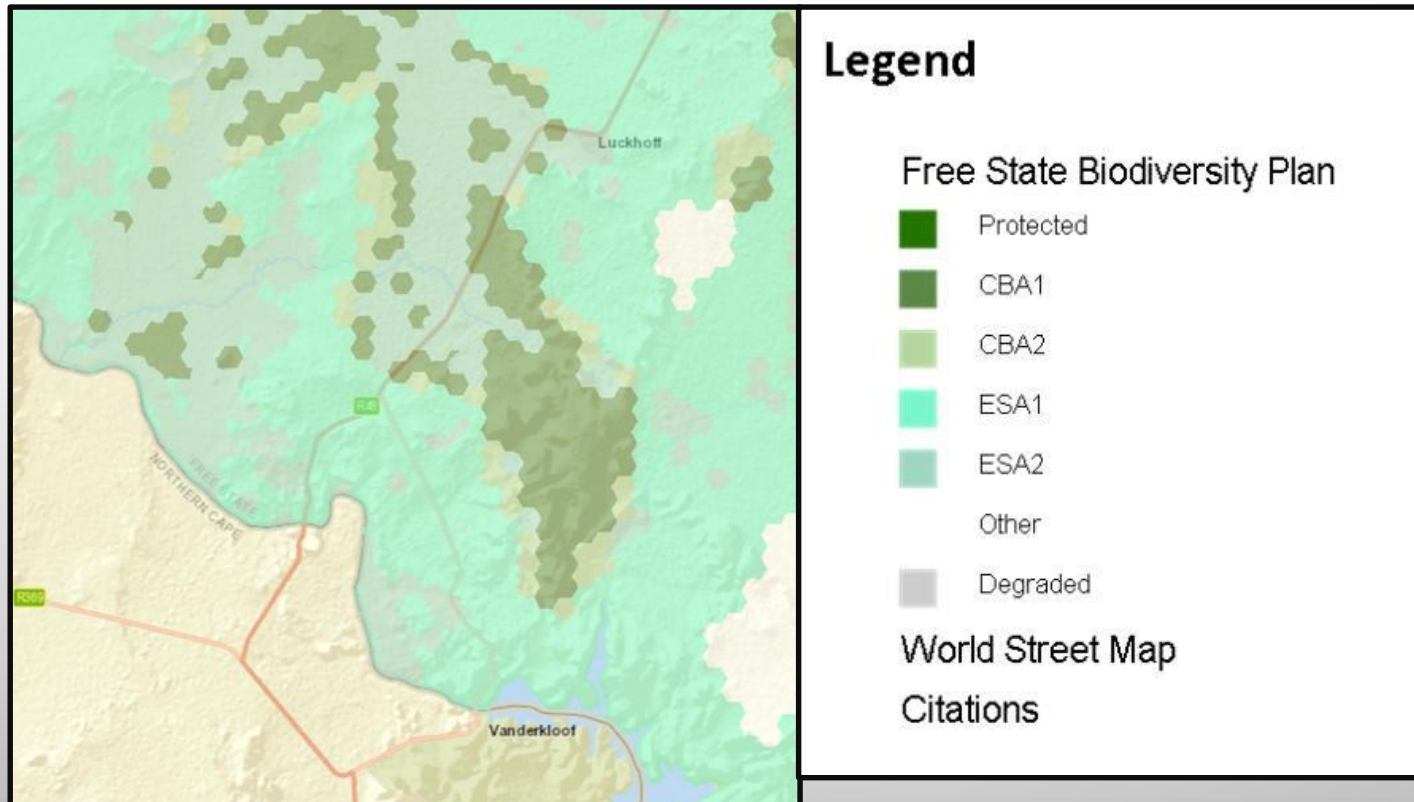
SPECIALIST STUDIES – DFFE SCREENING

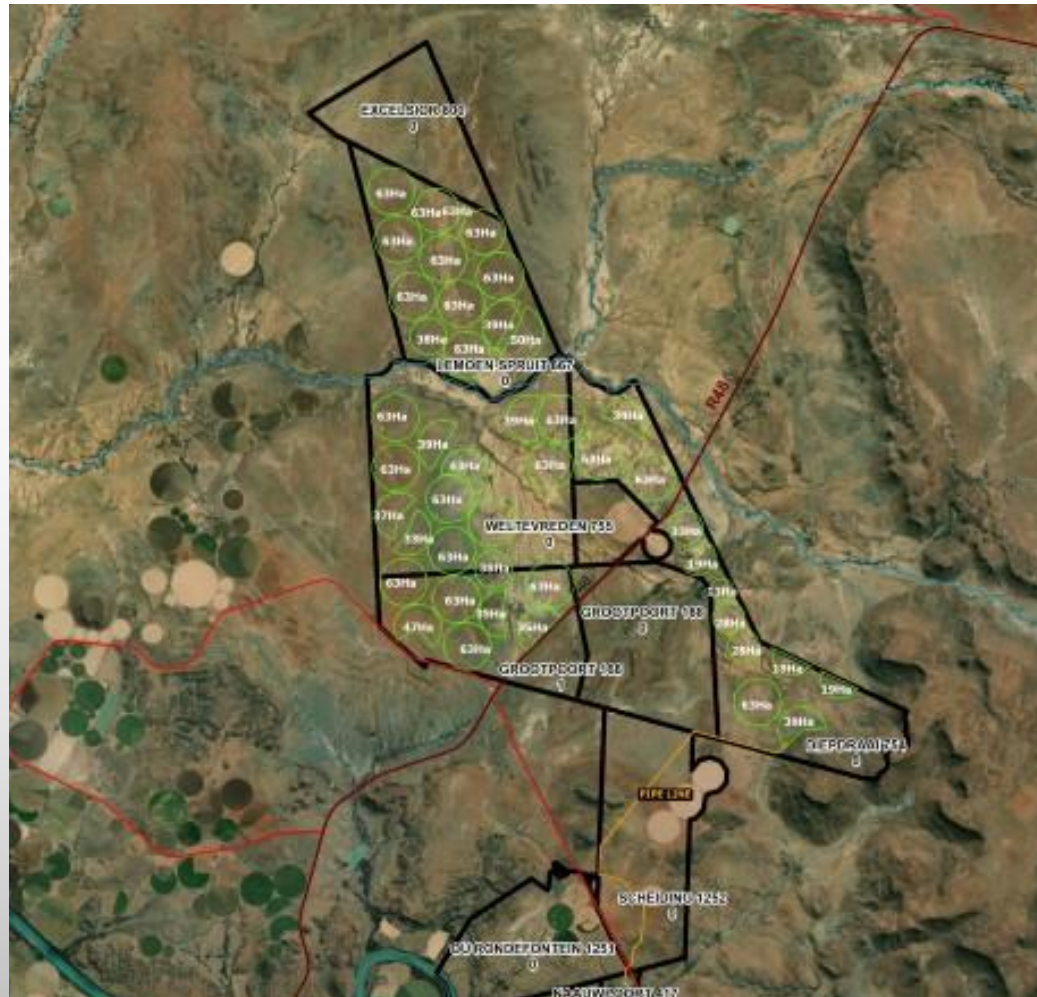
Theme	Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low Sensitivity
Agriculture	X			
Animal Species Theme		X		
Aquatic Biodiversity	X			
Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Theme				X
Civil Aviation Theme				X
Defense Theme				X
Paleontology	X			
Plant Species Theme			X	
Terrestrial Biodiversity	X			

Specialist Studies – For The Proposed Project

- Freshwater Ecological (Aquatics And Wetlands) Assessment
- Heritage (Including Desktop Palaeontology) Assessment
- Biodiversity (Fauna, Avifauna And Flora) Assessment
- Agricultural Potential Impact Assessment
- Social Assessment

FREE STATE BIODIVERSITY PLAN





PROCESS TO BE FOLLOWED

Process: The Scoping And EIA Process Will Be Followed

- Submission Of Application Form To DESTEA
- Consultative ESR – For 30 Days
- Submission Of Final ESR To DESTEA
- The Consultative EIAR Available For 30 Days
- Submission Of Final EIAR
- Informing the I&AP with the outcomes

No public meetings planned

COMMENTING BODIES

- Department Of Agriculture And Rural Development- Free State
- Department Of Water And Sanitation- Free State
- Letsemeng Local Municipality
- Oranje Riet Water User Association's Canal

THANK YOU