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501573
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Executive Summary

Proposed Granor Passi Evaporation Ponds, Louterwater

Draft Basic Assessment Report

1. Introduction

An integrated BA and Waste Management License application has commenced to determine the extent and significance of the environmental consequences associated with the proposed construction of effluent evaporation ponds for their plant at Louterwater, where juice concentrate is extracted. The proposed site is located on Portion 3 and Portion 10 of the Farm Grootkloof No. 301 to the north-east of Louterwater, which is situated along the R62.

SRK Consulting has been appointed by Granor Passi Langkloof (Pty) Ltd., as the independent consultants to conduct an Environmental Basic Assessment (BA) for the proposed activity in terms of the National Environmental Management Act No 107 of 1998 (NEMA) as amended, and the associated Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014.

1.1. Purpose and Structure of the Basic Assessment Report

The NEMA EIA Regulations were promulgated to put into practice the environmental management principles espoused in the Act. The Basic Assessment Report (BAR) provides the competent authority, the Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEDEAT), with all relevant information about the proposed activity, as well as an assessment of the potential impacts in order to inform the decision as to whether the activity should be approved and, if so, under what conditions.

This BAR comprises of two sections, of which Section 2 is mandatory in terms of the requirements for a Basic Assessment. This Summary Report is intended to provide additional contextual information in support of the application[1]. The BAR contains the following sections:

Section 1: Summary Report/ Executive Summary

Section 1 (this section) provides an introduction to the project; describes the approach to the Basic Assessment process and provides a description of the activity and the proposed concept alternatives considered. It also describes the public consultation process undertaken during the process, the key findings and recommendations and the way forward. In effect this section provides a summary of the key elements of the Basic Assessment.

Section 2: Completed DEDEAT BAR Form

Section 2 contains the completed BAR form, as prescribed by DEDEAT, submitted in support of the integrated BA and Waste Management License application for the activity under the NEMA EIA Regulations. Section 2 also contains the Appendices as required by the DEDEAT BAR.

1.2. Approach to the Basic Assessment

The environmental authorisation process prescribed for listed activities under Listing Notices 1, 2 and 3 published in Government Gazette Numbers R983, R984 and R985 respectively and the waste licensing process for listed activities contained in the Schedule in Government Notice 921, 2013, published in terms of section 19 of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act (Act No. 59 of 2008) (NEMWA) are defined in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations made under section 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act, 2008 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA).

1 Note that the full report is a collation of sections and not a sequential compilation of report chapters.

Activities 12, 19 and 27, listed in GN R983 (Listing Notice 1) of the NEMA EIA regulations and Activity 1 of Category A, listed in GN R921 of under NEMWA, are the main activities associated with the proposed project, calling for an Integrated Environmental Authorisation process to be followed:

Activity 12: The development of infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more where such development occurs within a watercourse…

Activity 19: The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 5 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal, or moving f soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock of more than 5 cubic metres from a watercourse.

Activity 27: The clearance of an area of 1 hectare or more, but less than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation.

The proposed ponds would require the clearance of approximately 4.79 hectares of vegetation and will have a total footprint of approximately 47,900 square metres.

GN R.921 Item 1 Category A: The storage of general waste in lagoons.

Effluent from the plant where juice concentrate is extracted is pumped to effluent evaporation ponds.

The BA process entails the assessment of the activity and the compilation of a BAR (see Section 2) for public comment. Issues and concerns raised by the public after the distribution of the Background Information Document (BID), in general inform the BAR and concerns raised on the BAR are incorporated into the report which, together with the prescribed Comment and Reponses Report, is submitted to DEDEAT for a decision. A typical Basic Assessment process is depicted in the Figure 1.

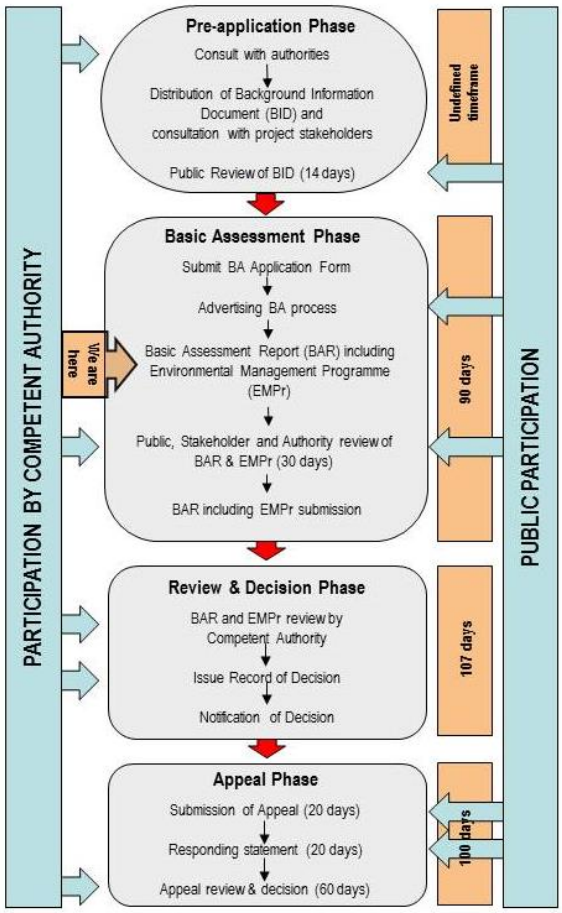

Figure 1: Typical Basic Assessment Process

1.3. Prescribed Requirements for the Basic Assessment

The BAR provides information about the proposed activity, a description of the affected environment (including ecological, land use and socio-economic aspects), a description of the process undertaken in order to consult the public on the activity, as well as a basic assessment of the potential impacts of the activity on the receiving environment.

Several appendices to the BAR are required as supporting documentation. The Appendices included in the BAR are the following:

- Appendix A - Site Plan(s);
- Appendix B - Photographs;
- Appendix C - Facility illustration(s);
- Appendix D - Specialist reports;
- Appendix E - Comments and Responses (Public Participation Process);
- Appendix F - Environmental Management Programme (EMPr)
- Appendix G - Other information;
- Appendix H - Impact Rating Procedure and Rating Table; and
- Appendix I - Integrated Environmental Authorisation and Waste Licence Application Form

This information is contained in Section 2 of the BAR.

2. Motivation for the Proposed Development

The existing plant where juice concentrate is extracted has doubled in terms of production (amount of fruit being processed) over the last few years. The plant is constantly expanding and it is estimated that production will double again sometime in the future. The effluent ponds have reached a point where an increase in capacity of the ponds is critical to sustain the current and future effluent loads. It is estimated that 9.4 mega litres of effluent is discharged to the existing evaporation ponds annually. To date, the existing ponds have been able to hold all the effluent being discharged from the plant, and with minimal maintenance. It is uncertain how long the existing ponds will be able to keep up with the increasing demand and therefore alternative ponds need to be made available.

Although the existing effluent evaporation ponds are operational, routine maintenance cannot be carried out as no alternative system to dispose of effluent is in place. The construction of additional effluent evaporation ponds is proposed to function in a duty/ standby configuration to allow for maintenance to be carried out when required.

3. Project Description

At present, effluent from the various processes is collected and pumped via a 1.7 km pipeline to the existing effluent evaporation ponds located north-east of the plant. The evaporation ponds consist of three primary ponds, a secondary pond system consisting of approximately 25 channels of varying lengths and an emergency, or tertiary pond. The ponds cover a combined area of approximately 58,000m².

The proposed evaporation ponds will be located in a shallow valley to the east of the existing ponds and will be constructed immediately downstream of the exiting Primary ponds. The proposed evaporation ponds will only consist of Secondary and Tertiary ponds as the existing Primary ponds will be utilised for both the new and proposed evaporation ponds.

Secondary ponds

The Secondary ponds will be constructed downstream of the existing Primary ponds. A clay lined effluent channel will be constructed to connect the Primary pond to the head of the new Secondary ponds. The new Secondary ponds will be similar in operation to the existing evaporation ponds and consist of a series of channels connected with overflow weirs. They will be constructed down valley with one below the other. The flow will cascade down into the channels, only flowing from one to the next when the preceding channel is full. The channel will extend almost the full width of the valley.

The channels will be constructed using a cut to fill operation with selected excavated clay material from the upstream channel being used to construct the downstream channel embankment. The in situ clay material will be ripped and compacted to form a clay liner. The channel will have a trapezoidal shape with upstream and downstream embankment slope of 1V:1H and a crest width of 1,5 m. The channel will be 2 m wide (invert) and have a maximum water depth of 1 m with a 300 mm free board. The area of the embankments above the water level will be grassed.

Effluent will flow from one channel to the next via a 1 m wide stone pitched (light stone pitching 200 mm thick in accordance with of SANS 1200 DK). The overflow velocity during peak flow rates will be less than 1m/s, thus not contributing to scouring and erosion. The Secondary ponds will have a surface area of 10,200 m².

The new Secondary ponds will be similar in operation to the existing evaporation ponds and consist of a series of channels connected with overflow weirs. They will be constructed down valley with one below the other. The flow will cascade down into the channels, only flowing from one to the next when the preceding channel is full. The channel will extend almost the full width of the valley.

Tertiary ponds

The Tertiary, or emergency pond will be constructed downstream of the Secondary ponds. If required, effluent will flow via a clay lined effluent channel from the Secondary ponds to the inlet of the Tertiary pond.

The pond will be constructed using a cut to fill operation. Selected excavated clay material will be used to construct the embankment. The in situ clay material will be ripped and compacted to form a clay liner.

The upstream and downstream slope of the embankment will be 1V:3H and have a crest width of 2 m. The height of the embankment measured from the lowest point downstream is 3 m. The upstream and downstream embankments will be grassed. The pond will have a capacity to store 2,800 m³ of effluent, which is more than one month's discharge from the plant during the peak season. This should provide sufficient storage for effluent while providing enough time to take remedial action to prevent effluent from being discharged into the downstream environment.

The Tertiary pond will have a freeboard of 500 mm and provision has been made for the controlled released of effluent in emergencies through a scour valve controlled 110 mm diameter pipeline, should this be required to protect the integrity of the pond wall

Effluent channel

The effluent channels will be lined with clay and be trapezoidal in shape. The channel will have side slopes of 1V:1H and will be a minimum of 500 mm deep. The

gradient of the channel will be limited to 10% to ensure that the maximum velocity does not exceed 2.0 m/s to prevent scouring and erosion.

Pond lining

The Hydrogeological Specialist Report concluded that the potential impact identified for the site and surrounding area is pollution of the groundwater resource by the effluent from the ponds. The pathway of effluent to the groundwater is via the clay/ an inconsistency in the clay layer, to the fractures of the fractured bedrock and the groundwater. The project engineer have designed the ponds be founded in the clay layer underlying the site. The clays are practically impermeable and, should the layer be laterally consistent, will create a barrier to prevent the effluent from seeping into the groundwater.

4. Public Consultation Process

A Public Participation Process (PPP) aimed at allowing the public to be involved in the environmental process has been carried out. IAPs were encouraged to review the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) to ensure that any comments have been accurately recorded and understood.

The PPP activities that have been conducted to date as part of this BA process are as follows:

- Putting up on-site posters of the proposed activities at the entrance of the temporary access road to the site on 28 April 2016 (see proof of placement in Appendix E2);
- Distribution of the Background Information Document (BID) from 12 May 2016 to identified Interested and Affected Parties (IAPs), surrounding landowners, authorities and stakeholders;
- Advertisements of the development in the local newspaper "Kouga Express" on 12 May 2016;
- Provision of a 32 day comment period in response to the BID, on-site posters and advertisements;
- Collation of public and IAP comments to the BID, on-site posters and adverts, (including responses thereto) and inclusion thereof in the Draft BAR;
- Distribution of a hard copy of the Draft BAR to all the relevant authorities and Joubertina Public Library for review by IAPs;
- Provision of an electronic copy of the Draft BAR to IAPs upon request;
- Distribution of the Executive Summary to all Stakeholders and IAPs registered for this process; and
- Provision of a 30 day comment period on the Draft BAR.

5. Potential Impacts

5.1. Impact Rating Methodology

The identification of potential impacts of the proposed activity was based on the following factors:

- The legal requirements;
- The nature of the proposed activity;
- The nature of the receiving environment; and
- Issues raised during the public participation process.

Potential impacts were assessed using SRK's impact assessment methodology, detail of which is provided in Appendix H of the BAR. The significance of an impact is defined and assessed as a combination of the consequence of the impact occurring (based on its extent, intensity and duration) and the probability that the impact will occur.

The impact significance rating should be considered by the competent authority in their decision-making process based on the definitions of ratings ascribed below.

- **Insignificant**: the potential impact is negligible and will not have an influence on the decision regarding the proposed activity.
- **Very Low**: the potential impact is very small and should not have any meaningful influence on the decision regarding the proposed activity.
- **Low**: the potential impact may not have any meaningful influence on the decision regarding the proposed activity.
- **Medium**: the potential impact should influence the decision regarding the proposed activity.
- **High:** the potential impact will affect a decision regarding the proposed activity.
- **Very High**: the proposed activity should only be approved under special circumstances.
- **+ve** – positive impact;
- **-ve** – negative impact

Considering these factors, the *key* environmental and social impacts identified as potentially resulting from the proposed rezoning, are summarised below. The impact significance ratings after effective implementation of key management recommendations are also included.

5.2. Construction Impacts

The following potential construction impacts were identified (note that all project alternatives obtained similar ratings expect where indicated differently):

- Impacts on Surface Water

  The proposed site is located in a drainage line within a shallow valley that dips to the north with a perennial river approximately 450 m downstream of the site.

The excavation of the pond walls might lead to increased sedimentation of the drainage line which could in turn affect other downstream aquatic resources.

The final significance rating for this impact is MEDIUM (-ve) without mitigation. If appropriate mitigation is implemented, the impact could be reduced to be VERY LOW.

- Impacts on Groundwater:

  The storage and handling of environmentally hazardous materials during the construction phase (e.g. cement, oils and fuels) has the potential to impact on surface and/or groundwater resources if not correctly managed.

  The final significance rating for this impact is LOW (-ve) without mitigation. If appropriate mitigation is implemented, the impact could be reduced to be INSIGNIFICANT.

- Clearing of Vegetation (ecological impacts):

  Clearing of vegetation on the site will result in the loss of flora and would result in the area becoming more susceptible to invasive alien plant invasion and erosion if these impacts are not mitigated.

  The final significance rating for this impact is LOW (-ve) without mitigation. If appropriate mitigation is implemented, the impact could be reduced to be INSIGNIFICANT.

- Air Quality/ Dust:

  Windblown dust from material stockpiles and excavated or cleared areas, and vehicle entrainment on dirt access roads might create a nuisance affect to surrounding farm owners during days when there are strong winds. However, there are no receptors in close proximity so it is not expected to be a significant impact.

  The final significance rating for this impact is VERY LOW (-ve) without mitigation. If appropriate mitigation is implemented, the impact could be reduced to be INSIGNIFICANT.

- Noise Disturbance:

  Construction activities will generate noise due to the operation of machinery and vehicles, potentially causing a nuisance to surrounding farm owners on days when there are strong winds, however this impact is not considered to be significant as there are no receptors in close proximity.

  The final significance rating for this impact is VERY LOW (-ve) but can be reduced to INSIGNIFICANT with mitigation.

- Waste Management:

  General construction waste will be generated during the construction period. Lack of proper management of the waste on the site may lead to dumping and wind-blown litter creating a negative visual impact as well as impacting on the surrounding natural ecosystems.

  The final significance rating for this impact is LOW (-ve) without mitigation. If appropriate mitigation is implemented, the impact could be reduced to be INSIGNIFICANT.

- Paleontological disturbance:

  According to the Heritage Screener the proposed effluent evaporation ponds are underlain by the Goudini Formation which is of low fossil significance according to the SAHRIS palaeosensitivity map. This is supported by the Eastern Cape Palaeotechnical report by Almond, De Klerk & Gess (2009). Sparse marine or estuarine fossil assemblages are recorded within the more mudrock-rich part of the succession but only in the Western Cape. Therefore no palaeontological assessments are recommended for this development. (see Appendix D); however there is still a possibility that damage or destruction to paleontological resources may occur due to earthworks and excavations during construction, should anything be found on site.

  The final significance rating for this impact is VERY LOW (-ve) without mitigation. If appropriate mitigation is implemented, the impact could be reduced to be INSIGNIFICANT.

- Archaeological disturbance:

  The proposed development could have a negative impact on the archaeological heritage remains documented and occurring below the vegetation. This includes the destruction of the possible in situ or collections of stone artefacts and/ or other associated material below ground that are not immediately visible on the surface. However, according to the specialist report, it is unlikely that the artefacts documented and those that may possibly be uncovered occur in situ. The artefacts have been graded as a having a low cultural significance.

  The final significance rating for this impact is VERY LOW (-ve) but can be reduced to INSIGNIFICANT with mitigation.

- Socio-economic:

  The development will result in the creation of temporary job opportunities for the local labour force. This will also involve transfer of skills and the improvement of the quality of life for families of individuals employed.

  The significance rating for this impact is VERY LOW (+ve) with or without mitigation.

5.3. Operational Impacts

The following potential operational impacts were identified (note that all project alternatives obtained similar ratings expect where indicated differently):

- Impacts on groundwater:

  The potential impact that was identified for the Site and surrounding area is pollution of the groundwater resource by the effluent from the ponds. The pathway of effluent to the groundwater is via the clay / an inconsistency in the clay layer, to the fractures of the fractured bedrock and the groundwater. The project engineer have designed the ponds be founded in the clay layer underlying the Site. The clays are practically impermeable and, should the layer be laterally consistent, will create a barrier to prevent the effluent from seeping into the groundwater. However, should the clay layer not be laterally present across the Site, then contaminants from the effluent may reach the groundwater.

  According to the design report, the ponds will not be deeper than 1 m bgl, and are planned to be founded in the clay material, which is practically impermeable. If the clay layer is laterally consistent / continuous (it is assumed that this is the case from the geotechnical investigation), the potential for contaminants from the ponds to reach the groundwater is regarded slim.

  The final significance rating for this impact is HIGH (-ve) if no mitigation is implemented. However, should the important mitigation measures below be complied with, the significance of the impact could be reduced to LOW (-ve).

- Impacts on Surface Water

  Stormwater berms and channels shall be constructed upstream and next to the evaporation ponds to divert stormwater runoff around the ponds. The berms shall be constructed with selected excavated clay material.

  The berm and channel will prevent stormwater runoff from entering the evaporation ponds. Due to the large volume of runoff and coupled with the fairly steep slope of the channel velocities in excess of 3.0 m/s is expected. This will lead to scouring and routine maintenance will be required to prevent erosion.

  The final significance rating for this impact is MEDIUM (-ve) if no mitigation is implemented. However, should the important mitigation measures below be complied with, the significance of the impact could be reduced to LOW.

- Impacts on Air Quality

  Air quality levels at the evaporation ponds are more or less consistent with the agricultural land use in the area. The evaporation ponds would result in odours associated with waste produced from the fermentation process of fruit concentrate. The prevalent wind direction for the area is from the southeast in November to April, and west-northwest in May to October.

  There are currently no receptors in close proximity in the downwind direction from the site. The farm and construction workers are anticipated to be the only receptors.

  The final significance rating for this impact is VERY LOW (-ve). No specific mitigation is proposed.

- Social and Economic Impact

  Upgrading the evaporation ponds will result in the farm to be more profitable, thereby increasing the labour force and transfer of skills.

  The significance rating for this impact is MEDIUM (+ve) without mitigation or enhancement measures. No specific mitigation or enhancement measures are proposed.

The Summary Impact Rating Table for the above-mentioned potential impacts is included in Table 3 below.

6. Key Management Recommendations

With effective implementation of the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) included as Appendix F of the BAR, and regular audits throughout construction to monitor and report on compliance with the conditions of the EMPr, it is anticipated that the significance of all negative potential impacts identified can be reduced to low or less.

The following key management measures are included in the EMPr for the <u>construction phase</u>:

- Clearing of vegetation should be kept to a minimum, keeping the width and length of the earth works to a minimum;
- Should a site camp be required, the office and site camp shall be established as far as is practicable from any watercourse or drainage line (with a minimum of 50 m away);
- Excavated or spoil material (including any foreign materials) as well as topsoil stockpiles should not be placed within close proximity (at least 50 m) of watercourses and should be stockpiled in a position that does not negatively alter the course of surface water flows on the site in order to reduce the possibility of material being washed downstream;
- During construction in the drainage line, suitable sediment barriers (e.g. silt fences, sandbags or hay bales) must be immediately downstream of active work areas as necessary, to trap any excessive sediments;
- Proper stormwater control measures to be implemented during the construction phase to prevent sediment, from cleared areas, flowing into watercourses downstream;

- The proper storage and handling of hazardous substances (hydrocarbons and chemicals) needs to be administered, , e.g. storage within secondary containment and on impermeable surfaces away from water resources;
- No storage or maintenance of machinery within 50 m of a watercourse;
- Appropriate solid waste management facilities must be provided on-site during construction and adequate signage be provided;
- Spill kits must be kept on site and workers must be trained on their use. Spillages should be cleaned up immediately and any contaminated soil from the construction site must be removed and disposed of at a permitted waste disposal facility;
- Washing of mechanical plant must be conducted off site. No wash water from washing of mechanical plant or equipment to be discharged to any watercourse;
- No mixing of cement should be allowed within 50 m of a watercourse;
- Drip-trays must be provided beneath standing vehicles and machinery, and routine checks should be done to ensure that these are in a good condition;
- Disturbed areas should be rehabilitated immediately after construction in the relevant area (using topsoil);
- Rehabilitated areas should be monitored and measures must be implemented to ensure that topsoil does not wash away;
- Control measures to prevent erosion of the construction footprint during rehabilitation must be implemented. As a minimum these should include scarifying the topsoil on the construction footprint in a direction that is perpendicular to the drainage line (i.e. along the contours) in order to limit sedimentation from washing into and along the drainage line;
- If sedimentation and erosion of the site is observed after construction, erosion berms are recommended to be installed and/ or sediment barriers (e.g. silt fences, sandbags or hay bales) immediately downstream of the rehabilitated areas (particularly on channel banks) as necessary, to trap any excessive sediments;
- Locate the construction site camp further than 50 m from the drainage line or any watercourse and preferably further away if possible;
- The proper storage and handling of hazardous substances (hydrocarbons and chemicals) needs to be administered, e.g. storage within secondary containment and on impermeable surfaces away from water resources;
- No storage or maintenance of machinery within 50 m of a watercourse;
- Appropriate solid waste management facilities must be provided on-site during construction and adequate signage be provided;
- Spill kits must be kept on site and workers must be trained on their use. Spillages should be cleaned up immediately and any contaminated soil from the construction site must be removed and disposed of at a permitted waste disposal facility;
- Washing of mechanical plant must be conducted off site. No wash water from washing of mechanical plant or equipment to be discharged to any watercourse;
- No mixing of cement should be allowed within 50 m of a watercourse;
- Drip-trays must be provided beneath standing vehicles and machinery, and routine checks should be done to ensure that these are in a good condition;
- Clearing of vegetation should be kept to a minimum, keeping the width and length of the earth works to a minimum;
- The development footprint should be clearly demarcated prior to construction and not construction activities should be allowed outside the demarcated area;
- The position of the construction site camp should be chosen in consultation with the ECO and should preferably be on an already disturbed area;
- Permits to remove protected plant species should be obtained from the Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism;
- Ensure invasive alien plants are regularly removed and appropriately disposed of;
- It is recommended that clearing activities during the construction phase be monitored by an ECO at least twice a month;
- Clear vegetation in a phased manner to allow fauna to move off-site (if any);
- Walk through the site ahead of clearing to remove any small fauna that may be unable to escape (e.g. tortoises) and place these safely in adjacent undisturbed areas. If necessary, a professional should be contracted (e.g. for removal and relocation of snakes);
- Clearing of vegetation should be kept to a minimum, keeping the width and length of the earth works to a minimum;
- Dust suppression by wetting and/ or covering of stockpiles etc.;

- Limit vehicle speeds for all vehicles on the site;
- Construction should be limited to normal working hours as per the of the Environmental Conservation Act (Act 73 of 1989);
- All waste generated on site shall be collected and appropriately disposed of at a registered municipal landfill site;
- No on-site burning, burying or dumping of any waste materials, litter or refuse shall occur;
- Weekly litter inspections should be conducted and general housekeeping maintained;
- Hazardous waste (if applicable) should be disposed of at a registered hazardous landfill facility and proof of correct disposal should be obtained;
- Cleared alien vegetation should be disposed of so that it does not re-establish on site;
- All staff shall be trained on correct waste management;
- Records of disposal of all waste generated on site shall be maintained for auditing purposes;
- All workers on site should be informed of the types of paleontological resources that may be found and the correct procedure to follow should any paleontological resources be found;
- Should fossil remains be discovered during construction, these should be safeguarded (preferably in situ) and the ECO should alert the Eastern Cape Provincial Heritage Resources Authority (ECPHRA. Contact details: Mr Sello Mokhanya, 74 Alexander Road, King Williams Town 5600; Email: smokhanya@ecphra.org.zaso) so that appropriate mitigation (e.g. recording, sampling or collection) can be taken by a professional palaeontologist;
- If concentrations pre-colonial archaeological heritage material and/ or human remains (including graves and burials) are uncovered during construction, all work must cease immediately and be reported to the Albany Museum (Tel: 046 622 2312) and/or the Eastern Cape Provincial Heritage Resources Agency (ECPHRA) (Tel: 043 745 0888) so that systematic and professional investigation/excavation can be undertaken. Phase 2 mitigation in the form of test-pitting/sampling or systematic excavations and collections of the pre-colonial shell middens and associated artefacts will then be conducted to establish the contextual status of the sites and possibly remove the archaeological deposit before development activities continue;
- A person must be trained as a site monitor to report any archaeological sites found during the development. Construction managers/ foremen and/ or the Environmental Control Officer (ECO) should be informed before construction starts on the possible types of heritage sites and cultural material they may encounter and the procedures to follow when they find sites; and
- Local contractors and labour should be considered for the construction phase.

7. The Way Forward

The public participation process has given IAPs the opportunity to assist with identification of issues and potential impacts and provides an additional opportunity to gauge 'public acceptance' of the proposed project. The Draft BAR is being released to IAPs, stakeholders & the relevant organs of state for a 30 day review period as per the requirements of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations.

This Executive Summary has been distributed to all registered IAPs. Electronic copies of the full Draft BAR will be made available to IAPs on request, and a full hard copy of the Draft BAR is available for public review in the Joubertina Public Library. Should any issues be raised, these will be addressed in the Final Basic Assessment Report.

The public are encouraged to review the Draft BAR and send written comment by **12h00 on 7 November 2016 to:**

Wanda Marais
SRK Consulting
PO Box 21842, Port Elizabeth, 6000
Email: wmarais@srk.co.za
Fax: (041) 509 4850

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Table 1: Summary of issues raised by Interested and Affected Parties (IAPs) in response to the BID

1. Mr M. Maneli (Department of Water and Sanitation) on 26 February 2016:

- The proposed activity of disposal of wastewater from the fruit processing plant into the evaporation dams will constitute water use activity (Section 21g) as in accordance with Section 40 of the National Water act, 1998;
- An application must be lodged with the Department to have such an activity authorised by providing various documents; and
- You must liaise with the department for pre-application consultation meeting on the water use(s) triggered by the proposed activity.

See a complete list of issues raised in the Comments and Responses Tables in Appendix E3 of the Draft BAR.

Table 2: Summary of responses from the practitioner and applicant to the issues raised by the IAPs

1. A pre-application site meeting was held with officials of DWS to determine the site-specific requirements for the WULA (see minutes of the meeting included in Appendix G). As soon as all the information is available, SRK will submit the required Water Use License Application forms.

See the complete list of responses to issues raised in the Comments and Responses Table in Appendix E3.

Table 3: Summary Impact Rating Table

Alternative A (preferred alternative): Summary Impact Rating Table

IMPACT	CONSTRUCTION				OPERATION				NO-GO	
	WITHOUT MITIGATION		WITH MITIGATION		WITHOUT MITIGATION		WITH MITIGATION			
Impacts on Surface Water	MEDIUM	- ve	VERY LOW	- ve	MEDIUM	-ve	LOW	-ve	MEDIUM	-ve
Impacts on Groundwater	LOW	- ve	INSIGNIFICANT	- ve	HIGH	- ve	LOW	- ve	MEDUM	-ve
Ecological Impacts	LOW	- ve	INSIGNIFICANT	- ve	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Air Quality/ Dust	VERY LOW	- ve	INSIGNIFICANT	- ve	VERY LOW	-ve	VERY LOW	-ve	N/A	N/A
Noise Disturbance	VERY LOW	- ve	INSIGNIFICANT	- ve	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Waste management	LOW	- ve	INSIGNIFICANT	- ve	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Paleontological disturbance	VERY LOW	- ve	INSIGNIFICANT	- ve	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Archaeological disturbance	VERY LOW	- ve	INSIGNIFICANT	- ve	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Socio- Economic	VERY LOW	+ ve	VERY LOW	+ ve	MEDIUM	+ ve	MEDIUM	+ve	MEDIUM	-ve

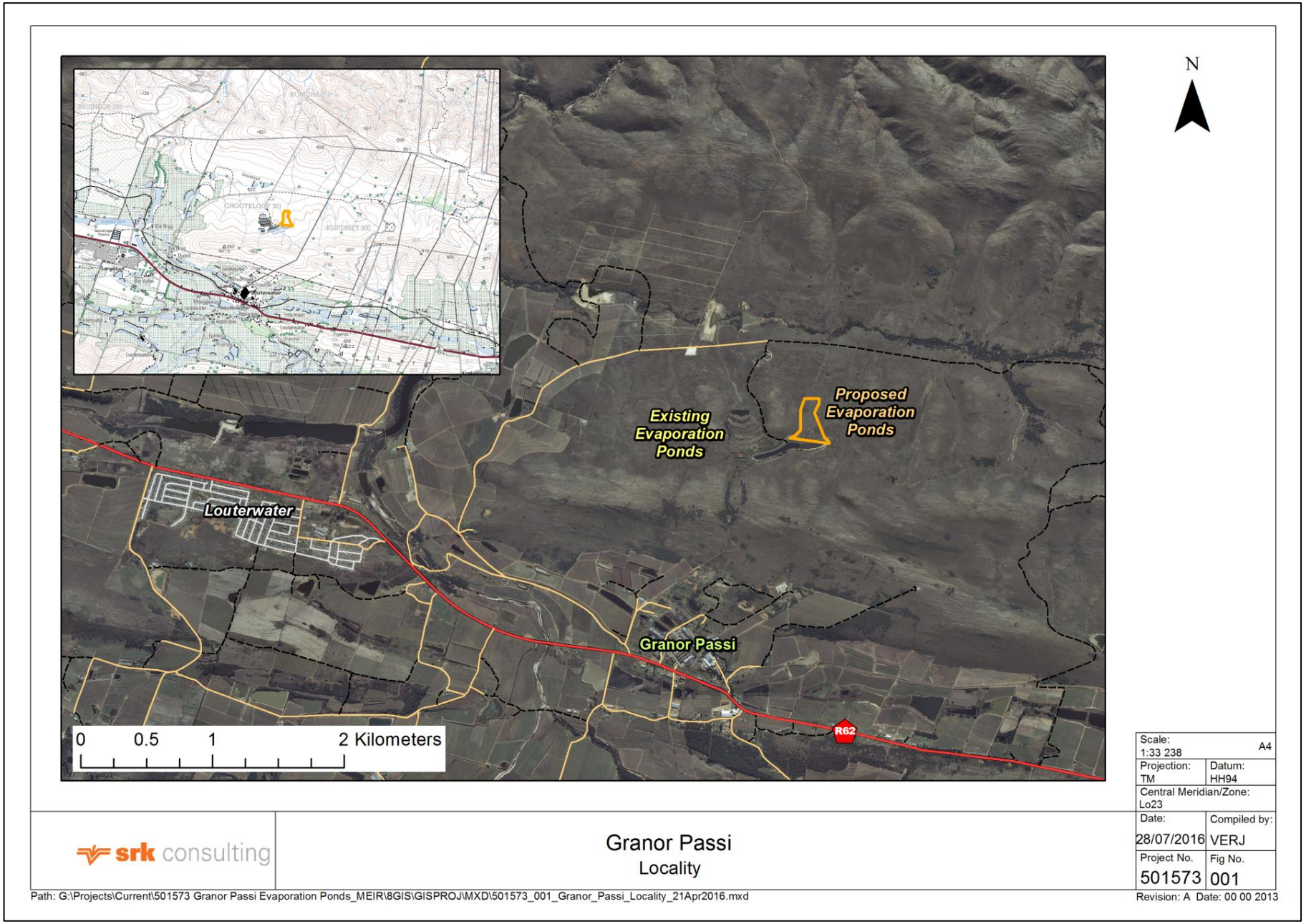

Figure 2: Site Locality Plan