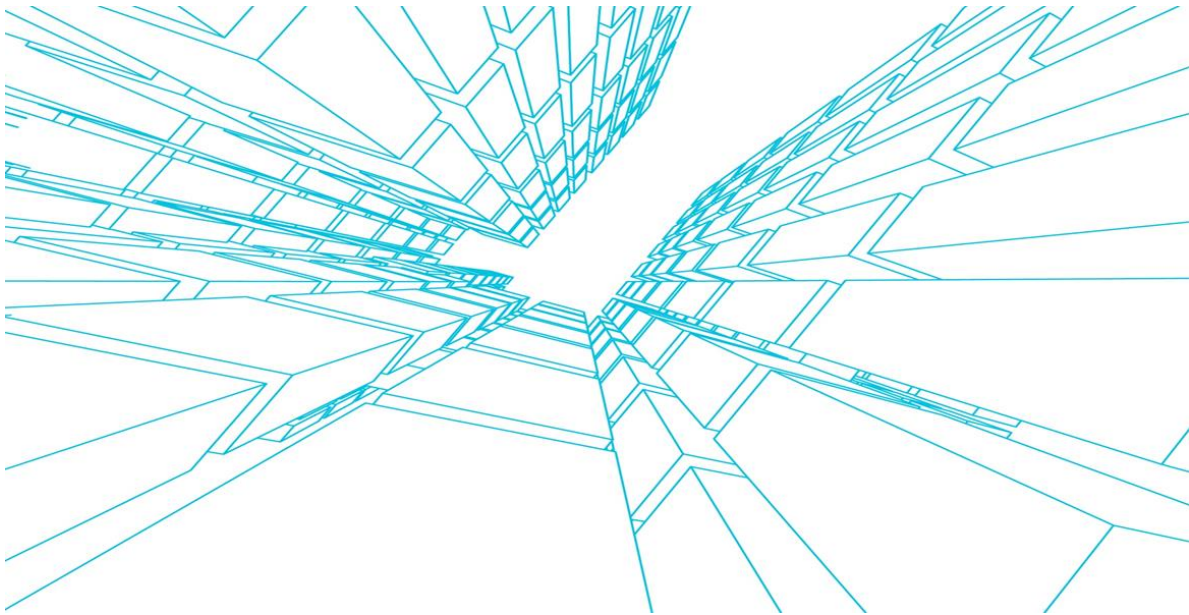


# **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION REPORT**

## **ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESS FOR THE WASTE LICENCE APPLICATION FOR THE RIEMVASMAAK WASTE DISPOSAL FACILITY IN THE NORTHERN CAPE**

**NOVEMBER 2015**



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- A:** Copy of the Site Notice
- B:** Photographs of the Site Notices

**Appendix 5: Background Information Document**

**Appendix 6: Comments and Responses Report**

**Appendix 7: Copies of comments received**

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## ABBREVIATIONS

BA	Basic Assessment
BID	Background Information Document
CRR	Comments and Responses Report
DEA	Department of Environmental Affairs
DENC	Northern Cape Provincial Department of Environment and Nature Conservation
DWS	Department of Water & Sanitation
EA	Environmental Authorisation
EAP	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
EI	Environmental Impact
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EMPr	Environmental Management Programme
GNR	Government Notice Regulations
I&AP	Interested and Affected Parties
WDF	Waste Disposal Facility
WML	Waste Management License
NEMA	National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998)
NEM: WA	National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008)
PPP	Public Participation Process

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# 1. INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Background

The Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) has appointed Sustainable Environmental Solutions (Pty) Ltd (SE Solutions) and AECOM SA (Pty) Ltd to prepare the necessary application to license the existing un-licensed Riemvasmaak waste disposal facility (WDF). The Riemvasmaak WDF is located within the Khai Garib Local Municipal, in the Northern Cape. In order to obtain a Waste Management License (WML) for the closure of the landfill from the Northern Cape Provincial Department of Environment and Nature Conservation (DENC), a Basic Assessment (BA) process is to be conducted.

The BA process is undertaken in compliance with the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008) as amended (NEMWA). The application form has been submitted to the DENC.

The Public Participation Process (PPP) is an integral part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process. The main objectives of a PPP are to:

- Inform Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) and provide background and technical information about the proposed development and the environmental assessment process;
- Create networks and feedback mechanisms whereby I&APs can participate and raise their viewpoints (issues, comments and concerns) with regards to the proposed development and associated activities; and
- Ensure that the views of the I&APs are reflected and considered by the Applicant and the Competent Authority.

## 1.2 Aim of the Report

The aim of this report is to:

- Describe the PPP conducted thus far;
  - Present the register of registered I&APs;
  - Provide a list of comments raised to date; and
  - Outline the way ahead.
-

## 2. THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

The objectives of Public Participation in an environmental process are to provide sufficient and accessible information to stakeholders in an objective manner to assist them to:

- Raise issues of concern and suggestions for enhanced benefits;
- Verify that their issues have been recorded and considered in the environmental investigations;
- Assist in commenting on feasible alternatives;
- Contribute relevant local information and knowledge to the environmental assessment; and
- Comment on the findings of the environmental assessment.

### 2.1 Approach

The approach towards any PPP is dependent on the details of the project. Each project has a particular geographic and technical nature, and hence the PPP should be structured accordingly. Where possible, and within the required statutory frameworks, it is also desirable to structure such a process to address the process needs of I&APs.

#### 2.1.1 Identification and Registration of I&APs

At the time of compiling this report, the database contained 50 stakeholders across a range of sectors and spheres of government, including:

- National Government;
- Provincial Government;
- Local Government;
- Landowners;
- Agriculture;
- Business and Industry (mining and commercial); and
- Environmental groups.

AECOM made an effort to ensure that individuals and/or organisations were identified from an institutional as well as a geographical point of view. Note that the I&AP database reflects all stakeholders for the project as a whole (i.e. for all allocated landfills to be licensed within the Northern Cape and North-West).

**Refer to Appendix 1 for the I&AP Register.**

#### 2.1.2 Announcement of the Proposed Project

Various mechanisms were used to create public awareness of the proposed WML application for the existing WDF. An opportunity to participate in the EIA process and to register as an I&AP was announced between **09 – 11 September 2015**

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### 2.1.2.1 Media

Newspaper advertisements notifying the public about the environmental application and opportunities to participate in the EIA process for the proposed WML application for the existing Riemvasmaak WDF were placed in the following newspapers:

**Table 2-1: Project Announcement Newspaper advertisements**

PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENT			
Newspaper	Distribution	Language	Date
DF Advertiser	Regional	English	11 September 2015
Gemsbok	Local	English	11 September 2015

Additional newspaper advertisement notifying the public of the amendments to the application was placed with the following newspaper. The waste management application was for operation initially and later changed to closure.

AMENDED PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENT			
Newspaper	Distribution	Language	Date
DF Advertiser	Regional	English	18 September 2015
Gemsbok	Local	English	25 September 2015

**Copies of the Newspaper Advertisements are included in Appendix 2.**

### 2.1.2.2 Notification Letter

A notification letter, including an invitation to participate was distributed via e-mail on **09 September 2015** to identified I&APs announcing the project and the opportunities for participation.

An additional notification letter advertisement notifying registered Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) of the amendments to the application was distributed via e-mail on the **11 September 2015**. The WML application was for operation initially and later changed to closure

**A copy of the notification letter is provided in Appendix 3.**

### 2.1.2.3 On-site Notices

Three (3) A2-sized site notices were erected at various public places in the project area on **19 October 2015**. The On-site notices were written in English and were placed at the following places around the affected area:

**Table 2-2: Site Notice Locations**



Site Notice No.	Location
1	Riemvasmaak WDF Entrance, Riemvasmaak
2	Riemvasmaak Mini Market, Riemvasmaak
3	Kai Garib Local Municipality Notice Board, Riemvasmaak

**A copy and photographs of the site notices are provided in Appendix 4.**

### 2.1.3 Dissemination of Information

Information was disseminated to registered I&APs primarily by means of a Background Information Document (BID) and Notification letters. Issues raised and comments received from I&APs will be integrated into the draft BA Report.

#### 2.1.3.1 *Background Information Document*

The BID has been useful in providing background information to the public on the proposed waste licence application for the existing Riemvasmaak WDF. Furthermore, it provided information on the processes that have been followed and the contact details of the PPP Consultant. The BID was distributed to all registered I&APs.

**A copy of the BID is provided in Appendix 5.**

## 2.2 Draft Basic Assessment Report Review Period

The draft BA Report will be available for a thirty (30) calendar day review period to registered I&APs from **13 November 2015** to **14 December 2015** (excluding public holidays). The draft BA Report will be available at the following venues.

Table 2-3: Venues for draft Basic Assessment Report.

Venue	Address
Riemvasmaak Public Library	Kai Garib Local Municipality Offices, Riemvasmaak

Please note that the above-mentioned reports can also be downloaded from this website [www.deawaste2015.co.za](http://www.deawaste2015.co.za).

**Refer to Appendix 3 for a copy of the notification letter.**

## 2.3 Comment and Response Report

All issues and concerns raised by I&APs during the EIA process, will be recorded and responded to on the Comments and Responses Report (CRR) which will form part of the final BA Report.

**Refer to Appendix 6 for the CRR and Appendix 7 for Copies of comments received from I&APs.**

## **2.4 Final Basic Assessment Report and WML**

Once the review period on the draft BAR has concluded, the report will be updated to a final BAR together with the CRR. The final BAR will then be submitted to the DENC for review towards Environmental Authorisation (i.e. issuing the WML). Once the WML has been issued, all registered I&APs will be notified of the decision and the appeals process.

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### 3. CONCLUSION

Based on the inputs received during the PPP conducted thus far, the following conclusions can be made:

- The PPP process complies with the regulatory requirements;
  - Issues and concerns were identified in order to feed into the EIA process; and
  - Communication with the I&APs, especially the communities surrounding the site, should continue. This is to ensure informed decision-making and a clear process throughout.
-

## **4. Appendices**

### **4.1 APPENDIX 1: I&APs REGISTER**

## **4.2 APPENDIX 2: COPIES OF NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENTS**

**DF Advertiser:** 11 September 2015

**Gemsbok:** 11 September 2015

**DF Advertiser:** 18 September 2015

**Gemsbok:** 25 September 2015

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### **4.3 APPENDIX 3: EXAMPLES OF NOTIFICATION LETTERS**

Announcement of the Project

Amended announcement of the Project

BID and Comment Sheet Notification Letter

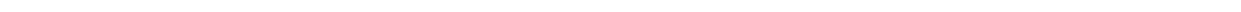
Proof of Notification Letters

#### **4.4 APPENDIX 4: COPY AND PHOTOGRAPHS FOR THE SITE NOTICES**

A Copy of the Site Notice

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## Photographs of the Site Notices





## **4.5 APPENDIX 5: BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT**

## **4.6 APPENDIX 6: COMMENTS AND RESPONSE REPORT**

No comments received to date.

## **4.7 APPENDIX 7: COPIES OF COMMENTS RECEIVED**

No comments received to date.