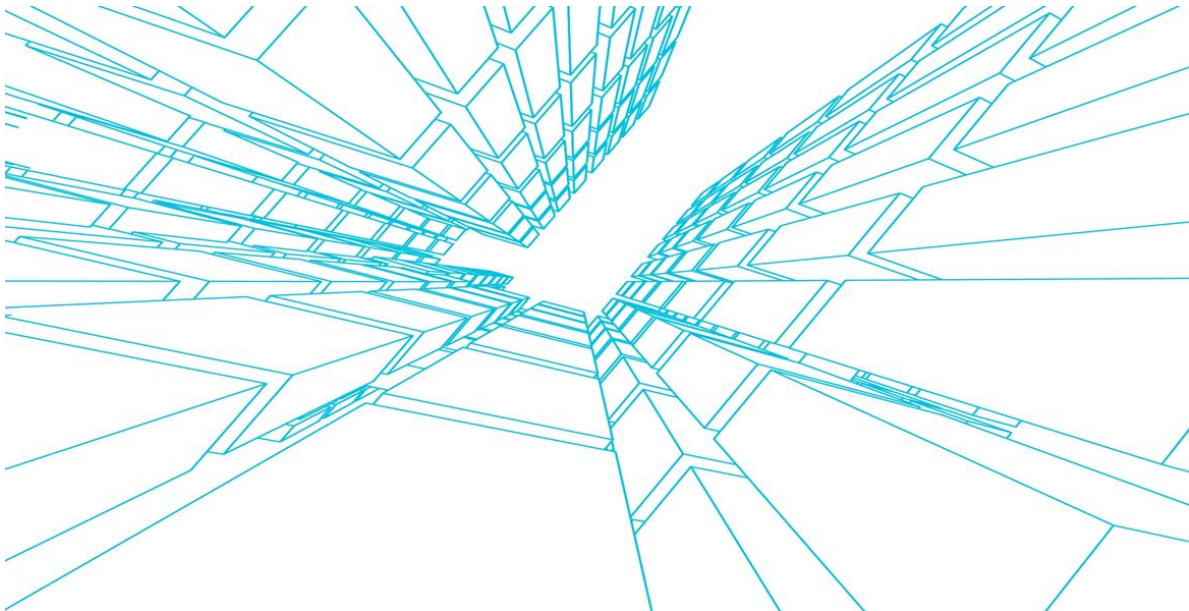


PUBLIC PARTICIPATION REPORT

ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESS FOR THE WASTE LICENCE APPLICATION FOR THE VREDESVALLEI WASTE DISPOSAL FACILITY IN THE NORTHERN CAPE

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A: Announcement of the project

Appendix 4: A copy and photographs of the Site Notice

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

ABBREVIATIONS

BA	Basic Assessment
BID	Background Information Document
CRR	Comments and Responses Report
DEA	Department of Environmental Affairs
DENC	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&APs	Interested and Affected Parties
WDF	Waste Disposal Facility
WML	Waste Management License
NEMA	National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998)
NEMWA	National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008)
PPP	Public Participation Process

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 Vredevallei waste disposal facility (WDF). The Vredesvallei 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), an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process is to be conducted.

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

The Public Participation Process (PPP) is an integral part of the 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, North-West provinces).

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 Vredesvallei WDF. An opportunity to participate in the EIA process and to register as an I&AP was announced between 09 - 11 **September 2015**.

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 Vredevallei 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

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 email on **09 September 2015** to identified I&APs announcing the project and the opportunities for participation.

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	Fence of the Vredevallei WDF
2	Kai Garib Local Municipality Notice Board, Vredevallei
3	Upington Mini Market

Copies 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
Vredevallei Public Library	317 Madiba Weg, Vredevallei

Please note that the above-mentioned reports can also be downloaded from this website 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 BA process, will be recorded and responded too in 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.

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

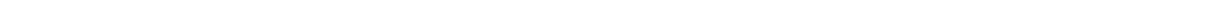
DF Advertiser: 18 September 2015

Gemsbok: 25 September 2015

4.3 APPENDIX 3: EXAMPLES OF NOTIFICATION LETTERS

Announcement of the Project

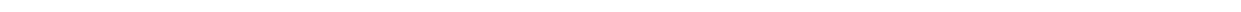
BID and Comment Sheet Notification



4.4 APPENDIX 4: COPY AND PHOTOGRAPHS FOR THE SITE NOTICES

A Copy of the Site Notice

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.
