



# GA Environment

## DRAFT COMMENTS AND RESPONSES REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DECOMMISSIONING (CLOSURE) OF THE EMADLANGENI LANDFILL, EMADLANGENI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, KWAZULU NATAL PROVINCE

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

This Comments and Responses Report (CRR) captures the comments and issues raised by Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) during the Notification phase of the Basic Assessment Process for the decommissioning of the Emadlangeni landfill. The necessity for the CRR as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment process is based on Regulation 44 of the National Environmental Management Act's (NEMA) Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 (as amended). The comments have been categorised to allow for easy reference(I&APs). A summary of the Public Participation Process undertaken for the project is as follows:

- Publication of a media advertisement in the local newspaper, Newcastle Advertiser Newspaper of 20 October 2017;
- On-site notices advertising the Waste Management Licence Process were erected on site and at visible and accessible locations close to the site on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2017;
- Notification Letters were distributed in the Utrecht Area on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2017. Notification Letters were also distributed by e-mail to other potential I&AP's from the 18<sup>th</sup> October 2017 to date. It must be noted that the comments received during the distribution of the Notification Letters were provided in isiZulu. These were translated into English and captured in this Comments and Responses Report.

The Draft BAR will be availed for public review and will be placed at the Utecht Public Library in Emadlangeni. Copies of the report will also be provided to the KwaZulu Natal Department of Environmental Development, Tourism and Environment Affairs (EDTEA) as the Competent Authority, the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) as the client, the Emadlangeni Local Municipality as the applicant, the Department of Water and Sanitation as well as any other additional parties who will express an interest in the acquisition of the report.

It must be highlighted that comments obtained during the inception meeting between the EAP and other Stakeholders are attached in **Appendix E6** of the Draft Basic Assessment Report. **Table 1** indicates the name of the I&AP, their organisation, the date of the receipt of the comments as well as the response of the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to the comment. **This report contains all comments that have been received to date**

## 2. COMMENTS AND RESPONSES

Table 1: Comments and responses for the proposed closure of the Emadlangeni Landfill

NO	TITLE	NAME	SURNAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF RECEIPT OF COMMENT	COMMUNICATION METHOD	COMMENT	RESPONSE
<b>2.1 Issues related to Soil Erosion</b>								
2.1.1	Mr	Hein	Gerber	Balele Game Park	16.10.2017	Face to face communication during the distribution of the Notification Letters on the 16.10.2017	Garden refuse and building rubble to be dumped at old dumping site to assist with prevention of erosion.	The comment is noted and the recommendation will be included in the draft BAR and EMPr
<b>2.1 Issues related to management of landfill</b>								
2.1.2	Mr	Jackson	Maepa	Amajuba District Municipality	As above	As above	The landfill closure project will ensure effective management of the area and a cleaner environment.	The comment is noted
<b>2.1 Issues related to Air Quality</b>								
2.1.3	Mr	A	Falgulis	Adjacent Land Owner	As above	As above	The site is full of methane gas and sets alight often leading to fires and smoke being blown towards houses by the prevailing wind.	The comment is noted and it is envisaged that the proposed closure will address air quality issues permanently.

NO	TITLE	NAME	SURNAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF RECEIPT OF COMMENT	COMMUNICATION METHOD	COMMENT	RESPONSE
2.1.4	Ms	M	Coetzer	Adjacent Land Owner	As above	As above	The landfill must be closed as it causes smoke.	The comment is noted and it is envisaged that the proposed closure will address air quality issues permanently.

### 3. SUMMARY OF KEY COMMENTS AND ISSUES RECEIVED TO DATE

The comments received to date were limited to the air quality issues caused by spontaneous burning taking place at the landfill. Most of the adjacent land owners consulted had no comments regarding the proposed activity.

#### 3.1. Issues related to Air quality

The majority of issues brought forward by the adjacent landowners consulted were related to the impact on human health due to the smoke emanating from the landfill. Residents complained about respiratory diseases caused by smoke which emanates from the landfill daily and wind-blown by a prevailing wind towards the residents houses.

This issue will be permanently addressed by the formal closure of the landfill.

### 4. CONCLUSION

This Comments and Responses report includes the comments and responses received during the Notification of the Closure of the Emadlangeni Landfill. The comments received were mainly related to the air quality issues affecting adjacent land owners.

It is anticipated that additional comments will be obtained subsequent to the review of the Draft Basic Assessment Report. These will be captured in the Comments and Responses Report that will form part of the Final Basic Assessment that will be submitted to the KwaZulu Natal Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs.