

Record and Response to the Site Meeting was held on the 30th of July 2014

Proposed development on the Remaining Extent of Portion 14 of the Farm Roodepoort 237 IQ

Record of the Meeting

A site meeting was held on the 30th of July 2014 to discuss the application for environmental authorisation for the proposed development on the Remaining Extent of Portion 14 of the Farm Roodepoort 237 IQ. The site, known as “Spitz Land”. The meeting was attended by:

1. Mr Joshua Mahada, Environmental Officer – Specialised Production, Directorate: Impact Management (Environment), Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
2. Mr Eric Mulibana, Environmental Officer, Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
3. Ms Rina Taviv, Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
4. Mr Modise Makwela, Mr Freddy Letsoko, Mr Mashudu Ratshitanga from the City of Johannesburg Metropolitan Municipality
5. Ms Kerry Buchanan, Marsh Environmental Services
6. Ms Lizelle Prosch, Marsh Environmental Services

In accordance with the comments and discussions held on Wednesday 30 July 2014; the following notes serve to summarise the issues and concerns raised by both the Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development and the City of Johannesburg Metropolitan Municipality.

Mine Residue Deposits

1. Both the Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development and the City of Johannesburg Metropolitan Municipality expressed their concerns regarding public / community health and safety impacts which may result from the existing mine residue deposits. The dumps (outlined on yellow) are indicated on the drawing below for ease of reference. Note that the outline is an approximation and is not based on surveyed coordinates.



Figure 1: Location of Mine Residue Deposits: Spitz Land

2. Specific concerns raised by the government representatives regarding the mine residue deposits include:
 - a. Structural safety considerations (stability);
 - b. Dust emissions which may emanate from these deposits during windy conditions;
 - c. The dispersion of contaminated residue material resulting from inadequate stormwater management in turn resulting in the wider contamination of the land and specifically watercourses.
3. The Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development expressed their concern that the toxicity of the residue material has not been determined and the risks can therefore not be effectively management.
4. The Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development stated that the removal of the deposits are regarded as the only feasible mitigation measure though the complete rehabilitation of the mine residue deposits may effectively mitigate risks. Due consideration will be given to proposed management and mitigation strategies as part of decision making.
5. It was therefore concluded that the mitigation measure included in the Environmental Management Programme, which required management of the mine residue deposits in accordance with the relevant legislation, is not sufficient. It is the opinion of the Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development that legal compliance and the effective implementation of the required measures are rarely implemented.

Storm Water Management

1. Representatives from the City of Johannesburg Metropolitan Municipality indicated that the effective management of storm water flows seems unlikely. Storm water flow from the existing Sol Plaatjes township must be taken into consideration.

Response

Mine Residue Deposits

It is recognised that both the Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development and the City of Johannesburg Metropolitan Municipality, based on previous experience, do not regard a general commitment related to the management of mine residue deposits as adequate. It is further understood that the Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development is also unlikely to favourably consider a conditional authorisation.

It is recommended that the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development provide the applicant with an opportunity to provide additional information regarding the possible removal and / or rehabilitation of the mine residue deposits. This will include additional assessment as it relates to air quality impacts and the toxicity of the mine residue material. The findings of these assessment will inform the extent of mitigation required and enable decision-making in terms of which conditions regarding the mine residue deposits will not be required.

It is anticipated that this information will be available within 90 days from the date of this report.

Storm Water Management

Based on the information contained in the Storm Water Management Report prepared by WSP, storm water can be managed in accordance with the municipal requirements. A detailed storm water management plan must however be developed and submitted for review by the City of Johannesburg Metropolitan Municipality as part of development application. As part of the include storm water management from Sol Plaatjes.