

Meeting Notes

To: Robyn Luyt At: Mpumalanga DARDLEA

From: Amishka Mothilal At: SLR (South Africa) – Durban

Date: 07 December 2020 Ref: 720.14048.00006

Subject: Rocky Drift WWTW – Pre-application Meeting

Attendees: Robyn Luyt (RL); Theo Wicks (TW) and Amishka Mothilal (AM)

No.	Subject	Action	Action
1	Welcome and Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Theo Wicks (TW) welcomed attendees. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
2	Project Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TW provided a historical overview of the project. TW provided google earth imagery of the proposed project, outlining the locality and proximity to the catchment and settlements. The project applicant is the City of Mbombela Municipality (COMM). It was initially proposed in 2017, however, was postponed due to financial constraints. The project is currently a joint funding venture between the Department of Water Affairs and the COMM. The project is in respect of an expansion and upgrade of the existing Rocky Drift Wastewater Treatment Works (WWTW) and extension of a gravity main pipeline to link the existing WWTW to the Phumlani and Msholzi settlements. The project will occur through as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expansion/Construction of new WWTW - the existing infrastructure will remain operational through the construction phase. Upgrade of the existing WWTW infrastructure – The new infrastructure will be operational prior to upgrading of the existing infrastructure. The water treatment capacity of the site is currently less than 2 Megalitres (ML), the proposed upgrades and expansion will allow the treatment capacity to increase to 5ML. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RL to provide SLR with a copy of the existing ROD



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No.	Subject	Action	Action
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed project requires environmental authorisation (EA) through a basic assessment (BA) process. The project will also require a water-use licence application (WULA). • Robyn Luyt (RL) indicated that the site has an existing authorisation and that a record of decision (ROD) was issued to Halls and Son in 2009. • The existing ROD was issued in terms of the 2006 National Environmental Management Act, Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. • RL will provide SLR with a copy of the existing ROD. 	
3	Public Participation Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No public participation plan is required for the project. • TW requested details of suggested municipal interested and affected parties (I&APs). • RL indicated that the Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks department and the Sonae Novobord forum should be included. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RL to provide contact details of the Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks department and the Sonae Novobord
4	Specialist Studies Undertaken	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The following specialist studies have been undertaken <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Heritage Impact Assessment ○ Floodline Delineation Study ○ Terrestrial Ecology Study ○ Aquatic Ecology Assessment • Groundwater and surface water studies will be undertaken for the WULA. • RL indicated that she will provide SLR with the contact details of the EAP and specialists that worked on the EA amendment project. • RL indicated that the proposed site area may have endemic Aloe simii present. RL will provide SLR the contact details of Anthony Emery who is an expert on the species. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RL to provide SLR with the contact details of the EAP and specialists.
5	Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project may require the ROD to be split and an amendment application as well as a basic assessment process to be undertaken. This will be confirmed in a subsequent meeting scheduled for 19 January 2021 at 09.00 am. • RL indicated that she will liaise with the DARDLEA compliance department regarding compliance reports for the site. • TW provided an overview of the potential listed activities. These will be confirmed once the application process is clarified in January 2021. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SLR to send a meeting request. • RL to provide feedback on the site compliance with the ROD.