

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF MIDDELBURG DAM PRECINCT PLAN, STEVE TSHWETE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE

Background Information

Steve Tshwete Local Municipality is proposing the development of the Middelburg Dam Precinct Plan which currently includes the following proposed land use activities:

- Lodges and/ or accommodation;
- Conferencing facilities;
- Caravan park;
- Mini golf course and/or country estate.

This development will require the clearance of approximately 18.7 hectares of vegetation on a portion of portion 87 of the farm Rondebosch 403-JS. In accordance with the National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998, GNR 983 of 2014 (as amended in 2017), an Environmental Authorisation (EA) is required before any clearance activities can take place.

Core Environmental Services was appointed to apply for the EA by means of conducting a Basic Environmental Authorisation process as regulated within General Notice Regulation 982, 2014 (as amended in 2017).

Location of the activity

The proposed site is located on a portion of portion 87 of the farm Rondebosch 403-JS, approximately 10km East of Middelburg, within the Steve Tshwete Local Municipality, Mpumalanga Province.

Coordinates:

25° 46'17.45"S

29° 33'05.07"E

Legal Requirements

As per the National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998 (NEMA 107, 1998), GNR 983 and GNR 985 of 2014 (as amended in 2017), the following listed activity is being applied for:

GNR 983, Activity 27:

The clearance of an area of 1 hectare or more, but less than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation, except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for –

- The undertaking of a linear activity; or*

Maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.

Basic Environmental Impact Assessment Process

A Basic Environmental Impact Assessment is a process used to assess the negative and positive consequences of the proposed activities on the immediate and surrounding environment and propose recommendations to enhance positive impacts and reduce negative impacts.

The BA Environmental process will include:

- a) Stakeholder engagement;
- b) Environmental assessment of current site conditions;
- c) A description of the activities proposed;
- d) Description of the environment that will be affected;
- e) Description of need and desirability of the activities;
- f) Identification of possible alternatives; and
- g) Description and assessment of the significance of environmental impacts.

Consideration of comments received from various authorities, stakeholders and Interested and Affected Parties, forms an intrinsic part of this process. Authority decision-making and a public appeal opportunity will occur after the submission of the final Basic Assessment Report to MDARDLEA.

Public Participation Process (PPP)

During the public participation phase, consultation with the following parties will take place:

- Relevant authorities at various levels;
- Relevant stakeholders;
- The proponent; and
- The public at large.

The following activities will take place as part of public participation:

- Advertising: On-site and in a local newspaper;
- Supplying people with an opportunity to comment and register as interested and affected parties; and
- The Draft Basic Assessment Environmental Report will be made available for public review. I&APs will be notified when the document will be available for review and will then have a 30-day opportunity to comment on it, prior to submission to the MDARDLEA for consideration.

COMMENT AND REGISTRATION SHEET

PUBLIC CONSULTATION PROCESS FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESS CONDUCTED FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF MIDDELBURG DAM PRECINCT PLAN, STEVE TSHWETE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE

If you would like to register as an Interested and Affected Party for the project and you would like to receive all documentation that will be made available for public review, and/or should you have any comments, please complete the registration form and send it to the address as indicated at the end of the page.

Name: _____ Owner/Lessee: _____

Tel: _____ Cell: _____

E-mail: _____

Residential Address: _____

COMMENTS;

Return to:

Core Environmental Services

Cell: 060 878 1591

Email: edmari@coreenviro.co.za

Locality Map