

## Background Information Document

Proposed construction of low-cost housing on ERVEN 563, 564 and 698 in Coligny within Ditsobotla Local Municipality in the Northwest Province

4<sup>th</sup> of April 2022

### Appointed Environmental Assessment Practitioner:

GKM Consulting PTY LTD is a fully registered consulting company that specializes in conducting environmental, water and earth science impact assessments. GKM Consulting provides a team of registered, qualified professionals on all their projects to undertake the required assessment in line with promulgated regulation.

### Invitation to Comment:

You are invited to comment on the above-mentioned proposed development. Please send your comments to:

Contact Person: Grace Magaya  
Registered EAP  
Mobile: +27 81 494 1611  
Email: [grace@gkmenvironmental.co.za](mailto:grace@gkmenvironmental.co.za)

Postal Address 74 Third Street  
Northmead  
Benoni, 1501

**Documents for review will be made available at a local library or an electronic copy can be emailed to you at your request.**



## **INTRODUCTION:**

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The purpose of this Background Information Document (BID) is to provide all Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) with information in respect of the applications for an Environmental Authorisation, Water Use Licence and Heritage permit.

In addition, the BID aims to:

- Introduce and explain the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process, as well as other related parallel environmental processes.
- Introduce and explain how I&APs can participate in the process as prescribed by the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA).
- Invite all I&APs to comment on:
  - The potential for negative and positive biophysical and socio-economic impacts of the project, as well as any other issues of concern,
  - The proposed public participation and environmental assessment process, and
  - Any other comments or suggestions which might be of relevance.

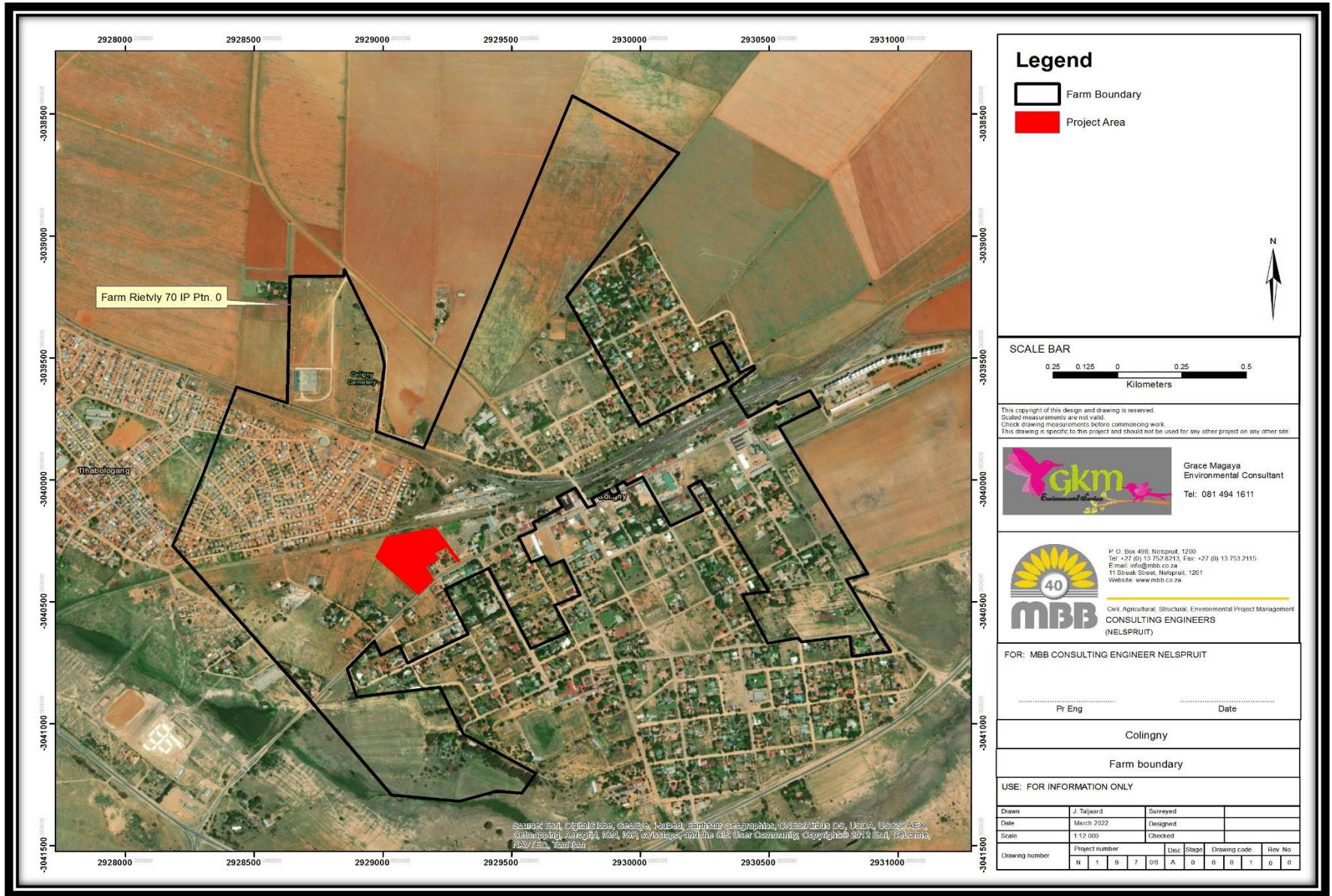
## **PROJECT DETAILS:**

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The subject property on Erven, 563, 564 and 698 falls within Coligny in Ditsobotla Local Municipality. Central Coordinates for the subject Property are 26°19'55.85"S, 26°18'46.54"E, refer to Figure 1 below for locality map. The applicant, Housing Development Agency intends to construct residential units within this location.

The construction of these residential units will result in the loss of indigenous vegetation. The loss of vegetation triggers a listed activity according to the National Environmental Management Act, Act 107 of 1998. Before applicant can commence, an Environmental Authorisation has to be obtained from the competent authority, that is Northwest Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism.

Figure 1 – Locality Map



**APPLICABLE LEGISLATION:**

The National Environmental Management Act, Act 107 of 1998 listed activities for the Environmental Authorisation applied for:

**Table 1 – National Environmental Management Act Listed Activity**

Notice No	Activity Number	Description
Listing No 1	27	The clearance of an area of 1 hectare or more, but less than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation.

The National Water Act, Act 36 of 1998 listed activities applied for the Water Use License required:

**Table 3 – National Heritage Act, 1999 Listed Activity**

Regulation	Activity Number	Description
38	1(c)	Any development or other activity which will change the character of a site (i) exceeding 5000 square meters in extent.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS**

Public involvement is an essential part of any environmental assessment process. As an interested and affected member (IAP) you will be given the opportunity to provide your input into the environmental assessment process and to receive information. All comments will be recorded and presented to the project team and regulatory authorities. You will receive feedback on how your comments have been considered and the outcome of the assessment.

IAPs include any person who will be directly or indirectly affected by the project. To be recognized as an IAP one must register with GKM Environmental to be added to the stakeholder database for the project. You may communicate via email or telephone to obtain further information or comment on the proposed project. All registered I&APs will be kept informed of the decision taken by the competent authority.

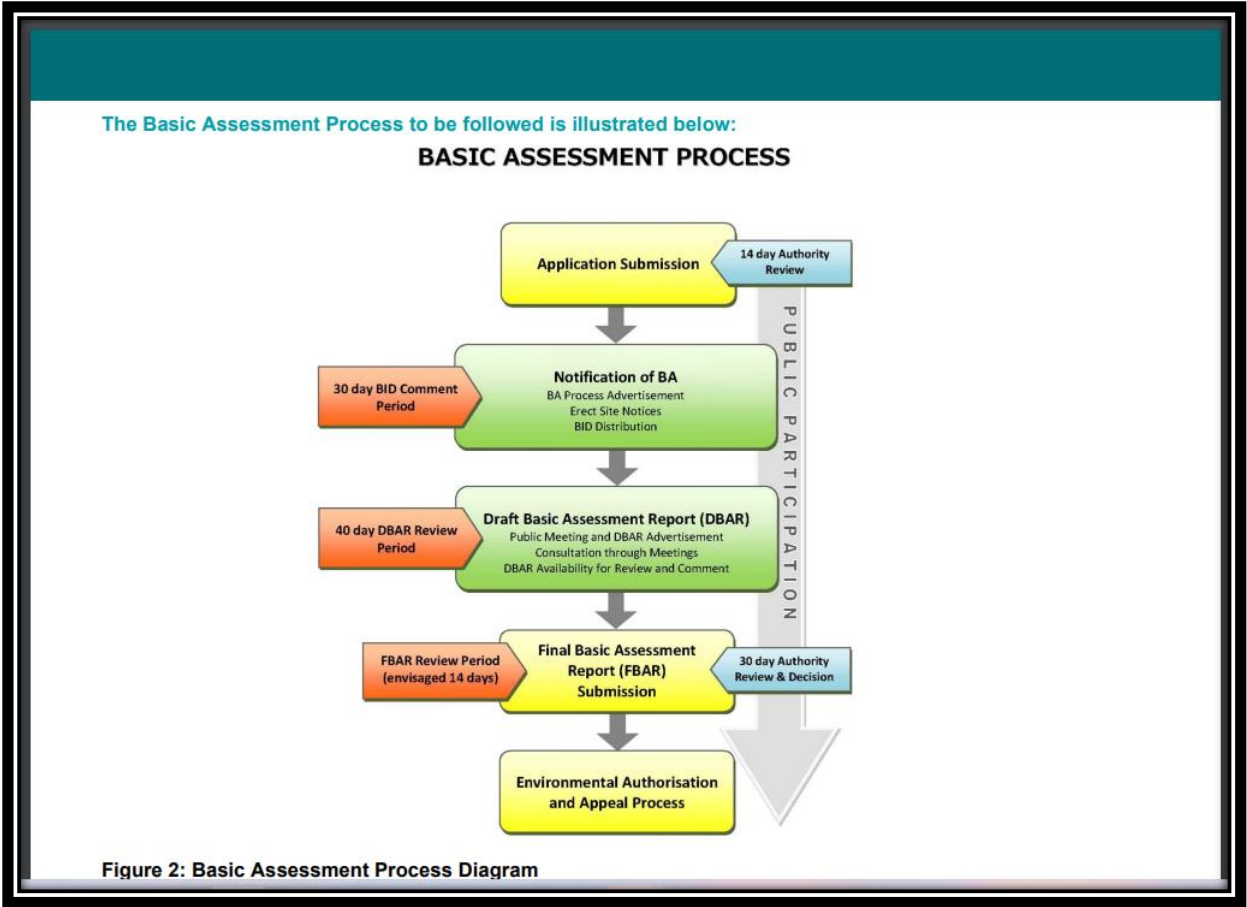
**Table 4 – Public Participation Process Followed:**

<b>Notification Process</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Post Site Notices in strategic places close to the proposed site</li><li>• Publish the notice in a newspaper</li><li>• Circulate written notices to all potential IAPs</li></ul>
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<b>Commenting Period</b>	30 days will be allowed for registered and interested parties to comment on the draft basic assessment report
<b>Appeal Process</b>	Notify all registered and interested and affected parties of the competent authority decision and allow an opportunity to appeal the decision.

**BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FLOW CHART**

Figure 2 – Flow Chart



**INVITATION TO COMMENT:**

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Dear Sir/Madam,

**Proposed construction of low-cost housing on erven 563, 564 and 698 in Coligny within Ditsobotla Local Municipality in the Northwest Province**

The Applicant, i.e., Bushbuckridge Local Municipality intends to convert the currently open space in the map below into a township establishment with a total of eighty-seven dwelling houses, shops, business units, offices, church facilities and open spaces. To proceed, the applicant must obtain an Environmental Authorisation, Heritage Permit as well as a Water Use License.

As an Interested and Affected Party, I, \_\_\_\_\_ (full name), owner / tenant of property \_\_\_\_\_ (name of property), agree with the following (**kindly mark the applicable option/s**):

<input type="checkbox"/>	I have <b>received information</b> regarding the application for Environmental Authorisation for the project on the property mentioned above.
<input type="checkbox"/>	I do not have any objections regarding the proposed project, and I therefore wish to express my <b>consent or no-objection</b> for the proposed project.
<input type="checkbox"/>	I <b>do not agree</b> with the proposed project, and I therefore wish to express my <b>objection</b> to the proposed application for environmental authorisation.
<input type="checkbox"/>	I want to <b>register as an I&amp;AP</b> and be kept informed of the process and of local open day sessions (please use attached form to fill in your contact details).
<input type="checkbox"/>	I want to attend an information session of the proposed project.

**SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_