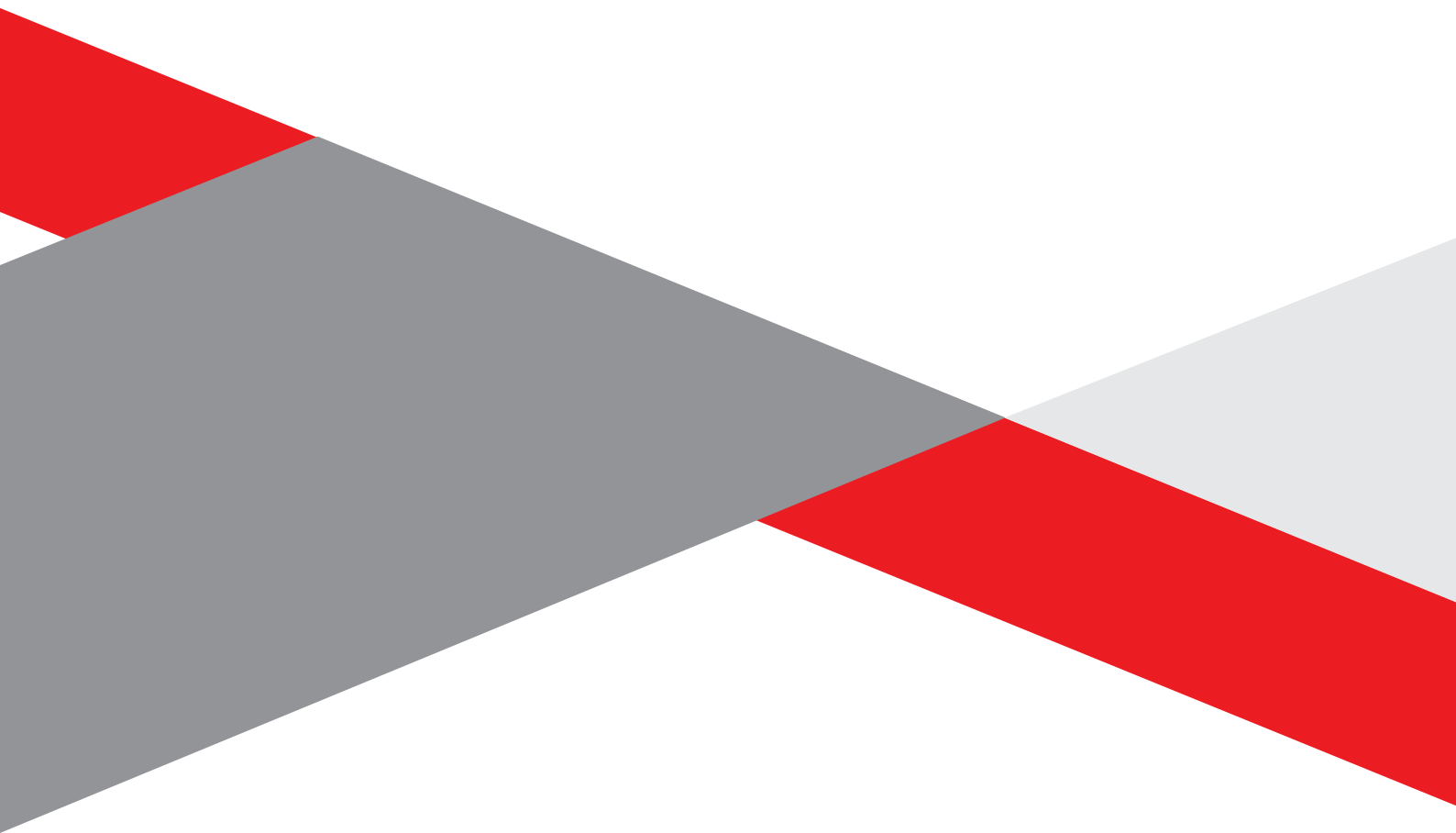


# **Appendix E4**

## **Written notices required by regulation**



06 June 2022

Dear Interested and Affected Party,

## **PROPOSED EXPANSION OF SPORTS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AT THE COUNTRY CLUB JOHANNESBURG, GAUTENG PROVINCE**

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### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION LETTER**

**JUNE 2022**

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The Country Club Johannesburg is proposing to expand their sports and recreational facilities on Portion 433 of the Farm Rietfontein IR 2, located in Woodmead, Johannesburg, within jurisdiction of the City of Johannesburg Metropolitan Municipality in the Gauteng Province. This will entail the construction of additional tennis courts and new padel courts; upgrading the existing building at the facility to include a gym, changerooms and squash courts; expanding the parking area; and upgrading the restaurant and bar to provide a modern, multi-sport and family facility for members of the Country Club Johannesburg.

A development footprint of up to ~1.3ha has been identified by Country Club Johannesburg for the expansion of their sports and recreational facilities.

### **AIM OF THIS BACKGROUND INFORMATION LETTER**

This document aims to provide you, as an Interested and/or Affected Party (I&AP), with:

- » An overview of the proposed project.
- » An overview of the Basic Assessment (BA) process and specialist studies being undertaken to assess the proposed project.
- » Details of how you can become involved in the BA process, receive information, or raise comments that may concern and/or interest you.

### **BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

In accordance with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, published in terms of Section 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA), the expansion of the sports and recreational facilities at the Country Club Johannesburg requires Environmental Authorisation (EA) from the Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (GDARD). In terms of Section 24(5) of the NEMA, EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), Listing Notice 1

(GNR 327) and Listing Notice 3 (GNR 324), the application for EA for the expansion of the sport and recreational facilities is subject to the completion of a Basic Assessment (BA) process. The application for EA is required to be supported by comprehensive, independent environmental studies undertaken in accordance with Appendix 6 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, and where relevant, in line with the gazetted protocols.

A BA is an effective planning and decision-making tool. It allows for potential environmental consequences resulting from a proposed activity to be identified and appropriately managed during the construction, operation, and decommissioning phases of development. It also provides an opportunity for the project applicant to be forewarned of potential environmental issues, allows for the resolution of issue(s) identified and reported on as part of the BA processes, and provides dialogue with key stakeholders and I&APs.

Savannah Environmental has been appointed as the independent environmental consultant responsible for managing the application for EA, undertaking the supporting BA process required to identify and assess potential environmental impacts associated with the project, and proposing appropriate mitigation and management measures to be contained within the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) for the project.

## **WHAT ARE THE POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROPOSED PROJECT?**

Site-specific studies will be undertaken to assess the potential impact of the proposed development in order to delineate areas of sensitivity within the development area, assess impacts associated with the project and make recommendations regarding avoidance, management and mitigation of impacts. Studies will be informed by available information and detailed field investigations undertaken in accordance with the relevant guidelines and protocols. Specialist studies that are to be undertaken as part of the BA process include the following:

- » **Biodiversity Impact Assessment** - includes ecology, fauna and flora and assesses the potential impact and the associated disturbance of vegetation on the biodiversity of the area (including critical biodiversity areas and broad-scale processes).
- » **Soils, Land Use, Land Capability, and Agricultural Potential** - includes land types and assesses the significance of loss of agricultural land and soil degradation and/or erosion.
- » **Heritage (Archaeology and Palaeontology)** - which includes archaeology and palaeontology and assesses the potential of disturbance to or destruction of heritage sites and fossils during the construction phase through excavation activities.

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS**

The sharing of information forms the basis of the public participation process and offers I&APs the opportunity to become actively involved in the BA process. Comments and inputs from I&APs are encouraged to ensure that potential impacts are considered throughout the BA process. The public participation process aims to ensure that:

- » Information containing all relevant facts in respect of the application is made available to I&APs for review.
- » I&AP participation is facilitated in such a manner that they are provided with reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed project.

- » An adequate review period is provided for I&APs to comment on the findings of the Basic Assessment Report.

To ensure effective participation, the public participation process includes the following:

- » Identifying I&APs, including affected and adjacent landowners, and relevant Organs of State.
- » Compiling and maintaining a database of I&APs throughout the BA process.
- » Notifying I&APs of the commencement of the BA process and distributing the BID (this document).
- » Making information available on the project, via a dedicated webpage.
- » Providing an opportunity for I&APs to engage with the project team.
- » Placing site notices at the affected properties.
- » Placing an advertisement in a local newspaper.
- » Notifying I&APs of the release of the BA Report for a 30-day review and comment period.
- » Notifying I&APs of the GDARD's decision on whether to grant or refuse the EA, and the manner in which such a decision may be appealed.

## **YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES AS AN I&AP**

In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, and the Public Participation Guidelines, 2014, your attention is drawn to your responsibilities as an I&AP:

- » In order to participate in the BA process, you must register yourself on the I&AP database.
- » You must ensure that any comments regarding the proposed project are submitted within the stipulated timeframe.
- » You are required to disclose any direct business, financial, personal, or other interest that you may have in the approval or refusal of the application.

## **HOW TO BECOME INVOLVED**

- » By responding by phone, fax, or e-mail, to the invitation for your involvement.
- » By returning the reply form to the relevant contact person.
- » By engaging with the project team on the online stakeholder engagement platform during the BA process.
- » By contacting the environmental consultant with queries or comments.
- » By reviewing and commenting on the BA Report within the stipulated 30-day review and comment period.

If you consider yourself an I&AP for the proposed project, we urge you to make use of the opportunities created by the public participation process to provide comment; raise issues and concerns which affect and / or interest you; or request further information. Your input forms a key element of the BA process.

By completing and submitting the accompanying reply form, you automatically register yourself as an I&AP for the proposed project, and are ensured that your comments, concerns, or queries raised regarding the project will be noted.

## AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

As a registered Interested and Affected Party, you are hereby notified that the BA Report for the project is available for review and comment from **Monday, 06 June 2022** until **Thursday, 07 July 2022** and can be downloaded on the Savannah Environmental website (<https://savannahsa.com/public-documents/other/>). The final date to submit comments is **Thursday, 07 July 2022**.

Should you wish to obtain further information on the project, register on the project's database, and submit written comments, queries or responses. Please direct your communication to Lehlogonolo Mashego of Savannah Environmental using the contact information below:

**Savannah Environmental**  
Nondumiso Bulunga  
P.O. Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157  
Mobile: 060 978 8396  
Tel: 011 656 3237  
Fax: 086 684 0547  
Email: [publicprocess@savannahsa.com](mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com)

Kind regards,

### **NONDUMISO BULUNGA**

Lead Consultant: Social, Stakeholder Engagement & GIS

Email: [publicprocess@savannahsa.com](mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com)

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS**

**PROPOSED EXPANSION OF SPORTS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AT THE COUNTRY CLUB JOHANNESBURG  
GAUTENG PROVINCE**

**Registration & Comment Form**

June 2022

Return completed registration and comment form to: **Nondumiso Bulunga** of **Savannah Environmental**

**Phone:** 011 656 3237 / **Mobile (incl. 'please call me'):** 060 978 8396 / **Fax:** 086 684 0547

**E-mail:** publicprocess@savannahsa.com **Postal Address:** PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157

**Your registration as an interested and/or affected party will be applicable for this project only and your contact details provided are protected by the POPI Act of 2013**

**Please provide your complete contact details:**

Name & Surname:		
Organisation:		
Designation:		
Postal Address:		
Telephone:		Fax:
Mobile:		
E-mail:		

**In terms of EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, Regulation 43(1), you are required to register as an I&AP to receive further correspondence regarding the EIA process for the projects and to disclose any direct business, financial, personal or other interest which you may have in the approval or refusal of the application (add additional pages if necessary):**

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**Please list your comments regarding your project selection above (add additional pages if necessary):**

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**Please provide contact details of any other persons who you regard as a potential interested or affected party:**

Name & Surname:	
Postal Address:	
Telephone:	
Mobile:	
E-mail:	

14 July 2022

Dear Stakeholder and Interested & Affected Party,

**PROPOSED EXPANSION OF SPORTS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AT THE COUNTRY CLUB  
JOHANNESBURG  
GATEUNG PROVINCE  
(GDARD Ref. No: 002/22-23/E3247)**

The correspondence regarding the availability of the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) for the Country Club Johannesburg distributed on **06 June 2022**, with a 30-day review and comment period starting from **Monday, 06 June 2022** until **Thursday, 07 July 2022** has reference.

This letter serves to inform you, as a registered Interested and Affected Party (I&AP), that the BAR has been updated to include an Activity 15 of Listing Notice 5, and that the application for the Environmental Authorisation (EA), has been amended to consider the inclusion of this additional activity.

The revised BAR is available for an additional 30-day public participation period from **Thursday, 14 July 2022 – Monday, 15 August 2022** on the Savannah Environmental website - (<https://savannahsa.com/public-documents/other/>) you, as a registered I&AP, are notified of the availability thereof.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the project.

Kind regards

**Nondumiso Bulunga**

Lead Consultant

Email: [publicprocess@savannahsa.com](mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com)