

# **IMPACTS THAT MAY RESULT FROM THE PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION PHASE**

A. Methodology utilised in the rating of significance of impacts:

## **1. Introduction**

The impact assessment aims at identifying potential environmental impacts (both positive and negative impacts) and evaluating these impacts in terms of its significance. This assessment is provided in the form of a systematic analysis framework to evaluate the nature, intensity and significance of the various impacts are considered both without and with mitigation and management measures.

## **2. Impact Assessment Criteria**

The assessment of the potential impacts of the envisaged development is undertaken in accordance with the broad criteria required by the integrated environmental management procedure and includes the following:

### **a. Nature of Impact**

A brief description of the type of impact the proposed development will have on the affected environment.

### **b. Intensity**

This criteria evaluates intensity of the impact and are rated as follows:

#### **i. Minor**

The activity will only have a minor impact on the affected environment in such a way that the natural processes or functions are not affected.

#### **ii. Low**

The activity will have a low impact on the affected environment.

#### **iii. Medium**

The activity will have a medium impact on the affected environment, but function and process continue, albeit in a modified way.

#### **iv. High**

The activity will have a high impact on the affected environment which may be disturbed to the extent where it temporarily or permanently ceases.

#### **v. Very high**

The activity will have a very high impact on the affected environment which may be disturbed to the extent where it temporarily or permanently ceases.

### **c. Determination of significance:**

Significance is determined through a synthesis of the various impact characteristics and represents the combined effect of the extent, duration, intensity and probability of the impacts.

i. No significance

The impact is not substantial and does not require any mitigatory action.

ii. Low

The impact is of little importance, but may require limited mitigation.

iii. Medium

The impact is of importance and therefore considered to have a negative impact. Mitigation is required to reduce the negative impacts to acceptable levels.

iv. High

The impact is of great importance. Failure to mitigate, with the objective of reducing the impact to acceptable levels, could render the entire development option or entire project proposal unacceptable. Mitigation and management is essential.

- B. Description and comparison of the potential impacts (as appropriate), significance rating of impacts, proposed mitigation and significance rating of impacts after mitigation that are likely to occur as a result of the construction phase for the various alternatives of the proposed development. This includes an assessment of the significance of all impacts.

B.1 Planning and Design Phase

Potential impacts:	Significance rating of impacts (positive or negative):	Proposed mitigation:	Significance rating of impacts after mitigation:
Floral Disturbances	Medium - Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Before any vegetation is removed, a suitably qualified person (i.e. on Environmental Control Officer request of a vegetation specialist) shall inspect the study area for any plant/ grass/tree species that could be transplanted to other similar/suitable areas.</li> <li>• All invader or exotic plant species must be removed from the site and disposed of at a landfill site.</li> <li>• Only indigenous floral species may be used during landscaping and rehabilitation.</li> </ul>	Low
Faunal Disturbances	Medium - Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Snaring and hunting of fauna by construction workers on or adjacent to the site are strictly prohibited and the Local Municipality shall prosecute offenders. It should also be a condition of employment that any employees/ workers caught poaching will be dismissed.</li> <li>• Workers must be trained on how to deal with fauna species as intentional killing will not be tolerated.</li> <li>• Where possible, work should be restricted to one area at a time, as this will give the smaller birds, mammals and reptiles a chance to weather the disturbance in an</li> </ul>	Low

		undisturbed zone close to their natural territories.	
Visual Impact	Medium - Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•The contractor shall comply with the visual requirements of the Environmental Authorization.</li> <li>•The contractor shall ensure that the visual impact of the construction activities is minimised.</li> </ul>	Low
Network Upgrade	High – Medium (Positive)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Vodacom reception will improve in the Ifafi area.</li> </ul>	High – Medium (Positive)

## B.2 Constructional Phase

Potential impacts:	Significance rating of impacts (positive or negative):	Proposed mitigation:	Significance rating of impacts after mitigation:
Floral Disturbances	Medium - Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Before any vegetation is removed, a suitably qualified person (i.e. on Environmental Control Officer request of a vegetation specialist) shall inspect the study area for any plant/ grass/tree species that could be transplanted to other similar/suitable areas.</li> <li>•All invader or exotic plant species must be removed from the site and disposed of at a landfill site.</li> <li>•Only indigenous floral species may be used during landscaping and rehabilitation.</li> </ul>	Low
Faunal Disturbances	Medium - Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Snaring and hunting of fauna by construction workers on or adjacent to the site are strictly prohibited and the Local Municipality shall prosecute offenders. It should also be a condition of employment that any</li> </ul>	Low

		<p>employees/ workers caught poaching will be dismissed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Workers must be trained on how to deal with fauna species as intentional killing will not be tolerated.</li> <li>•Where possible, work should be restricted to one area at a time, as this will give the smaller birds, mammals and reptiles a chance to weather the disturbance in an undisturbed zone close to their natural territories.</li> </ul>	
Visual Impact	Medium - Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•The contractor shall comply with the visual requirements of the Environmental Authorization.</li> <li>•The contractor shall ensure that the visual impact of the construction activities is minimised.</li> </ul>	Low
Pollution	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•The liberation of dust into the surrounding environment shall be effectively controlled by water spraying.</li> <li>•Machinery or equipment used on the site must not constitute a pollution hazard in respect of air pollution via excessive exhaust fumes. This shall be inspected regularly by the contractor and rectified immediately.</li> <li>•No open fires will be allowed to be made on site.</li> </ul>	Low
Safety on Site	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•The implementation of an Occupational Health and Safety management system should be required of all contractors. Safety measures and work procedures/instructions should be communicated to all construction workers. First aid facilities shall be on hand</li> </ul>	Low

		<p>at all times. Medical screening of employees shall take place.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•The contractor shall implement adequate and mandatory safety precautions relating to all aspects of the operation. Warning and advisory signage should also be implemented (also with regards to vehicular movement along public roads).</li></ul>	
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