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*Basic Assessment Report for the Closure of the Groot Marico Waste License Application
NWP/WM/NM5/2013/28 Ramotshere Moiloa Local Municipality*

(For official use only)

File Reference Number:

Application Number:

Date Received:

Basic assessment report in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010, promulgated in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), as amended.

Kindly note that:

1. This **basic assessment report** is a standard report that may be required by a competent authority in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2010 and is meant to streamline applications. Please make sure that it is the report used by the particular competent authority for the activity that is being applied for.
2. The report must be typed within the spaces provided in the form. The size of the spaces provided is not necessarily indicative of the amount of information to be provided. The report is in the form of a table that can extend itself as each space is filled with typing.
3. Where applicable **tick** the boxes that are applicable in the report.
4. An incomplete report may be returned to the applicant for revision.
5. The use of "not applicable" in the report must be done with circumspection because if it is used in respect of material information that is required by the competent authority for assessing the application, it may result in the rejection of the application as provided for in the regulations.
6. This report must be handed in at offices of the relevant competent authority as determined by each authority.
7. No faxed or e-mailed reports will be accepted.
8. The report must be compiled by an independent environmental assessment practitioner.
9. Unless protected by law, all information in the report will become public information on receipt by the competent authority. Any interested and affected party should be provided with the information contained in this report on request, during any stage of the application process.
10. A competent authority may require that for specified types of activities in defined situations only parts of this report need to be completed.

SECTION A: ACTIVITY INFORMATION

Has a specialist been consulted to assist with the completion of this section? ☐ YES ☒ NO X

If YES, please complete the form entitled "Details of specialist and declaration of interest"

for appointment of a specialist for each specialist thus appointed:

Any specialist reports must be contained in Appendix D.

1. ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

Describe the activity, which is being applied for, in detail¹:

Project Description

The application is for a waste management licence for the closure and decommissioning of the unlicensed Groot Marico landfill site located in the Ramotshere-Moiloa Local Municipal area.

NW-DEDECT Reference: NWP/WM/NM5/2013/28

The listed activity applied for

The listed NEM:WA activity is: Category A, Activity 14, The decommissioning of a facility for waste management activity listed in Category A or B of this schedule published in GN. 921 of 29 November 2013.

Scope of the application

Phase	Included in the scope of this application	Responsibility	Where/how to address
Interim operation of the landfill site	No	NW DEDECT	Interim operational specifications are required
Pre-closure conditions	Yes	CEM	Addressed as part of the EMPr (Appendix F)
Closure plan/EMPr to inform closure design	Yes	CEM	Addressed as part of the EMPr (Appendix F)
Closure design and approval	No	Ramotshere Moiloa Municipality to appoint registered Consulting Engineer	Detailed closure plan, project plan, design plan and drawings
Detailed design requirements (closure/remedial design, design of storm water management, leachate management,	No	Municipality to appoint registered Consulting Engineer	It is not possible to do a detailed closure design and planning proposals for this site at this stage. The proponent needs to make provision for this in its IDP as well as the

¹ Please note that this description should not be a verbatim repetition of the listed activity as contained in the relevant Government Notice, but should be a brief description of activities to be undertaken as per the project description.

settlement/surface pondage), plan drawings, and long and short term stability.			short to medium expenditure framework. The closure of this site is the responsibility of the Ramotshere Moiloa Local Municipality. It is not known how long it will take before the municipality is in a position to commence with work and how the conditions at the site will change in the interim. Hence the approach to do the final closure designs and planning when the project can be implemented. It is imperative that the NW DEDECT and the DWA sign off on these final designs. Refer to the EMPr in Appendix F.
Alternative waste disposal options – new landfill site	Not applicable	Ramotshere Moiloa Local Municipality	In the interim, sustained use of the excavated pits until these facilities have been filled with waste and capped. Eventually waste will be disposed at the licensed Zeerust landfill site upon closure of Groot Marico site.
Alternative waste disposal options – transfer station	No	Ramotshere Moiloa Local Municipality	Ramotshere Moiloa LM does not have an IWMP and the 2005 Central (now Ngaka Modiri Molema) District Municipality IWMP is in the process for revision. Therefore, interim operational specifications are required.
Post-closure care and maintenance	Yes	CEM	Addressed as part of the EMPr (Appendix F)
Post-closure hand-over documents	No	Municipality to appoint registered Consulting Engineer	Documents to be generated and handed over to the municipality for implementation
Additional authorisations	Not applicable	Municipality to appoint independent EAP	Waste disposal activities trigger the need for a section 21(g) water use license in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (No. 36 of 1998) (NWA). No application is needed for a NWA section 21(g) water use license as the DWA dispenses this requirement by providing the relevant National

			Environmental Management Act, 1998 (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) authority with conditions that need to be included in the NEMA environmental authorisation. Because the site is located closer than 500m from a water resource, it will be necessary to apply for a water use license in terms of section 21(c) & (i) of the NWA, 1998.
Rezoning application	Not applicable	Municipality	A rezoning application may be required, since the land is zoned for agricultural use, while the land is currently being used for municipal use (disposal of waste).

Site Location

The Groot Marico Landfill site is located on the Remainder of ptn 252 of the Farm Wonderfontein 258-JP. The property belongs to Ramotshere-Moiloa Local Municipality.

The site is located just off the N4 (going east from Groot Marico to Swartruggens) just after the Mardustria turnoff (the turnoff is located just after the Excel Garage).

The site lies south-east relative to the town of Groot Marico.

The landfill site is bordered by open land with the N4 towards the south-west and three water reservoirs in the north-west. Mardustria industrial area is located towards the east of the site. A large township (Robile) is located towards the south of the site across from the N4.

Zonation of the land

The land is zoned for agricultural and the desired post-closure use of the land is intended to be municipal use.

Land ownership

The land belongs to the Ramotshere Moiloa Local Municipality.

Operating entity

The landfill is managed and operated by the Ramotshere Moiloa Local Municipality.

Waste site characteristics and current operations

The site is approximately 0.32 hectare in extent and it is expected to be classified as GCB-. There is no daily compaction and cover of waste at the site, and there are no dedicated personnel or equipment available for disposal. Waste is disposed in one of two excavated, unlined "cells" with an access road (ramp) in the middle of the two cells. The disposal "cells" are surrounded by 3 – 4 metre high berms on the outer edge and the access road towards the inner edge (with is also elevated to a level of 3 – 4 metres). Vehicles drive on the access ramp and dispose of waste in the excavated cells.

The site is not licenced and the period that it has been operational for is unknown. The waste is disposed of in an open excavated area and is generally uncovered.

There are no formal statistics on the quantities of waste disposed of.

Evidence of the burning of waste (including waste tyres) has been observed. Large quantities of building

rubble (including tar and gravel from road surfaces) have been observed on site.

It is uncertain whether any waste is reclaimed from the site. No reclaimers were observed during the site visit, however, stockpiles of separated glass and plastics were observed on site.

Evidence of was observed that access control existed at some stage. The corner pillars which were used for fencing still exists, but the fence has been removed.

No groundwater or gas monitoring is conducted on or near the facility (which is cause for concern, since it is expected that the preferential flow of groundwater is towards the Groot Marico River).

Closure activities

The waste site needs to be lawfully decommissioned closed and rehabilitated. Two scenarios or alternatives are available:

- *In-situ* closure and capping; or
- The no-go alternative.

The preferred alternative is to cap and close the facility *in situ* in terms of the following parameters:

- A registered civil engineer must design the optimal position, shape, size and height of the closed waste dump, especially in the light of the fact that the facility is located 1.8km west of the Groot Marico river.
- Design the facility in terms of the Minimum Requirements and the additional requirements² of the Department of Water Affairs with arrangements to prevent water ingress into the dump, the formation of leachate and general pollution prevention arrangements.
- Implement and maintain a maintenance and care programme and a sustained groundwater quality monitoring programme.

Waste recyclers

It is uncertain whether any waste is reclaimed from the site. No reclaimers were observed during the site visit, however, stockpiles of separated glass and plastics were observed on site. The Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality's IWMP does make provision for the provision of a controlled waste transfer station at Groot Marico.

2. FEASIBLE AND REASONABLE ALTERNATIVES

“alternatives”, in relation to a proposed activity, means different means of meeting the general purpose and requirements of the activity, which may include alternatives to—

- (a) the property on which or location where it is proposed to undertake the activity;**
- (b) the type of activity to be undertaken;**
- (c) the design or layout of the activity;**
- (d) the technology to be used in the activity;**
- (e) the operational aspects of the activity; and**
- (f) the option of not implementing the activity.**

² Letter by K Legge and C Ficker (ref 16/1/1/2/4) on 31 January 2014

Describe alternatives that are considered in this application. Alternatives should include a consideration of all possible means by which the purpose and need of the proposed activity could be accomplished in the specific instance taking account of the interest of the applicant in the activity. The no-go alternative must in all cases be included in the assessment phase as the baseline against which the impacts of the other alternatives are assessed. The determination of whether site or activity (including different processes etc.) or both is appropriate needs to be informed by the specific circumstances of the activity and its environment. After receipt of this report the competent authority may also request the applicant to assess additional alternatives that could possibly accomplish the purpose and need of the proposed activity if it is clear that realistic alternatives have not been considered to a reasonable extent.

The objective of this application is to decommission and close the waste disposal facility at Groot Marico. Therefore, no locational or process alternatives are proposed. Moreover, alternatives related to closure are not proposed due to the strict norms and standards imposed by the South African government for closure. This neutralises any options for exploring closing and decommissioning alternatives.

Alternative 1, the preferred alternative

In-situ closure and capping (with interim conditions for closure stipulated by the competent authority:

The preferred alternative entails the movement of scattered waste disposed-off on the surface into the existing excavated pits. The existing excavated pits are to be filled with waste and the waste body must be compacted and levelled at a level as close as possible to the surrounding area. It is recommended that one pit is used at a time until it reaches its full capacity, then cap and close it before moving on to the second pit. Once both pits are filled they must be capped and closed and the entire site is levelled and covered with suitable material (substrate) as per DWA requirements.

Alternative 2, not preferred

The no-go option is included as a compulsory alternative, but it is not the recommended option, since it would imply that the unlicensed status of the landfill site would be retained.

Paragraphs 3 – 13 below should be completed for each alternative.

3. ACTIVITY POSITION

Indicate the position of the activity using the latitude and longitude of the centre point of the site for each alternative site. The co-ordinates should be in degrees and decimal minutes. The minutes should have at least three decimals to ensure adequate accuracy. The projection that must be used in all cases is the WGS84 spheroid in a national or local projection.

List alternative sites, if applicable

Alternative S1³ (preferred or only site alternative)

Alternative S2 (if any) **Not Applicable**

35°	35'47.2"	26°	25'39.4"
0	'	0	'

³ "Alternative S.." refer to site alternatives.

Alternative S3 (if any) **Not Applicable**

0	'	0	'
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In the case of linear activities:

Alternative:

Latitude (S):

Longitude (E):

Alternative S1 (preferred or only route alternative)

- Starting point of the activity
- Middle/Additional point of the activity
- End point of the activity

0	'	0	'
0	'	0	'
0	'	0	'

Alternative S2 (if any)

- Starting point of the activity
- Middle/Additional point of the activity
- End point of the activity

0	'	0	'
0	'	0	'
0	'	0	'

Alternative S3 (if any)

- Starting point of the activity
- Middle/Additional point of the activity
- End point of the activity

0	'	0	'
0	'	0	'
0	'	0	'

For route alternatives that are longer than 500m, please provide an addendum with co-ordinates taken every 250 meters along the route for each alternative alignment.

4. PHYSICAL SIZE OF THE ACTIVITY

Indicate the physical size of the preferred activity/technology as well as alternative activities/technologies (footprints):

Alternative:

Size of the activity:

Alternative A1⁴ (preferred activity alternative)

3291m²

Alternative A2 (if any)

m²

Alternative A3 (if any)

m²

or, for linear activities:

⁴ "Alternative A.." refer to activity, process, technology or other alternatives.

Alternative: Not applicable

Length of the activity:

Alternative A1 (preferred activity alternative)

m
m
m

Alternative A2 (if any)

Alternative A3 (if any)

Indicate the size of the alternative sites or servitudes (within which the above footprints will occur):
Not applicable

**Size of the
site/servitude:**

Alternative:

Alternative A1 (preferred activity alternative)

m ²
m ²
m ²

Alternative A2 (if any)

Alternative A3 (if any)

5. SITE ACCESS

Does ready access to the site exist?

YES	NO
X	
m	

If NO, what is the distance over which a new access road will be built

Not applicable

Include the position of the access road on the site plan and required map, as well as an indication of the road in relation to the site.

6. SITE OR ROUTE PLAN

A detailed site or route plan(s) must be prepared for each alternative site or alternative activity. It must be attached as Appendix A to this document.

The site or route plans must indicate the following:

- 6.1 the scale of the plan which must be at least a scale of 1:500;
- 6.2 the property boundaries and numbers of all the properties within 50 metres of the site; See Map GM02 in Appendix A
- 6.3 the current land use as well as the land use zoning of each of the properties adjoining the site or sites; See Map GM02 and GM04 in Appendix A
- 6.4 the exact position of each element of the application as well as any other structures on the site; See Map GM1 in Appendix A

- 6.5 the position of services, including electricity supply cables (indicate above or underground), water supply pipelines, boreholes, street lights, sewage pipelines, storm water infrastructure and telecommunication infrastructure; See Map GM01 in Appendix A
- 6.6 all trees and shrubs taller than 1.8 metres; See Map GM01 in Appendix A
- 6.7 walls and fencing including details of the height and construction material; See Map GM01 in Appendix A
- 6.8 servitudes indicating the purpose of the servitude;
- 6.9 sensitive environmental elements within 100 metres of the site or sites including (but not limited thereto):
- rivers; See Map GM01 in Appendix A
 - the 1:100 year flood line (where available or where it is required by DWA); See Map GM01 in Appendix A
 - ridges; See Map GM01 in Appendix A
 - cultural and historical features; See Map GM01 in Appendix A
 - areas with indigenous vegetation (even if it is degraded or invested with alien species);
- 6.10 for gentle slopes the 1 metre contour intervals must be indicated on the plan and whenever the slope of the site exceeds 1:10, the 500mm contours must be indicated on the plan; and See Map GM01 in Appendix A
- 6.11 the positions from where photographs of the site were taken. See Map GM01 in Appendix A

7. SITE PHOTOGRAPHS

Colour photographs from the centre of the site must be taken in at least the eight major compass directions with a description of each photograph. Photographs must be attached under Appendix B to this form. It must be supplemented with additional photographs of relevant features on the site, if applicable.

See Appendix B

8. FACILITY ILLUSTRATION

A detailed illustration of the activity must be provided at a scale of 1:200 as Appendix C for activities that include structures. The illustrations must be to scale and must represent a realistic image of the planned activity. The illustration must give a representative view of the activity.

Two illustrations provided:

- Map GM05 indicates the current status of the waste disposal (see Appendix C); and
- Map GM06 indicates the activity post closure (See Appendix C)

9. ACTIVITY MOTIVATION

9(a) Socio-economic value of the activity

What is the expected capital value of the activity on completion?

What is the expected yearly income that will be generated by or as a result of the activity?

Will the activity contribute to service infrastructure?

Is the activity a public amenity?

How many new employment opportunities will be created in the development phase of the activity?

What is the expected value of the employment opportunities during the development phase?

To be determined	
To be determined	
YES	NO X
YES	NO X
To be determined	
To be determined	

What percentage of this will accrue to previously disadvantaged individuals?

To	be determined
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How many permanent new employment opportunities will be created during the operational phase of the activity?

To	be determined
----	---------------

What is the expected current value of the employment opportunities during the first 10 years?

To	be determined
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What percentage of this will accrue to previously disadvantaged individuals?

To	be determined
----	---------------

9(b) Need and desirability of the activity

The need for the project is vested in the following arguments:

- The landfill site has been operated unlawfully in terms of NEM:WA and the NWA. Closure of the site is therefore desirable.
- The NW SDF (2008) classifies the area where the Groot Marico landfill site is located as Aquatic Critical Biodiversity Area A1. This category means some areas are proclaimed to be protected areas under various environmental legislation.
- The Central (now Ngaka Modiri Molema) District Municipality IWMP (2005) does not make provision of a controlled waste transfer station at Groot Marico

The desirability of the project is vested in the need to:

- Manage waste lawfully within the Ngaka Modiri Molema District and Ramotshere Moiloa Local Municipalities;
- Minimise the environmental and social risks such as groundwater pollution associated with uncontrolled waste disposal closer to the river (within 1.8km)
- Protecting the aquatic critical biodiversity found in this area which could be lost with continued operation of the landfill site

Motivate and explain the need and desirability of the activity (including demand for the activity):

NEED:			
1.	Was the relevant provincial planning department involved in the application?	YES X	NO
2.	Does the proposed land use fall within the relevant provincial planning framework?	YES X⁵	NO
3.	If the answer to questions 1 and / or 2 was NO, please provide further motivation / explanation:		
	Not Applicable		

DESIRABILITY:			
1.	Does the proposed land use / development fit the surrounding area?	YES X	NO
2.	Does the proposed land use / development conform to the relevant structure plans, SDF and planning visions for the area?	YES X	NO
3.	Will the benefits of the proposed land use / development outweigh the negative impacts of it?	YES X	NO
4.	If the answer to any of the questions 1-3 was NO, please provide further motivation / explanation:		

⁵ NW SDF (2008) was consulted and this area is classified as Aquatic Critical Biodiversity Area A1

	Not Applicable		
5.	Will the proposed land use / development impact on the sense of place?	YES	NO X
6.	Will the proposed land use / development set a precedent?	YES	NO X
7.	Will any person's rights be affected by the proposed land use / development?	YES	NO X
8.	Will the proposed land use / development compromise the "urban edge"?	YES	NO X
9.	If the answer to any of the question 5-8 was YES, please provide further motivation / explanation.		
	Not Applicable		

BENEFITS:			
1.	Will the land use / development have any benefits for society in general?	YES X	NO
2.	Explain: Environmental impacts such as air pollution resulting from burning waste will be minimised if not eliminated when the landfill site is closed. Furthermore, the potential surface and ground water pollution of the Groot Marico river which is 1.8km from the landfill site (water is used for irrigation of the agricultural land) will be minimised. Lastly the adjacent community of Robile suburb will have an aesthetically appealing environment.		
3.	Will the land use / development have any benefits for the local communities where it will be located?	YES X	NO
4.	Explain: Since the site is close to the Groot Marico river, it is expected that the preferential flow of ground water will be towards the river. Therefore, closure of this site has potential benefits to the local community because potential ground or surface water pollution will be minimised or eliminated since the local community uses the water from the river for irrigation.		

10. APPLICABLE LEGISLATION, POLICIES AND/OR GUIDELINES

List all legislation, policies and/or guidelines of any sphere of government that are applicable to the application as contemplated in the EIA regulations, if applicable:

Title of legislation, policy or guideline:	Administering authority:	Date:
South Africa's Constitution, 1996 (Act 108 of 1996), including the Bill of Rights (Chapter 2, Section 24)	National Government	1996
National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA), including the NEMA Amendment Act, 2008 (No. 62 of 2008)	National Government, and National Department of Environmental Affairs	1998
NEMA EIA Regulations, 2010 (Government Notice Nos. 543, 544, 545 and 546)	North West Department of Economic Development, Conservation and Tourism	2010
National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008) (NEM:WA) 2008	National Department of Environmental Affairs and Provincial Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism	2008
List of waste management activities that have, or are likely to have a detrimental effect on the environment	National Department of Environmental Affairs and Provincial Department of	2013

Title of legislation, policy or guideline:	Administering authority:	Date:
(GN. 921), 2013	Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism	
Waste Classification and Waste Management Regulations (GN 634), 2013	National Department of Environmental Affairs and Provincial Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism	2013
National Norms and Standards for Disposal of Waste to Landfill (GN 636), 2013	National Department of Environmental Affairs and Provincial Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism	2013
National Norms and Standards for the Assessment of Waste for Landfill Disposal (GN 635), 2013	National Department of Environmental Affairs and Provincial Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism	2013
National Norms and Standards for the Storage of Waste (GN 926), 2013	National Department of Environmental Affairs and Provincial Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism	2013
Waste Information Regulations (GN 625), 2012	National Department of Environmental Affairs and Provincial Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism	2012
National Waste Management Strategy, 2010	National Department of Environmental Affairs and Provincial Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism	2010
Minimum requirements for waste disposal by landfill, 1998	Department of Water Affairs	1998
Minimum requirements for water monitoring at waste management facilities	Department of Water Affairs	1998
National Environment Management: Air Quality Act, 2004 (Act No. 39 of 2004) (NEM: AQA)	National Department of Environmental Affairs and Provincial Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism	2004
National Ambient Air Quality Standards in Terms of Section 9(1)(a) and (b) of the National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act, 2004 (Act No. 39 of 2004) (Government Notice No. 1210, 24 December 2009)	National Department of Environmental Affairs and Provincial Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism	2009
The National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No 25 of 1999) as amended, particularly Chapter II, Section 38	South African Heritage Resource Agency	1999
The National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998)	Department of Water Affairs	1998
National Water Resource Strategy, 2013	Department of Water Affairs	2013
Water Services Act, 1997 (Act No. 108 of 1997)	At local authority level	1997
Occupational Health & Safety Act, 1993 (Act No. 85 of 1993)	Department of Labour	1993
Health Act, 1977 (Act 63 of 1977)	Department of Health	1977
Municipal Structures Act, 1998 (Act 117 of 1998)	Local Municipality	1998
Municipal Systems Act, 2000 (Act 32 of 2000)	Local Municipality	2000

Title of legislation, policy or guideline:	Administering authority:	Date:
North West Provincial Spatial Development Framework	NW Province	2008
Integrated Waste Management Plan Report 3	Central (now Ngaka Modiri Molema) District Municipality	2005

11. WASTE, EFFLUENT, EMISSION AND NOISE MANAGEMENT

11(a) Solid waste management

Will the activity produce solid construction waste during the construction/initiation phase?

YES	NO X
m ³	

If yes, what estimated quantity will be produced per month?

How will the construction solid waste be disposed of (describe)?

Not Applicable

Where will the construction solid waste be disposed of (describe)?

Not Applicable

Will the activity produce solid waste during its operational phase?

YES	NO X
m ³	

If yes, what estimated quantity will be produced per month?

How will the solid waste be disposed of (describe)?

Not Applicable

Where will the solid waste be disposed if it does not feed into a municipal waste stream (describe)?

Not Applicable

If the solid waste (construction or operational phases) will not be disposed of in a registered landfill site or be taken up in a municipal waste stream, then the applicant should consult with the competent authority to determine whether it is necessary to change to an application for scoping and EIA.

Can any part of the solid waste be classified as hazardous in terms of the relevant legislation?

YES	NO X
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If yes, inform the competent authority and request a change to an application for scoping and EIA.

Is the activity that is being applied for a solid waste handling or treatment facility?

YES	NO X
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If yes, then the applicant should consult with the competent authority to determine whether it is necessary to change to an application for scoping and EIA.

11(b) Liquid effluent

Will the activity produce effluent, other than normal sewage, that will be disposed of in a municipal sewage system?

YES	NO X
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If yes, what estimated quantity will be produced per month?

m ³	
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Will the activity produce any effluent that will be treated and/or disposed of on site?

Yes	NO X
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If yes, the applicant should consult with the competent authority to determine whether it is necessary to change to an application for scoping and EIA.

Will the activity produce effluent that will be treated and/or disposed of at another facility?

YES	NO X
-----	----------------

If yes, provide the particulars of the facility:

Facility name:

Contact person:

Postal address:

Postal code:

Telephone:

E-mail:

	Cell: <table border="1"><tr><td></td></tr></table>	
	Fax: <table border="1"><tr><td></td></tr></table>	

Describe the measures that will be taken to ensure the optimal reuse or recycling of waste water, if any:

Not Applicable

11(c) Emissions into the atmosphere

Will the activity release emissions into the atmosphere?

YES X	NO
YES	NO X

If yes, is it controlled by any legislation of any sphere of government?

If yes, the applicant should consult with the competent authority to determine whether it is necessary to change to an application for scoping and EIA.

If no, describe the emissions in terms of type and concentration:

The following emissions are expected at the landfill site:

- Undetermined potential for landfill gas (mainly methane and carbon dioxide) to be generated, the site is small with small volumes of domestic waste been disposed of, the likelihood for the formation of methane is low.
- Dust emissions from the movement, deposition and covering of waste on-site, as well as dust generated from the surface of the landfill due to wind and erosion;
- Vehicle exhausts emissions.

11(d) Generation of noise

Will the activity generate noise?

YES X	NO
YES	NO X

If yes, is it controlled by any legislation of any sphere of government?

If yes, the applicant should consult with the competent authority to determine whether it is necessary to change to an application for scoping and EIA.

If no, describe the noise in terms of type and level:

Noise may be generated by vehicles and earth-moving activities during the decommissioning and closure phase of the proposed activity.

Noise levels are not expected to be significant in relation to the existing activities on site and in its surroundings.

Noise will be limited to normal working hours.

12. WATER USE

Please indicate the source(s) of water that will be used for the activity by ticking the appropriate box (es)

municipal	water board	groundwater	river, stream, dam or lake	other	the activity will not use water X
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If water is to be extracted from groundwater, river, stream, dam, lake or any other natural feature, please indicate

the volume that will be extracted per month:

Does the activity require a water use permit from the Department of Water Affairs?

litres	
YES	NO X

If yes, please submit the necessary application to the Department of Water Affairs and attach proof thereof to this application if it has been submitted.

13. ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Describe the design measures, if any, that have been taken to ensure that the activity is energy efficient:

No energy usage on-site

Describe how alternative energy sources have been taken into account or been built into the design of the activity, if any:

No energy usage on-site

SECTION B: SITE/AREA/PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

Important notes:

1. For linear activities (pipelines, etc) as well as activities that cover very large sites, it may be necessary to complete this section for each part of the site that has a significantly different environment. In such cases please complete copies of Section C and indicate the area, which is covered by each copy No. on the Site Plan.

Section C Copy No.
(e.g. A):

2. Paragraphs 1 - 6 below must be completed for each alternative.

3. Has a specialist been consulted to assist with the completion of this section?

YES	NO
	X

If YES, please complete the form entitled "Details of specialist and declaration of interest"

for each specialist thus appointed:

All specialist reports must be contained in Appendix D.

Property description/physical address:

The Groot Marico landfill site is located on Portion 252 of the Farm Wonderfontein 258 JP. The site is located just off the N4 (going east from Groot Marico to Swartruggens) just after the Mardustria turnoff (the turnoff is located just after the Excel Garage).

The site lies south-east relative to the town of Groot Marico.

The landfill site is bordered by open land with the N4 towards the south-west and three water reservoirs in the north-west. Mardustria industrial area is located towards the east of the site. A large suburb (Robile) is located towards the south of the site across from the N4.

See Maps GM01, GM07 and GM08 in Annexure A

(Farm name, portion etc.) Where a large number of properties are involved (e.g. linear activities), please attach a full list to this application.

Portion 252 of the Farm Wonderfontein 258 JP

In instances where there is more than one town or district involved, please attach a list of towns or districts to this application.

Current land-use zoning:

Agricultural.

In instances where there is more than one current land-use zoning, please attach a list of current land use zonings that also indicate which portions each use pertains to, to this application.

Is a change of land-use or a consent use application required?

YES	NO
X	

Must a building plan be submitted to the local authority?

YES	NO
	X

Locality map:

An A3 locality map must be attached to the back of this document, as Appendix A. The scale of the locality map must be relevant to the size of the development (at least 1:50 000. For linear activities of more than 25 kilometres, a smaller scale e.g. 1:250 000 can be used. The scale must be indicated on the map.) The map must indicate the following:

- an indication of the project site position as well as the positions of the alternative sites, if any; See Map GM07 and GM08 in Appendix C
- road access from all major roads in the area; See Map GM07 and GM08 in Appendix C
- road names or numbers of all major roads as well as the roads that provide access to the site(s); See Map GM07 and GM08 in Appendix C
- all roads within a 1km radius of the site or alternative sites; and See Map GM07 and GM08 in Appendix C
- a north arrow; See Map GM07 and GM08 in Appendix C
- a legend; and See Map GM07 and GM08 in Appendix C
- locality GPS co-ordinates (Indicate the position of the activity using the latitude and longitude of the centre point of the site for each alternative site. The co-ordinates should be in degrees and decimal minutes. The minutes should have at least three decimals to ensure adequate accuracy. The projection that must be used in all cases is the WGS84 spheroid in a national or local projection) See Map GM07 and GM08 in Appendix C

1. GRADIENT OF THE SITE

Indicate the general gradient of the site.

Alternative S1:

Flat	1:50 1:20	–	1:20 – 1:15	1:15 – 1:10 X	1:10 – 1:7,5	1:7,5 – 1:5	Steeper than 1:5
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Alternative S2 (if any):

Flat	1:50 1:20	–	1:20 – 1:15	1:15 – 1:10	1:10 – 1:7,5	1:7,5 – 1:5	Steeper than 1:5
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Alternative S3 (if any):

Flat	1:50 1:20	–	1:20 – 1:15	1:15 – 1:10	1:10 – 1:7,5	1:7,5 – 1:5	Steeper than 1:5
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2. LOCATION IN LANDSCAPE

The site lies south-east relative to the town of Groot Marico. The site is located on an area with a slight gradient. The landfill site is bordered by open land with the N4 towards the south-west and three water reservoirs in the north-west. Mardustria industrial area is located towards the east of the site. A large suburb (Robile) is located towards the south of the site across from the N4

Indicate the landform(s) that best describes the site:

NB: Indicate by highlighting/ticking

2.1 Ridgeline

2.2 Plateau

2.3 Side slope of hill/mountain X⁶

2.4 Closed valley

2.5 Open valley

2.6 Plain

2.7 Undulating plain / low hills

2.8 Dune

2.9 Seafront

3. GROUNDWATER, SOIL AND GEOLOGICAL STABILITY OF THE SITE

The area is underlain by the Pretoria shale, slate and hornfels (Transvaal Supergroup) with diabase sills. Pretoria quartzite occurs in places.

The soils are mostly deep, red-yellow, apedal, freely drained with high base status with some vertic or melanic clays.

Is the site(s) located on any of the following (tick the appropriate boxes)?

	Alternative S1:		Alternative S2 (if any):		Alternative S3 (if any):	
Shallow water table (less than 1.5m deep)	YES	NO X	YES	NO	YES	NO
Dolomite, sinkhole or doline areas	YES	NO X	YES	NO	YES	NO
Seasonally wet soils (often close to water bodies)	YES	NO X	YES	NO	YES	NO
Unstable rocky slopes or steep slopes with loose soil	YES	NO X	YES	NO	YES	NO
Dispersive soils (soils that dissolve in water)	YES	NO X	YES	NO	YES	NO
Soils with high clay content (clay fraction more than 40%)	YES	NO X	YES	NO	YES	NO
Any other unstable soil or geological feature	YES	NO X	YES	NO	YES	NO
An area sensitive to erosion	YES	NO X	YES	NO	YES	NO

If you are unsure about any of the above or if you are concerned that any of the above aspects may be an issue of concern in the application, an appropriate specialist should be appointed to assist in the completion of this section. (Information in respect of the above will often be available as part of the project information or at the planning sections of local authorities. Where it exists, the 1:50 000 scale Regional Geotechnical Maps prepared by the Council for Geo Science may also be consulted).

⁶ Gentle slope of 20m

4. GROUND COVER

Indicate the types of groundcover present on the site:

The vegetation type is classified as SVcb 3 Zeerust Thornveld. The vegetation is main deciduous, open dense short thorny woodland, dominated by Acacia species with herbaceous layer mainly grasses.

The location of all identified rare or endangered species or other elements should be accurately indicated on the site plan(s). See Map GM01 in Appendix A

SANBI has not classified the area as a sensitive biodiversity area. According to Mucina and Rutherford (2006), the conservation status is least threatened. However, the NW SDF classifies the area as Aquatic Critical Biodiversity Area A1. Therefore the Groot Marico landfill site is on an area classified by the North West Province as protected area therefore closure of the landfill site will yield positive environmental impact to the protected biodiversity occurring in this area.

Natural veld - good condition ^E	Natural veld with scattered aliens ^E X	Natural veld with heavy infestation ^E	Veld dominated by alien species ^E	Gardens
Sport field	Cultivated land	Paved surface	Building or other structure	Bare soil

If any of the boxes marked with an “^E” is ticked, please consult an appropriate specialist to assist in the completion of this section if the environmental assessment practitioner doesn’t have the necessary expertise.

5. LAND USE CHARACTER OF SURROUNDING AREA

Indicate land uses and/or prominent features that does currently occur within a 500m radius of the site and give description of how this influences the application or may be impacted upon by the application:

NB: Indicate by highlighting/ticking

5.1 Natural area

5.2 Low density residential

5.3 Medium density residential **X**

5.4 High density residential

5.5 Informal residential^A

5.6 Retail commercial & warehousing

5.7 Light industrial

5.8 Medium industrial ^{AN}

5.9 Heavy industrial ^{AN}

5.10 Power station

5.11 Office/consulting room

5.12 Military or police base/station/compound

5.13 Spoil heap or slimes dam^A

5.14 Quarry, sand or borrow pit

5.15 Dam or reservoir

5.16 Hospital/medical centre

5.17 School

5.18 Tertiary education facility

5.19 Church

5.20 Old age home

5.21 Sewage treatment plant^A

5.22 Train station or shunting yard^N

5.23 Railway line^N

5.24 Major road (4 lanes or more)^N

5.25 Airport^N

5.26 Harbour

5.27 Sport facilities

5.28 Golf course

5.29 Polo fields

5.30 Filling station^H

5.31 Landfill or waste treatment site

5.32 Plantation

5.33 Agriculture

5.34 River, stream or wetland **X**

5.35 Nature conservation area

5.36 Mountain, koppie or ridge

5.37 Museum

5.38 Historical building

5.39 Protected Area

5.40 Graveyard

5.41 Archaeological site

5.42 Other land uses (specify)

If any of the features marked with an "N" are highlighted or ticked, how this impact will / be impacted upon by the proposed activity?

Not Applicable

If any of the features marked with an "An" are highlighted or ticked, how will this impact / be impacted upon by the proposed activity?

If YES, specify and explain: Not Applicable

If YES, specify: Not Applicable

If any of the features marked with an "H" are highlighted or ticked, how will this impact / be impacted upon by the proposed activity.

If YES, specify and explain: Not Applicable

If YES, specify: Not Applicable

6. CULTURAL/HISTORICAL FEATURES

Are there any signs of culturally or historically significant elements, as defined in section 2 of the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999, (Act No. 25 of 1999), including

YES	NO ⁷
	X

Archaeological or palaeontological sites, on or close (within 20m) to the site?

No

If YES, explain: Not Applicable

If uncertain, conduct a specialist investigation by a recognised specialist in the field to establish whether there is such a feature(s) present on or close to the site.

⁷ According to the South African Heritage Resource Information System (SAHRIS) there are no declared archaeological or paleontological sites with 20 metres from the site. According to the Council of Geoscience's fossil sensitivity map the area where the landfill site is located are expected to have a high sensitivity as far as paleontological sensitivity is concerned. Desktop study may be required and based on the outcome of the desktop study, a field assessment is likely.

Briefly explain the findings of the specialist:

Not Applicable

Will any building or structure older than 60 years be affected in any way?

YES NO

X

Is it necessary to apply for a permit in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act 25 of 1999)?

YES NO

X

If yes, please submit or, make sure that the applicant or a specialist submits the necessary application to SAHRA or the relevant provincial heritage agency and attach proof thereof to this application if such application has been made.

SECTION C: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The entire public participation process, outcomes and evidence are recorded in Appendix G1.

1. ADVERTISEMENT

The person conducting a public participation process must take into account any guidelines applicable to public participation as contemplated in section 24J of the Act and must give notice to all potential interested and affected parties of the application which is subjected to public participation by—

- (a) fixing a notice board (of a size at least 60cm by 42cm; and must display the required information in lettering and in a format as may be determined by the competent authority) at a place conspicuous to the public at the boundary or on the fence of—
 - (i) the site where the activity to which the application relates is or is to be undertaken; and
 - (ii) any alternative site mentioned in the application;
- (b) giving written notice to—
 - (i) the owner or person in control of that land if the applicant is not the owner or person in control of the land;
 - (ii) the occupiers of the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken or to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken;
 - (iii) owners and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken or to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken;
 - (iv) the municipal councillor of the ward in which the site or alternative site is situated and any organisation of ratepayers that represent the community in the area;
 - (v) the municipality which has jurisdiction in the area;
 - (vi) any organ of state having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the activity; and
 - (vii) any other party as required by the competent authority;

- (c) placing an advertisement in—
 - (i) one local newspaper; or
 - (ii) any official *Gazette* that is published specifically for the purpose of providing public notice of applications or other submissions made in terms of these Regulations;
- (d) placing an advertisement in at least one provincial newspaper or national newspaper, if the activity has or may have an impact that extends beyond the boundaries of the metropolitan or local municipality in which it is or will be undertaken: Provided that this paragraph need not be complied with if an advertisement has been placed in an official *Gazette* referred to in subregulation 54(c)(ii); and
- (e) using reasonable alternative methods, as agreed to by the competent authority, in those instances where a person is desiring of but unable to participate in the process due to—
 - (i) illiteracy;
 - (ii) disability; or
 - (iii) any other disadvantage.

2. CONTENT OF ADVERTISEMENTS AND NOTICES

A notice board, advertisement or notices must:

- (a) indicate the details of the application which is subjected to public participation; and
- (b) state—
 - (i) that the application has been submitted to the competent authority in terms of these Regulations, as the case may be;
 - (ii) whether basic assessment or scoping procedures are being applied to the application, in the case of an application for environmental authorisation;
 - (iii) the nature and location of the activity to which the application relates;
 - (iv) where further information on the application or activity can be obtained; and
 - (iv) the manner in which and the person to whom representations in respect of the application may be made

3. PLACEMENT OF ADVERTISEMENTS AND NOTICES

Where the proposed activity may have impacts that extend beyond the municipal area where it is located, a notice must be placed in at least one provincial newspaper or national newspaper, indicating that an application will be submitted to the competent authority in terms of these regulations, the nature and location of the activity, where further information on the proposed activity can be obtained and the manner in which representations in respect of the application can be made, unless a notice has been placed in any *Gazette* that is published specifically for the purpose of providing notice to the public of applications made in terms of the EIA regulations.

Advertisements and notices must make provision for all alternatives.

4. DETERMINATION OF APPROPRIATE MEASURES

The practitioner must ensure that the public participation is adequate and must determine whether a public meeting or any other additional measure is appropriate or not based on the particular nature of each case. Special attention should be given to the involvement of local community structures such as Ward Committees, ratepayers associations and traditional authorities where appropriate. Please note that public concerns that emerge at a later stage that should have been addressed may cause the competent authority to withdraw any authorisation it may have issued if it becomes apparent that the public participation process was inadequate.

5. COMMENTS AND RESPONSE REPORT

The practitioner must record all comments and respond to each comment of the public before the application is submitted. The comments and responses must be captured in a comments and response report as prescribed in the EIA regulations and be attached to this application. The comments and response report must be attached under Appendix E.

6. AUTHORITY PARTICIPATION

Please note that a complete list of all organs of state and or any other applicable authority with their contact details must be appended to the basic assessment report or scoping report, whichever is applicable.

Authorities are key interested and affected parties in each application and no decision on any application will be made before the relevant local authority is provided with the opportunity to give input.

List of authorities informed:

- North-West Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism (DEDECT);
 - NW Department of Local Government and Traditional Affairs
 - Department of Water Affairs (National and Regional Offices);
 - Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF);
 - The South African Heritage Resource Authority (SAHRA);
- Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality; and
Ramotshere Moiloa Local Municipality
Also see the list of I&AP's attached to Appendix G1.*

List of authorities from whom comments have been received:

- NW Department of Local Government and Traditional Affairs
- Department of Water Affairs (National and Regional Offices);
- Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF).

7. CONSULTATION WITH OTHER STAKEHOLDERS

Note that, for linear activities, or where deviation from the public participation requirements may be appropriate, the person conducting the public participation process may deviate from the requirements of that sub-regulation to the extent and in the manner as may be agreed to by the competent authority.

Proof of any such agreement must be provided, where applicable.

Has any comment been received from stakeholders?

YES	NO
X	

If “YES”, briefly describe the feedback below (also attach copies of any correspondence to and from the stakeholders to this application):

Verbal comments were received from DAFF are:

- The DAFF wishes to be informed of the process and detail and that it will only comment on an application if land zoned for, or used as agricultural land is rezoned or used for any purpose other than agriculture.
- The DAFF also recommended that the site should not be rezoned from agricultural to municipal if the post closure land use reverts back to agriculture.

The NW Department of Local Government and Traditional Affairs

- Members of the department requested via email to be registered for the project.

The Department of Water Affairs

- Members of the Head Office and the relevant regional office provided specifications for closing GCB waste sites.

SECTION D: IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The assessment of impacts must adhere to the minimum requirements in the EIA Regulations, 2010, and should take applicable official guidelines into account. The issues raised by interested and affected parties should also be addressed in the assessment of impacts.

1. ISSUES RAISED BY INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES

List the main issues raised by interested and affected parties.

See Appendix E.

Response from the practitioner to the issues raised by the interested and affected parties (A full response must be given in the Comments and Response Report that must be attached to this report as Annexure E):

See Appendix E.

2. IMPACTS THAT MAY RESULT FROM THE PLANNING AND DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, OPERATIONAL, DECOMMISSIONING AND CLOSURE PHASES AS WELL AS PROPOSED MANAGEMENT OF IDENTIFIED IMPACTS AND PROPOSED MITIGATION MEASURES

See Appendix G2 (a) for the Impact identification matrix and Appendix G2(b) for impact assessment matrix.

List the potential direct, indirect and cumulative property/activity/design/technology/operational alternative related impacts (as appropriate) that are likely to occur as a result of the planning and design phase, construction phase, operational phase, decommissioning and closure phase, including impacts relating to the choice of site/activity/technology alternatives as well as the mitigation measures that may eliminate or reduce the potential impacts listed.

Alternative (preferred alternative)

Direct impacts:

- The provision and operation of on-site staff facilities and activities may have negative impacts with a low significance on soil and air pollution, habitat transformation, social impacts and sense of place (due to safety aspects and nuisance), infrastructural impacts and use of resources. The aforementioned activities may also result in a medium impact on the quality of surface and ground water. Impacts related to pre-closure activities are, however, expected to be of a short duration (less than 30 days) and restricted to a small part of the site.
- The management of vehicles, machinery & equipment (especially due to the use of hydrocarbons) may have negative impacts of a medium significance on soil pollution, and community safety impacts (due to the operation of machinery and equipment during the closure phase. This may also result in a high impact on the quality of surface water runoff a medium impact on ground water.
- Negative impacts related to activities during earthworks and levelling of the site are expected to be low;
- Management of existing waste (historical disposal on landfill) - i.e. moving scattered waste to dedicated areas of the landfill site, filling trenches etc. is expected to have positive impacts on the potential for future surface water pollution. Short-term negative impacts of a low significance are expected as it relates to soil and air pollution.
- The capping and closing of cells, re-vegetation of the landfill site and removal of alien and invasive vegetation are expected to have positive impacts on the land-use potential and it is expected that the potential for surface water, groundwater and air pollution will be significantly reduced. A concern regarding the capping of cells is the use of clay/impervious material and topsoil, which may be a limited and expensive resource in the area.
- The establishment of infrastructure for the management of storm water and the installation of monitoring infrastructure is expected to have long-term positive impacts on the surrounding environment;
- Prevention of the disposal of waste on the closed landfill site will have net positive impacts on the surrounding environment.
- Establishment and active management and maintenance of the end-land use will have a positive impact on the land-use potential of the site.

Indirect impacts:

- The authorisation of the landfill site will have the indirect positive impact, which will allow the municipality to apply for funding (from MISA or the DEA for example) to rehabilitate and actively manage the waste disposal site.

Cumulative impacts:

- Not applicable.

Alternative (no-go alternative) – Maintaining the *status quo* at the unauthorised waste disposal facility

Direct impacts:

Direct impacts with a high significance

- Surface water contamination (the Groot Marico river is located approximately 1.8km from the site);
- Possible loss of paleontological significant elements;
- Loss of possibly protected biodiversity (since the area is classified by NW SDF as Aquatic Critical Biodiversity Area A1)
- Soil deterioration and contamination;
- No change/gain in land-use potential; and
- Non-compliance to legal requirements.

Direct impacts with a medium significance

- Groundwater pollution;
- Air pollution due to dust and the potential for the burning of waste on site
- Habitat and associated biodiversity loss due to the potential extension of the footprint of the landfill site; and
- Negative hydrological impacts

Direct impacts with a low significance

- Infrastructural impacts;
- Mobility (transportation and pedestrian) impacts ;and
- Use of resources (soil as cover material, hydrocarbons, resources).

Indirect impacts:

- Habitat transformation (due to alien and invasive infestation if it is not controlled);
- Heritage impacts (conservation);
- Social impacts (health, safety, nuisance) and impacts on the sense of place; and
- Non-compliance risks due to the landfill site not being authorised.

Cumulative impacts:

- Not applicable.

3. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Taking the assessment of potential impacts into account, please provide an environmental impact statement that summarises the impact that the proposed activity and its alternatives may have on the environment after the management and mitigation of impacts have been taken into account, with specific reference to types of impact, duration of impacts, likelihood of potential impacts actually occurring and the significance of impacts.

Alternative A (preferred alternative)

Although activities related to the closure of the landfill site may have a potentially adverse impacts of a low to medium significance on surface and ground water pollution, air quality and the quality of soil (erosion and degradation), these impacts are envisaged to be immediate to the site and of a short term. Closing the site will reduce and ultimately eliminate potential contamination of ground water and impacts on natural habitat surrounding the site.

The positive impacts associated with the licencing and closure of the Groot Marico landfill site, including the gain in land-use potential, establishment of stormwater management- and monitoring measures, and positive social (health and safety, and sense of place) will have long-term, highly positive impacts on a local to regional scale.

Therefore, taking into account the relevant information gathered regarding the Groot Marico landfill site and the closure thereof, it is recommended that the proponent proceeds with the proposed activity.

No-go alternative (compulsory)

The no-go alternative is not a viable proposition as the site is currently not licensed. The objective of the project is to authorise and close the site.

Maintaining the *status quo* involves the continuation of an unlawful waste management activity without any requirements or commitment to rehabilitate or manage the landfill site in accordance with an EMP or licence conditions.

In terms of the impact identification and assessment matrices (Appendix G2) the number of activities related to the no-go option seems less as compared to the preferred option (closure of the landfill site), however, in terms of the severity, duration and likelihood of impacts, the continued negative nature of the impacts related to the no-go option are much more significant and severe than the option to close the landfill site.

SECTION E. RECOMMENDATION OF PRACTITIONER

Is the information contained in this report and the documentation attached hereto sufficient to make a decision in respect of the activity applied for (in the view of the environmental assessment practitioner)?

YES	NO
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

If "NO", indicate the aspects that should be assessed further as part of a Scoping and EIA process before a decision can be made (list the aspects that require further assessment):

Not Applicable

If "YES", please list any recommended conditions, including mitigation measures that should be considered for inclusion in any authorisation that may be granted by the competent authority in respect of the application:

See Appendix F

Is an EMPr attached?

YES	NO
X	

The EMPr must be attached as Appendix F.

SECTION F: APPENDIXES

The following appendixes must be attached as appropriate:

Appendix A: Site plan(s)

Appendix B: Photographs

Appendix C: Facility illustration(s)

Appendix D: Specialist reports

Appendix E: Comments and responses report

Appendix F: Environmental Management Programme (EMPr)

Appendix G: Other information