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*Basic Assessment Report for the Closure of the Swartruggens Waste License Application
NWP/WM/BP5/2013/24 Kgetlengriver 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

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 decommissioning and closure of the unlicensed Swartruggens landfill site located in the Kgetlengriver Local Municipality.

NW-DEDECT Reference: NWP/WM/BP5/2013/24

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	North-West Department of Economic Development and Tourism (DEDECT)	Interim operation of the landfill site to be regulated by the NW DEDECT through conditions for operation as part of the waste management license.
Pre-closure conditions	Yes	CEM	Addressed as part of the EMPr (<i>Appendix F</i>).
Closure plan/EMPr to inform closure design	Yes	CEM	Addressed as part of the EMPr (<i>Appendix F</i>).
Closure design and approval	No	Kgetlengriver Local Municipality to appoint a registered Consulting Engineer.	A detailed closure plan, project plan, design plan and drawings need to be drafted by the appointed and registered engineer, once the municipality is ready to commence with

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.

			closure of the site.
Detailed design requirements (closure/remedial design, design of storm water management, leachate management, settlement/surface pondage), plan drawings, and long and short term stability.	No	Kgetlengriver Local Municipality to appoint a registered Consulting Engineer.	<p>It is not possible to draft detailed closure designs and planning proposals for the Swartruggens landfill site at this stage.</p> <p>The proponent (Kgetlengriver Local Municipal) needs to make provision for this in its Integrated Development Plan (IDP) as well as the short to medium expenditure framework. The closure of this site is the responsibility of the Kgetlengriver Local Municipality.</p> <p>It is unknown 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 draft the final closure designs and planning when the project can be implemented. It is imperative that the NW DEDECT and the Department of Water Affairs (DWA) sign off on these final designs.</p> <p>Addressed as part of the EMPr (Appendix F).</p>
Alternative waste disposal options – new landfill site	Not applicable	Bojanala Platinum District Municipality	<p>A regional landfill facility (Waterval) is being constructed in Rustenburg and will be utilised, after completion in 2014, as a central site for waste disposal in the Bojanala Platinum District Municipality. According to the Feasibility Report for Regional Landfill Site(s) in the Bojanala Platinum District Municipality (2011), compiled by the District Municipality, a waste transfer station is envisaged to be constructed at Swartruggens where waste will be sorted for recycling. After</p>

			sorting the waste, the unrecyclable waste will be transported to the Waterval site for final disposal.
Alternative waste disposal options – transfer station	No	Kgetlengriver Local Municipality	The Bojanala Platinum District Municipality makes provision for the construction of strategically placed waste transfer stations in the region (Bojanala Platinum District Municipality Integrated Waste Management Plan). A waste management feasibility study was conducted by the District Municipality and established that the development of a transfer station at Swartruggens will be a practicable option (Feasibility Report for Regional Landfill Site(s) in the Bojanala Platinum District Municipality, 2011). This facility will serve both Swartruggens and Madikwe before the waste is transported to the Waterval landfill facility, currently being constructed.
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	Not applicable	No additional authorisations have been identified during the EIA.
Rezoning application	Yes	Kgetlengriver Local Municipality	The land is zoned for municipal use and the desired post closure use of the land is intended to be for municipal use. Therefore, rezoning will not be required.

Site Location:

The Swartruggens landfill site is located approximately 1.5km north-west of the centre of the town of Swartruggens at the right turn-off off Visser street (north) (off v-junction).

The landfill site is located on municipal land managed by the Kgetlengriver Local Municipality on the Remaining Extent of the Farm Brakfontein 404 JP.

The Kgetlengriver Local Municipality manages and is responsible for closing the landfill site. A large waste transfer station is planned for Swartruggens.

The landfill site is bordered by open land. Old oxidation dams are located approximately 100m towards the south-east of the landfill site. The nearest houses are located approximately 400m towards the east of the landfill site. An Eskom substation and war graves are located approximately 600m towards the south-east of the landfill site.

Zonation of the land:

The land is zoned for municipal use, whilst the land surrounding the site is zoned for agricultural use.

Land ownership:

The land belongs to the government and is managed by the Kgetlengriver Local Municipality.

Operating entity:

The key municipal powers and functions of Water, Sanitation and Solid Waste Disposal in the Bojanala Platinum District Municipality is the responsibility of the Kgetlengriver Local Municipality. The Kgetlengriver Local Municipality administers the solid waste functions and operations at the Swartruggens landfill site. The Local Municipality thus coordinates the IDP, MIG Projects, planning and general operations related to waste management in Swartruggens. Waste Management is a function of the municipal health services in the Kgetlengriver Local Municipality.

Kgetlengriver Local Municipality is using out-dated by-laws. The municipality's IDP acknowledges waste management as a problematic area, yet no strategic approach has been identified to address the issue. Kgetlengriver Local Municipality does not have an Integrated Waste Management Plan (IWMP) and no provisions have been made in the IDP or budget for the compilation of such a plan (Bojanala Platinum District Municipality IWMP, 2010).

The institutional structure does not support effective waste management, with no separate waste management sub-department. Waste management is the responsibility of the technical services unit manager who is also responsible for roads, water and sewer services. The lack of full time waste management shows in the low priority that the municipality affords this service (Bojanala Platinum District IWMP, 2010).

Waste site characteristics and current operations:

The site is approximately 1.1 ha in extent and is expected to be classified as a GCB- site. It is unknown since when the site has been in operation. Moreover, the landfill site is neither licenced nor operated in accordance with accepted waste management norms. The Bojanala Platinum District Municipality's IWMP stipulates that the Kgetlengriver Local Municipality generates an estimated annual waste quantity of 11 000 tons. The facility has poor access controls and waste is illegally being dumped next to the access road to the landfill site. Apart from the gravel access road, there is no infrastructure at the landfill site.

The site consists of areas where waste has been pushed into a u-shaped stockpile or berm. These areas are covered with a layer of topsoil and are heavily infested with alien species.

Waste is not being compacted or covered on a daily basis and no monitoring of ground water quality or potential landfill gas is conducted. The uncovered waste and associated wind-blown litter are presenting a negative aesthetic impact at the site and its surroundings. Additionally, evidence was observed of the burning of waste at the landfill site. A large quantity of waste tyres has been observed to be disposed on-site. Many of these tyres are being burned to recover steel thread from the tyres.

Waste recyclers:

A total of 19 waste recyclers were found on-site, of whom some have obtained a registration certificate from the Bojanala Platinum District Municipality.

Closure activities:

The landfill site needs to be lawfully decommissioned, closed and rehabilitated. Three scenarios or alternatives are available:

- **Alternative 1:** *In-situ* closure and capping of the waste body, once an alternative waste disposal site is available (with interim conditions for operation, prior to final closure);

The preferred alternative involves the intermediate operation of the landfill site, subject to certain conditions, while the planned transfer station and regional landfill site is under construction.

- Conditions must be prescribed for operating the landfill site prior to the final closure thereof. Minimum requirements must be adhered to for the intermediate operation of the site.
 - A registered civil engineer must design the optimal position, shape, size and height of the closed landfill site.
 - The facility must be designed in terms of the Minimum Requirements and the additional requirements of the Department of Water Affairs. These arrangements include, but are not limited to the prevention of water ingress into the dump, the formation of leachate and the elimination of general pollution associated with the site.
 - Implement and maintain a maintenance and care programme and a sustained ground water quality monitoring programme.
- **Alternative 2:** Immediate closure and capping of the existing waste body; or
 - **Alternative 3:** The no-go alternative.

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.

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.

Description of alternatives considered in this application:

The objective of this application is to decommission and close the waste disposal facility at Swartruggens. 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 (preferred): *In-situ* closure and capping of the waste body, once an alternative waste disposal site is available (with interim conditions for operation, prior to final closure)**

The preferred alternative involves the intermediate operation of the landfill site, subject to certain conditions, while the planned transfer station and regional landfill site is under construction.

- Conditions must be prescribed for operating the landfill site prior to the final closure thereof. Minimum requirements must be adhered to for the intermediate operation of the site.
- A registered civil engineer must design the optimal position, shape, size and height of the closed landfill site.
- The facility must be designed in terms of the Minimum Requirements and the additional requirements of the Department of Water Affairs. These arrangements include, but are not limited to the prevention of water ingress into the dump, the formation of leachate and the elimination of general pollution associated with the site.
- Implement and maintain a maintenance and care programme and a sustained ground water quality monitoring programme.

➤ **Alternative 2: Immediate closure and capping of the existing waste body**

➤ **Alternative 3 (not preferred): The no-go alternative (maintaining the status quo of the unauthorised waste disposal facility)**

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

Latitude (S): **Longitude (E):**

Alternative S1² (preferred or only site alternative)

25°	38'37.5"	26°	42'25.2"
o	'	o	'
o	'	o	'

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

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

In the case of linear activities:

Alternative: Not Applicable

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

o	'	o	'
o	'	o	'
o	'	o	'

Alternative S2 (if any)

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

o	'	o	'
o	'	o	'
o	'	o	'

Alternative S3 (if any)

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

o	'	o	'
o	'	o	'
o	'	o	'

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

² "Alternative S" refers to site alternatives.

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

The size of the landfill site that requires decommissioning and closure is: 1.1ha.

Alternative: : **Not Applicable**

Size of the activity:

Alternative A1³ (preferred activity alternative)

11 805m²

Alternative A2 (if any)

m²

Alternative A3 (if any)

m²

or, for linear activities:

Alternative: : **Not Applicable**

Length of the activity:

Alternative A1 (preferred activity alternative)

M

Alternative A2 (if any)

M

Alternative A3 (if any)

M

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)

m²

Alternative A2 (if any)

m²

Alternative A3 (if any)

m²

5. SITE ACCESS

Does ready access to the site exist?

YES X	NO
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If NO, what is the distance over which a new access road will be built: **Not Applicable**

m

Describe the type of access road planned: **Not Applicable**

³ “Alternative A” refers to activity, process, technology or other alternatives.

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.

Not Applicable

6. SITE OR ROUTE PLAN:

See Maps SW01, SW02, SW03 and SW04 in Appendix A.

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 SW02 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 SW03 and SW04 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 SW01 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 SW01 in Appendix A.*
- 6.6 all trees and shrubs taller than 1.8 metres; *See Map SW01 in Appendix A.*
- 6.7 walls and fencing including details of the height and construction material; *See Map SW01 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 SW01 in Appendix A.*
 - the 1:100 year flood line (where available or where it is required by DWA); *See Map SW01 in Appendix A.*
 - ridges; *See Map SW01 in Appendix A.*
 - cultural and historical features; *See Map SW01 in Appendix A.*
 - areas with indigenous vegetation (even if it is degraded or invested with alien species); *See Map SW01 in Appendix A.*
- 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 SW01 in Appendix A.*

6.11 the positions from where photographs of the site were taken. See Map SW01 in Appendix A.

7. SITE PHOTOGRAPHS

See Appendix B.

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.

8. FACILITY ILLUSTRATION

Two illustrations are provided:

- SW05 indicates the current status of waste disposal (See Appendix C).
- SW06 indicates the activity post closure (See Appendix C).

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.

9. ACTIVITY MOTIVATION

9(a) Socio-economic value of the activity

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

To be determined

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

To be determined

Will the activity contribute to service infrastructure?

YES	NO X
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Is the activity a public amenity?

YES	NO X
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How many new employment opportunities will be created in the development phase of the activity?

To be determined

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

Not determined

What percentage of this will accrue to previously disadvantaged individuals?

Not determined

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

None

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

Not determined

What percentage of this will accrue to previously disadvantaged individuals?

Not determined

9(b) Need and desirability of the activity

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

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

- The landfill site is operated unlawfully in terms of the NEM:WA. Closure of the site is therefore desirable.
- According to the DWA's borehole database the depth of the groundwater table in the area of the landfill site varies from 1.21m to 36.57m. The shallow water table increases the risk of groundwater contamination.
- The Swartruggens Mountain Bushveld is classified by the North West Spatial Development Framework (SDF) as a unique, important or sensitive habitat, and is thus suitable for conservation. The vegetation unit is rated as vulnerable in terms of its conservation status by Mucina and Rutherford (2006). Therefore, the footprint of the landfill site should not be extended to prevent further harm to the surrounding (vulnerable) habitat.
- According to the Feasibility Report for Regional Landfill Site(s) in the Bojanala Platinum District (2011) the best practicable environmental option for waste management practices in the district involves the construction of a transfer facility in Swartruggens, which will also serve the community of Madikwe.

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

- Manage waste more responsibly and lawfully within the Bojanala Platinum District Municipality and the Kgetlengriver Local Municipality.

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 X⁴	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 The SDF dated 2004 of the North West Province was consulted.

4.	If the answer to any of the questions 1-3 was NO, please provide further motivation / explanation: Not Applicable		
5.	Will the proposed land use / development impact on the sense of place?	YES X	NO
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 X	NO
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: The impact of the proposed activity on the sense of place of the area will be positive as the area will be restored. However, the impact on the rights of persons, specifically the waste recyclers, will be negative since they will no longer have access to the waste source for recovering and recycling the waste. Hence, the waste recyclers will lose their only source of income. This impact can be mitigated by providing the waste recyclers with safe and controlled access to the waste resource at the planned waste transfer station.		

BENEFITS:			
1.	Will the land use / development have any benefits for society in general?	YES X	NO
	Explain: The benefits accrue to the adjacent land owners as the risk of fire and exposure of cattle to wind-blown plastic will be eliminated.		
3.	Will the land use / development have any benefits for the local communities where it will be located?	YES X	NO
	Explain: The community members of the town of Swartruggens will benefit once the town's landfill site is closed and a waste transfer station is built in. This waste transfer station needs to be managed to ensure that the waste handlers are controlled and protected from hazards posed by the waste, including pathogens.		

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, Conservation and Tourism	2008
List of waste management activities that have, or are	National Department of Environmental	2013

Title of legislation, policy or guideline:	Administering authority:	Date:
likely to have a detrimental effect on the environment (GN. 921), 2013	Affairs and Provincial Department of Economic Development, Conservation and Tourism	
Waste Classification and Waste Management Regulations (GN 634), 2013	National Department of Environmental Affairs and Provincial Department of Economic Development, 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, 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, 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, Conservation and Tourism	2013
Waste Information Regulations (GN 625), 2012	National Department of Environmental Affairs and Provincial Department of Economic Development, Conservation and Tourism	2012
National Waste Management Strategy, 2010	National Department of Environmental Affairs and Provincial Department of Economic Development, 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, Conservation and Tourism	2004
National Ambient Air Quality Standards in Terms of Section 9(1)(a) and (b) of the National Environment 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, 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

Title of legislation, policy or guideline:	Administering authority:	Date:
Municipal Systems Act , 2000 (Act 32 of 2000)	Local Municipality	2000
North West Provincial Spatial Development Framework	NW Province	2008
Bojanala Platinum District Municipality's IWMP	Bojanala Platinum District Municipality	2011
Bojanala Platinum District Municipality's IDP	Bojanala Platinum District Municipality	2011
Kgetlengriver Local Municipality Spatial Development Framework (SDF)	Kgetlengriver Local Municipality	2010
Feasibility Report for Regional Landfill Site(s) in the Bojanala Platinum District	Bojanala Platinum District	2011

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 ⁵ 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
-----	----------------

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
-----	----------------

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
-----	----------------

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
-----	----------------

⁵ The activity itself (landfill site) will not produce solid waste. However, the application is for the closure of a landfill site which received solid waste during its operational phase.

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:	
Fax:	

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	NO
X	

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

YES	NO
	X

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 of landfill gas (mainly carbon dioxide and methane) to be generated. However, small volumes of domestic waste is being disposed-off, thus 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 generation from the surface of the landfill due to wind and erosion; and
- Vehicle exhausts emissions.

11(d) Generation of noise

Will the activity generate noise?

YES	NO
X	

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

YES	NO
	X

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.

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 except for the hydrocarbon use during site works.

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 except for the hydrocarbon use during site works.

SECTION B: SITE/AREA/PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

The Swartruggens landfill site is located approximately 1.5km north-west of the centre of the town of Swartruggens at the right turn-off off Visser street (north) (off v-junction).

The landfill site is located on municipal land managed by the Kgetlengriver Local Municipality on the Remaining Extent of the Farm Brakfontein 404 JP.

The Kgetlengriver Local Municipality manages and is responsible for closing the landfill site. A large waste transfer station is planned for Swartruggens.

The landfill site is bordered by open land. Old oxidation dams are located approximately 100m towards the south-east of the landfill site. The nearest houses are located approximately 400m towards the east of the landfill site. An Eskom substation and war graves are located approximately 600m towards the south-east of the landfill site.

The land is zoned for municipal use, whilst the land surrounding the site is zoned for agricultural use.

The land belongs to and is managed by the Kgetlengriver Local Municipality.

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 Swartruggens landfill site is located approximately 1.5km north-west of the centre of the town of Swartruggens at the right turn-off off Visser street (north) (off v-junction).

The landfill site is located on municipal land managed by the Kgetlengriver Local Municipality on the Remaining Extent of the Farm Brakfontein 404 JP.

The Kgetlengriver Local Municipality manages and is responsible for closing the landfill site. A large waste transfer station is planned for Swartruggens.

The landfill site is bordered by open land. Old oxidation dams are located approximately 100m towards the south-east of the landfill site. The nearest houses are located approximately 400m towards the east of the landfill site. An Eskom substation and war graves are located approximately 600m towards the south-east of the landfill site.

The land is zoned for municipal use, whilst the land surrounding the site is zoned for agricultural use.

The land belongs to and is managed by the Kgetlengriver Local Municipality.

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

The landfill site is located on the Remaining Extent of the Farm Brakfontein 404 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:

The land is zoned for municipal use.

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 this application.

Is a change of land-use or a consent use application required?
Must a building plan be submitted to the local authority?

YES	NO X
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 SW07 and T08 in Appendix A).
- road access from all major roads in the area; (See Map SW07 and SW08 in Appendix A).
- road names or numbers of all major roads as well as the roads that provide access to the site(s); (See Map SW07 and SW08 in Appendix A).
- all roads within a 1km radius of the site or alternative sites; and (See Map SW07 and SW08 in Appendix A).
- a north arrow; (See Map SW07 and SW08 in Appendix A).
- a legend; and (See Map SW07 and SW08 in Appendix A).
- 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 SW07 and SW08 in Appendix A).

1. GRADIENT OF THE SITE

Indicate the general gradient of the site.

Alternative S1:

Flat	1:50 1:20 X	–	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 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 is located on an area with a slight gradient. The land is zoned for municipal use, whilst the land surrounding the site is zoned for agricultural use.

The vegetation type is classified as Vegetation Unit and Topographical Features SVcb 8, Moot Plains Bushveld. The vegetation is mainly open to closed, low, often thorny savanna dominated by various species of Acacia in the bottomlands and plains as well as woodlands of varying height and density on the lower hillsides. The herbaceous layer is dominated by grasses. The disturbed areas are heavily invaded with alien species. The area is classified as a CBA T2⁶ by the North West SDF and SANBI. The Swartruggens Mountain Bushveld is further classified by the aforementioned SDF as a unique, important or sensitive habitat, and is thus suitable for conservation. The vegetation unit is rated as vulnerable in terms of its conservation status by Mucina and Rutherford (2006). Therefore, the footprint of the landfill site should not be extended to prevent further harm to the surrounding (vulnerable) habitat.

No significant sensitive environmental features were observed on and around the site. Ground water levels could not be verified due to the lack of data regarding groundwater.

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

NB: Indicate by highlighting/ticking

2.1 Ridgeline

2.2 Plateau Flat

2.3 Side slope of hill/mountain

2.4 Closed valley

2.5 Open valley

2.6 Plain X

2.7 Undulating plain / low hills

2.8 Dune

2.9 Seafront

3. GROUNDWATER, SOIL AND GEOLOGICAL STABILITY OF THE SITE

⁶This means:

- Near-natural landscapes.
- Ecosystems and species largely intact and undisturbed.
- Areas with intermediate irreplaceability or some flexibility in terms of area required to meet biodiversity targets. There are options for loss of some components of biodiversity in these landscapes without compromising our ability to achieve targets.

These are landscapes that are approaching but have not passed their limits of acceptable change.

The area is underlain by the Shales of the Black Reef Family and the Transvaal Supergroup, while the soil is classified as red-yellow Apedal, freely drained soils (red, high base status >300 mm deep (no dunes)).

According to the DWA's borehole database the depth of the groundwater table in the area of the landfill site varies from 1.21m to 36.57m. The depth of the immediate water table could, however, not be verified due to a lack of data.

The proposed locations of the monitoring boreholes and the direction of flow of the groundwater are indicated on *Map SW09 in Appendix A*.

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 X	NO	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).

4. GROUNDCOVER

Indicate the types of groundcover present on the site:

The vegetation type is classified as Vegetation Unit and Topographical Features SVcb 8, Moot Plains Bushveld. The vegetation is mainly open to closed, low, often thorny savanna dominated by various species of *Acacia* in the bottomlands and plains as well as woodlands of varying height and density on the lower hillsides. The herbaceous layer is dominated by grasses. The disturbed areas are heavily invaded with alien species.

The location of all identified rare or endangered species or other elements should be accurately indicated on the site plan(s). See Fig SW01 in Appendix A.

The area is classified as a CBA T2 by the North West SDF and SANBI. The Swartruggens Mountain Bushveld is further classified by the aforementioned SDF as a unique, important or sensitive habitat, and is thus suitable for conservation.

The vegetation unit is rated as vulnerable in terms of its conservation status by Mucina and Rutherford (2006). Therefore, the footprint of the landfill site should not be extended to prevent further harm to the surrounding (vulnerable) habitat.

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

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:

The Swartruggens landfill site is located approximately 1.5km north-west of the centre of the town of Swartruggens at the right turn-off off Visser street (north) (off v-junction).

The landfill site is located on municipal land managed by the Kgetlengriver Local Municipality on the Remaining Extent of the Farm Brakfontein 404 JP.

The Kgetlengriver Local Municipality manages and is responsible for closing the landfill site. A large waste transfer station is planned for Swartruggens.

The landfill site is bordered by open land. Old oxidation dams are located approximately 100m towards the south-east of the landfill site. The nearest houses are located approximately 400m towards the east of the landfill site. An Eskom substation and war graves are located approximately 600m towards the south-east of the landfill site.

The land is zoned for municipal use, whilst the land surrounding the site is zoned for agricultural use.

The land belongs to and is managed by the Kgetlengriver Local Municipality.

NB: Indicate by highlighting:

5.1 Natural area

5.2 Low density residential

5.3 Medium density residential **X**

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* **X**
- 5.32 *Plantation*
- 5.33 *Agriculture* **X**
- 5.34 *River, stream or wetland*

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 will this impact / 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?

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?

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

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

YES	NO ⁷ X
No ⁸ X	

If YES, explain:

Not Applicable

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 has an unknown sensitivity as far as paleontological sensitivity is concerned. This area requires, as a minimum, a desktop study.

⁸ In terms of section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act (25 of 1999), the activities related to the closure of the existing waste disposal site at Swartruggens exceeds 5000m² in extent.

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.

Briefly explain the findings of the specialist:

Not Applicable

Will any building or structure older than 60 years be affected in any way?
Is it necessary to apply for a permit in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act 25 of 1999)?

YES	NO X
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.

In terms of section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act (25 of 1999), the activities related to the closure of the existing waste disposal site at Swartruggens exceeds 5000m² in extent. The activity has been registered with SAHRA.

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 sub-regulation 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
 - (v)

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);
- North-West 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);
- Bojanala Platinum District Municipality; and
- Kgetlengriver Local Municipality.

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); and
- 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 the:

- Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF): *The DAFF wishes to be informed of the process and detail regarding the process. The DAFF indicated that it will only comment on an application if the land is zoned for, or used as agricultural land and must be 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.*
- NW Department of Local Government and Traditional Affairs: Members of the department requested 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

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 1 (preferred): *In-situ* closure and capping of the waste body, once an alternative waste disposal site is available (with interim conditions for operation, prior to final closure)

Direct, indirect and cumulative impact associated with the interim operation of the landfill site

Direct impacts:

Direct impacts with a high significance:

- Surface water contamination;
- Ground water contamination;
- Soil deterioration and contamination;
- No change/gain in land-use potential; and
- Non-compliance to legal requirements.

Direct impacts with a medium significance:

- Hydrology;
- Air pollution due to dust and the potential for the burning of waste on site; and
- Direct biodiversity loss due to the potential extension of the footprint of the landfill site.

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);
- Sense of place due to mal-odorous smells and wind-blown dust;
- Social impacts (health, safety, nuisance); and
- Non-compliance risks due to the landfill site not being authorised.

Cumulative impacts:

Not applicable

Direct, indirect and cumulative impact associated with the closure of the landfill site

Direct impacts:

Direct impacts with a medium significance:

- The management of vehicles, machinery and equipment (especially due to the use of hydrocarbons) may have negative impacts of a medium significance on surface water and soil pollution, habitat transformation and community safety impacts (due to the operation of machinery and equipment during the closure phase).

Direct impacts with a low significance:

- The provision and operation of on-site staff facilities and activities may have negative impacts with a low significance on air, soil, and water pollution, sense of place (due to safety aspects and nuisance), social impacts and infrastructural impacts and use of resources. These impacts are, however, expected to be of a short duration (less than 30 days) and restricted to a small part of the site.
- Negative impacts related to activities during earthworks and levelling of the site are expected to be low.

Direct negative impacts:

- The closure of the landfill site will have negative socio-economic impacts to waste recyclers. The municipality needs to consider relocation/other alternatives to accommodate the waste recyclers.

Direct positive impacts:

- Management of existing waste (historical disposal on landfill) - i.e. moving scattered waste to dedicated areas of the landfill site etc. is expected to have positive impacts on the potential for future surface water pollution (since the waste will be concentrated). 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:

Indirect positive impacts:

- The authorisation of the landfill site will have an 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 2: Immediate closure and capping of the existing waste body

Direct impacts:

Direct impacts with a medium significance:

- The management of vehicles, machinery and equipment (especially due to the use of hydrocarbons) may have negative impacts of a medium significance on surface water and soil pollution, habitat transformation and community safety impacts (due to the operation of machinery and equipment during the closure phase).

Direct impacts with a low significance:

- The provision and operation of on-site staff facilities and activities may have negative impacts with a low significance on air, soil, and water pollution, sense of place (due to safety aspects and nuisance), social impacts and infrastructural impacts and use of resources. These impacts are, however, expected to be of a short duration (less than 30 days) and restricted to a small part of the site.
- Negative impacts related to activities during earthworks and levelling of the site are expected to be low.

Direct negative impacts:

- The closure of the landfill site will have negative socio-economic impacts to waste recyclers. The municipality needs to consider relocation/other alternatives to accommodate the waste recyclers.

Direct positive impacts:

- Management of existing waste (historical disposal on landfill) - i.e. moving scattered waste to dedicated areas of the landfill site etc. is expected to have positive impacts on the potential for future surface water pollution (since the waste will be concentrated). 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:

Indirect positive impacts:

- The authorisation of the landfill site will have an 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 3 (not preferred): The no-go alternative (maintaining the status quo of the unauthorised waste disposal facility)

Direct impacts:

Direct impacts with a high significance:

- Surface water contamination;
- Ground water contamination;
- Soil deterioration and contamination;
- No change/gain in land-use potential; and
- Non-compliance to legal requirements.

Direct impacts with a medium significance:

- Hydrology;
- Air pollution due to dust and the potential for the burning of waste on site; and

- Direct biodiversity loss due to the potential extension of the footprint of the landfill site.

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);
- Sense of place due to mal-odorous smells and wind-blown dust;
- Social impacts (health, safety, nuisance); 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 1 (preferred): In-situ closure and capping of the waste body, once an alternative waste disposal site is available (with interim conditions for operation, prior to final closure)

Although activities related to the immediate closure of the landfill site may have 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 Swartruggens landfill site, including the gain in land-use potential, the establishment of stormwater management- and monitoring measures, and the positive social contributions (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 Swartruggens landfill site and the closure thereof, it is recommended that the proponent proceeds with the immediate closure of the landfill site.

Alternative 2: Immediate closure and capping of the existing waste body

Although activities related to the immediate closure of the landfill site may have 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. However, closing the site will eliminate the availability of airspace for waste disposal prior to the construction of the planned transfer facility in Swartruggens.

Alternative 3 (not preferred): The no-go alternative (maintaining the status quo of the unauthorised waste disposal facility)

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 compared to the preferred option (immediate 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 X	NO
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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 X	NO
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The EMPr must be attached as Appendix F.

SECTION F: APPENDICES

The following appendixes must be attached as appropriate:

Appendix A: Site plan(s);

Appendix B: Site photographs;

Appendix C: Facility illustration(s);

Appendix D: Specialist reports; **Not Applicable**

Appendix E: Comments and responses report;

Appendix F: EMPr; and

Appendix G: Other information

Appendix G1: Public participation report;

Appendix G2: Impact assessment and evaluation matrices; and

Appendix G3: Waste licence application form (as submitted to NW DEDECT)