

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT (BID)

OURA SOLUTIONS

JANUARY 2020

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED
ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTEGRATED SUSTAINABLE HUMAN
SETTLEMENT (TOWNSHIP ESTABLISHMENT) IN ERMELO,
MSUKALIGWA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE.

APPLICANT:

Nkolele Projects recently appointed OURA Solutions on behalf of The Department of Human Settlement (DHS) as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

The Department of Human Settlement is applying for an Environmental Authorisation (EA) for the proposed establishment of an integrated sustainable human settlement on Portions 8 of the farm Buhrmanns Tafelkop 135 IT, Msukalingwa Local Municipality, Mpumalanga Province. The township establishment process entails construction of 700 low cost residential housing located on an already existing Mabuza informal settlement, with the intention to increase the number of units to about 3200 units in addition to the existing 700 households.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

Public participation offers Interested and Affected Parties (I&AP's) the opportunity to learn about the project and to raise issues they are concerned about and to make suggestions for enhancing project benefits to the Public. These contributions will be evaluated by the environmental practitioner during the BA process.

YOUR ROLE AS AN INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTY

As a Stakeholder or Interested and Affected Party (I&AP), you are invited to participate in Public Participation meetings to be held in the study area. You can participate in the following manner:

- Review all project documentation provided to you;
- Attend meetings;
- Contact the environmental practitioner if you would like further information on the project;

- Raise issues that you are concerned about, make suggestions for enhanced project benefits, and
- Provide the project team with information on issues relevant to and provide the project team with information on issues relevant to the proposed project.

WHO ARE THE I&AP'S?

The I&AP's include all people that will be directly or indirectly involved and/ or affected by the proposed project. These include adjacent landowners/ tenants around the proposed project, homeowner associations, councilors and the traditional and local authorities. All persons identified/ registered as an I&AP will receive the Background Information Document (BID) and will have a chance to participate in the process. It is important to register as an I&AP as this will ensure your name appears on a register for future information.

The following activities are triggered by the above mentioned project as per the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2017 as published in Government Gazette, No. 40772 of 7 April 2017 as amended:

- Activity 9 (GN No 327);
- Activity 10 (GN No 327);
- Activity 13 (GN No 327);
- Activity 26 (GN No 327); and
- Activity 28 (GN No 324).

BASIC ASSESSEMENT PROCESS

Summary of the Basic Assessment Process including Public Participation:

Phase 1: Notification to Authorities and I&AP's

The first stage in the process entails submission of a completed application form to the Provincial Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA). Once a DARDLEA reference number is received, an advertisement will be placed in a local newspaper to notify interested and affected parties (I&AP's) of the proposed project. I&AP's are required to register their interest on the project register and raise issues of concern.

Phase 2: Draft Basic Assessment Report (BAR) for Public Comment

The Basic Assessment (BA) is undertaken in order to identify and assess potential environmental impacts, both positive and negative, that may be associated with the proposed project. This includes mitigatory measures to reduce potential negative impacts and maximize positive benefits. The BA will include an overview of the affected environment on which the activity is proposed to take place.

All I&AP's on the project register will be notified in writing of the 30-day comment period for the Draft Basic Assessment. Copies of the Draft Report and project information will be available at accessible venues.

Specialist information for inclusion in the Draft BAR has been identified as follows:

- Wetland & Ecological Impact Assessment; and
- Heritage Impact Assessment.

Phase 3: Submit Final Basic Assessment Report

The comments received from I&APs will be included in the Final BAR before it is submitted to the DARDLEA for their decision making.

Phase 4: Notification from DARDLEA about their decision on the Final BAR

Provincial Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA) will notify the consultant if the BAR has received Authorisation or not. If an Authorisation is received, this decision will be accompanied by conditions under which a project may proceed. DARDLEA may also request the EAP to submit additional information before granting or refusing Authorisation, should they feel that there is outstanding information that may aid their decision making process.

Phase 5: Notification of Environmental Authorisation and Appeal Period

The final step in the process entails providing written notification to all I&AP's on the project register of the granting of the Environmental Authorisation (EA) and appeal period, including the manner of appeal. Project construction may only commence once approval has been received from the DARDLEA.

Basic Assessment flow process is outlined in

If you would like to register as an I& AP you can:

- Complete the attached comment form and fax/ email or mail it to ourasolutions@gmail.com
- directly contact OURA Solutions;
- send comments via fax/ email; or
- by attending the public meetings to be organised.

CONTACT POINT

Please direct all comments, queries or issues to:

Environmental Assessment Practitioner:

OURA Solutions

Mr. Moses Kgopana (Pri.Sci.Nat), EnvM (Hons),

Address: Constantia Park, B16/5, 546, 16th Road

Midrand, 1685

Tel: 010 492 4330;

Fax: 086 652 9774

E-mail: ourasolutions@gmail.com

Registration and Comment Form

Application for an Environmental Authorisation for the Proposed Establishment of an Integrated Sustainable Human Settlement (Township Establishment) in Ermelo, Msukaligwa Local Municipality, Mpumalanga Province.

Environmental Impact Assessment (BA)

TITLE (Prof/Mr/Mrs/Ms)		FIRST NAME	
SURNAME			
PROPERTY NAME / ORGANISATION			
POSTAL ADDRESS		POSTAL CODE	
TEL NO:		CELL NO:	
FAX NO:		E-MAIL ADDRESS:	

1. Please state your comments/inputs/contribution on the proposed project (Use additional pages, if required)

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2. Are there any additional role players whom you think we should include in the process?

YES	NO
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If “YES”, please provide their contact details below:

Name	Contact Number	Address

Thank You!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Appendix A: Locality and Site Map

