

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT OF

THE PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF A WASTE TRANSFER AND SORTING FACILITY AT SIKHULULIWE VILLAGE, STEVE TSHWETE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE.

WHAT DOES THIS DOCUMENT TELL YOU?

This document aims to provide you, as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP), with background information regarding the proposed establishment of a waste transfer and sorting facility at Sikhululiwe Village, Steve Tshwete Local Municipality.

The document also provides information regarding the Basic Assessment (BA) Process to be undertaken as part of the Waste Management License (WML) Application.

Furthermore, this document advises how you can become involved in the project, receive information and/or raise issues which may concern and be of interest to you.

WHAT DOES THE PROJECT ENTAIL?

Steve Tshwete Local Municipality is gearing towards the minimisation of waste in terms of the National Waste Act (Act no. 59 of 2008) and have identified a need to establish a waste transfer station and sorting facility on portion 9 of the farm Springboklaagte no. 416 JS at Sikhululiwe Village, for the disposal of household and garden waste. The transfer station will serve the following purposes:

- Temporary storage of household waste from residential areas
- Disposal of garden refuse and other unused material
- Sorting of recyclable waste



WHAT ARE THE POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROPOSED PROJECT

During the assessment process, desktop studies combined with a site visit will identify the potential issues which require further investigation within the Basic Assessment Report.

Input from the public provides valuable input in the identification of issues requiring investigation within this BA process. The study will highlight areas that should be avoided in order to minimise potential impacts and evaluate project alternatives.

The aim of the Basic Assessment is:

- To provide an overall assessment of the social and biophysical environments of the proposed development area
- To identify and recommend appropriate mitigation measures for potentially significant impacts
- To undertake a fully inclusive public participation process to ensure that I&AP issues are recorded and taken into account



WHY ARE ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES NEEDED?

In terms of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act (Act 59 of 2008) as published in Government Notice 332 of 2014, the proposed establishment triggers Category A activities;

(2) The sorting of general waste at a facility that has an operational area in excess of 1000 m².

(12) The construction of a facility for a waste management activity listed in Category A of Government Notice 332 of the NEMWA (Act no. 59 of 2008).

These activities may have a detrimental effect on the environment, hence a Basic Assessment process as prescribed in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations Government Notice R. 982 of 2010 will have to be undertaken in conjunction with a Waste Management License (WML) application.

The Steve Tshwete Local Municipality has appointed Life4All Environmental Consultancy as an Independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP), to undertake the Basic Assessment and Public Participation Process.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

It is important that relevant I&APs are identified and involved in the public participation process from the outset of the project. To ensure effective public participation, the process includes the following steps:

STEP 1: Send out notification letters to identified Stakeholders. Advertise the BA Process (Local Newspaper)

STEP 2: Register I&APs and key stakeholders on the database.

STEP 3: Consultation with I&APs and stakeholders throughout the project.

STEP 4: Invite I&APs to comment and provide input on the Draft BA (30 days comment period).

STEP 5: Record all comments and issues raised by I&APs and include them in the BA Reports.

STEP 6: Notify I&APs of Environmental Authorisation

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

By completing and submitting the accompanying response form, you will be automatically registered on the project database and all your comments and concerns regarding the project will be noted.

Comments and Questions on the project can be directed to:

Roelien du Plessis.
P. O. BOX 39600, Moreleta Park, Pretoria, 0044.
Tel: 012 993 4836
Fax: 086 236 7477
Email: life4all@telkomsa.net

