

BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM, PROVINCE OF THE EASTERN CAPE

9(b) Need and desirability of the activity

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

There is an increased demand for secure, low density rural lifestyle accommodation in a protected and unique natural environment. This is due to more urban inhabitants desiring to live in a more rural environment where they can experience nature in a calm and peaceful setting.

Indicate any benefits that the activity will have for society in general:

It would assist in the economic development of the Ndlambe district by stimulating investment in fixed infrastructure thereby creating an attraction to the area. Sustainable rural development can lead to revitalised rural areas, and relieves pressure on urban infrastructure.

Indicate any benefits that the activity will have for the local communities where the activity will be located:

It will help maintain employment in the shrinking rural job market and create an opportunity to broaden the skills base within the local community. The home owners will obtain goods and services from the surrounding area, and this will lead to spin-offs for the local community. There is currently a decline in employment figures due to the decreased amount of income obtained from pineapple production in the region.

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: |
|--|--|--------------|
| National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) No. 107 Of 1998 | Department of Environmental (DEA) | 2002 |
| Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (Government Notice No. R. 545 and 543) | Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) | 2010 |
| Ndlambe Spatial Development Framework | Ndlambe Municipality | October 2006 |
| Subtropical Ecosystem Programme | | |
| National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act | Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEAT) | 2004 |
| The Environment Conservation Act (ECA) No. 73 of 1989 | Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEAT) | 1989 |
| White Paper on Spatial Planning and Land use Management | Ministry of Agriculture and Land Affairs | July 2001 |
| National Water Act (NWA) No. 36 of 1998 | Department of Water Affairs and Forestry (DWAf) | 1998 |
| National Forest Act (NFAA) No. 84 of 1998 | Department of Water Affairs and Forestry (DWAf) | 1998 |

BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM, PROVINCE OF THE EASTERN CAPE

| | | |
|---|--|------|
| National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA) No. 25 of 1999 | South African Heritage Resources Association (SAHRA) | 1999 |
| Cacadu DM District Municipality Spatial Development Framework | Cacadu District Municipality | 2006 |

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 |
|-----|----|

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

| |
|-------------------|
| 10 m ³ |
|-------------------|

How will the construction solid waste be disposed of (describe)?
 It will be collected by the contractor and stored in bags, tips or drums depending on the nature of the waste, and taken to the landfill site by the contractor.

Where will the construction solid waste be disposed of (describe)?
 It will be taken to the nearest registered landfill site (Makana/Ndlambe Municipality depending where the building contractors are based) where it can be disposed of in the appropriate manner. Waste such as vegetation and earth will be disposed of in the composting site on the farm.

Will the activity produce solid waste during its operational phase?

| | |
|-----|----|
| YES | NO |
|-----|----|

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

| |
|---|
| 30 m ³ during peak operational phases (June/July and December/January) and 10 m ³ during off-peak periods |
|---|

How will the solid waste be disposed of (describe)?
 Residents in the development will be required to separate their waste into glass, paper, organic and general waste. This will be collected by a contractor on a regular basis, and taken to the nearest waste/recycling facility. All municipal requirements in this regard will be complied with.
 Non-recyclable waste will be transported to the Kenton-on-Sea municipal dump. Garden refuse and organic biodegradables from kitchens will be taken to the composting site. Alien vegetation will be destroyed. The disposal of solid waste has been considered as an employment opportunity for at least two persons.

Where will the solid waste be disposed if it does not feed into a municipal waste stream (describe)?
 Recyclable waste (glass and paper) will be taken to the Makana/Ndlambe Recycling facility. General waste that is not recyclable or biodegradable will be taken to the nearest Municipal landfill site. (Kenton-on-Sea).

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 |
|-----|----|

BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM, PROVINCE OF THE EASTERN CAPE

~~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 |
|-----|----|

~~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 |
|-----|----|

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

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

| | |
|-----|----|
| Yes | NO |
|-----|----|

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.

Due to the nature of the development (ie holiday/weekend homes) biolytic sewage systems could not be considered, as they require a constant flow to work optimally. More permanent residents can consider biolytic sewage systems. The geological specialist has indicated that, due to the geological stability of the site, a septic tank will be a suitable option for effluent disposal. The specialist has instructed that the septic tank should consist of a receptor tank and an adequately sized French drain. The receptor tank should be divided into two, and the French drain must be at least 5 m long, 60cm wide and 1 m deep. During the design phase, the specialist will be present to ensure that the septic tanks are carefully sited on stable ground away from any streams/catchment areas. Any disturbed ground will be revegetated after construction.

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

| | |
|-----|----|
| YES | NO |
|-----|----|

~~If yes, provide the particulars of the facility:~~

| | | | |
|-----------------|-------|--|--|
| Facility name: | | | |
| Contact person: | | | |
| Postal address: | | | |
| Postal code: | | | |
| Telephone: | Cell: | | |
| E-mail: | Fax: | | |

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

The design will incorporate water saving devices such as dual flush toilets and low-flow shower heads. Where possible, (slope and indigenous vegetation permitting) grey water will be let out onto indigenous vegetation or areas that will be grassed to create pastures for game. Septic tanks will be installed with a French drain. Water recycling and maintenance will be the responsibility of the Home Owner's Association.

11(c) Emissions into the atmosphere

BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM, PROVINCE OF THE EASTERN CAPE

Will the activity release emissions into the atmosphere?

| | |
|-----|----|
| YES | NO |
| YES | NO |

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:

Low concentration of dust and particulate emission during construction, operation will not produce emissions which would require investigation.

BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM, PROVINCE OF THE EASTERN CAPE

11(d) Generation of noise

Will the activity generate noise?

| | |
|-----|----|
| YES | NO |
| YES | NO |

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:

As the activity is residential in nature and the units are spaced relatively far apart and the development is a significant distance from any other development, the noise levels are not expected to be higher than normal or detectable outside of the development.

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 |
|-----------------------|---------------|----------------------------|---------|---------------------------------|

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:

| |
|----------------|
| 242,500 litres |
|----------------|

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

| | |
|-----|----|
| YES | NO |
|-----|----|

~~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.~~

Water will be used solely for domestic purposes such as personal hygiene, cooking, laundry and domestic cleaning. The gardens will be indigenous, and potable water will not be used for garden watering.

Total annual water requirements for the domestic requirements of 15 households are estimated to be a maximum of 5 475 cubic metres (kilolitres). Monthly water use during four months of peak occupancy is expected to be 547.5 kl, and 410.6kl during the remaining eight off-peak months.

Water will be sourced from an existing borehole (approximately 82 per cent of total requirements – 4 495 kl/a), and from rainwater harvested from impermeable roof areas (approximately 21 per cent of total requirements – 980kl/a). Water from the borehole will be piped from source and reticulated to individual properties. Rainwater will be collected and stored in tanks of up to 50 000 litre capacity.

Borehole: The approximate location of the borehole is S 33 ° 33'54", E 26 °33'25", and has DWAF Ref 3326DA00016, BB No 71866. It is currently used for domestic supply and stockwatering purposes on Belton Farm, in terms of schedule 1 of the NWA - taking water for reasonable domestic use in that person's household, directly from any water resource to which that person has lawful access.

Abstraction from the borehole for the proposed development (approximately 18.5 per cent of its registered reliable annual yield, and 20 per cent of the allowable abstraction in terms of the GA) falls within the allowable parameters of the relevant General Authorisation (GN 399, 26th March 2004), and application will be made to DWA to register the proposed use in terms of the GA.

BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM, PROVINCE OF THE EASTERN CAPE

Rainwater: Rainwater harvesting is permitted in terms of Item 1(c) of Schedule 1 of the NWA - storing and using runoff water from a roof - and no additional authorisation is required.

13. ENERGY EFFICIENCY

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

Materials used will be in keeping with the recommendations for efficient energy usage. This includes stone/wooden walls which naturally regulate indoor temperatures. Roofs will be properly insulated and overhangs will be designed to shade during summer while allowing winter sun to penetrate into the house.

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

Home owners will have the option of installing solar panels to reduce electricity use, and solar water heaters for household water. Home owners will be advised to install compact fluorescent light bulbs both inside and outside their houses. External lighting, and any lighting required along the roads will be energy efficient, visually non-intrusive, low-mast, down-cast lighting of low intensity.

BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM, PROVINCE OF THE EASTERN CAPE

SECTION B: SITE/AREA/PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

Important notes:

- 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):

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

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

| | |
|-------|----|
| YES ✓ | NO |
|-------|----|

If YES, please complete form XX for each specialist thus appointed:

The declaration of independence for each specialist is contained in Appendix D

All specialist reports must be contained in Appendix D.

1. GRADIENT OF THE SITE

Indicate the general gradient of the site.

Alternative S1:

| | | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|-------|-------|---------------------|
| Flat | 1:50 | 1:20 | 1:15 | 1:10 | 1:7,5 | Steeper than 1:5 |
| | 1:20 | 1:15 | | 1:7,5 | | |

Alternative S2 (if any):

| | | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|-------|-------|---------------------|
| Flat | 1:50 | 1:20 | 1:15 | 1:10 | 1:7,5 | Steeper than 1:5 |
| | 1:20 | 1:15 | | 1:7,5 | | |

Alternative S3 (if any):

| | | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|-------|-------|---------------------|
| Flat | 1:50 | 1:20 | 1:15 | 1:10 | 1:7,5 | Steeper than 1:5 |
| | 1:20 | 1:15 | | 1:7,5 | | |

2. LOCATION IN LANDSCAPE

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

- 2.1 Ridgeline
- 2.2 Plateau
- 2.3 Side slope of hill/mountain
- 2.4 Closed valley
- 2.5 Open valley
- 2.6 Plain
- 2.7 Undulating plain / low hills
- 2.8 Dune
- 2.9 Seafront

BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM, PROVINCE OF THE EASTERN CAPE

3. GROUNDWATER, SOIL AND GEOLOGICAL STABILITY OF THE SITE

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 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | YES | NO | YES | NO |
| Dolomite, sinkhole or doline areas | YES | NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | YES | NO | YES | NO |
| Seasonally wet soils (often close to water bodies) | YES | NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | YES | NO | YES | NO |
| Unstable rocky slopes or steep slopes with loose soil | YES | NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | YES | NO | YES | NO |
| Dispersive soils (soils that dissolve in water) | YES | NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | YES | NO | YES | NO |
| Soils with high clay content (clay fraction more than 40%) | YES | NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | YES | NO | YES | NO |
| Any other unstable soil or geological feature | YES | NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | YES | NO | YES | NO |
| An area sensitive to erosion | YES | NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 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:

- 4.1 Natural veld – good condition ^E
- 4.2 Natural veld – scattered aliens ^E
- 4.3 Natural veld with heavy alien infestation ^E
- 4.4 Veld dominated by alien species ^E
- 4.5 Gardens
- 4.6 Sport field
- 4.7 Cultivated land
- 4.8 Paved surface
- 4.9 Building or other structure
- 4.10 Bare soil

BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM, PROVINCE OF THE EASTERN CAPE

The location of all identified rare or endangered species or other elements should be accurately indicated on the site plan(s).

| | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|-----------|
| Natural veld - good condition ^E | Natural veld with scattered aliens ^E | Natural veld with heavy alien 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 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:

5.1 Natural area

- 5.2 Low density residential
- 5.3 Medium density residential
- 5.4 High density residential
- 5.5 Informal residential
- 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

BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM, PROVINCE OF THE EASTERN CAPE

5.31 Landfill or waste treatment site

5.32 Plantation

5.33 Agriculture

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 (describe)

If any of the boxes marked with an "N" are ticked, how will this impact / be impacted upon by the proposed activity.

Not Applicable (no boxes with an "N" are ticked)

If any of the boxes marked with an "An" are ticked, how will this impact / be impacted upon by the proposed activity.

If YES, specify and explain:

If YES, specify:

Not Applicable (no boxes with an "An" are ticked)

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

If YES, specify and explain:

If YES, specify:

Not Applicable (no boxes with an "H" are ticked)

BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM, PROVINCE OF THE EASTERN CAPE

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 palaeontological sites, on or close (within 20m) to the site? | YES | NO |
| If YES , explain: | Uncertain | |
| 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: | | |
| Will any building or structure older than 60 years be affected in any way? | YES | NO |
| Is it necessary to apply for a permit in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act 25 of 1999)? | YES | NO |
| 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

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;

Please find attached as appendix B1.

- (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;

Please find copies of letters and proof of mail to I&APs and key stakeholders in appendix G1.

- (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

BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM, PROVINCE OF THE EASTERN CAPE

- (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.

Please find copies of newspaper adverts in appendix G2.

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.

BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM, PROVINCE OF THE EASTERN CAPE

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.

BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM, PROVINCE OF THE EASTERN CAPE

6. AUTHORITY PARTICIPATION

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. The planning and the environmental sections of the local authority must be informed of the application at least 30 (thirty) calendar days before the submission of the application.

List of authorities informed:

| |
|---|
| Viwe Ngunge - Dept. Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism Rolly Dumezweni - Ndlambe Municipality: Municipal Manager Anneliza Collett - DAFF Agri S.Gwen-DAFF EC Forestry M Mateti-Ward 1 Councillor Richard Pote-Ndlambe Local Municipality (Refer to Appendix E) |
|---|

List of authorities from whom comments have been received:

| |
|--|
| None to date of draft Basic Assessment |
|--|

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 subregulation to the extent and in the manner as may be agreed to by the competent authority.

Any stakeholder that has a direct interest in the site or property, such as servitude holders and service providers, should be informed of the application at least 30 (thirty) calendar days before the submission of the application and be provided with the opportunity to comment.

Has any comment been received from stakeholders?

| | |
|-----|----|
| YES | NO |
|-----|----|

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

| |
|--|
| |
|--|

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.

| |
|--|
| <p>Initial public participation process</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Visibility of houses from the proposed game lodge to be built on Harvestvale.2. Kariega have raised concerns about the possible use of the road through their property and their use of Mr Wilmot's spring water for their proposed lodges.3. Division of farmland and cumulative loss of agriculture in the region due to farmers selling to game farms or developers. <p>Current Public Participation Process</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. None to date |
|--|

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):

| |
|---|
| <p>Initial public participation process</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The houses will be constructed specifically to blend in with the natural surroundings.2. The use of the road is a private matter concerning their requirements from the landowner and does not relate to the Basic Assessment. (Note: since this time the use of spring water has been discounted as a source of water supply to the development.)3. The developer's proposal to develop a small part of their land means that they will continue to farm their land and that no agricultural production will be lost, and that no employees will lose their jobs. The land that is to be developed is not suitable for agriculture, and thus represents no loss to agricultural production in the region. <p>Current Public Participation Process</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. None to date |
|---|

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 (preferred alternative)

| |
|--|
| |
|--|

BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM, PROVINCE OF THE EASTERN CAPE

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.

3.1. IMPACTS THAT ARE LIKELY TO OCCUR AS A RESULT OF THE

3.1.1. PLANNING AND DESIGN PHASE

Direct impacts:

Issue 1: Visual Impact.

Cause and comment: The residential units may be partly visible from the road leading to the Kariega Park. *Significance statement:* This is of low -moderate significance, and can be mitigated to low – no significance.

Indirect impacts:

Issue 2: Pollution of water resources such as streams and rivers.

Cause and comment: There are two streams in the area that may become polluted should the units be placed close to them.

Significance statement: This is of high significance, but with the mitigation measures will be reduced to low significance.

Issue 3: Loss of vegetation in surveying for new road access

Cause and comment: Survey lines will need to be cleared for the new road access to the development.

Significance statement: This is of high significance, but with the mitigation measures will be reduced to moderate – low significance.

Cumulative impacts:

3.1.2. CONSTRUCTION PHASE

Direct impacts:

Issue 1: Destruction of vegetation at construction sites

Cause and comment: During construction it is often necessary to clear more land than will eventually form the development footprint due to construction activities. Construction also requires lay down areas and areas designated for particular construction activities such as cement mixing and storage of construction materials.

Significance statement: Cleared areas will not be large and this is therefore considered to be of moderate significance and can be easily mitigated to low significance.

Issue 2: Noise pollution from construction vehicles and construction activities

Cause and comment: During construction there will be a certain amount of noise from the construction equipment and the construction vehicles. However, the area is near enough to any settlements for this to be an impact.

Significance statement: This is of low significance.

Issue 3: Soil compaction and soil erosion

Cause and comment: Soil will be compacted by construction vehicles, and the movement of construction vehicles and human traffic could also lead to erosion.

Significant statement: This will result in moderate impact, but can be mitigated to low impact.

BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM, PROVINCE OF THE EASTERN CAPE

Issue 4: Rubble from construction works

Cause and comment: The construction will produce building rubble that would need to be removed from the site.

Significant statement: This will result in moderate impact, but can be mitigated to no significance with the implementation of the EMP.

Issue 5: Employment during the construction period

Cause and comment: The construction of the units will provide employment to building companies and their construction workers for approximately 6 - 8 months.

Significance statement: This will provide a moderately positive impact. This impact can be increased by employing builders from the surrounding towns who would be employing mainly local personnel.

Indirect impacts:

Issue 6: Pollution of nearby water bodies

Cause and comment: Pollution during the construction phase can have many sources and is generally a result of runoff which carries pollutants down slope to water bodies such as streams, rivers or dams. Seepage can also pollute groundwater. Pollutants include cement-laden water, oil and fuel from construction vehicles, hazardous waste substances such as chemicals used to treat wood. In addition, streams may be used for washing of equipment and personal effects including bathing. Should no toilet facilities be provided for workers near the construction site, they will be forced to perform their ablutions in the surrounding bush. This solid waste could be washed into nearby streams and water courses and lead to pollution.

Significance statement: Considering the short-term nature of the construction period, this is considered to be of moderate significance, but can be easily mitigated through correct practice to low significance.

Issue 7: Expectations of jobs by many unskilled workers

Cause and comment: This development is not very large, but there may be some expectations in the surrounding areas that employment could result from the development. Construction companies usually arrive with their workers, and thus there will be limited employment opportunities.

Significance statement: This is a moderate impact that can be lessened somewhat to low significance with the suggested mitigation measures.

Cumulative impacts:

3.1.3. OPERATIONAL PHASE

Direct impacts:

Issue 1: Job creation

Cause and comment: The development will result in the employment of at least 5 persons during the operational phase. Employment opportunities will arise from the recycling/garbage disposal business that will service the development, as well as domestic and maintenance services for the residences and nature reserve. This will enable the employed persons to support an average of five to eight dependants. There will also be opportunities on a more short-term basis as part of the revegetation programme

Significance statement: If the employment opportunities are provided to formally disadvantaged persons, this will result in moderate significance within the immediate area.

BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM, PROVINCE OF THE EASTERN CAPE

Issue 2: Footpaths created on an ad hoc basis

Cause and comment: Footpaths could be created on an ad hoc basis as residents wander through the nature reserve. This could lead to erosion and fragmentation of the natural vegetation.

Significance statement: This is considered to be of moderate significance and can be mitigated to low significance.

Indirect impacts:

Issue 3: Stress on municipal services such as roads and Eskom's electricity supply

Cause and comment: The development will be accessed from the R343 and will receive electricity from Eskom.

Significance statement: The low number of houses means that the impact of this will be low. However, residents should be urged to supplement their electricity with solar panels where possible.

Issue 4: Impact on water sources

Cause and comment: The building of the houses and their supportive infrastructure (such as sewage treatment facilities) may impact on the stream or its catchment area. The development's residents will also require water for domestic use.

Significance statement: With the recommended mitigation measures, this will be a moderate impact.

Issue 5: Water pollution of nearby streams and catchment areas.

Cause and comment: The development could impact on neighbouring streams and water catchment areas should the sewage treatment from the residential units be located close to these water sources. However, the development has been planned to avoid this, and no septic tanks will be allowed to be built within 32 metres of the streams/catchment areas.

Significance statement: Due to the planning of residential units to avoid contamination of ground and surface water, this will be of low significance.

3.2. POTENTIAL ACTIVITY/TECHNOLOGY ALTERNATIVE RELATED IMPACTS

3.2.1. PLANNING PHASE

Direct impacts:

Issue 1: Destruction of natural vegetation for housing units and roads

Cause and comment: it is inevitable that in certain areas, natural vegetation will have to be removed to make way for the housing units, roads and other infrastructure

Significance statement: This is of high significance, but can be mitigated to be of moderate or low significance depending on the location of the construction.

Indirect impacts:

Issue 2: Erosion

Cause and comment: Increased runoff due to increase in hard surfaces such as roofs and roads as well as cut structures such as pathways have the potential to increase soil erosion in the areas immediately down slope of the units.

Significance statement: this is of moderate significance and can be mitigated to low significance.

Cumulative impacts:

3.2.2. CONSTRUCTION PHASE