

SCOPING REPORT

In terms of Section 24 and 24(D) of NEMA (Act No. 107 of 1998)

for:

Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed clearance of 196 ha of indigenous vegetation, partially located within a critical biodiversity area, the construction of a bridge and the installation of bulk services within a watercourse (400mm bulk sewer main), for the proposed township establishment including a cemetery located on a Portion of the remaining extend of Erf 687, Barkly West, Dikgatlong Local Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

Report Date: December 2020



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Compiled for:

Dikgatlong Local Municipality



DRAFT REPORT

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Contents

1. INTRODUCTION	7
1.1 THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS	7
1.2 DESCRIPTION OF THE PROCESS FOLLOWED	7
1.3 SCOPING PHASE	10
2. DETAILS AND EXPERTISE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER	12
3. DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTIVITY	17
4. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY	24
5. LEGAL AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS	28
6. NEED AND DESIRABILITY	38
7. ALTERNATIVES	39
7.1 LAND USE ALTERNATIVES	39
7.1.1 <i>Mixed land use township (Alternative 1)</i>	39
7.1.2 <i>Single land use: Housing only (Alternative 2)</i>	40
7.1.3 <i>No-go Alternative</i>	40
8. DESCRIPTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT THAT MAY BE AFFECTED BY THE PROJECT	42
8.1 BIO-PHYSICAL ASPECTS	42
8.1.1 <i>GEOLOGY AND SOIL</i>	42
8.1.2 <i>TOPOGRAPHY</i>	43
ASSESSMENT OF INVERTEBRATE SPECIES OF PARTICULAR HIGH CONSERVATION PRIORITY	54
8.2 SOCIO ECONOMIC FACTORS	56
8.2.1 <i>SOCIAL AMENITIES</i>	56
9. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT	62
9.1 ASSESSMENT CRITERIA	62
<i>Geographical attributes</i>	63
<i>Physical attributes</i>	63
<i>Biological attributes</i>	64
<i>Social attributes</i>	64
<i>Economic attributes</i>	64
<i>Heritage attributes</i>	64
<i>Cultural attributes</i>	64
10. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION	86
10.1 ADVERTISEMENT AND NOTICE	86
10.2 DETERMINATION OF APPROPRIATE MEASURES	92
10.3 AUTHORITY PARTICIPATION	105
10.4 ISSUES RAISED BY INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES	117
10.5 COMMENTS AND RESPONSE REPORT	117

11. CONCLUDING STATEMENT.....	118
12 PLAN OF STUDY FOR EIA	121
12.1 DESCRIPTION OF THE ALTERNATIVES TO BE CONSIDERED AND ASSESSED.....	121
12.1 LAND USE ALTERNATIVES.....	121
12.1.1 <i>Mixed land use township (Alternative 1)</i>	121
12.1.2 <i>Single land use: Housing only (Alternative 2)</i>	122
12.1.3 <i>No-go Alternative</i>	122
12.2 DESCRIPTION OF THE ASPECTS TO BE ASSESSED AS PART OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS	122
12.3 ASPECTS TO BE ASSESSED BY SPECIALISTS.....	125
12.4 DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED METHOD OF ASSESSING THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS, INCLUDING A DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED METHOD OF ASSESSING THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS INCLUDING ASPECTS TO BE ASSESSED BY SPECIALISTS,	126
AND	126
12.5 DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED METHOD OF ASSESSING DURATION AND SIGNIFICANCE.....	126
Geographical attributes	128
Physical attributes	128
Biological attributes	128
Social attributes	128
Economic attributes	128
Heritage attributes	128
Cultural attributes	129
12.6 STAGES AT WHICH THE COMPETENT AUTHORITY WILL BE CONSULTED	129
12.7 PARTICULARS OF THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS THAT WILL BE CONDUCTED DURING THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS.....	129
12.8 DESCRIPTION OF THE TASKS THAT WILL BE UNDERTAKEN AS PART OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS	130
12.9 MEASURES TO AVOID, REVERSE, MITIGATE OR MANAGE IDENTIFIED IMPACTS AND TO DETERMINE THE EXTENT OF THE RESIDUAL RISKS THAT NEED TO BE MANAGED AND MONITORED	130
13. AFFIRMATION BY EAP	132
14. LIST OF REFERENCES.....	133
APPENDIX A.....	134

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Applicant, the **Dikgatlong Local Municipality** has appointed **AB Enviro Consult CC**, an independent environmental consultancy, to undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed clearance of 196 ha of indigenous vegetation, partially located within a critical biodiversity area, and the installation of bulk services within a watercourse (400mm bulk sewer main), and the construction of a bridge for the proposed township establishment located on a Portion of the remaining extend of Erf 687, Barkly West, Dikgatlong Local Municipality, Northern Cape Province. The proposed development will also include the establishment of a cemetery.

The site is influenced by a number of design factors that were considered for the proposed layout plan to be acceptable. These factors include the slope of the site, flood lines, environmental sensitivity, service provision, erf size, access, road layout and community facilities as well as the geotechnical features. To ensure that the proposed development do not infringe on any design principles and the environmental sensitive areas, development of residential units will only be allowed to take place according to the prescribed methods: subsequently no residential development may take place beyond the 1:100 year flood line.

As in the rest of South Africa, there is a housing shortage in the area. The local municipality intends to promote a more compact city in order to prevent the expansive provision of social and engineering services, as well as to prevent the economic decline of the traditional city centre. The Spatial Development Framework (SDF) addresses the scale of urban growth through planned extensions, infill and redevelopment strategies. The local municipality is aware of the need to integrate urban settlements, with a view to reduce travel distances to the areas of employment opportunities. It also addresses measures to promote compact and connected growth opportunities, such as the identification of revitalisation zones, densification and mixed land use zones. For any development to be sustainable and viable, land development and planning should ensure that communities are located close to job opportunities, social facilities and basic services.

The new "Human Settlements Plan" promotes the achievement of a non-racial, integrated society through the development of sustainable human settlements and quality housing. Housing is to be utilized for the development of sustainable human settlements in support of spatial restructuring.

The aim is to move beyond the provision of basic shelter towards achieving the broader vision of sustainable human settlements and more efficient towns, cities and regions.

The integrated human settlement project from the onset aims at providing a proper integrated human settlement that ascribes to the BNG Principles set out above. This will be achieved as follows:

- This project makes provision for a variety of erven that can be utilized for various housing typologies. The largest proportion of the township areas will however be aimed at both the subsidized housing sector through the implementation of one of Government's subsidized housing programmes as well as the need that exists for people that does not qualify for a Government subsidy, due to either already owning other property or earning in excess of the threshold household income prescribed in respect of the various housing subsidy programmes, but who still wishes to acquire an affordable stand where they can construct their own home. This project will also aim at alleviating the plight of people that live in informal settlement areas and in squalid conditions.
- The location of the proposed township area directly adjacent to the existing urban further enhances integration and will offer inhabitants the opportunity to access the existing social and commercial

facilities on offer within the existing village area whilst also providing social and business opportunities within the proposed development area itself that can in turn be utilized by and to the benefit of the inhabitants of the existing village area.

The development of the integrated human settlement represents a definitive move away from providing housing-only township areas and towards the provision of a proper integrated human settlement that offers a magnitude of social, educational and commercial support facilities and infrastructure in close proximity to the inhabitants

Consistent with national priorities, environmental authorities must support "*increased economic growth and promote social inclusion*", whilst ensuring that such growth is "*ecologically sustainable*". In the National Spatial Development Perspective (NSDP) it is highlighted that, to achieve the goal of stimulating sustainable economic activities and to create long-term employment opportunities, it is required that spending on economic infrastructure is focused in priority areas with potential for economic development, with development to serve the broader societies' needs equitably

The activity is listed in terms of the Regulations (in force since 4 December 2014) in terms of Section 24(M) and 44 made under section 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) 1998 (Act 107 of 1998) as amended and published in Government Notice No. R 326 of 2017. The proposed development triggers the following regulations and listed activities:

Detailed description of listed activities associated with the project		
Listed activity as described in GN R.327 and 324.	Description of project activity that triggers listed activity	Anticipated years to complete construction (From date of commencement)
GN.R. 327 Item 12: <i>The development of— infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square meters or more; where such development occurs— (a) within a watercourse."</i>	The development of structures (bridges) with a physical footprint of 1 750 m ² within a water course.	10 Years
GN.R 327 Item 10: The development and related operation of infrastructure exceeding 1 000m in length for the bulk transportation of sewage, effluent, process water, waste water, return water, industrial discharge or slimes (i) with an internal diameter of 0.36 meters or more	Proposed 400mm Ø bulk sewer gravitational main (length: 570 m) from the low point to the south of the proposed development to the WWTW	
GN.R. 327 Item 19: <i>The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 10 cubic meters into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock of</i>	The infilling and depositing of 15 435 m ³ of concrete and compacted backfill material and the excavation and moving of 35 000m ³ sand and soil, within a watercourse in order to construct a 1 750	10 Years

<i>more than 10 cubic metres from a watercourse;”</i>	m ² bridge and installation of bulk sewer pipeline of 280m within a water course	
<i>GN.R. 327 Item 23: The development of cemeteries of 2 500 square metres or more in size.</i>	The development of a cemetery of 80 000 square meters in size.	Ongoing
<i>GN.R. 325 Item 15: “The clearance of an area of 20 hectares or more of indigenous vegetation, excluding where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for (i) the undertaking of a linear activity; or (ii) maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.”</i>	The clearance of 196 ha of indigenous vegetation in order to establish a township.	10 Years
<i>GN.R. 324 Item 12. g. ii. “The clearance of an area of 300 square meters or more of indigenous vegetation, except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan. g. Northern Cape ii. Within critical biodiversity areas identified in bioregional plans</i>	The clearance of 70 ha of indigenous vegetation, located within a critical Biodiversity area (CBA) in order to establish a township.	10 Years

The purpose of the study is therefore to determine the impacts that the environment may have on the proposed activity, as well as the possible impacts that the activity may have on the environment.

The study is being conducted according to normal scientific practices. A theoretical background review was compiled for the different variables by using available information from the literature. Field verification was undertaken and visits paid to the site to gather further information and/or to verify information. It also includes the identification of *key interest groups*, both governmental and non-governmental, and to establish good lines of communication. Specialist studies were undertaken to determine the impacts on sensitive areas and to determine whether the proposed project can be sustainably implemented. The specialists will also advise on mitigation measures where applicable.

Although this is only the Scoping phase of the proposed development, no “fatal flaws” has been encountered as of yet. All the issues envisaged at this stage can be mitigated.

1. INTRODUCTION

The Applicant, the **Dikgatlong Local Municipality** has appointed **AB Enviro Consult CC**, an independent environmental consultancy, to undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed clearance of 196 ha of indigenous vegetation, partially located within a critical biodiversity area, the construction of a bridge and the installation of bulk services within a watercourse, for the proposed township establishment located on a Portion of the remaining extend of Erf 687, Barkly West, Dikgatlong Local Municipality, Northern Cape Province. The proposed development will also include the establishment of a cemetery.

1.1 THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS

The purpose of this document is to adhere to the requirements for compilation of Environmental Impact Assessment Reports as amended and published in Government Notice R.326 of 7 April 2017, Appendix 2, and the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMA).

1.2 DESCRIPTION OF THE PROCESS FOLLOWED

In order to assess a proposed development it is important to take into consideration the principles of NEMA. These principles are outlined in Chapter 1 and read as follows:

- 1) *"The principles set out in this section apply throughout the Republic to the actions of all organs of state that may significantly affect the environment and—*
 - a. *shall apply alongside all other appropriate and relevant considerations, including the State's responsibility to respect, protect, promote and fulfil the social and economic rights in Chapter 2 of the Constitution and in particular the basic needs of categories of persons disadvantaged by unfair discrimination;*
 - b. *serve as the general framework within which environmental management and implementation plans must be formulated;*
 - c. *serve as guidelines by reference to which any organ of state must exercise any function when taking any decision in terms of this Act or any statutory provision concerning the protection of the environment;*
 - d. *serve as principles by reference to which a conciliator appointed under this Act must make recommendations; and*
 - e. *guide the interpretation administration and implementation of this Act, and any other law concerned with the protection or management of the environment.*
- 2) *Environmental management must place people and their needs at the forefront of its concern, and serve their physical, psychological, developmental, cultural and social interests equitably.*
- 3) *Development must be socially, environmentally and economically sustainable.*
- 4) (a) *Sustainable development requires the consideration of all relevant factors including the following:*
 - (i) *That the disturbance of ecosystems and loss of biological diversity are avoided, or, where they cannot be altogether avoided, are minimised and remedied;*
 - (ii) *that pollution and degradation of the environment are avoided, or, where they cannot be altogether avoided, are minimised and remedied;*
 - (iii) *that the disturbance of landscapes and sites that constitute the nation's cultural heritage is avoided, or where it cannot be altogether avoided, is minimised and remedied;*
 - (iv) *that waste is avoided. or where it cannot be altogether avoided, minimised and re-used or recycled where possible and otherwise disposed of in a responsible manner;*
 - (v) *that the use and exploitation of non-renewable natural resources is responsible and equitable, and takes into account the consequences of the depletion of the resource;*

- (vi) *that the development use and exploitation of renewable resources and the ecosystems of which they are part do not exceed the level beyond which their integrity is jeopardised;*
- (vii) *that a risk-averse and cautious approach is applied, which takes into account the limits of current knowledge about the consequences of decisions and actions; and*
- (viii) *that negative impacts on the environment and on people's environmental rights be anticipated and prevented, and where they cannot be altogether prevented, are minimised and remedied.*
- (b) *Environmental management must be integrated, acknowledging that all elements of the environment are linked and interrelated, and it must take into account the effects of decisions on all aspects of the environment and all people in the environment by pursuing the selection of the best practicable environmental option.*
- (c) *Environmental justice must be pursued so that adverse environmental impacts shall not be distributed in such a manner as to unfairly discriminate against any person, particularly vulnerable and disadvantaged persons.*
- (d) *Equitable access to environmental resources, benefits and services to meet basic human needs and ensure human well-being must be pursued and special measures may be taken to ensure access thereto by categories of persons disadvantaged by unfair discrimination.*
- (e) *Responsibility for the environmental health and safety consequences of a policy, programme, project, product, process, service or activity exists throughout its life cycle.*
- (f) *The participation of all interested and affected parties in environmental governance must be promoted, and all people must have the opportunity to develop the understanding, skills and capacity necessary for achieving equitable and effective participation and participation by vulnerable and disadvantaged persons must be ensured.*
- (g) *Decisions must take into account the interests, needs and values of all interested and affected parties, and this includes recognizing all forms of knowledge, including traditional and ordinary knowledge.*
- (h) *Community wellbeing and empowerment must be promoted through environmental education, the raising of environmental awareness, the sharing of knowledge and experience and other appropriate means.*
- (i) *The social, economic and environmental impacts of activities, including disadvantages and benefits must be considered, assessed and evaluated and decisions must be appropriate in the light of such consideration and assessment.*
- (j) *The right of workers to refuse work that is harmful to human health or the environment and to be informed of dangers must be respected and protected.*
- (k) *Decisions must be taken in an open and transparent manner, and access to information must be provided in accordance with the law.*
- (l) *There must be intergovernmental co-ordination and harmonisation of policies, legislation and actions relating to the environment.*
- (m) *Actual or potential conflicts of interest between organs of state should be resolved through conflict resolution procedures.*
- (n) *Global and international responsibilities relating to the environment must be discharged in the national interest.*
- (o) *The environment is held in public trust for the people, the beneficial use of environmental resources must serve the public interest and the environment must be protected as the people's common heritage.*
- (p) *The costs of remedying pollution, environmental degradation consequent adverse health effects and of preventing, controlling or minimizing further pollution, environmental damage or adverse health effects must be paid for by those responsible for harming the environment.*

- (q) The vital role of women and youth in environmental management and development must be recognised and their full participation therein must be promoted.*
- (r) Sensitive, vulnerable, highly dynamic or stressed ecosystems, such as coastal shores, estuaries, wetlands and similar systems require specific attention in management and planning procedures, especially where they are subject to significant human resource usage and development pressure.”*

The above mentioned principals and the applicable legislation, Policies and Guidelines as described in Paragraph 5 of this Report were taken into account in the assessment of the Environmental Impacts for the proposed development. The process followed can be described as follows:

- 1) The EAP was contracted by the Applicant, the **Dikgatlong Local Municipality** as their Independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner.
- 2) A Geotechnical Engineer was appointed to determine whether the Geology and Soils of the site is suitable for the proposed development
- 3) The Civil Engineer was appointed to determine the capability of existing infrastructure to be linked to proposed development and readily available bulk services. He also designed the proposed infrastructure and determined the 1:100 year flood lines.
- 4) A SAHRA Specialist has been appointed to determine the possible impact of the development on Archaeological and Cultural features.
- 5) A Fauna and Flora specialist has been appointed to determine the impact of the proposed development on the Fauna and Flora of the area.
- 6) An Environmental Screening Process was conducted by the EAP to ensure that all the relevant Environmental Legislation is taken into consideration.
- 7) Desk top studies were conducted and alternatives assessed.
- 8) Site inspections were carried out to verify the outcomes of the desktop studies, and the preferred alternative defined.
- 9) A full Public Participation Process is being followed to obtain inputs from interested and affected parties.
- 10) All the information obtained from the above mentioned processes is being used to assess the Environmental Impact that the proposed development may have on the Environment and vice versa.
- 11) The inputs from Specialists, interested and affected parties, together with the knowledge of the EAP is being used to determine measures to avoid, mitigate and manage potential impacts. These measures are described in the Environmental Management Programme.

1.3 SCOPING PHASE

The Scoping phase includes the necessary investigations to assess the suitability of the identified site and its surrounding environment, for the development proposal. The scoping exercise describes the “status quo” of the bio-physical, social, economical and cultural environment, and identifies the anticipated environmental aspects associated with the proposed development. Scoping includes the identification of key interest groups, (both government and non-government), and to establish efficient and effective communication. Identifying and informing Interested and affected parties of the proposed development may have an impact on the focus of the EIA. (S. Cliff, 2015)

The purpose of the Scoping Report is to document the outcome of the Scoping Phase of the project. This report fulfils the requirement of the EIA Regulations (2014) for the documentation of the scoping phase. The Scoping Report is compiled in accordance with Section 21(3) of NEMA’s 2014 EIA Regulation (GN R. 982) as amended and published in Government Notice R. 326 of 7 April 2017. Table 1 below provides a summary of the legislative requirements in terms of a Scoping Report as stipulated in Section 21(3) of the EIA Regulations of December 2014 as amended and published in Government Notice R. 326 of 7 April 2017. Cross-references are provided in terms of the relevant section within this Scoping Report where the NEMA and Scoping Report requirements have been addressed.

Table 1: Scoping Report content as per Section 21(3) of NEMA’s 2014 EIA Regulations of December 2014 as amended and published in Government Notice R. 326 of 7 April 2017 Appendix 2

Section of the EIA Regulations, 2014	Description of EIA Regulations Requirements for Scoping Reports	Location in this Scoping report
Appendix 2, section 2 (1)(a)	Details of - (i) the EAP who prepared the report; and (ii) the expertise of the EAP, including a curriculum vitae;	Paragraph 2
Appendix 2, section 2 (1)(b)	The location of the activity, including – (i) The 21 digit Surveyor General code of each cadastral land parcel; (ii) Where available, the physical address and farm name; (iii) Where the required information in items (i) and (ii) is not available, coordinates of the boundary of the property or properties	Paragraph 4 Paragraph 4 Paragraph 4
Appendix 2, section 2 (1)(c)	A plan which locates the proposed activity or activities applied for, at an appropriate scale, or, if it is – (i) A linear activity, a description and coordinates of the corridor in which the proposed activity or activities is to be undertaken; or (ii) On land where the property has not been defined, the coordinates within which the activity is to be undertaken; or (iii) On land where the property has not been defined, the coordinates	Figure 1 and Figure 2, 3 and 4
Appendix 2, section 2 (1)(d)	A description of the scope of the proposed activity, including – (i) All listed and specified activities triggered; (ii) A description of the activities to be undertaken, including associated structures and infrastructure.	Paragraph 3 Paragraph 3
Appendix 2, section 2 (1)(e)	A description of the policy and legislative context within which the development is proposed including an identification of all legislation, policies, plans, guidelines, spatial tools, municipal development planning frameworks and instruments that are applicable to this activity and are to be considered in the assessment process.	Paragraph 5
Appendix 2, section 2 (1)(f)	A motivation for the need and desirability for the proposed development including the need and desirability of the activity in the context of the preferred location.	Paragraph 6

Section of the EIA Regulations, 2014	Description of EIA Regulations Requirements for Scoping Reports	Location in this Scoping report
Appendix 2, section 2 (1)(g)	<p>A full description of the process followed to reach the proposed preferred activity, site and location within the site, including-</p> <p>(i) Details of all alternatives considered;</p> <p>(ii) Details of the public participation process undertaken in terms of regulation 41 of the Regulations, including copies of the supporting documents and inputs;</p> <p>(iii) A summary of the issues raised by interested and affected parties, and an indication of the manner in which the issues were incorporated, or the reasons for not including them;</p> <p>(iv) The environmental attributes associated with the alternatives focusing on the geographical, physical, biological, social, economic, heritage and cultural aspects;</p> <p>(v) The impacts and risks identified for each alternative, including the nature, significance, consequence, extent, duration, and probability of the impacts, including the degree to which the impacts-</p> <p>(aa) can be reversed;</p> <p>(bb) may cause irreplaceable loss of resources; and</p> <p>(cc) can be avoided, managed, or mitigated.</p> <p>(vi) The methodology used in deterring and ranking the nature, significance, consequences, extent, duration and probability of potential environmental impacts and risks associated with the alternatives;</p> <p>(vii) Positive and negative impacts that the proposed activity and alternatives will have on the environment and on the community that may be affected focusing on the geographic, physical, biological, social, economic, heritage and cultural aspects;</p> <p>(viii) The possible mitigation measures that could be applied and level of residual risk;</p> <p>(ix) The outcome of the site selection matrix;</p> <p>(x) If no alternatives, including alternative locations for the activity were investigated, the motivation for not considering such and;</p> <p>(xi) A concluding statement indicating the preferred alternatives, including preferred location of the activity.</p>	<p>Paragraph 7</p> <p>Paragraph 10</p> <p>Paragraph 10</p> <p>Paragraph 8</p> <p>Paragraph 9</p> <p>Paragraph 9</p> <p>Paragraph 9</p> <p>Paragraph 9</p> <p>Paragraph 9</p> <p>Paragraph 9</p> <p>Paragraph 9</p> <p>Not Applicable</p> <p>Not Applicable</p> <p>Paragraph 11</p>
Appendix 2, section 2 (1)(h)	<p>A plan of study for undertaking the environmental impact assessment process to be undertaken including-</p> <p>(i) A description of the alternatives to be considered and assessed within the preferred site, including the option of not proceeding with the activity;</p> <p>(ii) A description of the aspects to be assessed as part of the environmental impact assessment process;</p> <p>(iii) Aspects to be assessed by specialists;</p> <p>(iv) A description of the proposed method of assessing the environmental aspects, including aspects to be assessed by specialists;</p> <p>(v) A description of the proposed method of assessing duration and significance;</p>	<p>Paragraph 12</p> <p>Paragraph 12.1</p> <p>Paragraph 12.2</p> <p>Paragraph 12.3</p> <p>Paragraph 12.4</p> <p>Paragraph 12.5</p>

Section of the EIA Regulations, 2014	Description of EIA Regulations Requirements for Scoping Reports	Location in this Scoping report
	(vi) An indication of the stages at which the competent authority will be consulted;	Paragraph 12.6
	(vii) Particulars of the public participation process that will be conducted during the environmental impact assessment process;	Paragraph 12.7
	(viii) A description of the tasks that will be undertaken as part of the environmental impact assessment process;	Paragraph 12.8
	(ix) Identify suitable measures to avoid, reverse, mitigate or manage identified impacts and to determine the extent of the residual risks that need to be managed and monitored.	Paragraph 12.9
Appendix 2, section 2 (1)(i)	An undertaking under oath or affirmation by the EAP in relation to- (i) The correctness of the information provided in the report;	Paragraph 13
	(ii) The inclusion of the comments and inputs from stakeholders and interested and affected parties; and	Paragraph 13
	(iii) Any information provided by the EAP to interested and affected parties and any responses by the EAP to comments or inputs made by interested and affected parties.	Paragraph 13
Appendix 2, section 2 (1)(j)	An undertaking under oath or affirmation by the EAP in relation to the level of agreement between the EAP and interested and affected parties on the plan of study for undertaking the environmental impact assessment.	Paragraph 13
Appendix 2, section 2 (1)(k)	Where applicable, any specific information required by the competent authority.	To be included in final Scoping Report
Appendix 2, section 2 (1)(l)	Any other matter required in terms of section 24(4) (a) and (b) of the Act.	Not Applicable

2. DETAILS AND EXPERTISE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER

AB Enviro Consult (CC) is a registered consultancy, owned and operated as an independent unit by the registered owner and consultant: **Prof. A.B. de Villiers**

- **Mr J.P. De Villiers** joined the consultancy during 2004
- **Mrs J.E. du Plooy** is a consultant since 2001

PERSONAL PARTICULARS AND CAREER HISTORY OF PROF DE VILLIERS

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ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Post-Matric Qualifications

YEAR	Qualification	Institution	Field of Study
1968	B.Sc.	PU FOR CHE	Geography, Geology
1970	HONNS. B.Sc.	PU FOR CHE	Soil Science
1974	M.Sc.	PU FOR CHE	Geography
1981	Ph.D.	UOFS	Geography

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS AND REGISTRATIONS

YEAR	Qualification/ Registration	Institution	Field of Study
1986	Professional Natural Scientist	SACNASP (400099/86)	Environmental Science
1994	Quality Auditor	ESKOM	Auditing
1998	Personnel & Verifying Auditor	SAATCA	Environmental Auditing
2006	Environmental Assessment Practitioner	Interim Certification Board EAPSA	Environmental Science

MEMBERSHIP AND PARTICIPATION IN SOCIETIES, COUNCILS, ETC.

Name of professional societies	YEAR	Capacity
S.A. Geographical Society.	1967-1996	Board Member
Society for Geography	1968-2004	Member
SAGS Western Transvaal	1985-1989 1987-1989 1996	Chairman
Africa Geographical Association	1993-1995	Vice-President.
Society for the Vaal River Catchment	1980-1999	Member
S.A. Society for Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing and Cartography	1984-1996	Member
Dendrological Society	1986-2005	Member
Bird Life South Africa	2003-present	Member
British Geomorphological Research Group	1985-1997	Member
Int Com on Water Resource Systems	1985-1997	Member
Int Com on Continental Erosion	1986-1990	Member
Int Com on Remote Sensing and Data Transmission	1986-1991	Member
Society for S.A. Geographers	1995-2005	Member
SA Photogrammetrical and Geo. Info.	1995-2003	Member
S.A. Association of Geomorphologists	1994-1999	Board Member and member
SADC Mine Dump Study Group	1996-2005	Member

***Chairman of the Committee for Interested and Affected Parties (CIP) (2004-2008)** for International Accreditation by the influential accrediting body of **Price, Waterhouse Coopers- International Environmental Auditors in Southern Africa.**

Member of Price Waterhouse Coopers CIP (2004-2010)

2.1. ACADEMIC COURSES TAUGHT AT POST-MATRIC LEVEL

- 1.1 The Geography of Economic Activities and Regional Geography (3rd year and honours students)
- 1.2 Weather and Climate (1st, 2nd, and 3rd year students)
- 1.3 Geomorphology (1st year up to PhD level)
- 1.4 Remote Sensing and the Environment (3rd year and Honours)
- 1.5 Quantitative Geography (3rd year up to Masters Level)
- 1.6 Environmental Management (2nd year, up to PhD level)
- 1.7 Environmental Analysis (3rd year and up to Masters Level)
- 1.8 Geography of Soil (3rd year and Honours)
- 1.9 Cartography (1st year to Honours)
- 1.10 As professor, 26 Masters & 4 PhD D students completed their studies in environmentally related subjects under his tutor- and co-tutorship.

2.2 INVOLVEMENT IN COURSES AND WORKSHOPS

2.2.1 ENVIRONMENTAL COURSES: Partially responsible for course development and taught various courses for environmental officers employed by the North West Province over a period of 3 years (1998-2001). These courses were aimed at improving their knowledge of the environment as well as their understanding of the environmental interactions specifically related to the North West province.

2.2.2 STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT REPORT (SOE) Involved in the first SOE prepared by the North West Province and was responsible for most of the physical geographical aspects (1999).

2.3 ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS

The following projects are typical examples, of such projects which he co-ordinated and managed:

2.3.1 MOOI RIVER CATCHMENT STUDIES: This was a study on the impacts of the mining activities on the quality and quantity of water in the Mooi River catchments and was done for the North West Province. He co-ordinated and managed this project. The team consisted of a PhD student as well as two teams of local and international students; one responsible for the biophysical variables, and the other for socio-cultural aspects.

2.3.2 SADC MINE DUMPS STUDY GROUP: Acted as co-ordinator for the formulation of tools to assess the effects of mine dumps on the environment in the SADC region. One group was involved in the Zimbabwean copper belt region, and the other in the Tanzanian gold mining area. The studies were undertaken for the Carl Duisburg Gesellschaft (Germany). The research team consisted of geographers, ecologists and mining experts. From this study, a pilot program, the "South African Environmental Management System" (SEMS) developed, which was applied successfully by a team of researchers in a pilot study in the Carletonville region.

2.3.3 SADC DEVELOPMENT OF TRAINING MODULES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES USING GIS: Member of the three-person team who developed these training modules. It was applied at the Copperbelt University, the University of Dar Es Salaam as well as at the Potchefstroom University as an introduction to the integration of environmental data (both biophysical and socio-economic) for the interpretation of geographical regions.

2.3.4 ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION - THE RESULT OF INDISCRIMINATE LOCATION OF SLIME DAMS IN THE SADC REGION: Co-ordinated this study in the Far West Rand Area; conducted case studies in Zambia and South Africa. The team consisted of researchers from the Netherlands, Germany, Zambia and Tanzania.

2.3.5 LAND USE CHANGES IN THE NORTH WEST PROVINCE: An Environmental Management Support System for SOE North-West University Team leader. This project was undertaken for DACE (NWP) and various students participated – each involved in a specific aspect of the environment. This data was co-ordinated and eventually incorporated into the SOE report.

2.4 RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS AND CONFERENCES

He published 11 environmentally related articles in peer-reviewed magazines, and appeared professionally at 30 conferences with a direct bearing on environmental work.

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS MR J.P. DE VILLIERS

YEAR	Qualification	Institution	Field of Study
1993	BA	PU FOR CHE	Geography, Economics
1994	HED	PU FOR CHE	Geography Economics
2006	B.Sc.(Honns) Cum Laude	North-West University	Environmental Management
2007	M.Sc.	North-West University	Geography

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS AND REGISTRATIONS

YEAR	Qualification/ Registration	Institution	Field of Study
2008	Basic Principles of Ecological Rehabilitation and Mine Closure	Centre for Environmental Management (North West University)	Ecological Rehabilitation
2019	Registered as Environmental assessment Practitioner	EAPASA Registration number: 2019/808	

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS MRS J.E. DU PLOOY

YEAR	Qualification	Institution	Field of Study
1999	BA	PU FOR CHE	Geography, Tourism
2000	BA (Honns) Cum Laude	PU FOR CHE	Geography
2003	Masters degree in Environmental Management	PU FOR CHE	Environmental Management
2001	Aquabase Intro	AQUABASE	Hydrology
2001	Geomedia Professional	INTERTECH	GIS
2001	Map Info	SPATIAL TECHNOLOGY	GIS

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS AND REGISTRATIONS

YEAR	Qualification/ Registration	Institution
2020	Registered as Environmental assessment Practitioner	EAPASA Registration number: 2019/1573

EXPERIENCE OF THE CONSULTANCY

Over a period of 24 years (1996-2020) this consultancy has successfully applied for, and obtained positive ROD's and EA's for more than 375 projects. Environmental Control Officer's duties are also performed on various projects.

The company was involved (from 1992-1994) in evaluation of 114 applications for the subdivision of land, 23 applications for resort developments, and 54 applications for business rights for the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and the Environment - North West Province.

The consultancy is qualified to undertake professional studies in waste management and is still involved in the development of waste disposal- (solid and liquid effluent), and emission studies. These studies are conducted both academically and practically. This work relates to mine waste, domestic waste and effluent as well as to the monitoring of waste disposal. Environmental audits in this respect are undertaken on a regular basis.

3. DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTIVITY

The Applicant, the **Dikgatlong Local Municipality** has appointed **AB Enviro Consult CC**, an independent environmental consultancy, to undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed clearance of 196 ha of indigenous vegetation, partially located within a critical biodiversity area, the construction of a bridge and the installation of bulk services within a watercourse, for the proposed township establishment located on a Portion of the remaining extend of Erf 687, Barkly West, Dikgatlong Local Municipality, Northern Cape Province. The proposed development will also include the establishment of a cemetery.

The site is influenced by a number of design factors that were considered for the proposed layout plan to be acceptable. These factors include the slope of the site, flood lines, environmental sensitivity, service provision, erf size, access, road layout and community facilities as well as the geotechnical features. To ensure that the proposed development do not infringe on any design principles and the environmental sensitive areas, development of residential units will only be allowed to take place according to the prescribed methods: subsequently no residential development may take place beyond the 1:100 year flood line.

The proposed Township will consist of the following (See Figure 1 for a copy of the Layout Plan):

Residential (min 260 m ²)	3 400 Stands
Residential (min 400 m ²)	100 Stands
Business	4 Stands
Churches	6 Stands
Crèche	6 Stands
School	1 Stand
Sports Field	1 Stand
Municipal	2 Stands
Cemetery	1 Stand
Parks	6 Stands
Area of township	196 ha



Figure 1: Layout Plan

CIVIL SERVICES

Bulk services will be connected to Municipal infrastructure. A Civil Engineer has been appointed to assess the availability and design of services in the area and his report will be included in the EIAr.

DRAINAGE SYSTEMS

The sensitivity map for the area (Figure 2: SANBI BGIS Land use Decision Support (LUDS) tool: Watercourses) revealed no streams on or adjacent to the site.

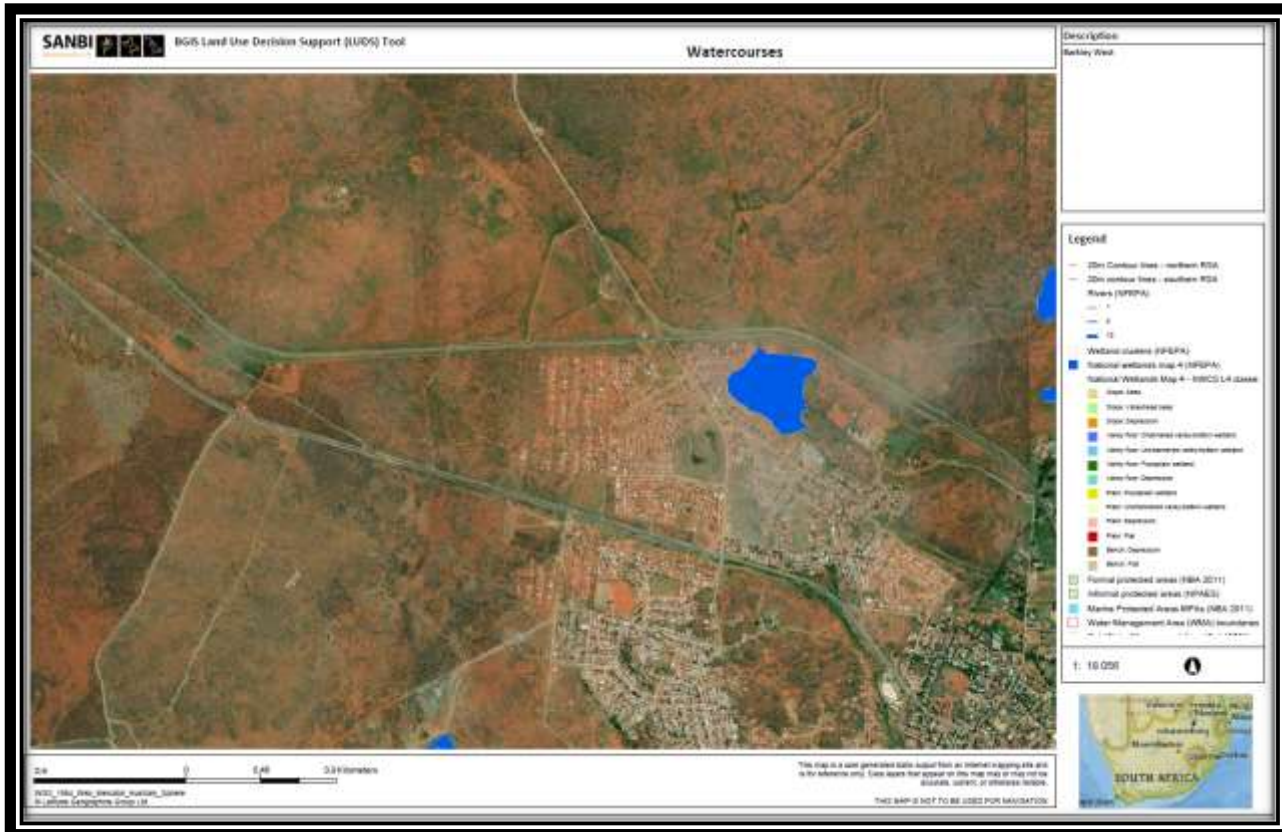


Figure 2: SANBI BGIS Land use Decision Support (LUDS) tool: Watercourses

The Flood line Engineer noted the following:

The storm water flow regime North of the R31 road will be sheet flow. No flood lines will develop in this area. The storm water will be channelled to a point where it will flow over the R31 road into the channelled stream on the Southern property.

The storm water flow regime South of the R31 road will be channel flow and therefore flood lines will develop here. The flood water from the Northern property will be included into the flood water generated on the Southern property.

The above mentioned has led to the determination of the 1:100 year flood lines for the area. Please see Figure 3 below for a copy of the determined flood lines. This information was then used by the Town and Regional planner to amend the Layout Plan to ensure that no Residential development takes place below this 1:100 year flood line. See Figure 1 in this regard. In order to ensure access, a road/Bridge will have to be constructed within this area. Bulk services (water and sewer) will also cross this area.

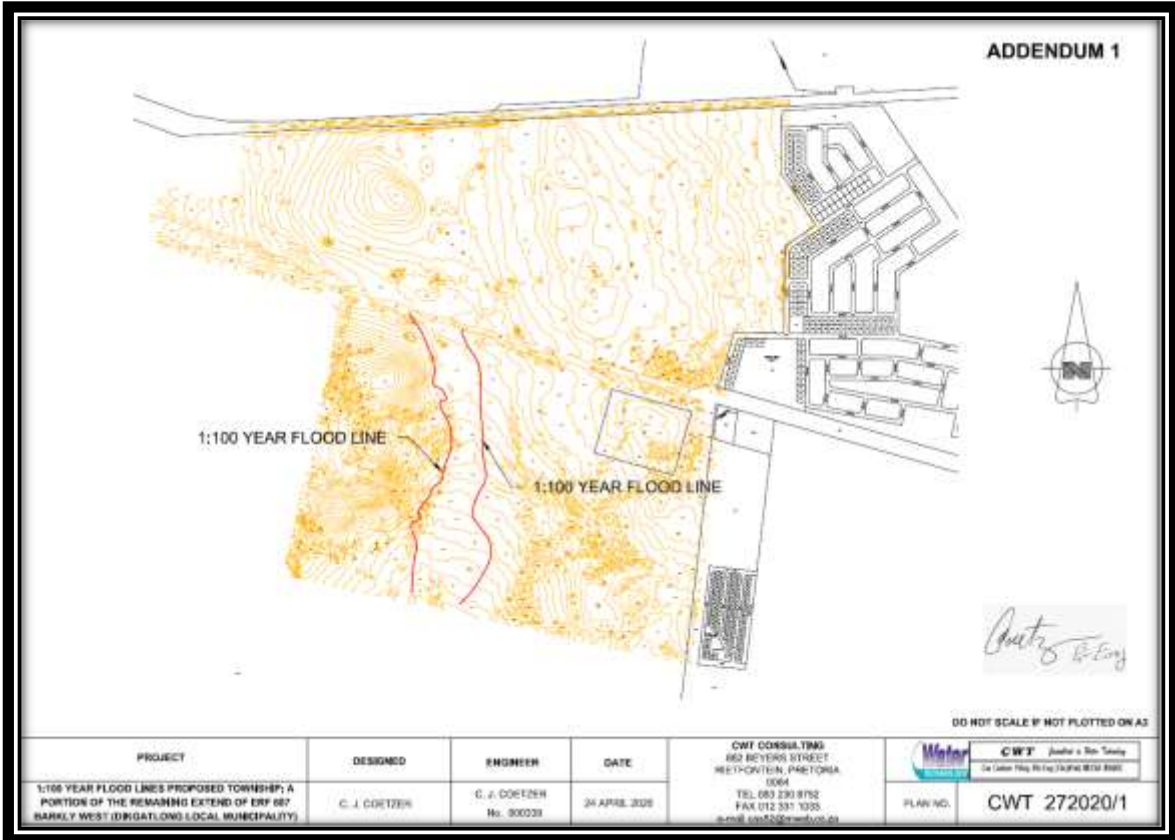
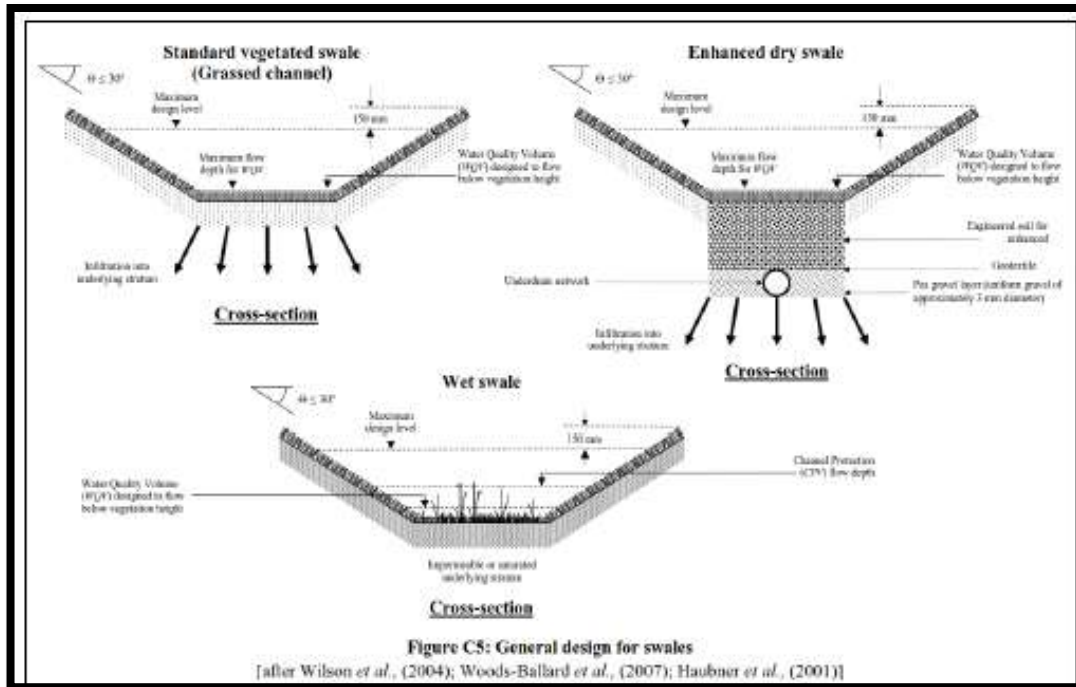


Figure 3: Certified Flood Lines

SUSTAINABLE DRAINAGE SYSTEMS

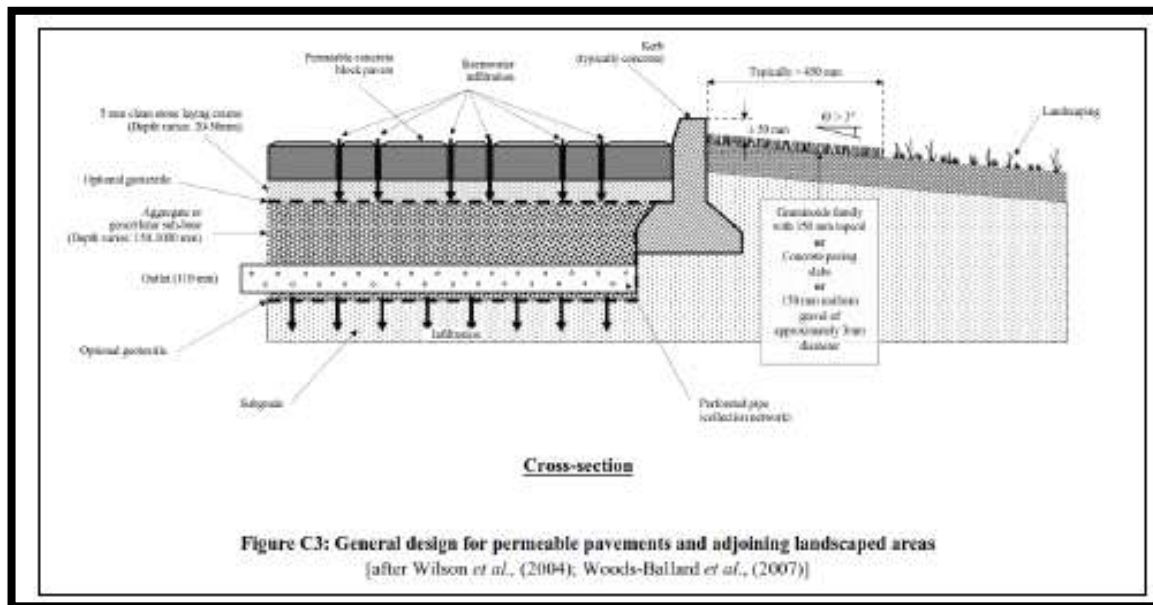
According to L. Soobiah (2020): Swales and biofiltration can be considered for implementation of ‘green building’ principles, adjacent the roadways, footpaths and for the proposed outlet channels into the main drainage courses. Swales (shallow vegetated channels which collect runoff and then releases it into the drainage system or back to surface at a reduced peak discharge and volume). Swales are constructed with permeable / gravel bases to promote infiltration to the sub-soil and improve run-off quality.



Typical swale design

Permeable paving:

The use of permeable pavers for footpaths, roadways and parking areas could be considered to provide reduced runoff and promote infiltration. The use of permeable paving can be implemented in tandem with swales constructed adjacent to the paved surfaces to intercept any surface flow as well as discharge from the underlying sub-base (Soobiah; L. 2020).



Typical Permeable paving design.

CONSTRUCTION OF NEW INTERNAL WATER AND SEWAGE PIPELINES WITHIN THE WATERCOURSE

The pipes will be encased in 200 mm mass concrete and the area on top of the concrete will be soilcrete that will be compacted in 150mm layers to natural ground level.

In the planning for the design phase of the pipelines, cognisance is taken of the following reference documents;

- Red Book – Guidelines for Human Settlement Planning and Design
- SABS 1200 – Standardized Specification for Civil Engineering Construction
- Local Municipal standards

When planning or designing the pipelines, a holistic approach that adheres to all the tenets of the reference or policy documents listed above will be adopted.

The approach to design and construction will encompass the following;

- Appropriate and adequate protection of the river/stream/wetland banks in the vicinity of the pipeline will be incorporated into the design.
- The existing river/stream bank structure will be maintained to reduce disturbance to the river/stream flow.
- Where crossing or running alongside river or stream courses, the existing river/stream bank structure will be maintained to reduce disturbance to the river flow.
- Where the pipeline crosses storm water channels these will be designed to have no impact on normal storm water flow in that all pipes and concrete casing will be buried at least 1.0m below natural channel level in the case of soft material, and level with the natural channel in the case of hard rock material.
- In the case of sewer pipelines, man holes will be provided at all changes in grade and direction and at intervals not exceeding 80m to facilitate maintenance during the lifetime of the pipelines.
- The pipe crossing has been designed to have no impact on normal river/stream flow
- Where pipes are laid through a flood plain (1:100-year flood line), a minimum cover level of 1.0m will be maintained.

Construction Methodology

- Conduct a competent site investigation to build up an informed picture of the task
- Conduct a topographical survey of the pipeline route
- Adequate design of all the stages of construction
- All environmental and Health and Safety requirements and good practice to be adhered to.
- Remove topsoil and stockpile for later use

- Excavate trench for pipeline to the design level
- If the material is firm, normal excavation techniques will apply. In soft material shoring of the trench sides may be required. In hard rock material trench excavation may require the use of pneumatic breakers or blasting
- Install temporary dewatering pumps to keep the excavation dry (if required due to ground water ingress)
- Construct storm water diversion berms where required
- Place concrete to encasement if required. The top level will be determined by the storm water channel level
- Place bedding, lay pipe, place and compact selected fill over the pipeline
- Construct manholes where required. Manholes will be constructed along the pipeline route at changes in grade and direction
- Backfill to specification of drawings.
- Dress backfill, topsoil and revegetate all exposed areas.

See Figure 4 below:

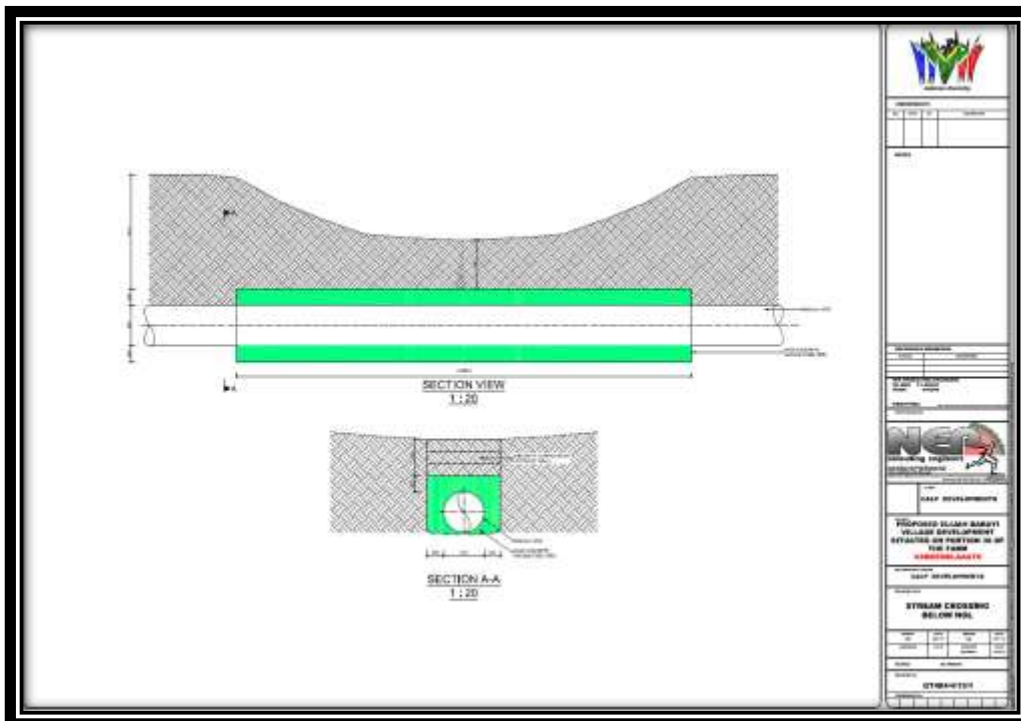


FIGURE 4: PIPELINE INSTALLATION DESIGN



Location of Pipe in Green to the south of the site to WWTWs (See Engineering services Report)

4. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY

The study area is located on a Portion of the Remaining Extent of Erf 687, Barkly-West, under the jurisdiction of the Dikgatlong Local Municipality and the Frances Baard District Municipality, Northern Cape Province. The study area is approximately 196 hectares in extent and is separated by the R31 road between Delportshoop and Barkly-West. The Northern section is approximately 103 ha and the Southern section is approximately 86 ha in extent. See Figure 5 for a copy of the Locality Map.

70 Hectares of the site is located within a Critical Biodiversity area. See Figure 6 for a sensitivity map.

Province	Northern Cape					
District Municipality	Frances Baard District Municipality					
Local Municipality	Dikgatlong Local Municipality					
Ward number(s)	Ward 3					
Nearest town(s)	Barkly-West					
Farm name(s) and number(s)	a Portion of the remaining extend of Erf 687					
Portion number(s)	Portion of the remaining extent					
Coordinates of corner points of study area	Latitude (S) (DDMMSS)			Longitude (E) (DDMMSS)		
	28°	31'	03.71"	24°	29'	54.46"
	28°	31'	31.18"	24°	29'	47.51"
	28°	31'	58.48"	24°	29'	43.25"
	28°	31'	49.44"	24°	28'	59.29"
	28°	31'	24.14"	24°	29'	05.71"
28°	31'	15.22"	24°	28'	44.13"	

	28°	31'	06.63"	24°	28'	55.13"
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Informal settlements (See Photograph 1), illegal dumping (See Photograph 2) and associated dirt roads and tracks (See Photograph 3) cover fairly large areas of the site. Numerous soil dumps, ditches and excavations are also present on site (See Photograph 4). The site is located adjacent to the existing residential area of Barkley-West that is situated towards the east. (See Photograph 5) A railway line is present at the northern boundary of the site. (See Photograph 6). Alien invasive weeds occur at disturbed and hitherto cleared areas.



Photograph 1: Informal settlement on site.



Photograph 2: Illegal dumping on site



Photograph 3: Dirt roads and tracks on site



Photograph 4: Old diggings and soil heaps on site



Photograph 5: Residential area of Barkley-West that is located towards the East of the site



Photograph 6: A railway line is located towards the northern boundary of the site.



Figure 5: Locality Map.

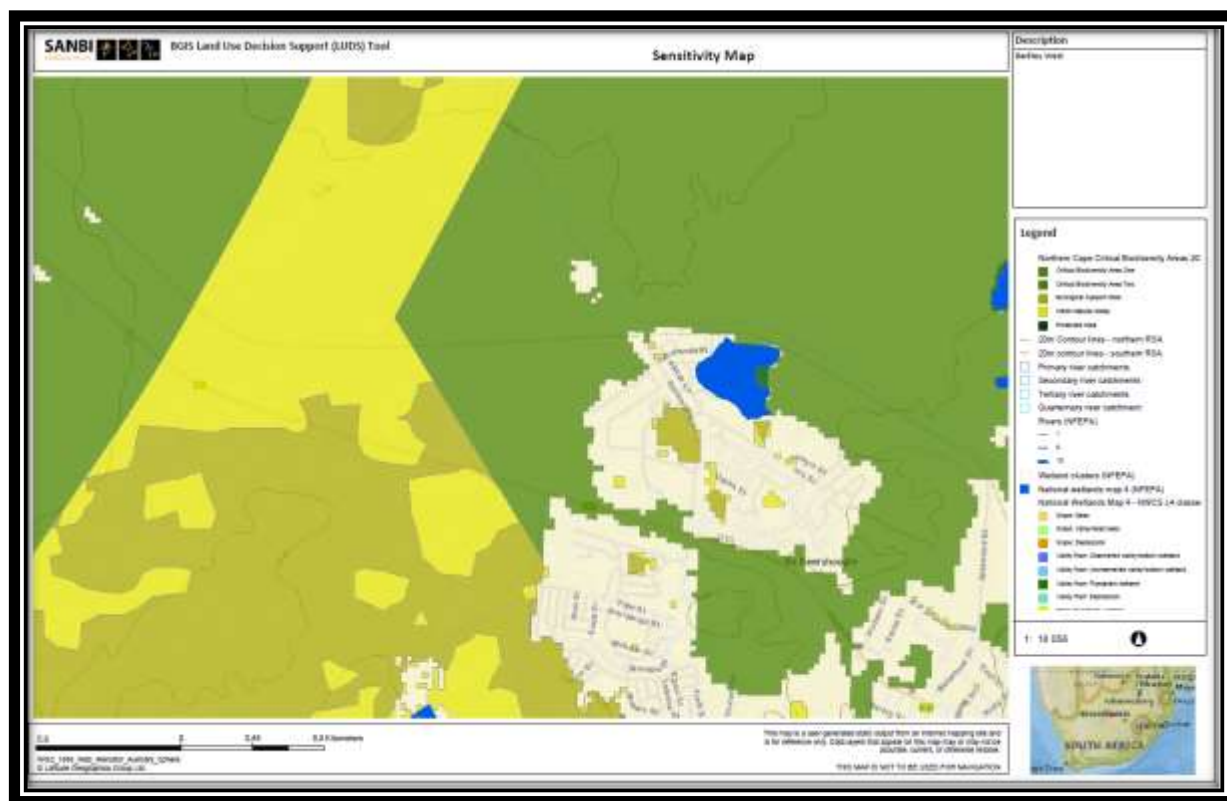


Figure 6: Sensitivity Map.

5. LEGAL AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Title of legislation, policy or guideline	Applicability to the project	Administering authority	Date
National Environmental Management Act No. 107 of 1998 as amended.	<p>NEMA is South Africa's overall environmental legislation and has, as its primary objective to provide for co-operative governance by establishing principles for decision making on matters affecting the environment, institutions that will promote co-operative governance and procedures for co-ordinating environmental functions exercised by organs of state and to provide for matters connected therewith (Government Gazette, 1998).</p> <p>The Act provides for the right to an environment that is not harmful to the health and well-being of South African citizens; the equitable distribution of natural resources, sustainable development, environmental protection and the formulation of environmental</p>	National & Provincial	27 November 1998

	<p>management frameworks (Government Gazette, 1998).</p> <p>Section 30 (1, 3 and 4) of NEMA states that:</p> <p>(1)(a) “incident” means an unexpected sudden occurrence, including a major emission, fire or explosion leading to serious danger to the public or potentially serious pollution of or detriment to the environment, whether immediate or delayed. (b) “responsible person” includes any person who; (i) Is responsible for the incident; (ii) Owns any hazardous substance involved in the incident; or (iii) Was in control of any hazardous substance involved in the incident at the time of the incident;</p> <p>(3) The responsible person or, where the incident occurred in the course of that person’s employment, his or her employer must forthwith after knowledge of the incident, report through the most effective means reasonably available (a) the nature of the incident; (b) any risks posed by the incident to public health, safety and property; (c) the toxicity of substances or by-products released by the incident; and (d) any steps that should be taken in order to avoid or minimise the effects of the incident on public health and the environment to; (i) the Director-General; (ii) the South African Police Services and the relevant fire prevention service; (iii) the relevant provincial head of department or municipality; and (iv) all persons whose health may be affected by the incident.</p> <p>(4)The responsible person or, where the incident occurred in the course of that person’s employment, his or her employer, must, as soon as reasonably practicable after knowledge of the incident; (a) take all reasonable measures to contain and minimise the effects of the incident, including its effects on the environment and any risks posed by</p>		
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	<p>the incident to the health, safety and property of persons; (b) undertake clean-up procedures; (c) remedy the effects of the incident; (d) assess the immediate and long-term effects of the incident on the environment and public health.</p>		
<p><i>The Bill of Rights, Constitution of South Africa, Section 27 (1)(b)</i></p>	<p>The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa is the legal source of all law, including environmental law, in South Africa. The Bill of Rights is fundamental to the Constitution of South Africa and in, section 24 of the Act, it is stated that:</p> <p>Everyone has the right (a) to an environment that is not harmful to their health or well-being; and (b) to have the environment protected, for the benefit of present and future generations through reasonable legislative and other measures that (i) prevent pollution and ecological degradation; (ii) promote conservation; and (iii) secure ecologically sustainable development and use of natural resources while promoting justifiable economic and social development.</p> <p>Given that environmental management is founded partly on the principles of public participation, Section 195 of the Constitution is of primary relevance:</p> <p>(1) Public administration must be governed by the democratic values and principles enshrined in the constitution, including the following principles: (a) (b) (c) (d) (e) Peoples needs must be responded to, and the public must be encouraged to participate in policymaking. (f) Public administration must be accountable. (g) Transparency must be fostered by providing the public with timely, accessible and accurate information (Government Gazette, 1996).</p>	National Government	1994
<p><i>New Regulations 2017 in terms of NEMA</i></p>	<p>Legislation consulted during the environmental impact assessment process to determine whether any listed activities would be triggered. The Regulations were also consulted to determine inter alia the requirements regarding the contents</p>	National & Provincial	7 April 2017

	of basic assessment reports and environmental management programmes and the public participation process that should be followed.		
National Water Act (36 OF 1998)	<p>National Water Act (NWA), 1998 (Act 36 of 1998) is the primary statute providing the legal basis for water management in South Africa and has to ensure ecological integrity, economic growth and social equity when managing and using water.</p> <p>The major objectives of the National Water Act are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Aid in providing basic human needs; •Meet the growing demand of water in a sustainable manner; •Ensure equal access to water and use of water resources; •Protect the quality of water of natural resources; •Ensure integrated management of water resources; •Foster social and economic development; and •Conserve aquatic and related ecosystems. <p>Section 19 of the National Water Act states that the person responsible for land upon which any activity is or was performed which causes, has caused or is likely to cause, pollution of a water resource, must take all reasonable measures to prevent any such pollution from occurring, continuing or recurring.</p> <p>Chapter 3 of the National Water Act (36 of 1998), deals with pollution of water resources following an emergency incident, such as an accident involving the spilling of a harmful substance that finds or may find its way into a water resource. In terms of Section 30 of NEMA and Section 20 of the National Water Act, the responsibility for remedying the situation rests with the person responsible for the incident or the substance involved. If there is a failure to act, the relevant Catchment Management Agency may take the</p>	Department of water and sanitation	1998

	necessary steps and recover the costs from every responsible person.		
National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (NEMBA) (ACT NO. 10 OF 2004)	<p>The National Environmental Management Biodiversity Act, 2004 (Act No. 10 of 2004), provides for the management and conservation of South Africa's biodiversity within the framework of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998; the protection of species and ecosystems that warrant national protection; the sustainable use of indigenous biological resources; the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from bio-prospecting involving indigenous biological resources; the establishment and functions of a South African National Biodiversity Institute; and for matters connected therewith.</p> <p>In terms of Chapter 4 of the Above Act:</p> <p>52. (1) (a) The Minister may, by notice in the Gazette, publish a national list of ecosystems that are threatened and in need of protection.</p> <p>(b) An MEC for environmental affairs in a province may, by notice in the Gazette, publish a provincial list of ecosystems in the province that are threatened and in need of protection.</p> <p>(2) The following categories of ecosystems may be listed in terms of subsection:</p> <p>(a) critically endangered ecosystems, being ecosystems that have undergone severe degradation of ecological structure, function or composition as a result of human intervention and are subject to an extremely high risk of irreversible transformation;</p> <p>(b) endangered ecosystems, being ecosystems that have undergone degradation of ecological structure, function or composition as a result of human intervention, although they are not critically endangered ecosystems;</p>	National & Provincial	2004

	<p>(c) vulnerable ecosystems, being ecosystems that have a high risk of undergoing significant degradation of ecological structure, function or composition as a result of human intervention, although they are not critically endangered ecosystems or endangered ecosystems; and</p> <p>(d) protected ecosystems, being ecosystems that are of high conservation value or of high national or provincial importance, although they are not listed in terms of paragraphs (a), (b) or (c).</p> <p>(3) A list referred to in subsection (1) must describe in sufficient detail the location of each ecosystem on the list.</p> <p>53 (1) The Minister may, by notice in the Gazette, identify any process or activity in a listed ecosystem as a threatening process.</p> <p>(2) A threatening process, identified in terms of subsection (1) must be regarded as a specified activity contemplated in section 24(2)(b) of the National Environmental Management Act (1998) and a listed ecosystem must be regarded as an area identified for the purpose of that section.</p>		
<p>National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act (ACT NO. 57 OF 2003)</p>	<p>This Act aims to provide for a national system of protected areas in South Africa as part of a strategy to manage and conserve its biodiversity. The Protected Areas Act tries to ensure the protection of the entire range of biodiversity, referring to natural landscapes and seascapes. The Act makes express reference to the need to move towards Community Based natural Resource Management (CBNRM) as its objectives include promoting the participation of local communities in the management of protected areas. The purpose of the Act is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •To protect ecologically viable areas representative of South Africa's biological diversity and its natural landscapes and seascapes and their ecological integrity. 	<p>National & Provincial</p>	<p>2003</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •To conserve biodiversity in those areas; •To protect South Africa's rare species; •To protect vulnerable or ecologically sensitive areas; •To assist in ensuring the sustained supply of environmental goods and services; •To provide for the sustainable use of natural and biological resources; •To create or augment destinations for nature-based tourism; •To manage the interrelationship between natural environmental biodiversity, human settlement and economic development; •To contribute to human, social, cultural, spiritual and economic development; •To rehabilitate and restore degraded ecosystems and promote the recovery of endangered and vulnerable species. <p>This Act further stipulates various criteria which must be met before an area can be declared as a special nature reserve, national park, nature reserve and protected environment. It also prescribes a range of procedures, including consultation and public participation procedures which must be followed before any of the kinds of protected areas are declared.</p>		
<p><i>Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act (MPRDA), Act 28 of 2002</i></p>	<p>The Act distinguishes between mining permits and mining rights as follows:</p> <p>Mining Permit: Required where the activity will last less than two years and affects an area of less than 1.5ha in extent (valid for 3 years). In terms of the Act a mining permit requires a submission of an Environmental Management Plan (EMP to DME for approval prior to the onset of activities).</p> <p>Mining Right: Required for larger mining operations (renewable and valid for 30 years). In terms of the Act a mining right requires the submission of an Environmental Management Programme (EMProg)</p>	<p>Relevant Provincial Authorities.</p>	<p>2002</p>

	<p>to DME for approval prior to the onset of activities.</p> <p>In light of their limited spatio-temporal extent, borrow pits (for the provision of construction material) and quarry operations would typically require a mining permit.</p> <p>The closure of borrow pits requires the submission of a closure application; this must be submitted within 180 days after ceasing operations. It is important to recognise that the mining right/permit holder's liability persists until such time as a Closure Certificate has been issued by DME.</p>		
National Heritage Resources Act, Act No. 25 of 1999	<p>Legislation consulted during the impact assessment process, to determine the legal requirements relating to the management of heritage resources that are present in and around the site.</p>	SAHRA	1999
National Environmental Management: Waste Act, Act No. 59 of 2008, read together with the List of Waste Activities that Have, or are Likely to Have, a Detrimental Effect on the Environment, GN No. 921 of 29 November 2013	<p>Legislation consulted to determine whether a waste licence will have to be obtained for the development.</p> <p>Should the old canal be demolished, <i>Category A: Activity number: 14</i> might be triggered. However, it is considered unlikely at this stage as it is envisaged that the existing canal will remain operational.</p>	National & Provincial	2008
National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act (Act 39 of 2004)	<p>To protect the environment by providing reasonable measures for the prevention of pollution and ecological degradation and for securing ecologically sustainable development while promoting justifiable economic and social Development. Construction activities may cause some air pollution.</p>	Relevant Provincial Authorities.	2004
The Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act (Act 43 of 1983)	<p>This Act regulates the flow pattern of runoff water, control of weeds and invader plants.</p>	Relevant Provincial Authorities.	1983
National Veldt and Forest Fire Act (Act 101 of 1998)	<p>Chapter 4 places a duty on owners to prepare and maintain firebreaks.</p>	Relevant Provincial Authorities.	1998
National Forests Act, Act 84 of 1998 (NFA) read with GN1602 of December 2016.	<p>During the construction phase of the development certain protected trees may be affected. Licences will have to be obtained from the Minister</p>	National and Provincial authorities.	1998

	before the affected trees may be cut, disturbed, damaged or destroyed. GN1602 of December 2016 contains the list of protected trees.		
Northern Cape Nature Conservation Act, 2009 (Act. No. 9 of 2009)	This Act contains schedules of protected and specially protected species (fauna and flora) that may not be disturbed without a valid fauna and flora Permit from Nature Conservation.	Northern Cape Provincial Authority.	2009
Occupational Health and Safety Act (Act 85 of 1993)	To provide for the health and safety of persons at work and for the health and safety of persons in connection with the use of plant and machinery and the protection of persons other than persons at work against hazards to health.	Relevant Provincial Authorities.	1993
National Heritage RESOURCES Act (Act 25 of 1999)	Regulation 38. (1) states that any person who intends to undertake a development categorised as—(a) the construction of a canal exceeding 300m in length; must get authorization from SAHRA	Relevant Provincial Authorities.	1999

The study is conducted in such a way as to comply with the instructions regarding such studies and reports (as contained within the above-mentioned documents).

**The following aspects will be dealt with:
SCHEDULE**

Actions	Timeframe
1. Project Initiation and Scoping Phase	
1.1 Communication with authorities and source and analyse relevant baseline information and undertake site inspections	5 days
1.2 Identify key interested and affected parties (I&APs)	1 day
1.3 Compilation of terms of reference for specialist studies	2 days
1.4 Commission specialist studies	1 day
1.5 Compile Environmental Application Form for the project and submit to the authorities	Once the Environmental Application form has been submitted, the scoping report which has been subject to public participation (30 days) needs to be submitted within 44 days
1.6 Compile draft Scoping Report (SR) and make available to the public for a 30 day commenting period	5 days for compilation and 30 days for commenting period
1.7 Prepare an Information Sheet (summary of the draft SR) and distribute to I&APs	1 day
1.8 Compile and publish media notices (for the EIA) in relevant newspapers	7 days
1.9 Compile and place poster/s along the boundary of the site	1 day
1.10 Receive and address first round of comments from public	3 days
1.11 Should the draft SR require substantial changes, these changes will be incorporated into the final SR and distributed	The competent authority must within 43 days of receipt of the scoping report accept / refuse the report with our without conditions
1.12 Address comments received on the SR, finalise Scoping Report and submit to authorities	As above

1.13 Compile a Plan of Study for the assessment phase and submit to authorities for approval	As above
The total time allowed for the Scoping phase of the application	87 days
2. Assessment Phase	
2.1 Undertake assessment phase by assessing and evaluating potential impacts identified in the Scoping phase.	5 days
2.2 Review and manage specialist studies required.	Ongoing
2.3 Compile a draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR).	5 days
2.4 Compile a draft Environmental Management Plan for the Construction phase.	Included above
2.5 Compile an Information Sheet (summary of EIR) and distribute to identified I&APs	1 day
2.6 Distribute DEIR to I&APs	1 day
2.7 Allow the identified public to provide comment within a 30 day period on above report.	3 days for compilation and 30 days for commenting period
2.8 Address comments received and finalise EIR	3 days
2.9 Should the draft EIR require substantial changes, these changes will be incorporated into the final EIR and distributed for a 21 day commenting	3 days plus 21 day commenting period
2.10 Finalise EIR and update comments and response table for submission to authorities	5 days
2.11 Submit EIR to authorities for a final decision	1 day (The department requires the submission of the Final EIR within 106 days of the approval of the Scoping report), therefore all information from the client's side must be provided within this timeframe to ensure the application is not withdrawn)
2.12 Once the decision is issued, all I&Ps must be formally informed of the decision	The Competent Authority has 107 days from the date of receipt of the EIR and EMPr to determine the application
Total number of days allowed for the compilation and consideration of the EIR	213 (may require additional 50 days public participation and consideration)
TOTAL AMOUNT OF DAYS:	300-350 days

6. NEED AND DESIRABILITY

As in the rest of South Africa, there is a housing shortage in the area. This is totally unacceptable as Informal settlements consist of non-conventional housing built without complying with legal building procedures. Broadly, these crude dwellings mostly lack proper indoor infrastructure, such as water supply, sanitation, drainage, waste disposal and proper road access. There is also a bond between poor housing and environmental conditions in informal settlements which also reflects poverty. Linking basic services such as water to health is viewed as a false separation as these services are 'intimately related to housing'. It becomes a housing issue if children playing outside the house contract diarrhoea via ingesting pathogens from fecal matter which contaminates the land on which they play. Otherwise, it is the house which provides for shelter against injury, weather and disease. Improving the surroundings of the house is to limit severe health risks existing within poor quality housing.

The new "Human Settlements Plan" promotes the achievement of a non-racial, integrated society through the development of sustainable human settlements and quality housing. Housing is to be utilized for the development of sustainable human settlements in support of spatial restructuring.

The aim is to move beyond the provision of basic shelter towards achieving the broader vision of sustainable human settlements and more efficient towns, cities and regions. The following factors will be taken into consideration in order to achieve this vision:

- Progressive Informal Settlement Eradication: These settlements must be integrated into the broader urban setup so as to overcome spatial, social and economic exclusion. The plan encourages the eradication of informal settlements through in-situ upgrading in desired locations coupled with the relocation of households where development is not possible or desirable.
- Promoting Densification and Integration: The aim is to integrate previously excluded groups into the city so as to enable them to enjoy the benefits it offers and to create more integrated, functional and environmentally sustainable human settlements, towns and cities.
- Enhancing Spatial Planning: Greater co-ordination and alignment of various planning instruments and economic policies lies at the heart of sustainable human settlements. This requires more than mere co-ordination between departments but there needs to be a single overarching planning authority and/or instrument to provide macro-level guidance to support the development of sustainable human settlements.
- Enhancing the location of New Housing Projects: The location of past housing projects was said to reinforce apartheid spatial settlement patterns. Spatial restructuring aims to achieve a more decisive intervention in land markets. The following interventions are envisaged viz. accessing well located state-owned and parastatal land: acquisition of well-located private land for housing development, funding for land acquisition and fiscal incentives.
- Supporting Urban Renewal and Inner-City Regeneration: Urban renewal and inner-city regeneration often result in the current inhabitants being excluded as a result of the construction of dwelling units they cannot afford. Some municipalities are trying to avoid this by promoting affordable inner-city housing. The "Human Settlements Plan" will support this by encouraging social housing.
- Developing Social and Economic Infrastructure: The need to move away from a housing-only approach towards a more holistic development of human settlements which includes the provision of social and economic infrastructure is emphasized.

- Enhancing the Housing Product: The aim is to develop more appropriate settlement layouts and housing products and to ensure appropriate housing quality.

The development of the proposed integrated human settlement represents a definitive move away from providing housing-only township areas and towards the provision of a proper integrated human settlement that offers a magnitude of social, educational and commercial support facilities and infrastructure in close proximity to the inhabitants

Skills development

The members of the Project Steering Committee will during the entire life-cycle of the project be involved with all processes and it anticipated that the capacity of the officials of the Dikgatlong Local Municipality as well as the relevant community structures will be broadened through the transfer of knowledge and skills specifically relating to the integrated human settlement planning process as well as the statutory processes associated with the township establishment process.

During the construction phase of the proposed development, jobs will be created and thus the unemployment rate of the area will be reduced.

7. ALTERNATIVES

One of the objectives of an EIA is to investigate alternatives to the proposed project. The IEM procedure stipulates that the environmental investigation needs to consider feasible alternatives for any proposed development. Therefore, a number of possible proposals or alternatives for accomplishing the same objectives should be identified and investigated. In order to ensure that the proposed development enables sustainable development, feasible alternatives must be explored (S. Cliff, 2015).

The identification, description, evaluation and comparison of alternatives are important for ensuring a sound environmental scoping process. Alternatives should be considered as a norm within the Environmental Process (S. Cliff, 2015).

The alternatives considered for the proposed development includes land use alternatives (including the No-go option). The various alternatives will be assessed in the EIAR, in terms of environmental, social and technical feasibility.

7.1 Land Use Alternatives

7.1.1 Mixed land use township (Alternative 1)

Alternative Site layouts have been developed for the proposed development.

The appointed Town and Regional planner have produced the proposed layout plan.

The proposed Township will consist of the following (See Figure 1 for a copy of the Layout Plan):

Residential (min 260 m ²)	3 400 Stands
Residential (min 400 m ²)	100 Stands

Business	4 Stands
Churches	6 Stands
Crèche	6 Stands
School	1 Stand
Sports Field	1 Stand
Municipal	2 Stands
Cemetery	1 Stand
Parks	6 Stands

Area of township 196 ha

Although the emphasis is on housing, complimentary land uses have been included in the township. People want easy access to job opportunities, shops, banking facilities, clinics, etc. and want their living environment, such as residential townships to be placed at strategic positions with good access routes in close proximity to these amenities.

A mixed land use development is *socially responsible* based on the following:

- It covers the mixed and lower income bracket by providing a higher density housing option;
- The development will inevitably support the use of public transport;
- The development will include supporting social infrastructure (schools), as well as some retail or commercial activities;
- The layout of the development must respond to the future road planning for the area, to facilitate and maximise pedestrianisation and public transport.
- Commercial erven can accommodate a shopping centre, to service the existing formalised and informal settlements in the area. The commercial node will:
 - Promote entrepreneurial services and products;
 - Be within walking distance to places of refreshment and trade for residents;
 - Provide Job opportunities; and
 - Improve neighbourhood quality.

7.1.2 Single land use: Housing only (Alternative 2)

By providing only one land use type (i.e., housing), mixed income development and social integration across race and income levels, cannot be achieved.

A Commercial node on site is commonly utilised as a “Multi-Purpose Community Centre/Rural Service Centre” which is defined as “a focal point at which a range of essential services can be obtained by people living in its vicinity”. In turn, a commercial node acts as a pool of human and physical resources from which the inputs necessary for development can be distributed efficiently, and from which a community can draw to promote their development”.

By restricting a township to one land use only, the above benefits to the local community, and subsequent council area, cannot be realised, and hence, is not a preferred land use option.

7.1.3 No-go Alternative

The only other alternative that exists for the proposed development is the “no-go” option which will imply that the status quo will prevail. This is unacceptable as Informal settlements consist of non-conventional housing built without complying with legal building procedures. Broadly, these crude dwellings mostly lack proper indoor infrastructure, such as water supply, sanitation, drainage, waste disposal and proper road access. There is also a bond between poor housing and environmental conditions in informal settlements which also reflects poverty. Linking basic services such as water to health is viewed as a false separation as these services are ‘intimately related to housing’. It becomes a housing issue if children playing outside the house contract diarrhoea via ingesting pathogens from fecal matter which contaminates the land on which they play. Otherwise, it is the house which provides for shelter against injury, weather and disease. Improving the surroundings of the house is to limit severe health risks existing within poor quality housing.

8. DESCRIPTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT THAT MAY BE AFFECTED BY THE PROJECT

8.1 BIO-PHYSICAL ASPECTS

8.1.1 GEOLOGY AND SOIL

According to the Geo-Technical Report, the area is underlain by amygdaloidal lava, agglomerate and tuff of the Platberg Group, Ventersdorp Supergroup, but is locally covered by recent aeolian sand and calcrete gravel.

No dolomite occurs on site and no stability investigation or evaluation is required. Zoning of the site revealed zones with minor constraints regarding the **compressibility**, **collapse potential** and the **expansive potential** of the soil.

The following zones were identified on the site:

Normal Development with risk:

Site Class CR/1A3F: This zone represents the majority of the area and comprises of a relative thin top layer sandy material less than 0,75m in thickness of slightly collapsible and compressible or low expansive soil underlain by a competent pebble marker, calcrete or gneiss, with estimated total movement of less than 7,5mm measured at surface with the risk of shallow rock, core stones and hard pan calcrete or gneiss rock outcrop adding a R or PR site class designation to the zone with problems relating to restricted excavation to less than 1,0m. Development on solid rock calcrete, calcrete rock outcrop known as hard pan calcrete or gneiss and will have an inflated cost where special pneumatic tools and blasting will be required for the installation of services. Normal foundation techniques will be adequate to enable proper development, with proper compaction within standard strip foundations and drainage provision that will be required. It is classified as CR in terms of the SAIEG & NHBRC guidelines (1995) or the SAICE Code of practice (1995), and 1A3F according to the classification for urban development (Partridge, Wood & Brink)(1993).

Suitable for development with precaution

Site Class PQ: Areas where small quarries or filling or dumping of spoil (Pq1) were identified must be rehabilitated before any construction can be allowed, and backfilling with an engineer's material may improve the developability of these zones, but these operations will dramatically increase the development cost in this zone.

Undevelopable: Site Class PD: Perennial drainage features with local steeper slopes within the upper channels and towards the river. The development is usually restricted to 32m from the centre of the river, and outside the 1:100 year floodline

No dolomite occurs on site and a stability investigation and evaluation is not required.

Normal and special construction techniques will be required to enable proper development. This includes the use of **compaction techniques** and **site drainage** as described

If the proposed mitigation measures as described in the Geotechnical report are adhered to, it will ensure a sustainable development as far as this variable is concerned.

8.1.2 TOPOGRAPHY

The topography of the area is relatively flat & open, with some small rocky ridges and outcrops present in parts. The site is located on a slope from 1125 to 1134 masl towards the western portion of the site, and then westwards into the Vaal River. The northern portion of the site have an average slope of 1.2% - 1,5%. The southern portion of the site also slopes gradually from east to west with an average slope of between 0,8% to 1,1%.

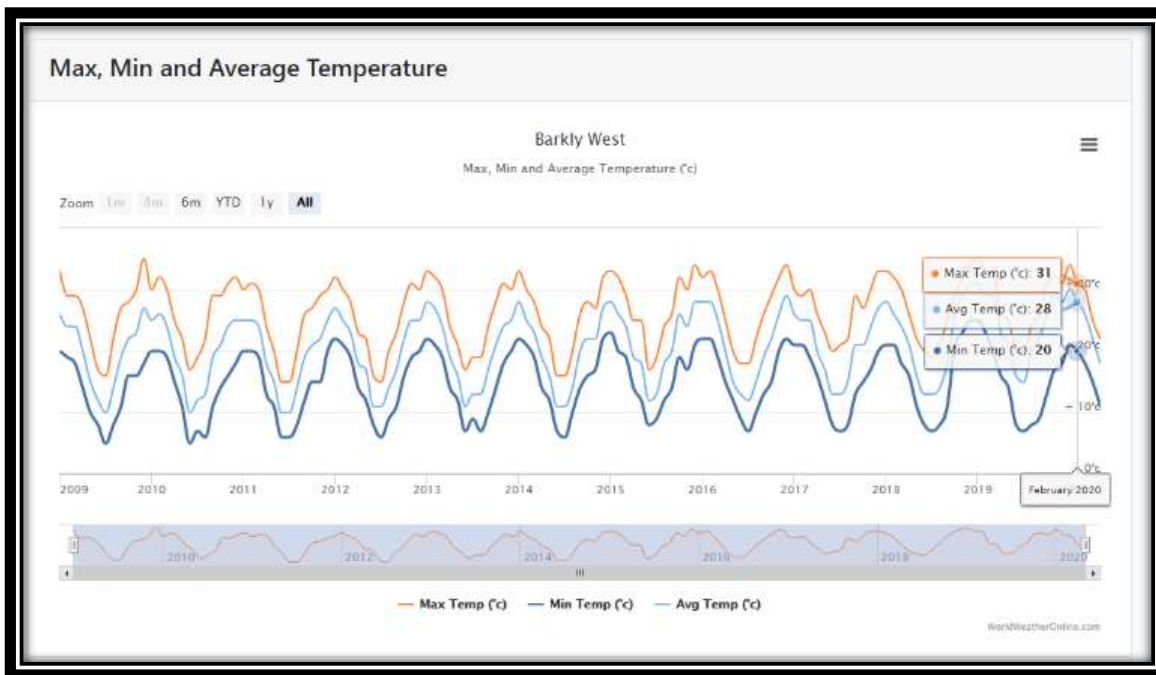
Large lava rock core stones and boulders on surface, possibly from previous diamond gravel mining activities will restrict accessibility and movement of small vehicles on many portions of the site.

A detailed site survey has been carried out to establish levels. The Engineering report and the Layout plan will address issues regarding storm water. As the proposed development will be in close proximity to residential areas, safety of children and people need to be taken into consideration.

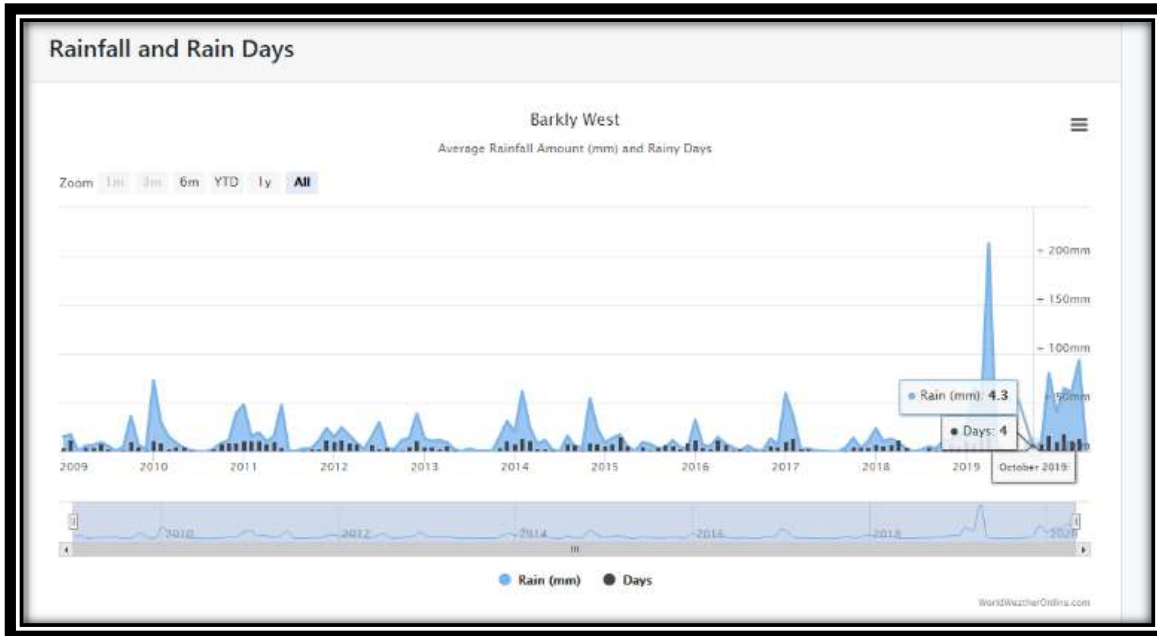
8.1.3 CLIMATE

The region is characterized by summer rainfall with thunderstorms, with annual very low rainfall figures of 427 mm for Barkly West recorded at the closest weather stations to the site. (According to the Flood line Report compiled by CWT, rainfall data was derived using software to estimate the rainfall in any catchment where coordinates of a reference point in the catchment is used , the Mean annual precipitation at the reference point is **376 mm**)

Winters are dry with frost common. The warmest months are normally December and January with February the warmest month, and the coldest months are June and July. The Table below provides climatic data for the past 10 years.



Source: <https://www.worldweatheronline.com/barkly-west-weather-averages/north-western-rovince/za.aspx>



Source: <https://www.worldweatheronline.com/barkly-west-weather-averages/north-western-province/za.aspx>

Extreme climatic events may have an influence on the project during the construction and operational phase and will have to be taken into consideration.

Climate Change

According to: WIREs Climate Change 2014, 5605-620. Doi:10.1002/wcc.295: "Climate change is a key concern within South Africa. Mean annual temperatures have increased by at least 1.5 times the observed global average of 0.65°C over the past five decades and extreme rainfall events have increased in frequency. These changes are likely to continue. Climate change poses a significant threat to South Africa's water resources, food security, health, infrastructure, as well as its ecosystem services and biodiversity. Considering South Africa's high levels of poverty and inequality, these impacts pose critical challenges for national development. In relation to water, impact studies for the water resources sector have begun to look beyond changes in streamflow to changes in the timing of flows and the partitioning of streamflow into base flows and stormflows, reservoir yields, and extreme hydrological events. Spatially the eastern seaboard and central interior of the country are likely to experience increases in water runoff. Higher frequencies of flooding and drought events are projected for the future. Complexities of the hydrological cycle, influences of land use and management and the linkages to society, health, and the economy indicate far higher levels of complexity in the water resources sector than in other sectors. What has emerged is that land uses that currently have significant impacts on catchment water resources will place proportionally greater demands on the catchment's water resources if the climate were to become drier. The influence of climate change on water quality is an emerging research field in South Africa, with assessments limited to water temperature and non-point source nitrogen and phosphorus movement. A critical interaction that has not been explored is between changes in water quality and quantity and the combined impacts, such changes might have impact on various types of water use, e.g., irrigation, domestic consumption, or aquatic ecosystems support".

Water availability and demand has been calculated by the consulting Civil Engineers, to enable a sustainable waterborne sewage system as well as potable water supply for both the existing and future developments in the area.

8.1.4 SURFACE DRAINAGE, WETLANDS AND RIPARIAN ZONES

The site is located on a shallow slope towards the centre portion of the site, and then southwards into the Vaal River. The storm water flow regime North of the R31 road will be sheet flow. No flood lines will develop in this area. The storm water will be channelled to a point where it will flow over the R31 road into the channelled stream on the Southern property.

The storm water flow regime South of the R31 road will be channel flow and therefore flood lines will develop here. The flood water from the Northern property will be included into the flood water generated on the Southern property. See Figure 7.

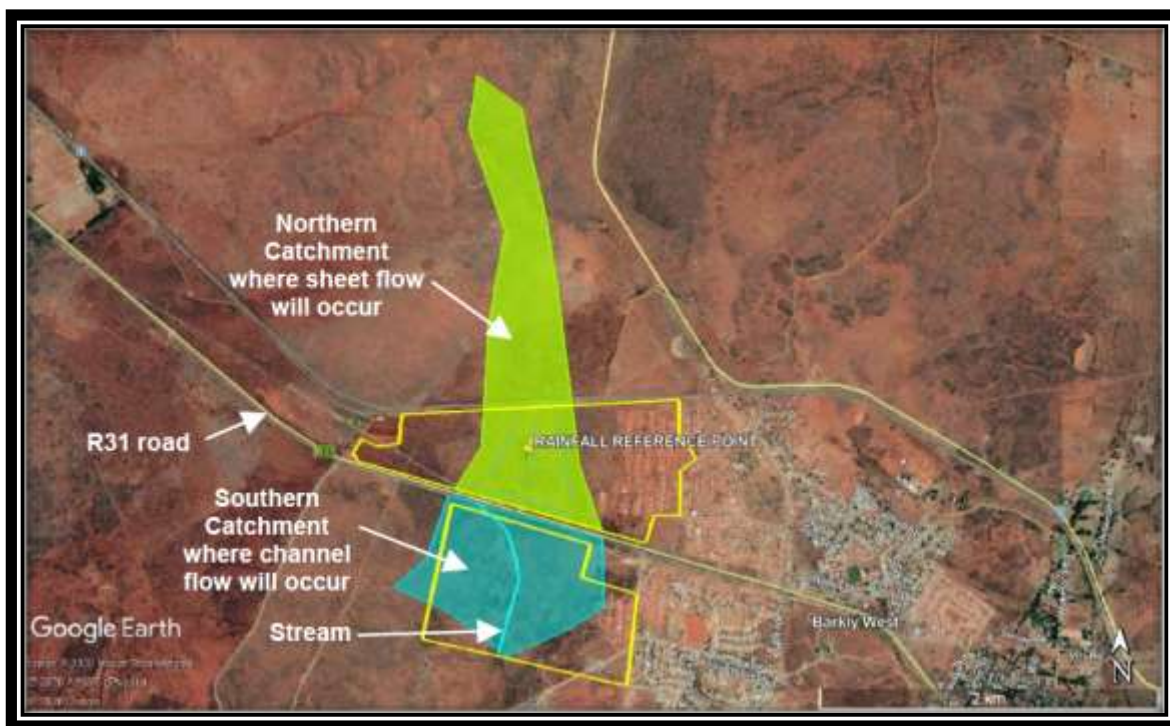


Figure 7: Drainage systems on site.

Wetlands such as those that could be classified as Floodplain Wetlands, Channelled Valley-bottom Wetlands, Unchannelled Valley-bottom Wetlands, Depressions (Pans), Seeps or Wetland Flats appear to be absent at site.

8.1.5 GROUND WATER

Although no seepage or the presence of perennial fluctuations of ground water were not encountered on site, it is expected that a seasonal perched water table may exist. A calcified profile indicates that some perennial water level fluctuations occur.

Ground water in the form of seepage was not intersected in any test pits during the investigation, but some problems are foreseen and normal water tightening techniques such as damp course on foundation levels are required.

The expected high permeability of the silty sand may lead to leachate from sanitation systems to reach the ground water, and a closed water borne sewage system is recommended.

Possible infiltration into the groundwater have been taken into account. During the construction phase, no spills of lubricants or construction worker sewage should be allowed to pollute the ground water. Special care must be taken to ensure adequate surface drainage to prevent the accumulation of water next to structures, especially within these relative flat areas.

8.1.6 FLORA

The study area is west of Barkly West, Frances Baard Local Municipality, Northern Cape Province, South Africa (elsewhere referred to as the site). Site is part of the Savanna Biome which at the site is represented by the Kimberley Thornveld vegetation type (Mucina & Rutherford 2006).

To serve as local context for the vegetation at the site an outline of the Kimberley Thornveld vegetation type from Mucina and Rutherford (2006) follows.

SVk 4 Kimberley Thornveld

Distribution: In South Africa the Kimberley Thornveld is found in the North West, Free State and Northern Cape Provinces. Kimberley Thornveld is present in most of the Kimberley, Hartswater, Bloemhof and Hoopstad Districts as well as substantial parts of the Warrenton, Christiana, Taung, Boshof and to some extent the Barkly West Districts. The distribution also includes pediment areas in the Herbert and Jacobsdal Districts (Mucina & Rutherford 2006).

Vegetation and landscape features: Plains often slightly irregular with well-developed tree layer of *Acacia erioloba*, *Acacia tortilis*, *Acacia karroo* and *Boscia albitrunca* and well-developed shrub layer with occasional dense stands of *Tarchonanthus camphoratus* and *Acacia mellifera*. Grass layer open with much uncovered soil (Mucina & Rutherford 2006).

Geology and soils: Andesitic lavas of the Allanridge formation in the north and west and fine-grained sediments of the Karoo Supergroup in the south and east. Deep sandy (0.6 – 1.2 m) to loamy soils of the Hutton soil form are present on slightly undulating sandy plains (Mucina & Rutherford).

Climate: Climate is characterized by summer and autumn rainfall and very dry winters. Mean annual precipitation from about 300 mm in the southwest to about 500 mm in the northeast. Frost frequent in winter (Mucina & Rutherford 2006).

Important taxa of the Kimberley Thornveld listed by Mucina & Rutherford (2006): Tall Tree: *Acacia erioloba*. Small Trees: *Acacia karroo*, *Acacia mellifera* subsp. *detinens*, *Acacia tortilis* subsp. *heteracantha*, *Searsia lancea*. Tall Shrubs: *Tarchonanthus camphoratus*, *Diospyros pallens*, *Ehretia rigida* subsp. *rigida*, *Euclea crispa* subsp. *ovata*, *Grewia flava*, *Lycium arenicola*, *Lycium hirsutum*, *Searsia tridactyla*. Low Shrubs: *Acacia hebeclada* subsp. *hebeclada*, *Anthospermum rigidum* subsp. *pumilum*, *Helichrysum zeyheri*, *Hermannia comosa*, *Lycium pilifolium*, *Melolobium microphyllum*, *Pavonia burchellii*, *Peliostomum leucorrhizum*, *Plinthus sericeus*, *Wahlenbergia nodosa*. Succulent

Shrubs: *Aloe hereroensis* var. *hereroensis*, *Lycium cinereum*. Graminoids: *Eragrostis lehmanniana*, *Aristida canescens*, *Aristida congesta*, *Aristida mollissima* subsp. *argentea*, *Cymbopogon pospischilii*, *Digitaria argyrograpta*, *Digitaria eriantha* subsp. *eriantha*, *Heteropogon contortus*, *Themeda triandra*. Herbs: *Barleria macrostegia*, *Dicoma schinzii*, *Harpagophytum procumbens* subsp. *procumbens*, *Helichrysum cerastioides*, *Hermbstaedtia odorata*, *Hibiscus marlothianus*, *Jamesbrittenia aurantiaca*, *Lippia scaberrima*, *Osteospermum muricatum*, *Vahlia capensis* subsp. *vulgaris*. Succulent Herbs: *Aloe grandidentata*, *Piранthus decipiens*.

Note: Though some plant species of the above listed vegetation type are present at the site, not necessarily all of the plant species listed above are present at the site.

Informal settlements have transformed or modified vegetation at the eastern parts of the site. Remaining savanna at the site consists of shrub-height trees and a layer of grasses and forbs. Old diggings which resulted in numerous soil dumps, hitherto cleared areas, disturbances and bush encroachment occur at some areas. Conspicuous shrub-height trees at the site are *Tarchonanthus camphoratus* (Camphor Bush), *Senegalia mellifera* (Black Thorn) and *Vachellia tortilis* (Umbrella Thorn). Ditches, excavations and canals are also present. A railway line runs along the northern boundary of the site. Alien invasive weeds occur at disturbed and hitherto cleared areas.

The vegetation type that represents the Savanna Biome at the site, the Kimberley Thornveld (SVk 4) is not listed as threatened according to the National List of Threatened Ecosystems (2011).

The site contains two Protected tree species *Boscia albitrunca* (Shepherd's Tree) (See Photograph 8) and *Vachellia erioloba* (Camel Thorn) (See Photograph 9). Few individuals of both *Boscia albitrunca* and *Vachellia erioloba* occur at the site (Figure 8). In terms of a part of section 15(1) of the National Forests Act No. 84 of 1998, no person may cut, disturb, damage or destroy any protected tree or possess, collect, remove, transport, export, purchase, sell, donate or in any other manner acquire or dispose of any protected tree, except under a license granted by the Minister.



Photograph 7: Foliage and branches of *Boscia albitrunca* (Shepherd's Tree) at the site. The few *Boscia albitrunca* individuals at the site appear to be in a relatively poor condition.

Photo: R.F. Terblanche



Photograph 8: Foliage and pods of one of the few *Vachellia erioloba* (Camel Thorn) trees at the site.
Photo: R.F. Terblanche



Figure 8: Indications of the locations of individuals of the Protected tree species *Boscia albitrunca* (Shepherd's Tree) and *Vachellia erioloba* (Camel Thorn Tree) at the site.

Green Markers: *Boscia albitrunca* (Shepherd's Tree)

Yellow Markers: *Vachellia erioloba* (Camel Thorn Tree)

Boscia albitrunca (Shepherd's Tree) and *Vachellia erioloba* (Camel Thorn) will be marked and avoided so that they remain unharmed during construction.

One widespread *Aloe* species, *Aloe grandidentata*, is listed in Schedule 2 of the Northern Cape Nature Conservation Act No. 9 of 2009. According to Northern Cape Nature Conservation Act No. 9 of 2009 (Updated in Provincial Gazette No. 1566, December 2011 with date of commencement 1 January 2012) no person may pick a Specially Protected Plant species or Protected Plant species without a permit. The term "pick" includes "to collect, to cut, to chop off, to take, to gather, to pluck, to uproot, to break, to damage or to destroy" (NCNCA, No. 9 of 2009). A permit for the removal of indigenous vegetation at the site and in particular *Aloe grandidentata* is therefore required.

The scope for the site to be part of a corridor of particular conservation concern is small.

8.1.7 FAUNA

ASSESSMENT OF VERTEBRATE SPECIES OF PARTICULARLY HIGH CONSERVATION PRIORITY

Mammals of particular high conservation priority

Threatened mammal species of the Northern Cape Province. Literature sources: Friedman & Daly, (2004), Skinner & Chimimba (2005), Wilson & Reeder (2005). With mammal species which normally needs a large range their residential status does not implicate that they are exclusively dependent on the site or use the site as important shelter or for reproduction. No = Not recorded at site/ Unlikely to be resident at the site. Yes: Recorded at the site/ Likely to be resident at the site.

Species	Threatened Status	Site is part of range	Recorded at site during survey	Likely to be found based on habitat assessment
<i>Bunolagus monticularis</i> Riverine Rabbit	Critically Endangered	No	No	No
<i>Chrysofalax villosus</i> Rough-haired golden mole	Vulnerable	No	No	No
<i>Chrysochloris visagiei</i> Visagie's Golden Mole	Critically Endangered	No	No	No
<i>Cryptochloris wintoni</i> De Winton's Golden Mole	Vulnerable	No	No	No
<i>Chrysochloris zyli</i> Van Zyl's Golden Mole	Critically Endangered	No	No	No

<i>Cloeotis percivali</i> Short-eared Trident Bat	Vulnerable/ Near-threatened	No	No	No
<i>Cistugo lesueuri</i> Lesueur's Hairy Bat	Vulnerable	No	No	No
<i>Diceros bicornis</i> Black rhinoceros	Critically Endangered	No	No	No
<i>Eremitalpa granti</i> Grant's Golden Mole	Vulnerable	No	No	No
<i>Felis nigripes</i> Black-footed Cat	Vulnerable	No	No	No
<i>Lycaon pictus</i> African wild dog	Endangered	No	No	No
<i>Loxodonta africana</i> African elephant	Vulnerable	No	No	No
<i>Mystromys albicaudatus</i> White-tailed mouse	Endangered	Yes	No	No
<i>Neamblysomus julianae</i> Juliana's Golden Mole	Critically Endangered	No	No	No
<i>Panthera leo</i> Lion	Vulnerable	No	No	No
<i>Rhinolophus blasii</i> Blasi's Horseshoe Bat	Vulnerable	No	No	No

Near threatened mammal species known to occur in the North West Province and Northern Cape Province. Literature sources: Skinner & Chimimba (2005). No = Not recorded at site/ unlikely to be resident at the site. Yes: Recorded at the site/ Likely to be resident at the site.

Species	Threatened Status	Site is part of range	Recorded at site during survey	Likely to be found based on habitat assessment
<i>Ceratotherium simum</i> White Rhinoceros	Near threatened	No	No	No
<i>Cistugo seabrai</i> Angolan Hairy Bat	Near Threatened	No	No	No
<i>Manis temminckii</i> Ground Pangolin	Near threatened	No	No	No

Rhinolophus capensis
Cape Horseshoe Bat

Near
Threatened

No

No

No

Data deficient (or uncertain) mammal species of the North West Province and Northern Cape Province. Literature sources: Skinner & Chimimba (2005). No = Not recorded at site/ unlikely to be resident at the site. Yes: Recorded at the site/ Likely to be resident at the site.

Species	Threatened Status	Recorded at site during survey	Likely be a resident at the site
<i>Myosorex varius</i> Forest shrew	Uncertain	No	No
<i>Rhinolophus denti</i> Dent's Horseshoe Bat	Data Deficient	No	No

Birds of particular high conservation priority

Threatened bird species of the North West Province and Northern Cape Province. Literature sources Barnes (2000), Hockey, Dean & Ryan, P.G. (2005) and Chittenden (2007). No = Not recorded at site/ Unlikely to use site as breeding area or particular habitat on which the species depends. Yes = Recorded at site/ Likely to use site as breeding area or particular habitat on which the species depends.

Species	Common name	Threatened Status	Recorded at site during survey	Likely to use site as breeding area or habitat
<i>Aegypius tracheliotos</i>	Lappet-faced Vulture	Vulnerable	No	No
<i>Anthropoides paradiseus</i>	Blue Crane	Vulnerable	No	No
<i>Aquila rapax</i>	Tawny Eagle	Vulnerable	No	No
<i>Ardeotis kori</i>	Kori Bustard	Vulnerable	No	No
<i>Balearica regulorum</i>	Grey Crowned Crane (Mahem)	Vulnerable	No	No
<i>Botaurus stellaris</i>	Eurasian Bittern	Critically Endangered	No	No
<i>Calendulauda burra</i>	Red Lark	Vulnerable	No	No
<i>Circus ranivorus</i>	African Marsh- Harrier	Vulnerable	No	No
<i>Crex crex</i>	Corn Crake	Vulnerable	No	No
<i>Eupodotis senegalensis</i>	White-bellied Korhaan	Vulnerable	No	No
<i>Falco naumanni</i>	Lesser Kestrel	Vulnerable	No	No
<i>Geronticus calvus</i>	Southern Bald Ibis	Vulnerable	No	No

<i>Gorsachius leuconotus</i>	White-backed Night-heron	Vulnerable	No	No
<i>Gypaetus barbatus</i>	Bearded Vulture	Endangered	No	No
<i>Gyps africanus</i>	White-backed Vulture	Vulnerable	No	No
<i>Gyps coprotheres</i>	Cape Vulture	Vulnerable	No	No
<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>	Egyptian Vulture	Regionally almost extinct	No	No
<i>Neotis ludwigii</i>	Ludwig's Bustard	Vulnerable	No	No
<i>Pelecanus rufescens</i>	Pink-backed Pelican	Vulnerable	No	No
<i>Polemaetus bellicosus</i>	Martial Eagle	Vulnerable	No	No
<i>Rhynchops flavirostris</i>	African Skimmer	Endangered	No	No
<i>Sagittarius serpentarius</i>	Secretarybird	Vulnerable	No	No
<i>Sarothrura ayresi</i>	White-winged Flufftail	Critically Endangered	No	No
<i>Therathopius ecaudatus</i>	Bateleur	Vulnerable (in South Africa)	No	No
<i>Tyto capensis</i>	African Grass-Owl	Vulnerable	No	No

* Though some of the above bird species that roams over large areas may occasionally be found at the site, the site does not appear to be a habitat of particular importance to these birds, and these birds also do not use the site as breeding area.

Near threatened bird species of the North West Province and Northern Cape Province. Literature sources Barnes (2000), Hockey, Dean & Ryan, P.G. (2005) and Chittenden (2007). No = Not recorded at site/ Unlikely to be particularly dependent on the site as breeding area or habitat. Yes = Recorded at site/ Likely to be particularly dependant on the site as breeding area or habitat.

Species	Common name	Threatened Status	Recorded at site during survey	Likely to use site breeding area or habitat
<i>Buphagus erythrorhynchus</i>	Red-Billed Oxpecker	Near threatened	No	No
<i>Certhilauda chuana</i>	Short-clawed Lark	Near threatened	No	No
<i>Calendulauda barlowi</i>	Barlow's Lark	Near Threatened	No	No
<i>Charadrius pallidus</i>	Chestnut-banded Plover	Near threatened	No	No
<i>Ciconia nigra</i>	Black Stork	Near threatened	No	No
<i>Circus macrourus</i>	Pallid Harrier	Near threatened	No	No
<i>Circus maurus</i>	Black Harrier	Near threatened	No	No

<i>Eupodotis caerulescens</i>	Blue Korhaan	Near threatened	No	No
<i>Falco biarmicus</i>	Lanner Falcon	Near threatened	No	No
<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Peregrine Falcon	Near threatened	No	No
<i>Glareola nordmanni</i>	Black-winged Pratincole	Near threatened	No	No
<i>Leptoptilos crumeniferus</i>	Marabou Stork	Near threatened	No	No
<i>Mirafra cheniana</i>	Melodious lark	Near threatened	No	No
<i>Mycteria ibis</i>	Yellow-billed Stork	Near threatened	No	No
<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>	Great White Pelican	Near threatened	No	No
<i>Phoenicopterus minor</i>	Lesser Flamingo	Near threatened	No	No
<i>Phoenicopterus ruber</i>	Greater Flamingo	Near threatened	No	No
<i>Rostratula benghalensis</i>	Greater Painted-snipe	Near threatened	No	No
<i>Spizocorys sclateri</i>	Sclater's Lark	Near Threatened	No	No
<i>Sterna caspia</i>	Caspian Tern	Near threatened	No	No

** Though some of the above bird species that roams over large areas may occasionally be found at the site, the site does not appear to be a habitat of particular importance to these birds, and these birds also do not use the site as breeding area.

Reptiles of particular high conservation priority

Threatened reptile species in North West Province and Northern Cape Province. Main Source: (Bates, Branch, Bauer, Burger, Marais, Alexander & de Villiers, 2014). No = Reptile species is not a resident on the site; Yes = Reptile species is found to be resident on the site.

Species	Threatened Status	Resident at site	Recorded at site during survey	Likely to be found based on habitat assessment
<i>Crocodylus niloticus</i> Nile Crocodile	Vulnerable	No	No	No
<i>Homopus signatus</i> Speckled Dwarf Tortoise	Vulnerable	No	No	No
<i>Pachydactylus goodi</i> Good's Gecko	Vulnerable	No	No	No
<i>Pachydactylus rangei</i> Namib Web-footed Gecko	Critically Endangered (Regionally)	No	No	No

Near threatened reptile species in North West Province and Northern Cape Province. Main Source: Bates, Branch, Bauer, Burger, Marais, Alexander & de Villiers (2014). Though *Homoroselaps dorsalis* has not yet been recorded from the North West Province, its presence in some areas or the Province is anticipated. No = Reptile species is not a resident on the site; Yes = Reptile species is found to be resident on the site.

Species	Threatened Status	Resident at site	Recorded at site during survey	Likely to be found based on habitat assessment
<i>Cordylus imkeae</i> Rooiberg Girdled Lizard	Near Threatened	No	No	No
<i>Cordylus macropholis</i> Large-scaled Girdled Lizard	Near Threatened	No	No	No
<i>Goggia gemmula</i> Richtersveld Pygmy Gecko	Near Threatened	No	No	No
<i>Homopus boulengeri</i> Karoo Dwarf Tortoise	Near Threatened	No	No	No
<i>Homoroselaps dorsalis</i> Striped Harlequin Snake	Near threatened	No	No	No
<i>Typhlosaurus lomiae</i> Lomi's Blind Legless Skink	Near Threatened	No	No	No

Amphibian species of particular high conservation priority

Threatened amphibian species in Northern Cape Province. Sources: Du Preez & Carruthers (2009), Carruthers & Du Preez (2011).
No = Reptile species is not a resident on the site; Yes = Reptile species is found to be resident on the site.

Species	Red Listed Status	Resident at site	Recorded at site during survey	Likely to be found based on habitat assessment
<i>Breviceps macrops</i> Desert Rain Frog	Vulnerable	No	No	No

Near threatened (currently least concern) amphibian species in North West Province and Northern Cape Province. No = Amphibian species is not a resident on the site; Yes = Amphibian species is found to be resident on the site.

Species	Threatened Status	Resident at site	Recorded at site during survey	Likely to be found based on habitat assessment
<i>Pyxicephalus adspersus</i> Giant Bullfrog	Near threatened (Currently Least Concern)	No	No	No

ASSESSMENT OF INVERTEBRATE SPECIES OF PARTICULAR HIGH CONSERVATION PRIORITY

Butterflies of particular conservation priority

Threatened butterfly species in North West Province, northern Northern Cape Province and Gauteng Province. Sources: Henning, Terblanche & Ball (2009), Mecenero *et al.* (2013). Invertebrates such as threatened butterfly species are often very habitat specific and residential status imply a unique ecosystem that is at stake.

Species	Threatened Status	Recorded at site during survey	Residential status at the site: Yes confirmed, Highly likely, Likely, Medium possibility, Unlikely, Highly unlikely
<i>Aloeides dentatis dentatis</i> Roodepoort Russet	Endangered	No	Highly unlikely
<i>Anthene lindae</i> Kalahari Hairtail	Vulnerable	No	Unlikely
<i>Chrysoritis aureus</i> Golden Opal	Endangered	No	Highly unlikely
<i>Chrysoritis trimeni</i> Diamond Opal	Vulnerable	No	Highly unlikely
<i>Lepidochrysops praeterita</i> Highveld Blue	Endangered	No	Highly unlikely
<i>Orachrysops mijburghi</i> Mijburgh's Blue	Endangered	No	Highly unlikely

Butterfly species of the Gauteng Province, North West Province and Northern Cape Province that are not threatened and not near threatened but of which are of particular conservation concern and listed as **Critically Rare/ Rare/ Data Deficient** category (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013). No = Butterfly species is unlikely to be a resident at the study area; Yes = Butterfly species is a resident at the study area.

Species	Threatened Status	Recorded at site during survey	Residential status at the site: Yes confirmed, Highly likely, Likely, Medium possibility, Unlikely, Highly unlikely
<i>Chrysoritis beaufortia charlesi</i> Roggeveld Opal	Rare (Restricted Range)	No	Highly unlikely
<i>Chrysoritis beaufortia stepheni</i> Hantam Mountain Opal	Rare (Habitat Specialist)	No	Highly unlikely
<i>Chrysoritis turneri wykehami</i> Hantam Opal	Rare (Habitat Specialist)	No	Highly unlikely
<i>Chrysoritis violescens</i> Violescent Opal	Rare (Habitat Specialist)	No	Highly unlikely
<i>Colotis celimene amina</i> Lilac Tip	Rare (Low density)	No	Highly unlikely
<i>Lepidochrysops jamesi claassensi</i> Hantamsberg Nimble Blue	Rare (Habitat Specialist)	No	Highly unlikely
<i>Lepidochrysops jamesi jamesi</i> Karoo-bush Nimble Blue	Rare (Habitat Specialist)	No	Highly unlikely
<i>Lepidochrysops mcgregori</i> Copper-brown Nimble Blue	Rare (Habitat Specialist)	No	Highly unlikely
<i>Lepidochrysops penningtoni</i> Arid Nimble Blue	Data Deficient	No	Highly unlikely

<i>Lepidochrysops procera</i> Savanna Blue	Rare (Habitat specialist)	No	Highly unlikely
<i>Metisella meninx</i> Marsh Sylph	Rare (Habitat specialist)	No	Highly unlikely
<i>Platylesches dolomitica</i> Hilltop Hopper	Rare (low density)	No	Highly unlikely
<i>Pseudonympha southeyi kamiesbergensis</i> Kamiesberg Pepperbrown	Rare (Habitat Specialist)	No	Highly unlikely
<i>Thestor calviniae</i> Calvinia Skolly	Rare (Restricted Range)	No	Highly unlikely
<i>Tuxentius melaena griqua</i> Griqua Black Pie	Data Deficient	No	Highly unlikely

Beetles of particular conservation priority

Fruit chafer species (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Cetoninae) in the Gauteng Province and North-West Province which are of known high conservation priority.

Species	Threatened Status	Recorded at site during survey	Likely to be resident based on habitat assessment
<i>Ichneustoma stobbiai</i>	Uncertain	No	No
<i>Trichocephala brincki</i>	Uncertain	No	No

Scorpion species of particular conservation priority

Rock scorpion species (Scorpiones: Ischnuridae) species that are of known high conservation priority in the Gauteng Province and North-West Province.

Species	Threatened Status	Recorded at site during survey	Likely to be resident at site based on habitat assessment
<i>Hadogenes gracilis</i>	Uncertain	No	No
<i>Hadogenes gunningi</i>	Uncertain	No	No

8.2 SOCIO ECONOMIC FACTORS

8.2.1 SOCIAL AMENITIES

As in the rest of South Africa, there is a housing shortage in the area. This is totally unacceptable as Informal settlements consist of non-conventional housing built without complying with legal building procedures. Broadly, these crude dwellings mostly lack proper indoor infrastructure, such as water supply, sanitation, drainage, waste disposal and proper road access. There is also a bond between poor housing and environmental conditions in informal

settlements which also reflects poverty. Linking basic services such as water to health is viewed as a false separation as these services are 'intimately related to housing'. It becomes a housing issue if children playing outside the house contract diarrhea via ingesting pathogens from fecal matter which contaminates the land on which they play. Otherwise, it is the house which provides for shelter against injury, weather and disease. Improving the surroundings of the house is to limit severe health risks existing within poor quality housing.

The development guidelines from the Guidelines for human settlement planning and design were taken into account to develop a sustainable area for people to have job opportunities and public facilities close to home. This will encourage a sustainable community and by implementing these guidelines, will help contribute to the upliftment of the community as a whole.

The proposed development also conforms to the following principals and guidelines for development:

- Correction of historically distorted spatial patters
- Discouragement of land invasion and ensuring equitable access to land
- Discouragement of urban sprawl and the promotion of more compact towns
- Promotion of a diverse combination of land use, also at a detailed level
- Optimization of the use of existing resources, including bulk infrastructure
- Sustainable land development patterns and practices
- Promotion of spatial integration

All of the above conclude that there is a need for residential development, and that the proposed township is favorable by the counsel as well as the community.

During the construction phase, temporary employment will be created. The increased employment in the area during the construction phase will also result in increased expenditure, which, in addition, will mean that more than just the proposed jobs required for the construction on the site will be created due to economic spin-offs that will result.

8.2.2. AIR QUALITY

"The extent and toxicity of emissions is not necessarily a concise indicator of contributions to ground-level air pollution concentrations or of risks to health and the environment. Such contributions are also a function of the height of emission, temporal variations in the release of pollutants, and the proximity of the source to the people or the environment affected by exposure to the pollutant (such as, for instance, children, or the elderly, or people who are ill, or others who may be particularly sensitive receptors to a specific pollutant above a certain concentration). If an industry is operating close to a school or hospital or centre for the elderly, the potential exposure (in combination with the other contributing factors) is high.

Three factors govern the significance of household fuel-burning emissions:

- (i) the low level of emissions (that is, their height above the ground is generally about 3 m, within people's breathing zone);*
- (ii) the simultaneous occurrence of peak emissions (during the coldest months of winter and in the early mornings and throughout the evenings) and poor atmospheric dispersion (stable atmosphere with low wind speeds, with the possible development of temperature inversions); and*

(iii) the release of such emissions within high human exposure areas, given that such emissions generally occur in dense, low-income settlements where population density is high (in addition, the pollution is not only outdoors, but frequently indoors as well, due to poor ventilation, so it affects the whole family).

The significance of vehicle emissions as contributors to air-pollutant concentrations and health risks is similarly increased by the low level (close to the ground) of the emissions, and their proximity to highly populated areas – on highways, for example, with emissions being particularly high when traffic is congested. Vehicle emissions tend to peak early in the morning and in the evenings, when the potential for atmospheric dispersion is reduced (for example, wind speeds are generally low in the early mornings and evenings, reducing their potential for dispersing pollution).

Given the high volumes of pollutants emitted from fuel-burning within the industrial and power-generation sectors, their contribution to ambient concentrations and public health risks is often lower than might be expected. This is because these sources are generally characterized by constant releases, relatively high above ground level, and further away from residential settlements than are household fuel-burning and vehicle emissions.

Ranking the significance of different sources of pollution on the basis of the total emissions for which each source is responsible would, for example, place industrial emissions above household fuel-burning. If the aim is to reduce impacts on human health, however, then household fuel-burning would need to be targeted as a top priority (Scorgie et al., 2004d).

Historically, air pollution control in South Africa has primarily emphasized the implementation of 'command and control' measures in the industrial sector. The shift from source-based control, to the management of the air that people breathe, emphasizes the importance of targeting a wider range of sources and using more flexible and varied approaches. It means paying greater attention to ambient air quality, as it is more important (and more cost-effective, in many cases) to make sure that the ambient air complies with air quality standards. This approach ensures that human and environmental health is protected and that the cumulative impact of pollution from a number of sources is addressed.

Approaches adopted or considered for future implementation have included: regulation (for example, the use of Atmospheric Emission Licences for Listed Activities); market instruments (such as atmospheric user-charges and pollution taxes); the potential for voluntary agreements, education and awareness raising; and emissions trading. International experience shows that adopting a mix of instruments and interventions is more effective than using a single instrument to improve air quality across various types of source. Although direct regulation remains important in controlling industrial sources, there is evidence that specifying emission limits is more effective than specifying the use of particular technologies, so as to give companies flexibility in selecting the method of achieving success that suits them best. This approach is advocated as being more cost-effective and more likely to stimulate technological advances in pollution control methods and production processes.

For large point sources (that is, sources of pollution that are concentrated on one site, but that have large, constant volumes of many types of pollution) that are few in number, instruments such as emissions trading have been advocated as an effective way to manage pollutant emissions and reduce the costs of compliance.

Implementing an efficient social protection system to alleviate poverty is central to maintaining conditions that facilitate not only economic growth but also environmental sustainability. Many South African households – including those with access to electricity – use coal, wood, and paraffin, due to the relative cost-effectiveness of such fuels for heating (that is, space heating) and cooking purposes.

Many low-cost housing developments and informal settlements are located close to industrial and mining operations, as such land is both available and inexpensive. Poorer communities are more likely to suffer from poor service delivery, including inadequate waste removal that sometimes results in refuse being set alight illegally. These examples show that poverty alleviation could help to improve air quality by enabling people to choose practices that are friendlier to the environment.”

https://www.environment.gov.za/sites/default/files/docs/stateofair_airqualityand_sustainable_development.pdf Date visited: 17/03/2020.

The proposed development is planned and will eventually be developed with the above mentioned in mind. The alleviation of poverty (Jobs that will be created) and the provision of proper accommodation facilities (Which has been designed to be as energy efficient as possible) will contribute towards lessening air pollution in the area.

In addition to the above, it should be noted that the project will however create a certain amount of dust during the construction phase. If proper dust suppression measures are implemented this variable will have very little impact (low in intensity and significance during the construction phase).

8.2.3 NOISE

It is a fact that a certain amount of noise will be generated during the construction phase of the project. Noise levels should however rarely exceed the allowable limits. It is unlikely that the project will create any more noise during the operational phase than that already experienced on site.

A Railway line is located on the northern boundary of the site. Rail operations generate noise and vibration, and people living and working near major transport corridors can be adversely affected. Figure 9 provides a guide as to the level of assessment required when noise sensitive developments are located near existing rail lines. Zones A and B are indicative acoustic assessment zones where sensitive land-uses are likely to be adversely affected.

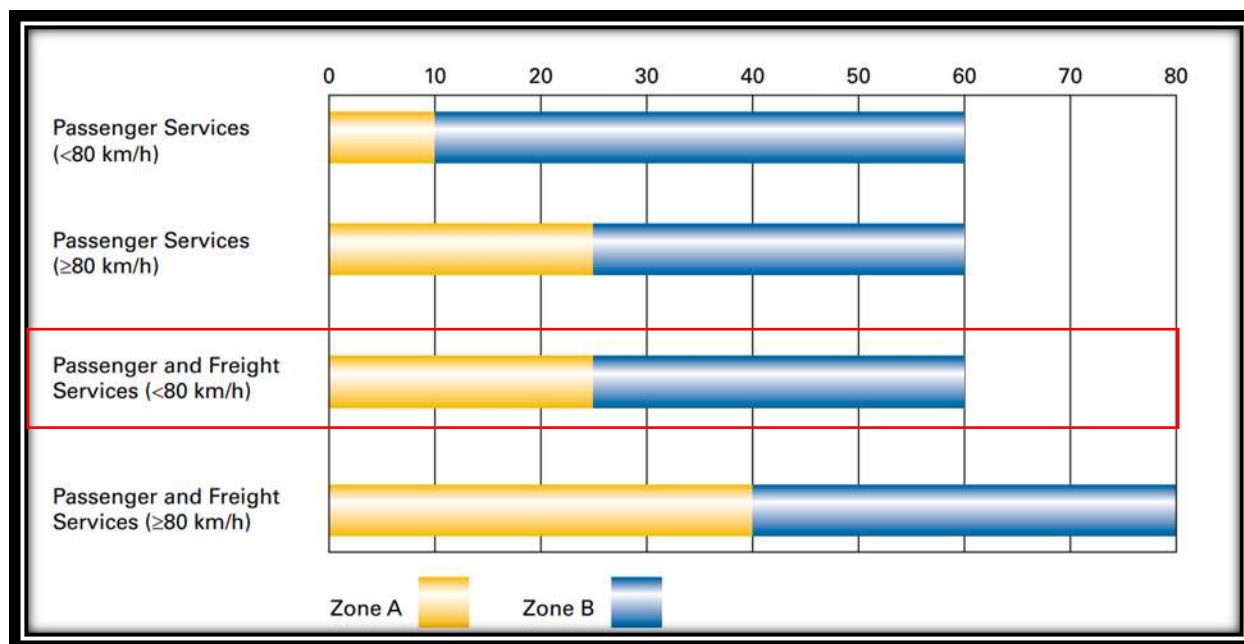


Figure 9: Acoustic Assessment Zones based on distance (m) of noise-sensitive development from operational track. (Development Near Rail Corridors and Busy Roads – Interim Guideline; 2008)

For single dwelling residences in Zone B, the standard mitigation measures for development will normally provide adequate mitigation to reduce internal noise levels to an acceptable level. If these measures are adopted as a minimum for single dwelling residences in Zone B, there should be no need for a specialist acoustic assessment.

The proposed development falls within Zone B. These impacts can be mitigated in order to minimise the impact of this variable on future residents

8.2.4 ARCHAEOLOGY AND CULTURAL SITES

Background research indicates that there are a number of cultural heritage (archaeological & historical) sites and features in the larger geographical area within which the study area falls. This includes the Canteen Koppie Archaeological Heritage site about 1.3km south-east of the town. The assessment of the study area identified some sites, features or material of cultural heritage (archaeological and/or historical) origin or significance. These sites have a Stone Age archaeological origin.

The two Stone Age sites found in the study area during the assessment contain scatters of tools that can be preliminarily dated to the Earlier, Middle & Later Stone Age. See Figure 10. The material includes core and flake tools, as well as large Acheul-type handaxes and possible choppers. This is similar to the material found at the Canteen Koppie site and is therefore fairly significant from an archaeological perspective. The two areas recorded are situated in the area where recent mining and quarrying had taken place and the material was therefore more than likely exposed by these activities and not in situ. Furthermore, it was not possible to assess all of the areas exposed by the mining activities and it is therefore envisaged many similar sites and exposures are present in the development area.



Figure 10: Locality of the two sites that was identified

In a small trench area investigated during the assessment, in situ river gravels and possible artifacts are visible under a layer of red Aeolian sands. This indicates that similar deposits could be present all across the study and development area and that in situ archeological material is more than likely located here. The proposed development will therefore have a big impact on the archaeological heritage of the area and necessary mitigation measures will have to be implemented. The relation to and similarity with the Canteen Koppie National Heritage Site around 3.5km to the east of the study area increases the significance of these finds. It is worth mentioning the no Stone Age material or sites were noted in the northern section of the development area, although the possibility of sites being present cannot be discounted. In situ deposits could be located underneath the red sands covering large parts of the area and once development actions (trenching, implementation of services) commence sites and material can be exposed.

The following is recommended:

- A detailed Phase 2 Assessment of the area to map the occurrence of the Stone Age sites and material.
- Comprehensive and detailed sampling of surface material after obtaining a permit from SAHRA.
- Conducting of Test excavations in selected areas to determine the presence of and the nature of the archaeological deposits. For this a SAHRA permit will also have to be obtained
- The implementation of an Archaeological Watching Brief for when the development activities commences. This will ensure that if in situ deposits are exposed that the material can be recovered and studied and preserved.

It should be noted that although all efforts are made to locate, identify and record all possible cultural heritage sites and features (including archaeological remains) there is always a possibility that some might have been missed as a result of grass cover and other factors. The subterranean nature of these resources (including low stone-packed or unmarked graves) should also be taken into consideration. Should any previously unknown or invisible sites, features or material be uncovered during any development actions then an expert should be contacted to investigate and provide recommendations on the way forward.

From a Cultural Heritage point of view the proposed Township Establishment on the Remaining Extent of Erf 678, in Barkly-West could continue once the recommended mitigation measures above have been implemented.

8.2.5 AESTHETICS

The topography of the area is relatively flat & open, with some small rocky ridges and outcrops present in parts. Informal settlements, illegal dumping and associated dirt roads and tracks cover fairly large areas of the site. Numerous soil dumps, ditches and excavations are also present on site. The site is located adjacent to the existing residential area of Barkley-West that is situated towards the east. A railway line is present at the northern boundary of the site. Alien invasive weeds occur at disturbed and hitherto cleared areas

Visual Intrusion is defined as the level of compatibility or congruence of the project with the particular qualities of the area, or its 'sense of place'. This is related to the idea of context and maintaining the integrity of the landscape or townscape.

High visual intrusion – results in a noticeable change or is discordant with the surroundings;

Moderate visual intrusion – partially fits into the surroundings, but clearly noticeable;

Low visual intrusion – minimal change or blends in well with the surroundings.

The proposed development will change the scenic resources of the local area from an undeveloped area to a formal residential area. The visual intrusion is considered to be low as the proposed development will have minimal change and blends in well with the surroundings.

The proposed development will require additional lighting on and in buildings and possibly along roads. This will change the night landscape from unlit to lit.

Aesthetics have very little influence as the area is already highly disturbed. The project on the other hand will have a huge impact on the Aesthetics of the area as the informal settlement will be formalized and services will be provided.

9. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

9.1 ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Impacts were rated using the following methodology:

Nature of the potential impact		Description of the effect, and the affected aspect of the environment
Duration (time scale)	Short term	Up to 5 years
	Medium term	6 – 15 years
	Long term	More than 15 years
Extent (area)	Local	Confined to study area and its immediate surroundings
	Regional	Region (cadastral, catchment, topographic)
	National	Nationally (The country)
	International	Neighboring countries and the rest of the world.
Magnitude (Intensity)	Low	Site-specific and wider natural and/or social functions and processes are negligibly altered. ((A low intensity impact will not affect the natural, cultural, or social functions of the environment).
	Medium	Site-specific and wider natural and/or social functions and processes continue albeit in a modified way. (Medium scale impact will alter the different functions slightly).
	High	Site-specific and wider natural and/or social functions and processes are severely altered. (A High intensity impact will influence these functions to such an extent that it will temporarily or permanently cease to exist).
Probability	Improbable	Possibility of occurrence is very low. (Such an impact will have a very slight possibility to materialise, because of design or experience).

Nature of the potential impact		Description of the effect, and the affected aspect of the environment
	Possible	There is a possibility that the impact will occur
	Probable	It is most likely that the impact will occur
	Definite	The impact will definitely occur
Significance	Insignificant	Impact is negligible and will not have an influence on the decision regarding the proposed activity (No mitigation is necessary)
	Very Low	Impact is very small and should not have any meaningful influence on the decision regarding the proposed activity (No mitigation is necessary)
	Low	The impact may not have a meaningful influence on the decision regarding the proposed activity (No mitigation is necessary)
	Medium	The impact should influence the decision regarding the proposed activity (The project can only be carried through if certain mitigatory steps are taken)
	High	The impact will influence the decision regarding the proposed activity
	Very High	The proposed activity should only be approved under special circumstances
Reversibility	Low	There is little chance of correcting the adverse impact
	Medium	There is a moderate chance of correcting the adverse impact
	High	There is a high chance in correcting the adverse impact
Risk	Low	Assessing a risk involves an analysis of the consequences and likelihood of a hazard being realized. In decision-making, low-consequence / low-probability risks (green) are typically perceived as acceptable and therefore only require monitoring.
	Medium	Other risks (amber) may require structured risk assessment to better understand the features that contribute most to the risk. These features may be candidates for management
	High	High-consequence / high-probability risks (red) are perceived as unacceptable and a strategy is required to manage the risk.

Attributes associated with the alternatives were assessed and is outlined below:

Geographical attributes

The Geographical attributes of an area relates to the characteristics of a particular region, area or place. It influences the determination of site alternatives as it relates to the location of a site in relation to relevant features in the area.

Physical attributes

Physical attributes of an area relates to the processes and patterns in the natural environment. For the purpose of this assessment, the following processes and patterns have been investigated. Geology, soil, topography and landforms, climate and meteorology, surface water and ground water.

Biological attributes

Biological attributes for the purpose of this study includes the distribution of species and ecosystems in geographic space and through geological time. Organisms and biological communities often vary in a regular fashion along geographic gradients of latitude, elevation, isolation and habitat area. The two main branches assessed will be:

Phytogeography is the branch of biogeography that studies the distribution of plants.

Zoogeography is the branch that studies distribution of animals.

Social attributes

Social attributes is closely related to social theory in general and sociology in particular, dealing with the relation of social phenomena and its spatial components.

Economic attributes

Economic attributes includes the location, distribution and spatial organization of economic activities and also takes into account social, cultural, and institutional factors in the spatial economy of the development.

Heritage attributes

The broad generic term Cultural Heritage Resources refers to any physical and spiritual property associated with past and present human use or occupation of the environment, cultural activities and history. The term includes sites, structures, places, natural features and material of paleontological, archaeological, historical, aesthetic, scientific, architectural, religious, symbolic or traditional importance to specific individuals or groups, traditional systems of cultural practice, belief or social interaction.

Cultural attributes

Cultural attributes relates to the specific characteristics such as language, religion, ethnic and racial identity, and cultural history & traditions of people. These attributes influences family life, education, economic and political structures, and, of course, business practices.

It should be noted that the above mentioned attributes do not occur in isolation and it is not uncommon for an identified impact to overlap with two or more of these attributes. Also note, not all risks require comprehensive and detailed assessment. Solid problem formulation should allow decision-makers to evaluate the extent of subsequent analysis required. The level of effort put into assessing each risk should be proportionate to its significance and priority in relation to other risks, as well as its complexity, by reference to the likely impacts. Consideration should be given to stakeholders' perceptions of the nature of the risk.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (Planning and design phase)					
ALTERNATIVE 1: Mixed land use township (Preferred Alternative)					
Environmental Attribute	Potential impacts and risks	Assessment criteria	Assessment rating (With mitigation)	Proposed mitigation	Assessment rating (Without mitigation)
DIRECT IMPACTS:					
Geographical Physical Social Economic	196 ha of indigenous vegetation, partially located within a critical biodiversity area will be eradicated in order to establish the development.	Duration	Long term	Obtain the necessary environmental authorization for the development	Long term
		Extent	Local		Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	High		High
		Probability	Definite	Conduct a Fauna and Flora Habitat survey to determine the sensitivity of the area.	Definite
		Significance	Medium		Medium
		Reversibility	Low		Low
		Risk	Low		Medium
		In order to gain access to the proposed development, a	Duration	Long term	Obtain the necessary environmental authorization for the development.
	Extent		Local	Local	

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (Planning and design phase)					
ALTERNATIVE 1: Mixed land use township (Preferred Alternative)					
Environmental Attribute	Potential impacts and risks	Assessment criteria	Assessment rating (With mitigation)	Proposed mitigation	Assessment rating (Without mitigation)
	bridge and bulk services will have to be constructed within a watercourse as well as a 400 mm pipeline to connect to the WWTP to the southeast of the site	Magnitude (Intensity)	High	The 1:100 flood line and the edge of the wetland/riparian zone will have to be determined and will have to be incorporated into the final layout plan.	High
		Probability	Definite		Definite
		Significance	Medium		High
		Reversibility	Low		Low
		Risk	Low	<p>Plan for the following:</p> <p>The construction of the roads and the installation of the pipe is to commence during the dry season to allow for the lowest possible impact on the environment and to simplify the required construction procedures. The local vegetation will be stored and used again during the rehabilitation period.</p> <p>Topsoil will be placed in a demarcated area for re-use during the rehabilitation period.</p> <p>The area to be used for stockpiling of the topsoil will be at an approved location.</p> <p>The area to be excavated needs to be clearly marked with lime.</p> <p>Provide shoring and bracing to the excavations where required.</p> <p>Erect physical barriers around the excavated area according to OHS requirements.</p> <p>Install and compact bedding where the infrastructure is to be installed according to the engineer's specifications (material description, bedding depth and compaction specifications).</p> <p>Install and compact soilcrete stabilised blanket material directly above the syphon in layers of 150mm.</p> <p>Backfill and compact excavated material in layers of 150mm up to natural ground level.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Backfill will be done in the same sequence; • Top soil will be backfilled after compaction; • Gabions will be installed for erosion control/management; 	Medium

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (Planning and design phase)					
ALTERNATIVE 1: Mixed land use township (Preferred Alternative)					
Environmental Attribute	Potential impacts and risks	Assessment criteria	Assessment rating (With mitigation)	Proposed mitigation	Assessment rating (Without mitigation)
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Storm water berms will be built to control and manage storm water; Each site will be landscaped after construction. <p>The necessary erosion prevention mechanism shall be employed to ensure the sustainability of all structures;</p> <p>The construction camp shall not be located within the 1:100 year flood line or within a 100m of any watercourse; whichever the greater.</p> <p>Construct the infrastructure in accordance with the designs and ensure the natural flow of the river is not disturbed in the long term.</p> <p>Obtain the necessary environmental authorization for the development. Obtain the necessary Water Use Licenses.</p> <p>Implement the mitigation measures as described in the Environmental Management plan.</p> <p>Implement the mitigation measures as described by the Wetland specialist incorporated into the Environmental Management Plan.</p>	
	Plan for the provision of services for the development.	Duration	Long term	Appoint a Civil Engineer to assess the availability and design of services to ensure a sustainable development.	Long term
		Extent	Local		Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	High		High
		Probability	Definite		Definite
		Significance	Medium		Medium
		Reversibility	Low		Low
		Risk	Medium		Medium
	A Cemetery of 80 000 square meters in size will form part of the development.	Duration	Long term	<p>Conduct the necessary Geohydrological investigation to ensure that the area is suited for this land use.</p> <p>Main conditions or core parameters to suit the development for the placement of a cemetery:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Placement of site with reference to development – out of sight and downwind from the town and far enough from rivers, water extraction points or boreholes. Deep soil profile with excavatability depth of at least 2,0m. 	Long term
		Extent	Local		Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	High		High
		Probability	Definite		Definite
		Significance	Medium		Medium
		Reversibility	Low		Low
		Risk	Medium		Medium

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (Planning and design phase)					
ALTERNATIVE 1: Mixed land use township (Preferred Alternative)					
Environmental Attribute	Potential impacts and risks	Assessment criteria	Assessment rating (With mitigation)	Proposed mitigation	Assessment rating (Without mitigation)
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The permeability of the underlain material of between 10-4 and 10-5 cm/s for sufficient slow movement and decay of leach. A buffer zone of at least 1,5m to 2,0m between the top of the groundwater level. No drainage channels near or through the site. Canalizing of runoff storm water. A borehole situated downstream to serve as a reference for sampling and monitoring the levels of possible contamination 	
	Plan to rehabilitate disturbed surfaces which can lead to erosion and dust pollution. Prepare method statements to this effect.	Duration	Short term	Start the rehabilitation of disturbed surfaces as soon as possible. Spray bare surfaces with water to prevent dust pollution.	Medium term
		Extent	Local		Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Low		Medium
		Probability	Definite		Definite
		Significance	Medium		Medium
		Reversibility	High		High
		Risk	Low		Medium
	Plan for the eradication of foreign and invader plant species which are likely to invade disturbed areas.	Duration	Short term	Start the extermination of any invasive species as soon as possible and maintain the eradication programme.	Medium term
		Extent	Local		Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Low		Low
		Probability	Definite		Definite
		Significance	Medium		Medium
		Reversibility	High		High
		Risk	Low		Medium
	Plan for the provision and maintenance of ablation facilities for construction workers to prevent pollution of surface and underground water.	Duration	Short term	Provide portable ablation facilities that will not cause pollution during the construction phase. There should be 1 Chemical toilet for every 30 workers on site.	Short term
		Extent	Local		Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Medium		Medium
		Probability	Definite		Definite
		Significance	Medium		Medium
		Reversibility	High		High
		Risk	Low		Medium
	Plan to manage possible impacts that the project can have on the soil and geology.	Duration	Long term	Properly plan the construction phase in such a manner that impacts on the soil and geology of the area can be minimised. The findings of the Geotechnical Engineer must be incorporated into the design of the project. Plan to prevent spills of lubricants/oils that can take place on bare soil. This will include the use of drip trays for	Long term
		Extent	Local		Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Low		Medium
		Probability	Definite		Definite
		Significance	Medium		Medium
		Reversibility	High		High
		Risk	Low		Medium

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (Planning and design phase)					
ALTERNATIVE 1: Mixed land use township (Preferred Alternative)					
Environmental Attribute	Potential impacts and risks	Assessment criteria	Assessment rating (With mitigation)	Proposed mitigation	Assessment rating (Without mitigation)
				vehicles that are standing for more than 24 hours.	
	<p>Plan for the removal of vegetation (which will lead to the destruction of faunal and floral habitats) during the construction phase.</p> <p>Two protected tree species <i>Vachellia erioloba</i> (Camel Thorn) and <i>Boscia albitrunca</i> (Shepherd's Tree) are found at the site.</p> <p>One widespread <i>Aloe</i> species, <i>Aloe grandidentata</i>, is listed in Schedule 2 of the Northern Cape Nature Conservation Act No. 9 of 2009</p>	Duration	Short term	<p>In terms of a part of section 15(1) of the National Forests Act No. 84 of 1998, no person may cut, disturb, damage or destroy any protected tree or possess, collect, remove, transport, export, purchase, sell, donate or in any other manner acquire or dispose of any protected tree, except under a license granted by the Minister.</p> <p>According to Northern Cape Nature Conservation Act No. 9 of 2009 (Updated in Provincial Gazette No. 1566, December 2011 with date of commencement 1 January 2012) no person may pick a Specially Protected Plant species or Protected Plant species without a permit. The term "pick" includes "to collect, to cut, to chop off, to take, to gather, to pluck, to uproot, to break, to damage or to destroy" (NCNCA, No. 9 of 2009). A permit for the removal of indigenous vegetation at the site and in particular <i>Aloe grandidentata</i> is therefore required.</p> <p>If developments are approved, such a permit should be applied for.</p> <p>Start with the rehabilitation of vegetation to minimize the negative effects of the removal of plants.</p> <p>The rule must be to minimize the disturbance of animal life by keeping the footprint as small as possible.</p> <p>No snares may be set.</p>	Short term
		Extent	Local		Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Medium		Medium
		Probability	Definite		Definite
		Significance	Medium		Medium
		Reversibility	High		High
		Risk	Low		Medium
	<p>In a small trench area investigated during the assessment, in situ river gravels and possible artifacts are visible under a layer of red Aeolian sands. This indicates that similar deposits could be present all across the study and development area and that in situ archeological material is more than likely located here</p>	Duration	Short term	<p>A detailed Phase 2 Assessment of the area to map the occurrence of the Stone Age sites and material.</p> <p>Comprehensive and detailed sampling of surface material after obtaining a permit from SAHRA.</p> <p>Conducting of Test excavations in selected areas to determine the presence of and the nature of the archaeological deposits. For this a SAHRA permit will also have to be obtained</p>	Short term
		Extent	Local		Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Medium		Medium
		Probability	Definite		Definite
		Significance	Medium		Medium
		Reversibility	High		High
		Risk	Low		Medium

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (Planning and design phase)					
ALTERNATIVE 1: Mixed land use township (Preferred Alternative)					
Environmental Attribute	Potential impacts and risks	Assessment criteria	Assessment rating (With mitigation)	Proposed mitigation	Assessment rating (Without mitigation)
				The implementation of an Archaeological Watching Brief for when the development activities commences. This will ensure that if in situ deposits are exposed that the material can be recovered and studied and preserved	
	Plan to safeguard open trenches in order to alleviate the danger of collapse on people or on equipment and people- especially small children who may fall into it.	Duration	Short term	Ensure that the trenches are dug according to specifications as prescribed by the Civil Engineer.	Short term
		Extent	Local		Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Medium		Medium
		Probability	Definite	Ensure that the trenches stay open for as short a time as possible.	Definite
		Significance	Medium		Medium
		Reversibility	High	Ensure that open trenches are demarcated as required by the Occupational Health and Safety Act.	High
		Risk	Low		Medium
Indirect impacts:					
Geographical Physical Social Economic	Plan to control dust generation from the proposed project which could impact on the surrounding area.	Duration	Short term	Spray water on open surfaces to ensure that dust does not cause air pollution during construction.	Short term
		Extent	Local		Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Low		Low
		Probability	Probable	Start the rehabilitation of disturbed surfaces as soon as possible	Probable
		Significance	Medium		Medium
		Reversibility	High		High
		Risk	Low		Medium
	Plan and compile method statements to implement measures for the prevention and or handling of spills of lubricants / oils that can take place on bare soil.	Extent	Local	Prevent spills of lubricants/oils that can take place on bare soil. This will include the use of drip trays for vehicles that are standing for more than 24 hours.	Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Low		Low
		Probability	Probable		Probable
		Significance	Medium	Medium	
		Reversibility	High	High	
	Risk	Low	Ensure that all construction vehicles are in good working order and not leaking oil and or fuel. No vehicles may be serviced on site.	Medium	
	Plan to provide method statements on the handling of waste materials such as glass, plastic, metal or paper which may present a possible pollution hazard	Extent	Local	Implement the management plan to ensure that: All construction rubble is disposed of in a safe and environmentally acceptable manner. NO concrete, gravel or other rubbish will be allowed to remain on site after the construction phase. All cement is housed as to prevent spills (due to rain and or handling errors). NO glass, plastic, metal, or paper shall be allowed to pollute the area.	Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Low		Low
		Probability	Probable		Probable
		Significance	Medium		Medium
		Reversibility	High		High
	Risk	Low	Medium		
	Plan to ensure all involved is aware of the possible social and environmental problems	Extent	Local	Ensure that contractors (construction phase) abide by all the requirements of the Occupational Health and Safety Act.	Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Medium		Medium

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (Planning and design phase)						
ALTERNATIVE 1: Mixed land use township (Preferred Alternative)						
Environmental Attribute	Potential impacts and risks	Assessment criteria	Assessment rating (With mitigation)	Proposed mitigation	Assessment rating (Without mitigation)	
	that may be experienced as a result of non-compliance to the relevant legislation.	Probability	Probable	Ensure that all contractors are aware of the consequences of non-compliance to the relevant legislation regarding the above-mentioned act as well as with regard to the environment (acts, regulations, and special guidelines).	Probable	
		Significance	Medium		Medium	
		Reversibility	High		High	
		Risk	Low		Medium	
	A Railway line is located on the northern border of the proposed development. Children and animals may be injured by trains passing on the railway lines.	Duration	Permanent	Plan to ensure that the fence is maintained to a good standard to keep children and animals from harm's way.	Permanent	
		Extent	Local		Local	
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Medium		High	
		Probability	Definite		Definite	
		Significance	Medium		Medium	
		Reversibility	High		High	
		Risk	Medium		High	
	Plan to create new employment opportunities. Plan to use local labour to ensure local skills development will take place.	Extent	Local	No mitigation measures needed apart from the fact that contractors will have to ensure that they abide to the requirements of the Occupational Health and Safety Act and the Employment Equity Act.	Local	
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Medium		Medium	
		Probability	Definite		Definite	
		Significance	Medium		Medium	
		Reversibility	Medium		Medium	
		Risk	Low		Medium	
	Cumulative impacts:					
	Geographical Physical Social Economic	Plan the development to ensure the social well-being of the community for which the development is intended	Extent	Local	Ensure that the development is constructed as planned. The demand for housing will be partially addressed in the area.	Local
Magnitude (Intensity)			Medium	Medium		
Probability			Definite	Definite		
Significance			Medium	Medium		
Reversibility			Medium	Medium		
Risk			Low	Medium		
Plan to ensure that the services (Solid waste, bulk water supply water, sewage, electricity and storm water) are designed and constructed in such a manner that it will not cause Environmental degradation.		Extent	Local	Appoint a Civil Engineer to assess the availability and design of services to ensure a sustainable development. Ensure that the development is constructed as planned.	Local	
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Medium		Medium	
		Probability	Definite		Definite	
		Significance	High		High	
		Reversibility	High		High	
		Risk	Low		Medium	
Plan for the increase in traffic volumes that will result from the proposed development		Extent	Local	The Town and Regional Planner will have to design the layout of the development in such a way that accessibility will not become a problem.	Local	
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Medium		Medium	
		Probability	Definite		Definite	
		Significance	Medium		High	
		Reversibility	Low		Low	
		Risk	Medium		Medium	
Loss of indigenous vegetation.		Extent	Local	No mitigation measures possible.	Local	
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Medium		Medium	
	Probability	Definite	Definite			
	Significance	High	High			

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (Planning and design phase)					
ALTERNATIVE 1: Mixed land use township (Preferred Alternative)					
Environmental Attribute	Potential impacts and risks	Assessment criteria	Assessment rating (With mitigation)	Proposed mitigation	Assessment rating (Without mitigation)
		Reversibility	Low		Low
		Risk	Medium		Medium

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (Planning and design phase)					
ALTERNATIVE 2: Single land use: Housing only					
Environmental Attribute	Potential impacts and risks	Assessment criteria	Assessment rating (With mitigation)	Proposed mitigation	Assessment rating (Without mitigation)
DIRECT IMPACTS:					
Geographical Physical Social Economic	196 ha of indigenous vegetation, partially located within a critical biodiversity area will be eradicated in order to establish the development.	Duration	Long term	Obtain the necessary environmental authorization for the development	Long term
		Extent	Local		Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	High		High
		Probability	Definite	Conduct a Fauna and Flora Habitat survey to determine the sensitivity of the area.	Definite
		Significance	Medium		Medium
		Reversibility	Low		Low
		Risk	Low		Medium
	In order to gain access to the proposed development, a bridge and bulk services will have to be constructed within a watercourse.	Duration	Long term	Obtain the necessary environmental authorization for the development.	Long term
		Extent	Local		Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	High		High
		Probability	Definite	The 1:100 flood line and the edge of the wetland/riparian zone will have to be determined and will have to be incorporated into the final layout plan.	Definite
		Significance	Medium		High
		Reversibility	Low		Low
		Risk	Low		Medium
			Plan for the following:		
			The construction of the roads and the installation of the pipe is to commence during the dry season to allow for the lowest possible impact on the environment and to simplify the required construction procedures The local vegetation will be stored and used again during the rehabilitation period.		
			Topsoil will be placed in a demarcated area for re-use during the rehabilitation period.		
			The area to be used for stockpiling of the topsoil will be at an approved location.		
			The area to be excavated needs to be clearly marked with lime.		
			Provide shoring and bracing to the excavations where required.		

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (Planning and design phase)					
ALTERNATIVE 2: Single land use: Housing only					
Environmental Attribute	Potential impacts and risks	Assessment criteria	Assessment rating (With mitigation)	Proposed mitigation	Assessment rating (Without mitigation)
				<p>Erect physical barriers around the excavated area according to OHS requirements.</p> <p>Install and compact bedding where the infrastructure is to be installed according to the engineer's specifications (material description, bedding depth and compaction specifications).</p> <p>Install and compact soilcrete stabilised blanket material directly above the syphon in layers of 150mm.</p> <p>Backfill and compact excavated material in layers of 150mm up to natural ground level.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Backfill will be done in the same sequence; • Top soil will be backfilled after compaction; • Gabions will be installed for erosion control/management; • Storm water berms will be built to control and manage storm water; • Each site will be landscaped after construction. <p>The necessary erosion prevention mechanism shall be employed to ensure the sustainability of all structures;</p> <p>The construction camp shall not be located within the 1:100 year flood line or within a 100m of any watercourse; whichever the greater.</p> <p>Construct the infrastructure in accordance with the designs and ensure the natural flow of the river is not disturbed in the long term.</p> <p>Obtain the necessary environmental authorization for the development. Obtain the necessary Water Use Licenses.</p> <p>Implement the mitigation measures as described in the Environmental Management plan.</p> <p>Implement the mitigation measures as described by the Wetland specialists</p>	

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (Planning and design phase)

ALTERNATIVE 2: Single land use: Housing only

Environmental Attribute	Potential impacts and risks	Assessment criteria	Assessment rating (With mitigation)	Proposed mitigation	Assessment rating (Without mitigation)
				incorporated into the Environmental Management Plan.	
	Plan for the provision of services for the development.	Duration	Long term	Appoint a Civil Engineer to assess the availability and design of services to ensure a sustainable development.	Long term
		Extent	Local		Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	High		High
		Probability	Definite		Definite
		Significance	Medium		Medium
		Reversibility	Low		Low
		Risk	Medium		Medium
	A Cemetery of 80 000 square meters in size will form part of the development.	Duration	Long term	Conduct the necessary Geohydrological investigation to ensure that the area is suited for this land use. Main conditions or core parameters to suit the development for the placement of a cemetery: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Placement of site with reference to development – out of sight and downwind from the town and far enough from rivers, water extraction points or boreholes. • Deep soil profile with excavatability depth of at least 2,0m. • The permeability of the underlain material of between 10-4 and 10-5 cm/s for sufficient slow movement and decay of leach. • A buffer zone of at least 1,5m to 2,0m between the top of the groundwater level. • No drainage channels near or through the site. • Canalizing of runoff storm water. • A borehole situated downstream to serve as a reference for sampling and monitoring the levels of possible contamination 	Long term
		Extent	Local		Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	High		High
		Probability	Definite		Definite
		Significance	Medium		Medium
		Reversibility	Low		Low
		Risk	Medium		Medium
	Plan to rehabilitate disturbed surfaces which can lead to erosion and dust pollution. Prepare method statements to this effect.	Duration	Short term	Start the rehabilitation of disturbed surfaces as soon as possible. Spray bare surfaces with water to prevent dust pollution.	Medium term
		Extent	Local		Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Low		Medium
		Probability	Definite		Definite
		Significance	Medium		Medium
		Reversibility	High		High
		Risk	Low		Medium
	Plan for the eradication of foreign and invader plant species which are likely to invade disturbed areas.	Duration	Short term	Start the extermination of any invasive species as soon as possible and maintain the eradication programme.	Medium term
		Extent	Local		Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Low		Low
		Probability	Definite		Definite
		Significance	Medium		Medium

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (Planning and design phase)					
ALTERNATIVE 2: Single land use: Housing only					
Environmental Attribute	Potential impacts and risks	Assessment criteria	Assessment rating (With mitigation)	Proposed mitigation	Assessment rating (Without mitigation)
		Reversibility	High		High
		Risk	Low		Medium
	Plan for the provision and maintenance of ablution facilities for construction workers to prevent pollution of surface and underground water.	Duration	Short term	Provide portable ablution facilities that will not cause pollution during the construction phase. There should be 1 Chemical toilet for every 30 workers on site.	Short term
		Extent	Local		Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Medium		Medium
		Probability	Definite		Definite
		Significance	Medium		Medium
		Reversibility	High		High
		Risk	Low		Medium
	Plan to manage possible impacts that the project can have on the soil and geology.	Duration	Long term	Properly plan the construction phase in such a manner that impacts on the soil and geology of the area can be minimised. The findings of the Geotechnical Engineer must be incorporated into the design of the project. Plan to prevent spills of lubricants/oils that can take place on bare soil. This will include the use of drip trays for vehicles that are standing for more than 24 hours.	Long term
		Extent	Local		Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Low		Medium
		Probability	Definite		Definite
		Significance	Medium		Medium
		Reversibility	High		High
		Risk	Low		Medium
	Plan for the removal of vegetation (which will lead to the destruction of faunal and floral habitats) during the construction phase. Two protected tree species <i>Vachellia erioloba</i> (Camel Thorn) and <i>Boscia albitrunca</i> (Shepherd's Tree) are found at the site. One widespread <i>Aloe</i> species, <i>Aloe grandidentata</i> , is listed in Schedule 2 of the Northern Cape Nature Conservation Act No. 9 of 2009	Duration	Short term	In terms of a part of section 15(1) of the National Forests Act No. 84 of 1998, no person may cut, disturb, damage or destroy any protected tree or possess, collect, remove, transport, export, purchase, sell, donate or in any other manner acquire or dispose of any protected tree, except under a license granted by the Minister. According to Northern Cape Nature Conservation Act No. 9 of 2009 (Updated in Provincial Gazette No. 1566, December 2011 with date of commencement 1 January 2012) no person may pick a Specially Protected Plant species or Protected Plant species without a permit. The term "pick" includes "to collect, to cut, to chop off, to take, to gather, to pluck, to uproot, to break, to damage or to destroy" (NCNCA, No. 9 of 2009). A permit for the removal of indigenous vegetation at the site and in particular <i>Aloe grandidentata</i> is therefore required. If developments are approved, such a permit should be applied for.	Short term
		Extent	Local		Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Medium		Medium
		Probability	Definite		Definite
		Significance	Medium		Medium
Reversibility		High	High		
Risk		Low	Medium		

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (Planning and design phase)					
ALTERNATIVE 2: Single land use: Housing only					
Environmental Attribute	Potential impacts and risks	Assessment criteria	Assessment rating (With mitigation)	Proposed mitigation	Assessment rating (Without mitigation)
				<p>Start with the rehabilitation of vegetation to minimize the negative effects of the removal of plants.</p> <p>The rule must be to minimize the disturbance of animal life by keeping the footprint as small as possible.</p> <p>No snares may be set.</p>	
	In a small trench area investigated during the assessment, in situ river gravels and possible artifacts are visible under a layer of red Aeolian sands. This indicates that similar deposits could be present all across the study and development area and that in situ archeological material is more than likely located here	Duration	Short term	A detailed Phase 2 Assessment of the area to map the occurrence of the Stone Age sites and material.	Short term
		Extent	Local		Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Medium		Medium
		Probability	Definite	Comprehensive and detailed sampling of surface material after obtaining a permit from SAHRA.	Definite
		Significance	Medium		Medium
		Reversibility	High		High
		Risk	Low	<p>Conducting of Test excavations in selected areas to determine the presence of and the nature of the archaeological deposits. For this a SAHRA permit will also have to be obtained</p> <p>The implementation of an Archaeological Watching Brief for when the development activities commences. This will ensure that if in situ deposits are exposed that the material can be recovered and studied and preserved</p>	Medium
	Plan to safeguard open trenches in order to alleviate the danger of collapse on people or on equipment and people- especially small children who may fall into it.	Duration	Short term	Ensure that the trenches are dug according to specifications as prescribed by the Civil Engineer.	Short term
		Extent	Local		Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Medium		Medium
		Probability	Definite	Ensure that the trenches stay open for as short a time as possible.	Definite
		Significance	Medium		Medium
		Reversibility	High		High
		Risk	Low	Ensure that open trenches are demarcated as required by the Occupational Health and Safety Act.	Medium
Indirect impacts:					
Geographical Physical Social Economic	Plan to control dust generation from the proposed project which could impact on the surrounding area.	Duration	Short term	Spray water on open surfaces to ensure that dust does not cause air pollution during construction.	Short term
		Extent	Local		Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Low		Low
		Probability	Probable	Start the rehabilitation of disturbed surfaces as soon as possible	Probable
		Significance	Medium		Medium
		Reversibility	High		High
		Risk	Low	Medium	
Plan and compile method statements to implement measures for the prevention and or handling of spills of		Extent	Local	Prevent spills of lubricants/oils that can take place on bare soil. This will include the use of drip trays for vehicles	Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Low		Low
		Probability	Probable		Probable

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (Planning and design phase)

ALTERNATIVE 2: Single land use: Housing only

Environmental Attribute	Potential impacts and risks	Assessment criteria	Assessment rating (With mitigation)	Proposed mitigation	Assessment rating (Without mitigation)
	lubricants / oils that can take place on bare soil.	Significance	Medium	that are standing for more than 24 hours. Ensure that all construction vehicles are in good working order and not leaking oil and or fuel. No vehicles may be serviced on site.	Medium
		Reversibility	High		High
		Risk	Low		Medium
	Plan to provide method statements on the handling of waste materials such as glass, plastic, metal or paper which may present a possible pollution hazard	Extent	Local	Implement the management plan to ensure that: All construction rubble is disposed of in a safe and environmentally acceptable manner. NO concrete, gravel or other rubbish will be allowed to remain on site after the construction phase. All cement is housed as to prevent spills (due to rain and or handling errors). NO glass, plastic, metal, or paper shall be allowed to pollute the area.	Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Low		Low
		Probability	Probable		Probable
		Significance	Medium		Medium
		Reversibility	High		High
		Risk	Low		Medium
	Plan to ensure all involved is aware of the possible social and environmental problems that may be experienced as a result of non-compliance to the relevant legislation.	Extent	Local	Ensure that contractors (construction phase) abide by all the requirements of the Occupational Health and Safety Act. Ensure that all contractors are aware of the consequences of non-compliance to the relevant legislation regarding the above-mentioned act as well as with regard to the environment (acts, regulations, and special guidelines).	Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Medium		Medium
		Probability	Probable		Probable
		Significance	Medium		Medium
		Reversibility	High		High
		Risk	Low		Medium
	A Railway line is located on the northern boundary of the proposed development. Children and animals may be injured by trains passing on the railway lines.	Duration	Permanent	Plan to ensure that the fence is maintained to a good standard to keep children and animals from harm's way.	Permanent
		Extent	Local		Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Medium		High
		Probability	Definite		Definite
		Significance	Medium		Medium
		Reversibility	High		High
Risk		Medium	High		
Plan to create new employment opportunities. Plan to use local labour to ensure local skills development will take place.	Extent	Local	No mitigation measures needed apart from the fact that contractors will have to ensure that they abide to the requirements of the Occupational Health and Safety Act and the Employment Equity Act.	Local	
	Magnitude (Intensity)	Medium		Medium	
	Probability	Definite		Definite	
	Significance	Medium		Medium	
	Reversibility	Medium		Medium	
	Risk	Low		Medium	
Cumulative impacts:					
Geographical Physical Social Economic	Plan the development to ensure the social well-being of the community for which the development is intended	Extent	Local	Ensure that the development is constructed as planned. The demand for housing will be partially addressed in the area.	Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Medium		Medium
		Probability	Definite		Definite
		Significance	Medium		Medium

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (Planning and design phase)						
ALTERNATIVE 2: Single land use: Housing only						
Environmental Attribute	Potential impacts and risks	Assessment criteria	Assessment rating (With mitigation)	Proposed mitigation	Assessment rating (Without mitigation)	
		Reversibility	Medium		Medium	
		Risk	Low		Medium	
	Plan to ensure that the services (Solid waste, bulk water supply water, sewage, electricity and storm water) are designed and constructed in such a manner that it will not cause Environmental degradation.		Extent	Local	Appoint a Civil Engineer to assess the availability and design of services to ensure a sustainable development.	Local
			Magnitude (Intensity)	Medium		Medium
			Probability	Definite		Definite
			Significance	High		High
			Reversibility	High		High
			Risk	Low		Medium
	Plan for the increase in traffic volumes that will result from the proposed development		Extent	Local	The Town and Regional Planner will have to design the layout of the development in such a way that accessibility will not become a problem.	Local
			Magnitude (Intensity)	Medium		Medium
			Probability	Definite		Definite
			Significance	Medium		High
			Reversibility	Low		Low
			Risk	Medium		Medium
	Loss of indigenous vegetation.		Extent	Local	No mitigation measures possible.	Local
			Magnitude (Intensity)	Medium		Medium
			Probability	Definite		Definite
			Significance	High		High
			Reversibility	Low		Low
			Risk	Medium		Medium

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (Planning and design phase)						
ALTERNATIVE 3: (No-Go Option)						
Environmental Attribute	Potential impacts and risks	Assessment criteria	Assessment rating (With mitigation)	Proposed mitigation	Assessment rating (Without mitigation)	
DIRECT IMPACTS:						
Geographical Physical Social Economic Cultural	No indigenous vegetation will be removed.	Duration	Long term	No mitigation measures required.	Long term	
		Extent	Local		Local	
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Medium		Medium	
		Probability	Definite		Definite	
		Significance	High		High	
		Reversibility	Low		Low	
		Risk	Medium		Medium	
		No impact on the watercourse in the area.			Duration	Long term
	Extent			Local	Local	
	Magnitude (Intensity)			Medium	Medium	
	Probability			Definite	Definite	
	Significance			High	High	
	Reversibility			Low	Low	
	Risk	Medium	Medium			
Indirect impacts:						

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (Planning and design phase)					
ALTERNATIVE 3: (No-Go Option)					
Environmental Attribute	Potential impacts and risks	Assessment criteria	Assessment rating (With mitigation)	Proposed mitigation	Assessment rating (Without mitigation)
Geographical Physical Social Economic Cultural	No new employment opportunities will be created during the planning and design phase. No skills enhancement will take place If this option is implemented, the projected boost to the local and regional economy will not take place.	Extent	Local	Ensure that the development is constructed and operated as planned.	Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Medium		Medium
		Probability	Definite		Definite
		Significance	Medium		Medium
		Reversibility	Medium		Medium
		Risk	High		High
Cumulative impacts:					
Geographical Physical Social Economic Cultural	If this option is implemented, the projected boost to the local and regional economy will not take place. No new employment opportunities will be created. No improvement to local skills development will take place. No broadened Tax base for the Local Municipality	Extent	Local	Ensure that the development is constructed and operated as planned.	Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Medium		Medium
		Probability	Definite		Definite
		Significance	High		High
		Reversibility	High		High
		Risk	Medium		Medium

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (Construction phase)					
ALTERNATIVE 1: Mixed land use township (Preferred Alternative)					
Environmental Attribute	Environmental Attribute	Environmental Attribute	Environmental Attribute	Environmental Attribute	Environmental Attribute
DIRECT IMPACTS:					
Geographical Physical Social Economic	196 ha of indigenous vegetation, partially located within a critical biodiversity area will be eradicated in order to establish the development.	Duration	Long term	Obtain the necessary environmental authorization for the development Conduct a Fauna and Flora Habitat survey to determine the sensitivity of the area. Implement the mitigation measures as described in the Environmental Management Plan.	Long term
		Extent	Local		Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	High		High
		Probability	Definite		Definite
		Significance	Medium		Medium
		Reversibility	Low		Low
		Risk	Low		Medium
	In order to gain access to the proposed development, a bridge and bulk services will have to be constructed within a watercourse as well as a pipeline to the southeast to connect to the WWTW	Duration	Long term	The construction of the roads and the installation of the pipe is to commence during the dry season to allow for the lowest possible impact on the environment and to simplify the required construction procedures	Long term
		Extent	Local		Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	High		High
		Probability	Definite		Definite
		Significance	Medium		High
		Reversibility	Low		Low
		Risk	Low		Medium

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (Construction phase)					
ALTERNATIVE 1: Mixed land use township (Preferred Alternative)					
Environmental Attribute	Environmental Attribute	Environmental Attribute	Environmental Attribute	Environmental Attribute	Environmental Attribute
				<p>The local vegetation will be stored and used again during the rehabilitation period.</p> <p>Topsoil will be placed in a demarcated area for re-use during the rehabilitation period.</p> <p>The area to be used for stockpiling of the topsoil will be at an approved location.</p> <p>The area to be excavated needs to be clearly marked with lime.</p> <p>Provide shoring and bracing to the excavations where required.</p> <p>Erect physical barriers around the excavated area according to OHS requirements.</p> <p>Install and compact bedding where the infrastructure is to be installed according to the engineer's specifications (material description, bedding depth and compaction specifications).</p> <p>Install and compact soilcrete stabilised blanket material directly above the syphon in layers of 150mm.</p> <p>Backfill and compact excavated material in layers of 150mm up to natural ground level.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Backfill will be done in the same sequence; • Top soil will be backfilled after compaction; 	

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (Construction phase)

ALTERNATIVE 1: Mixed land use township (Preferred Alternative)

Environmental Attribute	Environmental Attribute	Environmental Attribute	Environmental Attribute	Environmental Attribute	Environmental Attribute
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gabions will be installed for erosion control/management; Storm water berms will be built to control and manage storm water; Each site will be landscaped after construction. <p>The necessary erosion prevention mechanism shall be employed to ensure the sustainability of all structures;</p> <p>The construction camp shall not be located within the 1:100 year flood line or within a 100m of any watercourse; whichever the greater.</p> <p>Construct the infrastructure in accordance with the designs and ensure the natural flow of the river is not disturbed in the long term.</p> <p>Implement the mitigation measures as described in the Environmental Management plan.</p> <p>Implement the mitigation measures as described by the Wetland specialists incorporated into the Environmental Management Plan.</p>	
	Un-rehabilitated, disturbed surfaces can lead to erosion and dust pollution.	Duration	Short term	Start the rehabilitation of disturbed surfaces as soon as possible.	Medium term
		Extent	Local		Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Low		Medium
		Probability	Definite		Definite
		Significance	Medium		Medium
		Reversibility	High		High
		Risk	Low		Medium
	Foreign plant species are likely to invade disturbed areas.	Duration	Short term	Start the extermination of any invasive species	Medium term
		Extent	Local		Local

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (Construction phase)

ALTERNATIVE 1: Mixed land use township (Preferred Alternative)

Environmental Attribute	Environmental Attribute	Environmental Attribute	Environmental Attribute	Environmental Attribute	Environmental Attribute
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Low	as soon as possible and maintain the eradication programme.	Low
		Probability	Definite		Definite
		Significance	Medium		Medium
		Reversibility	High		High
		Risk	Low		Medium
	Poorly planned ablution facilities for construction workers may cause pollution of surface and underground water.	Duration	Short term	Provide portable ablution facilities that will not cause pollution during the construction phase.	Short term
		Extent	Local		Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Medium		Medium
		Probability	Definite		Definite
		Significance	Medium		Medium
		Reversibility	High		High
		Risk	Low		Medium
	The proposed project can impact on the soil and geology.	Duration	Long term	Implement the findings of the Geo-Technical Engineer. Prevent spills of lubricants/oils that can take place on bare soil. This will include the use of drip trays for vehicles that are standing for more than 24 hours.	Long term
		Extent	Local		Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Low		Medium
		Probability	Definite		Definite
		Significance	Medium		Medium
		Reversibility	High		High
		Risk	Low		Medium
	The vegetation of the area will be removed during the construction phase, which will destroy floral and faunal habitats.	Duration	Short term	Start with the rehabilitation of vegetation to minimize the negative effects of the removal of plants. The rule must be to minimize the disturbance of animal life by keeping the footprint as small as possible. No snares may be set.	Short term
		Extent	Local		Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Medium		Medium
		Probability	Definite		Definite
		Significance	Medium		Medium
		Reversibility	High		High
		Risk	Low		Medium
	Implement an Archaeological Watching Brief when the development activities commences	Duration	Short term	This will ensure that if in situ deposits are exposed that the material can be recovered and studied and preserved	Short term
		Extent	Local		Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Medium		Medium
		Probability	Definite		Definite
		Significance	Medium		Medium
		Reversibility	High		High
		Risk	Low		Medium
	Open trenches can be dangerous as they can either collapse on people or on equipment and people- especially small children, can fall into them.	Duration	Short term	Ensure that the trenches are dug according to specifications as prescribed by the Civil Engineer.	Short term
		Extent	Local		Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Medium		Medium
		Probability	Definite		Definite
		Significance	Medium		Medium

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (Construction phase)

ALTERNATIVE 1: Mixed land use township (Preferred Alternative)

Environmental Attribute	Environmental Attribute	Environmental Attribute	Environmental Attribute	Environmental Attribute	Environmental Attribute
		Reversibility	High		High
		Risk	Low	Ensure that the trenches stay open for as short a time as possible. Ensure that open trenches are demarcated as required by the Occupational Health and Safety Act.	Medium
Indirect impacts:					
Geographical Physical Social Economic	Dust generation from the proposed project could impact on the surrounding area.	Duration	Short term	Spray water on open surfaces to ensure that dust does not cause air pollution during construction. Start the rehabilitation of disturbed surfaces as soon as possible	Short term
		Extent	Local		Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Low		Low
		Probability	Probable		Probable
		Significance	Medium		Medium
		Reversibility	High		High
		Risk	Low		Medium
	Spills of lubricants / oils can take place on bare soil.	Extent	Local	Prevent spills of lubricants/oils that can take place on bare soil. This will include the use of drip trays for vehicles that are standing for more than 24 hours. Ensure that all construction vehicles are in good working order and not leaking oil and or fuel. No vehicles may be serviced on site.	Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Low		Low
		Probability	Probable		Probable
		Significance	Medium		Medium
		Reversibility	High		High
		Risk	Low		Medium
	Waste materials such as glass, plastic, metal or paper present a possible pollution hazard	Extent	Local	Implement the management plan to ensure that: All construction rubble is disposed of in a safe and environmentally acceptable manner. NO concrete, gravel or other rubbish will be allowed to remain on site after the construction phase. All cement is housed as to prevent spills (due to rain and or handling errors). NO glass, plastic, metal, or paper shall be	Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Low		Low
		Probability	Probable		Probable
		Significance	Medium		Medium
		Reversibility	High		High
		Risk	Low		Medium

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (Construction phase)

ALTERNATIVE 1: Mixed land use township (Preferred Alternative)

Environmental Attribute	Environmental Attribute	Environmental Attribute	Environmental Attribute	Environmental Attribute	Environmental Attribute
				allowed to pollute the area.	
	Non-compliance to the relevant legislation may cause social and environmental problems.	Extent	Local	Ensure that contractors (construction phase) abide by all the requirements of the Occupational Health and Safety Act.	Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Medium		Medium
		Probability	Probable		Probable
		Significance	Medium		Medium
		Reversibility	High		High
		Risk	Low		Medium
	New employment opportunities will be created. Local skills development will take place.	Extent	Local	No mitigation measures needed apart from the fact that contractors will have to ensure that they abide to the requirements of the Occupational Health and Safety Act and the Employment Equity Act.	Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Medium		Medium
		Probability	Definite		Definite
		Significance	Medium		Medium
		Reversibility	Medium		Medium
		Risk	Low		Medium
Cumulative impacts:					
Geographical Physical Social Economic	Enhancement of the social well-being of the local communities for which the development is intended	Extent	Local	Ensure that the development is constructed as planned.	Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Medium		Medium
		Probability	Definite		Definite
		Significance	Medium		Medium
		Reversibility	Medium		Medium
		Risk	Low		Medium
	<u>Solid waste:</u> The proposed development will add additional solid waste into the existing waste stream of the Local Municipality. <u>Sewage:</u> The proposed development will add additional sewage into the existing sewage stream of the Local Municipality. <u>Water supply:</u> The proposed development will add pressure to the water supply of Local Municipality's Water.	Extent	Local	Ensure that the development is constructed as planned by the Civil Engineer.	Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Medium		Medium
		Probability	Definite		Definite
		Significance	High		High
		Reversibility	High		High
		Risk	Low		Medium
		Extent	Local		Local

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (Construction phase)					
ALTERNATIVE 1: Mixed land use township (Preferred Alternative)					
Environmental Attribute	Environmental Attribute	Environmental Attribute	Environmental Attribute	Environmental Attribute	Environmental Attribute
	Traffic: The proposed development will result in an increase in traffic in the immediate surroundings of the proposed development.	Magnitude (Intensity)	Medium	Ensure that the development is constructed as planned by the Town and Regional Planner	Medium
		Probability	Definite		Definite
		Significance	Medium		High
		Reversibility	Low		Low
		Risk	Medium		Medium
	Indigenous vegetation will be removed.	Extent	Local	Ensure that all licences and permits are obtained before the protected tree species <i>Vachellia erioloba</i> (Camel Thorn) and <i>Boscia albitrunca</i> (Shepherd's Tree) and the <i>Aloe</i> species, <i>Aloe grandidentata</i> are cut, disturbed, damaged or destroyed.	Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Medium		Medium
		Probability	Definite		Definite
		Significance	High		High
		Reversibility	Low		Low
Risk		Medium	Medium		
Extent	Local	Local			

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (Operational Phase)					
ALTERNATIVE 1: Mixed land use township (Preferred Alternative)					
Environmental Attribute	Environmental Attribute	Environmental Attribute	Assessment rating (With mitigation)	Proposed mitigation	Assessment rating (Without mitigation)
DIRECT IMPACTS:					
Geographical Physical Social Economic Cultural	Poorly maintained and serviced infrastructure may cause environmental problems.	Extent	Local	It will be the responsibility of the Local Municipality to maintain the infrastructure.	Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Medium		Medium
		Probability	Definite		Definite
		Significance	Medium- high		High
		Reversibility	High		Medium
		Risk	High		High
Indirect impacts:					
Geographical Physical Social Economic Cultural	Lack of rehabilitation may cause problems	Extent	Local	It will be the responsibility of the Local Municipality to ensure that the rehabilitation plan is implemented	Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Medium		Medium
		Probability	Definite		Definite
		Significance	Medium- high		High
		Reversibility	High		Medium
		Risk	High		High
Cumulative impacts:					
Geographical Physical Social Economic Cultural	Enhancement of the social well-being of the local communities for which the development is intended	Extent	Local	No mitigation measures required.	Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Medium		Medium
		Probability	Definite		Definite
		Significance	High		High
		Reversibility	High		High
		Risk	Medium		Medium

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (Operational Phase)

ALTERNATIVE 1: Mixed land use township (Preferred Alternative)

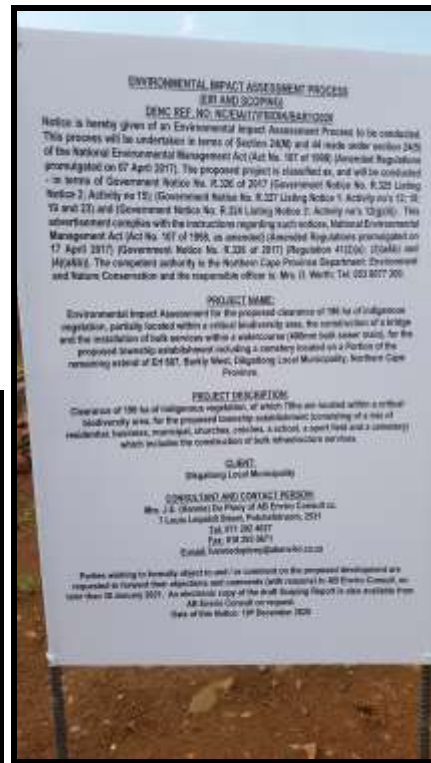
Environmental Attribute	Environmental Attribute	Environmental Attribute	Assessment rating (With mitigation)	Proposed mitigation	Assessment rating (Without mitigation)
Geographical Physical Social Economic Cultural	Broadened tax base: The proposed development will generate more income for the Local Municipality	Extent	Local	No mitigation measures required.	Local
		Magnitude (Intensity)	Medium		Medium
		Probability	Definite		Definite
		Significance	High		High
		Reversibility	High		High
		Risk	Medium		Medium

10. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

10.1 ADVERTISEMENT AND NOTICE

Publication name	Noordkaap Bulletin	
Date published	10/12/2020	
Site notice position	28°31'31.25"S	24°29'47.14"E
	28°31'3.81"S	24°29'54.54"E
	28°31'40.67"S	24°29'45.50"
	28°31'15.82"S	24°28'45.03"E
Date placed	07/12/2020	

PROOF OF SITE NOTICES PLACED WITH ALL COVID-19 PROTOCOLS IN PLACE (MASK, GLOVES AND SANITIZER):







ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS
(EIR AND SCOPING)

DENC REF. NO: NC/EIA/17/FB/DIK/BAR1/2020

Notice is hereby given of an Environmental Impact Assessment Process to be conducted. This process will be undertaken in terms of Section 24(M) and 44 made under section 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No. 107 of 1998) (Amended Regulations promulgated on 07 April 2017). The proposed project is classified as, and will be conducted - in terms of Government Notice No. R.326 of 2017 (Government Notice No. R.325 Listing Notice 2; Activity no 15); (Government Notice No. R.327 Listing Notice 1: Activity no's 12; 10; 19 and 23) and (Government Notice No. R.324 Listing Notice 3: Activity no 12(g)(ii)). This advertisement complies with the instructions regarding such notices, National Environmental Management Act (Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended) (Amended Regulations promulgated on 17 April 2017) (Government Notice No. R.326 of 2017) (Regulation 41(2)(c)(d)). The competent authority is the Northern Cape Province Department: Environment and Nature Conservation and the responsible officer is: Mrs. D. Werth; Tel: 053 8077 300.

PROJECT NAME:

Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed clearance of 196 ha of indigenous vegetation, partially located within a critical biodiversity area, the construction of a bridge and the installation of bulk services within a watercourse (400mm bulk sewer main), for the proposed township establishment including a cemetery located on a Portion of the remaining extend of Erf 687, Barkly West, Dikgatlong Local Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Clearance of 196 ha of indigenous vegetation, of which 70ha are located within a critical biodiversity area, for the proposed township establishment (consisting of a mix of residential, business, municipal, churches, crèches, a school, a sport field and a cemetery) which includes the construction of bulk infrastructure services.

CLIENT:

Dikgatlong Local Municipality

CONSULTANT AND CONTACT PERSON:

Mrs. J.E. (Hannie) Du Plooy of AB Enviro Consult cc.

7 Louis Leipoldt Street, Potchefstroom, 2531

Tel: 071 202 4027

Fax: 018 293 0671

E-mail: hannieduplooy@abenviro.co.za

Parties wishing to formally object to and / or comment on the proposed development are requested to forward their objections and comments (with reasons) to AB Enviro Consult, no later than 30 January 2021. An electronic copy of the draft Scoping Report is also available from AB Enviro Consult on request.

10.2 DETERMINATION OF APPROPRIATE MEASURES

Details of the measures taken to include all potential I&APs as required by Regulation 41(2)(e) and 41(6) of GN R.982.

Key stakeholders (other than organs of state) identified in terms of Regulation 40(2)(d) of GN R.982:

Title, Name and Surname	Affiliation/ key stakeholder status	Contact details (tel number or e-mail address)
N/A	Neighbour	See photo evidence

PROOF OF COVID-19 APPROVED PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROTOCOLS AS WELL AS PROOF OF LETTER DROP: (To Follow as part of Final Scoping Report)

























10.3 AUTHORITY PARTICIPATION

Authorities and organs of state identified as key stakeholders. Key stakeholders identified in terms of Regulation 7(1) and (2) and Regulation 40(2) (a)-(c) of GN R.982:

Authority/Organ of State	Contact person (Title, Name and Surname)	Tel No	Fax No	e-mail	Postal address
Department of Water and Sanitation Northern Cape	Abe Abrahams	(053) 836 7600	053 842 3258		28 Central Road Beaconsfield KIMBERLY 830
Northern Cape Department of Agriculture and Land Reform and Rural Development	HOD, Mr. V. Mothibi	(053) 838 9118	(053) 831 3635	cfortune@agri.ncpg.gov	Private Bag X5018, Kimberley 8300
Northern Cape Department of Environment and Nature Conservation	Mr. Dewald Badenhorst Biodiversity Management services	(053) 807 7300	(053) 807 7367		Private Bag X6120 Kimberley 8301
Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	Mrs. J Mans	(054) 338 5860	(054) 338 0030		P.O. Box 2782, Upington 8800
Northern Cape Department Roads and Public Works	The director: Roads	053 839 2100			PO Box 3132 Kimberley 8300
Frances Baard District Municipality	The District Municipal Manager:	053 838 0911	053861 1538		Private Bag X6088 Kimberley 8300
Dikgatlong Local Municipality	The Acting Municipal Manager:	053 531 6500	053 531 0624		Private Bag X5, Barkly West, 8375
Dikgatlong Local Municipality	The councilor ward 3	053 531 6500	053 531 0624		Private Bag X5, Barkly West, 8375

Transnet	Mr Ravi Nair	+27 11 351 9001	+27 11 351 9023		P.O. Box 72501 Parkview South Africa 2122
SAHRA	SAHRIS				

List of REGISTERED LETTERS
Lys van GEREGISTREERDE BRIEWE
 (with an insurance option/met 'n versekeringsopsie)



Post Office

Full tracking and tracing/Volledige volg en spoor

Name and address of sender: **AB ENVIRO CONSULT**
 Naam en adres van afstuurder:
7 LOUIS LEIPOLDT STREET
POTCHEFSTROOM
2531

Enquiries/Navrae
 Sharecall
 number/nommer
0860 111 502
 www.postoffice.co.za

No	Name and address of addressee Naam en adres van geadresseerde	Insured amount Versekerde bedrag	Insurance fee Versekeringsgeld	Postage Postgeld	Service fee Diensgeld	Affix Track and Trace customer copy Plak Volg-en-Spoor-Kliëntafskrif
1	Northern Cape Department of Agriculture & Land reform and rural development 400 Mr V Mouton Private Bag X5015 Kimberley 8300					REGISTERED LETTER ShareCall 0860 111 502 www.postoffice.co.za RC458600707ZA CUSTOMER COPY 301020R
2	Stansburg District Municipality District Municipal Manager Private Bag X4088 Kimberley 8300					REGISTERED LETTER ShareCall 0860 111 502 www.postoffice.co.za RC458600698ZA CUSTOMER COPY 301020R
3	Ukhayobing Local Municipality The Councillor Ward 3 Private Bag X5 Barkley-West 8375					REGISTERED LETTER ShareCall 0860 111 502 www.postoffice.co.za RC458600724ZA CUSTOMER COPY 301020R
4	Northern Cape Department Roads & Public Works Director: Roads PO Box 3122 Kimberley 8300					REGISTERED LETTER ShareCall 0860 111 502 www.postoffice.co.za RC458600715ZA CUSTOMER COPY 301020R
5	Ukhayobing Local Municipality Municipal Manager: Boekantong Private Bag X5 Barkley-West 8375					INSURED PARCEL ShareCall 0860 111 502 www.postoffice.co.za PA542693709ZA CUSTOMER COPY 301012
6	Northern Cape Dept. of Environment & Nature Conservation: Biodiversity Management Serv. Mr Deward Barendse Private Bag X6120 Kimberly 8301					INSURED PARCEL ShareCall 0860 111 502 www.postoffice.co.za PA542693712ZA CUSTOMER COPY 301012
7	Northern Cape Dept. of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries Mr J. Many PO Box 2782 Uptington 8300					INSURED PARCEL ShareCall 0860 111 502 www.postoffice.co.za PA542693726ZA CUSTOMER COPY 301012
8	Transnet Chief Executive Mr Ravi Nair PO Box 7200 Parkview South Africa 2122					INSURED PARCEL ShareCall 0860 111 502 www.postoffice.co.za PA542693730ZA CUSTOMER COPY 301012
9						
10						

Number of letters posted **8/EIGHT** Total
 Getal briewe gepos **.....** Totaal

Signature of client
 Handtekening van kliënt.....

Signature of accepting officer
 Handtekening van aanneembeampte.....

The value of the contents of these letters is as indicated and compensation is not payable for a letter received unconditionally. Compensation is limited to R100.00. No compensation is payable without documentary proof. Optional insurance of up to R200.00 is available and applies to domestic registered letters only.

Die waarde van die inhoud van hierdie briewe is soos aangedui en vergoeding sal nie betaal word vir 'n brief wat sonder voorbehoud ontvang word nie. Vergoeding is beperk tot R100.00. Geen vergoeding is sonder dokumentêre bewys. Opsionele versekering van tot R200.00 is beskikbaar en is slegs vir plaaslike geregistreerde briewe.

Date stamp

 Datumstempel



AB ENVIRO-CONSULT CC

Reg no. 2000/016653/23

7 Louis Leipoldt Street,
Potchefstroom, 2531
Fax: +27 (18) 293 0671
Cell: +27 (71) 202 4027
hannieduplooy@abenviro.co.za

10/12/2020

Department of Water and Sanitation
Mr Abe Abrahams
28 Central Road
Beaconsfield
KIMBERLY
8301
Tel: (053) 830 8800/6 7600

Dear Sir/Madam

Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed clearance of 196 ha of indigenous vegetation, partially located within a critical biodiversity area, the construction of a bridge and the installation of bulk services within a watercourse (400mm bulk sewer main), for the proposed township establishment including a cemetery located on a Portion of the remaining extend of Erf 687, Barkly West, Dikgatlong Local Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

AB ENVIRO CONSULT was appointed by Dikgatlong Local Municipality to submit an application to the Northern Cape Province Department: Environment and Nature Conservation for the above mentioned proposed development.

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Please do not hesitate to contact us should any further information or clarification be required.

Yours sincerely,

PROF. A.B. DE VILLIERS

PROF A B DE VILLIERS (M Sc, Ph D, JCD, SACNASP)

MR.J.P. DE VILLIERS (M Sc, HED, EAP-EAPASA); MRS.J.E. DU PLOOY (M.E.M; EAP-EAPASA)



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10/12/2020

Northern Cape Department of Agriculture and Land Reform and Rural Development
HOD, Mr. V. Mothibi
Private Bag X5018
Kimberley
8300

Dear Sir/Madam

Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed clearance of 196 ha of indigenous vegetation, partially located within a critical biodiversity area, the construction of a bridge and the installation of bulk services within a watercourse (400mm bulk sewer main), for the proposed township establishment including a cemetery located on a Portion of the remaining extend of Erf 687, Barkly West, Dikgatlong Local Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

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AB ENVIRO-CONSULT CC

Reg no. 2000/016653/23

10/12/2020

Northern Cape Department of Environment and Nature conservation
Biodiversity Management services
Mr. Dewald Badenhorst
Private Bag X6120
Kimberley
8301

Dear Sir/Madam

Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed clearance of 196 ha of indigenous vegetation, partially located within a critical biodiversity area, the construction of a bridge and the installation of bulk services within a watercourse (400mm bulk sewer main), for the proposed township establishment including a cemetery located on a Portion of the remaining extend of Erf 687, Barkly West, Dikgatlong Local Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

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AB ENVIRO-CONSULT CC

Reg no. 2000/016653/23

10/12/2020

Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
FAO: J. Mans
P.O. Box 2782
Upington
8800

Dear Sir/Madam

Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed clearance of 196 ha of indigenous vegetation, partially located within a critical biodiversity area, the construction of a bridge and the installation of bulk services within a watercourse (400mm bulk sewer main), for the proposed township establishment including a cemetery located on a Portion of the remaining extend of Erf 687, Barkly West, Dikgatlong Local Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

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10/12/2020

Frances Baard District Municipality
District Municipal Manager
Private Bag X6088
Kimberley
8300

Dear Sir/Madam

Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed clearance of 196 ha of indigenous vegetation, partially located within a critical biodiversity area, the construction of a bridge and the installation of bulk services within a watercourse (400mm bulk sewer main), for the proposed township establishment including a cemetery located on a Portion of the remaining extend of Erf 687, Barkly West, Dikgatlong Local Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

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10/12/2020

Dikgatlong Local Municipality
Acting Municipal Manager: Baakanyang Tsinyane
Private Bag X5
Barkley-West
8375

Dear Sir/Madam

Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed clearance of 196 ha of indigenous vegetation, partially located within a critical biodiversity area, the construction of a bridge and the installation of bulk services within a watercourse (400mm bulk sewer main), for the proposed township establishment including a cemetery located on a Portion of the remaining extend of Erf 687, Barkly West, Dikgatlong Local Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

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10/12/2020

Dikgatlong Local Municipality
The Councillor Ward 3
Private Bag X5
Barkley-West
8375

Dear Sir/Madam

Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed clearance of 196 ha of indigenous vegetation, partially located within a critical biodiversity area, the construction of a bridge and the installation of bulk services within a watercourse (400mm bulk sewer main), for the proposed township establishment including a cemetery located on a Portion of the remaining extend of Erf 687, Barkly West, Dikgatlong Local Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

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10/12/2020

Northern Cape Department Roads and Public Works
The Director: Roads
PO Box 3132
Kimberley
8300

Dear Sir/Madam

Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed clearance of 196 ha of indigenous vegetation, partially located within a critical biodiversity area, the construction of a bridge and the installation of bulk services within a watercourse (400mm bulk sewer main), for the proposed township establishment including a cemetery located on a Portion of the remaining extend of Erf 687, Barkly West, Dikgatlong Local Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

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10/12/2020

TRANSNET
Chief Executive: Mr Ravi Nair
P.O. Box 72501
Parkview
South Africa
2122

Dear Sir/Madam

Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed clearance of 196 ha of indigenous vegetation, partially located within a critical biodiversity area, the construction of a bridge and the installation of bulk services within a watercourse (400mm bulk sewer main), for the proposed township establishment including a cemetery located on a Portion of the remaining extend of Erf 687, Barkly West, Dikgatlong Local Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

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10.4 ISSUES RAISED BY INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES

Summary of main issues raised by I&APs	Summary of response from EAP
To Follow	

10.5 COMMENTS AND RESPONSE REPORT

I&AP registered:	Comment received:	Response by the EAP:
To follow	To follow	

11. CONCLUDING STATEMENT.

In the National Framework for Sustainable Development (NFSD) it is stated that *"the achievement of sustainable development is not a once-off occurrence and its objectives cannot be achieved by a single action or decision. It is an ongoing process that requires a particular set of values and attitudes in which economic, social and environmental assets that society has at its disposal, are managed in a manner that sustains human well-being without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own need.* The NFSD further continues to emphasize that South Africa's current development path in certain instances reflects signs of being unsustainable in the long-term. It highlights that a large percentage of growth in economic activity (measured in terms of its contribution to the GDP) is achieved by *"consuming' natural resources and degrading our habitat at accelerating rates with the inevitable consequence that future economic growth and development objectives will be prejudiced. "*

As in the rest of South Africa, there is a housing shortage in the area. This is totally unacceptable as Informal settlements consist of non-conventional housing built without complying with legal building procedures. Broadly, these crude dwellings mostly lack proper indoor infrastructure, such as water supply, sanitation, drainage, waste disposal and proper road access. There is also a bond between poor housing and environmental conditions in informal settlements which also reflects poverty. Linking basic services such as water to health is viewed as a false separation as these services are 'intimately related to housing'. It becomes a housing issue if children playing outside the house contract diarrhoea via ingesting pathogens from fecal matter which contaminates the land on which they play. Otherwise, it is the house which provides for shelter against injury, weather and disease. Improving the surroundings of the house is to limit severe health risks existing within poor quality housing.

The new "Human Settlements Plan" promotes the achievement of a non-racial, integrated society through the development of sustainable human settlements and quality housing. Housing is to be utilized for the development of sustainable human settlements in support of spatial restructuring.

The aim is to move beyond the provision of basic shelter towards achieving the broader vision of sustainable human settlements and more efficient towns, cities and regions.

The proposed integrated human settlement project from the onset aims at providing a proper integrated human settlement that ascribes to the BNG Principles set out above. This will be achieved as follows:

- This project makes provision for a variety of erven that can be utilized for various housing typologies. The largest proportion of the township areas will however be aimed at both the subsidized housing sector through the implementation of one of Government's subsidized housing programmes as well as the need that exists for people that does not qualify for a Government subsidy, due to either already owning other property or earning in excess of the threshold household income prescribed in respect of the various housing subsidy programmes, but who still wishes to acquire an affordable stand where they can construct their own home. This project will also aim at alleviating the plight of people that live in informal settlement areas and in squalid conditions.
- The location of the proposed township area directly adjacent to the existing urban area further enhances integration and will offer inhabitants the opportunity to access the existing social and commercial facilities on offer within the existing village area whilst also providing social and

business opportunities within the proposed development area itself that can in turn be utilized by and to the benefit of the inhabitants of the existing village area.

The development represents a definitive move away from providing housing-only township areas and towards the provision of a proper integrated human settlement that offers a magnitude of social, educational and commercial support facilities and infrastructure in close proximity to the inhabitants

Consistent with national priorities, environmental authorities must support "*increased economic growth and promote social inclusion*", whilst ensuring that such growth is "*ecologically sustainable*". In the National Spatial Development Perspective (NSDP) it is highlighted that, to achieve the goal of stimulating sustainable economic activities and to create long-term employment opportunities, it is required that spending on economic infrastructure is focused in priority areas with potential for economic development, with development to serve the broader societies' needs equitably.

The identification, description, evaluation and comparison of alternatives are important for ensuring a sound environmental scoping process.

The alternatives considered for the proposed development includes "Mixed land use township" (Alternative 1), "Single land use: Housing only" (Alternative 2) and the "No-go option."

Although the emphasis is on housing, complimentary land uses have been included in the township. People want easy access to job opportunities shops, banking facilities, clinics, etc. and want their living environment, such as residential townships to be placed at strategic positions with good access routes in close proximity to these amenities.

A mixed land use development is *socially responsible* based on the following:

- It covers the mixed and lower income bracket by providing a higher density housing option;
- The development will inevitably support the use of public transport;
- The development will include supporting social infrastructure (schools), as well as some retail or commercial activities;
- The layout of the development must respond to the future road planning for the area, to facilitate and maximise pedestrianisation and public transport.
- Commercial erven can accommodate a shopping centre, to service the existing formalised and informal settlements in the area. The commercial node will:
 - Promote entrepreneurial services and products;
 - Be within walking distance to places of refreshment and trade for residents;
 - Provide Job opportunities; and
 - Improve neighbourhood quality.

By providing only one land use type (i.e., housing), mixed income development and social integration across race and income levels, *cannot be achieved*. By restricting a township to one land use only, the above benefits to the local community, and subsequent council area, cannot be realised, and hence, is not a preferred land use option.

The only other alternative that exists for the proposed development is the "no-go" option which will imply that the status quo will prevail. This is unacceptable as Informal settlements consist of non-conventional housing

built without complying with legal building procedures. Broadly, these crude dwellings mostly lack proper indoor infrastructure, such as water supply, sanitation, drainage, waste disposal and proper road access. There is also a bond between poor housing and environmental conditions in informal settlements which also reflects poverty. Linking basic services such as water to health is viewed as a false separation as these services are 'intimately related to housing'. It becomes a housing issue if children playing outside the house contract diarrhoea via ingesting pathogens from faecal matter which contaminates the land on which they play. Otherwise, it is the house which provides for shelter against injury, weather and disease. Improving the surroundings of the house is to limit severe health risks existing within poor quality housing.

Skills development

The members of the Project Steering Committee will during the entire life-cycle of the project be involved with all processes and it anticipated that the capacity of the officials of the Dikgatlong Local Municipality as well as the relevant community structures will be broadened through the transfer of knowledge and skills specifically relating to the integrated human settlement planning process as well as the statutory processes associated with the township establishment process.

During the construction phase of the proposed development, jobs will be created and thus the unemployment rate of the area will be reduced.

Although this is only the Scoping phase of the proposed development, no "fatal flaws" has been encountered as of yet. All the issues envisaged at this stage can be mitigated.

12 PLAN OF STUDY FOR EIA

12.1 Description of the alternatives to be considered and assessed

One of the objectives of an EIA is to investigate alternatives to the proposed project. The IEM procedure stipulates that the environmental investigation needs to consider feasible alternatives for any proposed development. Therefore, a number of possible proposals or alternatives for accomplishing the same objectives should be identified and investigated. In order to ensure that the proposed development enables sustainable development, feasible alternatives must be explored (S. Cliff, 2015).

The identification, description, evaluation and comparison of alternatives are important for ensuring a sound environmental scoping process. Alternatives should be considered as a norm within the Environmental Process (S. Cliff, 2015).

The alternatives considered for the proposed development includes land use alternatives (including the No-go option). The various alternatives will be assessed in the EIAR, in terms of environmental, social and technical feasibility.

12.1 Land Use Alternatives

12.1.1 Mixed land use township (Alternative 1)

Alternative Site layouts have been developed for the proposed development.

The appointed Town and Regional planner have produced the proposed layout plan.

The proposed Township will consist of the following (See Figure 1 for a copy of the Layout Plan):

Residential (min 260 m ²)	3 400 Stands
Residential (min 400 m ²)	100 Stands
Business	4 Stands
Churches	6 Stands
Crèche	6 Stands
School	1 Stand
Sports Field	1 Stand
Municipal	2 Stands
Cemetery	1 Stand
Parks	6 Stands

Area of township **196 ha**

Although the emphasis is on housing, complimentary land uses have been included in the township. People want easy access to job opportunities, shops, banking facilities, clinics, etc. and want their living environment, such as residential townships to be placed at strategic positions with good access routes in close proximity to these amenities.

A mixed land use development is *socially responsible* based on the following:

- It covers the mixed and lower income bracket by providing a higher density housing option;
- The development will inevitably support the use of public transport;
- The development will include supporting social infrastructure (schools), as well as some retail or commercial activities;
- The layout of the development must respond to the future road planning for the area, to facilitate and maximise pedestrianisation and public transport.
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 - Promote entrepreneurial services and products;
 - Be within walking distance to places of refreshment and trade for residents;
 - Provide Job opportunities; and
 - Improve neighbourhood quality.

12.1.2 Single land use: Housing only (Alternative 2)

By providing only one land use type (i.e., housing), mixed income development and social integration across race and income levels, cannot be achieved.

A Commercial node on site is commonly utilised as a “Multi-Purpose Community Centre/Rural Service Centre” which is defined as “a focal point at which a range of essential services can be obtained by people living in its vicinity”. In turn, a commercial node acts as a pool of human and physical resources from which the inputs necessary for development can be distributed efficiently, and from which a community can draw to promote their development”.

By restricting a township to one land use only, the above benefits to the local community, and subsequent council area, cannot be realised, and hence, is not a preferred land use option.

12.1.3 No-go Alternative

The only other alternative that exists for the proposed development is the “no-go” option which will imply that the status quo will prevail. This is unacceptable as Informal settlements consist of non-conventional housing built without complying with legal building procedures. Broadly, these crude dwellings mostly lack proper indoor infrastructure, such as water supply, sanitation, drainage, waste disposal and proper road access. There is also a bond between poor housing and environmental conditions in informal settlements which also reflects poverty. Linking basic services such as water to health is viewed as a false separation as these services are ‘intimately related to housing’. It becomes a housing issue if children playing outside the house contract diarrhoea via ingesting pathogens from fecal matter which contaminates the land on which they play. Otherwise, it is the house which provides for shelter against injury, weather and disease. Improving the surroundings of the house is to limit severe health risks existing within poor quality housing.

12.2 Description of the aspects to be assessed as part of the environmental impact assessment process

In order to assess a proposed development it is important to take into consideration the principles of NEMA. These principles are outlined in Chapter 1 and read as follows:

- 1) *“The principles set out in this section apply throughout the Republic to the actions of all organs of state that may significantly affect the environment and—*
 - a. *shall apply alongside all other appropriate and relevant considerations, including the State’s responsibility to respect, protect, promote and fulfil the social and economic rights in Chapter 2 of the Constitution and in particular the basic needs of categories of persons disadvantaged by unfair discrimination;*
 - b. *serve as the general framework within which environmental management and implementation plans must be formulated;*
 - c. *serve as guidelines by reference to which any organ of state must exercise any function when taking any decision in terms of this Act or any statutory provision concerning the protection of the environment;*
 - d. *serve as principles by reference to which a conciliator appointed under this Act must make recommendations; and*
 - e. *guide the interpretation administration and implementation of this Act, and any other law concerned with the protection or management of the environment.*
- 2) *Environmental management must place people and their needs at the forefront of its concern, and serve their physical, psychological, developmental, cultural and social interests equitably.*
- 3) *Development must be socially, environmentally and economically sustainable.*
- 4) (a) *Sustainable development requires the consideration of all relevant factors including the following:*
 - (i) *That the disturbance of ecosystems and loss of biological diversity are avoided, or, where they cannot be altogether avoided, are minimised and remedied;*
 - (ii) *that pollution and degradation of the environment are avoided, or, where they cannot be altogether avoided, are minimised and remedied;*
 - (iii) *that the disturbance of landscapes and sites that constitute the nation’s cultural heritage is avoided, or where it cannot be altogether avoided, is minimised and remedied;*
 - (iv) *that waste is avoided, or where it cannot be altogether avoided, minimised and re-used or recycled where possible and otherwise disposed of in a responsible manner;*
 - (v) *that the use and exploitation of non-renewable natural resources is responsible and equitable, and takes into account the consequences of the depletion of the resource;*
 - (vi) *that the development, use and exploitation of renewable resources and the ecosystems of which they are part do not exceed the level beyond which their integrity is jeopardised;*
 - (vii) *that a risk-averse and cautious approach is applied, which takes into account the limits of current knowledge about the consequences of decisions and actions; and*
 - (viii) *that negative impacts on the environment and on people’s environmental rights be anticipated and prevented, and where they cannot be altogether prevented, are minimised and remedied.*

- (b) *Environmental management must be integrated, acknowledging that all elements of the environment are linked and interrelated, and it must take into account the effects of decisions on all aspects of the environment and all people in the environment by pursuing the selection of the best practicable environmental option.*
- (c) *Environmental justice must be pursued so that adverse environmental impacts shall not be distributed in such a manner as to unfairly discriminate against any person, particularly vulnerable and disadvantaged persons.*
- (d) *Equitable access to environmental resources, benefits and services to meet basic human needs and ensure human well-being must be pursued and special measures may be taken to ensure access thereto by categories of persons disadvantaged by unfair discrimination.*
- (e) *Responsibility for the environmental health and safety consequences of a policy, programme, project, product, process, service or activity exists throughout its life cycle.*
- (f) *The participation of all interested and affected parties in environmental governance must be promoted, and all people must have the opportunity to develop the understanding, skills and capacity necessary for achieving equitable and effective participation and participation by vulnerable and disadvantaged persons must be ensured.*
- (g) *Decisions must take into account the interests, needs and values of all interested and affected parties, and this includes recognizing all forms of knowledge, including traditional and ordinary knowledge.*
- (h) *Community wellbeing and empowerment must be promoted through environmental education, the raising of environmental awareness, the sharing of knowledge and experience and other appropriate means.*
- (i) *The social, economic and environmental impacts of activities, including disadvantages and benefits must be considered, assessed and evaluated and decisions must be appropriate in the light of such consideration and assessment.*
- (j) *The right of workers to refuse work that is harmful to human health or the environment and to be informed of dangers must be respected and protected.*
- (k) *Decisions must be taken in an open and transparent manner, and access to information must be provided in accordance with the law.*
- (l) *There must be intergovernmental co-ordination and harmonisation of policies, legislation and actions relating to the environment.*
- (m) *Actual or potential conflicts of interest between organs of state should be resolved through conflict resolution procedures.*
- (n) *Global and international responsibilities relating to the environment must be discharged in the national interest.*
- (o) *The environment is held in public trust for the people, the beneficial use of environmental resources must serve the public interest and the environment must be protected as the people's common heritage.*
- (p) *The costs of remedying pollution, environmental degradation consequent adverse health effects and of preventing, controlling or minimizing further pollution, environmental damage or adverse health effects must be paid for by those responsible for harming the environment.*

- (q) *The vital role of women and youth in environmental management and development must be recognised and their full participation therein must be promoted.*
- (r) *Sensitive, vulnerable, highly dynamic or stressed ecosystems, such as coastal shores, estuaries, wetlands and similar systems require specific attention in management and planning procedures, especially where they are subject to significant human resource usage and development pressure.”*

The following aspects and their possible impacts will be assessed

- ❖ Geology -structure and rock-type
 - ❖ Topography- macro and micro-relief
 - ❖ Climate: Temperature, rainfall, and wind.
 - ❖ Soil
 - ❖ Fauna
 - ❖ Flora
 - ❖ Surface Water
 - ❖ Underground water
 - ❖ Air Quality
 - ❖ Noise
 - ❖ Archaeology
 - ❖ Cultural Sites
 - ❖ Aesthetics
 - ❖ Technical issues
 - ❖ Sociological Issues
 - ❖ Economic Issues
- The evaluation of concerns in order to assign priority to the important issues: The study is designed to address concerns as well as to prioritise issues as part of the process.
 - Developing a strategy for addressing and resolving each issue: All relevant issues will be addressed in order of priority. In this sense the inputs of all I&APs, as well as all other socio-economic factors of importance will be resolved in order of priority.
 - Providing feedback at regular intervals in which comments by authorities have been incorporated: Feedback to I&APs is the only logical way by which eventual acceptance can be achieved. It is therefore a standing practise in all studies conducted by the consultant that feedback is provided on a continuous basis.

12.3 Aspects to be assessed by specialists

The process followed can be described as follows:

- 1) The EAP was contracted by the Applicant, the DikgatlongLocal Municipality in co-operation with the Department of Human Settlements as their Independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner.
- 2) A Geotechnical Engineer was appointed to determine whether the Geology and Soils of the site is suitable for the proposed development

- 3) The Civil Engineer was appointed to determine the capability of existing infrastructure to be linked to proposed development and readily available bulk services. He also designed the proposed infrastructure.
- 4) An Engineer was appointed to determine the 1:100 year flood lines that affect the development.
- 5) A SAHRA Specialist has been appointed to determine the possible impact of the development on Archaeological and Cultural features.
- 6) An Ecological specialist has been appointed to determine the impact of the proposed development on the Fauna and Flora of the area.
- 7) An Environmental Screening Process was conducted by the EAP to ensure that all the relevant Environmental Legislation is taken into consideration.
- 8) Desk top studies were conducted and alternatives assessed.
- 9) Site inspections were carried out to verify the outcomes of the desktop studies, and the preferred alternative defined.
- 10) A full Public Participation Process is being followed to obtain inputs from interested and affected parties.
- 11) All the information obtained from the above mentioned processes is being used to assess the Environmental Impact that the proposed development may have on the Environment and vice versa.
- 12) The inputs from Specialists, interested and affected parties, together with the knowledge of the EAP is being used to determine measures to avoid, mitigate and manage potential impacts. These measures are described in the Environmental Management Programme.

The inputs from Specialists, interested and affected parties, together with the knowledge of the EAP will be used to determine measures to avoid, mitigate and manage potential impacts. These measures will be described in the Environmental Management Programme.

12.4 Description of the proposed method of assessing the environmental aspects, including a description of the proposed method of assessing the environmental aspects including aspects to be assessed by specialists,

And

12.5 Description of the proposed method of assessing duration and significance

Impacts will be rated using the following methodology:

Nature of the potential impact		Description of the effect, and the affected aspect of the environment
Duration (time scale)	Short term	Up to 5 years
	Medium term	6 – 15 years
	Long term	More than 15 years
Extent (area)	Local	Confined to study area and its immediate surroundings
	Regional	Region (cadastral, catchment, topographic)
	National	Nationally (The country)
	International	Neighboring countries and the rest of the world.
Magnitude (Intensity)	Low	Site-specific and wider natural and/or social functions and processes are negligibly altered. ((A low intensity impact will not affect the natural, cultural, or social functions of the environment).

Nature of the potential impact		Description of the effect, and the affected aspect of the environment
	Medium	Site-specific and wider natural and/or social functions and processes continue albeit in a modified way. (Medium scale impact will alter the different functions slightly).
	High	Site-specific and wider natural and/or social functions and processes are severely altered. (A High intensity impact will influence these functions to such an extent that it will temporarily or permanently cease to exist).
Probability	Improbable	Possibility of occurrence is very low. (Such an impact will have a very slight possibility to materialise, because of design or experience).
	Possible	There is a possibility that the impact will occur
	Probable	It is most likely that the impact will occur
	Definite	The impact will definitely occur
Significance	Insignificant	Impact is negligible and will not have an influence on the decision regarding the proposed activity (No mitigation is necessary)
	Very Low	Impact is very small and should not have any meaningful influence on the decision regarding the proposed activity (No mitigation is necessary)
	Low	The impact may not have a meaningful influence on the decision regarding the proposed activity (No mitigation is necessary)
	Medium	The impact should influence the decision regarding the proposed activity (The project can only be carried through if certain mitigatory steps are taken)
	High	The impact will influence the decision regarding the proposed activity
	Very High	The proposed activity should only be approved under special circumstances
Reversibility	Low	There is little chance of correcting the adverse impact
	Medium	There is a moderate chance of correcting the adverse impact
	High	There is a high chance in correcting the adverse impact
Risk	Low	Assessing a risk involves an analysis of the consequences and likelihood of a hazard being realized. In decision-making, low-consequence / low-probability risks (green) are typically perceived as acceptable and therefore only require monitoring.
	Medium	Other risks (amber) may require structured risk assessment to better understand the features that contribute most to the risk. These features may be candidates for management
	High	High-consequence / high-probability risks (red) are perceived as

Nature of the potential impact		Description of the effect, and the affected aspect of the environment
		unacceptable and a strategy is required to manage the risk.

Attributes associated with the alternatives will be assessed and is outlined below:

Geographical attributes

The Geographical attributes of an area relates to the characteristics of a particular region, area or place. It influences the determination of site alternatives as it relates to the location of a site in relation to relevant features in the area. A surveyor has been appointed to map the area and determine site levels.

Physical attributes

Physical attributes of an area relates to the processes and patterns in the natural environment. For the purpose of this assessment, the following processes and patterns have been investigated. Geology, soil, topography and landforms, climate and meteorology, surface water and ground water. Various Specialists are involved in assessing different aspects including Civil Engineer, Electrical Engineer, Surveyor, Town Planner, Botanical Specialist, Wetland Specialist, SAHRA Specialist and the EAP.

Biological attributes

Biological attributes for the purpose of this study includes the distribution of species and ecosystems in geographic space and through geological time. Organisms and biological communities often vary in a regular fashion along geographic gradients of latitude, elevation, isolation and habitat area. The two main branches assessed will be: Phytogeography is the branch of biogeography that studies the distribution of plants. Zoogeography is the branch that studies distribution of animals. The Botanical Specialist will determine the sensitivity and distribution of flora and associated fauna, and the wetland specialist will ensure that the relevant aquatic ecosystems are assessed.

Social attributes

Social attributes is closely related to social theory in general and sociology in particular, dealing with the relation of social phenomena and its spatial components. EAP, Town Planner, Civil Engineer and SAHRA specialist.

Economic attributes

Economic attributes includes the location, distribution and spatial organization of economic activities and also takes into account social, cultural, and institutional factors in the spatial economy of the development. . EAP, Town Planner, Civil Engineer and SAHRA specialist.

Heritage attributes

The broad generic term Cultural Heritage Resources refers to any physical and spiritual property associated with past and present human use or occupation of the environment, cultural activities and history. The term includes sites, structures, places, natural features and material of paleontological, archaeological, historical, aesthetic, scientific, architectural, religious, symbolic or traditional importance to specific individuals or groups, traditional systems of cultural practice, belief or social interaction. SAHRA Specialist.

Cultural attributes

Cultural attributes relates to the specific characteristics such as language, religion, ethnic and racial identity, and cultural history & traditions of people. These attributes influences family life, education, economic and political structures, and, of course, business practices.

It should be noted that the above mentioned attributes do not occur in isolation and it is not uncommon for an identified impact to overlap with two or more of these attributes. Also note, not all risks require comprehensive and detailed assessment. Solid problem formulation should allow decision-makers to evaluate the extent of subsequent analysis required. The level of effort put into assessing each risk should be proportionate to its significance and priority in relation to other risks, as well as its complexity, by reference to the likely impacts. Consideration should be given to stakeholders' perceptions of the nature of the risk. SAHRA Specialist.

The inputs from Specialists, interested and affected parties, together with the knowledge of the EAP will be used to determine measures to avoid, mitigate and manage potential impacts. Inputs from I&APs will be considered for all the above in order to ensure a sustainable development.

12.6 Stages at which the competent authority will be consulted

- 1) The first consultation will be in the form of the application submission
- 2) A Draft Scoping report will be submitted to the Department
- 3) 40 Days after this draft has been submitted, the final Scoping report will be submitted to the Department.
- 4) Once the Final Scoping report has been accepted, a Draft EIA Report will be submitted to the Department.
- 5) 30 Days after this draft EIA Report has been submitted, the final EIA Report will be submitted to the Department.

12.7 Particulars of the public participation process that will be conducted during the environmental impact assessment process

Public and stakeholder involvement in the EIA process is widely recognised as being an *essential* component of the EIA process. The input and contribution added to the process, by public comment and involvement, leads to better and more acceptable decision-making. The involvement of interested parties, adjacent land owners, NGO bodies and others, can help to identify whether all impacts have been included and whether all risk groups have been identified.

The engagement process will provide stakeholders with the opportunity to raise their issues and concerns and to interact on a one-on-one basis with the project team.

Registered I&APs shall be informed of the approval or rejection of the scoping report, and will be encouraged to continue their active participation in the EIA process by staying involved in the process, and commenting on the scoping report approval conditions / requirements.

The PPP to be conducted during the EIA phase will entail the following:

- ❖ Update the existing stakeholder database, following the review of the draft and final scoping reports by registered IAP's and READ
- ❖ Announcement of the EIA phase of the project, which entails the following:
 - 1) Distribution of Letters, notices, the Draft and final EIAR to all registered I&APs via email, fax or post;
 - 2) Hosting Public Meetings (if necessary);
 - 3) Integration of comments into a Comments and Response Report;

12.8 Description of the tasks that will be undertaken as part of the environmental impact assessment process

Actions
1. Assessment Phase
1.1 Undertake assessment phase by assessing and evaluating potential impacts identified in the Scoping phase.
1.2 Review and manage specialist studies required.
1.3 Compile a draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR).
1.4 Compile a draft Environmental Management Plan for the Construction phase.
1.5 Compile an Information Sheet (summary of EIR) and distribute to identified I&APs
1.6 Distribute DEIR to I&APs
1.7 Allow the identified public to provide comment within a 30 day period on above report.
1.8 Address comments received and finalise EIR
1.9 Should the draft EIR require substantial changes, these changes will be incorporated into the final EIR and distributed.
1.10 Submit EIR to authorities for a final decision
1.11 Once the decision is issued, all I&Ps must be formally informed of the decision

12.9 Measures to avoid, reverse, mitigate or manage identified impacts and to determine the extent of the residual risks that need to be managed and monitored

An EIA involves *prediction* and thus a certain degree of *uncertainty* is an integral part. There are two types of uncertainty associated with environmental impact assessments: those associated with the process and, those associated with predictions. With the former the uncertainty is whether the most important impacts have been identified and whether recommendations will be acted upon or ignored. For the latter, the uncertainty is in the accuracy of the findings. The main types of uncertainty and the ways in which they can be minimized are summarized as follows:

- ❖ **Uncertainty of prediction:** this is important at the data collection stage and the final certainty will only be resolved once implementation commences. Research can reduce the uncertainty;
- ❖ **Uncertainty of values:** this reflects the approach taken in the EIA process. Final certainty will be determined at the time decisions are made. Improved communications and extensive negotiations should reduce this uncertainty;

- ❖ **Uncertainty of related decision:** this affects the decision making element of the EIA process and final certainty will be determined by post evaluation. Improved coordination will reduce uncertainty.

The importance of *wide consultation* cannot be overemphasized in minimizing the risk of missing important impacts. The significance of impacts is subjective, but the value judgments required are best arrived at by consensus: public participation and consultation with a wide sector of the community will reduce uncertainty.

The accuracy of predictions is dependent on a variety of factors such as lack of data or lack of knowledge. Prediction capabilities are generally good in the physical and chemical sciences, moderate in ecological sciences and poor in social sciences.

The results of the EIA should indicate the level of uncertainty with the use of confidence limits and probability analyses wherever possible. Sensitivity analysis similar to that used in economic evaluation, could be used if adequate quantifiable data are available. A range of outcomes can be found by repeating predictions and adjusting key variables.

An EIA cannot give a precise picture of the future. The EIA enables uncertainty to be managed and, as such, is an aid to better decision making. (*S. Cliff, 2015, P92.*)

13. AFFIRMATION BY EAP

- I Mrs. J.E. du Plooy declare under oath that I:
- a. act as the independent environmental practitioner in this application ;
 - b. do not have and will not have any financial interest in the undertaking of the activity, other than remuneration for work performed;
 - c. do not have and will not have a vested interest in the proposed activity proceeding;
 - d. have no, and will not engage in, conflicting interests in the undertaking of the activity;
 - e. undertake to disclose, to the competent authority, any material information that has or may have the potential to influence the decision of the competent authority or the objectivity of any report, plan or document required;
 - f. will ensure that information containing all relevant facts in respect of the application is distributed or made available to interested and affected parties and the public and that participation by interested and affected parties is facilitated in such a manner that all interested and affected parties will be provided with a reasonable opportunity to participate and to provide comments on documents that are produced to support the application;
 - g. will ensure that the comments of all interested and affected parties are considered and recorded in reports that are submitted to the competent authority in respect of the application, provided that comments that are made by interested and affected parties in respect of a final report that will be submitted to the competent authority may be attached to the report without further amendment to the report;
 - h. will keep a register of all interested and affected parties that participated in a public participation process; and
 - i. will provide the competent authority with access to all information at my disposal regarding the application, whether such information is favourable to the applicant or not.

Signature of the Environmental Assessment Practitioner:
AB Enviro Consult cc

Name of company:

10/12/2020

Date:

14. LIST OF REFERENCES

Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism. 1992. Integrated Environmental Management. Pretoria, DEAT.

Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism. 1998. *Guideline Document - EIA Regulations.* Pretoria, DEAT.

Department of Environmental Affairs. 1988. *Climate of South Africa, climate statistics up to 1984.* Weather Bureau (WB40). Pretoria, Government Printer.

Department of Transport, 19--. *Climate of South Africa Part 1 Climate statistics.* Weather Bureau (WB20). Pretoria Government Printer.

S. Cliff. 2015. Environmental Scoping report for the proposed high density residential township "Tanganani extension 7", to be located on a part of Portion 119 of the farm Diepsloot 388 JR, City of Johannesburg Municipality, Gauteng

APPENDIX A

**PROOF THAT THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT HAS BEEN SENT TO DEPARTMENT OF
WATER AND SANITATION**

