ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA): DRAFT SCOPING REPORT

PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF A STORMWATER CATCHMENT DAM AND ABSTRACTION OF WATER FOR THE PROPOSED TOWN DEVELOPMENT AT VERKYKERSKOP, FREE STATE

Applicant: **Verkykerskop Nedersetting Ontwikkeling (Edms) Bpk**
Ref No: **EMS/19/12/11**
Date: **March 2013**

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. BACKGROUND TO THE STUDY

A storage dam is planned to provide water for the proposed Verkykerskop Town Development (separate EIA).

The rural Village of Verkykerskop is situated between Harrismith and Memel along the S722 road in the Eastern Free State. The existing village of approximately 46 ha includes residences, tourist accommodation facilities, a general dealer with a restaurant, a police station complex, a boutique hotel, deli / coffee shop, butchery, liquor store and agri-retail store with fuel pumps. The village and public plain also serves as point of colocation for the local community during festivals, weddings, cultural events, elections, market days and pension payout.

The applicant proposes to develop business, tourist accommodation, small tourist and agri-industries, residential units, light industries (e.g. manufacturing of crafts) and recreational facilities at Verkykerskop.

Subsequent to liaisons with the Phumelela Municipality, Free State Provincial Government and Verkykerskop Boerevereeniging, a Micro Spatial Development Framework for Verkykerskop was formulated and approved by the Phumelela Local Council in 2009.

Geohydrological surveys were commissioned (Goe-Logic, to be included in the EIA Report), from which ground water bore holes were drilled, confirming substantial yields. The ground water source as only source was found to be inadequate to though for an acceptable level of security of supply for the fully developed township. It was found by a Water Resource Specialist Study (Schoeman & Vennote, to be included in the EIA Report) that in combination, the groundwater and storm water storage dam would provide an acceptable level of supply security the the fully developed township.

The water supply for the planned town development will thus be groundwater from boreholes in the area and surface water from the planned storage dam.

The design daily peak water demand for the town development is calculated to be 422 kℓ/day.

The proposed storage dam is planned on the Farm Annasdal no. 668 in the Warden district. The proposed dam site is approximately one kilometre to the southeast of Verkykerskop.

The proposed storage dam will be located within the confines of the rural development node, but just outside the proposed town development. (**Annexure A**). The dam is proposed as an earth dam with a wall height of 13.3 meters and a length of 271 meters between the spillway openings and 346 meters including the spillways. The full supply water surface area of the dam is calculated at 6,95 ha as shown on the layout plan (**Annexure B**). The dam capacity assumed at basic planning stage in the Water Resource Study was calculated at 330 000 m^3. The capacity as determined in the detail design report (Mr S Jacobz, to be included in the EIA Report) is 327 200 m^3. It was further calculated that the proposed dam will receive water from a catchment of 6.65 km^2 which falls within the borders of the following properties:

- Farm Aansluit Landgoed 1986;
- Portions 1, 7 and 8 of the Farm Rustdal 875;
- Portion 1 of the Farm Heelgoed 324;
- Farm Annasdal 668;
- Farm Lands View 1987;
- Remainder of the Farm Aansluit 261;
- Portions 3, 7 and 15 of the Farm Verkykerskop A 1519;
- S.A.P. Post B 1550;
- S.A.P. Post A 1551
- Remainder of the Farm Verkykerskop B 1520

The majority of the catchment falls within the Rural Development Node and the property belonging to the developers.

Refer to **Annexure A** for the locality plan indicating the catchment area.

1.2 TERMS OF REFERENCE

The objective of this study is to conduct a scoping exercise. The broad terms of reference for a scoping exercise are to:

- Scope for issues that would be associated with this planned project;
- Conduct an initial investigation into biophysical and socio-economic aspects, focusing on key issues;
- Identify potential impacts
- Advise the proponent about the potential impacts (positive and negative impacts) of their planned development, as well as the implications for the design, construction and operational phases of the project;
- Facilitate public input on environmental and social matters.

1.3 APPLICABLE LEGISLATION AND GUIDELINES

This process has been conducted in terms of the relevant legislative requirements, namely in terms of:

- National Water Act (Act No 36 of 1998)
- National Environmental Management Act (Act No 107 of 1999)
- National Biodiversity Act (Act No 10 of 2004)
- National Heritage Resources Act (Act No 25 of 1999)

The Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010 (Government Notice No. R. 543 of 18 June 2010) promulgated in terms of Sections 24(5), 24M and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No. 107 of 1998) determine the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process that should be followed for certain listed activities, which may have a detrimental effect on the environment.

The proposed dam includes certain listed activities that may not commence without environmental authorization from the competent authority and in respect of which the investigation, assessment and communication of potential impact of activities must follow the procedure as described in Sections 26 - 35 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010.

The relevant activity is listed below:

Government Notice No. R. 545 (Listing Notice 2)

Activity No. 19:

"The construction of a dam, where the highest part of the dam wall, as measured from the outside toe to the highest part of the wall, is 5 metres or higher or where the high-water mark of the dam covers an area of 10 hectares or more"

Whereas the first of the two conditions (height of wall) applies, application for Scoping and EIA has been made to the Free State Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (DETEA).

Relevant Water Use Licenses will also need to be obtained by the applicant. The following activities may require approval from the Department of Water Affairs:

- Storage of water in a dam;
- Use of a dam for recreational purposes;
- Impeding the flow of water in a water course;
- Taking water from a water source for domestic use;
- Discharging waste or water containing waste into a water source through a pipe, canal sewer or other conduit;
- Irrigation of grey water.

(Engineering Services Report, 2012 for Verkykerskop Development)

2. ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONERS

2.1 DETAILS OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONERS (EAPS) WHO PREPARED THE REPORT

A multi-disciplinary team of specialists contributed to the information presented in this document:

Project coordination, Biophysical and Visual Aspects

Prof. Johann du Preez - Eco-Care Consultancy

Supervision and Management

Mr. Neil Devenish - MDA Consultants

Public Participation and Report Writing

Me. Marguerite Cronje - MDA Consultants

2.2 EXPERTISE OF THE EAPS TO CARRY OUT THE SCOPING PROCEDURES

a) Prof. Johann du Preez

Key qualifications:

- Key competencies and experience include research in vegetation ecology & data management, biomonitoring, impact assessment, environmental management and environmental education.

Education:

- B. Sc. (Zoology and Botany), University of the Free State, SA, 1981
- B. Sc. Honours (Plant ecology & Taxonomy), University of the Free State, SA, 1982
- Higher Education Diploma, University of the Free State, SA, 1983
- M.Sc. (Plant ecology), University of the Free State, SA, 1986
- Ph.D. (Plant ecology), University of the Free State, SA, 1991

b) Mr. Neil Devenish

Key qualifications:

- Key competencies and experience include development control applications (applications and appeals pertaining to rezoning, consolidations, subdivisions etc.) township establishment applications, environmental management and control applications.

Education:

- B.A. (Sociology, Geography) University of the Free State, SA, 1994
- Master of Town and Regional Planning, University of the Free State, SA, 1996
- Managing the Environmental Impact Assessment Process, Environmental Management Unit, PU for CHE, 2000
- Environmental Management Consulting, South African Institute of Ecologists & Environmental Scientists, 2001
- Water Law of South Africa, The South African Institution of Civil Engineers (SAICE), 2006

c) Me. Marguerite Cronje

Key qualifications:

- Key competencies and experience include environmental management and research in zoology.

Education:

- B.Sc. (Zoology), University of the Free State, SA, 2002
- B.Sc. Honours (Zoology), University of the Free State, SA, 2003
- M.Sc. Diploma (Equine Science), University of Edinburgh, UK, 2005
- Masters in Environmental Management, University of the Free State, SA, 2008

Conferences:

- 10 years of Environmental Impact Assessments in South Africa – Somerset West (2008)
- Free State Provincial Waste Summit – Bloemfontein (2010)

3. PROJECT INFORMATION

3.1 PARTICULARS OF APPLICANT

Verkykerskop Nedersetting Ontwikkeling (Edms) Bpk

P.O. Box 93
HARRISMITH
9880

Contact person: Dr Louis Grobler
Cell: 083 6289699
Fax: 086 5091640
E-mail: louis@verkykerskop.com

3.2 DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTIVITY

The proposed development includes the construction of an earth dam in order to provide water to the planned Verkykerskop township establishment. The proposed storage dam will be located within the confines of the Verkykerskop Rural Development Node with its catchment contained within these boundaries, and on the property of the applicant.

The dam is proposed as an earth dam with a wall height of 13.3 meters and a length of 271 meters between the spillway openings and 346 meters including the spillways. The full supply water surface of the dam is calculated at 6,95 ha as shown on the layout plan (**Annexure B**). The dam capacity was determined in the detail design to be 327 200 m^3. The spillway of the dam is planned for a capacity to let a 50 year flood through with an additional dry free board of 400 mm, to give a total free board of 1.5 meters. The total capacity of the spillway, with no free board, will allow for the passage of a flood with return period of 100 years.

- The main feature of the proposed dam is the earth embankment that is responsible for holding back the water in the dam. The earth wall will consist of three separate parts: a) a central clay core, to seal the earth wall; b) the upstream face, responsible for holding back the water, and c) the downstream portion of the dam giving structural stability to the earth wall as a whole. Detailed characteristics and construction of the three parts are discussed in the Design Report to be included in the EIA Report.

3.3 NEED AND DESIRABILITY OF PROPOSED ACTIVITY

The applicant, namely the Verkykerskop Nedersetting Ontwikkeling (Edms) Bpk, owning most of the properties within the confines of the Rural Development Node propose to develop business, tourist accommodation, small tourist and agri-industries, light industries (e.g. manufacturing of crafts), residential units and recreational facilities at Verkykerskop. The applicant plans to develop the rural node in joint venture with other land owners owning property within the rural node. These land owners, including the SAPS in Verkyekrskop, do not have any substantial water sources on their land and will be depending on the water source being applied for.

The proposed town development's average daily demand has been estimated as 264 kℓ/day with a design daily peak demand of 422 kℓ/day. Although boreholes will be used, it is envisaged to construct a storage dam to constitute a significant volume. On their own, neither the ground water nor storage dam will be adequate to meet the water demand of the entire proposed Verkykerskop Town Development in a sustainable manner, but together the two sources will provide an acceptable level of supply assurance.

Negotiations with the Phumelela Municipality and the Free State Provincial Government (Spatial Planning Directorate) have been underway for some time now and a Micro Spatial Development Framework (MSDF) for the Verkykerskop area has already been approved (August 2009).

During 2012 the Phumelela Local Council, on advice of an independent review consultant, approved the Engineering Services Report for the township development, which encompasses the development of the water sources and the distribution infrastructure.

In February 2013, the Phumelela Local Council endorsed the Township Establishment Application as well as the application for the amendment of the Vrede Township Scheme to the Provincial Government.

Institutionally speaking, Verkykerskop is therefore recognised as a rural development node in the Phumelela SDF (Spatial Development Framework) and as a tourism node with social facilities in the Provincial SDF.

The EIA for the town development is currently underway.

3.4 DESCRIPTION OF FEASIBLE AND REASONABLE ALTERNATIVES

3.4.1 **Site alternatives:** Site alternatives were assessed during the planning process of the proposed dam. The site is ideal relative to the existing boreholes, which would be recharged by water from the dam. The boreholes and dam should provide water to the planned township establishment at Verkykerskop. The proposed dam site, which is situated in a valley at a dolerite dyke, is also economical for a dam, as it maximises the hold capacity and limits the dam wall size. The dam site was optimized with the view to reduce the impoundment surface area in the landscape for the required hold capacity. The dam basin is fairly steep, which will reduce evaporation and minimize the effect of water level fluctuations from a recreation and aesthetics point of view. The dam will also stabilize the active erosion that has taken place on the tail end of the dam. Therefore, alternative sites for the proposed dam have all been eliminated.

3.4.2 **Activity alternatives:** Alternative sources of water investigated for the proposed Verkykerskop Town Development include:

- Abstraction from the Meul River

  This was not deemed a viable option as the Meul River is approximately 3km downstream of the end point of usage and the river runs dry during the dry cycles.
- Additional underground sources (boreholes)

  Although this may be a short-term option for water supply to the proposed Verkykerskop Town development, there would be a shortfall if the town development is extended to the full planned extent.

3.4.3 **Design alternatives:** Various design alternatives were considered and the current design plan is the result. Specialist studies were conducted prior to the EIA phase (triggered from the Environmental Framework phase) rendered the selected design as most preferable from an environmental point of view. This conclusion will be reviewed during the EIA phase.

3.4.4 **No-go option:** This alternative addresses the scenario of the *status quo* remaining unchanged. Although the use of boreholes for water supply is also planned, the shortfall in supply without the proposed dam will prevent the proposed town development from developing to the full planned extent.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS

4.1 LITERATURE REVIEW

Literature on the environment pertinent to this area and its immediate environs has been reviewed. The literature included published and unpublished reports: Mucina & Rutherford 2006 and Smithers 1986 and others.

4.2 INFORMATION ON THE METHODOLOGY OF SCOPING

This report addresses the biophysical as well as the socio-economic environments. The information was captured in the following manner:

- Site visits were conducted on 17 March 2006, 15 January 2007, 28 February 2007 and 28 November 2010 to determine the setting, visual character and land-uses in the area;
- Site surveys to identify any plant and animal populations that could be impacted by the development;
- The project plans were superimposed onto the gathered baseline environmental information to identify possible impacts;
- Discussions were held with the applicant to identify specific aspects of the development which could affect the environment;
- Interested and Affected Parties (I & APs) were informed and consulted by notice boards and advertisements as well as public meetings to capture issues that could affect the environment;
- Identification of positive as well as negative issues;
- Making recommendations and presenting guidelines for the mitigation of impacts identified during this exercise.

4.3 DESCRIPTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

4.3.1 Biophysical Environment

The area is generally undulating, except for a steep sloped valley (creed) to the south east of the proposed dam site. A low rise that dips sharply towards the west occurs on the north western side of the site. A number of plant communities are present on the site with a variety of plant species. Marshy seepage areas are present along the slopes of the valley and in the headwaters. The altitude in the area varies from 1 754 to 1 936 m.a.s.l.

4.3.1.1 Climate

The area lies within a summer rainfall region with an average annual rainfall of 700 mm. There is a large difference between summer and winter average temperatures with frost regularly occurring in winter.

4.3.1.2 Geology of area

The general geology of the area consists of dolerite intrusions that intersect sedimentary rock of the Beaufort Formation. Verkykerskop and Estcourt Formations are dominant, which are associated with the Tarkastad and Adelaide Subgroups, respectively. The valley is as a result of eroded sandstone and mudstone layers.

4.3.1.3 Terrain forms & habitats

Table 2: Terrain form and habitats area to be developed

Terrain form		**Habitat types**	
Hill top	**X**	Grassland	**X**
Hill side	**X**	Karoo	
Flat		Karroid (scattered)	
Valley	**X**	Natural forest	
River bank		Plantations	
Wetland	**X**	Ploughed or fallow fields	**X**
Foot slope	**X**	Riparian	**X**
		Savanna	
		Shrub	**X**
		Other	

4.3.1.4 Soils of area

The soil found in the valley varies from soil with high clay content in the middle to a sandy silty clay towards the outside of the valley. From visual inspection, it should be possible to build the dam wall using soil from within the dam basin.

4.3.1.5 Vegetation of area

Mucina & Rutherford (2006) describe this area's vegetation as Eastern Free State Sandy Grassland (Gm 4).

The vegetation for the proposed dam basin comprises of a natural mesic grassland in the valley floor and on the banks of the large donga at the bottom of the valley. The donga bisects the valley and is overgrown by exotic shrubs and trees including black wattle (*Acacia mearnsii*) and exotic willow (*Salix fragilis*). There are no scarce plant communities within the dam basin or nearby. On both sides of the stream is a valley bottom wetland community which is seriously damaged by donga erosion

An ecological assessment of the site will be included in the EIA Report.

4.3.1.6 Animals (moths, butterflies, reptiles, fish, birds & mammals) of the area

A survey was also undertaken to assess the fauna occurring on the site and in adjacent areas, with particular emphasis on the detection of threatened species likely to occur.

An ecological assessment of the site has been undertaken and will be included in the EIA Report. A list of red data terrestrial animals that could possibly be found in the region will also be included.

4.3.1.7 Aquatic systems

The catchment of the proposed dam drains into a short seasonal tributary of the Meul River, which in turn joins up with the Wilge River, a major tributary of the Vaal River. There is no permanent aquatic ecosystem situated in the catchment tributary due to the seasonality of the stream.

A pristine wetland also occurs in the valley. It is still intact just upstream of the existing donga. The donga formed over time by erosion and has damaged the wetland on the stream banks. The impoundment of the proposed dam will be clear of the pristine part of

the wetland and may serve to prevent the donga from growing deeper by building up silt at the inlet. It is recommended that the area upstream from the donga be rehabilitated in order to prevent the donga from extending deeper into the pristine part of the wetland.

A new aquatic ecosystem (plants and animals) will develop in the proposed dam leading to an increase in biodiversity in the area.

4.3.2 Socio-economic Environment

The Village of Verkykerskop is located along the S722 road between Harrismith and Memel. Currently the village serves as a small service centre and social focal point to the surrounding community (LMV, 2012).

Agriculture is the main sector in the region. Verkykerskop is also seen as a tourism node with an Autumn Festival being held annually.

Work opportunities will be created during the construction phase of the proposed development. Future development of the area is subject to the provision of water. The proposed dam will contribute to the infrastructure and service provision of the area.

4.3.2.1 Surrounding land uses

The site proposed for the proposed dam is surrounded by agricultural land.

The site is situated to the southeast of Verkykerskop and is mainly on agricultural ground. No buildings are present near the proposed dam site. Verkykerskop currently does not have the status of a town due to the low population numbers. However, township establishment is planned.

Just downstream of the dam site (Portion 1 of the Farm Brakwal no. 667) the Nhlanhla community conducts commercial farming. The community comprises families who benefited from government's Land Redistribution Programme. The construction of the proposed dam may

be beneficial to this community with regards to the supply of irrigation water under certain conditions.

Refer to the locality plan in **Annexure A.**

4.3.2.2 Historical, archaeological or cultural sites

An archaeological and heritage assessment has been undertaken to assess the site and determine whether any artefacts, rock paintings, other significant material or graves are present at or near the site. The assessment will be included in the EIA Report.

4.4 DESCRIPTION OF POSSIBLE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS, ISSUES AND CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

Developments such as these do have, like many other types of developments, various direct but also indirect impacts on the environment. These impacts have to be managed in order to have the minimum environmental impact and the maximum benefit to man.

Issues identified during the Scoping process are listed below:

4.4.1 Vegetation destruction

Parts of the natural and disturbed vegetation of the site will ultimately be destroyed by the presence of a dam. An ecological assessment has been undertaken to assess the sensitivity of the natural vegetation on the site, whether protected or endangered plant and animal species are present and make recommendations regarding conservation of the vegetation type, if necessary, or removal of protected plants. This study will be included in the EIA Report.

4.4.2 Hydrology, flow regime and aquatic habitat

As part of the lifestyle objectives and tourism development, the Developer proposes to introduce indigenous fish species into the dam. Permits to introduce the indigenous fish species will be obtained from DETEA Free State.

It is foreseen that there might be a demand from eco-tourists to stock indigenous fish species in the dam. Depending on the applicable regulations for the area and the catchment at any future point in time, the necessary permission will have to be obtained at that stage.

4.4.3 Impact of dam and extraction of water on downstream land users

This tributary is small and has a catchment area of 6.65 km^2 This catchment constitutes 0.32 % of the total Meul River catchment (UFS, Department of Geography – GIS Section). This also implies that the amount of runoff from this tributary makes a relatively small contribution to the Meul River's annual runoff. The abstraction from the dam would also have a small impact on the base flow and ecological reserve of the Meul River.

The extraction volume is relatively small compared to the total annual run-off, and is in the same order as the "General Allocation" allotted to the catchment for farming purposes.

4.4.4 Water quality

Currently the dam's catchment does not release serious pollutants into the Meul River, however, a significant silt load is discharged into the Meul River due to the active erosion. This negative effect will be reduced by the dam.

The production of urine and dung by the domestic animals within the catchment is being absorbed by the vegetation. It is expected that the water quality of the proposed dam would also be of a high standard.

One can expect algal blooms just after the construction of the dam because during the construction phase large amounts of minerals will be released by the exposed soil in the dam basin. The inundation of the stream banks and the subsequent decay of dead plant material will release additional nutrients into the water body. These algal blooms will however eventually disappear.

4.4.5 Visual Impact

The visual impact of the proposed development in the landscape is the function of several factors of which the viewing distance, visual absorption capacity and landform are measurable. Other factors are difficult to categorize because they are subjective viewpoints.

The visual impact for the proposed development is largely due to:

- The topography in terms of elevation and aspect;
- The vegetative cover in terms of its extent and height;
- The extent of the proposed dam;
- The visual absorption capacity of the surrounding landscape.

Due to the flat nature of the proposed development, the critical viewpoints for the proposed dam would be the high ground of the eastern, northern and western hills, sections of the proposed village and main road through the village (S722).

The dam will have a low visual impact due to its position at lowest point in the valley.

4.5 SPECIALIST STUDIES AND SPECIALIZED PROCESSES

The necessary specialised studies and specialised processes have been performed according to Section 32 of the NEMA 2010 Regulations. Specialised studies relevant to the project include:

4.5.1 Design Report

The engineering planning and design of the proposed storage dam as a water source for domestic use for the Verkykerskop development was carried out by a Department of Water Affairs Registered Dam Engineer.

S.W. Jacobsz
P.O. Box 468
SENEKAL
9600
Tel: 083 3050757

Area of expertise: Engineering

4.5.2 Hydrological Analysis

An investigation of the hydrological performance (runoff, storage properties and physical attributes) of the proposed dam and ground water sources was done by the engineer who is also the Department of Water Affairs Catchment Management Consultant for the Upper Vaal catchment.

Schoeman & Vennote
P.O. Box 2471
BRITS
0250
Tel: 012 2520458
Fax: 012 2521120

4.5.3 Ecological Assessment

It is an ecological study to assess the area for protected and endangered plant and animal species.

Prof. P.J. du Preez
Eco-Care Consultancy
P.O. Box 11945
Universitas
BLOEMFONTEIN
9321
Tel: 082 3764404
Fax: 086 6452222
E-mail: greenrsa@gmail.com

Area of expertise: Environmental Consultant, Botany and Ecology Specialist

4.5.4 Archaeological Assessment

An Archaeological Study to investigate the archaeological, historical and cultural significance of the site. The study has been undertaken by:

Mr. Cobus Dreyer
P.O. Box 12910
Brandhof
9324
Tel: 051 444 1187
Fax: 051 444 4395
E-mail: dreyerj@telkomsa.net

Area of expertise: Archaeology and Heritage Specialist

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

5.1 INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVES

As an important component of the EIA process, the public participation process involves public inputs from Interested and Affected Parties (I & APs) according to Section 56 of the NEMA 2010 Regulations. I & APs may comment during the EIA of the proposed project.

The key objectives of the public participation process are to:

- Identify a broad range of I & APs, and inform them about the proposed project;
- Understand and clearly document all issues, underlying concerns and suggestions raised by the I & APs, and
- Identify areas that require further specialist investigation.

5.2 METHODOLOGY

The following actions have already been undertaken as part of this process:

- Advertisements in the local newspapers
- On-site notices
- Public meeting

5.2.1 Identification of key I & AP's

Key I & AP's, are the following types of organizations:

- Surrounding landowners
- Environmental organizations
- Authorities
- GOs
- NGOs
- Business and civic organizations

See **Annexure D4** for a list of I & AP's.

5.2.2 Notification of potential I &AP's of EIA:

i) Newspaper advertisements: (Annexure D1)

Vrystaat	25 November 2010
Maluti	16 February 2011
Vrystaat	17 February 2011

ii) On site notices: On site notices were also placed at the site on 26 November 2010 allowing 30 days for public response **(Annexure D2)**.

iii) Public Meeting: A public meeting was held at the Verkykerskop Entertainment Centre on 19 February 2011 to discuss the proposed development and document issues and concerns. The minutes of the meeting are attached in **Annexure D3**.

5.2.3 Public comments

The draft Scoping Report is currently being circulated for a 40-day comment period. Comments received and our responses thereto will be included in **Annexure D5**.

5.3 SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES RAISED BY THE I & AP's

- Impact on biodiversity of wetlands, grasslands and shrub communities;
- Impact on red data and endangered and threatened species and their habitats;
- Impact of motorized watercraft;
- Impact of stocking of streams with exotic species;
- Impact of impounding of streams and extraction of water on downstream land users and the environment.

6. PLAN OF STUDY (Proposed approach to EIA)

6.1 DESCRIPTION OF TASKS AS PART OF EIA

6.1.1 Proceeding with public participation

After the acceptance of the Scoping Report by the Free State Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (DETEA), the public participation process for EIA can proceed according to Section 56 of the NEMA 2010 Regulations. See 6.5 for the steps to be taken as part of the process.

6.1.2 Steps in accordance with the Plan of Study for EIA

All activities and processes will be undertaken in accordance with the submitted Plan of Study for EIA for the relevant project. This process is subject to acceptance of the Scoping Report by the DETEA.

6.1.3 Register Interested & Affected Parties (I & APs)

6.1.3.1 List of I & APs

All departments and organisations having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the proposed development will be included in the list of I & APs. Also all persons giving written comments (positive or negative) or persons directly influenced by the proposed development will also be registered.

The initial list of I & APs is as follows:

i. Stakeholders
ii. Public registered
iii. Surrounding landowners

6.1.3.2 Issues raised by I & APs

A summary of all issues raised by the I & APs, as well as the responses from the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) or relevant specialists will be included in the EIA report.

6.1.4 Development alternatives

Site and activity alternatives are not applicable for this project. Therefore the proposed activity and the alternative to not proceed with the proposed activity will be assessed. Also to be listed in this section will be the advantages and disadvantages of the proposed activity and the no-go alternative, for the environment and the community.

6.1.5 Assessment of identified potentially significant impacts:

6.1.5.1 Potential Impacts

The identified potential impacts listed in the Scoping Report will be discussed in terms of its:

- Cumulative impact
- Nature of the impact
- Extent and duration of the impact
- The probability of the impact occurring
- Degree to which the impact can be reversed
- Degree to which the impact can cause irreplaceable loss of recourses
- Degree to which the impact can be mitigated

6.1.5.2 Summary of findings

A summary of all the significant findings in the previous section will be drawn up. Overall, this will include the following:

- Summary of the key findings of the EIA;
- An indication of the extent to which the issues could be addressed by the adoption of listed mitigation measures.
- Recommendations from the environmental practitioner and specialists;
- Any specialist reports or reports on specialized processes;
- Description of any assumptions, uncertainties and gaps in knowledge;
- Option to whether the activity should be authorized and any conditions that should be made in respect of the authorization.

6.2 SPECIALIST REPORTS AND SPECIALIZED PROCESSES

The required process regarding specialist reports and specialized processes for the relevant development is as follows:

i. Specialists will be appointed either by the EAP or the developer;
ii. The reports and processes will be performed and obtained from the relevant specialists as mentioned in section 4.5 of the Scoping Report;
iii. Obtained reports and processes will be incorporated in the EIA Report;
iv. Project plans will be reviewed according to recommendations of specialists to ensure minimum environmental impact;
v. The relevant specialist input include the following:
    - Design Report
    - Hydrological Analysis
    - Ecological Assessment
    - Archaeological Assessment

6.3 STAGES OF AUTHORITY CONSULTATION

The DETEA will be consulted at stages when guidance is required in terms of clarification of listed activities, as well as correct processes to follow in the case of unusual projects or requests.

6.4 METHODOLOGY OF ASSESSING ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES AND ALTERNATIVES

The EIA report will address the biophysical, as well as the socio-economic environments for all alternative site locations and activities. The information will be captured in the following manner:

i. Site visits to determine the setting, visual character and land-uses in the area;
ii. Site surveys to address the identified impacts of the development on any plant and animal populations;
iii. The project plans will be superimposed onto the gathered baseline environmental information of identified impacts;
iv. The project plans will be revised according to the identified environmental sensitive areas to ensure the least environmental impact possible;
v. Detailed discussions will be held with the client to address specific aspects of the development which could affect environment;

vi. I&APs will be consulted by phone, letters and meetings, if necessary, to capture additional issues of importance at this stage;
vii. Making recommendations and presenting guidelines for the mitigation of impacts addressed during this exercise;
viii. The option of not proceeding with the development will be considered and evaluated.

6.5 PARTICULARS OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS AS PART OF EIA

The public participation process will be continued as part of the EIA and the necessary steps will be included, which can be the following:

i. Recording of I & APs comments, according to Section 57 of the Regulations;
ii. Respond to any concerns or complaints from I & APs;
iii. Public meetings if deemed necessary;
iv. A draft EIA report will be compiled and will be made available for review by the I & APs for a period of 40 days;
v. Notify I & APs of the outcome of the application in writing within a period determined by the DETEA.
vi. Advertise the Environmental Authorisation / Refusal in a local newspaper or official Gazette and in a provincial newspaper if required by the relevant authority.

6.6 SPECIFIC INFORMATION REQUIRED BY THE COMPETENT AUTHORITY

Additional relevant information will be provided on request of the competent Authority.

6.7 CONSIDERATION OF SCOPING REPORTS

Steps to be taken by the competent authority after submission of the Scoping for EIA:

i. Consider the Scoping Report within 30 days of receipt;
ii. Accept the Scoping Report and the Plan of Study for EIA;
iii. Advise EAP to proceed with tasks contemplated in the Plan of Study for EIA;
iv. Request EAP to amend the Scoping Report or Plan of Study for EIA;
v. Reject the Scoping Report or EIA if it:
    - does not contain material / information required;
    - has not taken the relevant guidelines into account.

7. CONCLUSION

A storage dam is planned to provide water for the proposed Verkykerskop Town Development (separate EIA).

The applicant proposes to develop business, tourist accommodation, small tourist and agri-industries, residential units and recreational facilities at Verkykerskop. The dam will have the secondary function of enhancing recreational activities and conservation in the area.

The water supply for the planned town development will be groundwater from boreholes in the area and surface water from the planned storage dam. The design daily peak water demand for the town development is calculated to be 422 kℓ/day.

The proposed storage dam is planned on the Farm Annasdal no. 668 in the Warden district. The proposed dam site is approximately one kilometre to the southeast of Verkykerskop.

The proposed storage dam will be located just upstream of the lower border of the Rural Development Node as indicated on the locality plan (**Annexure A**). The dam is proposed as an earth dam with a wall height of 13.3 meters and a length of 271 meters between the spillway openings and 346 meters including the spillways. The full supply water surface area of the dam is calculated at 6,95 ha as shown on the layout plan (**Annexure B**). The dam capacity assumed at basic planning stage in the hydrological study of Schoeman & Vennote (to be included in the EIA Report) was 330 000 m^3. The capacity as determined in the detail design is 327 200 m^3. It was further calculated that the proposed dam will receive water from a catchment of 6.65 km^2, all of which falls within the confines of the Rural Development Node and largely within the land owned by the Applicant.

The "General Allocation" of water use in terms of annual allowed abstraction in respect of the land owned by the applicant is of the same order as the planned annual abstraction for the village development. This "General Allocation" for agricultural purposes will be waived and substituted with the right to use the water for urban domestic use. There is thus no significant (if at all) net additional abstraction contemplated by the application to store run-off water by means of the dam. The dam

is merely a way to store excess stormwater run-off for later use while stabilizing the base flow for the benefit of the downstream environment.

The overall terms of reference for this scoping exercise are to:

- Scope for issues that would be associated with this proposal;
- Do an initial assessment of the biophysical and socio-economic aspects, thus focusing on key issues;
- Identify and advise the client about the potential impacts (negative as well as positive) of the planned development, and the implications for the design, construction and operation of the project, and
- Facilitate public input on environmental matters.

Identified issues documented in this report are related to the biophysical environment, which will require appropriate mitigation by the proponent as will be specified in the EIA Report.

The following potential issues were identified during the scoping phase:

- Vegetation destruction
- Hydrology, flow regime & aquatic habitat
- Impact of dam & extraction of water on downstream land users
- Water quality
- Visual impact

The identified issues will be addressed and mitigated by means of specialist assessments, which will be included in the EIA Report.

Specialist studies undertaken include:

- Design Report
- Hydrological Analysis
- Ecological Assessment
- Archaeological Assessment

The Plan of Study for EIA stipulates the steps to be taken and the information to be included in the EIA Report, which will be submitted after approval of the Scoping Report.

8. LITERATURE

ALONSO, S.G., AGUILO, M. & RAMOS, A. (1986). Visual impact assessment methodology for industrial development site review in Spain. In: Smardon, R.C., Palmer, R.F. & Felleman, J.P. *Foundations for Visual Project Analysis.* Wiley & Sons, New York,

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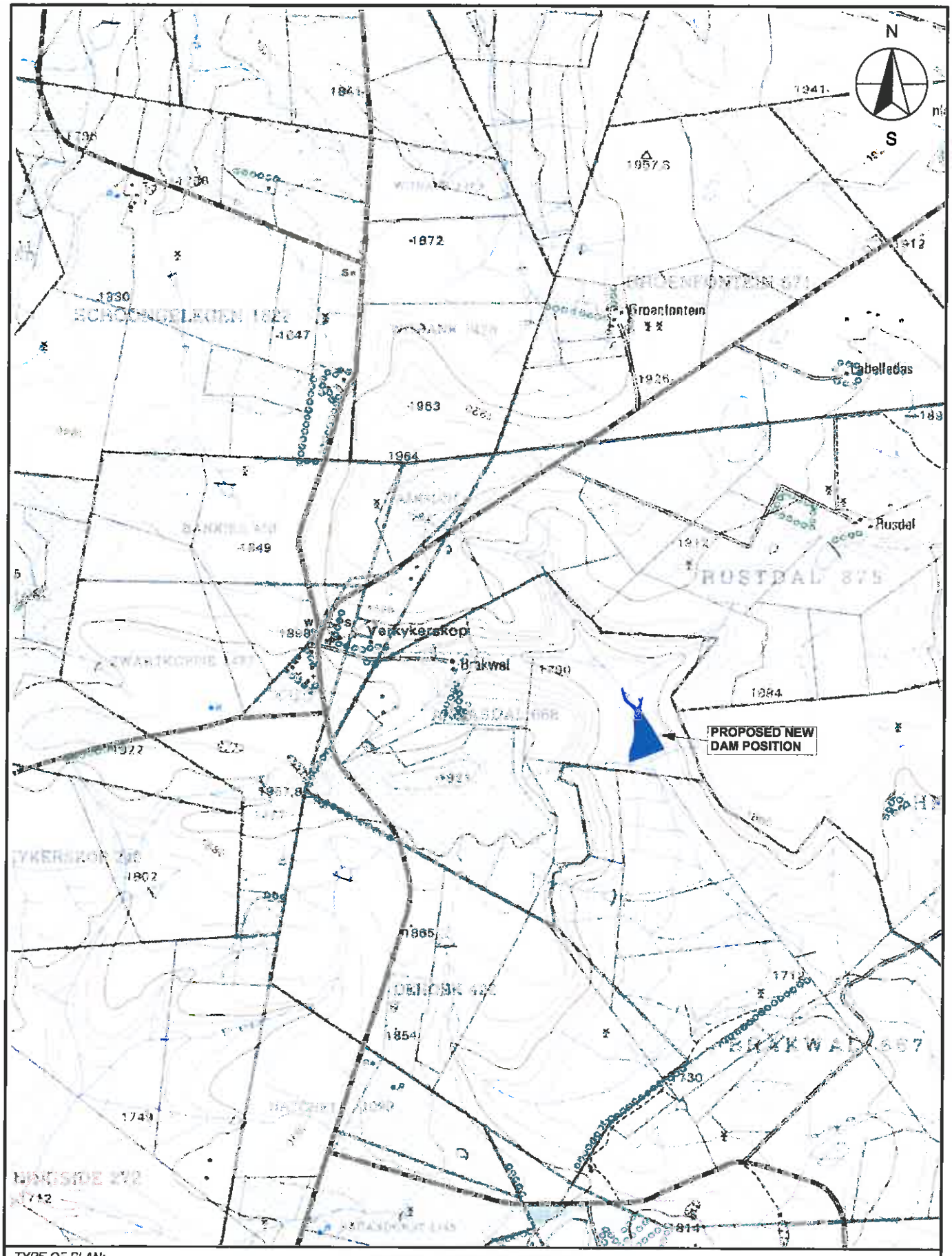
LIST OF ANNEXURES

ANNEXURE A

Map of Region / Locality Plan



TYPE OF PLAN: **1 : 50 000 - LOCALITY PLAN**

mda
Town & Regional Planners, Environmental & Development Consultants
PO Box 20292 Willows 9320
Tel: +27(51) 447-1583
Fax: +27(51) 448-9839
9 Barnes Street Westdene BLOEMFONTEIN
E-mail: admin@mdagroup.co.za

PROPERTY:	*SCALE:*	*DATE:*
THE FARM ANNASDAL No. 668, VERKYKERSKOP	N.T.S.	22/02/2013
PROJECT:	*DRAWN BY:*	*DRG No.:*
PROPOSED DAM ON THE FARM ANNASDAL No. 668, VERKYKERSKOP	C.J.	40359 MD50

LEGEND

DEVELOPMENT BOUNDARY
CATCHMENT AREA OF MAIN STORAGE DAM
EXP. DAM NEW DAM SITES
EXISTING POWER LINES
EXISTING TELEPHONE LINES
EXISTING FENCES

Verkykerskop

PROPOSED VERKYKERSKOP RURAL VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT
IN THE PHUMELELA LOCAL MUNICIPAL AREA
WATER RESOURCE PLAN

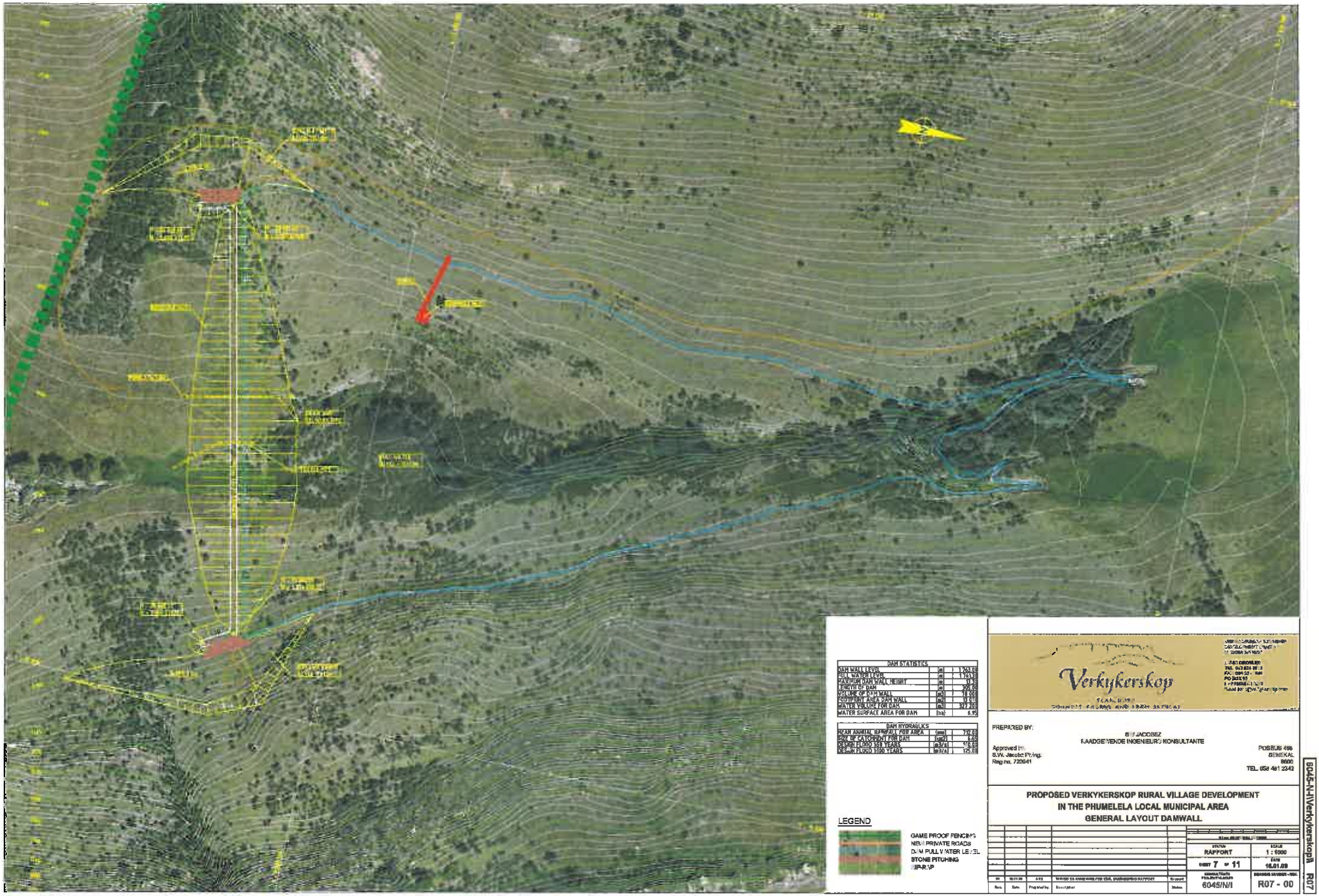
Rev.	Date	Prepared by:	Description	Status
01	27.01.11	ABB	REVISED TOPOPLAN LAYOUT	Report
00	02.11.09	ABB	ISSUED AS ADDENDUM FOR ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT	Report

STATUS: RAPPORT
SHEET 6 OF 11
SCALE: 1 : 50000
DATE: 18.01.08
CHECKED BY: 6045/N/I
DRAWING NUMBER: R06 - 01

6045-N-RVerkykerskopII R06

ANNEXURE B

Layout Plans



DAM STATISTICS		
DAM WALL LEVEL	(m)	1 763.00
FULL WATER LEVEL	(m)	1 761.30
MAXIMUM DAM WALL HEIGHT	(m)	17.70
LENGTH OF DAM	(m)	305.00
VOLUME OF DAM WALL	(m3)	78 000
CONTACT AREA DAM WALL	(m2)	7 917.00
WATER VOLUME FOR DAM	(m3)	327 250
WATER SURFACE AREA FOR DAM	(ha)	6.95

DAM HYDRAULICS		
MEAN ANNUAL RAINFALL FOR AREA	(mm)	717.00
SIZE OF CATCHMENT FOR DAM	(km2)	6.65
DESIGN FLOOD 50 YEARS	(m3/s)	109.00
DESIGN FLOOD 100 YEARS	(m3/s)	125.00

LEGEND

GAME PROOF FENCING
NEW PRIVATE ROADS
DAM FULL WATER LEVEL
STONE PITCHING
RIP-RAP

Verkykerskop

PREPARED BY:

SIF JACOBSZ
RAADGEWENDE INGENIEURS/ KONSULTANTE

Approved by:
S.W. Jacobz Pr.Eng.
Reg.no. 720641

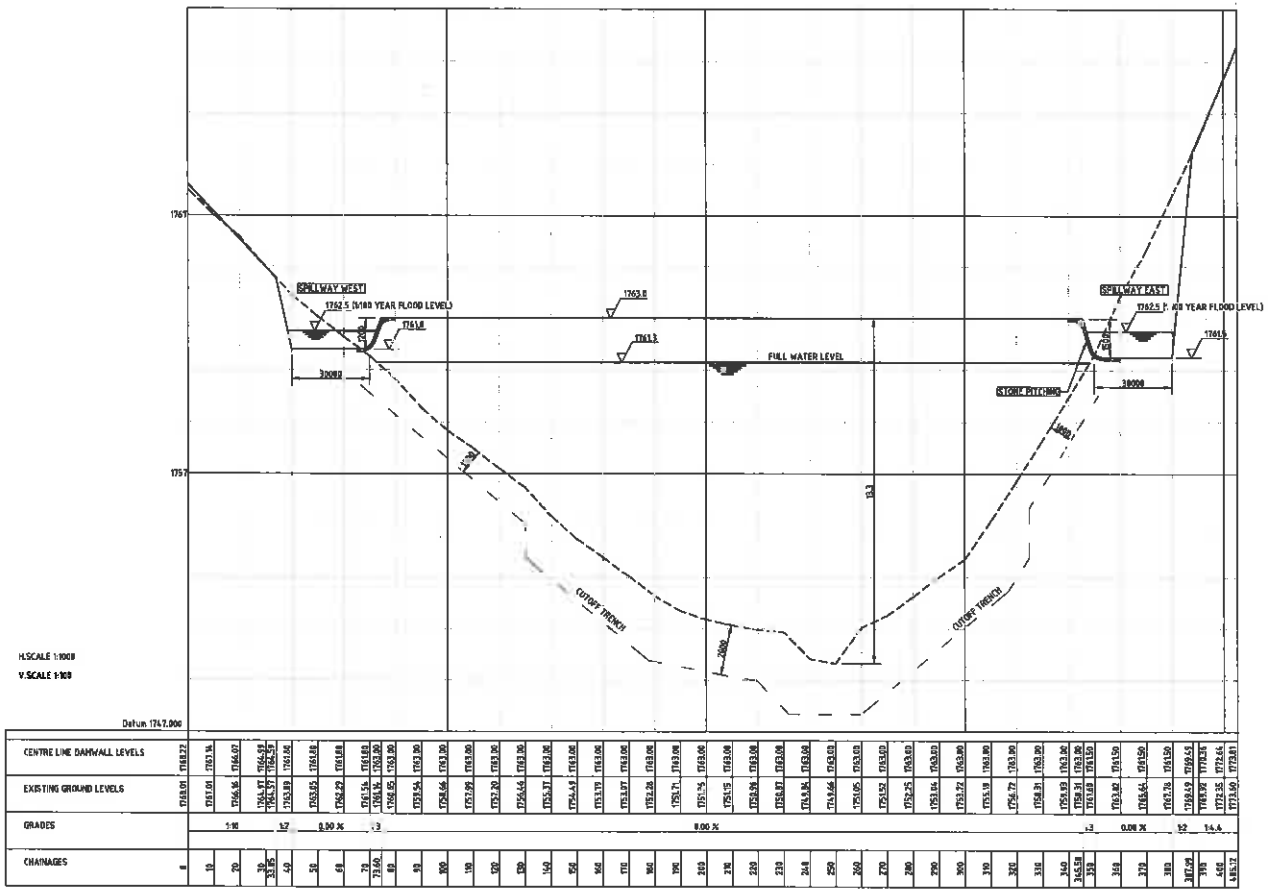
POSBUS 466
SENEKAL
9600
TEL. 058 481 2342

PROPOSED VERKYKERSKOP RURAL VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT
IN THE PHUMELELA LOCAL MUNICIPAL AREA
GENERAL LAYOUT DAMWALL

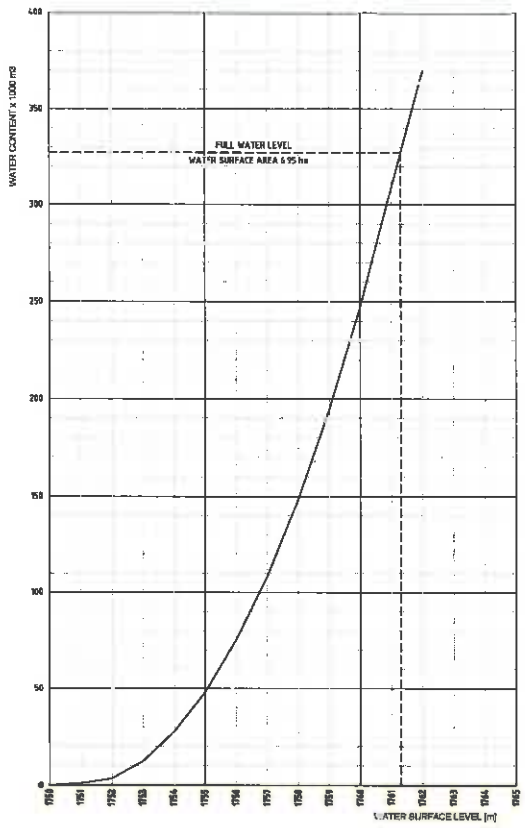
Rev.	Date	Prepared by	Description	Signed	Status	PROJECT NUMBER	DRAWING NUMBER - REV.
00	16.01.09	AVS	VERSOEK TOT AANNEMING VIR ESK, ONDERSOEKRAPPORT			6045/N/I	R07 - 00

STATUS: RAPPORT
SCALE: 1 : 1000
SHEET 7 OF 11
DATE: 16.01.09

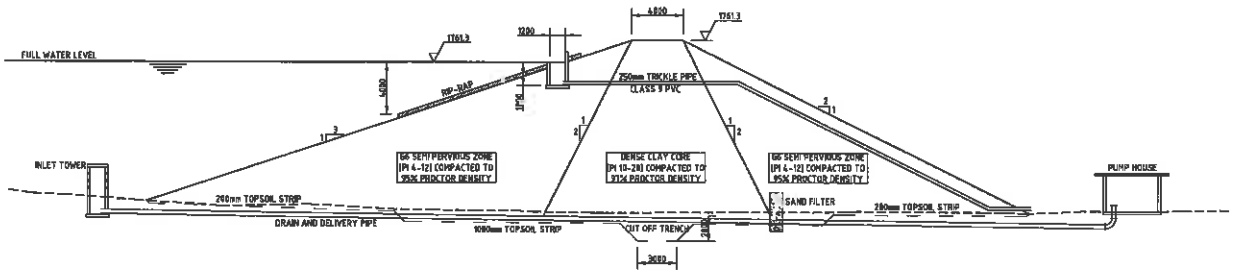
6045-N-I\Verkykerskop\R07



LENGHT PROFILE OF EARTH WALL



CAPACITY CURVE



CROSS SECTION OF EARTH WALL (CH 250)

SCALE 1:200

Verkykerskop

PREPARED BY:

SWJ JACOBSZ
RAADGEWENDE INGENIEURS KONSULTANTE

Approved by:
S.W.J. Jacobsz Pr.Ing.
Reg.no. 720641

POSBUS 466
SENEKAL
9600
TEL. 058 481 2042

PROPOSED VERKYKERSKOP RURAL VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT
IN THE PHUMELELA LOCAL MUNICIPAL AREA
DAMWALL SECTIONS AND DETAILS

STATUS	SCALE
RAPPORT	As Shown
SHEET 8 OF 11	DATE 10.01.08
PROJECT NUMBER 8045/N/1	R08 - 00

8045-N-1\Verkykerskop\ R08

ANNEXURE C

Site Photos

View of the proposed dam wall from the east. Arrow indicates flow direction.

View of the proposed dam wall from the west. Arrow indicates flow direction.

View of the valley downstream of the proposed dam.

ANNEXURE D

Public Participation

ANNEXURE D1

Newspaper Advertisements

IGS

UCTION
OR PUBLIC AUCTION
ACCEPTED BIDDER
TAL CARPETS
ain, Fine Chobi
Fine Mashad,
eshkin, Kolyai
Maymay, Killim
ers plus more.
ess of Cost.
CARPETS FURNITURE ART AUCTION
FURNITURE
nel Seat plus more.
regoie Boonzaier
EMBER 2010
GOLF CLUB
ED SUBJECT TO IDENTIFICATION
CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

Knap, jong sakemanne

JACQUES DUMINY (links) en Michael du Plessis van die Hoërskool Reitz, wat wenners van die Sage (Students for the Advancement of Global Entrepreneurship) se Netwerk-toekenning is. Hulle is ook aangewys as Nuweling van die Jaar. Hulle gaan hul besigheid, Pingpoen, as toptiener-entrepreneurs op 1 Desember by die Reitzsaal van die Eeufeeuskompleks by die Universiteit van die Vrystaat bemark. Foto: Verskaf

Kerk staan te graag bakhand

SONJA SWANEPOEL, Bethlehem:

Postbus 23, PO Box 21 Bethlehem 9700

EK wonder net . . . Doen predikante nog huisbesoek?

En wat van kerkraadslede?

Hoekom is laasgenoemde nie meer betrokke in die gemeente by byvoorbeeld bedlêende mense wat ook 'n honger het na God se Woord nie? Of is hulle klaar "afgeskryf"?

Ironies genoeg weet hulle presies waar om die dankofferkoevertjie deur die hek te pos. Só die adres is nog bekend aan hulle om 'n geldjie in te samel, maar die persoon binne die huis is vergete.

En dan noem hulle hulself dienaars van God!

Nee wat, ek dink nie so nie. Openbaring 3:15. *"Ek weet alles wat julle doen. Ek weet dat julle nie koud is nie en ook nie warm nie. As julle tog maar koud of warm was!"*

Ek sal graag ander se mening hieroor wil hoor.

Kanker raak almal

HET jy geweet testikulêre kanker is die algemeenste kanker by jong mans?

V: Wat is testikulêre kanker?

A: Dit is 'n kwaadaardige gewas in een of albei testikels.

V: Hoe gereeld kom testikulêre kanker voor?

A: Dit is die algemeenste kanker wat by jong mans voorkom tussen die ouderdom van 15 en 39.

V: Wat is die risikofaktore van testikulêre kanker?

A: Babas met onafgedaalde testikels – die risiko bly dieselfde ongeag chirurgiese herstel.

- Mediese toestande wat tydens kinderjare aanwesig is, soos liesbreuke, "kalbassies" ná pampoentjies en testikulêre torsie.
- Aangebore abnormaliteite van die testikels, penis of niere.
- 'n Familiegeskiedenis van testikulêre kanker.
- 'n Vasektomie verhoog nie die risiko nie.

V: Wat is die simptome van testikulêre kanker?

A: Die onderstaande simptome kan 'n indikasie van testikulêre kanker wees, maar kan ook deur ander toestande veroorsaak word. Dit is belangrik om 'n dokter te spreek om die oorsaak van enige van hierdie simptome te bepaal:

- 'n Pynlose swelsel of knop in een van die testikels.
- Pyn of 'n swaar gevoel.
- Liespyn, lae rugpyn of buikpyn.

V: Is vroeë diagnose belangrik?

A: Ja. Indien vroeg gediagnoseer, kan testikulêre kanker effektief behandel word.

V: Hoe word testikulêre kanker behandel?

A: Die presiese behandeling sal afhang van die soort testikulêre kanker en hoe ver gevorder dit is. Dit is belangrik om te onthou dat die verlies van 'n testikel nie 'n man se vermoë om 'n ereksie te hê, of om kinders te verwek, beïnvloed nie. 'n Prostetiese testikel kan in die skrotum geplaas word vir 'n normale voorkoms.

Die Kankervereniging van Suid-Afrika (Kansa) moedig mans aan om elke maand tien minute te gebruik om hul testikels te ondersoek.

Vir verdere inligting besoek gerus die Kansa-webwerf by www.cansa.org.za of bel ons by 058-303-7271.

BROERS
EHEM
035372
– TEGNIESE RAADGEWER: TROMPIE SMITH
HERSTEL
S TOT 31
DIE OEM GEMIDDELD
AARDE SERTIFIKASIE
E
ELKOM
P SATERDAE
NIET
EHEM
ONS GEBRUIK KWALITEIT EDELMETAAL

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT SCOPING PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

Notice is given in terms of Regulation 54(2)© of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations of 2010 No. R. 543 published in Government Notice No. 33306 of 18 June 2010 of the National Enviromental Management Act (Act No. 107 of 1998) that an Application for Environmental Authorisation has been submitted to the Free State Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs for the following:

Project 1: Proposed town development at Verkykerskop, including residential, business, institutional, utility, light industrial, agricultural and resort erven and associated infrastructure, Free State.

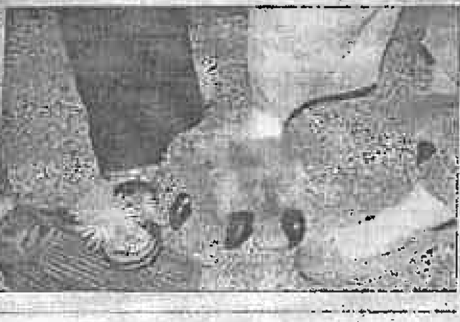
Project 2: Proposed construction of a storm water catchment dam and extraction of water for Verkykerskop Town.

Project by: Verkykerskop Nedersetting Ontwikkeling (Edms) Bpk

If you have any information or comments regarding the environmental impact or need additional information regarding the proposed developments, please submit your name, contact information and interest to the following consultants by **18 January 2011.**

MDA
PO Box 20298, Willows, Bloemfontein 9320

Tel. 051 447 1583 Fax. 051 448 9839 / e-mail: marguerite@mdagroup.co.za
Contact person: Marguerite Cronje



...ools encouraged to help

...ildren can't learn ... stomach, yet ... dren in South Af... ... still hun-...

...hat the EduPlant ... a partnership ... bsa, Engen and ... rths Trust, run by ... rees for Africa ... s to change ... EduPlant par... food gardening ... give educators ... tunity to learn how ... ble to their schools ... mmunities.

...se one-day work-... educators are taught ... grow fruit, herbs and ... ies at their schools in ... logically sensitive and ... ically efficient way. ... the food gardens are established, they assist schools and their communities to feed themselves.

"FTFA has been managing the EduPlant programme for more than 17 years and has trained thousands of educators in the permaculture way of food production.

Last year, these workshops attracted more than 3 000 educators.

Jeunesse Park, founder of FTFA, says: "EduPlant is an inspirational programme that has changed many lives over the past 17 years, teaching schools and their communities how to achieve food security whilst using their natural resources sustainably, improving their environments and their health.

"We are extremely pleased to have the support of Absa, Engen and the Woolworths Trust, which is enabling us to reach even more schools."

Educators who would like to attend these workshops and become part of the EduPlant family are encouraged to contact FTFA and to listen to their local radio stations for details on workshops in their area.

The workshops start on 8 February and will be presented until 15 March, with five workshops in every province.

Phone the FTFA office on 011-656-9802/3 or 071-865-2942, or visit www.trees.co.za for a detailed schedule of workshops dates for your province.

Gee 'n vroeggebore baba die geskenk van lewe.

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ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT SCOPING PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

Proposed town development at Verkykerskop including residential, business, institutional, utility, light industrial, agricultural and resort erven and associated infrastructure, Free State.

Project by: Verkykerskop Nedersetting Ontwikkeling (Edms) Bpk

A public meeting will be held for any interested and affected parties to discuss the relevant project.

Date: Saturday, 19 February 2011

Venue: Verkykerskop Entertainment Centre, Verkykerskop

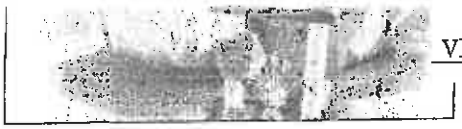
Time: 10:00

Please contact the following consultants if you require any additional information:

MDA
PO Box 20298, Willows, Bloemfontein, 9320

Tel 051 447 1583 Fax 051 448 9839 E-mail: marguerite@mdagroup.co.za
Contact Person: Marguerite [illegible]

SOEK, KOOP, VERKOOP



vrouespeler van 2010. Saam met haar is Ester Taylor, sekretaresse, wat die Taylor-wisseltrofee aan haar oorhandig het.

LINKS: Rassie Erasmus van die Oos-Vrystaatse Veerpyltjiebond is aangewys as die speler met die beste vordering in 2010. Saam met hom is Eddie Burger, ondervoorsitter, wat die Eddie Burgertrofee aan hom oorhandig het.

MARYKE VAN HEERDEN van die Oos-Vrystaatse Veerpyltjiebond was die junior speler vir 2010. Saam met haar is KP van Zyl, ontwikkelingsbeampte wat die Fireprotect-trofee oorhandig het.

DIE ligawenners in c
Burger; van links, agt
Erasmus en Frans B

Healthcare Company requires

Sales Manager and Consultans

Requirements:
- Own car and licence.
- Available immediately.

Offering:
- Incentive packages
- High commission
- Recognition and promotion
- Full training provided, no experience required

Call Bethlehem Area for an interview

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ETM Financial Services Vacancy (Betrekking)

1. Takbestuurder te Ficksburg-tak word benodig
Vereistes:
* Vorige 'cash loan'-ondervinding
* Vorige bemarkingsondervinding
* Vorige bestuursondervinding

2. Pensioenpunt bestuurder te Bethlehem
Vereistes:
* Vorige 'cash loan'-ondervinding
* Vorige bestuur- en bemarkingsondervinding
* Slegteskuldinvordering sal 'n sterk aanbeveling wees

Aansoeke sluit op 28 Februrie 2011
Stuur aansoeke na Elinor Faul
Faxnommer 033 503 1183
Of e-pos Eli@etmqc.co.za

TFS Hardware

has the following vacancies available:

- **PA**
- **Admin Clerk**

Must have computer experience and experience in the above-mentioned posts.

Fax CV to 058 713 1508
Contact Yusuf
082 417 8601

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT SCOPING PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

Proposed town development at Verkykerskop, including residential, business, institutional, utility, light industrial, agricultural and resort erven and associated infrastructure, Free State.

Project by: Verkykerskop Nedersetting Ontwikkeling (Edms) Bpk

A public meeting will be held for any interested and affected parties to discuss the relevant project.

Date: Saturday, 19 February 2011

Venue: Verkykerskop Entertainment Centre, Verkykerskop.

Time: 10:00

Please contact the following consultants if you require any additional information:

MDA
PO Box 20298, Willows, Bloemfontein, 9320

Tel. 051 447 1583 Fax: 051 448 9839 E-mail: marguerite@mdagroup.co.za
Contact person: Marguerite Cronje

NOTICE TO ALL

STAN'S MOTOR

Please take note that all machin
been repaired by Stan's Motor Er
been removed from their busine
Stan's Motor Engineering within
notice, failing which Stan's Moto
these goods to recover their ou
costs.

We have always strived to prov
service and advice and look forv
many years to come. We howe
your account is settled and your
(thirty) days.

ANNEXURE D2

Notices

Notices were placed at conspicuous places within Verkykerskop, as the site for the proposed dam is not accessible to the public.

Photo A: On-site notice placed at the fuel tank in Verkykerskop on 26 November 2010.

Photo B: On-site notice at Police Station.

Photo C: On-site notice placed inside Verkykerskop Co-op.

Photo D: Notice at shop.

Photo E: Close up of on-site notice.

ANNEXURE D3

Public Meeting

AGENDA

Public meeting as part of the public participation process for the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the proposed Verkykerskop Town Development, Free State

Public meeting held on 19 February 2011 at Verkykerskop Entertainment Centre

1. **Welcoming – Prof Johann du Preez (MDA)**

2. **Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process – Prof Johann du Preez (MDA)**

3. **Details of proposed development – Jako Viviers (LMV)**

4. **Proposed bulk service infrastructure – Dr Louis Grobler**

5. **Open floor for questions and raising of issues**

6. **Closing – Prof Johann du Preez (MDA)**

ATTENDANCE REGISTER

MDA
9 Barnes Street, Westdene, Bloemfontein
P.O. Box 20298, Willows, 9320
Tel: 051 4471583
Fax: 051 4489839

PUBLIC MEETING HELD AT VERKYKERSKOP ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE ON 19 FEBRUARY 2011, 10:00

PROJECT: Proposed Verkykerskop Town Development, Free State

NAME & ORGANISATION	ADDRESS	TEL. NO.	FAX NO.	E-MAIL	SIGN
E. Kruger UFS, Geografie	Fraser Square 1, Bloemfontein	051-401 2185	051-401 3816	KrugerE@ufs.ac.za	
Matt Hoffman VKK	R722 VERKYKERSKOP	058 625 0071	0586250071	matt@zippnorth.com	
BETH HILLARY-VKK	R722 VERKYKERSKOP	0798730470	0586250071	beth@zippnorth.co.za	
G v Niekerk	Verkykers Hop	082 655 3561	—	VnickeGW@eskom.co.za	
J M Wessels	Skaapgelegen Verkykerskop	082 467 6060	—	—	
J P G Wykes	GREYLANDS VERKYKERSKOP ~~1 GREG~~ + 1 GREGOIRE ST SECUNDA	0836750307	011 522 9972	CNJW@TELKOMSA.NET	
C. Wykes	PO BOX 4754, SECUNDA, 2302 GREYLANDS VERKYKERSKOP	082 877 8944		CNJW@TELKOMSA.NET	
D Claassen	Po box ~~256~~ 526 Hanrismith Waschkop Verkykerskop	0848507901	—	CLMASSTROOM@gmail.com	
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MINUTES OF MEETING

Public Participation Process as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the proposed Verkykerskop Town Development, Free State

Public meeting held on 19 February 2011, 10:00 at Verkykerskop Entertainment Centre

Attended by:

See attached attendance register.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE PUBLIC MEETING TOOK THE FORM OF A DISCUSSION FORUM AND ONLY THE MAIN POINTS ARE SUMMARISED IN THESE MINUTES.

No.	Person	Description
1	**Prof. Johann du Preez (MDA)**	**Opening and welcome.**
2	**Prof Johann du Preez**	**EIA Process presentation**
2.1		The EIA process is explained and that the project is currently in the Scoping phase.
3	**Mr Jako Viviers (LMV)**	**Presentation on the proposed development**
3.1		The town planning process is explained, as well as the site topography, urban framework, "green" design of the proposed development and site plan are discussed.
		The different residential zonings are described.
		A number of issues with regard to the possibility of illegal immigrants, theft, etc. were raised (refer to the list of issues raised at end of minutes).
4	**Dr Louis Grobler**	**Presentation on engineering services for proposed development**
4.1		Roads, use of dam, water provision and sewage treatment, electrical infrastructure and solid waste disposal are discussed.
5	**All**	**Issues / concerns raised**
5.1		All issues from the meeting were captured on the projector so that meeting attendees could agree on the issues as well as the wording thereof. Refer to the attached list.
6	**Prof du Preez**	**Closure**
6.1		Everyone is thanked for attending. The meeting

		adjourns at 15:00.
6.2		Those interested saved copies of the presentations on their memory sticks.

General consensus of concerns by those present:

The following concerns were listed with reference to the proposed layout plan:

1. Visual impact of developments located on hills and ridges affecting the silhouette
2. Light pollution of the development
3. Definitions for various land uses to be included in the scoping document and in particular type of industries envisaged
4. No listed industries that require separate licensing by law should be approved under this environmental authorization process
5. All the existing rights in terms of access and public movement will be upheld
6. Increase in traffic to be managed on site and in region; has the impact been assessed with specific reference to driving of livestock in the road reserve and movement of pedestrians crossing the road
7. Management of hawking in the road reserve to be addressed
8. Influx of people into the Verkykerskop Rural node and the area
9. Prevention and containment of informal settlement
10. Potential of deterioration of security due to influx, settlement
11. Management of peaked influx of people e.g. during construction phase
12. Layout to be within the SDF parameters in terms of number of units; layout plan will cap number of units allowed per stand
13. Business restriction on land to be developed in favour of Boerevereniging, being addressed by BV laywers

Infrastructure:

14. The valley and wetland to be a limited access area to protect wildlife
15. Wetlands are designated in the environmental framework as no-go areas
16. Impact of motorized access off-roads to be managed, and specifically motorized watercraft

17. Impact of stocking of streams with exotic species
18. Impact of impounding of streams and extraction of water on downstream land users and the environment
19. Water pollution from sewage French drains
20. Impact of town development on existing grasslands
21. Impact of town development on wetlands
22. Impact on biodiversity of wetlands, grasslands and shrub communities
23. Impact of development on red data and endangered and threatened species and their habitats
24. Noted by presenters that no long drops / VIP toilets are envisaged
25. Potential pollution of the electrical substation
26. Impact of solid waste and landfill and permit requirements
27. Permit requirements for waste transfer station

ANNEXURE D4

List of Interested and Affected Parties

LIST OF INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES

1. **Phumelela Local Municipality**
   Private Bag X5
   VREDE
   9835
   Contact person: Lethu Mtembu
   Tel: 058 9131222
   Fax: 058 9132317

2. **Department of Water Affairs**
   Sanlam Plaza Building
   C/o East Burger and Maitland Street
   Private Bag X528
   BLOEMFONTEIN
   9300
   Contact person: Mr T. Ntili
   Tel: 051 4059000

3. **Department of Agriculture**
   Private Bag X01
   GLEN
   9360
   Contact person: Mr I.S. Venter
   Tel: 051 8611159

4. **South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)**
   111 Harrington Street
   P.O. Box 4637
   CAPE TOWN
   8000
   Contact person: Andrew Soloman
   Tel: 021 4624502

5. **Verkykerskop Tourism cc**
   P.O. Box 93
   VERKYKERSKOP
   9882
   Contact person: Mr Matt Hoffman
   Tel: 058 6250071
   E-mail: admin@verkykerskopadventurezone.co.za / matt@zippnorth.co.za

6. **Verkykerskop Boerevereeniging**
   P.O. Box 16
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   9882
   Contact person: Mr D.J. Claassen
   E-mail: claasstroom@gmail.com

7. **Mr Hannes van Niekerk**
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9882
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8. **J.J. van Niekerk**
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2970
Tel / Fax: 058 6250065

9. **MK Wessels Trust**
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VERKYKERSKOP
9882
Contact person: Mr J.M. Wessels

10. **Jerry & Cecile Wykes**
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14. **D. Claassen**
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15. **Chris Chameleon**
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16. **Antoon Lombard**
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17. **U & I Makowka**
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ANNEXURE D5

Comments & Responses

The draft Scoping Report is currently being circulated for comment.