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21949 – PORTION 260 OF THE FARM RIETFONTEIN 189 AFFECTED LANDOWNER FOCUS GROUP MEETING

PROJECT	21949 – Portion 260 of the Farm Rietfontein 189
DATE	7 October 2020
Тіме	15h00
	MEETING NOTES
INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME	 Vanessa Stippel (VS) opened the meeting and thanked all the attendees for making the time to be present. She explained that Prism Environmental Management Services (Prism EMS) had been appointed to undertake the Basic Assessment and Water Use Licence Application (WULA) process in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 and that her role was the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP). She further explained that that the purpose of the meeting was to facilitate the discussion between the project team and the landowners affected by the proposed development services. In terms of the Agenda, VS gave an overview of the proposed agenda items and confirmed that everyone was happy with the proposed schedule. She also noted that the main focus of the meeting was Item 3 – Questions and that her presentation would be short and would just provide some basic background information. All attendees introduced themselves (refer to Appendix 1: Attendance register).



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OVERVIEW OF THE PROJECT AND BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS	 VS provided a brief presentation of the proposed development including the following: Activity description Locality and properties Basic Assessment and WULA process Alternatives Specialist Studies Impact Assessment Final Sensitivity Map Recommendation of EAP Refer to Appendix 2: Power Point Presentation for a copy of the presentation which was provided to all attendees as a handout. A
QUESTIONS	VS explained that questions would be raised in terms of central themes. She also highlighted that notes for the meeting would be compiled but that written comments should be submitted to ensure all concerns and comments could be properly addressed. 1. <u>Roads</u> Kirsty Popplestone (KP) asked for clarity on which road was Road A and which was Road B. Pieter Kruger (PK) and Albie Kriel (AK) showed which road was which and also gave context on the Gauteng Roads Masterplan. It was explained that Road A was approved as part of the Beyers Naude Upgrade which was planned for 2021. Diane Beadle (DB) raised concerns that the developer could develop a road in a wetland. It was explained that a process was required to obtain approval before the development and that the road had to be designed in such a way to reduce the impact and allow flow.
	Janine Leimer (JL) asked for clarity on where Road B ended. AK and PK explained it joined the K56. Concern was raised that the K56 was not going to be constructed. AK explained that the



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section crossing Beyers Naude Drive was already approved and was planned for the coming years. Road B would join the K56.

JL and Rob Leimer (RL) requested clarity on why Road B was required. PK explained that he had undertaken a Traffic Impact Assessment. The findings of the study showed that the southern intersection of the development with Beyers Naude would not be sufficient for the development and an additional intersection would be required. In terms of the Gauteng Department of Roads and Transport requirements, intersections on the K56 could only be every 600m. Therefore, the only way to connect Road B to the K56 was along its current route. It was explained that the Beyers Naude Upgrade would open up the development of the area and that a number of properties in the area were planned for development. Road upgrades and new roads in the area would be required. It was also explained that the roads and services would improve the value of the properties in the area.

Charl Fitzgerald (CF) explained that as the developer, he would prefer not to build additional roads as his focus was Portion 260 itself but that it was a requirement that he does. He added that he was one of the first developers in the area but reiterated that the area was likely to be developed in the future.

RL raised concerns that the landowners had no choice. VS provided clarity and explained that the process was such that the Basic Assessment Report had been compiled on the basis of the specialist studies and the information available. She also explained that her role as the EAP was to assess the impacts to the environment as defined in NEMA (which includes, social, economic, cultural and biophysical aspects). She also stressed that public participation was an integral part of the process and that comments on the Report would be taken into account and submitted to the Competent Authority (Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development or GDARD). They would be responsible for making a decision and would not necessarily approve it. De Wet Botha (DB) explained that GDARD could also approve part of the development and not the other (for example, exclude the roads).



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JL raised concerns that the road would impact her irrigated area. It was explained that the road would be 12.5m in her property and 12.5m on the adjacent property would be limited. She also requested information on what would happen to her electric fences. It was explained that the developer would be required to relocate them. She also raised concerns regarding safety and security especially in regard to her sheep.

JL objected to the construction of Road B on her property.

RL objected to the construction of Road B and requested the objections be minuted. VS confirmed that her notes would include this but requested that formal comments be provided. He also requested further information on whether impacts would be compensated. He added that whilst he and JL objected, should the road be put it place, compensation would be necessary.

KP also noted she objected to the construction of Road B. She explained that it would bisect her property and that it would make access to the wetland and dam on property impossible. Discussions on whether the road could be designed to allow access took place. She also noted that the road would impact on her staff cottages.

RL requested more information on what the process was for a road such as road B to be approved. PK explained that it was included on the Gauteng Roads Masterplan and was thus protected. Should any property owner want to change their land use, they would be required to keep the road reserve undeveloped. RL and JL explained that they didn't want to change their land use and had purchased the properties for the lifestyle. RL also asked whether should the road be built whether it was automatically result in a subdivision of his property. Robert Victor (RV) noted that this was not the case and an application for subdivision would be required.



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	KP asked whether the Gauteng Roads Masterplan and the plan showing the approved Beyers Naude Upgrade could be made available. DB and PK explained that it was included in the specialist reports made available as part of the BAR. KP was referred to Appendix G. VS requested that KP contact her if she had any difficulty locating the plans.
	2. Sewer line
	JL raised concerns regarding the alternative sewer line as it bisects her irrigated land. VS explained that the alternative was not preferred due to impacts on the wetland and that her recommendation was that the proposal be approved as it reduces impacts to the wetland.
	JL raised concerns on the impact of the sewer line on her grazing land which was required for her sheep. RL asked for clarity on whether the area impacted by the sewer line would be rehabilitated. CF confirmed that yes, the pipeline would be rehabilitated. It was added that there would be sewer manholes every 100m but the rest of the pipeline would be below ground. RL noted that whilst they had concerns regarding the impact of the sewer, the main concern was Road B.
WAY FORWARD AND CLOSE	VS thanked the attendees for their input and discussion and reminded everyone that written comments should be submitted by 22 October 2020.
	DB also added that the maps and plans utilized in the meeting could be obtained from Appendix A, C and G of the Basic Assessment Report which could be downloaded from the Prism EMS website.
	The meeting was closed at 17:00.

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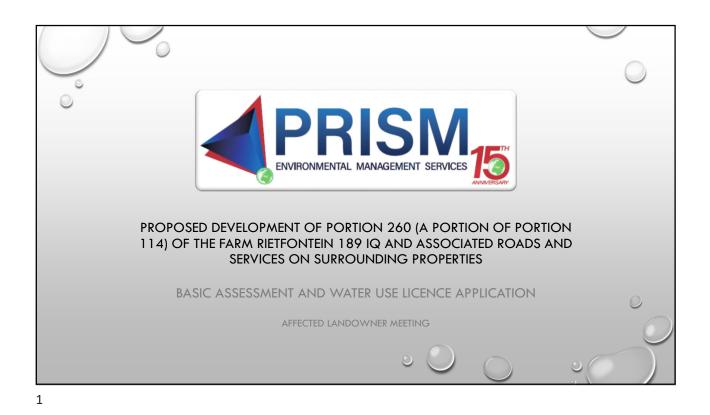
21949 – PORTION 260 OF THE FARM RIETFONTEIN 189 AFFECTED LANDOWNER FOCUS GROUP ATTENDANCE REGISTER

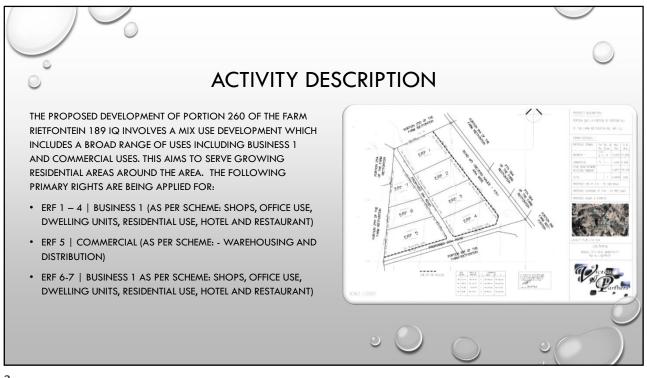
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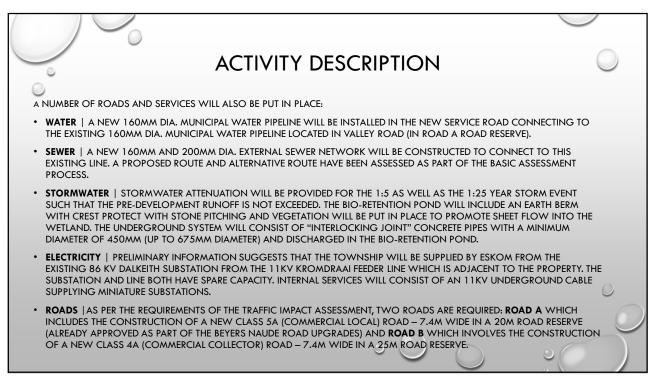
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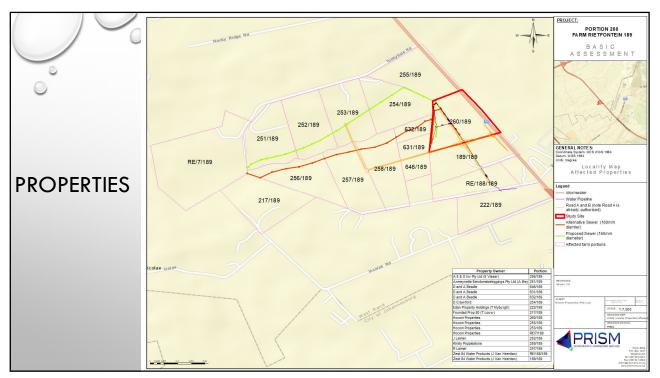












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