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Department:
Economic Development, Environment,
Conservation and Tourism
North West Provincial Government
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



80 Kerk Street RUSTENBURG 0300 Republic of South Africa www.nwpg.gov.za

CHIEF DIRECTORATE: ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
DIRECTORATE: ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY SERVICES

Tel: 014 597 3597 Email: omarobe@nwpg.gov.za

Enquiries: Olebogeng Marobe

Reference: NWP/EIA/38/2022

Attention:

Thabiso Sithole

The Alpha Grande (Pty) Ltd

P.O. Box 31190

WONDERBOOMPOORT

0033

Tell No.

082 322 3470

Email

frans@odire.co.za

Dear Sir/ Madam

ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION: VEGETATION CLEARANCE AND DEVELOPMENT OF SELF STANDING UNITS AND GUEST LODGE WITH ASSOCIATED ROADS ON ERF 185 OLIFANTSNEK JQ, RUSTENBURG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, NORTH WEST PROVINCE

Your application for Environmental Authorisation, in terms of Section 24(2)(a) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 as amended (Act No. 107 of 1998) in respect of -

Government Notice No. R327 of Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations of 04 December 2014 as amended for:

1. The development of a road wider than 4 metres with a reserve less than 13,5 metres.

H. North West

- iv. Critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority;[Activity 4(h)(iv)]
- 2. The development of resorts, lodges, hotels, tourism or hospitality facilities that sleeps 15 people or more.

H. North West

- iv. Critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority;[Activity 6(h)(iv)]
- 3. The clearance of an area of 300 square metres 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.



H. North West

- iv. Critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority;[Activity 12(h)(iv)]
- 4. The transformation of land bigger than 1000 square metres in size, to residential, retail, commercial, industrial or institutional use, where, such land was zoned open space, conservation or had an equivalent zoning, on or after 02 August 2010.
 - e. North West
 - i. Inside urban areas; or
 - ii. Sensitive areas as identified in an environmental management framework as contemplated in chapter 5 of the Act as adopted by the competent authority. [Activity 15(e)(i)(ii)]

In terms of the Regulations of Chapter 5 of NEMA, 1998 refer.

This Department has evaluated the **Basic Assessment Report** received on 30 August 2022 for clearance of indigenous vegetation and development of a self-standing units and guest lodges with associated roads on erf 185 Olifantsnek JQ, Rustenburg Local Municipality, North West Province to verify whether this activity will have significant negative impact on the environment.

Enclosed please find the Environmental Authorisation and the conditions under which your application is authorised.

Formal appeals regarding the Environmental Authorisation can be directed to the Appeal Administrator for Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism, North West Province. Such an appeal must be lodged in terms of the National Appeal Regulations of 8 December 2014.

Yours Faithfully

Ms. Portia Krisjan

Director: Environmental Quality Management

Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism

Date: 07/12/2022

Cc: Hydro Science CC

Contact Person: Ms Paulette Jacobs

Tel: 082 850 5482 **Fax:** 086 692 8820

Email: paulette@hydroscience.co.za



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DEFINITIONS Α

"activity" means an activity identified in any notice published by the Minister or MEC in terms of Section 24D(1)(a) of the Act as a listed activity or specified activity.

"commence" means the start of any physical activity, including site preparation and any other activity on the site in furtherance of a listed activity or specified activity, but does not include any activity required for purposes of an investigation or feasibility study as long as such investigation or feasibility study does not constitute a listed activity or specified activity.

"development" means the building, erection, construction or establishment of a facility, structure or infrastructure, including associated earthworks or borrow pits, that is necessary for the undertaking of a listed or specified activity, including any associated post development monitoring, but excludes any modification, alteration or expansion of such a facility, structure or infrastructure, including associated earthworks or borrow pits, and excluding the redevelopment of the same facility in the same location, with the same capacity and footprint:

"expansion" means the modification, extension, alteration or upgrading of a facility, structure or infrastructure at which an activity takes place in such a manner that the capacity of the facility or the footprint of the activity is increased.

"independent", in relation to an EAP, a specialist or the person responsible for the preparation of an environmental audit report, means-

- (a) that such EAP, specialist or person has no business, financial, personal or other interest in the activity or application in respect of which that EAP, specialist or person is appointed in terms of these Regulations; or
- (b) that there are no circumstances that may compromise the objectivity of that EAP, specialist or person in performing such work; excluding -
 - (i) normal remuneration for a specialist permanently employed by the EAP; or
 - (ii) fair remuneration for work performed in connection with that activity, application or environmental audit;

"public participation process" means a process in which potential interested and affected parties are given an opportunity to comment on, or raise issues relevant to, specific matters.

"registered interested and affected party", in relation to an application, means an interested and affected party whose name is recorded in the register opened for that application in terms of regulation 42

"state Department" means any Department or administration in the national or provincial sphere of government exercising functions that involve the management of the environment.

"the Act" means the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), as amended.

"the Department" means the Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism.



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"the Regulations" means the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, of 04 December 2014, as amended.





B. **Environmental Authorisation**

NWP/EIA/38/2022 **Authorisation register number:**

Holder of Environmental Authorisation: The Alpha Grande (Pty) Ltd

North West Province: erf 185 Olifantsnek Location of activity:

JQ, Rustenburg Local Municipality

Decision

The Department is satisfied on the basis of information available to it and subject to compliance with the conditions of this Environmental Authorisation, that the applicant should be authorised to undertake the activity specified below:

2. **Activities Authorised**

By virtue of the powers delegated by the MEC in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) as amended and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations of 04 December 2014 as amended on 7 April 2017, the Director: Environmental Quality Management of the Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism authorises:-

The Alpha Grande (Pty) Ltd P.O. Box 31190 WONDERBOOMPOORT 0033

082 322 3470 Cell No. Email: frans@odire.co.za

to undertake the following activity:

Clearance of indigenous vegetation and development of a self-standing units and guest lodge that sleeps more than 15 people with associated roads

The overall development will consist of:

- 5 self-standing Units (0.5398 ha)
- 20 quest lodge suits (0.4 ha)
- Total Clearance: 0.9398 ha
- Internal roads

Details regarding the basis on which the Department reached this decision are set out in Annexure 1.

Site Location:

S1A	Latitude	Longitude
Erf 185 Olifantsnek JQ	25° 47' 38.09" S	27° 14' 42.38" E





The operational site is located on ERF 185 Olifantsnek JQ, via R24 into Olifantsnek area and then Main Road (directly east of site), within the jurisdiction of Rustenburg Local Municipality, North West Province, hereafter referred to as "the property".

3. Conditions

- 3.1 Scope of Environmental Authorisation
- 3.1.1 The preferred alternative S1A is approved
- 3.1.2 Authorisation of the activity is subject to the conditions contained in this Environmental Authorisation, which are binding on the holder of the Environmental Authorisation.
- 3.1.3 The holder of the Environmental Authorisation must be responsible for ensuring compliance with the conditions contained in this Environmental Authorisation. This includes any person acting on the holder's behalf, including but not limited to, an agent, servant, contractor, sub-contractor, employee, consultant or person rendering a service to the holder of the Environmental Authorisation.
- 3.1.4 The activities authorised may only be carried out at the properties as described in Point 2 under site location.
- 3.1.5 This Environmental Authorisation does not negate the holder of the Environmental Authorisation's responsibility to comply with any other statutory requirements that may be applicable to the undertaking of the activity.
- 3.1.6 Relevant legislation that must be complied with by the holder of this Environmental Authorisation includes, *inter alia*:
 - a) National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999).
 - b) The Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993 (Act No. 85 of 1993)
 - c) All provisions of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998)
 - d) National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2008 (Act 10 of 2004) as amended
 - e) National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act 59 of 2008) as amended
 - f) All provisions of the Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act, 2013 (Act No.16 of 2013).
 - g) The municipal by-laws must be adhered to where applicable.
- 3.1.7 The holder of an Environmental Authorisation has the responsibility to apply for Environmental Authorisation amendment to the competent authority when any alienation, or deviation from project description / ownership.



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4. Appeal of Environmental Authorisation

- 4.1 The holder of the Environmental Authorisation must notify every **registered** interested and affected party, in writing and within **14 days**, of receiving an Environmental Authorisation from the Department.
- 4.2 The notification referred to in 4.1 must –
- 4.2.1 Inform interested and affected parties of the decision, reason for decision and where the decision can be accessed.
- 4.2.2 Advise the interested and affected parties that a copy of the Environmental Authorisation and reasons for the decision will be furnished on request.
- 4.2.3 Specify the date on which the Environmental Authorisation was issued.
- 4.2.4 Inform the registered interested and affected parties of the appeal procedure provided for in Chapter 2 of the National Appeal Regulations (see Annexure 2).
- An appeal against the decision must be lodged in terms of Chapter 2 of the National Appeal Regulations on an Appeal Form obtainable from:

Ms. Carene Nieuwoudt

Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism MMABATHO

Room E30, Agricentre Building

Cnr. Dr. James Moroka & Stadium Road.

MMABATHO

Tel No: (018) 389 5986 Cell No: (083) 385 9486

E-mail: CNieuwoudt@nwpg.gov.za

- An appeal made against this Environmental Authorisation will result in it being suspended, therefore the activity must not commence pending the lapse of 20 days after all Interested and Affected parties have been informed of this decision
- 4.5 Should an appeal be lodged within 20 days after notification to all Interested and Affected parties of the decision, the activity may only commence once the decision by the MEC, as Appeal Authority, have been made.

5. Management of the activity

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- 5.1 The Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) for the project submitted as part of application for Environmental Authorisation is **hereby approved**.
- The recommendations and mitigation measures outlined in the Basic Assessment Report compiled by Hydro Science CC received by the Department on 30 August 2022 must be adhered to.



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- Any proposed amendments to the EMPr (as a result of this Environmental Authorisation or otherwise) must be submitted in writing to Director: Environmental Quality Management for approval prior to the amendment being implemented. The proposed amendments will be decided upon by the Department within a period of **30 days** of receiving the submission.
- 5.4 The provisions of the EMPr are an extension of the conditions of the Environmental Authorisation and therefore non-compliance with the EMPr would constitute non-compliance with the Environmental Authorisation.
- 5.5 The EMPr must form part of the contractor's tender documentation for all contractors working on the project and must be made available on the site.
- 5.6 Notwithstanding the preceding conditions, the holder shall adhere to, and ensure adherence by all contractors, sub-contractors and workers for this project, to all conditions listed herein, and all obligations, commitments, monitoring and proposed mitigation measures as outlined in the EMPr.

6. Monitoring

- 6.1 The holder of Environmental Authorisation has the responsibility to ensure that the mitigation/ rehabilitation measures and recommendations referred to in the Basic Assessment Report are implemented, and to ensure compliance with the provisions of the EMPr.
- 6.2 The holder of Environmental Authorisation must ensure communications with key stakeholders in respect to monitoring of compliance with conditions of Environmental Authorisation and the EMPr and also liaise with Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Section.
- 6.3 It is the responsibility of the holder of this Environmental Authorisation to ensure that an ongoing management and monitoring of the impacts of the activities on the environment throughout the life cycle of the activities is put into practice.
- 7. Validity period of the activities authorised
- 7.1 This Environmental Authorisation is valid for a period of 5 years from the date of issue of the authorization. If the activities are not concluded within that period, the said authorisation will be null and void and a new application for an Environmental Authorisation must be made in order for the activity to be undertaken.
- 7.2 If the holder of the Environmental Authorisation anticipates that the authorized activities will not occur within the specified period above, he/she must apply and show good cause and give reasons for an extension of the Environmental Authorisation provided that the Environmental Authorisation is valid on the date of receipt of such an application.
- 8. Recording and Reporting to the Department/Environmental Audit report
- 8.1 14 days written notice must be given to the Departments Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Section that the activity will commence at cnieuwoudt@nwpg.gov.za AND lnonkomo@nwpg.gov.za



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8.2 Records relating to monitoring must be kept on site and made available for inspection to any relevant and competent authority in respect of this development.

9. Site Closure and Decommissioning

- 9.1 Should the activity ever cease or become redundant, the applicant must undertake the required actions as prescribed by legislation at the time and comply with all relevant legal requirements administered by any relevant and competent authority at that time.
- 9.2 The disturbed areas must be rehabilitated to almost a natural state, and landscaping of the disturbed areas must make extensive use of locally appropriate indigenous vegetation.

10. Specific conditions

- 10.1 The applicant must adhere to the mitigation measures and recommendations contained in the Basic Assessment Report compiled by Hydro Science CC received on 30 August 2022.
- 10.2 All required registrations and agreements for adequate services and capacities must be made before clearance commences.
- 10.3 General waste must be collected and disposed of at a licensed landfill site on a weekly basis. Recyclable waste must be recovered for recycling purpose. No temporary dumping of waste is allowed on site.
- 10.4 Embankments must be established around excavation areas and stockpiles to divert surface runoff away from these areas to avoid water pollution
- 10.5 Clean storm water must be directed away from potential contamination sources to allow larger volumes stormwater to remain clean and suitable for discharge
- 10.6 The septic tank and associated infrastructure must comply with all relevant SANS standards and municipal bylaws applicable to the installation of septic tanks and associated infrastructure.
- 10.7 Regular removal of raw sewer must occur and disposed of at sewage treatment facility of Rustenburg Local Municipality as per contractual agreements/authorisation.
- 10.8 All laydown, chemical toilets etc. should be restricted to medium sensitivity areas. Any materials may not be stored for extended periods of time and must be removed from the project area once the construction phase has been concluded. No storage of vehicles or equipment will be allowed outside of the designated project areas as recommended by **The Biodiversity Company**.
- 10.9 Areas that are denuded during construction need to be re-vegetated with indigenous vegetation to prevent erosion during flood and wind events. This will also reduce the likelihood of encroachment by alien invasive plant species as recommended by **The Biodiversity Company**.
- 10.10 All activities must be restricted within the low/medium sensitivity areas. It is recommended that areas to be developed be specifically demarcated so that during the construction phase, only the demarcated areas be impacted upon as recommended by **The Biodiversity Company**.



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- 10.11 The maximum abstraction volume for the borehole must be kept at 64.8 m³/d as recommended in the **HK Geohydrological services (Pty) Ltd.**
- 10.12 The development footprint must be restricted to 0.9398ha of erf 185 Olifantsnek JQ in Rustenburg Local Municipality, North West Province.
- 10.13 Dust control measures must be implemented to reduce dust arising from construction vehicles.
- 10.14 The contractor must ensure that drip trays are always available to collect any fluid that may result from standing vehicles, accidental spillage, overflow and/or servicing. All equipment's that leak must be repaired immediately and removed from the site when necessary.
- 10.15 No surface or ground water must be polluted due to any activities on the site. General housekeeping at the site must be kept at a high standard. The requirements of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) must be complied with at all times.
- 10.16 Archaeological remains, artificial features and structures older than **60 years** are protected. Should any archaeological artefacts be exposed during excavation for the purpose of construction, construction in the vicinity of the finding must be stopped immediately and the Provincial Heritage Resources Authority must be informed about the finding.
- 10.17 The holder of the Environmental Authorisation, **The Alpha Grande (Pty) Ltd**, must be responsible for compliance with the provisions for duty of care and remediation of environmental damage in accordance with Section 28 of National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), as amended

11 General

- 11.1 A copy of this Environmental Authorisation must be kept at the property where the activity will be undertaken, and must be produced to any authorised official of the Department upon request.
- 11.2 The holder of the Environmental Authorisation must notify the Department (accompanied by reasons), in writing and within **48 hours**, if any condition of this Environmental Authorisation cannot be or is not adhered to. Non-compliance with a condition of this Environmental Authorisation may result in criminal prosecution or other actions provided for in the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the Regulations.
- 11.3 No public authority shall be held responsible for any damages or losses suffered by the applicant or his successor in title in any instance for reasons of non-compliance by the applicant with the conditions of this Environmental Authorisation as set out in this document or any other subsequent document emanating from these conditions of this Environmental Authorisation

Environmental Authorisation Approved By:

Ms. Portia Krisian

Director: Environmental Quality Management

Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism

Date: 07/12/2022.

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ANNEXURE 1: REASONS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

1. Background

The Applicant, The Alpha Grande (Pty) Ltd, applied for Environmental Authorisation to carry out the following activity:

Clearance indigenous vegetation and development of a self-standing units and guest lodges with associated roads on erf 185 Olifantsnek JQ, Rustenburg Local Municipality, North West Province

The applicant appointed **Hydro Science CC** to undertake a Basic Assessment process as required by Regulation 12 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.

2. Information considered in making the decision

In reaching its decision, the Department took, inter alia, the following into consideration -

- a) The information contained in the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) compiled by **Hydro Science CC** received by the Department on 30 August 2022.
- b) The objectives and requirements of relevant legislation, policies and guidelines, including Section 2 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) as amended.
- c) The Terrestrial & Freshwater Ecology Assessments compiled by The Biodiversity Company dated May 2022.
- d) The Letter for HIA- exemption request by Achaetnos Culture & Cultural Resource dated 24 May 2022
- e) The Palaeontology report compiled by Dr J.F Durand dated 8 May 2022.
- f) The Geohydrology report compiled by HK Geohydrological Services (Pty) Ltd dated June 2022.
- g) The Traffic Impact Assessment compiled by P. Janse van Rensburg of **EPS Consulting Engineers** dated 10 August 2022.
- h) The agreement/contract from **Deonak Drains CC** dated 04 May 2022 for the regular removal of raw sewer.
- Comments from the Rustenburg Local Municipality: Integrated Environmental Management dated 03
 August 2022.
- j) Comments from the Magaliesberg Biosphere Reserve Coordinator.



k) The findings of a site visit undertaken on 02 August 2022 by Departmental official Olebogeng Marobe with P. Jacobs of Hydroscience and K. Mekgoe of Rustenburg Local Municipality.





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3. Key factors considered in making the decision

All information presented to the Department was taken into account in the Department's consideration of the application. A summary of the issues which, in the Department's view, were of the most significance is set out below:

- a) Details provided of the qualifications of the EAP indicate that the EAP is competent to carry out the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) procedures.
- b) The Basic Assessment Report received on 30 August 2022, included a description of the environment that may be affected by the activity and the manner in which the physical, biological, social, economic and cultural aspects of the environment may be affected by the proposed activity.
- c) The Basic Assessment Process was conducted in terms of the prescribed Regulations.
- d) A sufficient public participation process was undertaken and the applicant has satisfied the minimum requirements as prescribed in the EIA Regulations of 2014 for public involvement. The development was advertised in "Rustenburg Herald" on 13 May 2022 as part of the public participation process.
- e) The legal and procedural requirements have been complied with and the information contained in the document is to the satisfaction of this Department.

4. Findings

After consideration of the information and factors listed above, the Department made the following findings –

- a) Job opportunities for the local community will be created.
- b) Residential properties and school are in close proximity of the proposed site.
- c) The development will not negatively affect the built or natural environment.

In view of the above, the Department is satisfied that, subject to compliance with the conditions contained in the Environmental Authorisation, the activity will not conflict with the general objectives of Integrated Environmental Management laid down in Section 23 (2) (a-f) of Chapter 5 of National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) as amended and that any potentially detrimental environmental impacts resulting from the activity can be mitigated to acceptable levels. **The application is accordingly granted.**







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ANNEXURE 2: ADMINISTRATION AND PROCESSING OF APPEALS

ADMINISTRATION AND PROCESSING OF APPEALS IN TERMS OF CHAPTER 2 OF THE NATIONAL APPEAL REGULATIONS, 2014 TO BE FOLLOWED BY THE APPLICANT, AND INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES UPON RECEIPT OF NOTIFICATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

Appeal submission

- 4. (1) An appellant must submit the appeal to the appeal administrator, and a copy of the appeal to the applicant, any registered interested and affected party and any organ of state with interest in the matter within 20 days from:
 - (a) the date that the notification of the decision for an application for an environmental authorisation was sent to the registered interested and affected parties by the applicant; or
 - (b) the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the applicant by the competent authority, issuing authority or licensing authority, in the case of decisions other than those referred to in paragraph (a).
 - (2) An appeal submission must be-
 - (a) submitted in writing in the form obtainable from the appeal administrator; and
 - (b) accompanied by-
 - (i) a statement setting out the grounds of appeal;
 - (ii) supporting documentation which is referred to in the appeal submission; and a statement, including supporting documentation, by the appellant to confirm compliance with regulation 4(1) of these Regulations.

Responding statement

5. The applicant, the decision-maker, interested and affected parties and organ of state must submit their responding statement, if any, to the appeal authority and the appellant within 20 days from the date of receipt of the appeal submission.

Appeal panel

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- 6. (1) If the appeal authority reasonably believes that expert advice must be sought or that an appeal panel must be appointed, the appeal administrator must source an independent expert or Constitute an independent appeal panel, or both, within 10 days from the date of receipt of an instruction from the appeal authority,
 - (2) The appeal panel contemplated in subregulation (1) may consist of such number of independent experts and with such expertise as the Appeal Authority may deem necessary under the circumstances;
 - (3) The expert or appeal panel must provide advice to the appeal administrator within 10 days from the receipt of an instruction from the appeal administrator.



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Recommendations and decisions on appeals

- 7. (1) The appeal administrator must make a recommendation on the appeal to the appeal authority within 30 days of receipt of the responding statement referred to in regulation 5 of these Regulations, in the event that an independent expert has not been sourced or an independent appeal panel has not been constituted.
 - (2) The appeal administrator must make a recommendation on the appeal to the appeal authority within 10 days of receipt of the advice referred to in regulation 6(2) of these Regulations, in the event that an independent expert has been sourced or an independent appeal panel has been constituted.
 - (3) The appeal authority must reach a decision on an appeal, and notify the appellant, applicant, and any registered interested and affected party, within 20 days of the recommendation on the appeal by the appeal administrator.
 - (4) The decision contemplated in subregulation (3) must contain written reasons for the decision.

Communication

- 8. (1) A person may deliver documents in terms of these regulations by using one of the delivery methods referred to in section 47D of the Act, which are:
 - (i) by faxing a copy of the notice or other document to the person, if the person has a fax number;
 - (ii) by e-mailing a copy of the notice or other document to the person if the person has an e-mail address; or
 - (iii) by posting a copy of the notice or other document to the person by ordinary mail, if the person has a postal address;
 - (2) In order to meet the time periods determined in these regulations, the person referred to in subregulation (1) must also email, fax or hand deliver the document to the recipient, if the document is delivered by ordinary mail or registered mail.





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