

Reference: GAUT 002/21-22/E3074

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Dear Mrs. Babalwa Fatyi

COMMENTS ON DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF THE R59 (156/2) PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE CROSSING IN MEYERTON, MIDVAAL LOCAL MUNICIPALITY.

Regarding the above-mentioned Basic Assessment report received by the Department on 28 February 2022, herewith receive the comments from the Department.

1. Description of the site/property/route and development

The development entails the development of pedestrian bridge crossing over the R59 freeway on the above-mentioned site which measures 9.6 hectares in extent. The proposed activities will include but not limited to: the construction of a pedestrian bridge crossing, the erection of a ±1 km long fence (±500 m on either side of the bridge, on both the eastern and western side on the R59 freeway), erection of a construction laydown area and associated vegetation clearance and construction of temporary access roads and traffic control section.

2. Description of the receiving environment

The site falls within a vulnerable ecosystem according the departmental GIS and C-Plan version 3.3. The site is however disturbed as falls within a developed area. In terms of the Gauteng Environmental Management Zones, the site falls within management zone 1.

3. Listed activities applied for

The following listed activities have been applied for-

Activity No and description	Description of the development related to the listed activity
Listing Notice 3, Activity 12 The clearance of a 300 square metres or more of indeginous vegetation except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan. c. Gauteng ii. within Critical Biodiversity Areas or Ecological Support Areas identified in the Gauteng Conservation plan or bioregional plans	This activity does not apply to the proposed development as there are no indigenous vegetation on site and the site does not fall within a critical biodiversity area or Ecological Support Area in terms of the Gauteng Conservation Plan.

Based on the above and the information submitted, the activity is not listed in terms of Listing Notice 1, 2 and 3 of Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, (As amended) published under the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended) and therefore does not legally require Environmental Authorisation from the Department. As a result, the Draft BAR submitted to the department must be withdrawn.

Although authorisation, in terms of NEMA, is not required for this activity, all relevant legislation and requirements of other government departments (i.e. National, Provincial and Local) must still be complied with.

This Department reserves the right to revise this advice if there is non-compliance taking place from the subject property.

Should there be any queries concerning this issue, contact the official at the number given above.

Yours faithfully

Mr. Khaka Khaka

Control Environmental Officer-B: Impact Management

Date: 17/03/2027