

**Environmental Impact Assessment of the
Proposed Greenfields Farm Agricultural Developments, Mooi
River, KwaZulu-Natal**



Final Scoping Report

20 September 2021

Document Journey: Scoping Report

Title	Date	Author/s
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Distribution List

Date	Entity / Department / Organisation
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27 May 2021	Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
27 May 2021	Department of Water Affairs
27 May 2021	EZEMVELO KZN Wildlife
27 May 2021	Department of Water and Sanitation
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EIA Process Document Journey

Date	EIA Component
26 April 2021	Pre-Application Meeting
27 May 2021	Draft Scoping Report Public Consultation Commences
27 May 2021	Draft Scoping Report Submitted (to I&APs)
5 August 2021	Receipt of Draft Scoping Report Acknowledged by KZN-EDTEA
5 August 2021	Application form Submitted
6 August 2021	Acknowledgement of receipt of Application Form
20 September 2021	Final Scoping Report Submitted
TBC	Final Scoping Report Accepted
TBC	Draft Environmental Impact Report Public Consultation
TBC	Draft Environmental Impact Report Submitted
TBC	Draft Environmental Impact Report Acknowledged
TBC	Comment on Draft Environmental Impact Report
TBC	Final Environmental Impact Report Submitted

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

GMKN Agric (Pty) Ltd. (hereafter GMKN or the Applicant) intends to increase the productive capacity on the existing Greenfields wagyu and dairy cattle farm, situated in Mooi River, KwaZulu-Natal. The Applicant intends to develop infrastructure to support increased agricultural production of cattle and proposes the following developments:

1. Pivot cultivation with irrigation, including six new pivots of 145 ha, combined extent. The pivots will provide a sustainable feed source for the cattle.
2. Construction of a new dam, to supply water to three of the pivots, of 600 000 m³.
3. Construction of a retention pond, to accommodate wastewater of the dairy, for later reuse on pastures.

GMKN appointed EnviroHeart Consulting Pty Ltd., as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to undertake a Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) process in application for an Environmental Authorisation (EA) that is required for the proposed activities. The S&EIR is being undertaken in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA, Act No. 107 of 1998), and associated 2014 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (as amended), as the proposed developments trigger listed activities that require environmental authorisation prior to commencing.

This Final Scoping Report (FSR) provides details on the proposed project and alternatives, the outcomes of the Scoping Phase, and the intended methodology for EIA. The potential impacts that were identified, for Construction and Operational Phases of the Proposed Greenfields Farm Agricultural Developments during Scoping are listed include:

Construction Related Impacts (Negative Impacts):

- Disturbance of natural ecology.
- Soil erosion.
- Dust.
- Disruption to existing farming operations.
- Impacts on heritage resources.

Operational Related Impacts:

Potential positive impacts:

- Positive socio-economic impacts of job creation, eco-tourism opportunities and investment in economic development of the Mpofana Municipality.
- Formalised conservation and environmental management of important biodiversity areas: Vulnerable Mooi River Grassland and wetland habitats.

Potential negative impacts:

- Topographical impacts on cultivation and potential soil erosion due to cultivation of steep areas.
- Impacts on flora, including potential loss of Mooi River grassland classified as Vulnerable.
- Impact on fauna, including Oripi and Blue Crane that visit the Farm.
- Impacts on wetlands.
- Surface water impacts.
- Traffic impacts.
- Agricultural impacts: livestock and crops.

Considering the impacts identified, the following specialist studies will be included in the Impact Assessment Phase:

1. Wetland Impact Assessment.
2. Aquatic Ecology Assessment.
3. Biodiversity Impact Assessment.
4. Surface Water Impact Assessment (Hydrological Assessment).
5. Socio-Economic Impact Assessment.
6. *Update* to previous Agricultural Impact Assessment.
7. *Update* to previous Heritage Impact Assessment.

Public Participation Process

As part of the Public Participation Process for the S&EIR, the DSR was made available for public comment for 30 days, from 27 May – 28 June 2021. Unfortunately, due to a surge in positive Covid-19 cases in South Africa, President Cyril Ramaphosa announced on Sunday, 30 May 2021, that the country would immediately move to lockdown alert level 2. In trying to avoid any risk to project stakeholders, authorities and I&APs, we had been granted permission by KZN-EDTEA to have the planned public meeting via Zoom, instead of meeting on site. A Public Meeting was held via Zoom, on 9 June 2021, where registered Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) obtained additional information of the project and presented comments on the Draft Scoping Report.

I&APs registered by providing their name and contact details, and comments or concerns on the proposed project to: **Sanusha Reddy | Environmental Assessment Practitioner | Mobile: +27 84 219 8000 | greenfields@enviroheart.co.za** .

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2 Introduction

GMKN Agric (GMKN), the Applicant, has appointed EnviroHeart Consulting Pty Ltd., as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process in application of Environmental Authorisation (EA), required for activities proposed on the existing Greenfields Farm, situated in Mooi River, KwaZulu-Natal (Figure 1). The Competent Decision-Making Authority for the EIA is the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Economic Development Tourism and Environmental Affairs (KZN-EDTEA).

The Greenfields Farm currently operates as a Wagyu cattle and dairy farm, with 400 dairy and 400 Wagyu cattle. The Applicant intends to develop infrastructure to support increased agricultural production of Wagyu and dairy cattle and establish a new economic hub for Wagyu production (Figure 2). In this respect, the Applicant proposes the following developments (Figures 3 and 4):

1. Pivot cultivation with irrigation, including six new pivots of 145 ha, combined extent.
2. Construction of a new dam to supply water to three of the pivots, of 600 000 m³.
3. Construction of a retention pond.

A Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) Process is required in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA, Act No. 107 of 1998), and Part 3 of the associated 2014 EIA Regulations (as amended), as the proposed developments trigger activities listed in GN No. 327 (Listing Notice 1), GN No. 325 (Listing Notice 2) and GN No. 324 (Listing Notice 3) of 7 April 2017, which require environmental authorisation prior to commencing. This Draft Scoping Report (DSR) outlines the proposed project and the S&EIR to be followed, to seek approval for the proposed developments.

2.1 Site location and cadastral description

The Greenfields Farm is located just outside of the Mooi River town, in the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands (Figure 1). The three farm portions that form part of the EA Application total 955,5 ha: Rem of Lot 1 2601; Ptn 32 (of 5) Fountain Hall 2172; Ptn 4 of Greenfields 1834 (Table 1). The farm entrance to the site is situated at 29°13'52.05" S, 30°0'11.78" E.

Table 1: Property Descriptions

Farm Portion	Surveyor-General 21-digit Site Reference Numbers																					
Rem of Lot 1 2601	N	0	F	T	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	6	0	1	0	0	0	0	
Ptn 32 (of 5) Fountain Hall 2172	N	0	F	T	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	7	2	0	0	0	3	2
Ptn 4 of Greenfields 1834	N	0	F	T	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	8	3	4	0	0	0	0	4

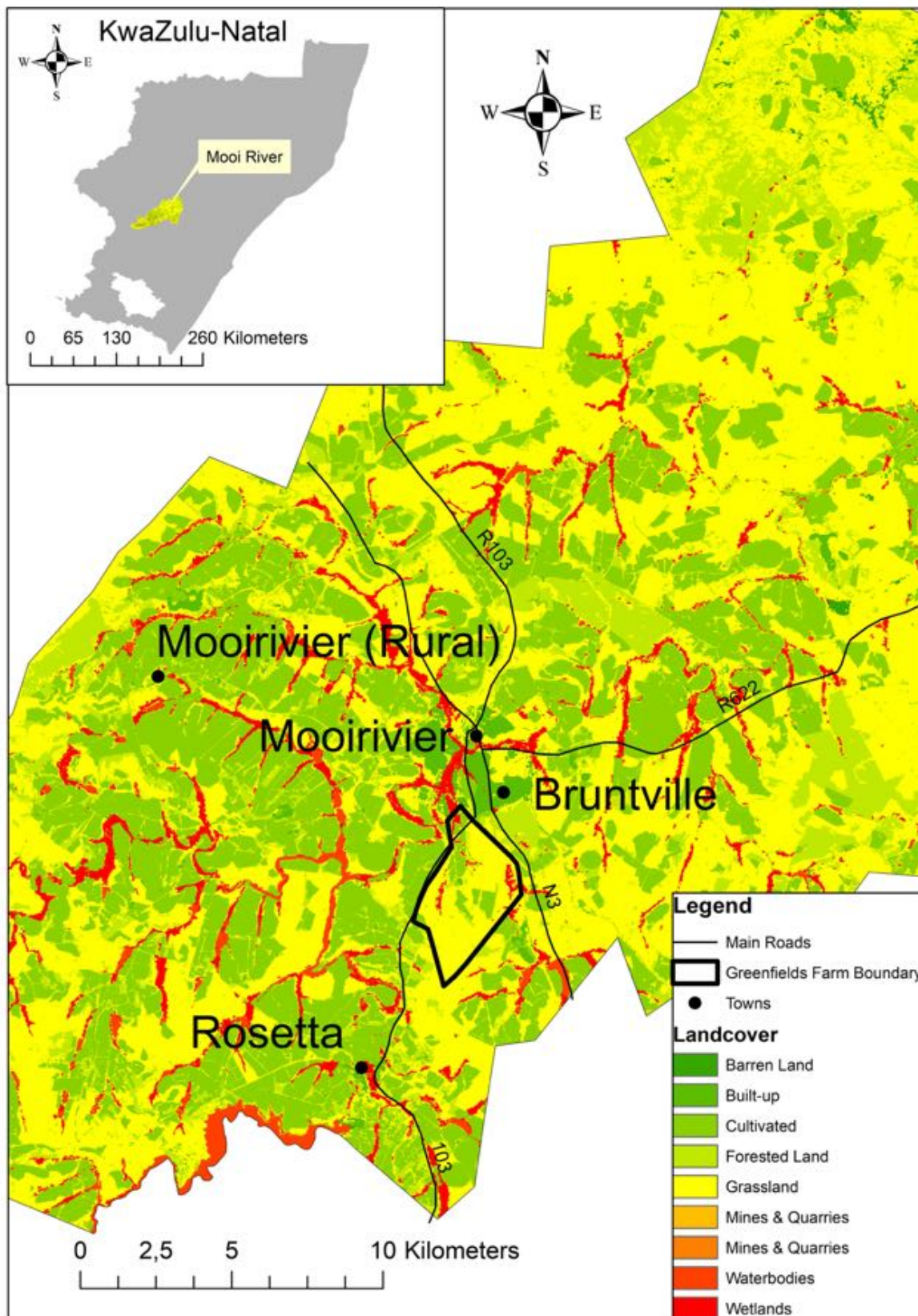


Figure 1: Greenfields Farm Location and Surrounding Landcover Map

2.2 Project Background

2.2.1 Existing Environmental Authorisation on Greenfields Farm

The Greenfields Farm was subject to a previous Environmental Authorisation (EA) process, where the previous owner, Jigawa Investments, applied for, and received, EA in 2018 to cultivate 104 ha of virgin veld on the Greenfields Farm. The previous EIA was undertaken by Green Door Environmental (Green Door Environmental 2017, 2018). Jigawa Investments, under liquidation, sold all the farm portions included in the EA, of which majority were bought by the Applicant. As the new owners, the Applicant intends to apply for an Amendment Application, to change the ownership of the EA, from Jigawa to that of the Proponent.

The listed Activities that were approved in the EA (Table 2) granted permission for the cultivation with perennial rye grass, white clover, turnips, stolling rye and chicory, with no irrigation or tilling, to support increased cattle production on the farm. The approved EA also included the development of 0.35 ha of hill-seep wetland areas. The EA was issued on 28 May 2018 (Reference Number DC22/0044/2017) and is valid for a 10-year period.

Location: The following seven farm portions are affected by the previous EA: Rem of Lot 1 2601; Ptn 32 (5) Fountain Hall 2172; Ptn 4 of Greenfields 1834; Ptn 4 of Rondebosch 2167; Rem of Davies 18302; Rem of Rondebosch 18303; Rem of Kethro 15969. All farm portions fall within the Mpofana Local Municipality and the uMgungundlovu District Municipality.

Table 2: Previously Approved Activities for Greenfields Farm in terms of DC22/0044/2017 Environmental Authorisation

Listed Activities	Description
Activity 19 – GNR 327	The EA approves the removal of 10 m ³ of material in a watercourse / wetland in order to cultivate that area, however in return, offset for the loss of 0.35 ha of hillside slope seep wetland slope by rehabilitating other wetland areas.
Activity 13 – GNR 325	The EA approves the physical alteration of 100 ha of virgin soil to agriculture.
Activity 15 – GNR 325	The EA approves the clearance of indigenous vegetation for cultivation.

As mentioned above, the Applicant submitted a concurrent application for a change of ownership of the EA, to GMKN. The Application was approved on 18 August 2021, and GMKN is now the legal owner of the Environmental Authorisation.

Given that the ownership has been changed, the following tasks will be required as part of the implementation of the EA:

1. A Cultivation permit is required from the Department of Agriculture.
2. All identified protected plants to be relocated under the supervision of Ezemvelo KwaZulu-Natal Wildlife (EKZNW).
3. A Wetland rehabilitation plan to be compiled and approved by EKZNW.
4. A Long-Term Conservation Management Plan to be developed and implemented on site.
5. A conservation servitude to be registered over the offset area/s.
6. A Biodiversity Offset Implementation Plan to be approved and implemented.

This background information is relevant to the current EIA Application as the above activities will take place within the same farm footprint, namely, the Greenfields Farm. The Applicant is the majority landowner of the Greenfields Farm. Despite the EA approving 107 ha of cultivation, the Applicant only intends to commence with planting of crops in the approved areas, only where they overlap with the pivot circles being applied for in this EIA process.

2.2.2 Land Sale and New Owner Details

The abovementioned EA was awarded to Jigawa, who owned all seven of the farm portions listed in the EA. Subsequently, Jigawa sold the farm portions. Of these seven, four land parcels were sold to GMKN, which is a 51% Black owned entity. Two land parcels were sold to Coral Wood Property Trust (CPT). These transfers were finalised on 24 November 2020. The remaining farm portion was sold to Guy Slater Coal Trading CC and Comfort Zama. Refer to Table 3 below for landowner details. Properties listed 1 – 5 are owned by the Applicant and partners, which together form the Wild Coast Wagyu Joint Venture (WCWJV). Property no 7 in Table 3, is owned by Guy Slater and Comfort Zama owns property No 6. Note that this application for environmental authorisation does not include Guy Slaters or Comfort Zama's Property.

Table 3: Landowner Details for properties part of previous EA

No.	Previous Landowner	Current Owner	Property Description	Size
1.	Jigawa Investments Pty Ltd	CPT (Part of the WCWJV)	Rem of Rondebosch 18303	203 ha
2.		*GMKN (Part of the WCWJV)	Rem of Lot 1 2601	12,1 ha
3.		*GMKN (Part of the WCWJV)	Ptn 32 (of 5) Fountain Hall 2172	21,2 ha
4.		*GMKN (Part of the WCWJV)	Ptn 4 of Greenfields 1834	922,2 ha
5.		CPT (Part of the WCWJV)	Ptn 4 of Rondebosch 2167	157 ha
6.		Comfort Zama	Rem of Kethro 15969	139,7 ha
7.		Guy Slater	Rem of Rondebosch 18302	261 ha

*Current EIA only applies to activities on GMKN owned properties.

3 Proposed Project Description

GMKN intends to develop infrastructure to support increased agricultural production of Wagyu and dairy cattle, and the future development of an Agri Park for associated agricultural activities, in Mooi River, KwaZulu-Natal. GMKN intends to create a Sustainable Agricultural - Eco Tourism Wagyu Economic Hub (Figure 2).

This project relates to Phase 1 only as indicated by the green shaded blocks in Figure 2, namely:

- Pivot irrigation infrastructure to cultivate feed for cattle.
- Construct a new dam to secure a reliable water source for the aforementioned Hub.
- Construct a retention pond adjacent to the existing dairy to conserve water use.

The first phase will include the creation of a conservation area to upgrade and manage the natural environment strategically. This is envisioned to become part of the future Eco-Tourism Venture. The business case of the farm is based on an artisanal 'pasture-to-plate' approach that will employ sustainable farming practices. The development will be phased in two parts, A) Agricultural Development (Phase 1, present EIA) and B) Agri-Park Development (Phase 2, future EIA). The existing EA for the site (described above), approves the dry land cultivation of virgin veld on Greenfields Farm, to support increased beef cattle production.

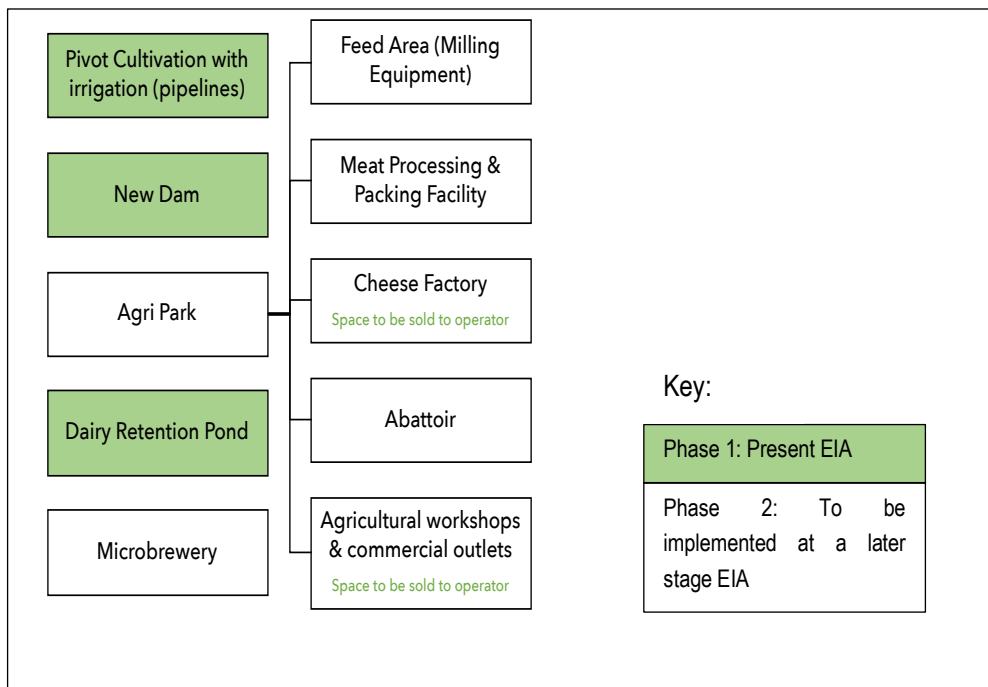


Figure 2: GMKN Future Vision for Greenfields Farm Developments (green boxes indicate present project proposal)

The Greenfields and Rondebosch Farms currently operate as a Wagyu cattle and dairy farm with 400 dairy animals and 400 Wagyu cattle. GMKN intends to maintain and expand the current levels of production of milk and Wagyu weaners, and establish a new economic hub for Wagyu production, and a source of high-quality Wagyu weaners for their BBBEE farmer partner producers (James Mbongwa – Estcourt farms, Comfort Zama – Springfield Farm).

The intention is to use sustainable, no till, farming methods based on pastures with supplementary irrigation and supplementary feeding. This system results in an increase in soil microbiological diversity due to the maintenance of soil moisture levels and carbon fixing within the soils. The aim is to use no till pasture cultivation methods which minimises soil disturbance.

Eco-tourism will be built into the development structure, to promote sustainable transparent farming. The Applicant has identified pivot cultivation as the only economic method of supplementary irrigation, which has less impact on the environment due to defined wheel tracks and less trenching required for the installation of underground water lines than would be required for draglines or reel type travelling irrigators. It is more sustainable being in line with best practice. The proposed project will therefore include the establishment of six new pivots of 145 ha combined extent, a new dam to supply

water to three of the pivots (of 600 000 m³) and a retention pond to hold and separate wastewater from the existing dairy (Figures 3 and 4). Each of these project components are described below.

3.1 Construction of a 600 000 m³ Dam

A new dam is proposed to provide additional water to Pivots B, D & E (Table 4). The volume of the in-stream dam is proposed to be 600 000 m³. The dam will be a 15 m wall height, base footprint 30 m wide in watercourse, side channel or overtopping spillway (Figure 5). The dam will be constructed with rubble masonry arch wall and earth embankment with no liner. The design and construction will have a transfer pumpstation to Highway dam with 250 mm diameter pipeline.

3.2 Pivot Cultivation

The aim is to construct six new pivots 145 ha combined extent, cultivated with perennial rye grass, white clover, turnips, stolling rye and chicory (Figure 3). The pipelines leading from the pivots to the water source will have a 250 mm diameter with flow rates of 100 liters per second. Pivot A will have two alternative routes similarly to the Mooi River extraction pipeline. In terms of the Pivots and Water Courses, the Lower Pastures Pivot C has an end gun which means there is no mechanical equipment (wheels) within 25 m of the outside of the circle indicated. Furthermore, the applicant may channelize the water course to avoid the 30 m buffer from the stream centerline. Valley pivots have a maximum of 300 m radius 6 x 50 m spans or extent. The base is 3 m x 3 m. Prefabricated off site, so the construction footprint is confined to the base area. Pivot spans run on rubber wheels and are all powered by electric motors.

The details the size and water sources for each proposed pivot are shown in Table 4.

Table 4: Proposed Pivots and Water Sources and Requirements

Pivot	Area	Water Source	Pipelines & Pivot additional data	Water Requirements
Pivot A	30 ha	Greenfields Dam & Mooi River	There are two alternative routes. These pipelines will cross wetland and potentially sensitive biodiversity areas.	180 000 m ³ annually
Pivot B	20 ha	Rondebosch Dam and new dam	Pipelines will be constructed to draw water from the proposed new 600 000 m ³ Dam to Pivot B. See Figure 3 for proposed route.	120 000 m ³ annually
Pivot C (Lower Pasture)	20 ha	Greenfields Dam & Mooi River	There are two routes, one the Greenfields Farm property and one in a servitude to be negotiated to avoid abstraction below the sewage works and industrial area. The Lower Pastures Pivot has an end gun which means there is no mechanical equipment (wheels) within 25 m of the outside of the circle indicated.	120 000 m ³ annually
Pivot D (Top)	25 ha	New Dam	Pipelines will be constructed to draw water from the New Dam to Pivots D, E. The Hayfields Pivot F will be fed from a transfer pipeline from Greenfields Dam to the Railway Dam. See Figure 3 for proposed pipeline routes.	150 000 m ³ annually
Pivot E (Railway)	30 ha	New Dam		180 000 m ³ annually
Pivot F (Hayfields)	20 ha	Greenfields Dam		120 000 m ³ annually



Figure 3: Study Site, Proposed Pivots, Irrigation Pipelines and Dam Location

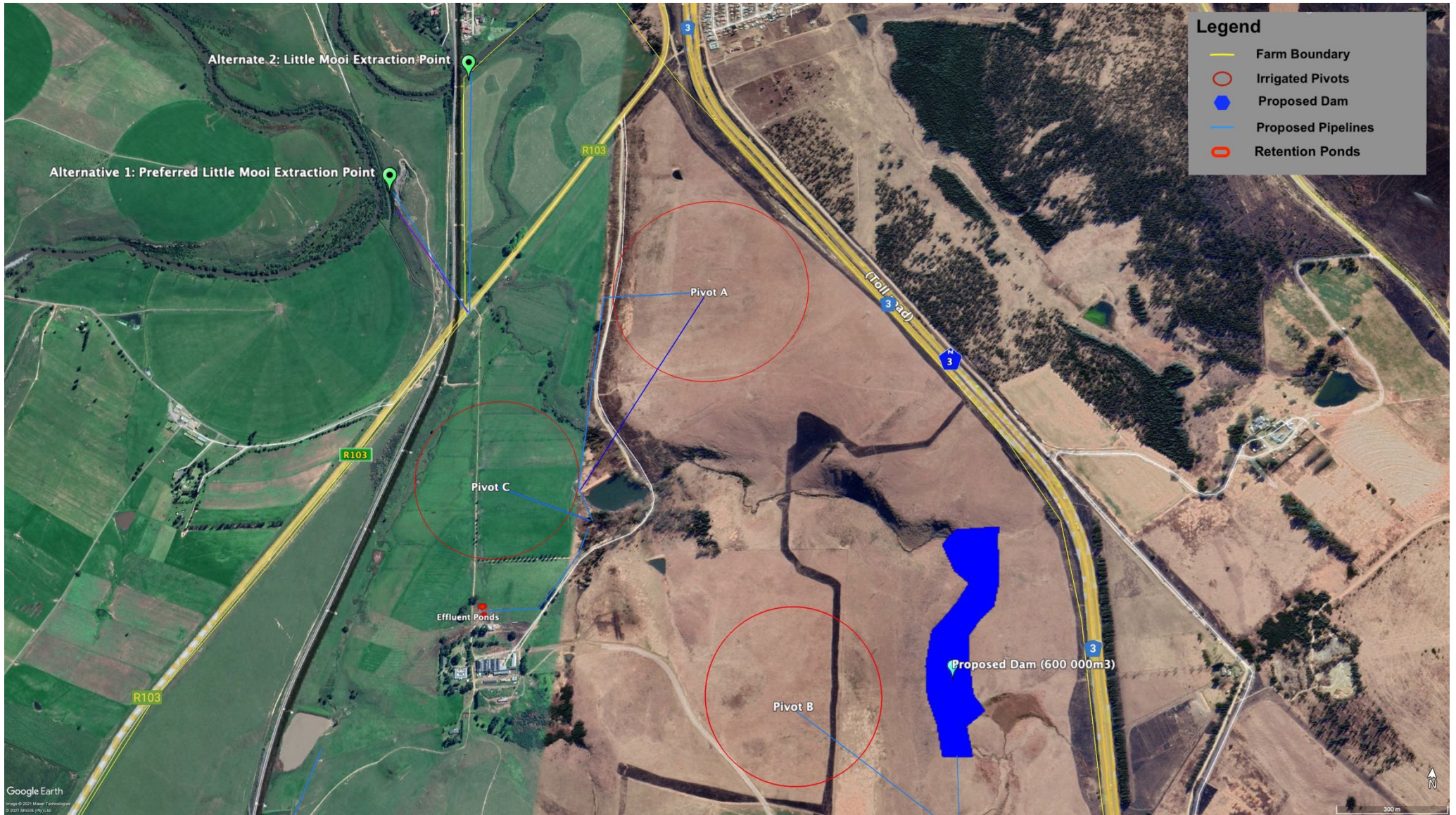


Figure 4: Proposed Retention Pond Location

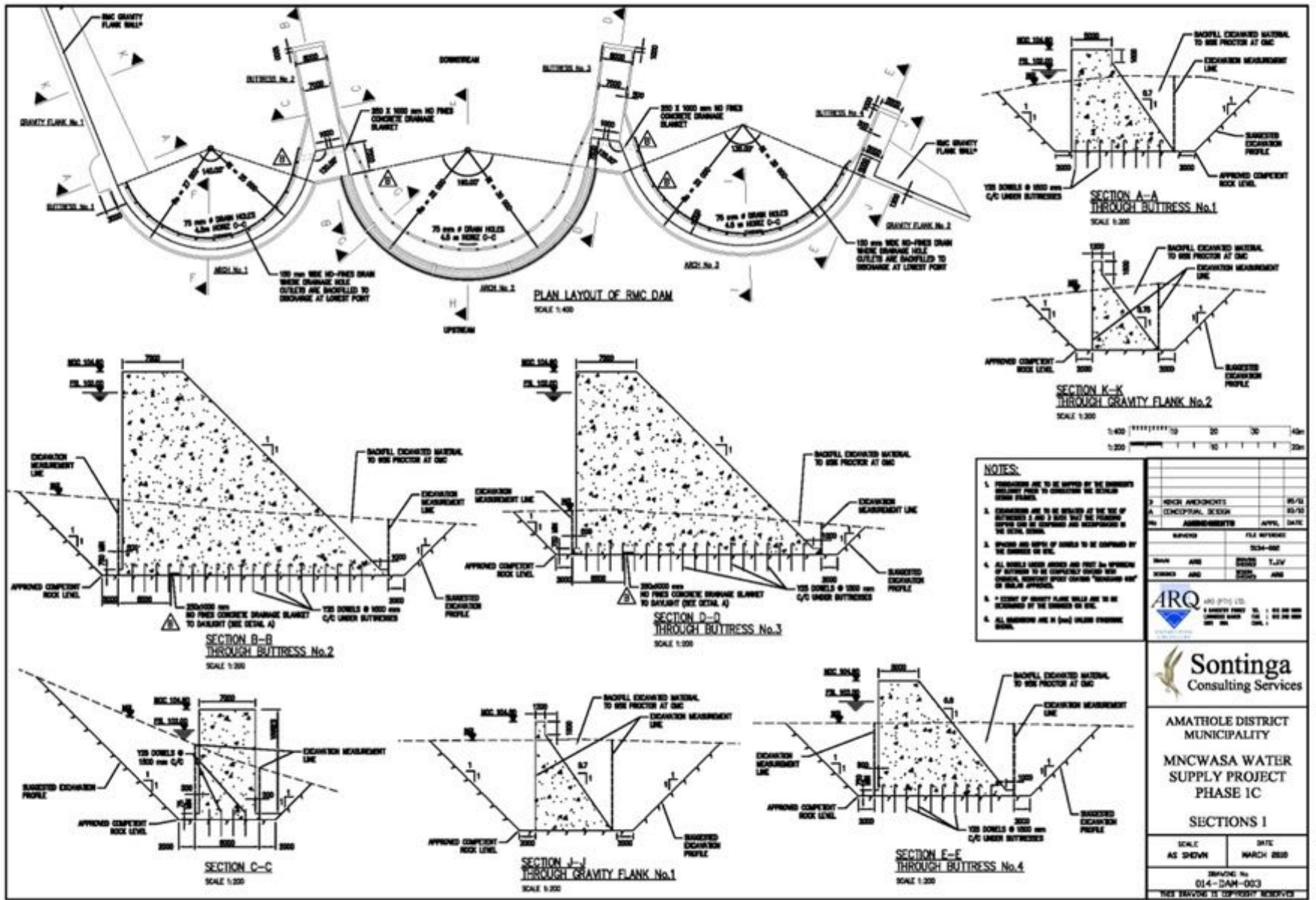


Figure 5: Conceptual 600 000 m³ Dam Layout

3.3 Retention Pond

The aim is to create a sustainable water used and nutrient system by constructing a retention pond next to the existing dairy. The storage capacity of this pond is 4000 m³ and the bottom of the pond will be clay (Figure 6). The animal excrete (solid) contains useful amounts of plant nutrient, phosphorus (P), potassium (K) and Nitrogen (N). Cows in the dairy will be washed; manure and urine from the animals with the wash water will flow into the proposed pond which will be separated by natural density.

The solids are intended to either be sold as manure or used on the Greenfields Farm. The liquid is intended to be sprayed onto the pivot areas or other pastures. As confirmed by the KZN-EDTEA this is not constituted a waste management activity, and therefore a waste license will not be required. All slurry will be utilized on farm as organic fertilizer. Slurry will be captured and stored in ponds. Once there is adequate volume for an area of pasture, it will be pumped through a 6-inch pipe to a slurry spreader on the back of a tractor and evenly spread over an area of pasture. The ponds will be emptied in this manner. The utilization of slurry allows the farm to decrease its reliance on chemical fertilizer.

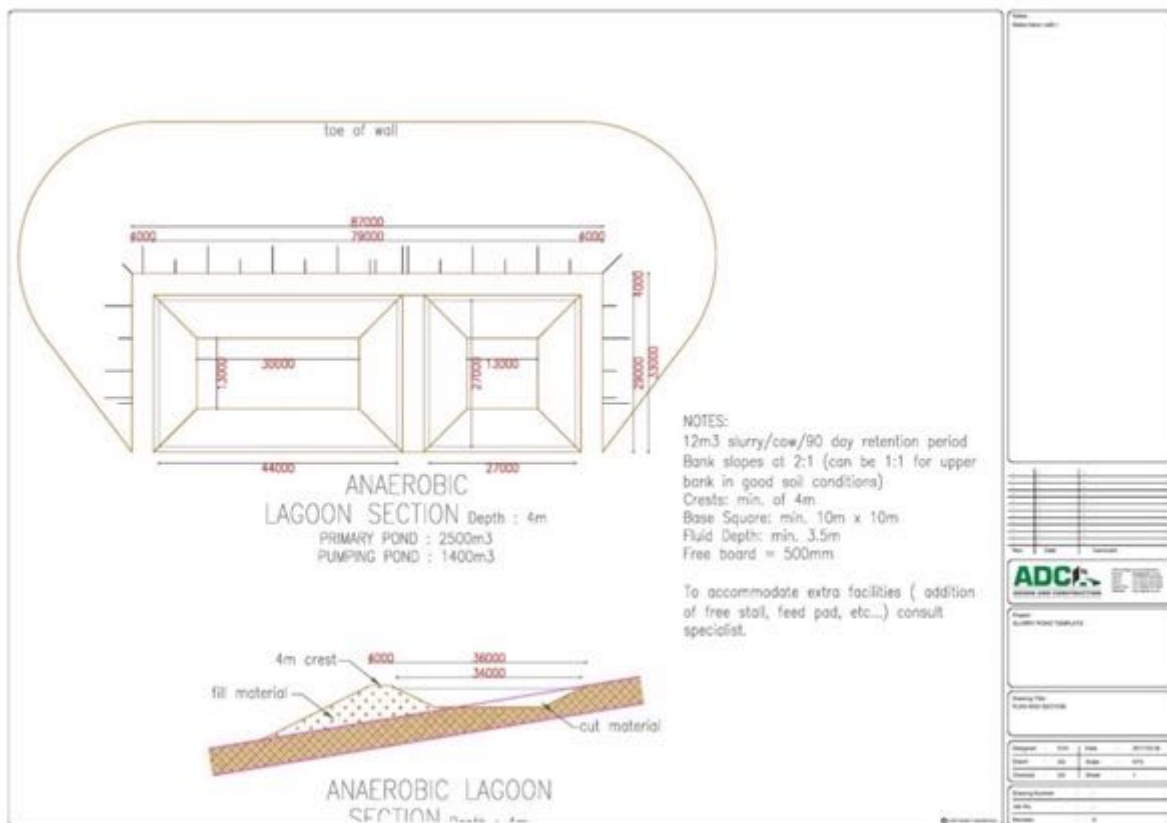


Figure 6: Detailed Retention Pond Design

3.4 Services Required

3.4.1 Water supply

The pivots will require water supply for irrigation of proposed crops. The main supply of water is intended to come from the Mooi and Little Mooi Rivers, and the proposed new dam (Table 4). EnviroHeart Consulting is concurrently undertaking an application for a Water Use Licence in terms of the National Water Act (Act No. 36 of 1998).

3.4.2 Electricity

The operation of the pivots, dam infrastructure and retention ponds will require electricity. The Greendfields Farm, being an operational farm, already has access to electricity.

3.4.3 Wastewater and sewage

While the proposed development will not require additional domestic sewage infrastructure. Wastewater from the existing dairy will be diverted to the retention pond (Section 2.3) and will not place an additional pressure on municipal sewage systems.

3.4.4 Solid waste

The Greenfields Farm is already operational with the main waste being domestic waste from farm workers present on the farm. No additional waste, other than that produced by farm workers living on site, is foreseen from the proposed agricultural developments. All agricultural waste from the proposed developments will be recycled or reused on site. Construction related waste will be disposed of at a waste (registered) facility.

3.5 Need and Desirability of the Proposed Developments

The need and desirability of the proposed project was identified based on the Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP) Guideline on Need and Desirability (August 2011) and the Integrated Environmental Management Guideline Series 9: Guideline on Need and Desirability, which was promulgated in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2010 in Government Notice 891 of 2014, and updated by the Department of Environmental Affairs in 2017.

The inclusion of need and desirability in EIA decision-making involves the consideration of the strategic context of the project with cognisance of societal needs and broader public interest. Furthermore, the Guideline states that development must not exceed ecological limits, and that short-term and long-term public interest must be considered in light of the promotion of justifiable social and economic development, whereby environmental, social and economic sustainability are simultaneously achieved.

The latest Guideline Document on the assessment of Need and Desirability (DEA, 2017) includes a number of questions which will be answered as part of the Impact Assessment Phase of the EIA. However, as part of the Scoping Phase, the following initial observations have been made in terms of need and desirability of the proposed Greenfields Agricultural Developments.

In terms of the Mpfana Integrated Development Plan (IDP), 2021, the agriculture is a major economic contributor to the region, with majority of the population employed there. Other key economic contributors are building and construction, textile, and tourism (Mpfana Draft IDP 2021). The Municipality has an unemployment rate of 23.9% and Mooi River is recognised as the major residential and commercial centre within the Mpfana Municipality.

The lack of jobs was the main challenge highlighted in the Mpfana (IDP), 2021 with the need to create sustainable jobs identified as crucial. The Mpfana Local Economic Development strategy aims to increase economic growth, through opportunities in the agriculture and Agro-process sector and through nature-based tourism and special manufacture and service industries (Mpfana Draft IDP 2021).

The proposed Greenfields Agricultural Developments would contribute to these strategic objectives, through job creation and the development of the agricultural sector in the region. The proposed project will ultimately invest R100 000 000 in the Greenfields Farm, to create a Sustainable Eco-tourism Wagyu Agricultural Hub in Mooi River. This relates to R30 000 000 in annual turnover, potentially creating 120 jobs in the local community. In addition, sustainable the model of the farm, being organic beef production the implementation of conservation servitudes and active environmental management on the farm, will contribute to opportunities for nature based eco-tourism, which is another key focus area in terms of the IDP.

4 Details of Role Players

4.1 Details of the Applicant

Applicant	GMKN Agri (Pty) Ltd.
Director	Mr Gunyaziwe Makaula
Address	2 Old Main Road, Hillcrest, KwaZulu Natal, 3650
Email	Gmakaula@gmail.com
Tel:	083 406 8894

4.2 Details of the Competent Authority

Competent Authority	KwaZulu-Natal Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (KZN-EDTEA)
Case Officers	Mr Shawn Janneker and Ms Nonto Mvalase

4.3 Details of the Environmental Assessment Practitioners

EnviroHeart Consulting was appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to undertake the Scoping and Environmental Assessment Process. Rashieda Davids is acting as the Project Reviewer and EAP and Sanusha Govender as the Project Manager and EAP. Details of the EAPs are provided in Table 5.

Table 5: EAP Details and Qualifications

EAP Organisation	EnviroHeart Consulting
Name	Qualifications
Dr Rashieda Davids Project Reviewer and EAP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) Environmental Science, 2021, University of KwaZulu-Natal • MSc Geography, 2015, University of Pretoria • BSc (Hons) Environmental and Geographical Science, 2005, University of Cape Town • BSc Environmental and Geographical Science and Ocean & Atmosphere Science, 2004, University of Cape Town
<p>Rashieda is a Registered Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) (EAPASA 2016:17) and a Certified Professional Natural Scientist (Pr.Sci.Nat. 400162/12, Environmental Science). She holds 15 years of experience, shared between the private, public and research environmental sectors. Her work in the three environmental sectors has allowed her to gain a depth of experience in various environmental disciplines, including sustainable development, industry environmental compliance, scientific research, environmental project management, integrated environmental management and monitoring, scoping and environmental impact assessments, strategic assessments, authority and stakeholder engagement, conservation planning, biodiversity conservation and biodiversity stewardship. Rashieda participated in the establishment of Environmental Assessment Practitioners Association of South Africa (EAPASA). She is an EAPASA Assessor of environmental applications for professionals to be registered as EAPs.</p>	
Ms Sanusha Reddy Project Manager & EAP	BSc: Environment and Development (2005), University of Durban Westville
<p>Sanusha is a seasoned Sustainability and Environmental Consultant, with 15 years of experience. She is an established Senior Environmental Assessment Practitioner, undertaking Environmental assessments, Bankable Feasibility Assessments, Audits, Carbon Tax and Environmental Management Plans in the agricultural, civil construction and urban nodal developments. Over the years Sanusha moved from pure environmental management to cradle to grave civil construction management, which included coal mining activities in South Africa and abroad.</p> <p>Sanusha is experienced in leading national EIA processes and sustainability portfolios for corporate multinational companies. Her experience includes corporate sustainability reporting in alignment with; King VI, Global Reporting Initiative, Annual Integrated Reporting, United Nations Carbon Compact, CDP (Previous Carbon Disclosure Project), the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the Principles for Responsible Investment.</p>	

5 Overview of the EIA Process

The proposed project will be subject to a Scoping and EIA process, which includes two phases: (1) Scoping Phase and (2) Impact Assessment Phase (Figure 7). This report constitutes the Scoping Phase.

5.1 Application for Environmental Authorisation and Pre-Application meeting

An Application for Environmental Authorisation Form was completed for the proposed Greenfields Farms Agricultural Developments, according to Part 1, Section 16 of NEMA EIA Regulations (2014). A pre-application meeting was held with the KZN-EDTEA to discuss the proposed project prior to submitting the Application Form. See Appendix A for the minutes of the meeting.

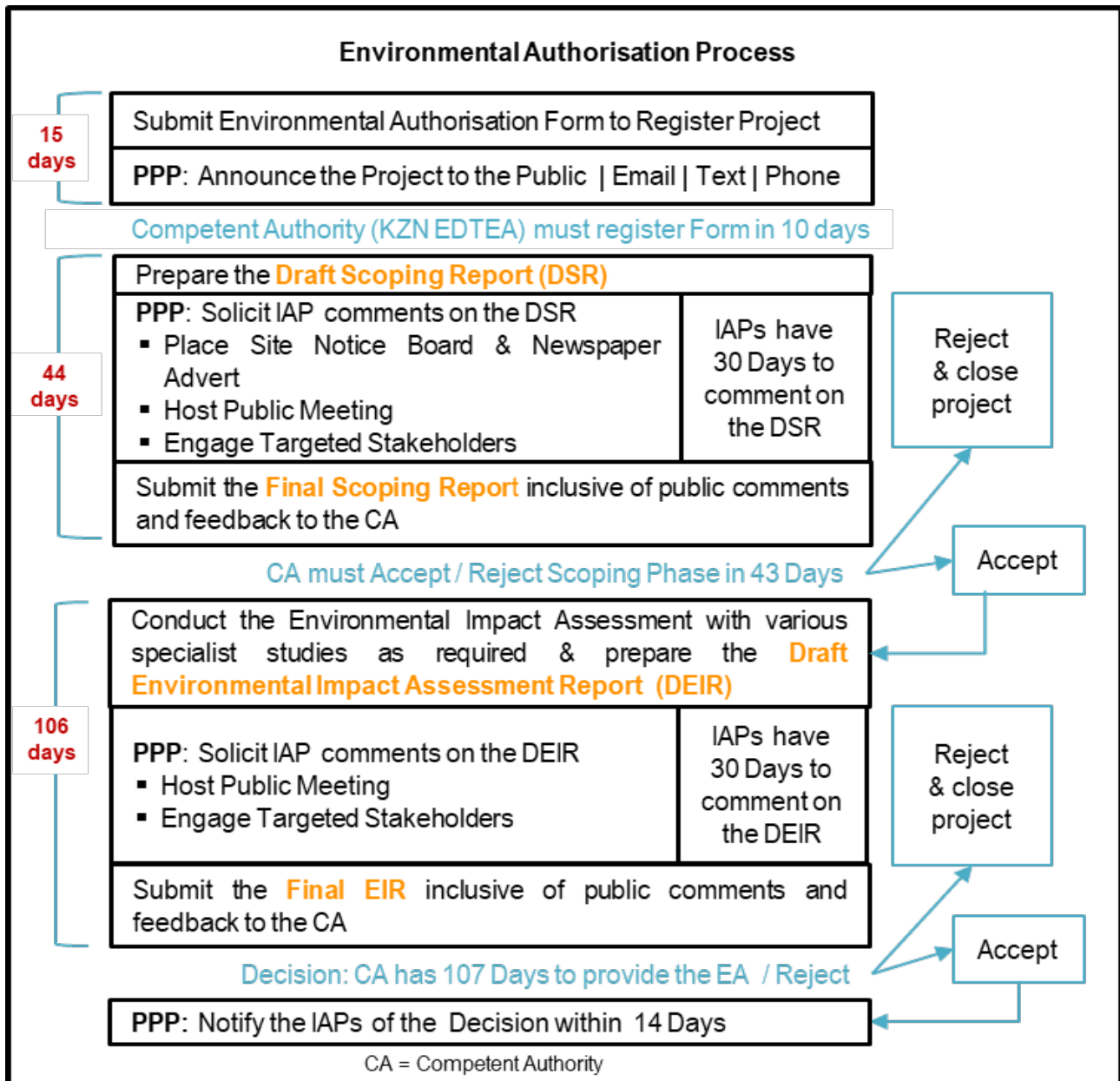


Figure 7: Overview of Environmental Authorisation Process

5.2 Overview of Scoping Phase and Report Requirements

An Application for Environmental Authorisation in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the 2014 EIA Regulations (as amended in 2017) was made for the proposed project. See Appendix B for acknowledgement of receipt. In terms of NEMA, the lead decision-making authority for the EIA is the Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (KZN-EDTEA). The process for seeking authorisation is undertaken in accordance with Government Notice (GN) No. 326 (7 April 2017), promulgated in terms of Chapter 5 of NEMA. Based on the types of activities involved, which include activities listed in GN No. 327 (Listing Notice 1), GN No. 325 (Listing Notice 2) and GN No. 324 (Listing Notice 3) of 7 April 2017, the requisite environmental assessment for the project is a Scoping and EIA process.

5.2.1 Listed Activities Triggered by the Proposed Project

The proposed project triggers activities under Listing Notices 1, 2 and 3, and thus needs to be subjected to a Scoping and EIA process. Table 6 provides the full list of activities and describes the proposed project components that trigger each listed activity.

Table 6: Listed Activities Triggered by the Proposed Development

Legislation	Applicable Activities / Chapters / Sections	Description of Related project Components
GN R327: Listing Notice 1 Activity 9	The development of infrastructure exceeding 1 000 m in length for the bulk transportation of water or storm water – (i) with an internal diameter of 0,36 m or more; or (ii) with a peak throughput of 120 litres per second or more.	Pipelines from the new dam will be required to transport water to the Top, Railway and Hayfields Pivots. There will also be pipelines from the little Mooi to the Pivots.
GN R327 Listing Notice 1 Activity 12	The development of- (i) dams or weirs, where the dam or weir, including infrastructure and water surface area, exceeds 100 m ² ; or (ii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 or more; where such development occurs (a) within a watercourse.	The proposal includes the construction of a new dam, to supply water to Pivots D, E and F. The dam be designed to have a capacity of 600 000 m ³ , which is the volume needed to serve the requirements of the Pivots.
GN R327 Listing Notice 1 Activity 19	The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 10 m ³ into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles, or rock of more than 10 m ³ from a watercourse.	The Pivot A and the new dam are proposed to be constructed within watercourses.
GN R327 Listing Notice 1 Activity 11	The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transfer of 50 000 m ³ or more water per day, from and to or between any combination of the following- (i) water catchments	The pipelines will transfer water from the Little Mooi to the pivots for irrigation. The cumulative flow of water may be over 50 000 m ³ however this threshold will be investigated assessed and confirmed in the impact assessment phase.
GN 325 Listing Notice 2 Activity 13	The physical alteration of virgin soil to agriculture, or afforestation for the purposes of commercial tree, timber, or wood production of 100 ha or more.	The Pivots are proposed to be constructed in areas that contain indigenous vegetation. The total footprint of all the Pivots combined will be 145 ha. Extent of indigenous vegetation within the Pivots will be determined by the Biodiversity Specialist Study. The vegetation within the Pivots is proposed to be replaced by crops including perennial rye grass, white clover, turnips, stolling rye and chicory. The Pivots will then serve as grazing areas for the cattle.
GN R325 Listing Notice 2 Activity 15	The clearance of an area of 20 ha or more of indigenous vegetation, excluding where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for – (i) the undertaking of a linear activity; or (ii) maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.	The Pivots are proposed to be constructed in areas that contain indigenous vegetation. The total footprint of all the Pivots combined will be 145 ha. Extent of indigenous vegetation within the Pivots will be determined by the Biodiversity Specialist Study. The vegetation within the Pivots is proposed to be replaced by crops including perennial rye grass, white clover, turnips, stolling rye and chicory. The Pivots will then serve as grazing areas for the cattle.
GN R325 Listing Notice 2	The development of a dam where the highest part of the dam wall, as measured from the outside toe of the wall to the highest part of the wall, is 5 m or higher or where the high-water	The proposal includes the construction of a new dam, to supply water to Pivots. The dam be designed to have a capacity of 600 000 m ³ , which is the volume required to serve the requirements of the Pivots. The dam wall will exceed 5 m.

Activity 16	mark of the dam covers an area of 10 hectares or more.	
GN R325 Listing Notice 2 Activity 24	The extraction or removal of peat or peat soils, including the disturbance of vegetation or soils in anticipation of the extraction or removal of peat or peat soils, but excluding where such extraction or removal is for the rehabilitation of wetlands in accordance with a maintenance management plan.	The new dam will extract material during construction.
GN R324 Listing Notice 3 Activity 12	<p>The clearance of an area of 300 m² 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.</p> <p>d. KwaZulu-Natal</p> <p>xii. Sensitive areas as identified in an environmental management framework as contemplated in chapter 5 of the Act and as adopted by the competent authority;</p>	The project site falls within a sensitive area, endangered grassland, classified in terms of the uMgungundlovu District Municipality Environmental Management Framework, affecting more than 300 m ² of indigenous vegetation.
GN R324 Listing Notice 3 Activity 14	<p>The development of-</p> <p>(i) dams or weirs, where the dam or weir, including infrastructure and water surface area exceeds 10 m²; or</p> <p>(ii) infrastructure structures with a physical footprint of 10 m² or more where such development occurs-</p> <p>(a) within a watercourse;</p> <p>d. KwaZulu-Natal</p> <p>viii. Sensitive areas as identified in an environmental management framework as contemplated in chapter 5 of the Act and as adopted by the competent authority;</p>	The project includes the development of a dam, 600 000 m ³ . As such it exceeds 10 m ² and will have a footprint more than 10 m ² .

5.3 Scoping Phase Methodology

The NEMA Regulations outlines the required contents and objectives that are to be achieved through the Scoping Process, through a consultative process and provides details of the required contents of Scoping Reports. This Scoping Report complies with the NEMA Requirements, as shown in Table 7.

Table 7: Scoping Report Content Requirements as per NEMA EIA Regulations

NEMA Requirements	Draft Scoping Report Reference
(a) details of— (i) the EAP who prepared the report; and (ii) the expertise of the EAP, including a curriculum vitae;	See Section 3.3 above and Table 5.
(b) the location of the activity, including— (i) the 21 digit Surveyor General code of each cadastral land parcel; (ii) where available, the physical address and farm name; (iii) where the required information in items (i) and (ii) is not available, the coordinates of the boundary of the property or properties;	See Section 1.1. and Table 1.
A plan which locates the proposed activity or activities applied for at an appropriate scale, or, if it is— (i) a linear activity, a description, and coordinates of the corridor in which the proposed activity or activities is to be undertaken; or (ii) on land where the property has not been defined, the coordinates within which the activity is to be undertaken;	Figures 1, 3 and 4.
(d) a description of the scope of the proposed activity, including— (i) all listed and specified activities triggered; (ii) a description of the activities to be undertaken, including associated structures and infrastructure;	Section 2 and Table 6.
(e) a description of the policy and legislative context within which the development is proposed including an identification of all legislation, policies, plans, guidelines, spatial tools, municipal development planning frameworks and instruments that are applicable to this activity and are to be considered in the assessment process;	Section 6.
(f) a motivation for the need and desirability for the proposed development including the need and desirability of the activity in the context of the preferred location;	Section 2.5.
(g) a full description of the process followed to reach the proposed preferred activity, site and location of the development footprint within the site, including— (i) details of all the alternatives considered; (ii) details of the public participation process undertaken in terms of regulation 41 of the Regulations, including copies of the supporting documents and inputs; (6) a summary of the issues raised by interested and affected parties, and an indication of the manner in which the issues were incorporated, or the reasons for not including them; (iv) the environmental attributes associated with the alternatives focusing on the geographical, physical, biological, social, economic, heritage and cultural aspects; (v) the impacts and risks (which have informed the identification of each alternative, including the nature, significance, consequence, extent, duration and	Section 2. Section 8.1. Section 8.5 and Appendix C. Section 8.5 and Appendix C4. Section 5. Section 7.

<p>probability of such identified impacts, including the degree to which these impacts—</p> <p>(aa) can be reversed;</p> <p>(bb) may cause irreplaceable loss of resources; and</p> <p>(cc) can be avoided, managed or mitigated;</p>	To be identified in the Impact Assessment Report.
<p>(vi) the methodology used in identifying and ranking the nature, significance, consequences, extent, duration and probability of potential environmental impacts and risks associated with the alternatives;</p>	Section 8.3.
<p>(vii) positive and negative impacts that the proposed activity and alternatives will have on the environment and on the community that may be affected focusing on the geographical, physical, biological, social, economic, heritage the possible mitigation measures that could be applied and level of residual risk;</p> <p>(viii) the possible mitigation measures that could be applied and level of residual risk;</p> <p>(ix) the outcome of the site selection matrix;</p> <p>(x) if no alternatives, including alternative locations for the activity were investigated, the motivation for not considering such; and cultural aspects;</p>	<p>Section 7.</p> <p>To be reported in the Assessment Phase.</p>
<p>(x) a concluding statement indicating the preferred alternatives, including preferred location of the activity;</p> <p>(h) a plan of study for undertaking the environmental impact assessment process to be undertaken, including—</p> <p>(ii) a description of the aspects to be assessed as part of the environmental impact assessment process;</p> <p>(6) aspects to be assessed by specialists;</p> <p>(ix) identify suitable measures to avoid, reverse, mitigate or manage identified impacts and to determine the extent of the residual risks that need to be managed and monitored.</p>	<p>To be reported in the Assessment Phase.</p> <p>Section 8.</p> <p>Section 8.2.</p> <p>To be reported in the Assessment Phase.</p>
<p>(i) an undertaking under oath or affirmation by the EAP in relation to—</p> <p>(i) the correctness of the information provided in the report;</p> <p>(ii) the inclusion of comments and inputs from stakeholders and interested and affected parties; and</p> <p>(iii) any information provided by the EAP to interested and affected parties and any responses by the EAP to comments or inputs made by interested or affected parties;</p>	To be provided in the Final Scoping Report.
<p>(j) an undertaking under oath or affirmation by the EAP in relation to the level of agreement between the EAP and interested and affected parties on the plan of study for undertaking the environmental impact assessment;</p>	See Appendix E for Details Of EAP And Declaration of Interest.
<p>(k) where applicable, any specific information required by the competent authority.</p>	No specific data required to date.

Details on the subsequent Impact Assessment Phase of the EIA are provided in the Plan of Study for Impact Assessment, in Section 9.

5.4 Public Participation Process

The public participation process (PPP) is being undertaken in terms of the NEMA and GN No. 326 (7 April 2017). See Section 9.4 Plan of Study: Public Participation Process, for details on the PPP being undertaken for the proposed Greenfields Farm Agricultural Development EIA. See Appendix C for all PPP correspondence and evidence.

6 Description of the Receiving Environment

6.1 General Description and Status Quo

The Greenfields Farm includes a mix of existing agricultural uses, with some portions under formal cultivation, calf pens and a dairy milking facility. Some of the western portions of the farm are under intensive agriculture, with maize cropping and pastures. The Farm also includes large tracks of land under natural landcover, with natural grasslands and damns, fed by non-perennial stream and wetland systems. Other areas are still considered natural and untransformed, and others have invasive alien plants present. Scrub woodlots were previously present, but they have been removed by the new landowner.

An EIA was undertaken on the Greenfields Farm in 2018, with specialist studies, namely, wetland assessment, biodiversity assessment, biodiversity assessment review, agricultural assessment, and erosion control plan (Green Door Environmental, 2018). Green Door Environmental made all the relevant reports available and baseline information on the site was therefore available.

The previous EIA (Green Door Environmental 2018) found that “in general, the site is fairly degraded, with certain portions of the grassland more ‘impacts’ and species depauperate than other areas.” The grasslands were identified to be species poor compared to other Mooi River Highland Grassland areas, which reduced the ability of the grasslands to contribute to grassland conservation, however, the site nonetheless forms part of a Critical Biodiversity Area which requires special consideration (Green Door Environmental, 2018).

The Greenfields Farm is an operational beef and dairy farm, with existing agricultural infrastructure and historically significant Farmhouses.

See Appendix D for site photographs.

6.2 Socio-economic characteristics

Mooi River is the major residential and commercial centre within the Mpofana Municipality. The Municipality is predominantly rural in nature, with a population is 38 103, and an unemployment rate of 23.9%. The majority of the population is employed in the agricultural sector, however, other key economic contributors are building and construction, textile and tourism (Mpofana Draft IDP 2021).

Mooi River town was classified as one of the Key Focus Areas (KFA) in uMgungundlovu, given that it is under significant development pressure. The Mpofana Integrated Development Plan (2021) highlights the challenges faced in the municipality as being lack of jobs. The IDP places emphasis on the need to create sustainable jobs through bringing more investment into Mpofana. To this end, the municipality launched the “Operation bring back jobs to Mooi River” campaign, as a catalyst to factories and industries that can restore the economy of Mpofana (Mpofana Draft IDP 2021). Economic development in Mpofana has been very slow due to the lack of interest by investors, caused by degeneration of the town, poorly managed infrastructure and buildings. Other issues faced include high turnover of officials, poor debt management, electrical theft, poor land use management systems, and a lack of prioritisation of environmental matters (Mpofana Draft IDP 2021). The Mpofana Local Economic Development strategy aims to increase economic growth, through opportunities in the agriculture, agro-process sector and through nature based tourism and special manufacture and service industries (Mpofana Draft IDP 2021).

This EIA has included a Socio-Economic Specialist Study to assess the proposed projects potential positive and negative impacts on the socio-economic environment of the study area.

6.3 Heritage Aspects

A Heritage Study undertaken by Frans Prins in 2016 as part of the Green Door Environmental EIA (2017, 2018) did not identify any heritage resources of significance on the proposed cultivation areas. However, two old farmsteads are present on the farm, that have features older than 60 years, some dating back to 1892 (Figure 8). The study recommended that a buffer of 50m be maintained around these historically significant farmsteads.

The archaeological sites of the Mooi River area have been well surveyed in the past. The characteristic low altitude and densely wooded areas were intensely occupied by Iron Age farmers since early Iron Age around 500 AD. The Kwa-Zulu Natal Museum captures evidence from the vicinity, which contains a variety of archaeological sites covering different time-periods and cultural traditions, including Early Stone Age site, four Middle Stone Age sites, 20 Later Stone Age sites, eight Later Iron Age sites and numerous sites from the colonial period (Hans Prins, 2016).

Greenfields farm was purchased by James Piccione in 1892, who was an Irish-Italian. The original residential dwellings were built in 1893, with other buildings added on over the years. Since then, the farm has changed ownership several times, and in 1990's became a well-known tourist and wedding venue (Hans Prins, 2016).



Figure 8: Greenfields Manor House on Greenfields Farm

6.4 Biophysical characteristics

6.4.1 Topography

The topography of the site is characterised by undulating slopes, with some steeper areas on the south of the property and flatter areas towards the north. The topography of the farm is generally suitable for cultivation, the large areas are flat or gentle slopes (Green Door Environmental, 2018). There are areas that are already subject to erosion on site, which should be avoided or considered in the Assessment if cultivation areas proposed.

6.4.2 Ecological Characteristics

The site contains parcels of the Mooi River Highland Grassland, which is classified as being Vulnerable. This Vulnerable vegetation type is the most common in the UMDM (77%), with 9% occurring within protected areas, noted to have low levels of transformation (approximately 37%) (uMgungundlovu EMF). The primary grassland contained with the site provides suitable habitat for grassland-dependent species, including Oribi and Crane species, which are categorised as Endangered or Vulnerable.

The study site falls within a Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA), as identified in the KwaZulu-Natal Systematic Conservation Plan. The Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) database identified the study area as being of high priority for: Species, landscapes, grasslands, vegetation communities, birds, ecosystems and communities, reptiles, frogs and invertebrates.

Approximately 64.7 ha of wetland habitats were identified within the 500m buffer of cultivation sites, in the Wetland Specialist Study undertaken as part of the previous EIA (Green Door Environmental, 2018). Due to the “no net loss” principle, the EA included the need to rehabilitate 0.35 ha or 1.43 ha of wetland offset equivalent, on the farm. The present EIA will undertake an additional wetland specialist study to identify potential impacts associated with the new proposed Agricultural Developments, which will supplement and take cognisance of the previous wetland study and its recommendations.

6.4.3 Air quality

The site is considered to have a high ambient air quality, due to the rural nature of the study area and the limited industrial activities occurring in the immediate area (Green Door Environmental, 2018).

7 Legislative Framework

Legislative and policy requirements that are applicable to the EIA process are detailed in Table 8 below. The relationships between the project and the relevant legislation are provided.

Table 8: Applicable Legislation to the Proposed Greenfields Agricultural Development

Applicable Legislation / Policy	Relevance to EIA and Project
National Framework	
<p>The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996 (Act 108 of 1996) (the Constitution)</p> <p>The Constitution is the legal reference source for environmental law in South Africa and therefore, all environmental aspects should be interpreted within the context of the Constitution. Section 24 of the Constitution states that:</p> <p>Everyone has the right to</p> <p>(a) an environment that is not harmful to their health or well-being; and</p> <p>(b) to have the environment protected, for the benefit of present and future generations, ...</p>	<p>The Applicant is undertaking this EIA process to ensure that the proposed development does not cause undue harm to the environment and does not affect the rights enshrined in the Constitution.</p> <p>As such, the EIA process will identify prevention and mitigation measures for potential impacts on the environment.</p>
<p>National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No 107 of 1998) and EIA Regulations (December 2014) (NEMA)</p> <p>As South Africa's overarching framework for environmental legislation, NEMA provides for operative environmental governance, by establishing principles for decision-making on matters affecting the environment. The principles under NEMA, aim to implement the environmental policy of South Africa and serve as a general framework for environmental planning whereby organs of state must exercise their functions and to guide other law concerned with the protection or management of the environment. NEMA principles include internationally recognised environmental law norms, and some principles specific to South Africa, including the (1) Preventive principle; (2) Precautionary principle (3) Polluter pays principle and (4) Equitable access for the previously disadvantaged to ensure human well-being.</p> <p>Chapter 5 of NEMA is designed to promote integrated environmental management. Impacts associated with activities that require authorisation or permission by law and which may significantly affect the environment and socio-economic conditions must be considered, investigated, and assessed prior to their implementation and reported to the organ of state charged by law with authorizing, permitting, or otherwise allowing the implementation of an activity. The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations were promulgated under GNR 982 of 2014, as amended by GNR 326 (2017) and 706 (2018). Listing Notices provide activities that would</p>	<p>In line with Chapter 5 of NEMA, this EIA will ensure that development is socially, environmentally, and economically sustainable and aim to promote environmental management that places people and their needs at the forefront of its concerns, and serve their physical, psychological, developmental, cultural, and social interests equitably.</p> <p>This EIA is being undertaken due to Listed Activities under GNR 983 9as amended). GN R984 and GN R 985, as amended, being triggered (Table 7).</p>

Applicable Legislation / Policy	Relevance to EIA and Project
<p>require an Environmental Authorisation (EA) prior to commencement: GNR 983, as amended by 327 and 706 (Listing Notice 1, Basic Assessment); GN R984, as amended by GN R325 (Listing Notice 2, Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting) and GN R985, as amended by GN R324 and 706 (Listing Notice 3, Basic Assessment).</p> <p>An EIA Guideline and Information Documents Series has been published by the Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Guideline on Public Participation ▪ Guideline on Need and Desirability ▪ Guideline on Alternatives. 	<p>All EIA Guidelines have been considered in the preparation of this Scoping Report.</p>
<p>National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) (NWA)</p> <p>The NWA is the fundamental law for managing water resources in South Africa and provides for the equitable and sustainable use, protection and conservation, of water resources. It is also concerned with the allocation of equitable access of water resources within South Africa.</p> <p>The NWA is the key South African legislation governing wastewater management. Section 19 of the NWA deals with pollution prevention and remedying effects, and in particular the situation where pollution of a water resource occurs or might occur as a result of activities on land. Water pollution prevention measures is the responsibility of the party who owns, controls, occupies or uses the land in question. Where these measures are not taken, the catchment management agency concerned may institute necessary measures to prevent the pollution, or to remedy its effects, and to recover all reasonable costs from the persons responsible for the pollution.</p> <p>The NWA includes requirements for water use licencing, whereby water use includes taking water from a water course, altering the bed, bank, course or characteristics of a water course, storing water, reducing stream flow, diversion of water or discharging of waste or water containing waste into a water resources, disposing of waste in a manner that may have detrimental impacts on a water resource and recreational use of water.</p> <p>The NWA includes numerous Applicable Regulations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Regulations for measuring water use: The Regulations prescribe requirements and procedures to be followed to measure the water taken from water resources, including in-stream dams, by water users. 2. GNR.1560 of 25 July 1986: Regulations in terms of section 9C (6) of the Water Act, 1956, relating to dams with a safety risk. Sizes are classed as (1) Small: More than 5 but less than 12 m wall height; (2) Medium: Equal to or more than 12 m, but less than 30 m wall height and (3) Large: Equal to or more than 30m. 	<p>An IWULA Process will be undertaken for Section 21 water uses in terms of the National Water Act (NWA) associated with the proposed project. WULAs will be related to the proposed irrigation of the pivot areas, and the new dam.</p> <p>Listed Activities in terms of Section 21 of the NWA that may be triggered are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Section 21 a: taking water from a water resource 2. Section 21 b: Storing water 3. Section 21 c: Impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse 4. Section 21 d: Engaging in stream flow reduction activity contemplated in section 36 5. Section 21 i: altering the bed, banks, course or characteristic of a watercourse

Applicable Legislation / Policy	Relevance to EIA and Project
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Regulations Regarding the Safety of Dams in terms of Section 123(1) of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 Of 1998). Published under Government Notice R 139 in Government Gazette 35062. Commencement date: 24 February 2012. 4. GNR No. 40621 of 17 February 2017. Regulations requiring that the taking of water for irrigation Purposes Be Measured, Recorded and Reported. The Regulations prescribe requirements and procedures to be followed to measure the water taken from water resources, including in-stream dams, by water users who are required to measure the water that they take for irrigation purposes. 5. GNR.1352 of 12 November 1999: Regulations requiring that a water use be registered (Government Gazette No. 20606 of 12 November 1999). The Minister of Water Affairs and Forestry is responsible for the protection, use, development, conservation, management and control of the water resources of South Africa on a sustainable basis. These regulations will contribute to this responsibility. 6. GNR.810 of 17 September 2010: Regulations for the Establishment of a Water Resource Classification System (Government Gazette No. 33541). 	<p>The above activities will be triggered is any of the project activities occur within a wetland, or within 500 m of a wetland, or within a riparian habitat or within 1:100 year flood line.</p> <p>The PPP undertaken as part of the EIA will be used to satisfy the consultation requirements of the WULAs, including consultation with I&APs and placing of notices.</p> <p>The proposed Greenfields dam is a dam in terms of the regulations. Any person intending to construct a dam that may pose a safety risk. Will need permission from the Minister and must apply for a permit.</p>
<p>National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004 (Act No. 10 of 2004) (NEMBA)</p> <p>The NEMBA, as amended, provides for the management and conservation of South Africa's biodiversity within the framework of NEMA, and for the protection and sustainable use of species and ecosystems and biological resources. This Act also provides for the protection of species and ecosystems that require national protection and considers the management of alien and invasive species.</p> <p>The following regulations were published under NEMBA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2020 Alien and Invasive Species Regulations (25 September 2020) • 2020 Alien and Invasive Species Lists (from 1 March 2021) • Guidelines for Monitoring, Control and Eradication Plans • National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004: Threatened and Protected Species Regulations; and • National list of Ecosystems Threatened and in need of Protection under Section 52(1) (a) of the Biodiversity Act (GG 34809, GN R.1002, 9 December 2011). 	<p>Based on existing information for the Greenfields Farm, flora and fauna species of conservation concern is known to occur on site, and in the general vicinity of the site.</p> <p>As such, this EIA has included a Biodiversity Specialist Study.</p>
<p>National Environmental Management Protected Areas Act, 2003 (Act No 57 of 2003) (NEMPAA)</p> <p>The NEMPAA provides for the protection and conservation of ecologically viable areas representative of South Africa's biological diversity, for the establishment of a national register of all national, provincial, and local protected areas and for the management of those areas in accordance with national norms and standards.</p>	<p>Consideration of protected areas located in proximity to the project area will be included in the Assessment Phase.</p>

Applicable Legislation / Policy	Relevance to EIA and Project
<p>National Veld and Forest Fire (Act 101 of 1998)</p> <p>The Act aims to combat and prevent forest, mountain and veld fires in South Africa and provides a fire emergency rating system. Regulations on offences and penalties are provided in Chapter 6.</p>	<p>In terms of Chapter 4, owners must prepare and maintain a firebreak, acquire equipment to fight fires, and have personnel available to combat fires.</p>
<p>National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008) (NEMWA)</p> <p>The NEMWA regulates the management of waste, and the control and licensing of waste management activities. It also provides for national norms and standards for regulating the management of waste by all spheres of government; to provide for specific waste management measures. The Act aims to provide reasonable measures to prevent pollution and ecological degradation in order to protect health and the environment, and for securing ecologically sustainable development; to provide for specific waste management measures; to provide for the licensing and control of waste management activities; to provide for the remediation of contaminated land; to provide for the national waste information system; to provide for compliance and enforcement; and to provide for matters connected therewith.</p> <p>Section 26. Prohibition of unauthorised disposal, states that (1) No person may- (a) dispose of waste, or knowingly or negligently cause or permit waste to be disposed of, in or on any land, waterbody or at any facility unless the disposal of that waste is authorised by law; or (b) dispose of waste in a manner that is likely to cause pollution of the environment or harm to health and well-being.</p> <p>The new list of waste management activities was published under GN R921 of 29 November 2013. Included in the new list are activities listed under Category A, B and C for which a Waste Management Licence (WML) may be required.</p>	<p>While the proposed project will not constitute a Waste Management Licence, the norms and standards for waste management under the Act will be duly observed.</p>
<p>National Veld and Forest Fire (Act 101 of 1998)</p> <p>The Act aims to combat and prevent forest, mountain and veld fires in South Africa and provides a fire emergency rating system. Regulations on offences and penalties are provided in Chapter 6.</p>	<p>In terms of Chapter 4, owners must prepare and maintain a firebreak, acquire equipment to fight fires, and have personnel available to combat fires.</p>
<p>Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act (Act 43 Of 1983) (CARA)</p> <p>The purpose of CARA is to provide for control over the utilization of the natural agricultural resources in South Africa, to promote the conservation of the soil, the water sources, and the vegetation, to combat weeds and invader plants; and for matters connected therewith.</p>	<p>Should the cultivation being applied for be approved on virgin veld, a cultivation permit will be required in terms of CARA.</p>

Applicable Legislation / Policy	Relevance to EIA and Project
<p>Section 6 of the Act deals with control measures, that relate to the 6.2 (a) cultivation of virgin soil 6.2 (c) the irrigation of land; (d) prevention of waterlogging or salination of land; (g) the utilisation and protection of vegetation and 9h0 the grazing capacity of veld, expressed as an area of veld per large stock unit.</p> <p>The CARA Regulations, Government Notice R1048 in Government Gazette 9238, dated 25 May 1984. Commencement date: 1 June 1984., as amended in 2001, provides specific control measures, e.g.</p> <p>Part 1: 2(1) states ‘no land user shall cultivate any virgin soil: Provided that such authority shall not be required in respect of virgin land for which an approval has been granted in terms of section 4A of the Forest Act, 1972 (Act 68 of 1972).’</p>	
<p>The National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999) (NHRA)</p> <p>The National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999) (NHRA) is the principal legislation that regulates and protects the management of heritage resources in South Africa. This act is enforced through the National Heritage Regulations GN R 548 (2000). Amafa Heritage KwaZulu-Natal is the competent authority for the study area, which needs to be notified as early as possible of any developments that may exceed certain minimum thresholds.</p>	<p>The previous EIA did not identify any resources of historical or archaeological importance that could be impacted by the cultivation, which largely overlaps with the present proposal. However, the present EIA also includes a different development footprint of the pivots, proposed dam and retention ponds, and thus an update to the original Heritage Impact Assessment will be included in the EIA as required.</p>
<p>Strategic and Planning Initiatives and Policies Relevant to the proposed project:</p> <p>Global:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sustainable Development Goals <p>National:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ National Spatial Development Perspective (NSDP), ▪ Accelerated Services on Growth Initiative South Africa (ASGISA) ▪ South African Sustainable Development Strategy ▪ National Offset Guideline (2017) ▪ Offset Policy 21 March 2017 ▪ Concise Guideline: Biodiversity Offsets in KwaZulu-Natal, 2013 	<p>These, and any other applicable Strategic Plans and Policies will be considered for in the Impact Assessment Phase, to ensure that the proposed development is in keeping with national and provincial goals and strategies.</p>

Applicable Legislation / Policy	Relevance to EIA and Project
<p>Provincial:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ KZN Growth and Development Strategy (PGDS) ▪ uMgungundlovu District Municipality Environmental Management Framework (EMF), which was adopted by the MEC for ED TEA on the 01st of August 2019 (Provincial Notice 109 of 1 August 2019). <p>Municipal:</p> <p>Mpofana Integrated Development Plan, 2021</p>	<p>The proposed development site falls within areas that have been identified as being sensitive in terms of the uMgungundlovu District Municipality EMF.</p>
<p>Disaster Management Act 57 of 2002</p> <p>The Disaster Management Act provides for the management, prevention or reduction of risk of disasters, emergency preparedness, effective and rapid response to disasters and post-disaster recovery. It also facilitates the establishment of national, provincial and municipal disaster management centre and disaster management volunteers.</p> <p>In terms of the Act, “disaster” means a progressive or sudden, widespread or localised, natural or human-caused occurrence which – (a) causes or threatens to cause – (i) death, injury or disease; (ii) damage to property, infrastructure or the environment; or (iii) disruption of the life of a community.</p>	<p>Aspects associated with potential disasters that could occur due to the proposed development will be identified and incorporated into the Assessment Phase of the EIA and any required management measures will be included in the Environmental Management Plan.</p>
<p>Protection of Personal Information Act (POPIA)</p> <p>The aim of the POPIA is to protect the personal information processed u private and public bodies, through the minimum requirements for processing personal information, to provide for the establishment of Information Regulator in terms of the POPIA and the Promotion of Access to Information Act, 2000, for the rights of persons regarding unsolicited electronic communication and automated decision making and issuing codes of conduct, to regulate the flow of personal information and for matters associated therewith.</p>	<p>This Act will be adhered to, with respect to the manner in which the Public Participation Process of the EIA is conducted. The personal information of Interested and Affected Parties are being kept as confidential and will not be disclosed to the public.</p>

8 Identification of Potential Impacts to be Assessed

The Scoping Phase identified potential impacts that could occur during the construction and operational phases of the proposed developments. The Sections below provide details of the potential impacts and how the forthcoming Impact Assessment Phase of this EIA aims to address those impacts.

8.1 Construction Phase Impacts

Construction related impacts would include soil erosion and ecological damage caused by construction activities and vehicles, dust, noise, and disruption to existing farming activities. These impacts will be considered in the Impact Assessment Phase, and appropriate mitigation and management measures will be proposed. Of particular importance would be the demarcation of sensitive ecological areas on site prior to construction commencing, careful positioning of construction vehicles and infrastructure outside of ecologically sensitive areas and timing of construction activities in cognisance of existing agricultural processes.

The Farm is large and therefore potential construction related noise impacts on surrounding landowners are considered to be negligible.

Construction activities may detract from the overall sense of place of the rural nature of the farm; however, construction activities must be kept to working hours, and these impacts would therefore be negligible, especially considering that construction is temporary.

8.1.1 Heritage Impacts

Previous studies on the Farm have identified the farmhouses and other structures as being of Heritage importance. No other important historical or archaeological artifacts were identified. However, the construction of the proposed dam and retention ponds in addition to the proposed Pivot circles, may result in impacts on heritage resources. An update to the previous specialist heritage assessment (Hans Prins, 2016) will be undertaken, to identify whether any heritage resources are present and to provide protection or mitigation measures for identified heritage resources.

8.2 Operational Phase Impacts

8.2.1 Potential Socio-economic Impacts

The proposed Agricultural Developments are expected to result in positive socio-economic impacts for Mooi River, through potential job creation, and on South Africa, through contributions to the GDP by exports of wagyu beef. Specifically, Applicant's plan for Greenfields Farm is to invest R100 000 000, to create a Sustainable Eco-tourism Wagyu Agricultural Hub in Mooi River, which is expected to serve as a huge economic boost in Mpofana Municipality. This relates to R30 000 000 in annual turnover, potentially creating 120 jobs in the local community. Other socio-economic impacts include eco-tourism opportunities. Conservation areas will be established with necessary restrictions. However, the

conceptualisation of constructed areas with waxy farming will be developed later. The exact type and nature of eco-tourism opportunities have not been identified at this stage. If needed, a separate EIA/BA may be undertaken once confirmed.

8.2.2 Topographical impacts on cultivation

In the previous EIA, issues regarding the cultivation of slopes were raised and the risk of erosion. Although the topography of the farm was generally considered as suitable for cultivation with large areas of flat or gentle slopes (Green Door Environmental, 2018), there are steep areas that are already subject to erosion on site, which should be avoided, or given careful consideration in the Assessment Phase when looking at the proposed Pivot locations.

8.2.3 Ecological Impacts

The Greenfields Farm contains ecologically important flora, fauna, grasslands, wetlands, and ecological corridors. The key negative impacts identified in the previous EIA (Green Door Environmental, 2018) were the position of the farm within a Critical Biodiversity Area, impact on flora and fauna and the disruption of an ecological corridor. As such, this EIA has included terrestrial and aquatic Ecological Specialist Studies, that will give due consideration to the important biodiversity present on site.

8.2.3.1 *Flora and fauna*

Based on previous studies, the Greenfields Farm contains Critical Biodiversity Areas with grasslands of ecological importance, namely, Mooi River grassland, which is classified as being Vulnerable. The site also contains habitat for critically endangered and species of conservation significance, including Oribi, Blue Cranes, Secretarybird and the Banded Martin (Green Door Environmental 2018).

During the previous EIA, the proposed cultivation area was reduced from 190 ha to 97 ha, and then again amended to 104 ha, due to the ecological sensitivities of the primary grasslands, important ecological corridors and the wetlands present on site. Potential impacts on flora and faunal species could occur due to location of the proposed Agricultural Developments within sensitive ecological locations on the farm, including habitat loss for faunal species; specifically, grassland specialists.

This EIA will therefore include a detailed Biodiversity Impact Assessment, that will consider the cumulative impacts of existing and proposed activities on the farm. Importantly, during the Pre-Application meeting (Appendix A), the KZN-EDTEA requested that, should any direct impacts occur within these ecologically sensitive areas on the farm, the EIA Phase must include consideration of the National Offset Guideline (2017) and the Offset Policy 21 March 2017 and the combined revised Offset Policy, that considers biodiversity and wetland offsets, namely; Concise Guideline: Biodiversity Offsets in KwaZulu-Natal, 2013.

8.2.3.2 *Surface water impacts*

The three main components of the proposed project are linked directly to water sources and could result in surface water related impacts as noted below, namely:

- **The pivots** will be irrigated with water from the Mooi River, and the new dam, with potential impacts in surface water availability, particularly downstream;
- **The new dam** – potential impacts may occur on the physical, biological and chemical properties of the river and the riparian environment.
- **The retention ponds** will hold wastewater to be settled, which will later be sprayed onto pastures. Pollution of water sources could occur through direct contamination from a burst or overflowing slurry store. Such pollution could have detrimental impacts on aquatic ecology, due to the high biochemical oxygen demand (amount of oxygen consumed by micro-organisms in breaking down organic matter which is up to ten times more for slurries compared to domestic sewage) and dissolved ammonia in manures.

The Assessment Phase will therefore include a Specialist Surface Water Impact Assessment (Hydrological Assessment), which will be supplemented by Aquatic Ecology and Biodiversity Assessments.

8.2.3.3 *Wetlands*

It is understood that the Greenfields Farm contains wetlands. Approximately 64.7 ha of wetland habitats were identified within the 500m buffer of cultivation sites, in the Wetland Specialist Study undertaken as part of the previous EIA (Green Door Environmental, 2018). Due to the “no net loss” principle, the EA included the need to rehabilitate 0.35 ha or 1.43 ha of wetland offset equivalent, on the farm. The present EIA will undertake an additional wetland specialist study to identify potential impacts associated with the new proposed agricultural developments, which will supplement and take cognisance of the previous wetland study and its recommendations. The wetland study will provide avoidance or mitigation measures to ensure that wetlands present on site are not negatively impacted by the proposed agricultural developments.

8.2.4 *Traffic Impacts*

The proposed increase in Wagyu and dairy cattle production would most likely increase traffic to the Greenfields Farm. The increase is not considered significant to the effect that a Traffic Impact Assessment is required. However, when visiting the farm, the gravel access road appeared to be poorly maintained, raising concern that the road could accommodate increased traffic in future. Some consideration of traffic impacts will be made in the Assessment Phase.

8.2.5 *Agricultural impacts: Livestock and crops*

8.2.5.1 *Livestock impacts*

The proposed project will result in increased Wagyu and dairy cattle on the Greenfields Farm. The intention is to undertake sustainable farming, with no till pastures and free ranging cattle. As part of the Impact Assessment Phase, an update to the Agricultural Study that was undertaken in 2017 will be done, to assess the suitability of the farm for increased cattle and to

provide measures for best practice with regards to sustainable cattle management, including cattle stocking rates, rotational grazing, optimal seasons for breeding, etc.

8.2.5.2 Crops to be cultivated and land suitability

The previous EIA identified perennial rye grass (*Lolium perenne*), white clover (*Trifolium repens*) and chicory (*Chicorium intybus*), turnips and stouling rye as the preferred crops, and these were approved in the EA since they are suitable for dryland cultivation, and that they are suitable for the Mooi River climate, are perennial and therefore do not require annual re-planting. The new owner and Applicant has applied to implement the EA and plant crops that were approved, within the proposed pivot circle areas only. However, the Applicant intends to establish pivot cultivation, that will be irrigated. Although the EA approves dry-land cultivation, the Agricultural Study identified that the farm is largely suitable for both dryland and irrigated crops. As such, this EIA will include consideration of which crops will be most suitable under irrigated conditions.

9 Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment

In accordance with the purpose of the Scoping exercise as part of the overall environmental assessment, this section aims to identify potentially significant environmental issues for further consideration and prioritisation during the EIA stage, presents the proposed EIA methodology to be adopted to assess the significance of impacts and proposed avoidance, mitigation, and management measures. This allows for a more efficient and focused impact assessment in the ensuing EIA phase, where the analysis is largely limited to significant issues and reasonable alternatives.

9.1 Project alternatives to be assessed

In terms of the NEMA EIA Guidelines, the EIA must consider the impacts of alternative means of implementing the proposed development. Alternatives could include site, layout, process, and the no-go (or do nothing) alternative. The following proposed alternatives will be assessed.

9.1.1 Location Alternatives

Location alternatives to be assessed will include the following:

- Alternative Water extraction points: Two alternative water extraction points from the Mooi River for irrigation of Pivots (Figure 3).
- Dam layout and positioning alternatives.

However, the location and physical footprint of the dam and the proposed pipeline routes will be assessed and refined in consultation with the information to be provided by the Biodiversity, Wetland, Aquatic and Surface Water Specialist.

Location alternatives of the retention ponds have not been included as this needs to be next to the dairy.

9.1.2 Process Alternatives

Process alternatives to be assessed will include:

- Crop types for planting in pivot pastures.
- Cattle grazing rotations and stocking rates.

9.1.3 No-Go Alternative

The no-go alternatives implies that the proposed Greenfields Agricultural Developments will not go ahead. The potential impacts of not realising the project will be assessed in the Impact Assessment. The initial economic investment into Mpofana Municipality of R 1 000 000.00, and indirect spin off benefits of job creation, eco-tourism and funded and formalised conservation management of the natural areas (over 900 ha) on the farm will not be realised.

9.2 Specialist studies to be undertaken

The DEA Online Screening Tool identified the following seven specialist studies, that may be required as part of the EIA (Table 9). Details of inclusion or exclusion, and reasons for the same, are also provided in the list below:

Table 9: Specialist Studies Requested in the DEA Online Screening Tool

Specialist Studies Requested in DEA Screening Tool	Notes on inclusion or exclusion from the EIA
1. Agricultural Impact Assessment	An Update to the Agricultural Study undertaken in 2017 will included in the EIA.
2. Landscape / Visual Impact Assessment	Not required as the agricultural developments being applied for are in keeping with the character of the area and surrounding properties. In addition, no large permanent structures are included in the development proposal.
3. Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Assessment	An Update to the Study that was undertaken in the previous EIA will be included.
4. Palaeontology Impact Assessment	Not required as it not was undertaken in the previous EIA.
5. Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment	Biodiversity, Wetland and Aquatic Specialist Studies will be undertaken.
6. Hydrology Assessment	A Surface Water Impact Assessment will be undertaken.
7. Socio-economic Assessment	A Socio-economic Impact Assessment will be undertaken.
8. Plant Species Assessment	Biodiversity, Wetland and Aquatic Specialist Studies will be undertaken.
9. Animal Species Assessment	Biodiversity, Wetland and Aquatic Specialist Studies will be undertaken.

The previous EIA (Green Door Environmental 2017, 2018) undertook numerous specialist studies, including biodiversity Wetland Assessment; Biodiversity Assessment; Biodiversity Assessment Review; Heritage Impact Assessment; Agricultural Assessment; and Erosion Control Plan. All these studies were considered as part of this Scoping Phase. While information from those studies is still relevant, this new EIA will commission additional studies to assess the full scope of potential impacts related to the present proposal. The specialist studies that will be undertaken as in the Assessment Phase are listed in Table 10.

Table 10: Specialists Studies to be Undertaken in the EIA Phase and Qualifications of Specialists

Specialist Study	Lead Specialist
Wetland Impact Assessment	Dr. Mahomed Desai is Pr. Nat. Sci. (134678) from The Biodiversity Company has extensive experience in assessing estuarine, freshwater, and terrestrial biodiversity. He obtained his M.Sc. in Environmental Engineering and Ph.D. in Ecological Sciences and has over 10 years of experience working with African fauna and flora as a researcher and consultant, through various projects.
Aquatic Ecology Assessment	
Biodiversity Impact Assessment	
Surface Water Impact Assessment (Hydrological Assessment)	
Socio-Economic Impact Assessment	Amina Ismail has 20 years of experience working in sustainable development. She has a Master's degree in Management for the Public and Development sectors from the University of the Witwatersrand. She also has an Honours degree in Medical Sciences from the University of Durban-Westville (now University of Kwa-Zulu Natal) and a Postgraduate Diploma in Science (in Environmental Studies) from the University of the Witwatersrand. As a Harvard-South Africa Fellow, she studied Sustainable Development and Public Policy, and Health Research and Policy at Harvard University, United States. Amina has prepared more than 25 Socio-economic Impact Assessments (SIAs) for development infrastructure projects (conventional and solar power, housing, mixed-use developments, agriculture, wetland rehabilitation, and waste landfill) and mining (coal, diamonds, platinum copper, and phosphate). The SIAs were largely prepared as specialist studies for Environmental Impact Assessments but also as components of other deliverables such as for Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) Sustainability Reporting and Social and Labour Plans, and for identifying opportunities for Corporate.
Update Agricultural Impact Assessment	<p>Prof Michael Chimonyo graduated from the University of Zimbabwe, Harare, with a PhD in pig genetics and conservation of animal genetic resources in 2005. He is currently working as a full professor at the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN), Pietermaritzburg, South Africa. He is an established (NRF rated) scientist, who was awarded the Vice Chancellor's Research Award in 2012 for his outstanding research productivity. He has a strong team of collaborators; Stellenbosch University, the Agricultural Research Council of South Africa, Bunda College of Agriculture, Malawi, University of Zimbabwe, Marinsee Agricultural Institute, Hanover, Germany and Cornell University, Ithaca.</p> <p>His research interests on livestock ranges from commercial livestock production systems to complex communal livestock systems. He has worked extensively on the adaptability and tolerance to parasites and their potential to produce world-class organic beef and chevon from Nguni cattle and goats. His work has also focussed on the characterisation of indigenous livestock genetic resources with the goal of increasing their contribution to the welfare and livelihoods of the resource poor. His main research ambition is to improve food security through research in sustainable livestock agriculture.</p>
Update Heritage Impact Assessment	Gavin Anderson has a M. Phil (in archaeology and social psychology) degree from the University of Cape Town. Gavin has been working as a professional archaeologist and heritage impact assessor since 1995. He joined the Association of Professional Archaeologists of Southern Africa in 1998 when it was formed. Gavin is rated as a Principal Investigator with expertise status in Rock Art, Stone Age and Iron Age studies. In addition to this, he was worked on both West and East Coast shell middens, Anglo-Boer War sites, and Historical Period sites.

9.2.1 Wetland, Aquatic Ecology and Biodiversity Impact Assessments: The Biodiversity Company

The Biodiversity Company has been appointed as the independent specialist to undertake the following studies within this category:

1. Wetland Impact Assessment.
2. Aquatic Ecology Assessment.
3. Biodiversity Impact Assessment.

The proposed studies will take cognisance of the recently published Government Notice 320 in terms of NEMA dated 20 March 2020: "Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on Identified Environmental Themes in terms of Sections 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, when applying for Environmental Authorisation".

The water resource studies will be completed in accordance with the requirements of the Water Use Authorisation in terms of Section 211 and (i) of the National Water Act (Act 36 of 1998) (NWA). The study site falls within a Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA), as identified in the KwaZulu-Natal Systematic Conservation Plan. The wetland, aquatic and biodiversity studies will therefore include the consideration of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).

9.2.1.1 *Freshwater Ecology: Wetlands and Aquatic Ecology*

(a) Wetlands

The approach and methodology implemented for this study will include the following:

- A desktop assessment of all available datasets.
- The wetland areas are delineated in accordance with the DWAF (2005) guidelines, whereby the outer edges of the wetland areas were identified.
- The Present Ecological State (PES) or health for the wetland as a whole was calculated, whereby the hydrology, geomorphology and vegetation scores are aggregated to obtain an overall PES health score (Macfarlane et al., 2009).
- The assessment of the ecosystem services supplied by the identified wetlands was conducted per the guidelines as described in WET-EcoServices (Kotze et al., 2009).
- The Ecological Importance and Sensitivity (EIS) tool was derived to assess the system's ability to resist disturbance and its capability to recover from disturbance once it has occurred (Rountree et al., 2013).

(b) Aquatic Ecology

The approach and methodology implemented for this study will include the following:

- A desktop assessment of all available datasets;
- Ecological characterisation of aquatic biota (fish, macroinvertebrates and vegetation);
- Characterisation of abiotic components (habitat and in situ water quality);
- Ecological classification of the river reach; and
- An ecological risk assessment.

9.2.1.2 *Fauna (mammals, herpetofauna and avifauna)*

The surveys will include the following:

- A survey of the project areas (if permitted);
- Compilation of an expected species list;
- Compilation of an identified species list;
- Identify any Red Data or listed species present or potentially occurring in the area;

- A proximity assessment to any protected or ecologically important areas; and
- A habitat assessment and delineation.

The field survey for fauna will be undertaken concurrently with vegetation surveys. All animals observed in the area will be noted. Ecological indicators, such as calls, tracks and dung will be noted and regarded as indicative of the presence of that animal.

A detailed fauna lists will be compiled and discussed in relation to the floristic survey findings. The probability of occurrence for species not observed during field surveys will be considered if applicable regarding available habitats. Protected and endemic species will be the focus of discussion. Faunal composition of disturbed sites will be compared to the composition of undisturbed areas.

The current status of the faunal environment will be determined and an evaluation of the extent of site-related effects in terms of certain ecological indicators, as well as identification of specific important ecological attributes such as rare and endangered species, protected species, sensitive species and endemic species will be made. The faunal environment and habitat will be characterised in relation to biota and the extent of site related effects. Presence of red data and protected species will be indicated on a map.

Sampling techniques will be passive (sightings, calls and tracking) as well as active (trapping, cameras and searching).

Fauna will be assessed during the day and at night, the fauna which will be assessed for this study include the following:

- Mammals.
- Avifauna.
- Reptiles and amphibians.

9.2.1.3 *Plants and vegetation*

The surveys will include the following: Survey for Red and Orange Data plant species; Vegetation units will be identified, classified and delineated; Habitat types will be classified and delineated; A The survey will be conducted in consultation with local authorities who have information to be considered; and the survey area will include the project area.

The floristic survey should be conducted during the growing season (the rainy season when most plants are in flower or seeding), over the project areas. This period is between October and April. These will give an indication of the actual species present on site and will be discussed in context of plant communities (should the area support distinct communities) within the ecosystem of the area. Protected, endemic, exotic, alien invasive and culturally significant species will also be discussed as separate issues and related back to relevant legal requirements. Furthermore, the identification of red data and protected species as listed according to the IUCN List, NEMBA and other Provincial and National legislation will be completed. Depending on the vegetation and terrain, the timed meander sampling could be used during vegetation assessments, however, should dominant vegetation types require other methods be used, then these shall be motivated.

(a) Habitat features

The surveys will include the following:

- The identification of these features and delineation thereof; and
- The location of any unique or protected habitat features.

All sensitive areas, as described by the provincial and national legislation, will be identified. The locality and extent, as well as species composition of sensitive areas such as the wetlands or pans, streams, rivers and rocky outcrops will be conducted to identify and map all such sensitive areas present. Sensitive areas will be identified and delineated.

While majority of the surveys for impact assessment will be undertaken in June 2021, to align with the Assessment phase of the EIA, it is important to note that due to the climate of the area, the vegetation, invertebrate and herpetofauna surveys should ideally be undertaken from mid-spring to early summer. Therefore, some time will also be allocated for surveys during this period. This especially applies to the protected flora as many are dormant during the winter period and therefore, would be difficult/impossible to locate and geotag.

Should any direct impacts occur within ecologically sensitive areas on the farm, the specialist study will include consideration of the National Offset Guideline (2017) and the Offset Policy 21 March 2017 and the combined revised Offset Policy, that considers biodiversity and wetland offsets, Concise Guideline: Biodiversity Offsets in KwaZulu-Natal, 2013.

9.2.1.4 *Ecological corridors*

Potential impacts on ecological corridors will also be assessed as part of the Biodiversity Assessment.

9.2.2 **Surface Water Impact Assessment Report: The Biodiversity Company**

9.2.2.1 *Hydrology (Floodline)*

Site Visit: A one/two-day site visit will be undertaken to assess the hydrological characteristics of the local system. The systems will be assessed to obtain suitable Mannings 'n' roughness coefficients for hydraulic modelling. Hydraulic structures such as culverts, weirs and bridges will be measured and will be included in the model.

Hydrological Assessment: A hydrological assessment will be undertaken to determine the 1:50 and 1:100 year peak flows. Long term streamflows from gauging stations within close proximity to the proposed facility will be assessed. In addition to this, the peak flows will be calculated using an appropriate peak flow method such as the Rational, SCS, SDF or Unit Hydrograph method.

Hydraulic Modelling: Hydraulic modelling to calculate the 1:50 and 1:100 year flood water elevations will be undertaken in HEC-RAS. Firstly, geometric data (stream centre line, channel banks, flow paths, cross- sections, etc.) will be prepared in HEC-GeoRAS (an ArcGIS extension). The geometric data, peak flows and Mannings 'n' roughness coefficients will be imported into HEC-RAS, whereupon mixed flow steady state hydraulic modelling will be undertaken. Results will be exported back to HEC- GeoRAS to delineate the flood lines.

Buffer: The “Preliminary Guideline for the Determination of Buffer Zones for Rivers, Wetlands and Estuaries” (Macfarlane, et al., 2014) will be used to determine the appropriate buffer zone for the proposed activity.

Risk Assessment: The risk assessment will be completed in accordance with the requirements of the DWS General Authorisation (GA) in terms of Section 39 of the NWA for water uses as defined in Section 21I or Section 21(i) (GN 509 of 2016).

9.2.2.2 Hydrology (Floodline)

Site Visit: A one/two-day site visit will be undertaken to assess the hydrological characteristics of the local system. The systems will be assessed to obtain suitable Mannings ‘n’ roughness coefficients for hydraulic modelling. Hydraulic structures such as culverts, weirs and bridges will be measured and will be included in the model.

Hydrological Assessment: A hydrological assessment will be undertaken to determine the 1:50 and 1:100 year peak flows. Long term streamflows from gauging stations within close proximity to the proposed facility will be assessed. In addition to this, the peak flows will be calculated using an appropriate peak flow method such as the Rational, SCS, SDF or Unit Hydrograph method.

Hydraulic Modelling: Hydraulic modelling to calculate the 1:50 and 1:100 year flood water elevations will be undertaken in HEC-RAS. Firstly, geometric data (stream centre line, channel banks, flow paths, cross- sections, etc.) will be prepared in HEC-GeoRAS (an ArcGIS extension). The geometric data, peak flows and Mannings ‘n’ roughness coefficients will be imported into HEC-RAS, whereupon mixed flow steady state hydraulic modelling will be undertaken. Results will be exported back to HEC- GeoRAS to delineate the flood lines.

This report will include:

- Flood line delineation for environmental assessment purposes.
- Water Balance for the entire project.
- Storm and Wastewater Management Plan.

9.2.3 Socio-Economic Impact Assessment

Desktop and primary data will be collected, to prepare a socio-economic baseline, identify and assess potential positive and negative impacts, and recommend interventions to mitigate potential negative impacts and promote potential benefits. Desktop sources will constitute primarily data from Statistics South Africa’s Community Survey 2016 and the local municipality’s Integrated Development Plan and Local Economic Development Plan. Primary data will be obtained from the project specifications, a site visit, and from focus group discussions and key informant interviews with stakeholders. It is envisaged that engagements will be held with relevant representatives of the community, government services, and business in the local area.

9.2.4 Update to Agricultural Specialist Assessment

An Agricultural Specialist Study was undertaken as part of the previous EIA (Green Door Environmental, 2018). That study found that the land was suitable for crop production under dryland and irrigated conditions. Based on this, the EAP is of the opinion that additional soil testing is not required. However, the Agricultural Study will be updated to include considerations for appropriate management of increased numbers of cattle within the Greenfields Farm, and the Specialist, Professor Michael Chimonyo, will provide an expert opinion on stocking rates, rotational grazing and other aspects related to best practice for free range livestock rearing in natural environments.

9.2.5 Update Heritage Impact Assessment

The Heritage Impact Assessment that was undertaken in 2016 as part of the previous EIA will be updated to account for the new activities proposed. The study will include a ground survey of the development footprints of the proposed pivots, dam and retention ponds, to identify if any heritage features are present that may require mitigation or management measures.

9.3 Impact Assessment Methodology

The Impact Assessment Phase will be undertaken in line with the requirements of the NEMA EIA Regulations (2014), as outlined in Appendix 3 of the EIA Regulations. Specifically, the EIA process must be carried out in line with the approved plan of study for EIA and the environmental impacts, mitigation and closure outcomes, and any residual risks of the proposed development must be set out in the EIR.

The following key objectives for EIA will be undertaken, through a consultative process, to:

- Contextualise the policy and legislative context of the study area.
- Describe the need and desirability of the proposed Greenfields Agricultural Developments.
- Undertake an impact and risk assessment process, inclusive of cumulative impacts and a ranking process of all potential alternatives, including any geographical, biological, social, economic, heritage and cultural aspects the study area.
- Provide a methodology for determining the significance of potential impacts.
- A description of all environmental issues, risks and impacts, and for each potential impact, the assessment will determine the:
 - nature, significance, consequence, extent, duration and probability of the impacts occurring to inform identified preferred alternatives; and
 - degree to which the impacts - (i) can be reversed; (ii) may cause irreplaceable loss of resources, and (iii) can be avoided, managed or mitigated;
 - cumulative impacts
- A description of all proposed mitigation measures to avoid or mitigate negative impacts or enhance positive impacts as prescribed in the EIA and associated Specialist Reports.
- Description of gaps in knowledge, assumptions or uncertainties.

- A concluding environmental impact statement, including a summary of all impacts and their significance, the location of the preferred alternatives, a map of the proposed activities and environmental sensitivities and a reasoned opinion on whether the proposed activity should or should not be authorised, and any conditions related to the opinion.

9.3.1 Impact Assessment Matrix

All identified positive and negative impacts, will be assessed, based on the general approach to impact significance assessment applied in South Africa (Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism 2002) and the requirements for impact assessment in the 2017 Amendments of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (DEA GNR 326, 2017). Impacts will be ranked and scored in terms of five assessment criteria (Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism 2002): (1) Extent: spatial scale of the impact; (2) Magnitude: degree of the impact; (3) Duration: time scale of the impact; 4) Reversibility: degree to which the outcome can be reversed; and 5) Probability: of the impact occurrence (Table 11).

Table 11: Evaluation and Ranking Criteria to Assess the Impact Significance of Potential Impacts

Evaluation components	Description Criteria and/or Ranking scale
Magnitude of negative impact (at the indicated spatial scale)	5 - Very high: Bio-physical and/or social functions and/or processes might be severely altered. 4 - High: Bio-physical and/or social functions and/or processes might be considerably altered. 3 - Medium: Bio-physical and/or social functions and/or processes might be notably altered. 2 - Low: Bio-physical and/or social functions and/or processes might be slightly altered. 1 - Very Low: Bio-physical and/or social functions and/or processes might be negligibly altered. 0 - Zero: Bio-physical and/or social functions and/or processes will remain unaltered
Magnitude of positive impact (at the indicated spatial scale)	5 - Very high (positive): Bio-physical (air, water, soil, wetlands) and/or social (human well-being) functions and/or processes might be substantially enhanced. 4 - High (positive): Bio-physical (air, water, soil, wetlands) and/or social (human well-being) functions and/or processes might be considerably enhanced. 3 - Medium (positive): Bio-physical and/or social (human well-being) functions and/or processes might be notably enhanced. 2 - Low (positive): Bio-physical and/or social (human well-being) functions and/or processes might be slightly enhanced. 1 - Very Low (positive): Bio-physical and/or social (human well-being) functions and/or processes might be negligibly enhanced. 0 - Zero (positive): Bio-physical and/or social (human well-being) functions and/or processes will remain unaltered.
Duration (timeframe during which the impact will be experienced)	5 - Permanent 4 - Long term: > 10 years or until the activity ceases. 3 - Medium term: 1- 10 years 2 - Short term: < 1 year. 1 - Immediate
Extent (spatial scale/influence of impact)	5 - International: Beyond National boundaries. 4 - National: Beyond Provincial boundaries and within National boundaries. 3 - Regional: Beyond 5 km of the proposed development and within Provincial boundaries. 2 - Local: Within 5 km of the proposed development. 1 - Site-specific: On site or within 100 m of the site boundary. 0 - No impact
Reversibility of impact	5 - Impact cannot be reversed.

(Can the impact of the intervention be reversed?)	4 - Low potential that impact might be reversed. 3 - Moderate potential that impact might be reversed. 2 - High potential that impact might be reversed. 1 - Impact will be reversible. 0 - No impact.
Probability (Of occurrence). In most cases, the impact has occurred as the intervention has been implemented. Thus, many impacts score 5 in this category.)	5 - Definite: The impact will occur. 4 - High probability: It is most likely that the impact will occur (>75% chance) 3 - Medium probability: the impact may occur (50% - 75% chance) 2 - Low probability: 25% - 50% chance that the impact may occur. 1 - Improbable: <25% chance of the potential impact occurring.
Cumulative Impacts	High: The activity is one of several similar past, present or future activities in the same geographical area, and might contribute to a very significant combined impact on the natural, cultural, and/or socio-economic resources of local, regional or national concern. Medium: The activity is one of a few similar past, present or future activities in the same geographical area, and might have a combined impact of moderate significance on the natural, cultural, and/or socio-economic resources of local, regional or national concern. Low: The activity is localised and might have a negligible cumulative impact. None: No cumulative impact on the environment.

Using these five assessment criteria, the significance of each outcome was determined, whereby the significance (**S**) of the impact is determined by the probability (**P**) of the impact occurring, and the consequence (**C**) of the impact. The consequence is determined by combining the spatial (geographical) extent (**E**), magnitude (**M**), duration (**D**), and reversibility (**R**), applicable to the specific impact (see formula below).

$$S = C (E+M+D+R) / 4) \times P.$$

Impacts will be scored and classified into three categories of impact significance (high, moderate, or low (Table 12).

Table 12: Rating Scale for Potential Impacts

Significance Score	Significance	Description
≥ 17	High	This impact will affect ecological, socio-economic and health functions and will result in a significant benefit or risk.
≥10 <17	Moderate	The impact is of medium significance may have an effect on ecological, socio-economic and health functions, and could result in a moderate benefit or risk.
< 10	Low	The impact of low significance is not likely to affect the ecological, socio-economic and health functions in a noticeable way and is unlikely to result in significant benefit or risk.

9.4 Environmental Management Programme

An Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) will be compiled in terms of section 24N of NEMA EIA Regulations and will include that will contain:

- detailed descriptions of aspects of the proposed Greenfields Agricultural Developments and associated maps;
- description of the objectives and outcomes of impact management, including management statements, identified impacts and risks to be avoided, mitigated and managed and a process for all phases of the development, including (i)

planning and design; (ii) pre-construction activities, (iii) construction activities, (iv) rehabilitation activities post construction and (v) operational activities.

- Description of proposed management actions, including methods and frequency of monitoring those actions, that need to be implemented on site to avoid, modify, remedy, control or stop any action that may cause detrimental impacts such as pollution or environmental degradation.
- Comply with financial provisions for rehabilitation.
- An environment awareness plan for farm employees on environmental risks.

Importantly, the EMPr comply with prescribed environmental standards and practices and will be aligned with the existing EMPr that was instituted on the Greenfields Farm as part of the conditions of the previous EA.

9.5 Proposed Public Participation Process

The public participation process (PPP) is being undertaken in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) and GN No. 326 (7 April 2017) and associated Chapter 6, that specifies regulations pertaining to PPP.

9.5.1 Notice of Proposed EIA Process

Regulation 41: Notice was given of the proposed project in a variety of ways; via a site notice boards, the distribution of the Background Information Document and project notification letters, via email. The project was announced on 27 May 2021. Details of each method of notification are provided below.

Regulation 41 (2) (a) (i): Notice was given by fixing two notice boards, one at the entrance to Greenfields Farm and one on the boundary fence on 27 May 2021. (See Appendix C1).

Regulation 42 (2) (b) (ii): Owners, persons in control of, and occupiers of land adjacent to the site were notified about the proposed project and were invited to participate as I&APs via telephone and email. They also received electronic copies of the Draft Scoping Report and an invitation to the public meeting that was held via zoom (Appendix C2).

Regulation 42 (2) (b) (iii): Mr Mahelengi, the municipal councillor of the ward was notified about the proposed project via telephone and email and invited to participate as an I&AP via telephone and email. They also received electronic copies of the Draft Scoping Report and an invitation to the public meeting that was held via zoom (Appendix C2).

Regulation 42 (2) (b) (iv): Mr Dladla and Mr Sithole of the Mpofana Municipality were notified about the proposed project via telephone and email and invited to participate as I&AP/authorities via telephone and email. They also received electronic copies and an invitation to comment on the Draft Scoping Report, and an invitation to the public meeting that was held via zoom. A personal meeting was arranged with Mr Dladla and Mr Sithole and EnviroHeart Consulting on 17 June 2021. Refer to Appendix C3 for correspondence received from I&APs and Appendix C4 for Comments and Responses Report for comments made during the meeting.

Regulation 42 (2) (b) (v): The organs of state shown in Table 13, having jurisdiction in respect of the activity, were consulted, notified about the proposed project via telephone and email and invited to participate as I&APs/authorities via telephone

and/or email. They also received electronic copies of the Draft Scoping Report and invitation to submit their comments, and an invitation to the public meeting that was held via zoom (Appendix C2).

Table 13: State Departments Consulted During Scoping Phase

State Department	Contact Person
Department of Economic Development, Tourism & Environmental Affairs	Shawn Janneker, Kraigen Govensamy
Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife	Jenny Longmore, Andy Blackmore, Dominic Wieners
Amafa	Weziwe Tshabalala
Department of Human Settlements, Water & Sanitation	Sibusiso Sikhosana
Department of Agriculture & Rural Development	Bayo Ogunnaike
Umgungundlovu District	Mandisa Khomo
Mpofana Municipality - Planning	Sandile Makhaye

9.5.2 Background Information Document

A Background Information Document (BID) was compiled to provide I&APs with background information about the proposed project and introduce the EIA process to be followed (Appendix C1). The BID was distributed at the commencement of the project, copies were placed at the Greenfields Farm, provided to the directly affected residents and placed at the Tourism Office in Mooi River Town. Electronic copies of the BID were also be circulated to I&APs.

9.5.3 Newspaper Advertisement

Regulation 42 (c) (i) (e): The DSR was advertised for public comment via The Maritzburg Echo, in both in English and Isizulu on 28 May 2021 (Appendix C1). The advertisement provided details of the application subject to public, the nature of assessment being a S&EIR process, the nature and location of the activity to which the application relates and details of where further information on the application can be obtained (Appendix C1). The site notices and advertisements were translated into IsiZulu as an additional language, to increase accessibility of the information on the proposed development by local communities.

9.5.4 Identification of interested and affected parties and comments on reports

Regulation 42, 43 and 44: An existing I&AP database was available from the previous EIA (Green Door Environmental, 2018). All I&APs on the database were contacted via email and notified about the proposed development. I&APs were asked if they wanted to be kept informed on the new proposed development, or if they wanted to be removed from the database. The database was updated and revised based on responses. See Appendix C5 for the revised I&AP database. All I&APs were notified about the proposed project via telephone and email and invited to participate as I&APs via telephone and/or email. They also received electronic copies of the Draft Scoping Report and invitation to submit their comments, and an invitation to the public meeting that was held via zoom.

All comments received at the public meeting, during personal meetings, and via email, on the Draft Scoping Report, were captured and responded to in the Comments and Responses Register (Appendix C4). Table 14 provides a summary of PPP activities to date, and proposed PPP activities to be undertaken in the Assessment Phase.

Table 14: Proposed Public Participation Process

Public Participation Process: Application Phase			Date Undertaken
No.	Tasks	Description	
1.	Project Announcement	A Project Notification Letter was distributed to I&APs, via email. Site notices placed Background Information Document distributed.	The project was announced on 27 May 2021.
Public Participation Process: Scoping Phase			
4.	Announcement: Availability of the Draft Scoping Report (DSR)	The Draft Scoping Report (DSR) was announced for public comment for 30 days. This period was extended to accommodate for public holidays. The DSR was advertised for public comment via: Local Newspaper Advertisement (The Maritzburg Echo) in English and Isizulu. Email Letter.	27 May 2021 28 May 2021 27 May 2021
6.	Public Meeting	A public meeting was held in the middle of the 30 days comment period. Allowing I&APs a reasonable amount of time to read the Draft Scoping Report. The public meeting was conducted online via Zoom. An email invitation was sent to all I&APs which included a link to register and attend.	9 June 2021
7.	IA&P Comments and Assessments	All I&APs will be notified that the FSR has been submitted to KZN-EDTEA, the competent authority, and will be made electronically.	21 September 2021
Public Participation Process: Impact Assessment Phase			
1.	Announcement of Draft EIA for public comment	Draft EIA Report will be made available for public comment for a 30-day period. It will be announced via email letter.	TBC
2.	Public Meeting	A public meeting will be held and conducted online via Zoom in the middle of the 30 days comment period. Allowing I&APs a reasonable amount of time to read the Draft Impact Assessment Report. An email invitation will be sent to I&APs which will include a link to register and attend.	TBC
3.	IA&P Comments and Assessments	Comments received from stakeholders during the public review period on the Draft Impact Assessment Report will be captured and included in the Final Impact Assessment Report.	TBC
4.	Announcement of the Final EIA	Notification of the submission of the Final Impact Assessment Report to KZN-EDTEA, the competent authority, will be distributed via email letter.	TBC
5.	Decision Notification	The KZN-EDTEA will issue a decision on whether the EA Application is approved or denied. The decision will be communicated to all stakeholders as prescribed under the NEMA legislation. Notification will be announced to stakeholders via email.	

10 Conclusions and Way Forward

The EAP has made every effort to identify all the potential issues and impacts that could arise due to the proposed Greenfields Farm Agricultural Developments in the Scoping Phase. However, the assessment phase may uncover additional impacts that need to be considered. The site does contain ecologically sensitive habitats and species of conservation concern, which will be given due consideration through in the Assessment Phase. A suite of specialist studies has been included in the Impact Assessment phase, to identify all potential impacts and proposed avoidance, mitigation and or management measures related to the proposed Agricultural Developments.

This project is unique in that the Applicant's model is based on the implementation of sustainable agriculture, that is harmonious with the natural environment. Importantly, the Applicant has made a concurrent application to adopt the Environmental Authorisation held in the name of the previous farm owner (through a Part 1 Amendment Application for Name Change) which was approved. The implementation of the EA could result in numerous positive environmental conservation implementation actions, including the implementation of conservation servitudes and environmental management, that will contribute to the sustainability of the Greenfields Farm. The Application for amendment to change the EA holder from Jigawa Investments (Pty) Ltd, to GMKN Agri (Pty) Ltd was approved on 19 August 2021. A key consideration that will be made through the EIA is the consolidation of management measures related to the previous EA and those that may be required for the proposed Development. Further information and a structured way forward regarding this will only be brought to light through detailed consultation, which is planned to take place through the EIA process. The Applicant has shown willingness and commitment to implement relevant management and conservation measures on site, as this is in keeping with the future sustainable vision of the farm, that will incorporate eco-tourism aspects and aim to result in much needed positive socio-economic development in the Mpofana Municipality.

The Report was finalised based on comments received on the DSR. This Final Scoping Report is being submitted to KZN-EDTEA for approval, prior to commencing with the Assessment Phase. All I&APs will be notified on submission and acceptance of FSR by KZN-EDTEA.

For more information, please contact:
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greenfields@enviroheart.co.za

References

Green Door Environmental, 2017. DRAFT SCOPING REPORT. Proposed Breaking of 190 ha of Veld on Rem of Lot 1 2601, Ptn 32 (of 5) Fountain Hall 2172, Ptn 4 of Greenfields 1834, Ptn 4 of Rondebosch 2167, Rem of Davies 18302, Rem of Rondebosch 18303, and Rem of Kethro 15969, Mpofana Local Municipality, KwaZulu-Natal

Green Door Environmental, 2018. FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT. The Proposed Breaking of 190 ha (now 104 ha) of Veld on Rem of Lot 1 2601, Ptn 32 (of 5) Fountain Hall 2172, Ptn 4 of Greenfields 1834, Ptn 4 of Rondebosch 2167, Rem of Davies 18302, Rem of Rondebosch 18303, and Rem of Kethro 15969, Mpofana Local Municipality, KwaZulu-Natal. Ref: DC 22/0044/2017

Institute of Natural Resources, 2017. Final Environmental Management Framework for the uMgungundlovu District Municipality: Volume II – Environmental Sensitivity Zones and Assessment Guideline.

Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism. 2002. *Impact Significance, Integrated Environmental Management, Information Series 5*. Page Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism.

Hans Prins, 2016. Phase One Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment of Greenfields Farm at Mooi River, Mpofana Local Municipality, Kwazulu-Natal. Active heritage CC for Green Door Environmental

Appendix A

Pre – Application Minutes

Meeting Notes

Greenfields FARM EIA Pre Application

Venue: Zoom Online

Date: 26 April 2021



Attendees:

Environmental Assessment Practitioners (EA) from EnviroHeart Consulting (EH): Rashieda Davids (RD), Sanusha Reddy (SR)

EDTEA Representatives: Shawn Janneker (SJ), Kraigen Govindasamy (KG), Nomos

Apologies: Xoli Madiba (XM)

Introduction

SJ opened the meeting and invited EH to present details of the proposed project. SG described the proposed project, as per the Draft Environmental Application Form (attached). The Greenfields Farm currently operates as a Wagyu cattle and dairy farm, with 400 dairy and 400 Wagyu cattle. The Applicant, GMNK Agri, intends to develop infrastructure to support increased agricultural production of Wagyu and dairy cattle and establish a new economic hub for Wagyu production. In this respect, the Applicant proposes the following developments:

1. Pivot cultivation with irrigation, including six new pivots, of 145ha, combined extent.
2. Construction of a retention pond.
3. Construction of a new dam to supply water to three of the pivots, of 600 000m³.

The proposed development will trigger numerous listed activities in Listing Notice, 1, @ and 3 and in terms of the National Environmental Management Waste Act. As such, a combined Scoping and Environmental Impact reporting (S&EIR) process is required.

GMNK Agri is the majority landowner, owning 4 of the six properties affected. Coralwood Property Trust (CPT), who owns the remaining two properties, is in parentship with the applicant and has provided landowner consent for the EA Application. EH have received letters owner consent from both owners for the EA Application.

There are two Applications for EA proposed, in line with the long-term vision of the site. At a later stage, the Applicant intends to apply for the development of infrastructure for an of an Agri Park. However, the Agri Park will be subject to the outcome of this initial EA Application.

Existing EA and Amendment Application

The site currently holds an existing and valid EA, that was obtained by the previous landowner, Jigawa Investments, for cultivation of 104 ha of land for crop agriculture. The present Applicant intends to apply for an Amendment to the existing EA, for a name change only, from Jigawa Investments to GMNK Agri. The amendment process will run concurrently with the S&EIR process. However, there is a non-compliance on the site, that is being resolved as part of the amendment application. The process for dealing with the non-compliance was agreed at a meeting the SG, XM and SJ on 10 March 2021. The Amendment Application will only be submitted after the non-compliance is resolved. No pre-Application meeting will be required for the Amendment Applications as it will be a Part 1 Application, in terms of regulation 29b of the EIA Regulations.

KG noted that the initial stakeholder engagements and land ownership for the existing EA must be considered in the Amendment Application.

It was acknowledged that in terms of Chapter 4 and 5 of IEM tools, the Application cannot be finalized if there is a non-compliance on the site. There are some actions that can commence in the interim for the S&EIR process, e.g., engagement with key stakeholders and specialist studies, however, the Application may be delayed by the non-compliance.

For the present Pre-Application Meeting, it was agreed that the meeting would focus only on the imminent Application that will be submitted for the Greenfields Farm Pivots, retention pond and dam.

Key points of discussion

SJ noted that the EA must include consideration of the uMgungundlovu Environmental Management Framework (EMF) Status Report and Sensitivity maps. RD requested GIS Shapefiles of the EMF map and KG replied that only PDF version is available at the moment

The EIA Listed activities, as per the draft EA Form were discussed (See Table below for EDTEA Comments on the activities.

EIA Listed Activities:

Indicate the relevant Activity (ies) as set out in Listing Notice 1, 2 & 3 (GN R327, GNR325 & GNR324) Provide the relevant Activity Number: Describe each listed activity as per the project description (and not as per wording of the relevant Government Notice)¹: DEA Comments

GN R327 No. 9	The development of infrastructure exceeding 1 000 metres in length for the bulk transportation of water or storm water - (i) with an internal diameter of 0,36 metres or more; or (ii) with a peak throughput of 120 litres per second or more. excluding where- (a) such infrastructure is for bulk transportation of water or storm water or storm water drainage inside a road reserve or railway line reserve; or (b) where such development will occur within an urban area.	Pipelines from the new dam will be required to transport water to Pivot D, E and F. There will also be pipelines from the Little Mooi River to the Pivots. The only pipeline exceeding 0,36mm in diameter would be the Mooi River Pipeline and the transfer pipeline between the new dam and the Highway Dam	Agreed
GN R327 No. 12	The development of- (i) dams or weirs, where the dam or weir, including water surface area, exceeds 100 square metres; or (ii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more; where such development occurs - (a) within a watercourse; (b) in front of a development setback; or (c) if no development setback exists, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse; -	The proposal includes the construction of a new dam, to supply water to Pivots B, D and E. The dam be designed to have a capacity of 600 000m ³ , which is the volume required to serve the requirements of the Pivots.	Agreed
GN R327 No. 19	The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 10 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles, or rock of more than 10 cubic metres from a watercourse.	The Pivot A and the new dam are proposed to be constructed within watercourses.	Agreed

			<p>Will the Applicant be treating the wastewater? Or just holding it?</p> <p>If not treating, this activity will not apply.</p>
GN R327 No. 25	<p>The development and related operation of facilities or infrastructure for the treatment of effluent, wastewater, or sewage with a daily throughput capacity of more than 2 000 cubic metres but less than 15 000 cubic metres.</p>	<p>The proposal includes the construction of a retention pond next to the existing dairy, to hold wastewater from the cow wash area. The water from the retention pond will then be reused, on the cultivated Pivot areas, or other pastures.</p>	<p>Agreed to keep it in for now, and to discuss once final design available?</p> <p>KG noted this activity is usually considered in package treatment plants for treatment facilities.</p> <p>This is a natural process of separation so no treatment being undertaken.</p>
GN R327 No. 30	<p>Any process or activity identified in terms of section 53(1) of the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004 (Act No. 10 of 2004).</p>	<p>The Pivots and associated infrastructure are proposed to be constructed in areas that contain indigenous vegetation.</p>	<p>Not applicable? What listed ecosystem will be affected or what threatening process?</p>
Gn R327 No. 11	<p>The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transfer of 50 000 cubic metres or more water per day, from and to or between any combination of the following- (i). water catchments;</p>	<p>The pipelines will transfer water from the Little Mooi River to the pivots for irrigation.</p>	<p>Agreed.</p>
GN R328 No. 13	<p>The physical alteration of virgin soil to agriculture, or afforestation for the purposes of commercial tree, timber or wood production of 100 hectares or more.</p>	<p>The Pivots are proposed to be constructed in areas that contain indigenous vegetation. The total footprint of all the Pivots combined will be 145ha. Extent of indigenous vegetation within the Pivots will be determined by the Biodiversity Specialist Study. The vegetation within the Pivots are proposed to be replaced by crops including perennial rye grass, white clover, turnips, stalling rye</p>	<p>Agreed</p>

		and chicory. The Pivots will then serve as grazing areas for the cattle.	
	The clearance of an area of 20 hectares or more of indigenous vegetation, excluding where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for –	The Pivots are proposed to be constructed in areas that contain indigenous vegetation. The total footprint of all the Pivots combined will be 145ha. The extent of indigenous vegetation within the Pivots will be determined by the Biodiversity Specialist Study. The vegetation within the Pivots are proposed to be replaced by crops, including perennial rye grass, white clover, turnips, stalling rye and chicory. The Pivots will then serve as grazing areas for the cattle.	Agreed
GN R328	No. 15 (i). the undertaking of a linear activity; or (ii). maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.		
GN R328	No. 16 The development of a dam where the highest part of the dam wall, as measured from the outside toe of the wall 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.	The proposal includes the construction of a new dam, to supply water to the Pivots. The dam will be designed to have a capacity of 600 000m ³ , which is the volume required to serve the requirements of the Pivots. The dam wall will exceed 5 metres in height.	Agreed
GN R328	24 The extraction or removal of peat or peat soils, including the disturbance of vegetation or soils in anticipation of the extraction or removal of peat or peat soils, but excluding where such extraction or removal is for the rehabilitation of wetlands in accordance with a maintenance management plan.	The new dam will extract soils for construction from within the dam basin.	Agreed
GN R329	No. 12 d. KwaZulu-Natal xii. Sensitive areas as identified in an environmental management framework as contemplated in chapter 5 of the Act and as adopted by the competent authority; or	The project site falls within a sensitive area, endangered grassland, classified in terms of the EMF, affecting more than 300m ² of indigenous vegetation.	Request to only lists the specific applicable sub-section. E.g. in this case, d(viii) does not apply. Section 52 (1) of NEMBA – need to verify how this is affected.
	The development of-		Request to only lists the specific applicable sub-section.
GN R329	(i). dams or weirs, where the dam or weir, including infrastructure and water surface area exceeds 10 square metres; or	The project includes the development of a dam of 600 000m ³ . As such it exceeds 10m ² and will have a footprint more than 10m ² .	
No. 14	(ii). infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 10 square metres or more; where such development occurs- (a) within a watercourse; (b) in front of a development setback; or		

	<p>(c) if no development setback has been adopted, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse;</p> <p>d. Kwazulu-Natal viii. Sensitive areas as identified in an environmental management framework as contemplated in chapter 5 of the Act and as adopted by the competent authority;</p>		
<p>NENWA Schedule 1, Section 19 EIA – Cat B No. 5</p>	<p>The disposal of general waste to land covering an area of more than 100 m² or 200 m³ of airspace, including the construction of a facility and associated structures and infrastructure for such disposal.</p>	<p>Wastewater from the retention pond will be used to irrigate the Pivots and other pastures.</p>	<p>Action: Need confirmation from Mrs Chimera Pillay.</p> <p>EDTEA has not yet facilitated a combined application. Alternatively, it may be separate Waste Management License process.</p>

SJ and KG queried whether the following activities were applicable:

1. Listing Notice 1, Activity 3. For abattoir. – Not applicable as that will be part of the second Application for the Agri Park application.
2. Listing 1, 39 – Not applicable as only expanding by 400.
3. Listing Notice 1, 43 – not applicable as no processing of products and no increase in ‘agro-industrial footprint’
 - EDTEA suggested stakeholder that need to be contact in the S&EIR process:
 - Department of Agriculture and Rural Development – Mr. Petrus Mans who is based in Cedara.
 - Soil Conservation Directorate – need to get contact person from Kraigen. DEARD.
 - Department of Transport, due to potential increase in impacts on road infrastructure. Contact person is Ms. Judy Reddy, who processes EIA applications in KZN DOT.
 - Include the Ward Councilor
 - Include Transnet
 - Power or servitudes (50m buffer) - Eskom
 - KZN Crown Foundation
 - Endangered Wildlife Trust.

Public participation process (PPP) notices:

- EH will leave out the Echo as it does not cover the area. Need to check if Midlands Meander covers the area.
- The Natal Witness is the only paper that covers the area.
- Check if there’s an IsiZulu paper where notice can be placed.
- EH is planning to put English and isiZulu add in the Natal Witness.

EH confirmed that the S&EIR will include a full PPP: announcement, text messaging and emails. EH will do postal on request from Interested and Affected Parties (IAPs). SJ queried if EH would we be able to present proof of text messaging. SG confirmed that that will be available and can be printed from the online system.

Specialist studies

RD noted that numerous specialist studies were undertaken as part of the previous EIA. Some studies do not need to be redone, e.g. Heritage Impact Assessment and Agricultural Study. The new S&EIR will use relevant information from those studies, but the EIA will include additional studies, namely:

1. Wetland Impact Assessment
2. Aquatic Ecology Assessment
3. Surface Water Impact Assessment (Hydrological Assessment)
4. Biodiversity Impact Assessment
5. Socio-Economic Impact Assessment.

SJ requested that the S&EIR undertake an update to the Agricultural and Paleo-Archaeological Studies. The meeting agreed that Visual and Civil Aviation studies are not required.

KG requested that sufficient input and time be put into the offsets. EH must have robust engagements with Dominic from Ezemvelo and the Blue Crane Society. The DEA and Ezemvelo Guidelines must be considered, especially with wetlands.

It is preferred that viable wetlands are not lost, but in the case of offsets, the Guidelines must be fully adhered to. Furthermore the assessment must touch on alternative layouts, technology, etc.

Action Items

1. Kraigen: to send contact details for KZN DEARD Hamish Williamson, Soil Sciences Directorate. Email: Hamish.williamson@kzndard.gov.za
2. The application must consider the National Offset Guideline reference 2017; the Offset Policy 21 March 2017. There is currently a combined revised offset policy, that considers biodiversity and wetland offset Comprehensive Guideline for Biodiversity Offsets in KZN February 2013. Include in specialists' scope of assessment.
3. Waste Management Triggers: treated effluent on agricultural land and resultant factors. Department of Water and Sanitation were competent authority for waste related impact on process but was also relative to throughput consideration. Need to engage with Chimera, but more so, must include Department of Water and Sanitation. *[Subsequent to the meeting Chimera confirmed that no waste management activities will be triggered by the proposed Greenfields Farm Agricultural Development].*

Appendix B

EDTEA Acknowledgement of Receipt:

- **Application Form**
- **Acknowledgement of Draft Scoping Report**

Application Form



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM
AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Inkomba : KZN/EIA/0001621/2021
Verwysing:

Fax:
iFeksi:
Faks:

Date : 06 August 2021
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Datum :

Email Transmission

EnviroHeart Consulting
97th Avenue
Houghton Estate
2198

Attention: Sanusha Reddy
Email: sanusha@enviroheart.co.za

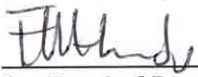
Dear Sir/Madam

DC22/0017/2021 KZN/EIA/0001621/2021 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF AN APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORIZATION SUBJECT TO A SCOPING AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED GREENFIELDS FARM AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS, MOOI RIVER, UMGUNGUNDLOVU DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, KZN.

This Department received your application on **05 August 2021** for environmental authorization for the abovementioned activity, submitted in terms of the requirements of regulation 6(1) of the EIA Regulations, 2014. This application complies with the EIA Regulations 2014 and has been accepted.

1. Please note that this application has been registered on the National Environmental Authorization System (NEAS). According to NEAS, the final Scoping And Environmental Impact Assessment Report due date is **20 September 2021**. **Kindly note that it is ultimately the responsibility of the applicant to manually verify the due date with assistance from the district office.** In terms of regulation 45 of the EIA Regulations 2014, an application lapses if the applicant fails to meet any of the prescribed timeframes (unless an extension has been granted in terms of regulation 3(7)).
2. Please quote the above-mentioned reference number for this application in all future correspondence.
3. You are reminded that the activity/ies applied for may not commence prior to an environmental authorization being granted by this Department.
4. Enquiries regarding this application may be directed to the Assistant Director: Impact Assessment: **Mr. Shawn Janneker: 033 347 1820: uMgungundlovu District Office.**

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'F. Makaula', written over a horizontal line.

for: Head of Department:

KwaZulu-Natal Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs

Cc: gmakaula@gmail.com

Acknowledgement of Draft Scoping Report

Subject: Q/2021/63/Mpofa: Draft Scoping Report: GMKN Agric (Pty) Ltd - Proposed Greenfields Farm Agricultural Developments located in Mpofana Local Municipality
Date: Thursday, 24 June 2021 at 11:02:49 South Africa Standard Time
From: Kraigen Govindasamy
To: greenfields@enviroheart.co.za
CC: Sanusha Govender

Good day Sanusha

Please be advised that I have been assigned to review the draft Scoping Report for the abovementioned proposed development, which was received by this Department on 8 June 2021. Comments on the draft Scoping Report will be facilitated and referenced under the following query number: Q/2021/63/Mpofa. All queries in relation to the impending correspondence from this Department can be directed to me, or Mr. Shawn Janneker in my absence.

Regards,
Kraigen Govindasamy
Environmental Officer: Production Grade C: Impact Management
Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs,
uMgungundlovu District Office

Postal address: Private Bag X07, Cascades, Pietermaritzburg, 3202
Physical Address: 8 Warwick Road
Tel: (033) 347 1820
Fax: (033) 347 1826
Email: Kraigen.govindasamy@kznedtea.gov.za

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Appendix C

Public Consultation Evidence and Correspondence

Appendix C1

Notice Boards

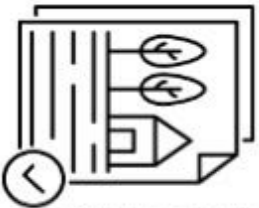
Background Information Document

Advertisement

Background Information Document



Background Information Document: Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process for the Proposed Greenfields Farm Agricultural Development, Mooi River, KwaZulu Natal



The purpose of this Document

The purpose of this Background Information Document (BID) is to provide interested and Affected Parties (IAPs) with background information about the proposed project and introduce the:

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process to be followed.



It also aims to inform IAPs on how to participate in the EIA and encourages active attendance and comments on documents distributed for review.

What is Proposed?

The Greenfields Farm (See overleaf) was purchased in November 2020 by GMKN Agri Pty Ltd (Herein after GMKN). The Greenfields Farm is an active Cattle and Dairy Farm. GMKN intends to create a Sustainable Agricultural - Eco Tourism Waygu Economic Hub (Figure 1).

This project relates to Phase 1 only as indicated by the green shaded blocks in Figure 1. See description below:

- Pivot irrigation infrastructure to cultivate feed for cattle.
- Construct a new dam to secure a reliable water source for the aforementioned Hub.
- Construct a retention pond adjacent to the existing dairy to conserve water use.

The first phase also includes the creation of a conservation area to upgrade and manage the natural environment strategically. This is envisioned to become part of the Eco Tourism Venture.

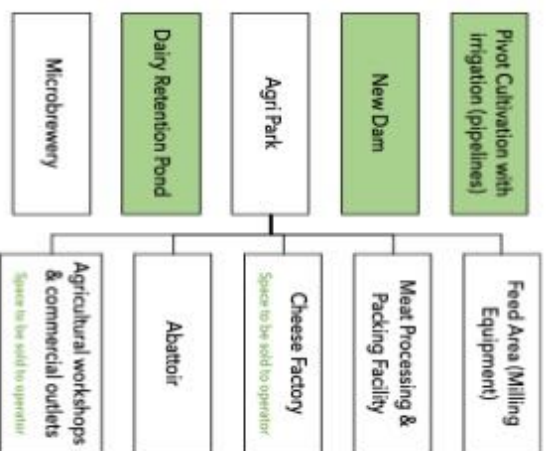


Figure 1 – GMKN Development Proposal

Why do we need an EIA?

In terms of National Environmental Management Act (107 of 1998), before project commencement, an environmental authorisation (EA) is required. In order to apply for the EA, GMKN must undertake an EIA process (Figure 2). The EIA is a tool that the KZN Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (KZN EDTEA) will utilise to decide whether the project is sustainable before approving or rejecting the development. Furthermore the proposed development will require a water use licence, in terms of Section 21 of the National Water Act (59 of 2008). EnviroHeart Consulting was appointed as the Independent Environmental Practitioner to undertake the EIA (details overleaf).

Environmental Authorisation Process

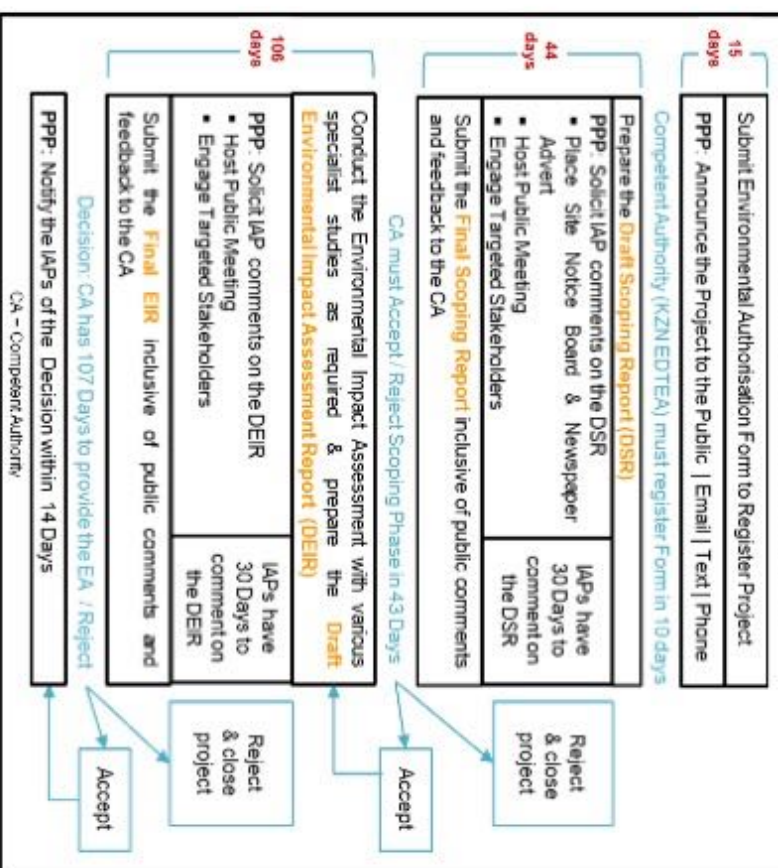
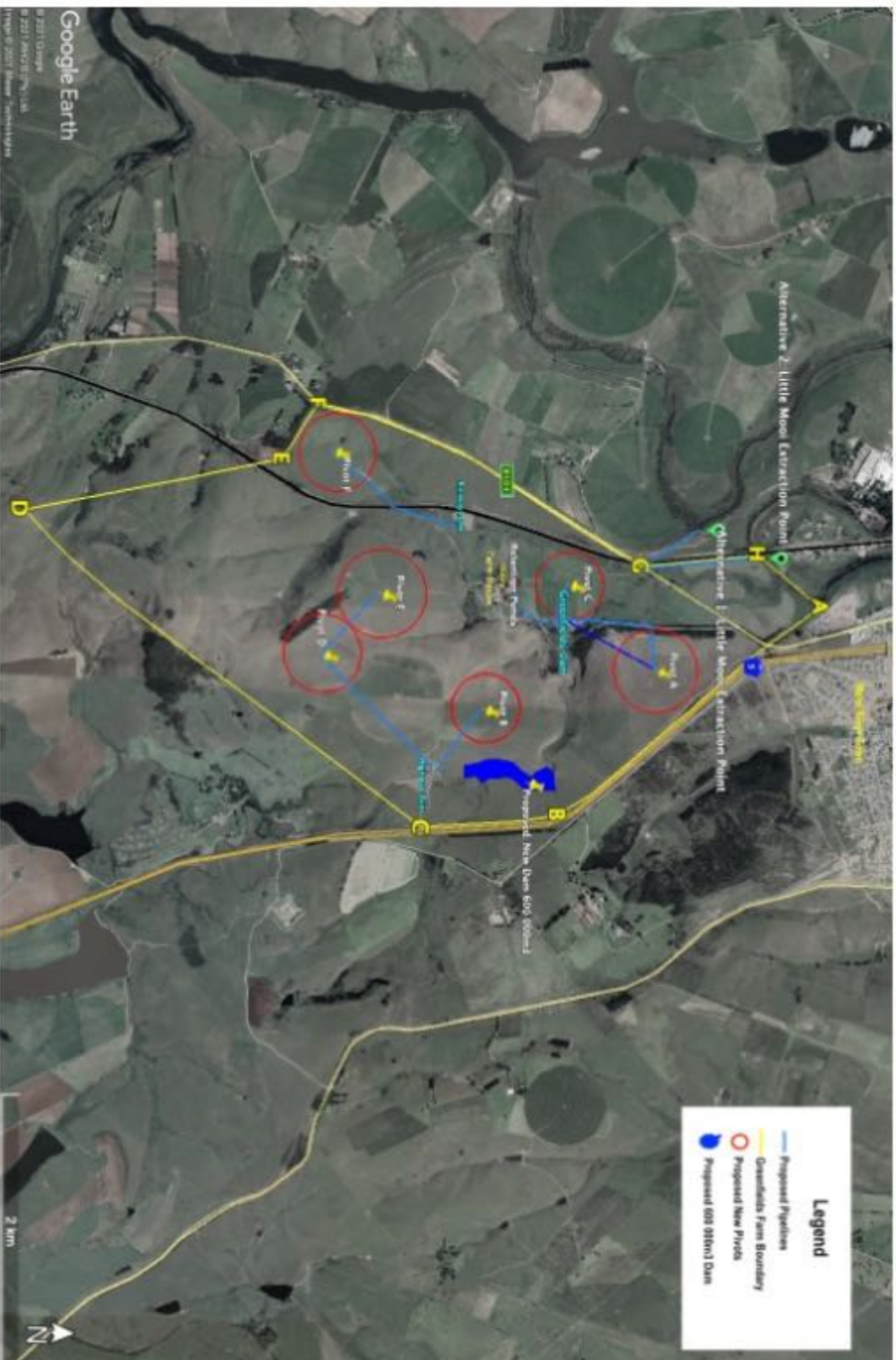


Figure 2 - Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment Process

CA - Competent Authority



Potential Impacts Investigated

The following issues have been identified as potentially problematic and will, amongst other issues, be investigated during the Scoping and EIA Process:

- Potential impact on fauna and flora
- Potential socio-economic impacts
- Impacts to nearby drainage lines, streams / rivers and wetland systems

Project Location

The farm is located outside the Mooi River town in the KwaZulu Natal Midlands. It can be accessed by travelling from Howick towards Harrisville on the N3 Freeway taking the Mooi River off-ramp, and turning left towards the Engine 1 stop. At the junction of the R103 turn left and travel for 1,2km. Site co-ordinates: 29°13'52,05"S, 30°0'11,78"E.

How to register as an Interested & Affected Party (IAP)

IAPs may register by forwarding their name, contact details and comments (if any) to:

Sanusha Reddy
Environmental Assessment Practitioner
 Mobile: +27 84 219 8000
greenfields@enviroheart.co.za



www.enviroheart.co.za

Alternative Contact:

Dr Rashida Davids
 Mobile: +27 82 305 1352



**Notification: Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)
Process for the proposed Greenfields Farm Agricultural
Development, Mooi River, KwaZulu Natal**

GMKN Agri Pty Ltd (GMKN) intends to develop agricultural infrastructure at the existing Greenfields Farm in Mooi River. The Greenfields Farm is located 2km south of Mooi River Town, within the Mpotana Local Municipality and the UMgungundlovu District of KwaZulu-Natal. Site co-ordinates:

29°13'52.05"S, 30°0'11.78"E.

An Environmental Authorisation (EA) is required from the Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (EDTEA) prior to the commencement of the proposed agricultural infrastructure and operations, in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 (as amended in 2017). EnviroHeart Consulting was appointed by GMKN as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to undertake the required EIA process in application for the EA. In addition, GMKN will concurrently submit an application for an Integrated Water Use Licence (IWUL) in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) (NWA).

The EIA process includes a Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment Phase. The Scoping Phase Report is now available for comment from the 27 May 2021 – 28 June 2021 at the following venues:

- Greenfields Farm House, Mooi River 29°13'52.05"S, 30°0'11.78"E
- An electronic copy of the Scoping Report will also be available from EnviroHeart upon request.

A public meeting will be held on 09 June 2021 at the Greenfields Farm-House (29°13'52.05"S, 30°0'11.78"E). Persons wishing to obtain further information, be kept informed, or comment on the EIA process, should register as interested/ or affected parties, by notifying: Sanusha Govender (Environmental Assessment Practitioner), Email: greenfields@enviroheart.co.za, Call: +27 84 219 8000 / +27 82 305 1352.



**Isaziso: Inqubo Yokuhlolwa Komthelela Wemvelo-
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)
yengqubo ehlongozwayo yokuthuthukiswa
kwezolimo eGreenfields Farm, eMooi River, KwaZulu-Natali**

Ipulazi iGreenfields lisendaweni engamakhlomitsha amabili eningizimu yeDolobha iMooi River, ngaphansi kukamasipala Wendawo imPotana kanye neSifunda saseMgungundlovu KwaZulu-Natal. Ukudidiyelwa kwesiza:

29°13'52.05"S, 30°0'11.78"E.

Kudingeka Ukugunyazwa Kwezemvelo (i-EA) emnyangweni Wezokuthuthukiswa Komnotho, Ezokuvakasha kanye Nezindaba Zemvelo (i-EDTEA) ngaphambi kokugqala kwengqalasizinda ehlongozwayo kanye nemisebenzi, ngokomthetho Kazwelonke Wokuphatha Kwezemvelo, 1998 (umthetho No. 1998) (NEMA) kanye neMithethonqubo ye-Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) ka-2014 (njengoba ichithiyelwe ngo-2017). I-EnviroHeart Consulting yaqokwa yi-GMKN njengonngqongqoshe ozimele wokuhlola ezeMvelo (EAP) ukwenza inqubo edingekayo ye-EIA ekufakeni isicelo se-EA. Ngaphezu kwalokho, i-GMKN izothumela kanyekanye isicelo Samalayisense Emfucuzo ngokomthetho Kazwelonke Wokuphatha Kwemfucuzo Kwezemvelo, ka-2008 (umthetho 59 ka-2008) kanye nesicelo selayisense edidiyelwe yokusebenzisa amanzi (IWUL) ngokomthetho Kazwelonke Wamanzi, 1998 (Umthetho nombolo 36 wango-1998) (NWA).

Inqubo ye-EIA ifaka iSigaba Sokucutshungulwa Kokuhlolwa Komthelela kanye Nezemvelo. Umbiko weSigaba Sokukopisha manje usuyatholakala ukuze uphawule kusukela mhla zingu 27 kulMeyi 2021 kuya kumhlaka 28 kuJuni 2021 kulezi zindawo ezilandelayo:

- IGreenfields Farm House, eMooi River 29°13'52.05"S, 30°0'11.78"E...
- Ikhophi ye-elektroniki yombiko we-Scoping Report nayo izotholakala kwa-EnviroHeart uma icelwe.

Umhlangano womphakathi uzoba mhla zingu 09 kuJuni 2021 eGreenfields Farm-House 29°13'52.05"S, 30°0'11.78"E. Abantu abafisa ukuthola eminye iminin-ingwane, ukwaziswa, noma ukuphawula ngenqubo ye-EIA, kufanele babhalise njengabantshekeko / noma abathintekayo, ngokwazisa: uSanusha Govender (Environmental Assessment Practitioner), Imeyili: greenfields@enviroheart.co.za, Shayela: +27 84 219 8000 / +27 82 305 1352.

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Estcourt Classifieds

To advertise contact Arlene 036 637 6801 or email classifieds@dbn.caxton.co.za

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QUERIES

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1. Although every effort will be made to meet the clients wishes, the date of publication, distribution, the form and position of the entries, the name and/or title and format of the advertisement, the number of copies and place of distribution, shall be at the sole discretion of the publisher.
2. Errors and omissions must be reported within the first week of insertion.
3. Credit will not be given for typographical errors which do not lessen the effectiveness of the advertisement.
4. Cancellations and alterations must be phoned through before Tuesday at 12:00 p.m. prior to publication. Cancellations and alterations to any legal ads or notices must be in writing or Fax (6372283) and will only be accepted from the principal advertiser by Monday at 12:00.
5. The publisher is entitled to withhold any advertisement from publication and to cancel any advertisement order that has been accepted.
6. Space is sold to the advertiser for the purpose of making announcements concerning his own business and may not be used for attacking or making insidious comparisons with other advertisers, firms, institutions or persons.

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 No WhatsApp
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NOTICE
 Alcoholics Anonymous
 meeting every Tuesday
 at Forderville Primary
 School at 7pm - 8pm.
 Design:
 082 849 3014
 036 352 7727
 -AM013228

0085
SOCIAL

DEPRESSION AND ANXIETY SUPPORT GROUP
 Every Friday morning
 in Forderville at 10:00 am.
 Contact Nadia:
 072 617 8305
 SADAG Helpline:
 0800 12 1314
 -AM013229

NOTICE
COLITA SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB /SOUP KITCHEN
 Every Wednesday at 12h30 to 14h30
 Soup kitchen at 3pm
 At the Colita Hall
 -AM013227

ESTATE NOTICE

IN THE ESTATE OF
 THE LATE THULANI
 ERIC NTULI
 ID NO.
 8012126407086
 WHO WAS MARRIED
 IN COMMUNITY
 OF PROPERTY TO
 ZANELE
 KNOWLEDGE NTULI
 WHOSE LAST
 KNOWN ADDRESS
 WAS TATANE AREA,
 LOSKOP.
 ESTCOURT,
 KWAZULU NATAL
 WHO DIED ON
 29 NOVEMBER 2020
 MASTERS
 REFERENCE
 NO.002479/2021

Creditors and Debtors
 in the above estate
 are hereby called
 upon to lodge their
 claims and to pay their
 debts to the under-
 signed within 30 days
 from date of publica-
 tion hereof:

JM MTHIMKHULU
ATTORNEYS
EXECUTOR
No.10 Enterprise
Building
74 Harding Street
ESTCOURT

Buy some food for the animals while you're out shopping

Spare a thought for the furry friends at the Estcourt Animal Shelter when you're out shopping.
 Public officer Candice

Hunter-Smith said that the shelter is running low on pet food and is appealing to the public to assist.
 You can make use of the

drop-off points at Estcourt Spar and Pick n Pay to donate pet food. Alternatively, you can drop off donations at the shelter in Kemps Road (first right turn

after Fort Durnford if you're approaching from town) and at the same time, visit the many beautiful cats and dogs that are yearning for a 'forever home'.



From left to right: The residents participated in a variety of games and entertainment. Social workers Siindokuhle Mbanjwa and Akhona Shoba, who visited Shepstone Place last week.



Isaziso: Inqubo Yokuholwa Komthelela Wemvelo- Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) yengqubo ehlongozwayo yokuthuthukiswa kwezolimo eGreenfields Farm, eMooi River, KwaZulu-Natali

Ipulazi iGreenfields lisendaweni engamakhilomitha amabili eningizimu yeDolobha iMooi River, ngaphansi kukaMasipala Wendawo iMpofana kanye neSifundwa saseMgungundlovu KwaZulu-Natal. Ukudidiyelwa kwesiza:

29°13'52.05" S, 30°0'11.78" E.

Kudingeka Ukugunyazwa Kwezemvelo (i-EA) eMnyangweni Wezokuthuthukiswa Komnoltho, Ezokuvakasha kanye Nezindaba Zemvelo (i-EDTEA) ngaphambi kokugala kwengalazisinda ehlongozwayo kanye nemisebenzi, ngokomthetho Kazwelonke Wokuphathwa Kwezemvelo, 1998 (uMithetho No. 1998) (NEMA) kanye neMithethonqubo ye-Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) ka-2014 (njengoba ichithiyelwe ngo-2017). I-EnviroHeart Consulting yaqokwa yi-GMKN njengoNgqongqoshe ozimele wokuhlola ezeMvelo (EAP) ukwenza inqubo edingekayo ye-EIA ekufakeni isicelo se-EA. Ngaphezu kwalokho, i-GMKN izothumela kanyekanye isicelo Samalayisense Emfucuzwa ngokomthetho Kazwelonke Wokuphathwa Kwemfucuzwa Kwezemvelo, ka-2008 (uMithetho 59 ka-2008) kanye nesicelo selayisense edidiyelwe yokusebenzisa amanzi (IWUL) ngokomthetho Kazwelonke Wamanzi, 1998 (Umithetho nombolo 36 wango-1998) (NWA).

Inqubo ye-EIA ifaka iSigaba Sokucuthungulwa Kokuholwa Komthelela kanye Nezemvelo. Umbiko weSigaba Sokukopisha manje usuyatholakala ukuze uphawule kusukela mhla zingu 27 kuMeyi 2021 kuya kumhla 28 kuJuni 2021 kulezi zindawo ezilandelayo:

- iGreenfields Farm House, eMooi River 29°13'52.05" S, 30°0'11.78" E...
- Ikhophi ye-elektroniki yombiko we-Scoping Report nayo izotholakala kwa-Enviro Heart uma iceliwe.

Umlhango womphakathi uzoba mhla zingu 09 kuJuni 2021 eGreenfields Farm- House 29°13'52.05" S, 30°0'11.78" E. Abantu abafisa ukuthola eminye imingwane, ukwaziswa, noma ukuphawula ngenqubo ye-EIA, kufanele babhalise njengabanebentshisekelo / noma abathintekayo, ngokwazisa: uSanusha Govender (Environmental Assessment Practitioner), Imeyili: greenfields@enviroheart.co.za, Shayela: +27 84 219 8000 / +27 82 305 1352.



Notification: Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process for the proposed Greenfields Farm Agricultural Development, Mooi River, KwaZulu Natal

GMKN Agri Pty Ltd (GMKN) intends to develop agricultural infrastructure at the existing Greenfields Farm in Mooi River. The Greenfields Farm is located 2km south of Mooi River Town, within the Mpofana Local Municipality and the UMgungundlovu District of KwaZulu-Natal. Site co-ordinates:

29°13'52.05" S, 30°0'11.78" E.

An Environmental Authorisation (EA) is required from the Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (EDTEA) prior to the commencement of the proposed agricultural infrastructure and operations, in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 (as amended in 2017). EnviroHeart Consulting was appointed by GMKN as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to undertake the required EIA process in application for the EA. In addition, GMKN will concurrently submit an application for an Integrated Water Use Licence (IWUL) in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) (NWA). The EIA process includes a Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment Phase. The Scoping Phase Report is now available for comment from the 27 May 2021 – 28 June 2021 at the following venues:

- Greenfields Farm House, Mooi River 29°13'52.05" S, 30°0'11.78" E
- An electronic copy of the Scoping Report will also be available from Enviro-Heart upon request.

A public meeting will be held on 09 June 2021 at the Greenfields Farm-House (29°13'52.05" S, 30°0'11.78" E). Persons wishing to obtain further information, be kept informed, or comment on the EIA process, should register as interested/ or affected parties, by notifying: Sanusha Govender (Environmental Assessment Practitioner), Email: greenfields@enviroheart.co.za, Call: +27 84 219 8000 / +27 82 305 1352.

Treating the old folk to some fun

Shepstone Place Home for the Aged welcomed social workers Siindokuhle Mbanjwa and Akhona Shoba from 'Focus on the Family' last week.

The purpose of their visit was to celebrate Family Day and reinforce the values of a family.

The pair kept the elderly folk entertained with musical chairs, dancing, songs, as well as games with an egg and spoon.

These activities were clearly enjoyed by the residents, who joined in the dancing and also won prizes for participating.

After all the fun was had, a delicious meal was served to the residents, thanks to the team from 'Focus on the Family'.

Shepstone Place residents and staff thank the social workers for their love, generosity and spreading fun on the day.

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Notice Boards



Photos of On-Site Notices



Appendix C2

Correspondence Sent

Proof of notification: Draft Scoping Report emailed to all IAPs as telephonically verified as best method

Subject: Proposed Greenfields Farm Agricultural Developments EIA: Scoping Report for Comment
Date: Thursday, 27 May 2021 at 17:28:55 South Africa Standard Time
From: greenfields@enviroheart.co.za <greenfields@enviroheart.co.za>
To: undisclosed-recipients:; <undisclosed-recipients:;>
BCC: mrfa@lantic.net <mrfa@lantic.net>, horseshoe@sai.co.za <horseshoe@sai.co.za>, tanyas@ewt.org.za <tanyas@ewt.org.za>, matthewb@ewt.org.za <matthewb@ewt.org.za>, management@midlandsmeander.co.za <management@midlandsmeander.co.za>, pennyduct@vodamail.co.za <pennyduct@vodamail.co.za>, secretary@midlandsconservancies.org.za <secretary@midlandsconservancies.org.za>, contact@weston.co.za <contact@weston.co.za>, leighreineke@msn.com <leighreineke@msn.com>, ethel@kwanalu.co.za <ethel@kwanalu.co.za>, bernadetp@amafapmb.co.za <bernadetp@amafapmb.co.za>, MnyangoS@dws.gov.za <MnyangoS@dws.gov.za>, Hlamalani.mongwe@kzndard.gov.za <Hlamalani.mongwe@kzndard.gov.za>, mrfa@lantic.net <mrfa@lantic.net>, henry@kzncrane.co.za <henry@kzncrane.co.za>, melbrake@bundunet.com <melbrake@bundunet.com>, owened@telkomsa.net <owened@telkomsa.net>, mearns@telkomsa.net <mearns@telkomsa.net>, moodyka@telkomsa.net <moodyka@telkomsa.net>, springvale@bundunet.com <springvale@bundunet.com>, principal@weston.co.za <principal@weston.co.za>, mckenzie@bundunet.com <mckenzie@bundunet.com>, a.wilson@intekom.co.za <a.wilson@intekom.co.za>, aflett@mweb.co.za <aflett@mweb.co.za>, admin@wilsonandassociates.co.za <admin@wilsonandassociates.co.za>, avenables@telkomsa.net <avenables@telkomsa.net>, ellis@bundunet.com <ellis@bundunet.com>, nursery@kzncrane.co.za <nursery@kzncrane.co.za>, charlesthechameleon@gmail.com <charlesthechameleon@gmail.com>, huntmorrow@gmail.com <huntmorrow@gmail.com>, thobekile.gambu@umgeni.co.za <thobekile.gambu@umgeni.co.za>, sejdunning@gmail.com <sejdunning@gmail.com>, penny@wilsonandassociates.co.za <penny@wilsonandassociates.co.za>, rnrconservancysec@gmail.com <rnrconservancysec@gmail.com>, SeanS@nedgroupinvestments.co.za <SeanS@nedgroupinvestments.co.za>, rob@adburn.co.za <rob@adburn.co.za>, nurse@kzncrane.co.za <nurse@kzncrane.co.za>, gcarmstrong@bundunet.com <gcarmstrong@bundunet.com>, sanusha@enviroheart.co.za <sanusha@enviroheart.co.za>, neeza@enviroheart.co.za <neeza@enviroheart.co.za>, rashieda@enviroheart.co.za <rashieda@enviroheart.co.za>

Attachments: Draft Scoping Report Proposed Greenfields Agricultural Development.pdf

Dear Interested and Affected Parties

GMKN Agric (Pty) Ltd. (hereafter GMKN or the Applicant) recently acquired properties that form part of the existing Greenfields wagu and dairy cattle farm, in Mooi River, KwaZulu-Natal. GMKN intends to increase the productive capacity and sustainability of Greenfields Farm, and proposes the following developments:

- Pivot cultivation with irrigation, including six new pivots of 145ha, combined extent. The pivots will provide a sustainable feed source for the cattle.
- Construction of a new dam, to supply water to three of the pivots, of 600 000m³.
- Construction of a retention pond, to accommodate wastewater of the dairy, for later reuse on pastures.

GMKN appointed EnviroHeart Consulting Pty Ltd., as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to undertake a Scoping and

Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) process in application for an Environmental Authorisation (EA) that is required for the proposed activities. The S&EIR is being undertaken in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA, Act No. 107 of 1998), and associated 2014 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (as amended), as the proposed developments trigger listed activities that require environmental authorisation prior to commencing.

As part of the Public Participation Process for the S&EIR, the attached Draft Scoping Report is being made available for public comment for 30 days, from 27 May – 28 June 2021. A Public Meeting will be held on site, at the Greenfields Manor House, on 9 June 2021, where registered Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) may obtain additional information or present comments on the Scoping Report.

Some of your details were obtained from the I&AP database from the previous EIA undertaken on Greefields Farm, by Green Door Environmental. Should you prefer to be excluded from this new EIA process, please reply to this email and let us know.

I&APs may register by forwarding their name and contact details, and submit comments or concerns on the proposed project (if any), to:
Sanusha Reddy , Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Mobile: +27 84 219 8000
greenfields@enviroheart.co.za

Best regards

Sanusha Reddy

Sanusha Reddy
Director
sanusha@enviroheart.co.za
084 219 8000
www.enviroheart.co.za

Subject: Proposed Greenfields Farm Agricultural Developments EIA: Scoping Report for Comment
Date: Thursday, 27 May 2021 at 17:56:18 South Africa Standard Time
From: greenfields@enviroheart.co.za <greenfields@enviroheart.co.za>
To: tendelaflyfishing@gmail.com <tendelaflyfishing@gmail.com>
BCC: sanusha@enviroheart.co.za <sanusha@enviroheart.co.za>, neeza@enviroheart.co.za <neeza@enviroheart.co.za>

Attachments: Draft Scoping Report Proposed Greenfields Agricultural Development.pdf

Dear Mr Khumalo

GMKN Agric (Pty) Ltd. (hereafter GMKN or the Applicant) recently acquired properties that form part of the existing Greenfields wagyu and dairy cattle farm, in Mooi River, KwaZulu-Natal. GMKN intends to increase the productive capacity and sustainability of Greenfields Farm, and proposes the following developments:

- Pivot cultivation with irrigation, including six new pivots of 145ha, combined extent. The pivots will provide a sustainable feed source for the cattle.
- Construction of a new dam, to supply water to three of the pivots, of 600 000m³.
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Mobile: +27 84 219 8000

greenfields@enviroheart.co.za

Best regards

Sanusha Reddy

Sanusha Reddy
Director

sanusha@enviroheart.co.za

084 219 8000

www.enviroheart.co.za

Subject: Re: Proposed Greenfields Farm Agricultural Developments EIA: Scoping Report for Comment

Date: Monday, 31 May 2021 at 17:11:49 South Africa Standard Time

From: greenfields@enviroheart.co.za <greenfields@enviroheart.co.za>

To: undisclosed-recipients:; <undisclosed-recipients:;>

BCC: tendelafllyfishing@gmail.com <tendelafllyfishing@gmail.com>, sandile.makhaye@mpofana.gov.za <sandile.makhaye@mpofana.gov.za>, walter.job23@gmail.com <walter.job23@gmail.com>, mandisa.khomo@umdm.gov.za <mandisa.khomo@umdm.gov.za>, Nokulunga.nxumalo@umdm.gov.za <Nokulunga.nxumalo@umdm.gov.za>, mbamboB@umdm.gov.za <mbamboB@umdm.gov.za>, mjwaras@umdm.gov.za <mjwaras@umdm.gov.za>, MoopanarM@umdm.gov.za <MoopanarM@umdm.gov.za>, cfo.office@mpofana.gov.za <cfo.office@mpofana.gov.za>, xolisile.langa@mpofana.gov.za <xolisile.langa@mpofana.gov.za>, siphindile.shange@umdm.gov.za <siphindile.shange@umdm.gov.za>, andy.blackmore@kznwildlife.com <andy.blackmore@kznwildlife.com>, wienersd@kznwildlife.com <wienersd@kznwildlife.com>, Reka.Kallicharan@kznedtea.gov.za <Reka.Kallicharan@kznedtea.gov.za>, zama.mbanjwa@kznedtea.gov.za <zama.mbanjwa@kznedtea.gov.za>, Mavis.Padayachee@kznedtea.gov.za <Mavis.Padayachee@kznedtea.gov.za>, moorerem@eskom.co.za <moorerem@eskom.co.za>, nicolm@eskom.co.za <nicolm@eskom.co.za>, neal.bodger@eskom.co.za <neal.bodger@eskom.co.za>, sindy.luthuli@umgeni.co.za <sindy.luthuli@umgeni.co.za>, Bayo.Ogunnaike@kzndard.gov.za <Bayo.Ogunnaike@kzndard.gov.za>, Nonhlanhla.Myeni@kzndard.gov.za <Nonhlanhla.Myeni@kzndard.gov.za>, WisemanR@nda.agric.za <WisemanR@nda.agric.za>, AyandaMny@daff.gov.za <AyandaMny@daff.gov.za>, NandiphaS@nda.agric.za <NandiphaS@nda.agric.za>, HlengiweMK@daff.gov.za <HlengiweMK@daff.gov.za>, SeokwangM@nda.agric.za <SeokwangM@nda.agric.za>, sikhosanas2@dws.gov.za <sikhosanas2@dws.gov.za>, mkhizen2@dws.gov.za <mkhizen2@dws.gov.za>, sambob@dws.gov.za <sambob@dws.gov.za>, MoonsamyC@dws.gov.za <MoonsamyC@dws.gov.za>, govenders2@dws.gov.za <govenders2@dws.gov.za>, GweleY@dws.gov.za <GweleY@dws.gov.za>, LeburuN@dws.gov.za <LeburuN@dws.gov.za>, michele.schmid@kzntransport.gov.za <michele.schmid@kzntransport.gov.za>, judy.reddy@kzntransport.gov.za <judy.reddy@kzntransport.gov.za>, WisemanR@daff.gov.za <WisemanR@daff.gov.za>, Petrus.Mans@kzndard.gov.za <Petrus.Mans@kzndard.gov.za>, HadebeZ@dws.gov.za <HadebeZ@dws.gov.za>, archaeology@amafapmb.co.za <archaeology@amafapmb.co.za>, bernadetp@amafapmb.co.za <bernadetp@amafapmb.co.za>, amafaddps@amafapmb.co.za <amafaddps@amafapmb.co.za>, sanusha@enviroheart.co.za <sanusha@enviroheart.co.za>, rashieda@enviroheart.co.za <rashieda@enviroheart.co.za>, neeza@enviroheart.co.za <neeza@enviroheart.co.za>, Sanusha.g@gmail.com <Sanusha.g@gmail.com>, Michele.schmid@kzntransport.gov.za <Michele.schmid@kzntransport.gov.za>

Priority: High

Attachments: Draft Scoping Report Proposed Greenfields Agricultural Development.pdf

Dear Interested & Affected Party

Apologies for any inconvenience, but please ignore the attachments from the previous email. The consolidated PDF version of the Draft Scoping Report is attached herewith.

We look forward to engaging with you further on the proposed Greenfields Farm Agricultural Developments EIA soon.

Please find further details in the (previous) email below, and in the attachment.

Best regards

Sanusha Reddy

Proposed Greenfields Farm Agricultural Developments EIA: Scoping Report for Comment

GMKN Agric (Pty) Ltd. (hereafter GMKN or the Applicant) recently acquired properties that form part of the existing Greenfields wagyu and dairy cattle farm, in Mooi River, KwaZulu-Natal. GMKN intends to increase the productive capacity and sustainability of Greenfields Farm, and proposes the following developments:

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Sanusha Reddy , Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Mobile: +27 84 219 8000
greenfields@enviroheart.co.za

Best regards

Sanusha Reddy
Director
sanusha@enviroheart.co.za
084 219 8000
www.enviroheart.co.za

Subject: Proposed Greenfields Farm Agricultural Developments EIA: Scoping Report for Comment
Date: Thursday, 03 June 2021 at 14:21:06 South Africa Standard Time
From: greenfields@enviroheart.co.za <greenfields@enviroheart.co.za>
To: sindy.luthuli@umgeni.co.za <sindy.luthuli@umgeni.co.za>
Attachments: Draft Scoping Report Proposed Greenfields Agricultural Development.zip

Dear Interested and Affected Party,

Proposed Greenfields Farm Agricultural Developments EIA: Scoping Report for Comment

GMKN Agric (Pty) Ltd. (hereafter GMKN or the Applicant) recently acquired properties that form part of the existing Greenfields wayu and dairy cattle farm, in Mooi River, KwaZulu-Natal. GMKN intends to increase the productive capacity and sustainability of Greenfields Farm, and proposes the following developments:

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Best regards

Sanusha Reddy
Director
sanusha@enviroheart.co.za
084 219 8000
www.enviroheart.co.za

Proof of Notification: Copy of e-mail invitation Sent to all IAPs for Pubic Meeting

Dear IAP,

The Proposed Greenfields Agricultural Development Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process has reference.

As you may have seen in our Draft Scoping Report and associated media notices, our intention was to host an in-person public meeting at the Greenfields Farm. Unfortunately, due to a surge in positive Covid-19 cases in South Africa, President Cyril Ramaphosa announced on Sunday, 30 May 2021, that the country will immediately move to lockdown alert level 2. In trying to avoid any risk to project stakeholders, authorities and I&APs, we have been granted permission by KZN-EDTEA to have the planned public meeting via Zoom, instead of meeting on site.

You are invited to the Zoom meeting, as part of the Scoping Phase of the Proposed Greenfields Agricultural Development Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process.

Date: Jun 9, 2021

Time: 15:00 - 16:30

Registration to attend the meeting is now open. Kindly register well in advance, at the link below:

<https://ukzn.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMkc-ihpzsuEtz1jNRJ9daCU917iuNaFVba>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

The main purposed of the meeting is to:

- Share information about the proposed project.
- Allow participants an opportunity to comment on the attached Draft Scoping Report.
- Allow participants to raise any additional issues or concerns that may have been missed in the Draft Scoping Report, that the Environmental Practitioners should take into account going forward in the EIA.

Should you not be able to attend the Zoom meeting due to technical constraints, please do let us know and we will arrange an alternative means to engage with you on the proposed project, and obtain your comments or concerns.

We look forward to your participation at the meeting.

Best regards



Ms Sanusha Reddy

Environmental Assessment Practitioner

Mobile: 084 219 8000 | www.enviroheart.co.za

Address: No. 9 7th Avenue, Houghton Estate, 2198

Appendix C3

Correspondence Received

Subject: RE: Q/2021/63/MPOFA: ENVIROHEART (PTY) LTD (O.B.O GMKN AGRIC (PTY) LTD):
COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED GREENFIELDS FARM
AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT, LOCATED WITHIN THE MPOFANA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, IN
THE UMGUNGUNDLOVU DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

Date: Monday, 26 July 2021 at 16:37:08 South Africa Standard Time

From: Kraigen Govindasamy

To: greenfields@enviroheart.co.za

CC: Sanusha Govender

Attachments: Q-2021-63-Mpofa (1) Comments on the DSR 26 July 2021.pdf

Good day Sanusha

Please refer to the attached correspondence from this Department in respect of the abovementioned query. The delay in responding to you in this regard is sincerely regretted, and transpired due to recent office closures stemming from Covid cases within the office and the recent civil unrest. Kindly confirm your receipt of this correspondence.

Regards,
Kraigen Govindasamy
Environmental Officer: Production Grade C: Impact Management
Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs,
uMgungundlovu District Office

Postal address: Private Bag X07, Cascades, Pietermaritzburg, 3202
Physical Address: 8 Warwick Road
Tel: (033) 347 1820
Fax: (033) 347 1826
Email: Kraigen.govindasamy@kznedtea.gov.za

Disclaimer

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KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM
AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DIRECTORATE:

Enquiries: Kraigen Govindasamy
Reference: Q/2021/63/Mpofa
Private Bag X07, Pietermaritzburg, 3202
8 Warwick Road, Cascades, Pietermaritzburg, 3202
Tel: 033 347 1820 Fax: 033 347 1826
Date: 26 July 2021
www.kznded.gov.za

Environmental Services: uMgungundlovu District

EnviroHeart Consulting (Pty) Ltd
No. 9 7th Avenue,
Houghton Estate
Johannesburg
2198

ATTENTION: Ms. Sanusha Reddy
Cellphone: 084 219 8000

Email: greenfields@enviroheart.co.za

Dear Madam

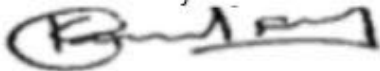
RE: Q/2021/63/MPOFA: ENVIROHEART (PTY) LTD (O.B.O GMKN AGRIC (PTY) LTD): COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED GREENFIELDS FARM AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT, LOCATED WITHIN THE MPOFANA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, IN THE UMGUNGUNDLOVU DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY.

1. The Draft Scoping Report (dSR) dated 27 May 2021 for the above-mentioned activity, submitted in terms of the requirement of Regulation 40(1)(b) in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (as amended) was received by the Department of Economic Development Tourism and Environmental Affairs (herein referred to as 'this Department') on the 08 June 2021.
2. Following a review of the dSR; this Department recommends that the final Scoping Report include the following:
 - 2.1 The SG 21 reference and portion number for the Farm Rondebosch 2167 described in Table 1 of the dSR do not correlate. Please verify in this regard.
 - 2.2 The land owner details in section 1.3.2 and Table 3 do not correlate. GMKN is described as owning 4 land parcels whereas the table lists 3 parcels; Guy Slater Coal Trading CC and Comfort Zama were described as the joint owner of 1 land parcel whereas table 3 indicates that they each own one land parcel. Please clarify in this regard.
 - 2.3 Section 1.3.2 indicates that the EIA application doesn't impact/ include Guy Slater's or Comfort Zama's property/ies yet prior engagements with this Department had indicated that the development footprint would include their property/ies and therefore require land owner consent. Please clarify in this regard.

- 2.4 The conservation area/s components of the proposed development must be developed in line with the conditions of the existing Environmental Authorisation (reference: DC22/0044/2017) where intended within the authorised footprint.
- 2.5 Blue Crane nesting sites and Oribi foraging areas which occur within the development footprint must be protected.
- 2.6 An alien invasive plant eradication programme must be incorporated into the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).
- 2.7 The proposed Eco-Tourism components of Phase 2 of the proposed development must be assessed against the relevant EIA listing notices applicable at that time and submitted to this Department for feedback prior to the proposed activity commencing.
- 2.8 Figure 5 (Conceptual Dam layout) refers to the Mncwasa Water Supply Project Phase 1. A detailed project-specific layout must be compiled to guide the scope of assessment for the proposed development.
- 2.9 The Department of Human Settlements Water and Sanitation (DHSWS) must be engaged regarding the application of the liquid and slurry from the retention pond onto agricultural fields in consideration of impacts on water resources.
- 2.10 Section 4.2.1 of the dSR describes the listed activities triggered by the proposed development. The rationale explaining why these activities are triggered must specifically reference the legislated thresholds of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended). Furthermore, Listing Notice 2 must be properly referenced as GNR. 325 and Listing Notice 3 must be properly referenced as GNR.324.
- 2.11 Section 6 of the dSR outlines the legislation and policy applicable to the proposed development. The reference to the NEMPAA in the Scoping Report must be revised to include an assessment of protected areas that are located in proximity to the proposed development site. This section of the Scoping Report must also reference the Disaster Management Act 57 of 2002 and the Protection of Personal Information Act (POPIA) in terms of how these legislation impacts on Public Participation Processes to be undertaken as part of the EIA application; the uMgungundlovu District Municipality Environmental Management Framework, which was adopted by the MEC for Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs on the 01st of August 2019 (Provincial Notice 109 of 1 August 2019), as the proposed development site falls within areas that have been identified as being sensitive in terms of the EMF; and, applicable National and Provincial legislation, guidelines and policies relating to biodiversity and wetland offsets.
- 2.12 Details of the public participation process undertaken in terms of Regulation 41 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) together with copies of the supporting documents and inputs must be included.
- 2.13 A summary (updated comments and response report) of the issues raised by interested and affected parties, and an indication of the manner in which the issues were incorporated, or the reasons for not including them should be included. Detailed responses must be provided to all issues raised.
- 2.14 Please be reminded to insure that all State Departments identified in the dSR are consulted and proof of such consultation is included.
- 2.15 Should an application for an Environmental Authorisation be subjected to any permits or authorisations in terms of the provisions of any Specific Environmental Management Acts (SEMAs), proof of such application must be attached to the Final Scoping Report.

- 2.16 The Final Scoping Report and Plan of Study for undertaking the environmental impact assessment process to be undertaken, must meet the requirements of Appendix 2 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) and all specialist studies must meet the requirements of Appendix 6 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended).
3. Please note that the activities applied for must not commence (including site preparation and other action/s on the site) prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by the relevant competent authority.
4. Enquiries regarding this correspondence may be directed to **Mr. Kraigen Govindasamy** at the uMgungundlovu District Office: **Tel No: 033 347 1820** and **Fax No: 033 347 1826**.

Yours sincerely



For: Head of Department

Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs

Signed by: Mr. Kraigen Govindasamy

Designation: Environmental Officer: Production Grade C – Impact Management

Date: 26 July 2021

Subject: GREENFIELDS
Date: Tuesday, 15 June 2021 at 13:22:13 South Africa Standard Time
From: Thandekile Nxumalo
To: greenfields@enviroheart.co.za
Attachments: GREENFIELDS.pdf

Kindly find the comments for your information.

Regards

T.V Nxumalo (Data-Capture)
Land Use Regulatory Unit
Tel : 033 3438 288

Disclaimer All views or opinions in this electronic message and its attachments are the view of the sender and do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the Provincial Government of KwaZulu-Natal ("the PGKZN") and any individual seeking to rely on the accuracy and veracity of any information contained therein does so at his or her own risk. The PGKZN will not accept liability for any actions taken by an individual relying on information contained in this e-mail unless such information is provided by an authorized official of PGKZN acting in their duly authorized capacity and authorized to provide such information. Disclaimer The information contained in this communication from the sender is confidential. It is intended solely for use by the recipient and others authorized to receive it. If you are not the recipient, you are hereby notified that any disclosure, copying, distribution or taking action in relation of the contents of this information is strictly prohibited and may be unlawful.

KZNDARD



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE
AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

2021/06/2021 - Draft Scoping Report: Environmental Impact Assessment of the Proposed Greenfields Farm Agricultural Developments, Mooi River, KwaZulu-Natal.

DIRECTORATE:

Agricultural Resources Management (ARM)

01 Cedara Road, Pietermaritzburg, 3200

KZN Department of Agriculture & Rural Development, Private Bag X9059, Pietermaritzburg, 3200

Tel: 033 355 9346 Fax: 033 355 9122 Email: bayo.ogunnaike@kzndard.gov.za

Reference Number: 2021/06/2021

Enquiries: Adebayo Ogunnaike (Pri. Sci. Nat.)

Date: 09/06/2021

Attn.: Sanusha Reddy,
EnviroHeart Consulting Pty Ltd.,
No. 97th Avenue,
Houghton Estate,
Johannesburg, 2198.
Cell: 084 219 8000 Email: greenfields@enviroheart.co.za.

Re: Draft Scoping Report: Environmental Impact Assessment of the Proposed Greenfields Farm Agricultural Developments, Mooi River, KwaZulu-Natal.

1. PURPOSE

To provide comments from the KZN Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD): Agricultural Resources Management (ARM) – Land Use Regulatory unit (LURU), in response to the Draft Scoping Report: Environmental Impact Assessment of the Proposed Greenfields Farm Agricultural Developments, Mooi River, KwaZulu-Natal.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The application is intended to increase the productive capacity on the existing Greenfields Wagyu and dairy Farm, situated in Mooi River, KwaZulu-Natal. The applicant wishes to develop infrastructure to support increased agricultural production of cattle and proposes the following; Pivot cultivation with irrigation, including six new pivots of 145 Ha, combined extent. The pivots will provide a sustainable feed source for the cattle, Construction of a new dam, to supply water to three of the pivots, of 600 000 m³ (15m wall height, base footprint 30m wide within watercourse) and construction of retention pond, to accommodate wastewater of the dairy, for later reuse on pastures.
- 2.2 A scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) process is to be undertaken in application for an Environmental Authorisation (EA) that is required for the proposed activities. The S&EIR is being undertaken in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA, Act No. 107 of 1998), associated 2014 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (as amended), as the proposed developments trigger listed activities that require environmental Authorisation prior to commencing.
- 2.3 The proposed development activities identified the following specialist studies at the Impact assessment Phase; Wetland Impact Assessment, Aquatic Ecology Assessment, Biodiversity

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Impact Assessment, surface water impact Assessment (Hydrological Assessment), Socio-economic Impact Assessment, Updated to previous Agricultural Impact Assessment, and Update to previous Heritage Impact Assessment.

- 2.4 In view of the foregoing, it should be noted that the proposed irrigated pivots (145 Ha in extent), consists of EA approved areas within Pivots and the application area balance under Pivot. The proposed irrigated Pivots include the following Pivot A 30 Ha (approved area 19.5 Ha)-water source Greenfield Dam and Mooi river, Pivot B 20 Ha (approved area 8.8 Ha)-water source Rondebosch Dam and new dam, Pivot C 20 Ha (No approved area)- water source Greenfields Dam and Mooi river, Pivot D 25 Ha (approved area 12 Ha)-water source New Dam, Pivot E 30 Ha (approved area 15 Ha)-water source New dam, and Pivot F 20 Ha (approved area 6.1 Ha)-water source Greenfields Dam.
- 2.5 The intention establishing Pivots is to cultivate Perennial rye grass, white clover, turnips, stalling rye and chicory. The pipelines leading from the pivots to the water source will have a 250mm diameter with flow rates of 100 litres per second. Pivot A will have two alternative routes, crossing wetlands and potentially sensitive biodiversity areas. The Pivot B pipelines will be constructed to draw water from the proposed new 600 000 m³ Dam. Pivot C has 2 routes, one the Greenfields farm property and a servitude to be negotiated to avoid abstraction below the sewerage works and industrial area. Pipelines will be constructed to draw water from the new Dam to Pivots D and E. The Pivot F will be fed from a transfer pipeline from Greenfields Dam to the railway Dam.
- 2.6 The EA approved dry cultivation in pivots is 64.4 Ha in extent, the EA total approved dry cultivation is 107 Ha, EA Offset approved is 1283 Ha, Potential New Offset is 169.35 Ha and the total area of the farm involved in this application is ±1623.25 Ha in extent.

3. COMMENTS

- 3.1 According to the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development KZN Land Categories Map 2012, the property lie in the Category B. This Category is designated as threatened and considered to be high potential land.
- 3.2 It is noted that, the intensity of agricultural development proposed on this property and the attendant impact anticipated necessitate the need to carefully work out a plethora of mitigation measures to ensure that no fatal flaw or land degradation is prevented. The listed activities can then be ameliorated by adhering to all identified measures as anticipated in the EIA assessment report after this scoping Phase.
- 3.3 Please note that all measures must be in place to ensure that the proposed dairy effluent ponds are constructed to acceptable standards to ensure that surrounding and ground water pollution is prevented by every means possible.
- 3.4 We request that all unapproved areas under the pivot undergo Irrigation study to establish their suitability for this purpose.
- 3.5 On the strength of the foregoing, it is appropriate to obtain full detailed EIA report which highlights all listed activities and mitigation measures that assists in reduce the agricultural impact to the barest minimum in order to ensure sustainable agricultural production on the



2021/06/2021 - Draft Scoping Report: Environmental Impact Assessment of the Proposed Greenfields Farm Agricultural Developments, Mooi River, KwaZulu-Natal.

Land. We request that a Natural Resource Study be undertaken and incorporated in the EIA report.

4. RECOMMENDATION.

This office is **not able to make a call at this stage in lieu of receipt of a detailed EIA report with Natural Resource Study, to enable it make an informed decision.**

.....
For HEAD OF DEPARTMENT
AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Signed by: Ms S.B. Thabede
Designation: Acting Scientific Manager LURU.

Date: 14 JUNE 2021
.....



**agriculture
& rural development**

Department:
agriculture
& rural development
PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL

**Agricultural Resource Management: Land Use Regulatory Unit, Private Bag x
9059 Pietermaritzburg, 3201**

**Engineering Building, 1 Cedara Road, Pietermaritzburg from Senior Manager:
Land Use Regulatory Unit Tel: 033 343 8288**

P.O BOX 1170

HILTON

3245

04/06/2021

Dear Sir/Madam

**This serves as a notice of receipt and confirms that your application has been captured in
our electronic Land Use Database**

Details of your application as captured

Type: **DEVELOPMENT**

Your reference number:

Property description: **GREENFIELDS FARM**

Please quote this reference number in all queries:

Land Use reference number: 2021/04/2021

Yours sincerely,

Mr Petrus Mans

Deputy Manager: Land Use Regulatory Unit

Subject: DFFE Forestry Comment
Date: Thursday, 03 June 2021 at 10:54:29 South Africa Standard Time
From: Karen Govender
To: greenfields@enviroheart.co.za
CC: Khanyisa Kate Vundle
Attachments: image001.png, Proposed Greenfields Farm Agriculture Development_Mooi River_DSR_03 June 2021.pdf

Good morning

Kindly find the attached comment from DFFE.

Regards,

Karen Govender (Pr.Sci.Nat)
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Directorate :Forestry Regulations and Support
Designation: Senior Forestry Regulations Officer
Tel: 0828812250 / 033 392 7722
Web: www.dffe.gov.za
E-mail: Kgovender@environment.gov.za



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**forestry, fisheries
and the environment**

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

KWAZULU-NATAL FORESTRY MANAGEMENT: FORESTRY REGULATIONS AND SUPPORT

DFFE

Enquiries: Karen Govender

✉ Kgovender@environment.gov.za

T ☎ 033 392 7722 /082 881 2250

F ☎ 033 342 8783

EnviroHeart Consulting Pty Ltd

No.9 7th Avenue

Houghton Estate

Johannesburg

2198

03rd of June

Attention: Ms. Sanusha Reddy

**RE: COMMENTS FOR THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED
GREENFIELDS FARM AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT, MOOI RIVER, KWAZULU-NATAL.**

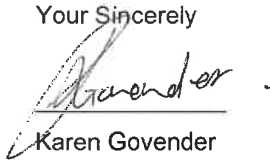
The Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries appreciates the opportunity given to register as an interested and affected party for the Draft Scoping Report (DSR) for the above mentioned project. DEFF through the sub-directorate Forestry Regulations and Support is the authority mandated to implement the National Forests Act No. 84 of 1998 by regulating the use of natural forests and protected trees species in terms of the said Act.

With reference to the above-mentioned proposed project, the pivots are proposed to be constructed in areas that contain indigenous vegetation and will therefore require the clearance of an area of 20 hectares or more of indigenous vegetation. The Department therefore requests that a vegetation specialist study be commissioned should the proposed pivots involve the clearing of natural forests or protected tree species in terms of sections 7 and/or 15 of the National Forests

Act No. 84 of 1998 as amended. The Department will provide further comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment should the National Forest Act mandate be affected.

Should any further information be required, please do not hesitate to contact this office. This letter does not exempt you from considering other legislations.

Your Sincerely



Karen Govender

i: "Natural forest" means a group of indigenous trees-

- (a) whose crowns are largely contiguous; or
- (b) which have been declared by the Minister to be a natural forest under section 7(2); (xxviii)

Subject: RE: Proposed Greenfields Farm Agricultural Developments EIA: Scoping Report for Comment
Date: Thursday, 19 August 2021 at 16:25:48 South Africa Standard Time
From: Dominic Wieners
To: greenfields@enviroheart.co.za
CC: 'Shawn Janneker'
Attachments: image001.jpg, image002.jpg, image003.jpg, image004.jpg, image005.jpg

Dear Ms Reddy

The Draft Scoping Report has been reviewed by Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife IEM staff and the terms of reference for specialist study are supported. It is recommended that Enviroheart use Ezemvelo's Handbook for Specialist Studies in KZN to compile the sensitivity maps and compile an integrated sensitivity map for the EIR.

Ezemvelo looks forward to receiving the EIR when this is submitted for review.

Kind regards

Dominic Wieners

Principal Conservation Planner - Conservation Planning
Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife
Queen Elizabeth Park, No 1 Peter Brown Drive,
PO Box 13053,
Cascades, 3202
Tel : (033) 845 1455
Fax: (033) 845 1499
E-mail : Dominic.Wieners@kznwildlife.com
Website : www.kznwildlife.com



Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

[Kindly check the process for submission of EIA documentation on our website \(www.kznwildlife.com\)](http://www.kznwildlife.com)

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-----Original Message-----

From: greenfields@enviroheart.co.za <greenfields@enviroheart.co.za>
Sent: Monday, 31 May 2021 17:12
Subject: Re: Proposed Greenfields Farm Agricultural Developments EIA: Scoping Report for Comment
Importance: High

Dear Interested & Affected Party

Apologies for any inconvenience, but please ignore the attachments from the previous email. The consolidated PDF version of the Draft Scoping Report is attached herewith.

We look forward to engaging with you further on the proposed Greenfields Farm Agricultural Developments EIA soon.

Please find further details in the (previous) email below, and in the attachment.

Best regards

Sanusha Reddy

Proposed Greenfields Farm Agricultural Developments EIA: Scoping Report for Comment

GMKN Agric (Pty) Ltd. (hereafter GMKN or the Applicant) recently acquired properties that form part of the existing Greenfields waygu and dairy cattle farm, in Mooi River, KwaZulu-Natal. GMKN intends to increase the productive capacity and sustainability of Greenfields Farm, and proposes the following developments:

- Pivot cultivation with irrigation, including six new pivots of 145ha, combined extent. The pivots will provide a sustainable feed source for the cattle.
- Construction of a new dam, to supply water to three of the pivots, of 600 000 metres squared.
- Construction of a retention pond, to accommodate wastewater of the dairy, for later reuse on pastures.

GMKN appointed EnviroHeart Consulting Pty Ltd., as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to undertake a Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) process in application for an Environmental Authorisation (EA) that is required for the proposed activities. The S&EIR is being undertaken in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA, Act No. 107 of 1998), and associated 2014 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (as amended), as the proposed developments trigger listed activities that require environmental authorisation prior to commencing.

As part of the Public Participation Process for the S&EIR, the attached Draft Scoping Report is being made available for public comment for 30 days, from 27 May – 28 June 2021. A Public Meeting will be held on site, at the Greenfields Manor House, on 9 June 2021, where registered Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) may obtain additional information or present comments on the Scoping Report.

Should you need further information, wish to be excluded from the I&AP database or if you'd like to submit comments or concerns on the proposed project (if any), please contact:

Sanusha Reddy , Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Mobile: +27 84 219 8000
greenfields@enviroheart.co.za

Best regards

Sanusha Reddy
Director
sanusha@enviroheart.co.za

084 219 8000
www.enviroheart.co.za

Appendix C4

Comment & Response Register

Appendix C5

IAP Database

NAME	SURNAME	ORGANISATION	EMAIL	PHYSICAL ADDRESS	PO BOX ADDRESS
Authorities					
Bernadet	Pawandiwa	Amafa Heritage KZN	bernadetp@amafapmb.co.za	197 Langalibalele Street, Pietermaritzburg, 3201	
Jenny	Longmore	EKZN Wildlife	jenny.longmore@kznwildlife.com	1 Peter Brown Dr, Town Bush Valley, Pietermaritzburg, 3202	PO Box 13053 Cascades, 3202
Jackie	Ndlovu	DEDTEA Admin	jacky.ndlovu@kznedtea.gov.za	7 Warwick Road, Cascades, Pietermaritzburg	
Reka	Kallicharan	DEDTEA	Reka.Kallicharan@kznedtea.gov.za	8 Warwick Road, Cascades, Pietermaritzburg	
Zama	Mbanjwa	DEDTEA	zama.mbanjwa@kznedtea.gov.za	270 Jabu Ndlovu St, Pietermaritzburg, 3201	Private Bag X9152, Pietermaritzburg, 3200
Kraigen	Govindasamy	DEDTEA	Kraigen.Govindasamy@kznedtea.gov.za	8 Warwick Road, Cascades, Pietermaritzburg	
Shawn	Janneker	DEDTEA	Shawn.Janneker@kznedtea.gov.za	8 Warwick Road, Cascades, Pietermaritzburg	
Xoli	Madiba	DEDTEA	Xoli.Madiba@kznedtea.gov.za	8 Warwick Road, Cascades, Pietermaritzburg	
Lindo	Sithole	KZN EDTEA	lindo.sithole@kznedtea.gov.za	9 Warwick Road, Cascades, Pietermaritzburg	
Busi	Nene	KZN EDTEA	busi.nene@kznedtea.gov.za	10 Warwick Road, Cascades, Pietermaritzburg	
Wiseman M.	Rozani	Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	WisemanR@nda.agric.za WisemanR@daff.gov.za	Old Mutual Bldg, 185 Langalibalele St, Pietermaritzburg, 3201	Forestry Regulation and Support, P/Bag X9029, Pietermaritzburg, 3200
Ayanda	Mnyungula	Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	AyandaMny@daff.gov.za	Old Mutual Bldg, 185 Langalibalele St, Pietermaritzburg, 3201	
Nandipha	Sontangane	Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	NandiphaS@nda.agric.za	Old Mutual Bldg, 185 Langalibalele St, Pietermaritzburg, 3202	
Hlengiwe	Mkhize	Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	HlengiweMK@daff.gov.za	Old Mutual Bldg, 185 Langalibalele St, Pietermaritzburg, 3201	
Karen	Moodley	Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	karenm@daff.gov.za	Old Mutual Bldg, 185 Langalibalele St, Pietermaritzburg, 3201	
Seokwang	Modise	Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	SeokwangM@nda.agric.za	Old Mutual Bldg, 185 Langalibalele St, Pietermaritzburg, 3201	
Sibusiso	Sikhosana	Department of Water and Sanitation	sikhosanas2@dws.gov.za		
Nokwanda	Mkhize	Department of Water and Sanitation	mkhizen2@dws.gov.za		
Bongiwe	Sambo	Department of Water and Sanitation	sambob@dws.gov.za		
Colleen	Moonsamy	Department of Water and Sanitation	MoonsamyC@dws.gov.za		
Strini	Govender	Department of Water and Sanitation	govenders2@dws.gov.za		
Neo	Leburu	Department of Water and Sanitation	LeburuN@dws.gov.za		
Zama	Hadebe	Department of Water and Sanitation	Hadebez@dws.gov.za	Office 1237 Southern Life Building, 88 Joe Slovo Street, Durban	
Yolanda	Gwele	Department of Water and Sanitation - DWS Mooi River	GweleY@dws.gov.za	88 Field Street, Durban, 4000	
Michelle	Nicol	Eskom - Lands and Rights, Registration Officer	nicolm@eskom.co.za	25 Valley View Road, New Germany, Durban	P O Box 66, New Germany, 3620
Roland	Moore	Eskom	moorerm@eskom.co.za	25 Valley View Road, New Germany, Durban	P O Box 66, New Germany, 3620
Neal	Bodgor	Eskom	neal.bodgor@eskom.co.za	25 Valley View Road, New Germany, Durban	P O Box 66, New Germany, 3620
Judy	Reddy	KZN Department of Transport	judy.reddy@kzntransport.gov.za	225 Prince Alfred Street, PMB	
Petrus	Mans	Provincial Department of Agriculture and Rural Development	Petrus.Mans@kzndard.gov.za	Macro Planning Building, Dept. of Agri, Cedara, R102	Private Bag X9059, PMB, 3199
O. A.	Ogunnaikie	Provincial Department of Agriculture and Rural Development	Bayo.Ogunnaikie@kzndard.gov.za	Macro Planning Building, Dept. of Agri, Cedara, R103	Private Bag X9059, PMB, 3200
Nonhlanhla P	Myeni	Provincial Department of Agriculture and Rural Development	Nonhlanhla.Myeni@kzndard.gov.za	Macro Planning Building, Dept. of Agri, Cedara, R104	Private Bag X9059, PMB, 3201
Sindy	Luthuli	Umgeni Water	sindy.luthuli@umgeni.co.za	310 Burger Street, Pietermaritzburg 3201	PO Box 9, Pietermaritzburg 3200, KwaZulu-Natal
Xolani Magnificent	Duma	Mpofana District	mayorduma.kz223@gmail.com		
Mthokozisi	Kubheka	Mpofana District	mthoko.kubheka@mpofana.gov.za		
Bheki . R.	Khumalo	Mpofana District	thendelafyifishing@gmail.com	10 Cloughton Terrace, Mooi River	PO Box 47, Mooi River, 3300
Hlengiwe	Mwelase	Mpofana District	mahlengiem@gmail.com	10 Cloughton Terrace, Mooi River	PO Box 47, Mooi River, 3300
Walter	Jobe	Mpofana District	walter.job23@gmail.com		
Sandile	Makhaye	Mpofana Municipality	sandile.makhaye@mpofana.gov.za	10 Cloughton Terrace, Mooi River	PO Box 47, Mooi River, 3300
E. H.	Dladla	Mpofana Municipality	cfo.office@mpofana.gov.za	242 Langalibalele Street, Pietermaritzburg	PO Box 3235, Pietermaritzburg, 3200
Xolisile	Langa	Mpofana Municipality	xolisile.langa@mpofana.gov.za		
Mandisa	Khomo	Umgungundlovu District Municipality	mandisa.khomo@umdm.gov.za	242 Langalibalele Street, Pietermaritzburg	PO Box 3235, Pietermaritzburg, 3200
Nokulunga	Nxumalo	Umgungundlovu District Municipality	Nokulunga.nxumalo@umdm.gov.za	243 Langalibalele Street, Pietermaritzburg	PO Box 3235, Pietermaritzburg, 3200
Bheki	Mbambo	Umgungundlovu District Municipality	mbamboB@umdm.gov.za	244 Langalibalele Street, Pietermaritzburg	PO Box 3235, Pietermaritzburg, 3200
Sibusiso	Mjwara	Umgungundlovu District Municipality	mjwaras@umdm.gov.za MoopanaM@umdm.gov.za	245 Langalibalele Street, Pietermaritzburg	PO Box 3235, Pietermaritzburg, 3200
Siphindile	Shange	Umgungundlovu District Municipality	siphindile.shange@umdm.gov.za		
Mlengi	Sithole	Mpofana Tourism Information Centre (Woza Woza) - Mooi River	mhlengi.sithole@yahoo.com mhlengi.sithole@live.com	Next to R103, Corner of N3 and Mooi River Offramp, Mooi River	
Local Interested Group					
Chari	Liebenberg	NMR Engineering - Director	chari@nmreng.co.za	2 Market St, Mooi River, 3300	PO Box 34, Mooi River, KZN, 3300
Jenny	Dammann	Secretary of Mooi River Farmers	mrf@iantic.net		P.O. Box 134, Mooi River, 3300
Henry	Davies	KZN Crane Foundation	horseshoe@saai.co.za henry@kzncrane.co.za		P O Box 64, Hilton, 3245
Tanya	Smith	Endangered Wildlife Trust	tanyas@ewt.org.za	28 Austin Rd, Glen Austin AH, Midrand, 1685 Office, Midmar Dam Nature Reserve, Howick	
Matthew	Becker	Endangered Wildlife Trust	matthewb@ewt.org.za	28 Austin Rd, Glen Austin AH, Midrand, 1685 Office, Midmar Dam Nature Reserve, Howick	
Ingrid	Anderson	Midlands Meander Association	management@midlandsmeander.co.za		PO Box 874, Howick 3290
Penny	Rees	Duzi Umgeni Conservation Trust (DUCT)	pennydut@vodamail.co.za	240 West Street, Pietermaritzburg, KwaZulu-Natal	
Judy	Bell	Midlands Conservancies Forum	secretary@midlandsconservancies.org.za		Private Bag X9043, PMB, 3200

NAME	SURNAME	ORGANISATION	EMAIL	PHYSICAL ADDRESS	PO BOX ADDRESS
Paul	Tait	Weston Agri College	contact@weston.co.za	Greytown Rd, R622, Mooi River, 3300	
Leigh	Reineke	Oaksprings	leighreineke@msn.com		P.O. Box 497, Mooi Rver, 3300
Ethel	Von Abo	Kwanalu	ethel@kwanalu.co.za		
SS	Mnyango		MnyangoS@dws.gov.za		
Hlamlalani	Mongwe	UFS and DA&RD	Hlamlalani.mongwe@kzndard.gov.za		
Neighbours					
Harry	Mandy	Rondebosch	melbrake@bundunet.com		
Peter	Davies	Honeydew	peter@hde.co.za		
Owen	Edwards		owened@telkomsa.net		
James	Kean	Mearns Farm	mearns@telkomsa.net		
Kevin	Moody	Berg View	moodyka@telkomsa.net		
James and Sandy	Berning	Wellington Farm	springvale@bundunet.com		
Gouglas	Robertson	Weston Agricultural College	principal@weston.co.za		
Karen	McKenzie	EWT Rosetta-Nottingham Road / Conservancy	mckenzie@bundunet.com		
Sean	Segar	Nedbank Adburn Properties / Misty Ridge	SeanS@nedgroupinvestments.co.za		
Robroy	Adams	Farm / Neighbour	rob@adburn.co.za		
Rynie	Ferguson	KZN Crane Foundation / RNR Conservancy	nursey@kzncrane.co.za		
Graham	Armstrong	UMATI / MMAA	gcarmstrong@bundunet.com		

Appendix D

Site Pictures



Figure 1: Old pen

Coordinates: 29°14'55"S, 30°00'02"E



Figure 2: New cow pen

Coordinates: 29°14'59''S, 29°59'59''E



Figure 3: Focus is on Railway Dam

Coordinates: taken from $29^{\circ}14'59''\text{S}, 29^{\circ}59'59''\text{E}$ but dam is at $29^{\circ}14'58''\text{S}, 29^{\circ}59'45''\text{E}$



Figure 4: Hayfields pivot pipeline

Coordinates: $29^{\circ}15'07''\text{S}, 29^{\circ}59'45''\text{E}$

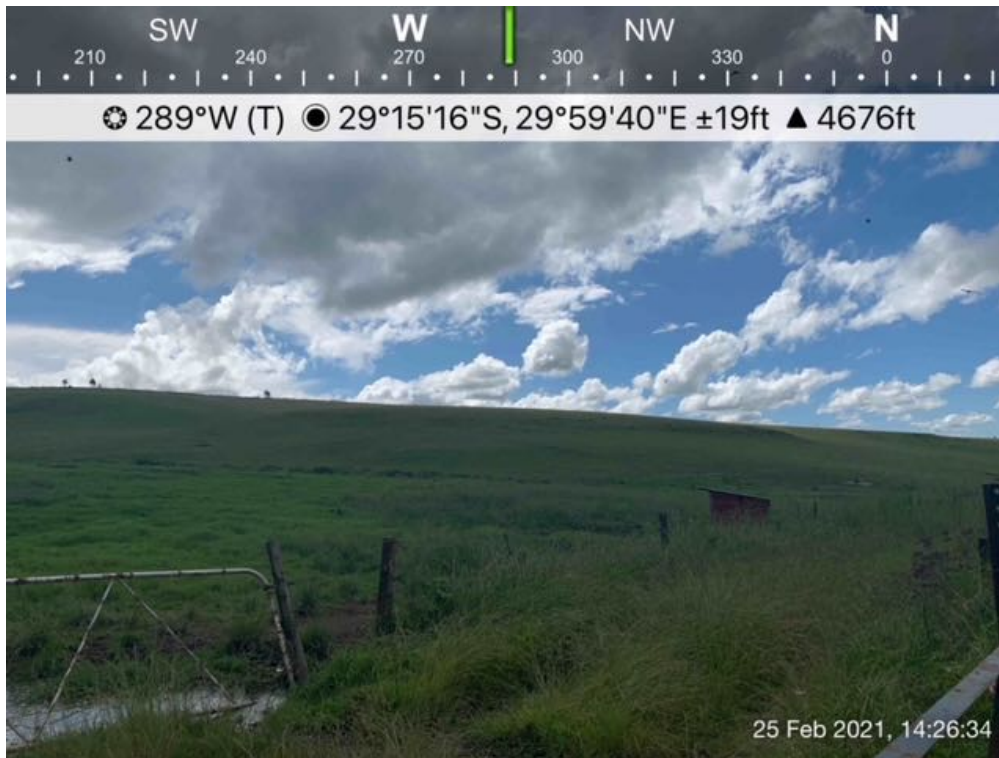


Figure 5: area near hayfields Pivot (20 ha)

Coordinates: 29°15'16"S, 29°59'40"E



Figure 6: 40 ha existing upper pasture pivot

Coordinates: 29°15'11"S, 30°00'34"E



Figure 7: 12 ha Existing lower pasture pivot

Coordinates: $29^{\circ}14'58''\text{S}$, $29^{\circ}59'59''\text{E}$

Appendix E

EAP's Declaration

DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER (EAP)



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM
AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Provincial Reference Number:	
NEAS Reference Number:	KZN / EIA /
Waste Management Licence Number (if applicable):	
Date Received by Department:	

DETAILS OF EAP AND DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014.

KINDLY NOTE:

1. This form is current as of **May 2021**. It is the responsibility of the Applicant / Environmental Assessment Practitioner ("EAP") to ascertain whether subsequent versions of the form have been released by the Department.

PROJECT TITLE

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED GREENFIELDS FARM AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS, MOOI RIVER, KZN

DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

UMGUNGUHLA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Department of Economic Development, Tourism & Environmental Affairs, KwaZulu-Natal	Details of the EAP and Declaration of Interest	May 2021 V1
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GROWING KWAZULU-NATAL TOGETHER

DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER (EAP)

PLEASE NOTE:

1. This form must always be used for applications that must be subjected to Basic Assessment or Scoping & Environmental Impact Reporting where this Department is the Competent Authority.
2. This form is current as of **May 2021**. It is the responsibility of the Applicant / Environmental Assessment Practitioner ("EAP") to ascertain whether subsequent versions of the form have been released by the Department.
3. A copy of this form containing original signatures must be appended to all Draft and Final Reports submitted to the Department for consideration.
4. This form must be hand delivered or posted to the relevant District office. The Head Office Registry may be contacted on **033 - 264 2898 / 2572** for details of the relevant district.
5. All documentation delivered to Head Office must be delivered during the official Departmental Office Hours visible on the Departmental premises.
6. All EIA related documents (includes application forms, reports or any EIA related submissions) that are faxed; emailed; delivered to Security or placed in the Departmental Tender Box or Job Application Box will NOT be accepted, only hardcopy submissions are accepted.

1. ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER (EAP) INFORMATION

Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP):

S ANUSHA REDDY

Department of Economic Development, Tourism & Environmental Affairs, KwaZulu-Natal	Details of the EAP and Declaration of Interest	May 2021 V1
--	--	----------------

GROWING KWAZULU-NATAL TOGETHER

DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER (EAP)

Contact person:	Sanusha Reddy		
Postal address:	9. 7th Ave, Houghton estate,		
Postal code:	2198	Cell:	084 219 8000
Telephone:		Fax:	
E-mail:	Sanusha@envirohapt.co.za		
Professional affiliation(s) (if any)			

Project Consultant:	Sanusha Reddy		
Contact person:	Sanusha Reddy		
Postal address:	Same as above		
Postal code:		Cell:	
Telephone:		Fax:	
E-mail:			

2. DECLARATION BY EAP

I, Sanusha Reddy

General declaration:

- I will comply with the requirements for EAPs as stipulated in Regulation 13(1) of the EIA Regulations, 2014;
- I act as the independent environmental practitioner in this application;
- I will perform the work relating to the application in an objective manner, even if this results in views and findings that are not favourable to the applicant
- I declare that there are no circumstances that may compromise my objectivity in performing such work;
- I have expertise in conducting environmental impact assessments, including knowledge of the Act, regulations and any guidelines that have relevance to the proposed activity;
- I will comply with the Act, regulations and all other applicable legislation;
- I have no, and will not engage in, conflicting interests in the undertaking of the activity;
- I undertake to disclose to the applicant and the competent authority all material information in my possession that reasonably has or may have the potential of influencing - any decision to be taken with respect to the application by the competent authority; and - the objectivity of any report, plan or document to be prepared by myself for submission to the competent authority;
- I will ensure that information containing all relevant facts in respect of the application is distributed or made available to interested and affected parties and the public and that participation by interested and affected parties is facilitated in such a manner that all interested and affected parties will be provided with a reasonable opportunity to participate and to provide comments on documents that are produced to support the application;
- I will ensure that the comments of all interested and affected parties are considered and recorded in reports that are submitted to the competent authority in respect of the application, provided that comments that are made by interested and affected parties in respect of a final report that will be submitted to the competent authority may be attached to the report without further amendment to the report;
- I will keep a register of all interested and affected parties that participated in a public participation process; and
- I will provide the competent authority with access to all information at my disposal regarding the application, whether such information is favourable to the applicant or not

Department of Economic Development, Tourism & Environmental Affairs, KwaZulu-Natal	Details of the EAP and Declaration of Interest	May 2021 V1
--	--	----------------

GROWING KWAZULU-NATAL TOGETHER

DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER (EAP)

- all the particulars furnished by me in this form are true and correct;
- will perform all other obligations as expected from an environmental assessment practitioner in terms of the Regulations; and
- I am aware that a person is guilty of an offence in terms of Regulation 48 (1) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, if that person provides incorrect or misleading information. A person who is convicted of an offence in terms of sub-regulation 48(1) (a)-(e) is liable to the penalties as contemplated in section 49B(1) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998)

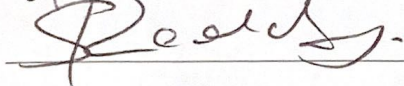
Disclosure of Vested Interest (delete whichever is not applicable)

- I do not have and will not have any vested interest (either business, financial, personal or other) in the proposed activity proceeding other than remuneration for work performed in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014;

OR

- ~~• I have a vested interest in the proposed activity proceeding, such vested interest being:~~

Signature of the environmental assessment practitioner:



Name of company:

ENVIROHEART CONSULTING PTY LTD

Date:

29 / 09 / 2021