

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

PROPOSED CONFERENCE AND ACCOMMODATION FACILITY NEAR GCUWA DAM

Proposed by: EASTERN CAPE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Return address for comments:

EOH Coastal & Environmental Services

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AIM OF THIS DOCUMENT

The purpose of this document is to ensure that **people that are interested in or affected by the proposed project** are **provided with information about the proposal, the process being followed and provided with an opportunity to be involved** in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process.

Registering as an **Interested and/or Affected Party (I&AP)** allows individuals or groups the opportunity to **contribute ideas, issues, and concerns relating to the project**. I&APs also have an opportunity to **review all of the reports and submit their comments** on those reports. All of the comments that are received will be included in the reports that are submitted to the Competent Authority (DEDEAT).

THE PROPONENT

Eastern Cape Development Corporation (ECDC).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

ECDC is proposing to develop a conference and accommodation facility at Zazulwana Administrative Area near Gcuwa Dam in Butterworth, Mquma Local Municipality in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa.

THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER

EOH-CES has considerable experience in terrestrial, marine and freshwater ecology, the Social Impact Assessment (SIA) process, State of Environment Reporting (SOER), Integrated Waste Management Plans (IWMP), Environmental Management Plans (EMPs), Spatial Development Frameworks (SDF), public participation, as well as the management and co-ordination of all aspects of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) processes (www.cesnet.co.za). EOH-CES has been active in all of the above fields, and in so doing have made a positive contribution towards environmental management and sustainable development in the Eastern Cape, South Africa and many other African countries. We believe that a balance between development and environmental protection can be achieved by skilful, considerate and careful planning.

THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS

According to Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) regulations (2010 as amended in 2014), promulgated under the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998), listed activities need to be assessed. In this case the following project activities require that a Basic Assessment be submitted for environmental authorisation of the proposed development:

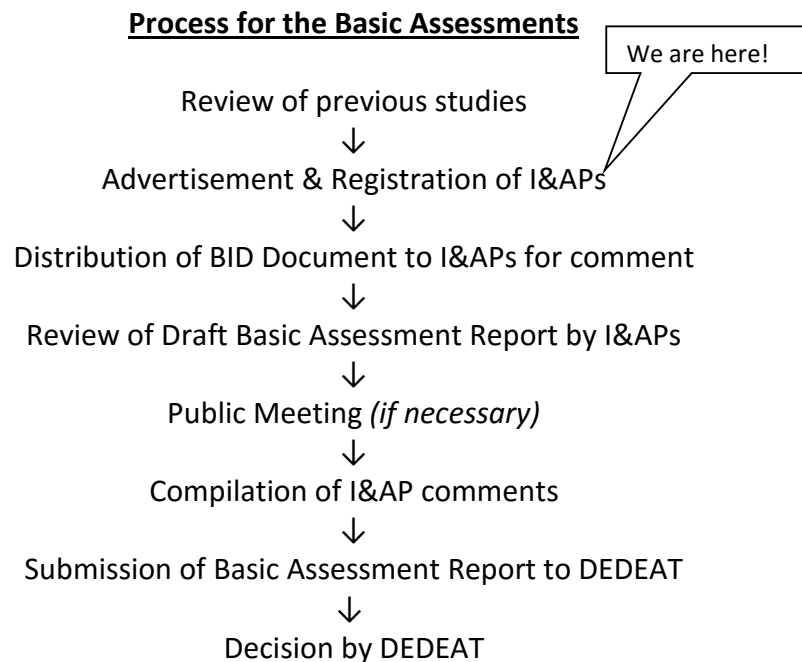
Table 1: Listed Activities which require Environmental Authorisation

ACTIVITY NUMBER	LISTED ACTIVITY
GN R 983: 12(x) &(xii)	The development of: (x) Buildings exceeding 100 square metres in size; (xii) Infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more; Where such development occurs within 32 metres of a watercourse.
GN R 983: 19(i)	The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 5 cubic metres into, or removal of soil of more than 5 cubic metres from a (i) Watercourse
GN R 983: 27	The clearance of an area of 1 hectare or more, but less than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation.
GN R 985: 6b(ii)(ee)	The development or resorts, lodges, hotels and tourism or hospitality facilities that sleeps more than 15 people (b) in the Eastern Cape (ii) outside urban areas, in (ee) critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans.
GN R 985: 14(x) and (xii)(ii)(ff)	The development of; (x) buildings exceeding 10 square metres in size; (xii) infrastructure or structures with a physical with footprint of 10 square metres or more (ii) outside urban area, in

(ff) critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans.
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APPROACH TO BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORTS

The process required for the proposed project is a Basic Assessment. This process serves primarily to inform the public and relevant authorities about the proposed project and to determine any impacts.



POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND BENEFITS

EOH-CES will investigate the receiving environment in order to assess the nature of potential impacts. Impacts to be considered include environmental failure and risks of the “no-go” alternative. In addition, impacts relating to the technology/locality will be assessed.

The following specialist studies will be conducted as part of the Basic Assessment:

- Heritage Impact Assessment

The proposed development will also require a Water Use License Application as regulated by the National Water Act (No.36 of 1998), which will be submitted to the Department of Water & Sanitation.

HOW CAN YOU BE INVOLVED?

A Public Participation Process (PPP) is being conducted as part of the environmental process. The aim of the PPP is to allow everyone who is interested in, or likely to be affected by the proposed development to provide input into the process.

The Public Participation Process will include:

- Advertisement in The Daily Dispatch Newspaper

- Notice board (sign) on site
- Circulation of the BID (this document) to all identified I&APs and stakeholders
- Comments period
- Review of the report by all registered I&APs and stakeholders
- A public meeting/focus group meetings (*if necessary*)

If you consider yourself an interested and/or affected person/party, it is important that you become and remain involved in the PPP. Please follow the steps below in order to ensure that you are continually informed of the project developments and ensure your opportunity to raise issues and concerns pertaining to the project.

STEP 1: Please register by responding to our notification and invitation, with your name and contact details (details provided on cover page and below). As a registered I&AP you will be informed of all meetings, report reviews and project developments throughout the EIA process.

STEP 2: Review documents and reports.

EOH-CES is required to engage with all private and public parties that may be interested and/or affected by the proposed Sewerage Infrastructure development, in order to distribute information for review and comment in a transparent manner.

In the same light, it is important for I&APs to note the following:

1. In order for EOH-CES to continue engaging with you, please ENSURE that you register on our database by contacting the person below.
2. As the EIA process is regulated by specific review and comment timeframes, it is your responsibility to submit your comments within these timeframes.

Please send your enquiries and/or comments to:

Nande Suka
25 Tecoma Street,
Berea,
East London, 5241

P.O Box 8145,
Nahoon, East London, 5210

Tel: (043) 726 7809/8313
Fax: (043) 726 8352
Email: nande.suka@eoh.co.za



Locality map of the proposed development.

**I hereby wish to register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) for the
Gcuwa Dam Development EIA process**

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Postal address: _____

Email: _____

Phone #: _____

Fax #: _____

My initial comments, issues or concerns are:

I would like to receive all future correspondence in: (please circle)

ENGLISH / XHOSA

Other individuals, stakeholders, organisations or entities that should be registered are:

Name: _____

Organisation: _____

Postal address: _____

Email: _____

Phone #: _____

Fax #: _____

Please return details to: **Nande Suka**: P.O. Box 8145, Nahoon, East London, 5210

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