

Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality

Proposed Development of the Koedoeskloof Landfill site near Uitenhage.



BACKGROUND INFORMATION **DOCUMENT &** **NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING 1**



Fieldwork



August 2010

1. BACKGROUND

FieldWork and Terreco Consulting cc have been appointed by Jeffares and Green Consulting Engineers, on behalf of the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality, to undertake the legally required waste management license application process for the proposed development of the **Koedoeskloof Landfill Site** (the Project) between Despatch and Uitenhage in the Eastern Cape Province. The Project is a component of the strategic development of long term waste management capacity for the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality.

This Background Information Document (BID) serves as notice of the proposed development of the Koedoeskloof landfill site, of the environmental impact assessment process that will take place, and as a request for any comments. Should you be interested in registering as an 'Interested and Affected Party' and/or in submitting comments or information on the Project, please use page 3 of this document to register your interest. This BID also acts as an invitation to public meetings which will be held at Dale View Community Hall at 17h30 in Despatch and at Uitenhage Indoor Sports Centre, Uitenhage at 19h00 on Monday 20 September 2010.

2. PROJECT LOCATION AND GENERAL DESCRIPTION

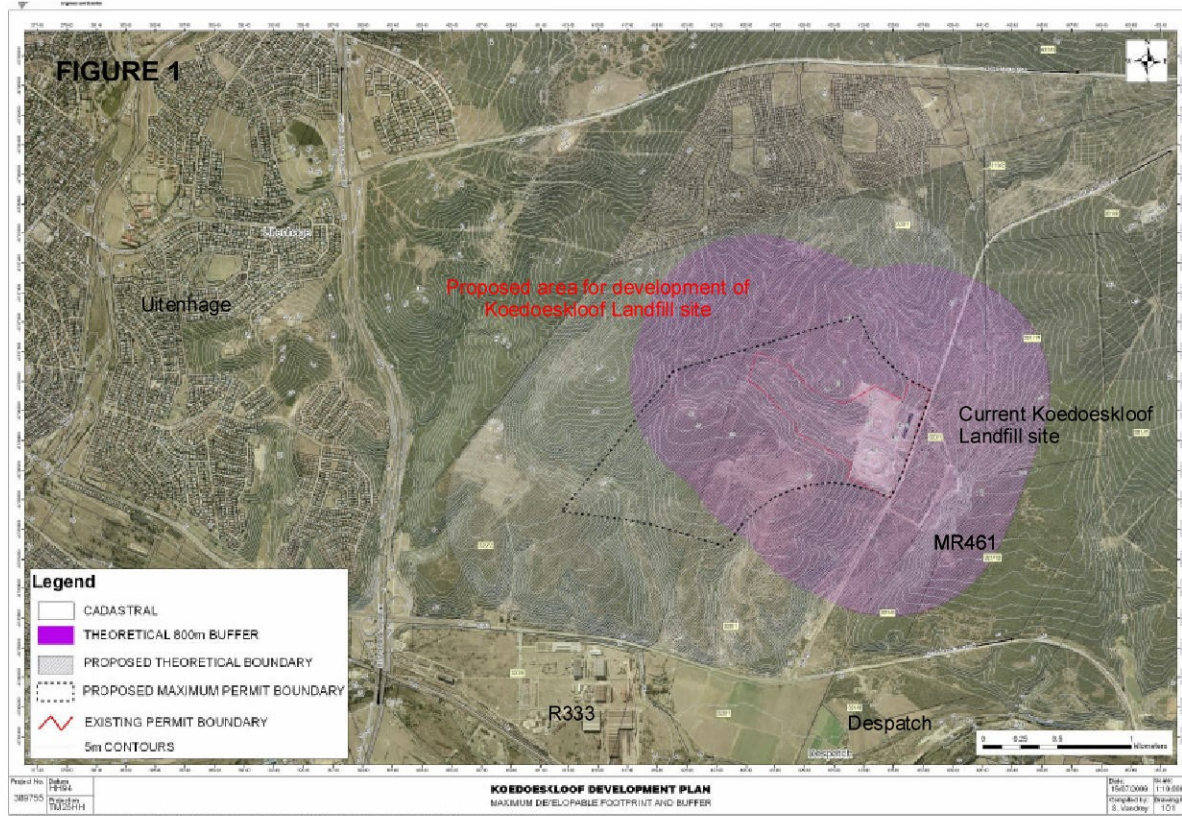
The Project is located approximately 4 km east of the town of Uitenhage and 3 km north of the town of Despatch (see Figure 1) and is one of two large general waste landfill sites in the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality. The site can be accessed off the MR461 that turns off the R333 linking Uitenhage and Despatch – see **Figure 1**. Currently the site receives waste from domestic, commercial and industrial sources. The site receives general solid waste, as well as oil-based liquid wastes which are disposed of separately in a liquid cell. The site is permitted to operate as a Class 1 and Class 2 Waste Disposal Site in terms of Section 20 of the Environmental Conservation Act (Act No 73 of 1989). The current development of the site only provides sufficient capacity for solid waste until 2015. In order to cater for projected volumes of solid waste until 2055, the site requires an extra 25 700 000 m³ of air space.

The current permitted boundary of the site covers an area of approximately 50 ha, which is fenced and consists of 5 waste disposal cells. Two cells have been completed, waste is currently being disposed of in Cell 3, and Cell 4 has been constructed on the southern side of a central drainage line. Thereafter Cell 5 will be constructed. All of these cells fall within the current development plan and permitted boundary and provide an operational lifespan until 2015. The consulting engineers (SRK) have put forward two options that will extend the operational capacity of the Koedoeskloof landfill site beyond five years.

The 'Preferred Option' is to extend the northern, southern and western boundaries of the site to provide the 25,700,000 m³ of airspace for waste disposal required to extend the operational capacity of the site until 2055. An 800 m buffer zone would be maintained around the site. Stormwater channels would be constructed to divert stormwater around the site, and these would replace the central drainage area. The other option is to construct a drainage culvert down the centre of the existing site and create an additional waste cell on top of this culvert. This will extend the use of the site until 2034. Implementation is expensive and provides only a limited extension of the life of the landfill site.

Developing the waste site beyond its current boundaries will affect two parcels of land: Portions 1 and 2 of Erf 320, Uitenhage. Portion 1 of Erf 320 is owned by the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality and is

the property on which the landfill is currently situated. Portion 2 of Erf 320 is in private ownership but the municipality is currently in negotiation with the landowner to acquire the land. The necessary authorisations must be obtained, and concurrently required rezoning put in place, before portions of the remainder of the property can be utilised.



3. THE ENVIRONMENT

The site incorporating the Project is zoned 'Undetermined' and comprises vacant land featuring dense Sundays Valley Thicket within the Albany Thicket biome. The vegetation is characterized by the presence of woody trees, shrubs and succulents. The landfill site lies within a valley with a major stormwater pathway draining the southern and northern flanks of the valley. The greater area incorporating the landfill site is bounded by the R333, MR461, R334 and R75 and will effectively form the buffer zone for the site. The full sensitivity of the Project area from a biophysical and human perspective will be confirmed during the forthcoming detailed environmental impact assessment studies (see below).

4. THE EIA PROCESS

The Project triggers the need for a waste management license in terms of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act 59 of 2008. Specifically, the Project is a 'listed activity' in terms of Government Notice R718 (Item 10, Category B) and as such will need to be supported by a Scoping and Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) prepared as per Sections 26 – 29 of the EIA Regulations, 2010.

An integral and mandatory component of the SEIR is Public Participation, whereby interested and affected persons and the public at large are informed of the Project and afforded the opportunity to participate in the EIA process. The EIA Regulations describe the minimum level of public involvement, including the posting of newspaper advertisements and the placing of a notice board(s) on site (September 2010). **Public meetings will be held at Dale View Community Hall at 17h30 in Despatch and at Uitenhage Indoor Sports Centre at 19h00 on Monday 20 September 2010.**

THE DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF RESPONSES IS FRIDAY 01 OCTOBER 2010

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS

Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality Development of Koedoeskloof Landfill site: Scoping and Environmental Impact Report

Concerns, Issues and Comments on the Proposed EIA Process

Your comments on this questionnaire will contribute towards ensuring that the process which is applied to direct the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is sound and will permit an informed project decision to be taken.

Please indicate your name:

Your Address:

Your Phone/Fax/Email:

Please note: should you not have any comments on the Project, we would be grateful if you would still acknowledge this fact by letter, fax or email. **The deadline for the receipt of comments is 01 October 2010.** Contact details are provided below.

1. Do you have any concerns which you believe should be addressed in the EIA and which you would like to bring to the attention of the EIA team?

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2. Are there any additional interested and affected parties (I&APs) that you feel should be consulted in the course of the EIA? If yes, please indicate contact name address and telephone number. This will assist us in contacting this person or organisation:

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3. Is the process which is proposed for the EIA in accordance with the principles of Environmental Management which are promoted in South Africa?

Yes No

If no, describe briefly how you believe the process could be improved:

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION

PLEASE RETURN YOUR COMMENTS TO:
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email: terreco@terreco.co.za
BY 01 October 2010