

Background Information Document

PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF AN AIRSTRIP AND FAMILY LODGE AT KWANDWE PRIVATE GAME RESERVE IN THE ALBANY DISTRICT, EASTERN CAPE

13 November 2012

CEN Integrated Environmental Management Unit

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Purpose of the Background Information Document

The purpose of this Background Information Document (BID) is to provide stakeholders with the opportunity to register as interested and affected parties in the environmental assessment process and to obtain their initial comments on the proposed construction of an airstrip and family lodge on Ptn 3 (Koodoos Run) (a Ptn of Ptn 2) of the Farm Nooitgedagt No 92 and Ptn 2 (the Fort) of the Farm Koesters Drift No 129, Kwandwe Private Game Reserve in the Albany District. The activities require an Environmental Impact Assessment application to the Provincial Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism.

The purpose of the environmental assessment is to identify potential impacts associated with the proposed development and to recommend measures to avoid or reduce adverse impacts and enhance beneficial or positive impacts.

If you would like to participate in the process please register yourself and or your organization as an interested and affected party. Submit issues that you feel need to be addressed in the assessment by completing the response form or in a letter or by email to:

**Dr Mike Cohen,
CEN IEM Unit
36 River Road,
Walmer
Port Elizabeth,
6070**

<mailto:steenbok@aerosat.co.za>

**All comments must be submitted within 30 days of the date of
this notice**

**Date of Notice – 13 November 2012
Closing Date for Registration – 13 December 2012**

The Proposal

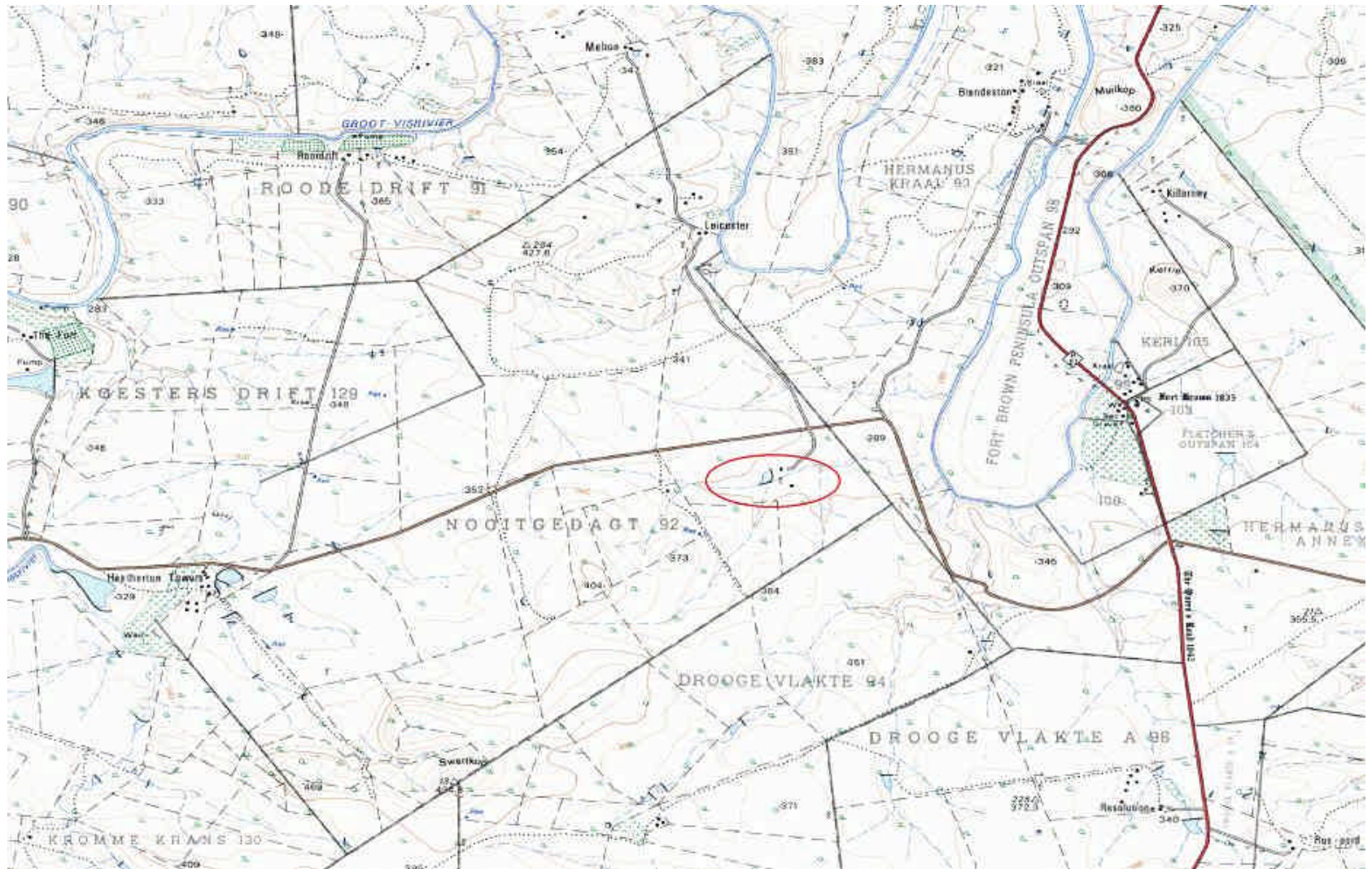
It is proposed to construct the following structures and infrastructure at Kwandwe Private Game Reserve:

- ❖ A runway for the owners and guests of Kwandwe Private Game Reserve to land their airplanes:
 - Length: 2 km
 - Width: 25 m (75 m disturbance footprint including clear zones)
 - Fencing
- ❖ Lodge:
 - 12 beds
 - Disturbance footprint: 1000 m²
 - Services

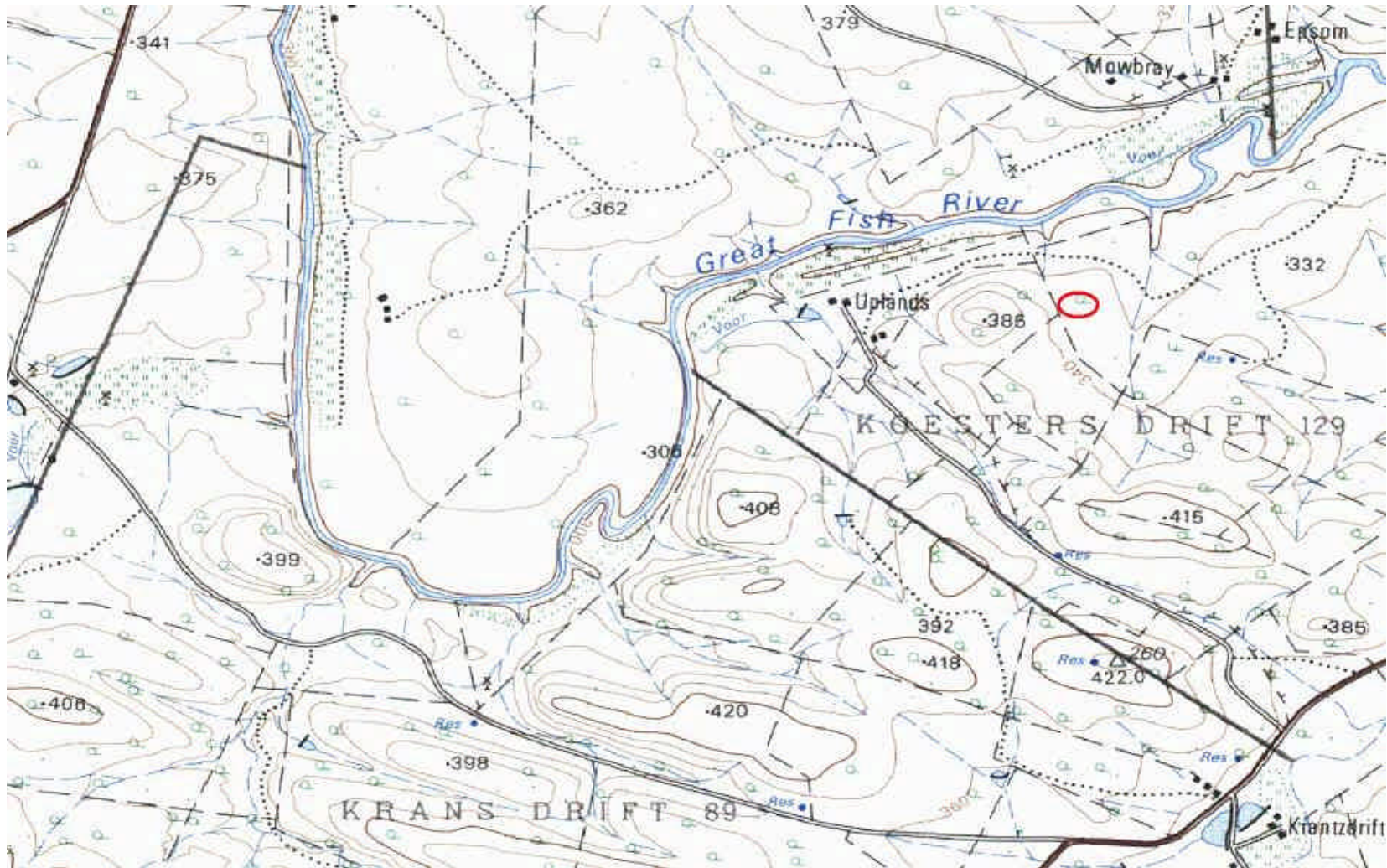
Locality

The activities are proposed at the following localities (refer to Figure 1 and 2):

- ❖ Runway: Ptn 3 (Koodoos Run) (a Ptn of Ptn 2) of the Farm Nooitgedagt No 92 (33°07' 54.34"S 26°35' 35.73"E)
- ❖ Lodge: Ptn 2 (the Fort) of the Farm Koesters Drift No 129 (33°07' 45.55"S 26°28' 57.35"E)



➤ Figure 3: An extract of a 1:50 000 topographical map showing the relative location of the airstrip (red oval).



➤ Figure 4: An extract of a 1:50 000 topographical map showing the relative location of the lodge (red oval).

National Environmental Management Act and EIA Regulations (2010)

The Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism has in terms of sections 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Amendment Act (Act No. 107 of 1998), listed the activities that require an environmental assessment.

In terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010, made under section 24(5) of the Act and published in Government Notice R.543 in Government Gazette 33306 of 18 June 2010 the following activities are subject to an assessment:

Listing Notice	Activity No.	Activity Description
544	9	The construction of facilities or infrastructure exceeding 1000 metres in length for the bulk transportation of water, sewage 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
	10	The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity - (i) outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33 but less than 275 kilovolts
	11	The construction of: (x) buildings exceeding 50 square metres in size; or (xi) infrastructure or structures covering 50 square metres or more where such construction occurs within a watercourse or within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse, excluding where such construction will occur behind the development setback line
	18	The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 5 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock or more than 5 cubic metres from: (i) a watercourse
	23	The transformation of undeveloped, vacant or derelict land to – (ii) residential, retail, commercial, recreational, industrial or

		institutional use, outside an urban area and where the total area to be transformed is bigger than 1 hectare but less than 20 hectares;
	24	The transformation of land bigger than 1000 square metres in size, to residential, retail, commercial, industrial or institutional use, where, at the time of the coming into effect of this Schedule <u>or thereafter</u> such land was zoned open space, conservation or had an equivalent zoning
545	7	The construction of (ii) runways or aircraft landing strips longer than 1,4 kilometres
546	4	The construction of a road wider than 4 metres with a reserve less than 13,5 metres (a) In the Eastern Cape (ii) outside urban areas in: (aa) A protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA, excluding conservancies (ee) Critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans (gg) Areas within 10 kilometres from national parks or world heritage sites or 5 kilometres from any other protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA or from the core areas of a biosphere reserve
	5	The construction of resorts, lodges or other tourism accommodation facilities that sleep less than 15 people. (a) A protected area identified in terms of the NEMPAA (c) Outside urban areas within 10 kilometres from national parks or world heritage sites or 5 kilometres from any other protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA or from the core area of a biosphere reserve (d) in the Eastern Cape in: (i) outside urban areas in: (aa) Critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans (cc) Areas within 100 metres of a watercourse or wetland
	10	The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the storage, or storage and handling of a dangerous good, where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity of 30 but not

		<p>exceeding 80 cubic metres.</p> <p>(a) in the Eastern Cape</p> <p>(ii) outside urban areas</p> <p>(aa) A protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA, excluding conservancies</p> <p>(ee) Critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans;</p> <p>(gg) Areas within 10 kilometres from national parks or world heritage sites or 5 kilometres from any other protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA or from the core areas of a biosphere reserve</p> <p>(ii) Areas on the watercourse side of the development setback line or within 100 metres from the edge of a watercourse where no such setback line has been determined</p>
	13	<p>The clearance of an area of 1 hectare or more of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetative cover constitutes indigenous vegetation</p> <p>(a) Critical biodiversity areas and ecological support areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority</p> <p>(c) in the Eastern Cape</p> <p>(ii) outside urban areas in</p> <p>(aa) A protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA, excluding conservancies</p> <p>(ff) Areas within 10 kilometres from national parks or world heritage sites or 5 kilometres from any other protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA or from the core area of a biosphere reserve</p>
	14	<p>The clearance of an area of 5 hectares or more of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetative cover constitutes indigenous vegetation</p> <p>(a) in the Eastern Cape</p> <p>(i) All areas outside urban areas</p>
	16	<p>The construction of</p> <p>(iii) buildings with a footprint exceeding 10 square metres in size; or</p> <p>(iv) infrastructure covering 10 square metres or more</p> <p>where such construction occurs within a watercourse or within 32</p>

		<p>metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse</p> <p>(a) in the Eastern Cape</p> <p>(ii) outside urban areas in</p> <p>(aa) A protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA, excluding conservancies</p> <p>(ff) Critical biodiversity areas or ecosystem service areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans</p> <p>(hh) Areas within 10 kilometres from national parks or world heritage sites or 5 kilometres from any other protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA or from the core area of a biosphere reserve</p>
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Some Identified Issues

As we progress with the environmental investigations we will identify potentially beneficial and adverse impacts. All identified issues will be subjected to an assessment to determine if they are significant and if they require additional investigation. Based on our preliminary investigations we have identified the following issues:

- ❖ Biodiversity impacts
- ❖ Pollution: noise, air, soil, surface and groundwater
- ❖ Erosion and sedimentation; stormwater management
- ❖ Waste management
- ❖ Socio-economic Impacts
- ❖ Archaeological and paleontological impacts
- ❖ Visual impacts
- ❖ Safety
- ❖ Availability of services

How Do I Participate

Every proposed project and / or development has the potential to significantly affect the natural and social environments, both at, as well as surrounding the proposed development site. While some of the impacts will have an adverse impact on the environment others will have a beneficial impact. For this reason it is imperative that you as an interested and / or affected party comment on the proposed development and raise issues or concerns that /you feel need to be considered during the proposed planning and implementation process. This can be done by completing the attached registration form and submitting it to the contact details below.

Upon submission of the registration form to CEN IEM Unit, you will be registered as an I&AP, and be included on an I&APs database which will ensure that you receive future project information.

If you intend to register as an I&AP or forward comments regarding the proposed development, please submit your completed registration form to CEN IEM Unit by **13 December 2012.**

Description of Tasks to be Performed

This BID is being distributed to stakeholders who are directly affected by the application.

- ❖ The DEDEAT has been notified that the assessment will be undertaken.
- ❖ All other stakeholders, including the relevant government departments will be notified of the proposed project.
- ❖ Advertisements have been placed under the legal section of *The Herald* and the *Die Burger*.
- ❖ Once this initial stage of public participation is complete, a Draft Scoping Report will be compiled and submitted for public comment.



CEN IEM UNIT

36 River Road, Walmer, Port Elizabeth 6070

Fax 086 504 2549

Email

steenbok@aerosat.co.za

Registration / Comment Sheet

Environmental Assessment: Proposed Construction of an airstrip and lodge at Kwandwe Private Game Reserve

13 November 2012

I wish to register as an Interested and / or Affected Party and request that the following issues receive attention during the assessment process

Closing Date for Comments: 13 December 2012

Name of Respondent: _____

Organisation / Company: _____

Address: _____

Fax Number: _____

Tel Number: _____

Email: _____

Please use additional sheets as necessary

Signature: _____

Date: _____