



# agriculture, land reform & rural development

Department:  
Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

Directorate Land and Soil Management, P.O. Box 8806, NELSPRUIT, 1200  
27 Brown Street, 2nd Floor

Tel: (013) 754 0730 ☎Fax: (013) 754 0735 ✉e-mail: FransMas@nda.agric.za  
Enquiries: **Frans Mashabela** Ref: **Lsm 10/8/7/9NIs/ MP**  
Rhengu Environmental Services

Rhengu Environmental Services  
P.O. Box 1046  
**MALELANE**  
**1320**  
30 April 2021

Dear Sir

Att: Mr. Kalwa Ralf

**DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT: LOW CREEK DAM PROJECT, DEVELOPMENT OF AN INSTREAM STORAGE DAM FOR IRRIGATION PURPOSES ON PORTION OF REMAINING EXTENT OF ESPERADO 253 JU AND PORTION 1 AND 2 OF ESPERADO ANNEX 222 JU LOWS CREEK – KAAPMUIDEN AREA, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE.**

**You're Ref: 1/3/1/16/1E-294**

The proposed project should adhere to the regulations as stipulated in the Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act, 1983 (Act 43 of 1983)

The area where this project will take should be saved from degradation; therefore, reasonable and necessary mitigation measures to minimize environmental degradation should be implemented.

## **Recommendation**

### **SITE CLEARING**

- Site clearing should take place in phases. Areas that may not be affected by construction should not be cleared as to reduce erosion risk. The area to be cleared should be demarcated and strictly maintained.
- Erosion control measures should be implemented in areas where these risks are more prevalent.
- Topsoil removed should be neatly stockpiled in stockpiles less than 1.5 m.
- Minimizes the impact on vegetation outside the immediate areas of the work. Do not fell trees outside working area.
- Maintain site demarcations in positions until completion of construction works.

## SITE IMPACTS

### ❖ **Topsoil stripping**

- The full depth of top soil should be stripped from areas affected by construction and related activities prior to commencement of major earthworks.
- Care should be taken not to mix topsoil and subsoil during stripping.

### ❖ **Soil stripping**

- Soil stripping should take place only on areas within the site of project.
- Subsoil and overburden should be stockpiled separately to be returned for backfilling where necessary.

### ❖ **Stockpiles**

- Stockpiles should not be positioned in such a way that they will obstruct natural water way and drainage channels.
- If stockpiles are exposed to heavy rain, they should be covered by impermeable material to prevent soil loss.

### ❖ **Hydrocarbon contamination**

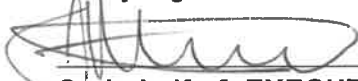
- Topsoil and subsoil to be protected from contamination.
- Fuel and material storage should be away from stockpiles.
- Contaminated soil should be contained and disposed off at an approved landfill site

### ❖ **Erosion**

- Erosion control measures need to be implemented where necessary.
- All areas susceptible to erosion should be protected and stabilization measures implemented.
- Retention of vegetation where possible.

The Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries reserves the right to alter or amend its viewpoint based on forthcoming studies, documentation and information; which may become available as the process progresses.

Kindly regards



**On behalf of: EXECUTIVE OFFICER: ACT NO. 43 of 1983  
DIRECTORATE: LAND AND SOIL MANAGEMENT**