

**THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW LANDFILL SITE IN
MTHATHA, LOCATED NEAR QWEQWE VILLAGE, KSD
MUNICIPALITY:
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT**

EIA REF: OR/B/10/002/13

Compiled by: Dumisani Bokveldt of *Jeffares & Green (Pty) Ltd*

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Jeffares & Green

ENGINEERING & ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING

1. INTRODUCTION

Jeffares and Green (Pty) Ltd have been appointed by IKAMVA Consulting, on behalf of the Department of Environmental Affairs, to undertake a Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed development of a new Waste Landfill site in Mthatha. The proposed site is located in Qweqwe outside Mthatha, in the King Sabata Dalindyebo Municipality. The land is approximately 45ha in extent. The Application for Environmental Authorisation conforms to the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMA) and the National Environmental Management: Waste Act (Act 59 of 2008) (NEMWA) and applicable Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2010 and Government Notice 718 of 2009. Under these regulations, a Scoping and EIA procedure will be followed in accordance with Section 26-35.

The following listed activities (not necessarily limited thereto) as contained in GNR 544 and 545 of the NEMA EIA regulations, 2010, and in Categories A and B of the Schedule contained in Government Notice 718, published on 3 July 2009, in terms of Section 19 of NEMWA will be applied for:

Number and date of the relevant notice	Activity No (s) (in terms of the relevant notice)	Description of each listed activity as per project description
Notice No. R 544 of 18 June 2010	Activity 22	The construction of a road, outside urban areas, (i) with a reserve wider than 13,5 meters or, (ii) where no reserve exists where the road is wider than 8 metres, or (iii) for which an environmental authorisation was obtained for the route determination in terms of activity 5 in Government Notice 387 of 2006 or activity 18 in Notice 545 of 2010.
Notice No. R 545 of 18 June 2010	Activity 15	Physical alteration of undeveloped, vacant or derelict land for residential, retail, commercial, recreational, industrial or institutional use where the total area to be transformed is 20 hectares or more; except where such physical alteration takes place for: (i) linear development activities; or (ii) agriculture or afforestation where activity 16 in this Schedule will apply.
Number and date of the relevant notice	Activity No (s) (in terms of the relevant notice)	Description of each listed activity as per project description
No. 718 of 3 July 2009. National Environmental Management: Waste Act (No.59 of 2008)	Category B: Activity 10	The disposal of general waste to land covering an area in excess of 200m ²

No. 718 of 3 July 2009. National Environmental Management: Waste Act (No.59 of 2008)	Category B: Activity 11	Construction of facilities for activities listed in Category B of this Schedule (not in isolation to associated activity)
No. 718 of 3 July 2009. National Environmental Management: Waste Act (No.59 of 2008)	Category A: Activity 7	The re-use of general waste of more than 10 tons per month

According to the regulations, it is necessary for the applicant to appoint an independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) who will adhere to the environmental stipulations and complete the applicable environmental process on behalf of the applicant. In this case, the relevant role players for the proposed development are as follows:

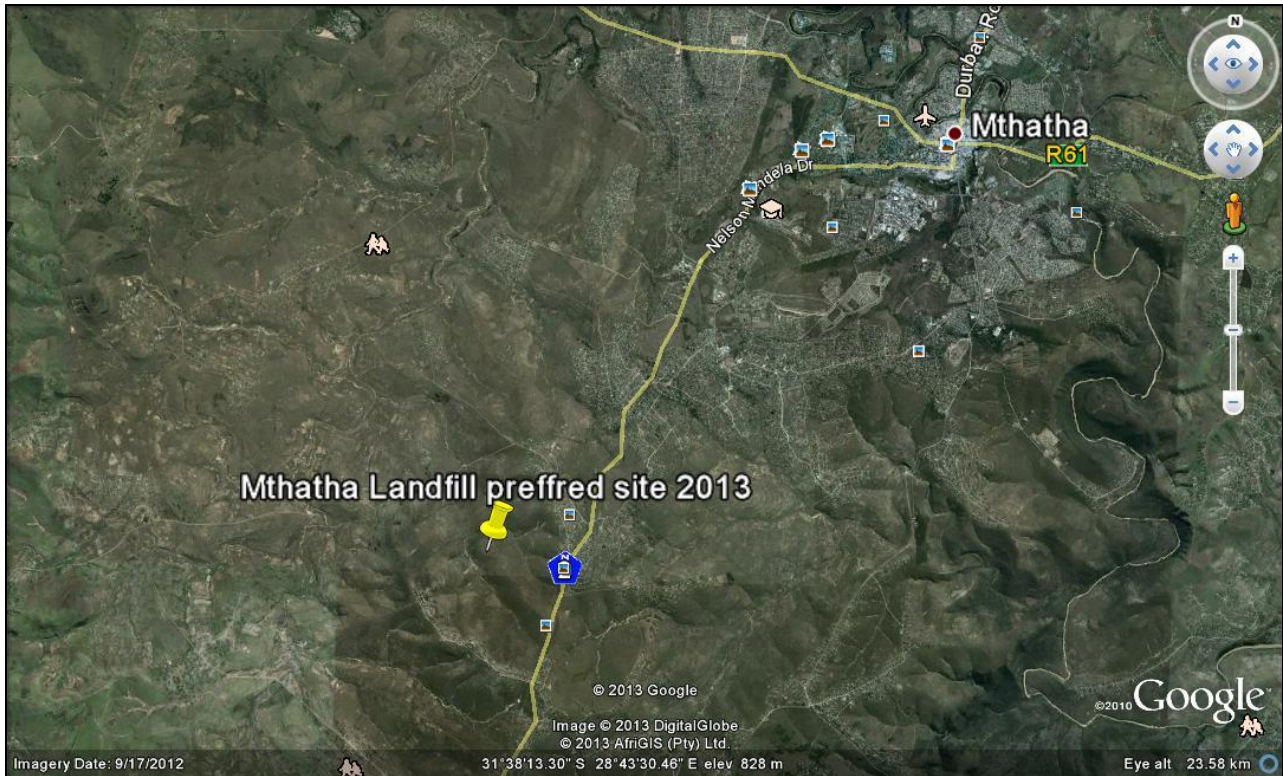
Applicant	KSD Municipality
Project Managers	IKAMVA Consulting
Engineers	Brava Engineers (Pty) Ltd
Environmental Assessment Practitioner	Jeffares and Green (Pty) Ltd
Competent Authority	Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEDEAT).

The Public Participation Process, as promulgated in terms of Chapter 6 of the NEMA EIA Regulations of 2010 (GN R543), is a fundamental process whereby the proponent, technical team, government authorities, key stakeholders and Interested and Affected Parties (IAPs) can engage in an informed decision-making process.

2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Locality

The Department of Environmental Affairs together with the King Sabata Dalindyebo Local Municipality has identified land in Qweqwe outside Mthatha for the establishment of the Landfill Site. The area is open grazing land which is under the ownership of Qweqwe Tribal Authority and has no physical address. The centre point coordinates for the site is as follows: S 31° 40' 02.41"; E 28° 41' 31.98".



Aerial spatial extent indicating the proposed site next to Qweqwe, relative to Mthatha CBD.

3. ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPE OF WORK

The Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (S&EIR) process that will be followed is in accordance with the NEMA EIA Regulations (2010). The EAP is required to conduct the environmental application process and manage the public participation process, which is currently underway. Jeffares and Green (Pty) Ltd will perform the following:

1. Identify key stakeholders, authorities and municipalities, environmental groups and interested or affected members of the public, hereafter referred to as IAPs;
2. Compile a detailed Background Information Document (BID) (as represented by this document) for the proposed development, providing details to IAPs of:
 - a. The listed activities that trigger the EIA process;
 - b. The scope of work;
 - c. The locality and current land use at the site;
 - d. A brief site description;
 - e. The EIA process to be followed; and
 - f. The opportunity for IAPs to comment on the project.

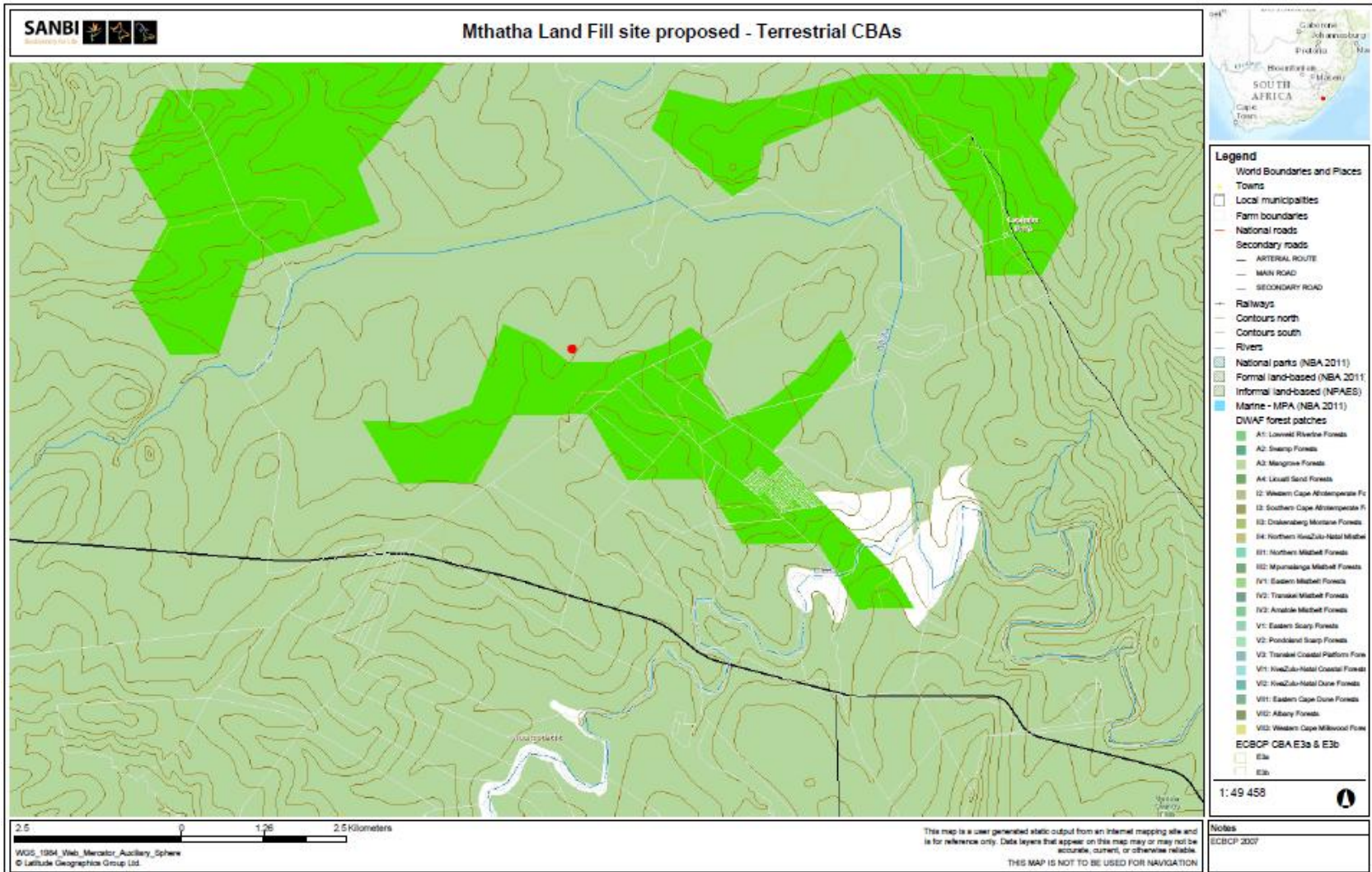
3. Advertise the environmental application in regional and local newspapers;
4. Placement of notification posters on the site and other conspicuous localities within the community/municipal area;
5. Give written notice to landowners and occupiers within 100m of the proposed project area, as well as the local authority;
6. Notification to the landowner if the landowner is not the applicant;
7. Host a Public Open Day, if proved necessary, providing details of issues identified by the EAP, stakeholders and IAPs;
8. Record all comments of IAPs and present such comments, as well as responses provided by Jeffares and Green (Pty) Ltd, in a full Comments and Responses Report, which will be included in the Draft and Final Environmental Assessment Reports that will be submitted to the DEDEAT; and
9. Circulate all IAP comments to the project team.

The Draft Scoping and EIA Reports will be made available to all relevant stakeholders and registered IAPs for further comment, before the Final Scoping and EIA Reports is submitted to the DEDEAT.

4. GENERAL SITE DESCRIPTION

a. Ecological Biodiversity Areas

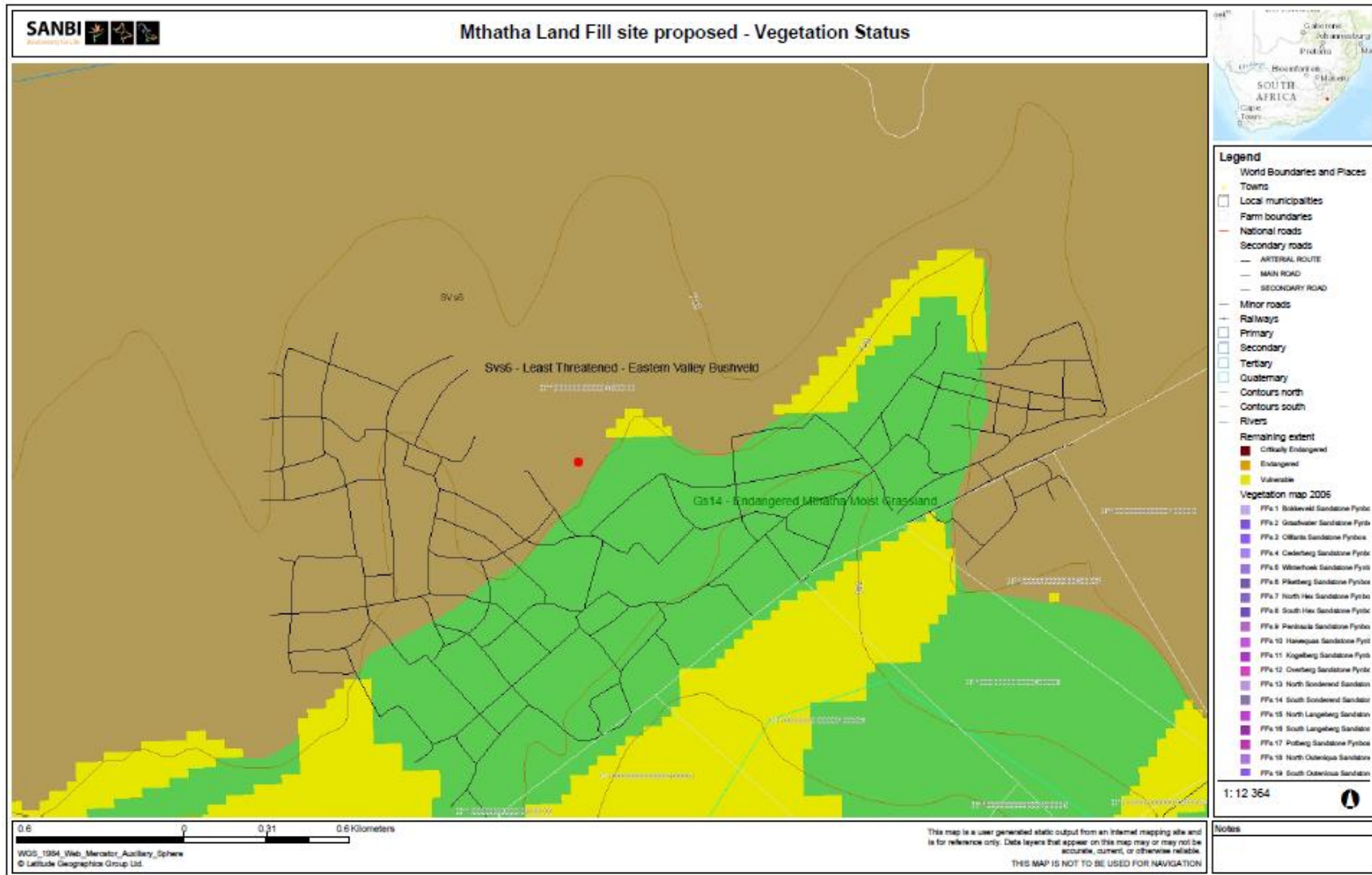
The study site for this proposed development is limited a transformed footprint, mainly by cultivation and overgrazing. The CBA map indicates areas of land as well as aquatic features which must be safeguarded in their natural state if biodiversity is to persist and ecosystems are to continue functioning. CBAs incorporate: (i) areas that need to be safeguarded in order to meet national biodiversity thresholds (ii) areas required to ensure the continued existence and functioning of species and ecosystems, including the delivery of ecosystem services; and/or (iii) important locations for biodiversity features or rare species. Ecological Support Areas (ESAs) are supporting zones required to prevent the degradation of Critical Biodiversity Areas and Protected Areas. An ESA may be an ecological process area that connects and therefore sustains Critical Biodiversity Areas.



Broader mapping extent of the area identified as Terrestrial Critical Biodiverse Areas relative to the proposed Mthatha Landfill Site as located on Portion 31 of Farm 745, St Francis Bay.

b. Vegetation Type

The site falls within the vegetation type classified as Eastern Valley Bushveldt (Mucina and Rutherford, 2006) and is recognized a Least Threatened Ecosystem. Only 0.8% is statutorily conserved mainly in the Luchaba Wildlife Reserve. Approximately 15% of this vegetation type is transformed mainly by cultivation.



Spatial distribution of the Eastern Valley Bushveld and Mthatha Moist Grassland as mapped in accordance with the South African National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment (2004).

c. Heritage

According to the National Heritage Resources Act (Act No 25 of 1999), provisions are made to protect national heritage and this forms an integral part of the environmental assessment process. It is unknown at this stage what archaeological findings may be found at the proposed development site. An application has been made to this authority and a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) will be conducted, if required, in order to assess the cultural and heritage significance of any findings. This specialist study will be included in the EIA Report.

d. The Social Environment

King Sabata Dalindyebo Municipality comprises four amalgamated entities comprised of both Mthatha and Mqanduli urban and rural Transitional Local Councils. It measures approximately 3 019 km² in extent. King Sabata Dalindyebo has an estimated population of about 443 454 people living in 95 382 households. Approximately 95% of households live in rural areas and village settlements which makes the King Sabata Dalindyebo a rural municipality. The city of Mthatha is an important regional service centre and tourism gateway city. KSD Municipality has developed a Master Plan which basically its main objective is to turnaround the perceived status of Mthatha or bad state of Mthatha and Mqanduli urban functional areas into an improved and good state by 2030, so that a child born in March 2009 will live in an progressed and better KSD when is 21 years old.

The Infrastructure and Community Services Directorates of the Municipality have engaged in negotiations with the traditional leaders to utilise land for the construction of a new solid waste site. The Municipality is currently closing and rehabilitating the existing waste sites in Mthatha and Mqanduli. The feasibility study (geotech and geo-hydro exercise) forms part of the Integrated Waste Management Plan. The Environment Impact Assessment has been completed. Environmentally friendly practices and economic opportunities will be included in the design of the new site.

5. HOW DO I PARTICIPATE?

Every proposed development has the potential to significantly affect the natural and social environments, both at, as well as surrounding the proposed site. For this reason it is imperative that you as a stakeholder or an interested and/or affected party (IAP) comment on the proposed project and **highlight issues or concerns** that you feel need to be considered during the proposed planning and implementation process. Should you wish to register as an IAP or should you have any comments regarding the proposed Mthatha Landfill Site, please **state your interest** in the proposed development along with any **comments or queries** you may have before the **30th August 2013**. A registration form is attached.



REGISTRATION & COMMENT SHEET
SCOPING AND EIA FOR THE
PROPOSED MTHATHA LANDFILL
SITE,
KSD MUNICIPALITY

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I wish to register as an Interested and Affected Party and/or bring to the attention of Jeffares & Green (Pty) Ltd the following comments (please use additional sheets of paper if required).

Attention: **Dumisani Bokveldt**

(In order for your contact details to be captured correctly on our database - Please clearly fill out the sheet below)

<i>Name of Respondent: Organization / Company:</i>	<i>Title:</i>
<i>Postal Address:</i>	
<i>Postal Code:</i>	<i>Code:</i>
<i>Telephone Number:</i>	<i>Code:</i>
<i>Facsimile Number:</i>	<i>Code:</i>
<i>Mobile Number:</i>	
<i>Email:</i>	

Comments:

Signed: _____

Date: _____