



agriculture & environmental affairs

Department:
Agriculture
& Environmental Affairs
PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL

(For official use only)

EIA File Reference Number:
NEAS Reference Number:
Waste Management Licence Number:
(if applicable)
Date Received:

DC/
KZN/EIA/

BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

Submitted in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010 promulgated in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998)

This template may be used for the following applications:

- **Environmental Authorization** subject to basic assessment for an activity that is listed in Listing Notices 1 or 3, 2010 (Government Notices No. R 544 or No. R 546 dated 18 June 2010); or
- **Waste Management Licence** for an activity that is listed in terms of section 20(b) of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008) for which a basic assessment process as stipulated in the EIA Regulations must be conducted as part of the application (refer to the schedule of waste management activities in Category A of Government Notice No. 718 dated 03 July 2009).

Kindly note that:

1. This **basic assessment report** meets the requirements of the EIA Regulations, 2010 and is meant to streamline applications. This report is the format prescribed by the KZN Department of Agriculture & Environmental Affairs. Please make sure that this is the latest version.
2. The report must be typed within the spaces provided in the form. The size of the spaces provided is not indicative of the amount of information to be provided. The report is in the form of a table that can extend itself as each space is filled with text.
3. Where required, place a cross in the box you select.
4. An incomplete report will be returned to the applicant for revision.
5. The use of "not applicable" in the report must be done with circumspection because if it is used in respect of material information that is required by the competent authority for assessing the application, it will result in the rejection of the application as provided for in the regulations.
6. No faxed or e-mailed reports will be accepted.
7. The report must be compiled by an independent environmental assessment practitioner ("EAP").
8. Unless protected by law, all information in the report will become public information on receipt by the competent authority. Any interested and affected party should be provided with the information contained in this report on request, during any stage of the application process.

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9. The KZN Department of Agriculture & Environmental Affairs may require that for specified types of activities in defined situations only parts of this report need to be completed.
10. The EAP must submit this basic assessment report for comment to all relevant State departments that administer a law relating to a matter affecting the environment. This provision is in accordance with Section 24 O (2) of the National Environmental Management Act 1998 (Act 107 of 1998) and such comments must be submitted within 40 days of such a request.
11. **Please note that this report must be handed in or posted to the District Office of the KZN Department of Agriculture & Environmental Affairs to which the application has been allocated (please refer to the details provided in the letter of acknowledgement for this application).**

DRAFT

DEPARTMENTAL REFERENCE NUMBER(S)

File reference number (EIA):	DC25/0011/2012: KZN/EIA/0000732/2012
File reference number (Waste Management Licence):	

SECTION A: DETAILS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER AND SPECIALISTS

1. NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER (EAP)

Name and contact details of the EAP who prepared this report:

Business name of EAP:	UDIDI ENVIRONMENTAL, PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANTS		
Physical address:	149 Pietermaritz Street, Pietermaritzburg		
Postal address:	PO BOX 11302, Dorpspruit,		
Postal code:	3206	Cell:	072 604 2219
Telephone:	033 345 6025	Fax:	033 342 1606
E-mail:	environment@udidi.co.za		

2. NAMES AND EXPERTISE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EAP

Names and details of the expertise of each representative of the EAP involved in the preparation of this report:

Name of representative of the EAP	Education qualifications	Professional affiliations	Experience at environmental assessments (yrs)
Siphilile Chokoe	BSocSci (Environmental Management)	None	0.4
Mbali Majola	MSocSci (Environmental Management)	None	0.3
Mark Faku	BTech: Town & Regional Planning	South African Council for Planners	8 years

3. NAMES AND EXPERTISE OF SPECIALISTS

Names and details of the expertise of each specialist that has contributed to this report:

Name of specialist	Education qualifications	Field of expertise	Section/ s contributed to in this basic assessment report	Title of specialist report/ s as attached in Appendix D
Simphiwe Mtshali	BSc (Hons) Hydrology	Geohydrology	Section C Groundwater, soil	Newcastle Muslim Cemetery

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			and geological stability of the site	geohydrological report
Janet Clare Norris	B-Eng (Hons) Civil Engineering, and MSc Geotechnical Engineering.	Engineering geology	Section C Geo-Technical Analysis	Geotechnical investigation for the extension of Muslim Cemetery in Newcastle

DRAFT

SECTION B: ACTIVITY INFORMATION

1. PROJECT TITLE

Describe the project title as provided on the application form for environmental authorization:

The proposed development is of the extension of the existing Newcastle Muslim Cemetery situated in the Newcastle industrial area, over property Erf Re/1A on Falkirk Street, KwaZulu-Natal.

2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Provide a detailed description of the project:

INTRODUCTION

Newcastle Local Municipality has appointed UDIDI Environmental, Planning and Development Consultants to undertake the Basic Environmental Assessment for the proposed extension of the Muslim Cemetery in Newcastle. The site is bounded on the north by a railway line, on the east by Ni-Da Transport, on the west by an existing cemetery site and on the south by Falkirk Street.

Extending the Muslim Cemetery will ensure that there is capacity to address the demand for additional burial space at least for the very near future.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

The motivation for the development is in response to the apparent demand for burial ground, as the existing cemetery has almost reached its capacity. This new proposed site is approximately 1,136 hectares in extent.

It is important to respect and recognise every possible cultural and religious requirements regarding burial, as it is within the Muslim religion that the deceased be buried as quickly as possible, this making it urgent to speed the process of the extension of this burial site. This site is currently undeveloped and the major portion of the site is currently covered by concrete slabs, bricks, soil material and other refuse as a result of illegal dumping in the area. Therefore; there are currently no significant biodiversity features present and the proposed activity will not cause any further degradation to the site.

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

The development include the following components:

- Surfaced access road
- Ablution facilities
- Water supply
- Electricity supply
- Fencing around the site
- Security gate

The site will need to be cleared of construction rubble and debris, it will then be levelled and landscaped in preparation for the development including associated infrastructure.

A Municipal cemetery operator or manager will be appointed to manage the cemetery staff; check/service the excavator; inspect work undertaken on site; and maintain a true register of all burials in the cemetery.

The following informants were considered upon formulation of the development proposal: hydrological and geotechnical opportunities and constraints (slope); existing infrastructure; adjacent development; economic feasibility and legislative requirements.

3. ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

Describe each listed activity in Listing Notice 1 (GNR 544, 18 June 2010), ~~or~~ Listing Notice 3 (GNR 546, 18 June 2010) or [Category A of GN 718, 3 July 2009 \(Waste Management Activities\)](#) which is being applied for as per the project description:

In terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (GN R543 and R544) promulgated in terms of Chapter 5 of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) (No. 107 of 1998) as amended 18 June 2010, the following activity is listed that requires a Basic Impact Assessment: Part 10 – The establishment of cemeteries of 2,500 square meters or more in size, the proposed cemetery extension area covers an extent of 11,360 square meters or 1.136ha.

4. FEASIBLE AND REASONABLE ALTERNATIVES

This is an extension of a cemetery there are no other considered alternatives.

“alternatives”, in relation to a proposed activity, means different means of meeting the general purpose and requirements of the activity, which may include alternatives to—

- (a) the property on which or location where it is proposed to undertake the activity;
- (b) the type of activity to be undertaken;
- (c) the design or layout of the activity;
- (d) the technology to be used in the activity;
- (e) the operational aspects of the activity; and
- (f) the option of not implementing the activity.

Describe alternatives that are considered in this report. Alternatives should include a consideration of all possible means by which the purpose and need of the proposed activity could be accomplished in the specific instance taking account of the interest of the applicant in the activity. The no-go alternative must in all cases be included in the assessment phase as the baseline against which the impacts of the other alternatives are assessed. The determination of whether site or activity (including different processes etc.) or both is appropriate needs to be informed by the specific circumstances of the activity and its environment. After receipt of this report the competent authority may also request the applicant to assess additional alternatives that could possibly accomplish the purpose and need of the proposed activity if it is clear that realistic alternatives have not been considered to a reasonable extent.

Sections B 5 – 15 below should be completed for each alternative.

5. ACTIVITY POSITION

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Indicate the position of the activity using the latitude and longitude of the centre point of the site for each alternative site. The co-ordinates should be in degrees, minutes and seconds. List alternative sites were applicable.

	Latitude (S):			Longitude (E):		
Alternative: Alternative S1 ¹ (preferred or only site alternative)	27°	45'	25.147"	29°11	56'	57.057"
Alternative S2 (if any)	0	'	"	0	'	"
Alternative S3 (if any)	0	'	"	0	'	"

In the case of linear activities:

	Latitude (S):			Longitude (E):		
Alternative: Alternative S1 (preferred or only route alternative)						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Starting point of the activity • Middle point of the activity • End point of the activity 	0	'	"	0	'	"
Alternative S2 (if any)	0	'	"	0	'	"
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Starting point of the activity • Middle point of the activity • End point of the activity 	0	'	"	0	'	"
Alternative S3 (if any)	0	'	"	0	'	"
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Starting point of the activity • Middle point of the activity • End point of the activity 	0	'	"	0	'	"

For route alternatives that are longer than 500m, please provide an addendum with co-ordinates taken every 500m along the route for each alternative alignment.

6. PHYSICAL SIZE OF THE ACTIVITY

Indicate the physical size of the preferred activity/technology as well as alternative activities/technologies (footprints):

Alternative:	Size of the activity:
Alternative A1 ² (preferred activity alternative)	11.360 m ²
Alternative A2 (if any)	m ²
Alternative A3 (if any)	m ²
or, for linear activities:	
Alternative:	Length of the activity:
Alternative A1 (preferred activity alternative)	m
Alternative A2 (if any)	m
Alternative A3 (if any)	m

¹ "Alternative S.." refer to site alternatives.

² "Alternative A.." refer to activity, process, technology or other alternatives.

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Indicate the size of the alternative sites or servitudes (within which the above footprints will occur):

Alternative:	Size of the site/servitude:
Alternative A1 (preferred activity alternative)	m ²
Alternative A2 (if any)	m ²
Alternative A3 (if any)	m ²

7. SITE ACCESS

Does ready access to the site exist?

YES	<input type="checkbox"/>
N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>

If NO, what is the distance over which a new access road will be built

Describe the type of access road planned:

Access will be directly from the existing road (Falkirk road) that is adjacent to the present cemetery.

Include the position of the access road on the site plan and required map, as well as an indication of the road in relation to the site.

8. SITE OR ROUTE PLAN

A detailed site or route plan(s) must be prepared for each alternative site or alternative activity. It must be attached as Appendix A to this report.

The site or route plans must indicate the following:

- 8.1. the scale of the plan which must be at least a scale of 1:500;
- 8.2. the property boundaries and numbers/ erf/ farm numbers of all adjoining properties of the site;
- 8.3. the current land use as well as the land use zoning of each of the properties adjoining the site or sites;
- 8.4. the exact position of each element of the application as well as any other structures on the site;
- 8.5. the position of services, including electricity supply cables (indicate above or underground), water supply pipelines, boreholes, street lights, sewage pipelines, storm water infrastructure and telecommunication infrastructure;
- 8.6. walls and fencing including details of the height and construction material;
- 8.7. servitudes indicating the purpose of the servitude;
- 8.8. sensitive environmental elements within 100metres of the site or sites including (but not limited thereto):
 - rivers, streams, drainage lines or wetlands;
 - the 1:100 year flood line (where available or where it is required by DWA);
 - ridges;
 - cultural and historical features;
 - areas with indigenous vegetation including protected plant species (even if it is degraded or infested with alien species);

- 8.9. for gentle slopes the 1metre contour intervals must be indicated on the plan and whenever the slope of the site exceeds 1:10, the 500mm contours must be indicated on the plan; and
- 8.10. the positions from where photographs of the site were taken.

9. SITE PHOTOGRAPHS

Colour photographs from the centre of the site must be taken in at least the eight major compass directions with a description of each photograph. Photographs must be attached under Appendix B to this report. It must be supplemented with additional photographs of relevant features on the site, if applicable.

10. FACILITY ILLUSTRATION

A detailed illustration of the facility must be provided at a scale of 1:200 and attached to this report as Appendix C. The illustrations must be to scale and must represent a realistic image of the planned activity/ies.

11. ACTIVITY MOTIVATION

11.1. Socio-economic value of the activity

What is the expected capital value of the activity on completion?

R1 500 000

What is the expected yearly income that will be generated by or as a result of the activity?

R100 000

Will the activity contribute to service infrastructure?

YES

Is the activity a public amenity?

YES

How many new employment opportunities will be created in the development phase of the activity?

20

What is the expected value of the employment opportunities during the development phase?

R1 500 000

What percentage of this will accrue to previously disadvantaged individuals?

80%

How many permanent new employment opportunities will be created during the operational phase of the activity?

5

What is the expected current value of the employment opportunities during the first 10 years?

R2 400 000

What percentage of this will accrue to previously disadvantaged individuals?

80%

11.2. Need and desirability of the activity

Motivate and explain the need and desirability of the activity (including demand for the activity):

At present South Africa, especially KwaZulu-Natal is perceived as experiencing some of the highest death rates due to diseases such as HIV/AIDS and road accidents. Despite the difficulty to quantify the figures, there is an indisputable impact on mortality rates which is already placing considerable demands for burial space, which in certain municipalities are reaching saturation while others are experiencing a shortage of

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burial space. The need and desirability for cemeteries is a District-wide problem in Amajuba District, there is always proven difficulty in finding new suitable areas for cemetery development thus the extension of the Muslim Cemetery makes provision for current demand whilst another process of finding a suitable cemetery site is underway. The provision of burial grounds can be considered a necessary service delivery requirement for a municipality to ensure the dignity and health of the community.

The proposed cemetery extension will provide much needed burial space as the existing cemetery has almost reached its capacity. Bearing in mind that Muslim community cannot be buried at any other Cemeteries in Newcastle as they require burial ground that is reserved exclusively for them due to religious reasons. It will ensure that those who wish to be buried are provided with a dignified final resting place. It will also provide those who are left behind with a place to mourn their loved ones.

As the cemetery is reaching capacity and additional space is required it is for this reason that the Newcastle Municipality has applied to use the land immediately adjacent to the existing cemetery.

Indicate any benefits that the activity will have for society in general:

The community will greatly benefit from the proposed development rather than this land being used as an illegal dumping site. The proposed development will also eliminate illegal dumping in the area. Local residents have buried their deceased at the Muslim Cemetery for many years and therefore have a socio-cultural connection to the cemetery and thus prefer to bury their deceased on this site. The extension of the cemetery is therefore a community priority. Extension of the cemetery will allow the living members to still be in close contact with the late members. As stated before there is currently no significant biodiversity features present on the site, therefore the development of a cemetery in such an area would benefit the society in general as the environmentally sensitive areas will be avoided and the resulting potential contamination of vital resources such as water will be avoided. Employment creation; will have short term positive impacts from a socio-economic point of view due to the temporary employment of staff during the construction phase.

Indicate any benefits that the activity will have for the local communities where the activity will be located:

Furthermore the extension of the Muslim cemetery poses a positive social impact on the Muslim community as the old cemetery is directly next to the proposed cemetery, ensuring that family members are all buried in one place. The local communities will be afforded an opportunity to continue their burial traditions and to uphold the wishes of their deceased who had indicated a desire to be buried at the Newcastle Muslim Cemetery therefore this site will have cultural significance for the surrounding community. The project will also result in social benefits for the local community in terms of service provision.

12. APPLICABLE LEGISLATION, POLICIES AND/OR GUIDELINES

List all legislation, policies and/or guidelines of any sphere of government that are relevant to the application as contemplated in the EIA regulations, if applicable:

National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998)	DEAT	1998
Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations under NEMA	DEAT	2006
Environmental Conservation Act (No. 73 of 1989) amended notice No 1183 of 1997	DEAT	1997
National Water Act (No. 36 of 1998)	DWAF	1998
KwaZulu Natal Cemeteries and Crematoria Act (No. 12 of 1996)	Department of Health	1996
KwaZulu Natal Heritage Act (No. 4 of 2008)	KwaZulu-Natal Heritage Authority	2008

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	(Amafa aKwaZulu-Natali)	
National Heritage Resources Act (No. 25 of 1999)	South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)	1999

13. WASTE, EFFLUENT, EMISSION AND NOISE MANAGEMENT

13.1. Solid waste management

Will the activity produce solid construction waste during the construction/initiation phase?

YES	
-----	--

If yes, what estimated quantity will be produced per month?

10 m ³

How will the construction solid waste be disposed of? (describe)

There will only be waste generated during the construction/initiation phase, as there is rubble on the proposed site from the illegal dumping. All the solid waste generated during construction/initiation phase will be transported via trucks to the registered Newcastle Municipal landfill site.

Where will the construction solid waste be disposed of? (provide details of landfill site)

The registered Newcastle Municipal landfill site, along Provincial Road P4837.

Will the activity produce solid waste during its operational phase?

	NO
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If yes, what estimated quantity will be produced per month?

m ³

How will the solid waste be disposed of? (provide details of landfill site)

N/A

Where will the solid waste be disposed if it does not feed into a municipal waste stream (describe)?

N/A

If the solid waste (construction or operational phases) will not be disposed of in a registered landfill site or be taken up in a municipal waste stream, then the applicant should consult with the competent authority to determine the further requirements of the application.

Can any part of the solid waste be classified as hazardous in terms of the relevant legislation?

	NO
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If yes, contact the KZN Department of Agriculture & Environmental Affairs to obtain clarity regarding the process requirements for your application.

Is the activity that is being applied for a solid waste handling or treatment facility?

	NO
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If yes, contact the KZN Department of Agriculture & Environmental Affairs to obtain clarity regarding the process requirements for your application.

13.2. Liquid effluent

Will the activity produce effluent, other than normal sewage, that will be disposed of in a municipal sewage system?

	NO
--	----

If yes, what estimated quantity will be produced per month?

m ³

Will the activity produce any effluent that will be treated and/or disposed of on site?

	NO
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If yes, contact the KZN Department of Agriculture & Environmental Affairs to obtain clarity regarding the process requirements for your application.

Will the activity produce effluent that will be treated and/or disposed of at YES NO

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another facility?

If yes, provide the particulars of the facility:

Facility name:		
Contact person:		
Postal address:		
Postal code:		
Telephone:		
E-mail:	Cell:	

Describe the measures that will be taken to ensure the optimal reuse or recycling of waste water, if any:

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13.3. Emissions into the atmosphere

Will the activity release emissions into the atmosphere?

<input type="checkbox"/>	NO
<input type="checkbox"/>	NO

If yes, is it controlled by any legislation of any sphere of government?

If yes, contact the KZN Department of Agriculture & Environmental Affairs to obtain clarity regarding the process requirements for your application.

If no, describe the emissions in terms of type and concentration:

Dust emissions can be released into the atmosphere during the construction phase as a result of vehicle movement and the digging by machinery. Depending on the digging methods employed during the operational phase, dust could also be generated, especially if excavation machines are used.

13.4. Generation of noise

Will the activity generate noise?

<input type="checkbox"/>	NO
<input type="checkbox"/>	NO

If yes, is it controlled by any legislation of any sphere of government?

If yes, the applicant should consult with the competent authority to determine whether it is necessary to change to an application for scoping and EIA.

If no, describe the noise in terms of type and level:

The noise that will be generated by the activity will include that of the mechanical digger when gravesites require excavation. During operation hours there is a potential for noise that will be generated by vehicles, mourners songs, traditions & prayer rituals during a funeral service.

14. WATER USE

Please indicate the source(s) of water that will be used for the activity by ticking the appropriate box(es):

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Municipal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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If water is to be extracted from groundwater, river, stream, dam, lake or any other natural feature, please indicate the volume that will be extracted per month:

<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A
<input type="checkbox"/>	NO

Does the activity require a water use permit from the Department of Water Affairs?

If YES, please submit the necessary application to the Department of Water Affairs and attach proof thereof to this report.

15. ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Describe the design measures, if any, that have been taken to ensure that the activity is energy efficient:

N/A

Describe how alternative energy sources have been taken into account or been built into the design of the activity, if any:

N/A

SECTION C: SITE/AREA/PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

Important notes:

- For linear activities (pipelines, etc) as well as activities that cover very large sites, it may be necessary to complete this section for each part of the site that has a significantly different environment. In such cases please complete copies of Section C and indicate the area, which is covered by each copy No. on the Site Plan.

Section C Copy No.
(e.g. A):

- Subsections 1 - 6 below must be completed for each alternative.

1. GRADIENT OF THE SITE

Indicate the general gradient of the site.

Alternative S1:

Flat	1:50 – 1:20	1:20 – 1:15	1:15 – 1:10	1:10 – 1:7,5	1:7,5 – 1:5	Steeper than 1:5
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Alternative S2 (if any):

Flat	1:50 – 1:20	1:20 – 1:15	1:15 – 1:10	1:10 – 1:7,5	1:7,5 – 1:5	Steeper than 1:5
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Alternative S3 (if any):

Flat	1:50 – 1:20	1:20 – 1:15	1:15 – 1:10	1:10 – 1:7,5	1:7,5 – 1:5	Steeper than 1:5
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2. LOCATION IN LANDSCAPE

Indicate the landform(s) that best describes the site (Please cross the appropriate box).

Alternative S1 (preferred site):

Ridgeline	Plateau	Side slope of hill/mountain	Closed valley	Open valley	Plain	Undulating plain/low hills	Dune	Sea-front
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Alternative S2 (if any):

Ridgeline	Plateau	Side slope of hill/mountain	Closed valley	Open valley	Plain	Undulating plain/low hills	Dune	Sea-front
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Alternative S3 (if any):

Ridgeline	Plateau	Side slope of hill/mountain	Closed valley	Open valley	Plain	Undulating plain/low hills	Dune	Sea-front
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3. GROUNDWATER, SOIL AND GEOLOGICAL STABILITY OF THE SITE

Has a specialist been consulted for the completion of this section?

YES	
-----	--

If YES, please complete the following:

Name of the specialist:	Simphiwe Mtshali		
Qualification(s) of the specialist:	BSc (Hons) Hydrology		
Postal address:	P.O.Box 60545 Karenpark		
Postal code:	0118		
Telephone:	N/A	Cell:	071 307 2675
E-mail:	Simphiwe@magalelas.co.za	Fax:	086 514 7468

Are there any rare or endangered flora or fauna species (including red data species) present on any of the alternative sites? NO

If YES, specify and explain: N/A

Are there any special or sensitive habitats or other natural features present on any of the alternative sites? NO

If YES, specify and explain: N/A

Are any further specialist studies recommended by the specialist? NO

If YES, specify:

If YES, is such a report(s) attached in Appendix D? YES

Signature of specialist: _____ Date:

Is the site(s) located on any of the following (cross the appropriate boxes)?

	Alternative S1:	Alternative S2 (if any):	Alternative S3 (if any):
Shallow water table (less than 1.5m deep)		NO	YES NO
Dolomite, sinkhole or doline areas		NO	YES NO
Seasonally wet soils (often close to water bodies)		NO	YES NO
Unstable rocky slopes or steep slopes with loose soil		NO	YES NO

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Dispersive soils (soils that dissolve in water)		NO	YES	NO	YES	NO
Soils with high clay content (clay fraction more than 40%)		NO	YES	NO	YES	NO
Any other unstable soil or geological feature		NO	YES	NO	YES	NO
An area sensitive to erosion		NO	YES	NO	YES	NO

If you are unsure about any of the above or if you are concerned that any of the above aspects may be an issue of concern in the application, an appropriate specialist should be appointed to assist in the completion of this section. (Information in respect of the above will often be available as part of the project information or at the planning sections of local authorities. Where it exists, the 1:50 000 scale Regional Geotechnical Maps prepared by the Council for Geo Science may also be consulted).

4. GROUND COVER

Has a specialist been consulted for the completion of this section? YES

If YES, please complete the following:

Name of the specialist:	Janet Clare Norris		
Qualification(s) of the specialist:	B-Eng (Hons) Civil Engineering, and MSc Geotechnical Engineering		
Postal address:	P.O.Box 794 HILTON		
Postal code:	3245		
Telephone:	033 343 6789	Cell:	083 300 2422
E-mail:	Terratest- pmb@terratest.co.za	Fax:	033 343 6788

Are there any rare or endangered flora or fauna species (including red data species) present on any of the alternative sites? NO

If YES, specify and explain:

Are there any special or sensitive habitats or other natural features present on any of the alternative sites? NO

If YES, specify and explain:

Are any further specialist studies recommended by the specialist? NO

If YES, specify:

If YES, is such a report(s) attached in Appendix D? YES

Signature of specialist: _____ Date: _____

The location of all identified rare or endangered species or other elements should be accurately indicated on the site plan(s).

Natural veld - good condition	Natural veld with scattered aliens ^E	Natural veld with heavy alien infestation	Veld dominated by alien species
Sport field	Cultivated land	Paved surface	Gardens or other structure
			Bare soil

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If any of the boxes marked with an “E” is ticked, please consult an appropriate specialist to assist in the completion of this section if the environmental assessment practitioner doesn't have the necessary expertise.

5. LAND USE CHARACTER OF SURROUNDING AREA

Cross the land uses and/or prominent features that currently occur within a 500m radius of the site and give a description of how this influences the application or may be impacted upon by the application:

Land use character			Description
Natural area		NO	
Low density residential		NO	
Medium density residential		NO	
High density residential		NO	
Informal residential		NO	
Retail commercial & warehousing		NO	
Light industrial	YES		The property is bordered by several industrial activities.
Medium industrial	YES		
Heavy industrial		NO	
Power station		NO	
Office/consulting room	YES		Offices directly behind the site.
Military or police base/station/compound		NO	
Spoil heap or slimes dam		NO	
Quarry, sand or borrow pit		NO	
Dam or reservoir		NO	
Hospital/medical centre		NO	
School/ crèche		NO	
Tertiary education facility		NO	
Church		NO	
Old age home		NO	
Sewage treatment plant		NO	
Train station or shunting yard		NO	
Railway line	YES		Bordered on the North by a Railway line.
Major road (4 lanes or more)		NO	
Airport		NO	
Harbour		NO	
Sport facilities		NO	
Golf course		NO	
Polo fields		NO	
Filling station		NO	
Landfill or waste treatment site		NO	
Plantation		NO	
Agriculture		NO	
River, stream or wetland		NO	
Nature conservation area		NO	
Mountain, hill or ridge		NO	
Museum		NO	
Historical building		NO	
Protected Area		NO	

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Graveyard	YES		There existing Muslim cemetery and Hindu cemetery.
Archaeological site		NO	
Other land uses (describe)		NO	

6. CULTURAL/HISTORICAL FEATURES

Are there any signs of culturally or historically significant elements, as defined in section 2 of the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999, (Act No. 25 of 1999), including archaeological or paleontological sites, on or within 20m of the site?

NO

If YES, contact a specialist recommended by AMAFA to conduct a heritage impact assessment. The heritage impact assessment must be attached as an appendix to this report.

Briefly explain the recommendations of the specialist:

Will any building or structure older than 60 years be affected in any way?

NO

Is it necessary to apply for a permit in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act 25 of 1999)?

NO

If YES, please submit the necessary application to AMAFA and attach proof thereof to this report.

SECTION D: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

1. ADVERTISEMENT

The person conducting a public participation process must take into account any guidelines applicable to public participation as contemplated in section 24J of the Act and must give notice to all potential interested and affected parties of the application which is subjected to public participation by—

(a) fixing a notice board (of a size at least 60cm by 42cm; and must display the required information in lettering and in a format as may be determined by the competent authority) at a place conspicuous to the public at the boundary or on the fence of—

(i) the site where the activity to which the application relates is or is to be undertaken; and

(ii) any alternative site mentioned in the application;

Notices were placed on site on the 28th of June 2012, one in English and one in isiZulu for public viewing. Refer to Appendix E3 for the site notice details and the photographs of the site notices placed.

(b) giving written notice to—

(i) the owner or person in control of that land if the applicant is not the owner or person in control of the land;

A land owners consent form was signed by the Municipal manager Mr K Masange on the 22nd of May 2012. Refer to Appendix F2

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- (ii) the occupiers of the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken or to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken;
 - (iii) owners and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken or to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken;
On the 28th of June 2012 a Background Information Document (BID) was circulated to occupiers of the land adjacent to the site who are within 100 metres of the proposed site. Refer to Appendix E1
 - (iv) the municipal councillor of the ward in which the site or alternative site is situated and any organisation of ratepayers that represent the community in the area;
Members of the public and the Muslim burial society were present at the first public meeting held on the 12th of July 2012, at the Newcastle City Hall. Written notice was sent to Councillor Matthew Shunmugam.
 - (v) the local and district municipality which has jurisdiction in the area;
Copies of the BID were sent to Amajuba District Municipality on the 28th of June 2012.
 - (vi) any organ of state having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the activity (as identified in the application form for the environmental authorization of this project); and
 - (vii) any other party as required by the competent authority;
See Appendix F 2 for consent from landowner
- (c) placing an advertisement in—
- (i) one local newspaper; or
 - (ii) any official *Gazette* that is published specifically for the purpose of providing public notice of applications or other submissions made in terms of these Regulations;
- (d) placing an advertisement in at least one provincial newspaper or national newspaper, if the activity has or may have an impact that extends beyond the boundaries of the metropolitan or district municipality in which it is or will be undertaken: Provided that this paragraph need not be complied with if an advertisement has been placed in an official *Gazette* referred to in subregulation 54(c)(ii); and
On the 28th of June 2012 notices were placed in the Ilanga Provincial Newspaper and the Newcastle Advertiser. Refer to Appendix E2
- (e) using reasonable alternative methods, as agreed to by the competent authority, in those instances where a person is desiring of but unable to participate in the process due to—
- (i) illiteracy;
 - (ii) disability; or
 - (iii) any other disadvantage

2. CONTENT OF ADVERTISEMENTS AND NOTICES

A notice board, advertisement or notices must:

- (a) indicate the details of the application which is subjected to public participation; and
 - (b) state —
 - (i) that an application for environmental authorization has been submitted to the KZN Department of Agriculture & Environmental Affairs in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2010;
 - (ii) a brief project description that includes the nature and location of the activity to which the application relates;
 - (iii) where further information on the application can be obtained; and
 - (iv) the manner in which and the person to whom representations in respect of the application may be made.
- Refer to Appendix E2&E3 for the content of the Site Notices and Newspaper Advertisements and proof of placement.

3. PLACEMENT OF ADVERTISEMENTS AND NOTICES

Where the proposed activity may have impacts that extend beyond the municipal area where it is located, a notice must be placed in at least one provincial newspaper or national newspaper, indicating that an application will be submitted to the competent authority in terms of these regulations, the nature and location of the activity, where further information on the proposed activity can be obtained and the manner in which representations in respect of the application can be made, unless a notice has been placed in any *Gazette* that is published specifically for the purpose of providing notice to the public of applications made in terms of the EIA regulations.

Advertisements and notices must make provision for all alternatives.

4. DETERMINATION OF APPROPRIATE PROCESS

The EAP must ensure that the public participation process is according to that prescribed in regulation 54 of the EIA Regulations, 2010, but may deviate from the requirements of subregulation 54(2) in the manner agreed by the KZN Department of Agriculture & Environmental Affairs as appropriate for this application. Special attention should be given to the involvement of local community structures such as Ward Committees, ratepayers associations and traditional authorities where appropriate.

Please note that public concerns that emerge at a later stage that should have been addressed may cause the competent authority to withdraw any authorisation it may have issued if it becomes apparent that the public participation process was inadequate.

5. COMMENTS AND RESPONSE REPORT

The practitioner must record all comments and respond to each comment of the public before this application is submitted. The comments and responses must be captured in a comments and response report as prescribed in the EIA regulations (regulation 57 in the EIA Regulations, 2010) and be attached as Appendix E to this report.

No comments were received throughout this process.

6. PARTICIPATION BY DISTRICT, LOCAL AND TRADITIONAL AUTHORITIES

District, local and traditional authorities (where applicable) are all key interested and affected parties in each application and no decision on any application will be made before the relevant local authority is provided with the opportunity to give input. The planning and the environmental sections of the local authority must be informed of this application and provided with an opportunity to comment.

Has any comment been received from the district municipality? NO

If "YES", briefly describe the feedback below (also attach any correspondence to and from this authority with regard to this application):

None received

Has any comment been received from the local municipality? NO

If "YES", briefly describe the feedback below (also attach any correspondence to and from this authority with regard to this application):

The proposed development has been initiated by the Newcastle Local Municipality in response to the existing cemetery that is approaching its capacity.

Has any comment been received from a traditional authority? NO

If "YES", briefly describe the feedback below (also attach any correspondence to and from this authority with regard to this application):

N/A

7. CONSULTATION WITH OTHER STAKEHOLDERS

Any stakeholder that has a direct interest in the site or property, such as servitude holders and service providers, should be informed of the application and be provided with the opportunity to comment.

Has any comment been received from stakeholders? NO

If "YES", briefly describe the feedback below (also attach copies of any correspondence to and from the stakeholders to this application):

N/A

SECTION E: IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The assessment of impacts must adhere to the requirements in the EIA Regulations, 2010, and should take applicable official guidelines into account. The issues raised by interested and affected parties should also be addressed in the assessment of impacts.

1. ISSUES RAISED BY INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES

List the main issues raised by interested and affected parties.

The Hindu Community raised a concern of their own, they expressed that they have a similar cultural

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need, they require a facility in Surrayaville to perform certain rituals in proximity to a river bank and they urge council to give this need urgent attention.

Response from the practitioner to the issues raised by the interested and affected parties (A full response must be given in the Comments and Response Report that must be attached as Appendix E to this report):

There was no response to this matter as it is not directly linked to the current proposed development.

2. IMPACTS THAT MAY RESULT FROM THE PLANNING AND DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, OPERATIONAL, DECOMMISSIONING AND CLOSURE PHASES AS WELL AS PROPOSED MANAGEMENT OF IDENTIFIED IMPACTS AND PROPOSED MITIGATION MEASURES

2.1. IMPACTS THAT MAY RESULT FROM THE PLANNING AND DESIGN PHASE

a. Site alternatives

List the potential impacts associated with site alternatives that are likely to occur during the planning and design phase:

Alternative S1 (preferred alternative)

Direct impacts: Location of the overhead power line structure split the site, leaving less land to be considered for development.

During periods of prolonged rainfall, particularly during the summer season, a marked increase in the occurrence and magnitude of groundwater seepage flow can be anticipated.

Indirect impacts: The site is easily accessible to the community that will be utilising the cemetery.

Cumulative impacts: No cumulative impacts are envisaged for the Planning and Design Phase.

Alternative S2 (if any)

Direct impacts:

Indirect impacts:

Cumulative impacts:

No-go alternative (compulsory)

Direct impacts: The extension of a cemetery is only a short term solution.

The site is in a poor condition due to the illegal dumping. Should no development occur, state of the site will worsen.

Indirect impacts: N/A

Cumulative impacts: There is still a need for Muslim cemetery as extension is not sufficient for future burials; it is only a short term solution.

Indicate mitigation measures to manage the potential impacts listed above:

Alternative S1

Alternative S2

Due to the gently sloping and the relatively flat nature of the ground at proposed site, the ingress of surface water,

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<p>groundwater and storm water run-off should be controlled as far as possible.</p> <p>A site specific construction and operational Environmental Management Plan (EMP) should be compiled and approved prior to construction, as to mark clearly the management with regards to the requirements of the EMP, in particular the monitoring and auditing requirements.</p>	
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b. Process, technology, layout or other alternatives

List the impacts associated with any process, technology, layout or other alternatives that are likely to occur during the planning and design phase (please list impacts associated with each alternative separately):

Alternative A1 (preferred alternative)

Direct impacts: N/A

Indirect impacts: N/A

Cumulative impacts: N/A

Alternative A2 (if any)

Direct impacts:

Indirect impacts:

Cumulative impacts:

No-go alternative (compulsory)

Direct impacts: N/A

Indirect impacts: N/A

Cumulative impacts: N/A

Indicate mitigation measures to manage the potential impacts listed above:

Alternative A1:

Refer to S1 above

Alternative A2:

2.2. IMPACTS THAT MAY RESULT FROM THE CONSTRUCTION PHASE

a. Site alternatives

List the potential impacts associated with site alternatives that are likely to occur during the construction phase:

Alternative S1 (preferred site)

Direct impacts: Excavatability will be the critical geotechnical factor within the site, particularly in areas where the site is underlain by a mantle of fill material ranging from the surface to depth of 2.5m below existing ground level.

The construction phase of a project potentially causes the most disturbances within the receiving environment. During this time there will be a noticeable increase in heavy vehicles utilising Falkirk Street

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to the development site that may cause, at the very least, an inconvenience to other land owners in the area. Slow moving vehicles, if utilising public access routes could cause congestion during funerals or when visiting grave of a loved one.

Short-term negative impacts on the air quality will occur from heavy equipment, dust and exhaust fumes during construction phase.

Due to the gently sloping and the relatively flat nature of the ground at the Cemetery, the ingress of surface water, groundwater and storm water run-off should be controlled as far as possible.

Indirect impacts: Difficulty in removal of the dumped material covering majority of the site.

Cumulative impacts: Generation of solid waste, and all waste be produced as a result of construction activities and presence of workers on the site. There will have to be waste removal contractors to collect, remove and dispose of waste generated at the site. It will be necessary to ensure that the waste is disposed of at a licensed waste disposal site or landfill site.

Alternative S2 (if any)

Direct impacts:

Indirect impacts:

Cumulative impacts:

No-go alternative (compulsory)

Direct impacts: If there is no development no construction related impacts will occur.

Indirect impacts: No negative impacts are foreseen for the no-go alternative, as negative impacts associated with construction would not occur.

Cumulative impacts: No cumulative impacts

Indicate mitigation measures to manage the potential impacts listed above:

Alternative S1

Alternative S2

The digging of graves should be undertaken using an excavator or alternatively Tractor Loader Backactor.(TLB)

Storm water measures should be channelled to the municipal storm water system without casing erosion.

The Municipality will require massive resources for the removal of the dumped material.

b. Process, technology, layout or other alternatives

List the impacts associated with process, technology, layout or other alternatives that are likely to occur during the construction phase (please list impacts associated with each alternative separately):

Alternative A1 (preferred alternative)

Direct impacts: N/A

Indirect impacts: N/A

Cumulative impacts: N/A

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Alternative A2

Direct impacts:

Indirect impacts:

Cumulative impacts: N/A

No-go alternative (compulsory)

Direct impacts: N/A

Indirect impacts: N/A

Cumulative impacts: N/A

Indicate mitigation measures to manage the potential impacts listed above:

Alternative A1:

Alternative A2:

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2.3. IMPACTS THAT MAY RESULT FROM THE OPERATIONAL PHASE

a. Site alternatives

List the potential impacts associated with site alternatives that are likely to occur during the operational phase:

Alternative S1 (preferred alternative)

Direct impacts: During the operational phase of the cemetery, traffic in the area could be increased, especially over weekends, as a result of funeral services. This could cause traffic congestion.

During excavation of graves windblown dust could affect the surrounding environment.

The operational phase of the proposed activity could result in the generation of litter and waste.

Decomposing corpses produce a variety of pathogenic organisms, including bacteria and other viruses, if cemetery is poorly managed, this may cause contamination to the groundwater therefore posing potential health hazard to those who come into contact with this polluted water.

Indirect impacts: N/A

Cumulative impacts: Potential cumulative affects regarding the contamination of ground and surface water sources.

Alternative S2 (if any)

Direct impacts:

Indirect impacts:

Cumulative impacts:

No-go alternative (compulsory)

Direct impacts: If there is no development, no operation related impacts will occur.

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Indirect impacts: During operational phase this cemetery is bound to reach its maximum capacity soon, as the land is insufficient.

Cumulative impacts: N/A

Indicate mitigation measures to manage the potential impacts listed above:

Alternative S1

Alternative S2

Appropriate traffic management measures shall be put in place.

Dust suppression measures in the form of dampening with water shall be used particularly during dry and windy periods of weather.

Waste bins would be provided and waste be removed regularly

b. Process, technology, layout or other alternatives

List the impacts associated with process, technology, layout or other alternatives that are likely to occur during the operational phase (please list impacts associated with each alternative separately):

Alternative A1 (preferred alternative)

Direct impacts: N/A

Indirect impacts: N/A

Cumulative impacts: N/A

Alternative A2

Direct impacts:

Indirect impacts:

Cumulative impacts:

No-go alternative (compulsory)

Direct impacts: N/A

Indirect impacts: N/A

Cumulative impacts: N/A

Indicate mitigation measures to manage the potential impacts listed above:

Alternative A1

Alternative A2

2.4. IMPACTS THAT MAY RESULT FROM THE DECOMMISSIONING OR CLOSURE PHASE

a. Site alternatives

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List the potential impacts associated with site alternatives that are likely to occur during the decommissioning or closure phase:

Cemeteries are only decommissioned once full capacity is reached after which it is still under kept for families to come and visit grave sites. However should the cemetery be decommissioned no additional impact to those identified during the construction and operational phases would be incurred. The correct legal procedure would need to be undertaken should the site be required, after decommissioning for development purposes.

Alternative S1 (preferred alternative)

Direct impacts:

Indirect impacts:

Cumulative impacts:

Alternative S2

Direct impacts:

Indirect impacts:

Cumulative impacts:

No-go alternative (compulsory)

Direct impacts:

Indirect impacts:

Cumulative impacts:

Indicate mitigation measures to manage the potential impacts listed above:

Alternative S1

Alternative S2

b. Process, technology, layout or other alternatives

List the impacts associated with process, technology, layout or other alternatives that are likely to occur during the decommissioning or closure phase (please list impacts associated with each alternative separately):

Alternative A1 (preferred alternative)

Direct impacts: N/A

Indirect impacts: N/A

Cumulative impacts: N/A

Alternative A2

Direct impacts:

Indirect impacts:

Cumulative impacts:

No-go alternative (compulsory)

Indicate mitigation measures to manage the potential impacts listed above:

Alternative A1

Alternative A2

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2.5. PROPOSED MONITORING AND AUDITING

For each phase of the project and for each alternative, please indicate how identified impacts and mitigation will be monitored and/or audited.

Alternative S1 (preferred site)	Alternative S2
<p>The final design layout of the development must be approved by the Municipality prior to the start of any construction activities</p> <p>An Environment Conservation Officer (ECO) should be appointed for the construction phase.</p> <p>The Regular auditing of construction activities to include site inspections and completion of compliance reports should be undertaken at the start during and after the completion of construction activities Compliance reports must be submitted to DAEA.</p> <p>During construction the ECO must always be available to answer questions and record complaints from the public. A complaints register must be kept by the ECO. The complaints must be reported to the developer who must address all complaints and record, in the complaints register how each complaint has been addressed.</p> <p>The construction complaints register must be available to the public, Municipality and DAEA on request and should form part of the compliance reports.</p> <p>A Municipal cemetery operator or manager will be appointed to: manage the cemetery staff; check/service digging machinery; inspect work undertaken on site; and maintain a true and faithful register of all burials in the cemetery.</p> <p>The table of requirements as set out in Appendix G.1 must be complied with during an environmental audit by the ECO and/or Municipal cemetery operator or manager.</p>	
Alternative A1 (preferred alternative)	Alternative A2

3. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Taking the assessment of potential impacts into account, please provide an environmental impact statement that summarises the impact that the proposed activity and its alternatives may have on the environment after the management and mitigation of impacts have been

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taken into account, with specific reference to types of impact, duration of impacts, likelihood of potential impacts actually occurring and the significance of impacts.

Alternative S1 (preferred site)

This site has been assessed to be suitable for the development of a cemetery as there will be minimal negative impacts on the environment as this site is currently being used as an illegal dumping site. The proposed development will not have any significant environmental impact providing that the mitigation and monitoring measures are followed through.

Alternative S2

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Alternative A1 (preferred alternative)

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Alternative A2

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No-go alternative (compulsory)

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SECTION F. RECOMMENDATION OF EAP

Is the information contained in this report and the documentation attached hereto in the view of the EAPr sufficient to make a decision in respect of this report?

If "NO", please contact the KZN Department of Agriculture & Environmental Affairs regarding the further requirements for your report.

YES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>

If "YES", please attach the draft EMPr as Appendix F to this report and list any recommended conditions, including mitigation measures that should be considered for inclusion in any authorisation that may be granted by the competent authority in respect of the application:

N/A

SECTION G: APPENDIXES

The following appendixes must be attached as appropriate:

Appendix A: Site plan(s)

Appendix B: Photographs

Appendix C: Facility illustration(s)

Appendix D: Specialist reports

Appendix E: Comments and responses report

Appendix F: Draft Environmental Management Programme (EMPr)

Appendix G: Other information

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