



## **NOTIFICATION AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT (BID)**

Integrated Water Use Licence Application for an irrigation dam on Portion 2 of Farm Waterfall 996 JT, 20km northwest of Barberton, Ehlanzeni District Municipality, Mpumalanga Province.

### **PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT**

The purpose of this document is to provide notification of and background information to the proposed project and to obtain comments, contributions & appeals from stakeholders with regards to potential water resource impacts – which includes (but is not limited to): ecological, social, economic, physical, aesthetic, etc.

When an applicant proposes to undertake a Section 21 water use, an application must be made for a license, where other forms of water use authorization are not applicable. The application must be supported by a report, which has been compiled as a result of an assessment process.

Ecoleges, as an independent Environmental Consultant, has been appointed to manage the Public Participation Process (PPP) as part of the Integrated Water Use License Application (IWULA) which will be undertaken in accordance with Regulations 17 to 19 of the Water Use License Regulations (GN No. R.267, 24 March 2017) and section 41(4) of the National Water Act (Act 36 of 1998), taking into consideration the Public Participation 2017 Guideline Document (DEA, 2017). The IWULA will be submitted to and reviewed by the relevant competent authority, namely the Inkomati-Usuthu Catchment Management Agency (IUCMA), as the appointed agents on behalf of the provincial Department of Water & Sanitation (DWS).

**YOUR COMMENTS WILL FORM PART OF THE IWUL  
APPLICATION REPORT**

## **APPLICABLE LEGISLATION**

An Integrated Water Use License Application (**IWULA**) under the provisions of the National Water (Act No. 36 of 1998 (NWA)) is required for several water uses on the property including:

- Section 21 (b): storing of water (storing of water in an earthen dam);
- Section 21 (c) - Impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse (the dam impedes flow in an ephemeral tributary of the Noordkaap River); and
- Section 21 (i) - altering the bed, banks, course or characteristics of a watercourse (the bed & banks of the tributary are affected by the dam wall).

Section 21(a): taking of water for irrigation from the Noordkaap River, has already been declared an Existing Lawful Use by the IUCMA, and will not form part of this application.

## **PROJECT DESCRIPTION & PURPOSE**

ECOLEGES were appointed by Greyvan Investments (Pty) Ltd, to undertake an Integrated Water Use License Application (IWULA) for an existing (since 2010) irrigation dam on Portion 2 of the Farm Waterfall 996 JT, Ehlanzeni District Municipality, Mpumalanga Province.

The overall objective is to undertake and complete a robust and defensible IWULA process that will serve to inform the IUCMA's (DWS) decision on issuance of the requisite license.

## **DESCRIPTION OF TASKS**

Regulations 17 to 19 outline the full details of the tasks that must be undertaken in fulfillment of a complete Public Participation Process, which includes:

- An advertisement was placed today in the Laevelder Newspaper;
- Stakeholders, including the owners of the adjacent properties, and the relevant authorities will be notified of the proposed development in writing;
- Notice boards advertising the applications will be placed at the site.

## LOCATION

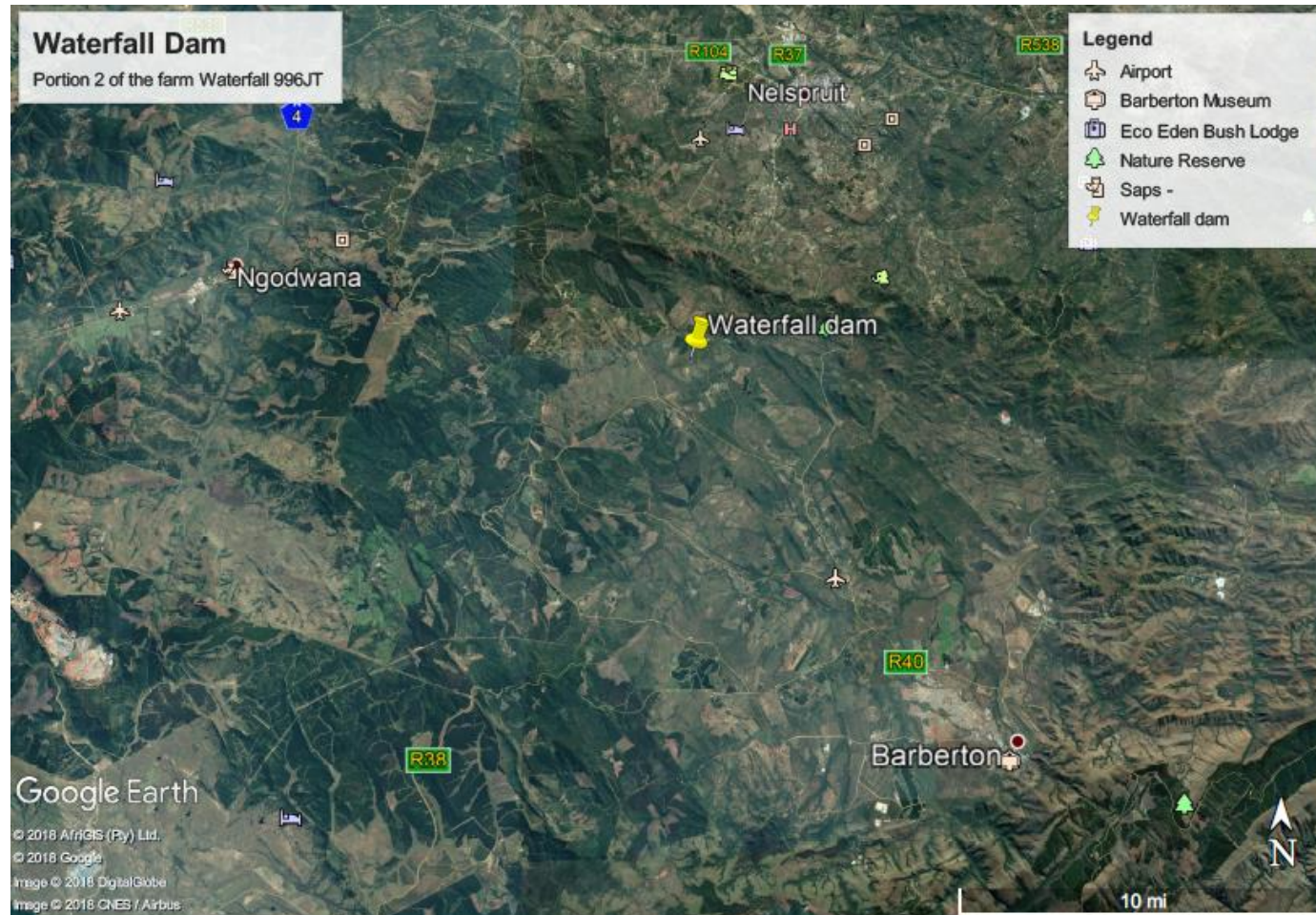


Figure 1. The yellow pin in the top-center, indicates the location of the Waterfall Dam on Portion 2 of Farm Waterfall 996 JT, between Nelspruit and Barberton, west of the R40.

## ANTICIPATED ISSUES

Preliminary issues that may be addressed in the Report could include the following:

- Aquatic studies including Present Ecological Status;
- Wetland Delineation (including 1:100-year flood line & Riparian zone determinations);
- Surface water hydrology;

### ***YOUR COMMENTS PLEASE!***

Your comments on the proposed projects, the public participation process, and issues needing investigation, will assist the technical studies and the authorities in their consideration of the relevant environmental and social aspects.

You are invited to register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) and to assist us in:

- identifying possible impacts of the proposed developments on the environment & water resource,
- making suggestions for mitigation and / or alternatives, and
- considering the “need” and “desirability”.

## **Mitigations**

Mitigation measures will be developed for the anticipated issues. Stakeholders are however welcome to comment on these issues and provide additional observations.

## **Alternatives**

Consideration of “Alternatives” is one element of the IWULA process. Its role is to provide a framework for sound decision-making based on the principle of sustainable development. Alternatives should be identified as early as possible in the project cycle. Ecoleges not only welcomes stakeholders’ inputs / suggestions, but also urges the public to submit possible alternatives.

It is important to note that an alternative is defined as a 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.

When submitting alternatives, the recommended alternative must be:

- Practicable,
- **Feasible**,
- Relevant,

- **Reasonable** and
- Viable.

**Need and Desirability**

'Need and desirability' is determined by considering the broader societal / community needs and interests. The general meaning of need and desirability refers to time and place, respectively, i.e. is this the right time and is it the right place for locating the proposed activity.

In order to ensure that you are registered as an interested and/or affected party, please complete the enclosed REGISTRATION AND COMMENT SHEET and forward it to the address, fax or email provided below.

**Postal Address:**

P.O. Box 9005	P.O. Box 516
Nelspruit	Machadodorp
1200	1170

**Fax:** 086 697 9316

**E-mail:** [justin@ecoleges.co.za](mailto:justin@ecoleges.co.za)

**OR**

Visit us at:

**Physical address:**

2 Generaal Street  
Machadodorp  
1170

**Cell:** 082 451 5608

# REGISTRATION AND COMMENT SHEET

## WATERFALL DAM I&AP REGISTRATION

ECOLEGES REFERENCE: 2017\_009P

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name / Interest Group: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal or Residential Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Town/City: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

A registered interested and affected party is entitled to comment, in writing, on all written submissions including draft reports made to the competent authority provided that - (c) the interested and affected party discloses any direct business, financial, personal or other interest which that party may have in the approval or refusal of the application. Please supply such information in the space provided below:

---



---



---



---

Please indicate with an **X** whether you would like to be kept informed of the IWULA process.

YES, I would like to be kept informed	
NO, I am not interested	

If "YES", how would you like to be informed? (please mark the appropriate block with an "X")

E-mail	
Fax	

**COMMENTS:** (If you require more space than that which is provided, please attach additional pages)

[illegible]

**Thank you for your participation**

Please be assured that your comments will form part of the final document to be submitted to the decision-making authority

Please complete and return this Registration and Comment sheet to **JUSTIN BOWERS** by no later than 60 days following the date of this notice.

Please feel free to phone us on 082 451 5608, should you not have access to fax or e-mail