
**PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF A MIDLANDS BIOGAS
AND FERTILISER PLANT, UMSHWATHI LOCAL
MUNICIPALITY, KWAZULU-NATAL (Ref. No. 4123). -
STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION DOCUMENT**



1. Introduction

Jeffares & Green (Pty) Ltd have been appointed by Midlands Biogas and Fertiliser, a subsidiary company of Renen Energy Solutions and Sunshine Seedling Services, to undertake the environmental services required for the proposed construction of a Biogas and Fertiliser Plant adjacent to Sunshine Seedling Services, north-east of Copesville, Pietermaritzburg, KwaZulu-Natal. This Stakeholder Notification Document aims to inform Interested and Affected Parties (IAPs) of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Waste Management Licence Application (WML) process that is being conducted. All issues and comments raised by IAPs during the process will be documented in the compiled Basic Assessment Report. This will assist in the identification of environmental issues that could have a negative, and/or positive, impact on the site and the community.

2. The Environmental Legal Framework

In accordance with the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) and the EIA Regulations (2014), the following Listed Activities are triggered:

- GN R 983, Activity 14: *“The development of facilities or infrastructure, for the storage, or for the storage and handling of a dangerous good, where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity of 80 cubic metres or more, but not exceeding 500 cubic meters.”*
- GNR 983, Activity 28: *“Residential, mixed, retail, commercial, industrial or institutional developments where such land was used for agriculture or afforestation on or after 1 April 1998 and where such development (ii) occurs outside an urban area, where the total land to be developed is bigger than 1ha; excluding where such land has already been developed for residential, mixed, retail, commercial, industrial or institutional purposes.”*

In accordance with the National Environmental Waste Management Act (Act 59 of 2008), the following Listed Activities are triggered:

- Category A, Activity 5: *“The recovery of waste including the refining, utilization or co-processing of waste in excess of 10 tons, but less than 100 tons of general waste per day or in excess of 500kg, but less than 1 ton of hazardous waste per day, excluding recovery that takes place as an integral part of an internal manufacturing process within the same premises.”*
- Category A, Activity 12: *“The construction of a facility for a waste management activity listed in Category A of this Schedule (not in isolation to associated waste management activity).”*
- Category C, Activity 1: *“The storage of general waste at a facility that has the capacity to store in excess of 100m³ of general waste at any one time, excluding the storage of waste in lagoons or temporary storage of such waste.”*

As such, Environmental Authorisation and a Waste Management License will be applied for prior to construction commencing. The Competent Authority mandated to make a decision in this regard is the Provincial Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs.

3. Project Description

The proposed development will entail the construction of a Biogas and Fertiliser Plant in the uMshwathi Local Municipality (please refer to Locality Map: Appendix 1). The primary input of the Plant is animal manure, proposed to be sourced from a local feedlot. The animal manure is mixed with water to the desired consistency and processed via an anaerobic digester. The estimated input of animal manure, running at full capacity, will be 18 tons/day. The outputs are threefold, namely:

- 80m³/day liquid fertiliser;
- 6 tons/day solid compost; and
- 40 – 8m³/day biogas.

In terms of utilization, the following will apply:

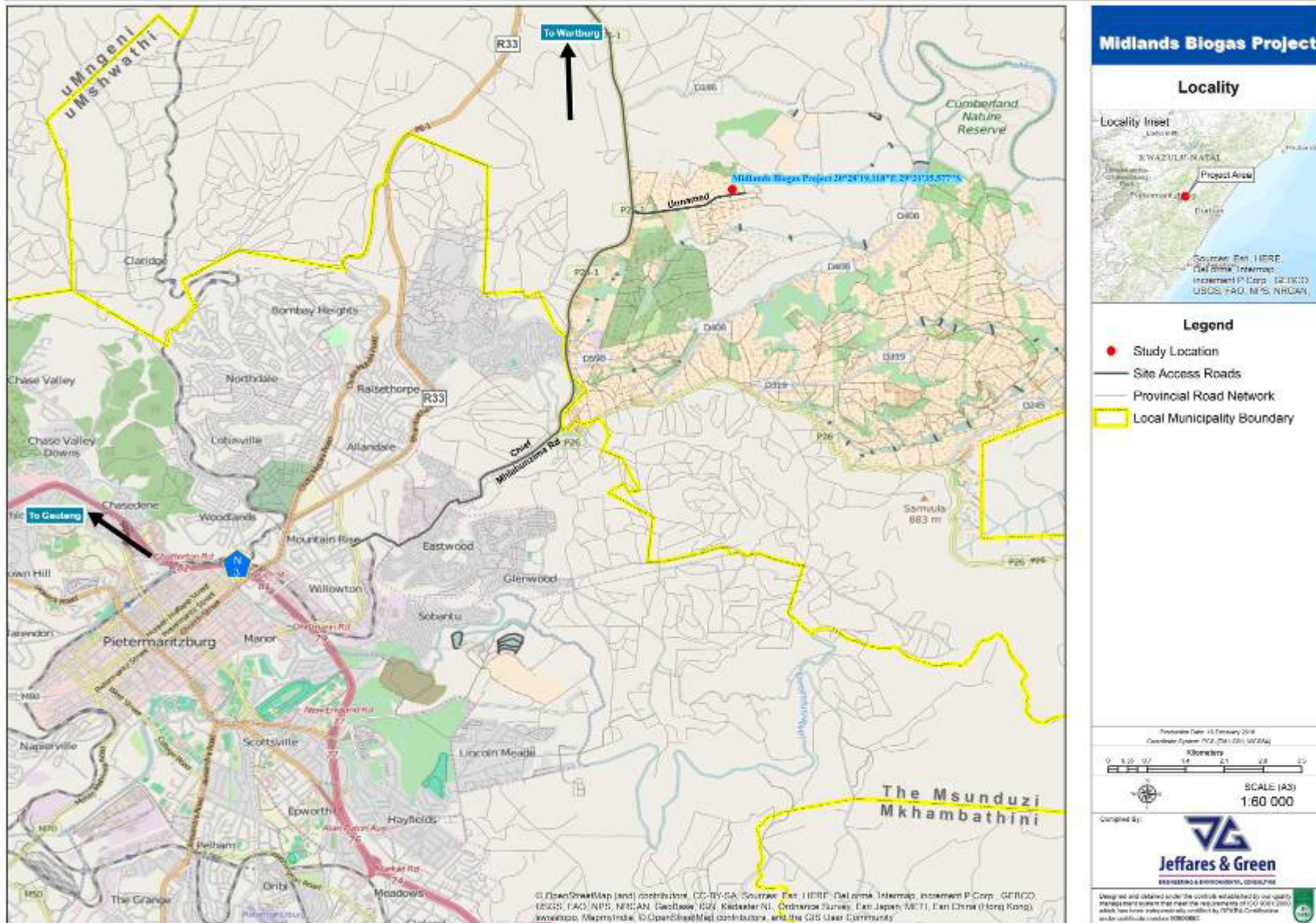
- The liquid fertiliser will be used at the existing Sunshine Seedlings nursery (resulting in a net zero water use by the Biogas and Fertiliser Plant);
- The compost will be applied to existing sugarcane fields and will be utilized in the existing Sunshine Seedlings nursery; and
- The biogas will be utilized as a fuel source for heating the existing Sunshine Seedlings nursery tunnels during the winter months; firing boilers in a purpose-built essential oil distillery and for generating electricity in a closed combustion engine which will assist in powering the Biogas and Fertiliser Plant. Any excess biogas generated will be flared.

4. How do I participate?


All IAPs are invited to register in the Environmental Process and be kept informed of progress, as and when, developments occur. In this regard, please provide Jeffares & Green (Pty) Ltd with your contact details, including name, surname, contact telephone and fax number, email address and reason for interest, as provided in the attached IAP Registration Form (Appendix 2). It is important that all IAPs register in the process in order to be notified of future developments.

Lastly, all Key Stakeholders and IAPs registered in this Application are hereby informed of Section 3(4) of GNR 982 of the EIA Regulations (2014) which states, *“When a State Department is requested to comment in terms of these Regulations, such State Department must submit its comments in writing within 30 days from the date on which it was requested to submit comments, and if such State Department fails to submit comments within such 30 days, it will be regarded that such State Department has no comments.”* This regulation will be enforced when the Draft Basic Assessment Report is submitted to State Departments for comment. Further, all IAPs are notified of Section 3(8) of GNR 982 of the EIA Regulations (2014) which states, *“Any public participation process must be conducted for a period of least 30 days.”* In this regard, all registered IAPs will be afforded the opportunity to comment on the Draft and Final Basic Assessment Report for a period of 30 days.

APPENDIX 1: LOCALITY MAP



APPENDIX 2: IAP REGISTRATION FORM

<p>PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF A MIDLANDS BIOGAS AND FERTILISER PLANT, UMSHWATI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, KWAZULU-NATAL. (Ref. No. 4123).</p> <p>STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION DOCUMENT</p>			
<p>COMPLETE AND RETURN TO THE DESIGNATED EAP:</p>		<p>Ms Imke Summers, Email: summersi@jgi.co.za Terratest (Pty) Ltd PO Box 794, Hilton, 3245 Tel: (033) 343 6700, Fax: (033) 343 6789</p>	
NAME OF IAP:			
CONTACT NUMBER:			
FAX NUMBER:			
EMAIL ADDRESS:			
POSTAL ADDRESS:			
<p>Reason for interest in the proposed project:</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p>			
OTHER IAPS THAT SHOULD BE CONTACTED WITH REGARDS TO THIS PROJECT:			
Name:		Name:	
Contact Number:		Contact Number:	
Email Address:		Email Address:	