

**Date:** 13 August 2020

**Email reply to:** [Simitha@wallaceandgreen.co.za](mailto:Simitha@wallaceandgreen.co.za)

**Our Ref:** WG1.19010

**Attention:** Ms. Natasha Brijlal

**Subject:** Public Participation Plan for the Regent Estate Development

Dear Natasha

Wallace and Green has been appointed to undertake the Basic Assessment Process for the Regent Estate Development, which is located on REM of Portion 1, 2, 8 and 9 of Erf 764 Westville. The total extent of the site is approximately 7.6ha and is located in Ward 92 of the eThekweni Metropolitan. The residential development will entail the construction of two-bedroom units, internal roads, a low volume on site package plant as well as water, sewer and stormwater infrastructure.

As per the Directions issued by the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment, stipulated in Government Notice No.650, dated 05<sup>th</sup> June 2020, new and pending applications for Environmental Authorisation where a Public Participation Process (PPP) as contemplated in Chapter 6 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (as amended), is required, a Public Participation Plan needs to be compiled by the Environmental Assessment Practitioner and approved by the Competent Authority. This document makes reference to the Public Participation Plan for the Regent Estate Development.

#### **Written Notices and Background Information Document (BID)**

A Background Information Document and notification with an invitation to register as an I&AP were distributed as follows:

- Emailed to relevant stakeholders and identified IAPs on the 7<sup>th</sup> August 2020;
- Hand delivered to adjacent properties on the 7<sup>th</sup> August 2020.
- Contacted the Councillor of Ward 92, Ms Jabu Alice Dlamini who indicated that she would also disseminate the BID/Information on the project.

In addition to distributing BIDs, the following was undertaken to identify I&APs:

- Posted on WhatsApp, Facebook and Westville community Facebook pages/groups on the 6<sup>th</sup> August 2020 - Requested feedback from individuals that live in the Athol Heights vicinity or knows of anyone that resides in the area, aware of a neighbourhood watch or a social media group for the residents in the area.
- Contacted Nkosi Security's Head Office (Neighbourhood Watch) to determine if there is any community WhatsApp Groups for the Athol Heights area.

#### **Public Notices/Site Notices**

Site notes were displayed on the 6<sup>th</sup> August 2020 at the Site, entrance to Scone Place and Caltex Athol Heights Service Station.

## **Advertisements**

An advert was placed in The Mercury for the 12<sup>th</sup> August 2020, which provides information on the project scope of works, location, dates for the review of the draft Basic Assessment Report, details of EAP as well as requested for potential I&APs to register themselves in order to get further information on the project and the EIA process.

## **Draft Basic Assessment Report Review**

The Draft Basic Assessment Report inclusive of specialist reports and Environmental Management Programme (EMPr), will go out for public comment from the 14<sup>th</sup> August – 16<sup>th</sup> September 2020. Due to the COVID – 19 pandemic, the documents will be available on the Wallace and Green's website: [www.wallaceandgreen.co.za](http://www.wallaceandgreen.co.za) or can be made available electronically upon request to I&APs. All stakeholders were contacted on the 11<sup>th</sup> August 2020 to confirm requirements in terms of safety regulations and the distribution for the review and comment of the DBAR.

The draft Basic Assessment Report, will be distributed for comment prior to an application for environmental authorisation being submitted to the competent authority, the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Economic Affairs, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (EDTEA). This is in keeping with Regulation 40(3) of the EIA Regulations, 2014 which provides that *"Potential or registered interested and affected parties, including the competent authority, may be provided with an opportunity to comment on reports and plans contemplated in subregulation (1) prior to submission of an application but must be provided with an opportunity to comment on such reports once an application has been submitted to the competent authority."*

Once the public commenting period has ended, all comments/concerns will be addressed and responded too. These comments will be included into the Final BAR which will be submitted to EDTEA for assessment and decision, subsequent to submitting the Application Form for Environmental Authorisation to EDTEA. All final reports will also be made available to registered I&AP's once an application has been submitted to the competent authority.

## **Issues Trail**

An Issues Trail, which summarises the objections and comments from the PPP will be provided in the Final Basic Assessment Report.

## **Ongoing I&AP / Stakeholder communication**

The project team will have ongoing communication with I&AP's to ensure the continued involvement of all stakeholders and I&AP throughout the EIA process.

I trust that EDTEA finds this Public Participation Plan in order.

Yours faithfully

**Wallace and Green (Pty) Ltd**



**Simitha Koobair**

**Certified Environmental Assessment Practitioner**