

PURPOSE OF THE DOCUMENT

To provide the reader with information about the activities that will take place in the area and facilitate the review of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process.

- To introduce the Richmond Erosion Control Structures to the Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) and the other stakeholders
- Provide an opportunity to comment, raise issues and concerns about the project
- Introduce the process to be undertaken in achieving the goal of erosion prevention
- Outline how the I&APs should get involved in the project.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Richmond commonage land is under threat from severe erosion, which has resulted in the formation of a donga and a gully. The land is leased by 31 new small scale farmers; of who nine (9) are women and all make a living by farming with livestock. Erosion is the process by which soil is removed from the ground by wind and/or water. The loss of fertile soils through erosion results in the damage & loss of vegetation, which is the feed source for the livestock.

According to the undated Ubuntu Municipality's Spatial Development Framework (SDF), the economic activity of the local community is concentrated on agricultural activities – extensive sheep, goat and cattle farming. The Richmond commonage land occurs on a floodplain, which has a high grazing potential because of the palatable vegetation, and the erosion taking place will deprive the farming community of a sustainable living. Therefore erosion must be stopped, and the donga be rehabilitated and stabilized through the proposed erosion control structures, and only then a grazing management plan can be implemented to ensure a sustainable grazing within the carrying capacity of the land.

PROJECT INFORMATION

The commonage land is located on the following co-ordinates: 31° 23'13.99"S; 23° 58' 24.22"E and 31° 23'18.04"S; 23° 58'21.27"E, west of the N1 (towards Hanover) and northwest of Richmond Town (**See Figure 1: Locality Plan**).

The proposed infrastructure will consist of the following

- Erosion/Donga control and reclamation structures made of steel and concrete material.

The construction of the erosion control structures is listed in terms of the NEMA (Act No. 107 of 1998) and must be authorised by the Northern Cape Department of Environment and Conservation (NC DENC) via the Basic Assessment Process (GN R544 of 18 June 2010). This project falls under the UBUNTU LOCAL MUNICIPALITY. Project reference number is: NC/BA/PIX/UBU/RICH/2012

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)

Environmental Impact Assessment is a process of identifying, predicting, analyzing and communicating information about an activity with a potential to detrimentally impact on the environment (biophysical and socio-economic).

Through an EIA, the Authority (NC DENC) would be able to make an informed decision about the potential impacts the establishment of the De Aar hospital will have on the environment.

The EIA process to be undertaken is the Basic Assessment Report

The process to be followed during the Basic Assessment Process is outlined below in **Figure 2: Basic Assessment Process**.



Figure 1: Locality Plan

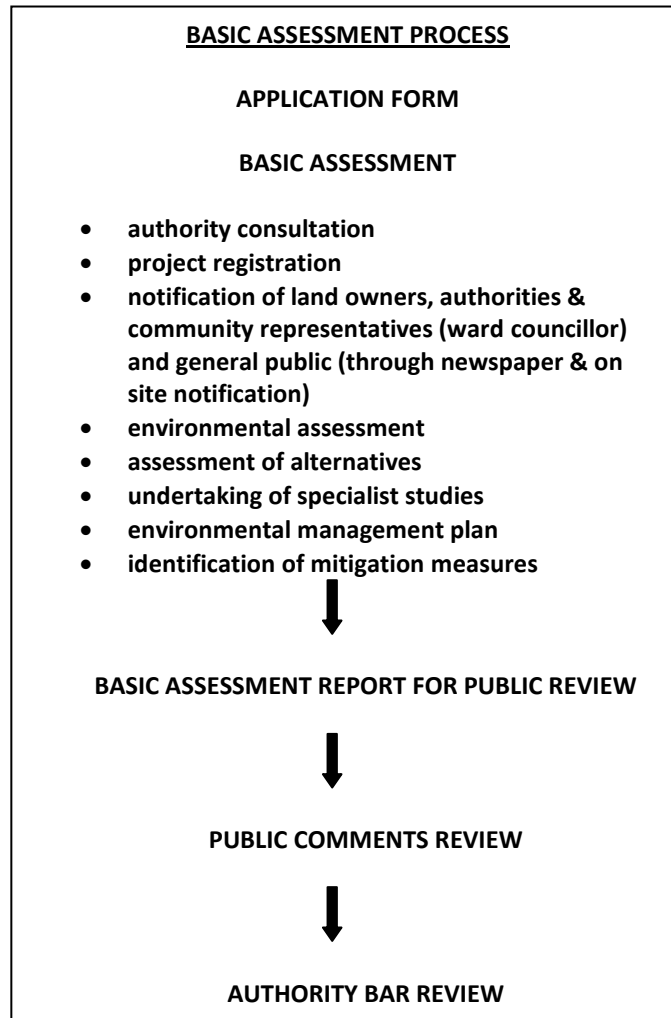


Figure 2: Basic Assessment Process



HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

- By registering as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP)
- Mail, fax or e-mail the attached registration and comments form to SHE Management Consultants
- Provide us your details and other persons you think must know about the project
- Review the BAR to be circulated to the I&APs and in Public Places such as the Ubuntu Municipality office (once the report becomes available), and the registered I&APs will be automatically notified.

COMMENTS AND QUERIES

Contact: Rion Rossouw

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Comments must be provided before: 27 October 2012 (40days)



FAX RESPONSE FORM

**BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE EROSION CONTROL & RECLAMATION STRUCTURES,
RICHMOND, NORTHERN CAPE**

Please provide your responses before 27 October 2012

I wish to bring to the attention of the project team the following comments or concerns (please use additional sheets of paper if required)

Attention: R. Rossouw

Fax no. 0862682645

Name of respondent: _____

Organisation/Company: _____

Address: _____

Fax no.: _____

Tel/Cell no.: _____

E-mail: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____