Site Sensitivity Verification Report Decommissioning of the University of Pretoria's Onderstepoort Incinerator



#### 1. PROJECT TITLE

Decommissioning of the University of Pretoria's Onderstepoort Incinerator.

#### 2. APPLICANT DETAILS

Applicant Name: University of Pretoria

Postal Address: Private Bag X20, Hatfield, 0028

## 3. ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER DETAILS FOR COMPILATION OF THIS REPORT

- Environmental Assessment Practitioner Company: EARTHnSKY Environmental (Pty) Ltd.
- Contact Person: Lizette Kloppers
- Postal Address: PO Box 5419, Rietvalleirand, 0174
- Telephone Number: 061 524 2211 / 067 021 3401
- Fax Number: 086 552 6837
- Email Address: lizette@earthnsky.co.za / lizette.earthnsky@gmail.com
- Qualifications and expertise of the EAP to prepare the Report: MSc Environmental Management University of London External Programme; More than 9 years' experience as an EAP
- Professional affiliation/registration: SACNASP Reg. No. 115453; EAPASA Reg No. 2019/767

The EAP's CV is attached at the end of this document.

#### 4. SITE SENSITIVITY VERIFICATION

#### 4.1 Introduction

The following is stipulated for Site Sensitivity Verifications in terms of the Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on identified Environmental Themes in terms of Sections 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, when applying for Environmental Authorisation (GN No. 320 of 20 March 2020):

- 1.1 The site sensitivity verification must be undertaken by an environmental assessment practitioner or a specialist.
- 1.2. The site sensitivity verification must be undertaken through the use of:
  - (a) a desk top analysis, using satellite imagery;
  - (b) a preliminary on-site inspection; and
  - (c) any other available and relevant information.
- 1.3. The outcome of the site sensitivity verification must be recorded in the form of a report that-
  - (a) confirms or disputes the current use of the land and the environmental sensitivity as identified by the screening tool, such as new developments or infrastructure, the change in vegetation cover or status etc.;
  - (b) contains a motivation and evidence (e.g. photographs) of either the verified or different use of the land and environmental sensitivity; and
  - (c) is submitted together with the relevant assessment report prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (EIA Regulations).

#### 4.2 Project Site Sensitivity Verification

#### 4.2.1 Screening Report

The Screening Report for the project site, as generated on the National Web based Environmental Screening Tool, identified the following site environmental sensitivities:

#### Low sensitivities:

Aquatic Biodiversity Theme

#### Medium sensitivities:

- Agriculture Theme
- Animal Species Theme
- Plant Species Theme
- Defence Theme

#### High sensitivities:

- Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Theme
- Civil Aviation Theme

#### Very high sensitivities:

Terrestrial Biodiversity Theme

The following specialist assessments were identified in the Screening Report for inclusion in the Basic Assessment Report for the proposed project:

- Landscape/Visual Impact Assessment
- Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment
- Palaeontology Impact Assessment
- Terrestrial Biodiversity Impact Assessment
- Aquatic Biodiversity Impact Assessment
- Civil Aviation Assessment
- Defense Assessment
- RFI (Radio Frequency Interference) Assessment
- Geotechnical Assessment
- Plant Species Assessment
- Animal Species Assessment

In terms of the Screening Report, it is the responsibility of the Environmental Assessment Practitioner to confirm the list of specialist assessments and motivate in the Basic Assessment Report the reason for any of the specialist assessments that were not conducted and included in the assessment report, including the provision of photographic evidence of the site situation in such cases.

## 4.2.2 Discussion of each Environmental Theme, required Specialist Assessments and Compliance Statements

The Environmental Assessment Practitioner for this project has undertaken the Site Sensitivity Verification and has made use of the following information in order to compile this report:

- (a) a desk top analysis, using satellite imagery; and
- (b) a preliminary on-site inspection on 13 August 2020.

#### Aquatic Biodiversity Theme (low sensitivity)

The site is in a completely disturbed state and there are no aquatic features present. This is confirmed by the site photographs (evidence) provided under Section 4.2.3 below. The site was visited on 13 August 2020 (during the winter season) and the duration of the site inspection was two (2) hours. The "low" Aquatic Biodiversity Theme sensitivity, as stated in the Screening Report, is hereby confirmed by the EAP. It is concluded that an Aquatic Biodiversity Impact Assessment is not required for the proposed project.

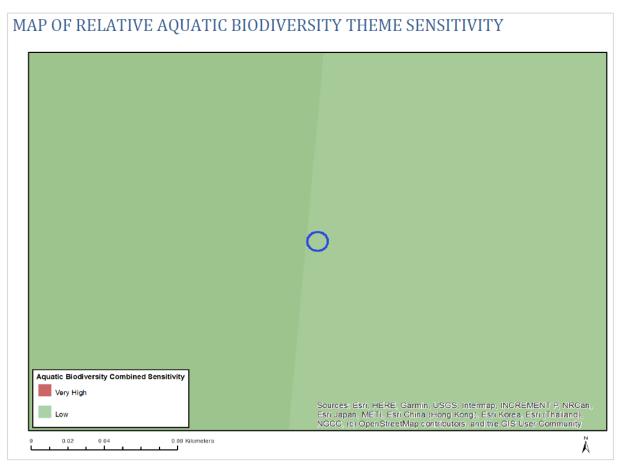


Figure 1: Screening Report overlay map of the project site and the Aquatic Biodiversity Sensitivity

#### Agriculture Theme (medium sensitivity) Compliance Statement

The site is in a completely disturbed state and there are no agricultural areas present. This is confirmed by the site photographs (evidence) provided under Section 4.2.3 below. The proposed project will not have any impacts upon agricultural production capabilities of the site (as the site is completely disturbed). The "medium" Agricultural Theme sensitivity, as stated in the Screening Report, is hereby refuted by the EAP. The sensitivity should rather be "low".

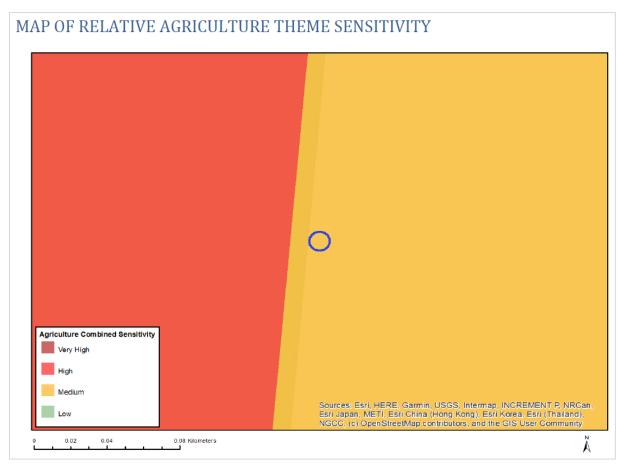


Figure 2: Screening Report overlay map of the project site and the Agricultural Sensitivity

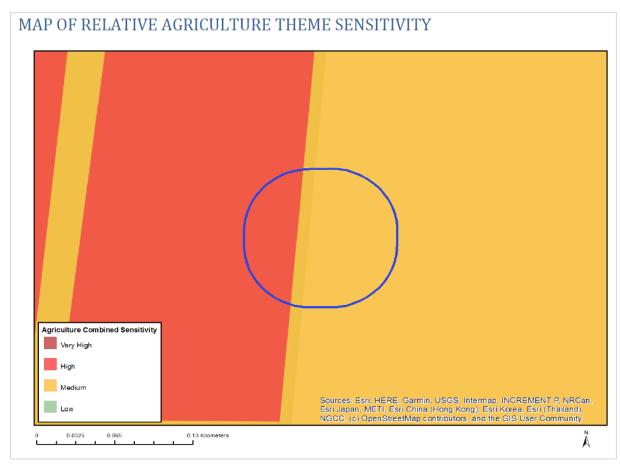


Figure 3: Screening Report overlay map of a 50m buffer around the project site and the Agricultural Sensitivity

#### **Animal Species Theme (medium sensitivity)**

The site is in a completely disturbed state and there are no natural habitats present. This is confirmed by the site photographs (evidence) provided under Section 4.2.3 below. The "medium" Animal Species Theme sensitivity, as stated in the Screening Report, is hereby refuted by the EAP. The sensitivity should rather be "low". The sensitivity feature identified in the Screening Report, namely the presence of *Hydrictis maculicollis* (Spotted-necked otter), is also refuted as there are is no natural habitat for an otter present at the project site. It is concluded that an Animal Species Assessment is not required for the proposed project.

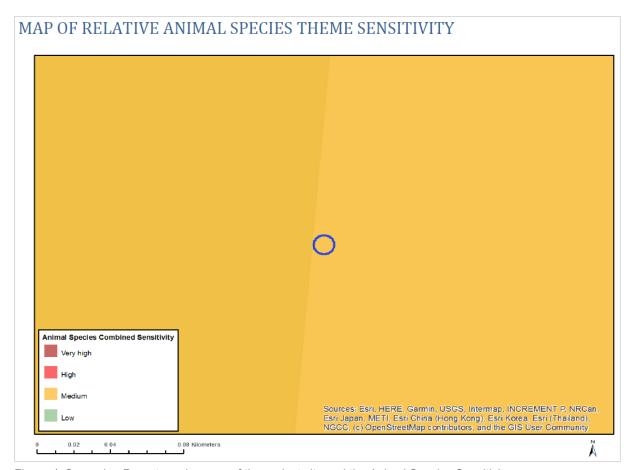


Figure 4: Screening Report overlay map of the project site and the Animal Species Sensitivity

#### Plant Species Theme (medium sensitivity)

The site is in a completely disturbed state and there are no natural habitats present. This is confirmed by the site photographs (evidence) provided under Section 4.2.3 below. The "medium" Plant Species Theme sensitivity, as stated in the Screening Report, is hereby refuted by the EAP. The sensitivity should rather be "low". The sensitivity feature identified in the Screening Report, namely the presence of *Dicliptera magaliesbergensis*, is also refuted as there is no vegetation present at the project site. It is concluded that a Plant Species Assessment is not required for the proposed project.

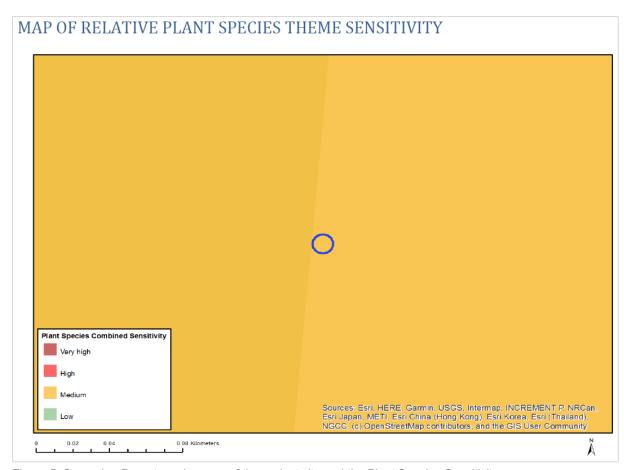


Figure 5: Screening Report overlay map of the project site and the Plant Species Sensitivity

#### Defence Theme (medium sensitivity) Compliance Statement

The sensitivity features identified in the Screening Report, namely that the site is a "defence site" is not refuted by the EAP. In terms of the proposed project (the decommissioning of the Onderstepoort Incinerator), there will be no impact of the decommissioning on any defence installations, as only the incinerator will be removed. The "medium" Civil Aviation Theme sensitivity, as stated in the Screening Report, should rather be "low". It is concluded that a Defence Assessment is not required for the proposed project.

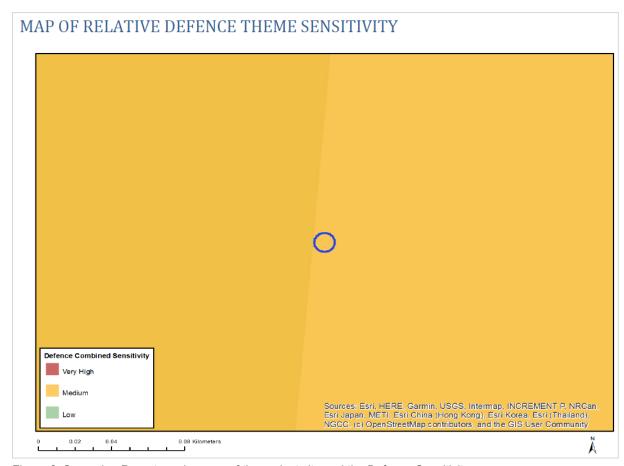


Figure 6: Screening Report overlay map of the project site and the Defence Sensitivity

#### Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Theme (high sensitivity)

The site is in a completely disturbed state. This is confirmed by the site photographs (evidence) provided under Section 4.2.3 below. No excavations deeper than what is required to remove the concrete floor will be undertaken. No foundations will be dug, and it is therefore expected that the bedrock below the site will not be disturbed. At this stage, it is therefore expected that no Archaeological, Cultural Heritage or Palaeontological resources will be impacted upon by the proposed project. According to the South African Heritage Resources Agency's Palaeontological (Fossil) Sensitivity Map, the site has an *Insignificant/Zero* sensitivity, and no palaeontological studies are required (https://sahris.sahra.org.za/map/palaeo).

The "high" Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Theme sensitivity, as stated in the Screening Report, is, however, neither confirmed nor refuted by the EAP. The South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) has been informed of the proposed project and feedback from SAHRA in terms of whether any Archaeological, Cultural Heritage or Palaeontological Impact Assessments are required for the proposed project is awaited.

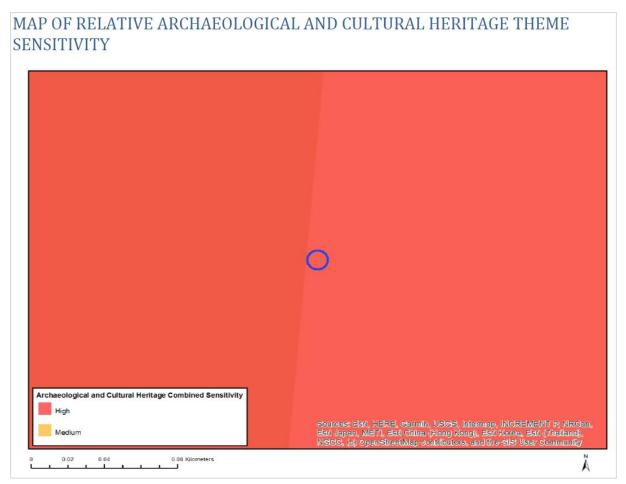


Figure 7: Screening Report overlay map of the project site and the Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Sensitivity

#### Civil Aviation Theme (high sensitivity) Compliance Statement

The sensitivity features identified in the Screening Report, namely that the site is situated "within 8 km of other civil aviation aerodrome" and "within 5 km of an air traffic control or navigation site" is not refuted by the EAP. In terms of the proposed project (the decommissioning of the Onderstepoort Incinerator), there will be no impact on civil aviation, as the incinerator will only be removed. The "high" Civil Aviation Theme sensitivity, as stated in the Screening Report, should rather be "low". It is concluded that a Civil Aviation Assessment is not required for the proposed project.

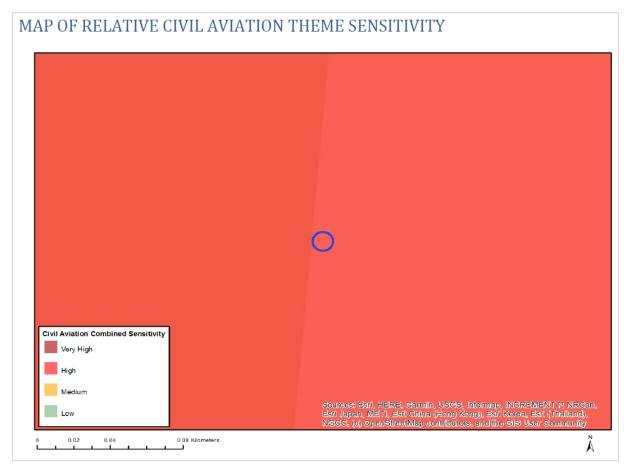


Figure 8: Screening Report overlay map of the project site and the Civil Aviation Sensitivity

#### Terrestrial Biodiversity Theme (very high sensitivity) Compliance Statement

The site was visited on 13 August 2020 (during the winter season) and the duration of the site inspection was two (2) hours. The site is in a completely disturbed state and there are no natural habitats or any vegetation present. This is confirmed by the site photographs (evidence) provided under Section 4.2.3 below. The sensitivity feature identified in the Screening Report, namely the presence of a Vulnerable Ecosystem, is also refuted as there is no vegetation present at the project site. In terms of the proposed project (the decommissioning of the Onderstepoort Incinerator), there will be no impact of the decommissioning on the Vulnerable Ecosystem (the biodiversity feature). The other sensitivity feature identified in the Screening Report, namely the De Onderstepoort Nature Reserve, is confirmed by the EAP. The site does lie within the boundaries of the De Onderstepoort Nature Reserve, although the site is located within the confines of the entirely transformed Onderstepoort Veterinary Complex. In terms of the proposed project, there will be no impact of the decommissioning on the De Onderstepoort Nature Reserve (the biodiversity feature). The "very high" Terrestrial Biodiversity Theme sensitivity, as stated in the Screening Report, should rather be "low". It is concluded that a Terrestrial Biodiversity Impact Assessment is not required for the proposed project.

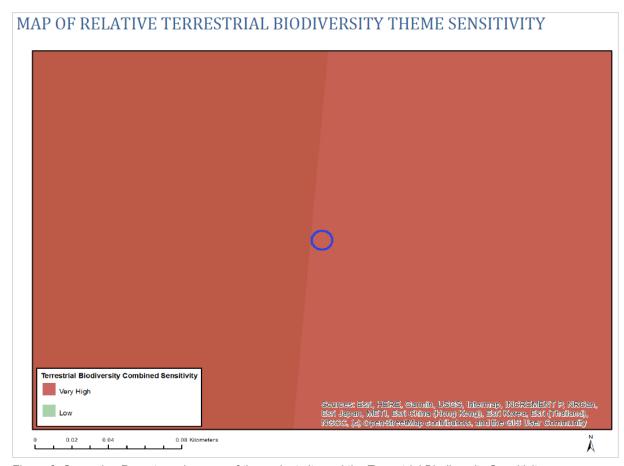


Figure 9: Screening Report overlay map of the project site and the Terrestrial Biodiversity Sensitivity

#### Other Specialist Assessments identified in the Screening Report

The following Specialist Assessments were also identified in the Screening Report for the project site:

- Landscape/Visual Impact Assessment
- RFI (Radio Frequency Interference) Assessment
- Geotechnical Assessment

It is concluded that these assessments are also not required for the proposed project, as explained below.

#### Landscape/Visual Impact Assessment

The proposed project will entail the removal of the Onderstepoort Incinerator and its associated infrastructure. There will therefore be no landscape or visual impacts and it is concluded that a Landscape/Visual Impact Assessment is not required.

#### RFI (Radio Frequency Interference) Assessment

The proposed project will entail the removal of the Onderstepoort Incinerator and its associated infrastructure. It is therefore expected that there will be no impacts in terms of radio frequency interference and that a RFI Assessment is therefore not required.

#### **Geotechnical Assessment**

No excavations deeper than what is required to remove the concrete floor will be undertaken. No foundations will be dug, and it is therefore expected that the bedrock below the site will not be disturbed. It is therefore expected

that there will be no impacts upon geotechnical features and that a Geotechnical Assessment is therefore not required.

## 4.2.3 Site Photographs (evidence)

























#### **DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE**

I, Lizette Kloppers, in my capacity as Environmental Assessment Practitioner, hereby declare that I –

- Act as an independent consultant;
- Do not have any business, financial, personal or other interest in the activity or application in respect of which
  I have been appointed in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998)
  and the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008), other than fair
  remuneration for the work performed; and
- That there are no circumstances that may compromise my objectivity in performing the work that I have been appointed for.

Lizette Kloppers (Pr.Sci.Nat.)

**Environmental Assessment Practitioner** 

SACNASP Reg. No. 115453 EAPASA Reg No. 2019/767 2021-01-13

Date

CV OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER						

# **Curriculum Vitae Lizette Kloppers**

## PERSONAL DETAILS

Full Names	Lizette Kloppers (neé Crous)			
ID Number	8712010057083			
Date of Birth	1 December 1987			
Marital Status	Married			
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Home language	Afrikaans (Speak, read and write)			
Other languages	English (Speak, read and write)			
Nationality	South African			
-				
Gender	Female			
Residential Address	Address 1626 Barleria Crescent, Rietvlei Heights Country Estate, Doornkloof, 0157			
Postal Address	PO Box 5419, Rietvalleirand, Pretoria, 0174			
Contact Details	E-MAIL: lizette@earthnsky.co.za			
	CELL: 061 524 2211			

Professional Registrations

EAPASA: 2019/767 SACNASP: 115453

## **QUALIFICATIONS AND TRAINING COURSES**

Qualification	Institution	Year			
BSc BIODIVERSITY AND ECOLOGY cum laude	UNIVERSITY OF STELLENBOSCH	2009			
Postgraduate certificate in ENVIRONMENTAL	UNIVERSITY OF LONDON - EXTERNAL	2010			
MANAGEMENT (upgraded to MSc)	SYSTEM				
Certificate: Greening your Business (Nedbank and	NEDBANK	2011			
BusinessDay course)					
Environmental Law for Environmental Managers	NORTH WEST UNIVERSITY - CENTRE FOR				
	ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT	2013			
MSc ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT with merit	UNIVERSITY OF LONDON – INTERNATIONAL	2014			
	PROGRAMMES				
An Introduction to Waste Classification in South	NORTH WEST UNIVERSITY - CENTRE FOR	2014			
Africa: Towards Implementation of the National	ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT				
Environmental Management Waste Act					
Resource Efficiency and Cleaner Production (RECP)	NATIONAL CLEANER PRODUCTION CENTRE	2015			
Introductory Course	(NCPC)				
ISO 14001:2015 Requirements	BSI SOUTH AFRICA	2016			
Energy Management Systems (EnMS) End User	NATIONAL CLEANER PRODUCTION CENTRE	2016			
Training	(NCPC)				
GLOBALG.A.P. Public Farm Assurer Workshop -	GLOBALG.A.P. ACADEMY	2017			
Crops (F&V)					
Energy Management 101	NATIONAL CLEANER PRODUCTION CENTRE	2017			
	(NCPC)				
Energy Performance Measurement Indicators (EnPI)	NATIONAL CLEANER PRODUCTION CENTRE	2020			
	(NCPC)				

#### **WORK EXPERIENCE**

Part time work performed is as follows.

- Student representative for Zoology 315 and Zoology 354.
- Research assistant data collection for BScHons and PhD projects: during my BSc studies.
- Temporary Project Assistant; African Bank Limited: 13 April 13 July 2010.

Full time work performed is as follows.

- Research assistant data collection for a PhD project 14 October 9 November 2010.
- African Bank administrative assistant; full-time and temporary contract 3 Jan 2010
   29 April 2011.
- Shangoni Management Services Senior Consultant 3 May 2011 7 April 2016.

#### Current employment:

• EARTHnSKY Environmental – Director – 8 April 2016 – present.

Successful completion of more than 40 Environmental Authorisation applications (including Basic Environmental Impact Assessments, full Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessments, Waste Management Licence applications, Section 24G Rectification applications and Water Use Licence applications). These projects have been conducted for some of the leading agricultural and industrial companies in South Africa, such as AFGRI Operations Limited and DMS Powders.

REFERENCES						
Name	Organisation/Institution	Telephone no.	Email address			
1. Ruzelle Myburgh	DMS Powders	016 360 5319	Ruzelle.Myburgh@DMSPOWDERS.COM			
2. Salome Beeslaar	BECS Services	072 191 6074	salome@becsenv.co.za			
3. Cara Terblanche	SFP Townplanning	083 383 4137	cara.terblanche@sfplan.co.za			
4. Lourens de Villiers	Labesh	082 789 6525	lourens@labesh.co.za			
5. Charlotte Maphaha	Southern Proteins	013 665 1027	Charlotte.Maphaha@afgrifeeds.co.za			