

Date: 14 October 2022

Dear Stakeholder,

**NOTICE OF A BASIC ASSESSMENT (BA) PROCESS: FOR THE PROPOSED
CASTEEL/GA-JOSEFA DAM SAFETY REHABILITATION PROJECT, FARM
KASTEEL 231-KU, BUSHBUCKRIDGE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, EHLANZENI
DISTRICT, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE**

DFFE Ref. Pending

Naledzi Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd have been appointed by the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), Directorate: Strategic Infrastructure Asset Management (SIAM) (the applicant), as the independent environmental assessment practitioner (EAP), to conduct a Basic Assessment (BA) process in support of an application for environmental authorisation to the National Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environmental (DFFE) for proposed scheduled rehabilitation works at Casteel Dam, locally better known as Ga-Josefa Dam.

Casteel Dam is located in the jurisdiction of Bushbuckridge Local Municipality on the farm Kasteel 231-KU, 15km North of Bushbuckridge Town, next to the R40 Bushbuckridge-Acornhoek Road between the settlements of Casteel and Arthur's Seat.

This notification letter serves to inform you, in terms of Regulation 41 (c) of the EIA Regulations of 2014 (GN R. 326, as amended on 7 April 2017) published under the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998), of our intent to submit an application for environmental authorisation to DFFE and to carry out a Basic Assessment (BA) process for listed activities scheduled under GN R. 327 (activity 19 and 27) and GN R. 324 (activity 4, 12, 14 and 23). Naledzi will also carry out the subject public participation process.

As part of the public participation process, we are required to inform Stakeholders / Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) about the proposed proposal to solicit their views, comments and recommendations on the project.

We, therefore, draw your attention to the following:

1. An invitation to register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP)
2. The availability of a Background Information Document (BID) for comment
3. Two public meetings i.e. 25 October 2022 at Casteel Thusong Service Centre and 26 October 2022 at the Faith Mission Church in Dingley Dale.

1. Invitation to Register as a Stakeholder / I&AP

You are hereby invited to register as a Stakeholder / I&AP on the project and to participate in the process by completing the enclosed Comments and Registration Form sheet included with the attached BID.

2. Availability of Background Information Document (BID) for public review

The enclosed BID provides an overview of the Basic Assessment and public participation process being followed and invites stakeholders/I&APs to participate and register for the process. A period of 30 days from **17 October to 15 November 2022** is provided to review the BID and submit comments and concerns regarding the application.

The BID and associated Registration and Comment Form, are also available electronically from the Naledzi website at www.naledzi.co.za/publicdocuments. Hard copies of the BID are also available at the following venues in the project area:

- Casteel Thusong Service Centre
- Tribal offices of Moreipuso and Sethlare
- Faith Mission Church in Dingley Dale

A ‘**Suggestion Box**’ is available at the above public venues. Community members can complete the Registration Form in their language of choice (English / Sesotho/SiThonga, Sepedi) and insert the form into the **Suggestion Box**. Naledzi will collect the completed Registration Forms once the public registration period lapses.

Alternatively, kindly send your comments together with your name, contact details and interest in the project to Marissa Botha (Naledzi) at botham@naledzi.co.za or contact us at 084-226-5584 for more information. Registrations and comments must be submitted on or before **15 November 2022**.

3. Notice of Scheduled Public Meetings on 25 and 26 October 2022.

I&APs are hereby invited to attend the below scheduled public meetings at the Casteel Thusong Service Centre (Tent) and Faith Mission Church in Dingley Dale. Provision will be made at the meeting for questions to be raised either in English/ Sesotho /SiThonga or Sepedi.

Date	Venue	Time
Tuesday, 25 October 2022	Casteel Thusong Service Centre (Tent) Located next to R40 across from Casteel/Ga-Josefa Dam. (Intended for the community)	11:00 – 13:00
Wednesday, 26 October 2022	Faith Mission Church, Dingley Dale Located at Dingley Dale, next to old Co-op. (Intended for downstream water users, Irrigation Scheme members)	09:00 – 11:00

Registration and Comments forms will also be available at the meeting venue and can be completed and submitted to Naledzi after the meeting.

What's next?

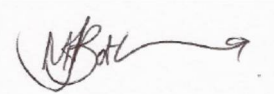
All comments and issues received during the public registration period on the BID and at public meetings will be incorporated into an Issues and Response Report (IRR) and will be responded to.

We will prepare a draft Basic Assessment Report and Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) for the project which will be made available for public review for 30 calendar days. The IRR will be attached to the Draft BAR. The report and supporting documentation will be made available on the Naledzi website and at the same public venues as the BID. A follow-up public meeting will be scheduled during the Draft BAR public review period.

The availability of the draft BAR and EMPr including the details of the public meeting sessions will be communicated to Stakeholders / I&APs via email/telephonically/through the relevant ward councillors.

Thank you for your participation / Ke leboha karolo ea hau.

Regards / Liteboho



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Alternatively, contact the project EAP:
Prof. Desmond Musetsho at 083-410-1477 or email dmusetsho@naledzi.co.za