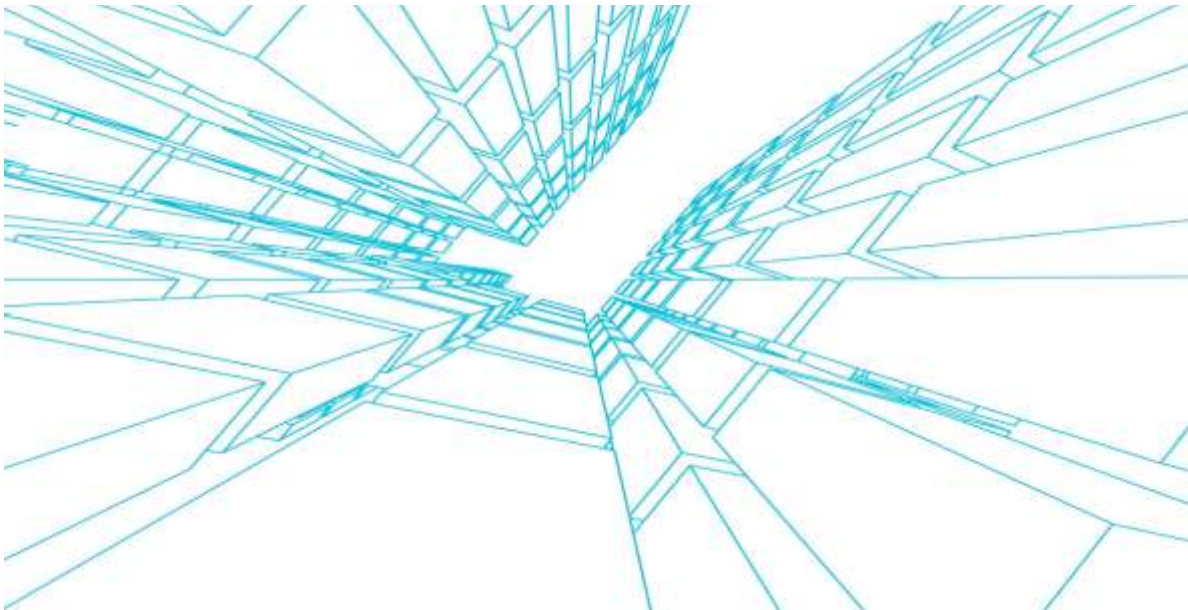


PUBLIC PARTICIPATION REPORT

**ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESS FOR
CLOSURE OF THE VIOOLSDRIFT WASTE
DISPOSAL FACILITY IN THE NORTHERN CAPE**

April 2016



TITLE : *Public Participation Report – Closure of Landfill Site*

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For AECOM SA (Pty) Ltd:

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Appendix 1: I&AP Database

Appendix 2: Copies of the Newspaper Advertisements

- A: Noord-Kaap
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- A: Announcement of the Project
- B: Amended Announcement of the Project
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- A: Copy of the Site Notice
- B: Photographs of the Site Notices

Appendix 5: Background Information Document

Appendix 6: Comments and Responses Report

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ABBREVIATIONS

BA	Basic Assessment
BID	Background Information Document
CRR	Comments and Responses Report
DEA	Department of Environmental Affairs
DENC	Northern Cape Provincial Department of Environment and Nature Conservation
EA	Environmental Authorisation
EI	Environmental Impact
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
GNR	Government Notice Regulations
I&AP	Interested and Affected Parties
WDF	Waste Disposal Facility
WML	Waste Management License
NEMA	National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998)
NEMWA	National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008)
PPP	Public Participation Process

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

The Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) has appointed Sustainable Environmental Solutions (Pty) Ltd (SE Solutions) and AECOM SA (Pty) Ltd to prepare the necessary application to license the existing un-licensed Vioolsdrift Waste Disposal Facility (WDF). The Vioolsdrift WDF is located within the Nama Koi Local Municipal, in the Northern Cape. In order to obtain a Waste Management License (WML) for the closure of the landfill from the Northern Cape Provincial Department of Environment and Nature Conservation (DENC), a Basic Assessment (BA) process is to be conducted.

The BA process is undertaken in compliance with the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008) as amended (NEMWA). The application form has been submitted to the DENC.

The Public Participation Process (PPP) is an integral part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process. The main objectives of a PPP are to:

- Inform Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) and provide background and technical information about the proposed development and the environmental assessment process;
- Create networks and feedback mechanisms whereby I&APs can participate and raise their viewpoints (issues, comments and concerns) with regards to the proposed development and associated activities; and
- Ensure that the views of the I&APs are reflected and considered by the Applicant and the Competent Authority.

1.2 Aim of the Report

The aim of this report is to:

- Describe the PPP conducted thus far;
- Present the register of registered I&APs;
- Provide a list of comments raised to date; and
- Outline the way forward.

2. THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

The objectives of Public Participation in an environmental process are to provide sufficient and accessible information to stakeholders in an objective manner to assist them to:

- Raise issues of concern and suggestions for enhanced benefits;
- Verify that their issues have been recorded and considered in the environmental investigations;
- Assist in commenting on feasible alternatives;
- Contribute relevant local information and knowledge to the environmental assessment; and
- Comment on the findings of the environmental assessment.

2.1 Approach

The approach towards any PPP is dependent on the details of the project. Each project has a particular geographic and technical nature, and hence the PPP should be structured accordingly. Where possible, and within the required statutory frameworks, it is also desirable to structure such a process to address the process needs of I&APs.

2.1.1 Identification and Registration of I&APs

At the time of compiling this report, the database contained 40 stakeholders across a range of sectors and spheres of government, including:

- National Government;
- Provincial Government;
- Local Government;
- Landowners;
- Agriculture; and,
- Business.

AECOM made an effort to ensure that individuals and/or organisations were identified from an institutional as well as a geographical point of view.

Refer to Appendix E1 for the I&AP Database.

2.1.2 Announcement of the Proposed Project

Various mechanisms were used to create public awareness of the proposed WML application for the existing WDF. An opportunity to participate in the EIA process and to register as an I&AP was announced between 20 April 2016 and 23 May 2016.

2.1.2.1 *Media*

Newspaper advertisements notifying the public about the environmental application and the availability of the Draft BAR for the proposed WML application for the existing Violsdrift WDF will be placed in the following newspapers:

Table 2-1: Project Announcement Newspaper advertisements

PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENT AND AVILABILITY OF THE DRAFT BAR FOR PUBLIC REVIEW		
Newspaper	Distribution	Language
DF Advertiser	Regional	English
Gemsbok	Local	English

Copies of the Newspaper Advertisements are included in Appendix E2.

2.1.2.2 Notification Letter

A notification letter, including invitation to participate and announcement of the availability of the Draft BAR for review was distributed via e-mail on 18 April 2016 to identified I&APs announcing the project and the opportunities for participation.

A copy of the notification letter is provided in Appendix E3.

2.1.2.3 On-site Notices

Two (2) A2-sized site notices (English and Afrikaans) were erected at various public places in the project area on 2 March 2016.

Table 2-2: Site Notice Locations

Site Notice No.	Location
1	Violsdrift WDF Entrance, Violsdrift
2	Municipal service point, Violsdrift

A copy and photographs of the site notices are provided in Appendix E 4.

2.1.3 Dissemination of Information

Information was disseminated to registered I&APs primarily by means of a Background Information Document (BID) and Notification letters.

2.1.3.1 Background Information Document

The BID has been useful in providing background information to the public on the proposed WML application for the existing Violsdrift WDF. Furthermore, it provided information on the processes that have been followed and the contact details of the PPP Consultant.

A copy of the BID is provided in Appendix E 5.

2.2 Draft Basic Assessment Report Review Period

The draft BA Report will be made available for a thirty (30) calendar day review period to identified I&APs from 20 April 2016 and 23 May 2016 (excluding public holidays). The draft BA Report was available at the following venue.

Table 2-3: Venue for draft Basic Assessment Report.

Venue	Address
Municipal Service Point	Vioolsdrift

Please note that the above-mentioned reports will also be available to be downloaded at www.deawaste2015.co.za.

Refer to Appendix E 3 for a copy of the notification letter.

2.3 Comment and Response Report

All issues and concerns raised by I&APs during the BA process will be captured and responded to in the Comments and Responses Report (CRR).

Refer to Appendix 6 for the CRR and Appendix E 7 for copies of comments received from I&APs.

2.4 Final Basic Assessment Report and WML

Once the review period on the draft BAR has concluded, the report will be updated to a final BAR together with the CRR. The Final BAR will be submitted to the DENC for review towards Environmental Authorisation (i.e. issuing the WML). Once the WML has been issued, all registered I&APs will be notified of the decision and the appeals process.

3. CONCLUSION

Based on the inputs received during the PPP conducted thus far, the following conclusions can be made:

- The PPP process complies with the regulatory requirements; and,
- To date, IAPs were afforded sufficient opportunities to participate in the process.

4. Appendices

4.1 APPENDIX 1: I&APs DATABASE

4.2 APPENDIX 2: COPIES OF NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENTS

DF Advertiser

Gemsbok

4.3 APPENDIX 3: EXAMPLES OF NOTIFICATION LETTERS

Announcement and availability of the Draft BAR Report for Public Review

BID and Comment Sheet

Proof of Notification Letters

4.4 APPENDIX 4: COPY AND PHOTOGRAPHS FOR THE SITE NOTICES

A Copy of the Site Notice

Photographs of the Site Notices

4.5 APPENDIX 5: BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

4.6 APPENDIX 6: COMMENTS AND RESPONSE REPORT

4.7 APPENDIX 7: COPIES OF COMMENTS RECEIVED