DRAFT
SCOPING REPORT

PROPOSED CHANGE OF LANDUSE ON 140 HA OF A PORTION OF THE FARM 425, SCHUITDRIFT

SCHUITDRIFT EAST

GAME PARK PTY LTD

MEG
Omgewingsimpakstudies

KAI !GARIB MUNICIPALITY

APRIL 2013 Ref: Sou01.1/13

DENC ref: NC/EIA/03/SIY/KAI/AUG1/2013

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SECTION A

1. ENVIRONMETAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER

1.1 Details of MEG Environmental Impact Studies

MEG Environmental Impact Studies was established in 1998 and since then undertook various Environmental Impact Assessments in the Upington-, Kuruman-, Karoo- and Kalahari-region of the Northern Cape Province. M E Geldenhuys who is personally responsible for each EIA application has a BSc-, as well as a Masters Degree in Environmental Management. With 13 years of hands-on experience since the implementation of the Environmental Conservation Act -1998 and 5 years experience at Northern Cape Nature Conservation Department. She has been responsible for several Environmental Impact Assessments since 1998, which were completed and approved by the Provincial Department of Environment and Nature Conservation in the Northern Cape.

1.2 Expertise of EAP

The experience of MEG Environmental Impact Studies in the environmental management field includes various aspects such as:

KEY QUALIFICATIONS:

Environmental Impact Assessment	Manage and coordinate various environmental impact assessments in the Northern Cape Province
Environmental Management	Identify issues and compile environmental management plans in the municipal areas of //Khara Hais Municipality, Siyanda District Municipality and Emthanjeni Municipality as required by the Integrated Development Planning Process.

Environmental Management Plan	Manage and compile environmental management plans as required for the development of borrow pits and quarries for the Department of Minerals and Energy.
Environmental Management Program	Manage and coordinate various environmental management programs for the implementing of environmental friendly working procedures
Environmental Practitioner	Develop and compile environmental management reports as required by the Eurepgap and Nature's Choice standards for the table grape export farmers in the Benede-Orange River region and Namibia.
Environmental Education	Furnish and manage an Environmental Education Resource centre for the provincial department of Northern Cape Nature Conservation Service. Compiling and presenting Environmental Education programs for youth groups and schools.

The following range of projects had been successfully completed and approved over the years by MEG Environmental Impact Studies:

Red meat abattoirs

Poultry abattoirs

Wine Cellar

Water pipelines

Solid waste sites

New Business areas

Town extensions /Residential developments

Construction of power lines

Stormwater drainage	**Community safety centre**
Low water bridges	**Water abstraction facilities**
Sewage works	**Leisure facilities**
Cemeteries	**TV Towers**
Upgrading/rehabilitation of roads	**Agricultural/Residential Developments**
Golf Estate Development	**Resorts**

SECTION B

2. EXISTING ENVIRONMENT

2.1 Background and description of the activity

In 2008 an Environmental Authorisation permit was issued for the proposed development of 140ha for the cultivation of *Hoodia gordonii* (permit 15/1408 – Appendix F). This proposed development never took place. The applicant now intend to development 140ha of the 200ha for the planting of date palms.

During a site visit on 23 January 2013 with the Principal Environmental Official it was confirmed that no development took place sins 2008 and that the specialist studies can be used for this proposed development.

The need for the application arises from the increased expansion in the fresh date industry, world-wide. The Northern Cape is one of the habitats were dates can be cultivated successful and have good returns. In order to provide in the ever growing market for this product and to ensure additional working opportunities for the existing workforce, the applicant intends to import, plant and harvest these palms for the commercial market of dates. This will however be done with the necessary approvals and permits as required.

In light of the latter the applicant anticipates a demand for the development of agricultural activities to provide in the growing demand for dates. A detailed plan, for the installation of a formal irrigation system will be therefore developed by a professional irrigation company.

The remainder of the farm consist of natural veld with game without any infrastructure. No application for the rezoning of this area will therefore be necessary. Adjacent portions to this property are commercially developed for the growing of export grapes, date palms, etc. with the necessary infrastructure.

2.2 Description of the property

The application area is part of the Kai !Garib Municipality and approximately 40 km from Augrabies in a westerly direction (figure 1). The property applicable for this 140ha development is the Farm 425/0 which is 7 959 ha (figure 2). Currently this property is a game farm with no infrastructure. The farm 410 (also property of applicant) adjacent to this property is being managed according to export standards and farming practices. The normal infrastructure, associated with these activities, is also to be found on the farm and includes offices, houses, worker accommodation, packing sheds, roads and irrigation systems. This infrastructure will also be used for the development, operating and management of the date palm plantations.

The proposed development of 140 ha, will take place in phases. No development will take place without the necessary approval from the Department of Environment and Nature Conservation.

2.3 Alternatives

Alternative 1
The site is the best area within farm 425 that can be used for the proposed date palm plantation. It is accessible from the existing road and the nearest to the existing infrastructure.

Alternative 2
This area is to the north-eastern border of farm 425 and not accessible from an existing road. The area has rocky outcrops that cannot be developed for agricultural planting and difficult to reach.

No-alternative
With this alternative, no development is planned for the total extends of the property. A no-go option will result in the loss of export agricultural product for various markets in the world, loss in income to the local community, loss in working opportunities to nearby communities, etc.

No development will have a negative impact in the provincial and national income.

2.4 Discussion of photo material (APPENDIX B)

The photo material, taken from various directions, gives an indication of the proposed development site as it was during the time of the site inspection.

This section also includes some individual photos on site.

SECTION C

3. DESCRIPTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

As mentioned previously in this report, the application area forms part of portion of the farm 425. The proposed development of 140 ha will take place on this property.

3.1 Physical environment

The characteristic of the area is typical of a undeveloped farm, adjacent to a highly intensive export table grape and date farm. At the current moment, the area has been undisturbed with various game species. There is no infrastructure at the proposed development area and during the development an irrigation system will be installed in this area. The water for the irrigation purposes will be extracted from the existing dam on the adjacent farm, Southern Farm Trust (also the property of the applicant). As the applicant intends to make use of existing facilities on the farm, such as packing sheds, accommodation, offices etc. no developments of this nature will take place at the proposed development area.

TOPOGRAPHY

The application area is situated on land with a relatively even surface except for the north-eastern side of the property, which has koppies with small and large natural storm water drainage areas to the north. The area where the development will take place, has however a relatively even surface, suitable for development of this nature. The general incline of the area is to the north-west in the direction of the Orange river and existing natural drainage area. Rocky outcrops occur at various places on the border of the site and have an important influence on the planning of the proposed development.

GEOLOGY AND SOIL TYPES

The geology of the site comprises of a variety of metamorphic rocks consisting of the Namaqua Complex which consist mainly of gneiss,

schist, quartzite and banded iron formation.

The soil types can be described as miscellaneous land classes, very rocky with little soil which is not deeper than 750 mm. The soil types can not be described as high potential agricultural land.

GEOHYDROLOGY

According to the "Preliminary assessment of the hydrogeology of the province of the Northern Cape" (Toens, 1996) the site forms part of Hydrogeological Zone 5a.

According to this report the ground water level in this zone varies from between 10 and 50 below surface. Ground water is difficult to locate in this zone and no boreholes yielding more than 2 l/s is known in this zone. In much of these areas, the ground water therefore needs to be desalinated before it can be considered acceptable for human consumption.

The proposed development will take place in such a manner that it will make use of the existing water rights for the property.

CLIMATE

By virtue of the low rainfall, dry climate and high temperatures experienced in the area, high levels of evaporation takes place. The area is also known for its extreme temperature fluctuations. In summer the average temperature varies from between 35ºC and 45ºC and in winter between 20ºC and 35ºC.

The average annual rainfall for the area is less than 140 mm and occurs as thunderstorms between January and February. The evaporation in the area is estimated at 2 800 mm per annum, which is quite high.

The mean annual temperature for Kakamas is 20.4°C. The extreme maximum and minimum temperatures measured at Kakamas were 43.3°C and -4.7°C respectively. The mean daily maximum for January is 35.7°C and for June it is 21.8°C. The mean daily minimum for January

is 19°C and for June 4.9°C. Frost may potentially occur from May to September, a period of approximately 150 days.

3.2 Biological environment

The proposed area for this development of 140 ha from agricultural land, is situated in the arid Orange River Broken Veld. It consists mainly of sparsely vegetated gravel plains surrounded by fairly large mountains.

The proposed development will take place within an area as identified by a certain J P H Acocks, in "Veld Types of South Africa", as the Orange River Broken Veld. This natural vegetation of this study area is classified in terms of the new vegetation map of South Africa (Mucina & Rutherford, 1406) as Lower Gariep Broken Veld and Blouputs Karroid Thornveld.

The Lower Gariep Broken Veld vegetation type consists of hills and low mountains, slightly irregular plains but with some rugged terrain along the lower Orange River. The vegetation is sparse and dominated by shrubs and dwarf shrubs, perennial grasses and herbs, and annual herbs that are conspicuous in spring. Groups of widely scattered trees of *Aloe dichotoma* and *Acacia mellifera* occur on slopes of koppies and on sandy soils of footslopes respectively.

The Blouputs Karroid Thornveld is an irregular belt of relatively flat areas skirting the Lower Gariep Broken Veld. The vegetation is an open shrubland on slightly undulating rocky plains dominated by patchy occurrences of *Acacia mellifera*. Prominent lower shrubs include *Phaeoptilum spinosum*, *Boscia foetida* and *Dadaba aphylla*, while the dominant grasses include *Schmidtia kalahariensis* and *Stipagrostis ciliata*, *S obtus* and *S uniplumis*.

At the specific site, *Acacia mellifera* and some single *Acacia erioloba* are to be found in the natural drainage areas.

During the site visit held on 23 January and 28 February 2013, some ostrich were found in the game camp. Due to the proposed development area of 140ha, the development should not have a significant negative impact on the survival of fauna, as this area is adjacent to a natural undisturbed area which will be available for the relocation of any fauna in the area. The 140 hectares, on which the *hoodia* will be cultivated, will be fenced off from the rest of the game camp in order to be able to manage the game camp separately from the rest of the farm. This will also ensure that the fauna will be minimally disturbed during the planned development.

3.3 Social environment

The site forms part of the Blouputs/Augrabies community which is characterized by intensive vineyards with smaller communities such as the Bladgrond and Onseepkans communities. These farms are developed intensively with large areas which is still undeveloped.

According to the available information this 140 hectare development will create 350 permanent jobs and 900 seasonal jobs. The seasonal work will be accommodated into permanent jobs as the season differs from export grape high season. These figures will even be higher (up to 1400 workers) during the picking of dates during autumn.

The number of employment opportunities will expand during the following years together with the expansion of this project.

3.4 Economic environment

In order to ensure that the proposed project will be sustainable and economically viable, the applicant will employ people from the neighbouring towns.

The estimated expected capital outlay for a 140 ha development such as this will be at least in the order of R42 million (R300 000/ha).

All of these work opportunities, as well as the creation of buying power, will contribute positively to the economic environment of the area.

3.5 Cultural environment

During the site visit no signs of any cultural- and heritage sites were identified, although a "Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment Report" was done and will be part of the environmental impact study.

SECTION D

4. LEGISLATION AND GUIDELINES

South-Africa is one of a few countries worldwide, where the conservation of the environment has been included in the constitution. Various other legislations exists on National-, Provincial- and Local Municipal level which sole purpose is to ensure that development takes place in a harmonious way, taking into account the natural environment.

4.1 National

Currently South-Africa has some of the best, national environmental management legislation, worldwide.

Title of legislation, policy or guideline:	**Administering authority:**	**Date:**
Environmental Conservation Act, Act 73	DEA	1989
National Environment Management Act, Act 107	DEA	1998
National Environment Management: Biodiversity Act, Act 10	DEA	2004
National Environmental Management: Protection Areas Act, Act 57	DEA	2003
National Forests Act, Act 12	DAFF	1998
National Water Act, Act 36	DWA	1998
National Veld and Forest Fires Act	DAFF	1998
Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act, Act 43	DAFF	1998

DEA – National Department of Environmental Affairs
DWA – National Department of Water Affairs
DAFF –Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

4.2 Provincial

Certain national environmental legislation or parts thereof makes provision for the implementation of legislation and/or measures on provincial- and local level. Although all provincial legislation should comply with the national legislation, the provincial legislation may be more prescriptive and strict if necessary.

Title of legislation, policy or guideline:	**Administering authority:**	**Date:**
Environmental Conservation Act, Act 73	DENC	1989
National Environment Management Act, Act 107	DENC	1998
National Environment Management: Biodiversity Act, Act 10	DEA	2004
National Environmental Management: Protection Act, Act 57	DEA	2003
National Forests Act, Act 84	DAFF	1998
National Water Act, Act 36	DWA	1998
Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act, Act 43	DAFF	1983
National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25	SAHRA	1999
National and Environment Conservation Ordinance, Ord.19	DENC	1974

DENC – Department of Environment and Nature Conservation
DEA – National Department of Environmental Affairs
DWA – Department of Water Affairs (Upington)
DAFF – Department of Agricultural, Forestry and Fisheries
SAHRA – South African Heritage Resources Agency

4.3 Local authority

Certain national and provincial environmental legislation or parts thereof, makes provision for the implementation of legislation and/or measures on local authority level. Although all local authority

legislation should comply with the provincial legislation, the local authority legislation may be more prescriptive and strict if necessary.

Title of legislation, policy or guideline:	**Administering authority:**	**Date:**
Environmental Conservation Act, Act 73	DEA	1989
National Environment Management Act, Act 107	DEA	1998
National Environment Management: Biodiversity Act, Act 10	DEA	2004
National Environmental Management: Protection Act, Act 57	DEA	2003
National Forests Act, Act 84	DAFF	1998
National Water Act, Act 36	DWA	1998
Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act, Act 43	DAFF	1998

SECTION E

5. IDENTIFIED ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

This section of the report addresses the possible impacts, as identified during the initial scoping stage of the environmental impact assessment. The possible environmental impacts and suggested mitigation measures/recommendations as identified are as follows:

5.1 Historical, cultural and archaeological sites

During the site visits, held on 23 January and 28 February 2013, and according to the applicant, there are no sites of historical, cultural and archaeological value. A Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment Report was done by an archeologist. This assessment was done in January 2008 during which investigation, MEG Environmental Impact Studies, will be accompany him. It was confirmed by Environmental Official that this study is still applicable.

This assessment, (Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment Report) will form part of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report to be done for this proposed development

Mitigation

Should any areas or objects of significant heritage potential be found during the proposed development, the following requirements, according to the National Heritage Resources Act, Act no 25 of 1999 will still apply: ("No person may, without a permit issued by the responsible heritage resources authority destroy, damage, excavate, alter, deface or otherwise disturb any archaeological site")

Should any conservation worthy archeological or cultural historical finds be made during the proposed development, the necessary expertise of the McGregor Museum should be called upon to investigate

any such findings.

5.2 Flora

During the site visit, held on 23 January and 28 February 2013, it was found that the proposed development site is situated in a "least threatened" area. The site consists of natural veld which is mostly undisturbed and unused at this stage.

A few single individual protected species, namely a camel thorn tree (*Acacia erioloba*), shephard tree (*Boscia albitruna*), *hoodia gordonii* was identified during this site visit.

Close to the development area there are rocky hills which are usually the place where threatened or protected flora is found. This area will under no circumstances be disturbed and it does not form part of the proposed development area.

Mitigation

The following basic recommendations must be taken into account during the planning, construction and operation phases of this proposed development. They are as follow:

- Protected species such as camel thorn-, shepherd trees and *hoodia* should not be disturbed and an area around them should remain in tact. Layout plans should take protected species into consideration.

  The root feeding zone of these trees should not be disturbed and/or compacted at all, as trees absorb moisture as well as oxygen through the fine hair roots occurring in this area. No filling or cutting or addition of topsoil should thus be done within this area
- The small hills/quartz fields must not be disturbed as it may have protected or rare plant species. No development will take place in these areas.
- Any invader species such as *Prosopis sp.-"* suidwesdoring",

should be removed.

- There should be no cultivation on the hill slopes. These hills have special plant species and erosion will occur when the rocks on the slopes are disturbed.
- Roads should be restricted especially in areas where no planting has been done. This will prevent unnecessary destroying of the natural vegetation and also prevent erosion. After rains, roads should be repaired and no new tracks made next to eroded roads.

General measures to be taken:
No disturbance of any protected flora may take place without the required permit from the relevant department.

Any possible impacts will be addressed by careful planning, the planting of endemic plants and minimal water abstraction. The use of pesticide should be severely limited, or banned entirely to maintain biodiversity, especially within the mentioned drainage areas.

5.3 Fauna

During the initial site investigation, no Red Data species were identified at the site, although some ostrich were present. In the Schuitdrift game camp there are various game species. The applicant indicated that the date palm plantation will be fenced off so that the game will not be disturbed.

Although not seen during the site visit, it is expected that small game such as steenbok, porcupines, baboons and dassies will be found in the area. Some bird species were also found, however it is not anticipated that the proposed development will have a significant negative impact on these birds.

Habitat destruction and the possible genetic contamination of species are however all factors that can negatively impact on vertebrate species, but can be minimized through applying the following mitigation

measures:

Mitigation

- Regular maintenance of the water network will minimize the damage done by porcupines.
- Small and large water containers will be provided for wild animals at various locations outside the plantation. This will ensure that these animals (such as porcupines) do not damage irrigation systems and pipelines in order to find water.
- No hunting of small game with dogs may be allowed.
- In order to ensure that all fauna will be able to relocate to the adjacent veld, openings should be made in the fences surrounding the proposed development area, before any construction work may commence

To ensure environmentally friendly farming practices, the site manager will have to adhere to the requirements and prescriptions which will be included in the environmental management plan to be included as part of the EIA process. This plan will also deal with issues such as the prohibition of the hunting of small game etc.

5.4 Land uses

The planned development is situated within a purely agricultural area with no other land uses in close proximity. The proposed development will therefore have no impact on any surrounding land uses in the area.

5.5 Plough certificate

The applicant will have to obtain a plough certificate from the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries before any development can take place. The inputs from the Department will therefore be requested and a copy of this certificate (if available) will be included in the EIA report.

5.6 Water

The planning of the irrigation system for the proposed agricultural development will be done by a specialist irrigation company, who will ensure the best designs for the optimal use of water resources. The existing infrastructure at the adjacent farm will be used for the connection of the new water irrigation system. A new dam of less than 50 000 kubic metres will be developed at this site. This will be done within the existing water rights of the farm. According to the applicant there are water rights for 220 hectares available for this development

The cultivation of dates only requires less water used by vineyards which will have a positive impact on the overall use of this natural resource.

Mitigation

- No facilities must be erected within a radius of 100m from a water source.
- Measures should be implemented to reduce water use within the proposed development, such as the use of tension meters to avoid over irrigation of the soils.
- Environmental education programs for workers will ensure that they will be sensitive to the environment and report incidents such as leaking taps, broken irrigation systems, hunting of small game etc.
- Awareness/education notices are essential to get support from the exporters/tourists.

5.7 Sewage disposal

Chemical toilets will be provided for the workers in the plantation. Theses toilets will be emptied on a daily basis in the sewage tank system at the households and at the packing sheds.

Mitigation

With regard to the development work at the site it must be ensured that the applicant/contractor provides sufficient sanitation facilities for the use of his employees during the actual construction period. The applicant/contractor will be solely responsible for the proper use and maintenance thereof in conditions, which are to the satisfaction of both the contractor and the applicant. All facilities must be positioned within walking distance from wherever employees or laborers are at work. Kai !Garib Municipality can be contacted to empty these tanks when it becomes necessary.

Other specifications to be adhered to are, amongst others, the following;

- All facilities provided at the site must comply with the requirements of the Local Municipality.
- No facility may be erected within a radius of 100m from a water source.
- The applicant/contractor must be held responsible for the cleaning of the sanitary facilities to prevent health hazards for the duration of the contract.
- Sanitary facilities must be provided at a ratio of one (1) facility for every ten (10) persons.

All sanitation facilities must be sited, in terms of the specifications of the *National Water Act no. 36 of 1998*, in such a way that they do not cause water- or other pollution.

5.8 Solid waste disposal

The application area is located within the municipal area of Kai !Garib Municipality and all household waste will, as is currently the case, be disposed on an existing solid waste disposal site.

All facilities in use during the construction phase must be utilized and maintained in a manner that prevents pollution of any groundwater sources. No waste of any kind may be disposed of in the surrounding

environment.

Mitigation

A no-nonsense approach with regard to littering on the farm exists and the neatness of the workplace as well as the residential areas is all high priorities for the management.

Sufficient provision should be made for rubbish bins on the farm to prevent workers from littering. These rubbish bins should be clearly marked and be visible.

5.9 Air and noise pollution

Air Pollution

During the construction phase, and due to the nature of the project, a small amount of smoke (from machines) and dust will be generated. Dust pollution may have an impact on the operational workers.

Mitigation

In order to minimize the effect of dust pollution, the construction area should be kept wet as far as possible and the workers must wear the necessary safety clothing.

The applicant is referred to section 19 of *the National Water Act no. 36 of 1998* with regard to the prevention of, and remedies for, the effects of pollution. In terms of this section of the Act, the person who owns controls, occupies or uses the land in question is responsible for taking measures to prevent pollution of water resources and property.

Noise Pollution

During the construction phase there may be minimal and sporadic incidents of air and noise pollution due to the construction activities such as dust and noise as a result of earthworks. Due to the fact that the area is situated within a remote environment, the impact is not expected to be severe.

Mitigation

The contractor should make adequate provision to prevent or minimize the possible effects of air and noise pollution. Should the noise from the construction work be found to cause problems, (which is not anticipated to be the case) work hours in these areas may be restricted between 06:00 and 20:00, or as otherwise agreed between the parties involved. Strict measures should therefore be enforced, especially in terms of the contract specifications, to prevent any negative impacts in this regard.

5.10 Public health characteristics

Due to the nature of the development, there will be minimal, if any, dangers of the health of workers being jeopardized. The proposed development will occur according to the specific need of the site and the contractor will have to make use of trained staff. Where local communities are employed, it will be the responsibility of the contractor to see to their safety and to provide the relevant training for the execution of their tasks.

5.11 Risks and hazards

The applicant and the contractor should meet the following general conditions and requirements with regard to the proposed development:

- The contractor will have to ensure that all the necessary precautions in terms of the necessary legislation and contract specifications are taken to guarantee the safety of the workers and the public.
- Oil and fuel must at all times be properly stored in containers such as drums and tanks that are properly sealed.
- Drip pans must always be attached to stationary machines such as compressors, generators, etc. These drip pans should be regularly monitored and cleaned when necessary. In case of oil, diesel or petrol spills, immediate action should be taken to

prevent the spill from contaminating ground- or surface water.

SECTION F

6 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A detailed public participation process had been followed to identify all possible interested and affected parties (I & AP's) as well as any issues of significance to the project.

6.1 Notification

Steps taken to notify potentially interested and affected parties of the application:

The public participation process had been done by means of a newspaper advertisement in "Gemsbok " (8 March 2013 - Appendix C), an on-site notice (appendix D), notices at various public places, consultation with various stakeholders (appendix E), as well as organizations, government departments etc.

Proof of notification

*A*dvertisements and notices notifying potentially interested and affected parties of the application has been displayed, placed or given.

6.2 Registered interested and affected parties

During the public participation process the following interested and affected parties were identified and had been consulted:

NAME	**ADDRESS**	**NOTIFIED BY:**
DENC Department of Environment and Nature Conservation	Private Bag X6102, KIMBERLEY, 8300	Draft SCOPING REPORT
DWA Department of **Water Affairs**	Private Bag X5912, UPINGTON, 8800	Draft SCOPING REPORT

NAME	ADDRESS	NOTIFIED BY:
DAFF Department of Agriculture, **Forestry** and Fisheries	P O Box 2782, UPINGTON, 8801	Draft SCOPING REPORT
DAFF Department of **Agriculture**, Forestry and Fisheries	P O Box 52, UPINGTON, 8801	Draft SCOPING REPORT
Kai !Garib Municipality	Eleven Avenue, KAKAMAS, 8840	Draft SCOPING REPORT
Kai !Garib Municipal Library	Eleven Avenue, KAKAMAS,8840	Draft SCOPING REPORT
SAHRA	SAHRIS SYSTEM	Draft SCOPING REPORT
ADJACENT LAND OWNERS AND INTERESTED PARTIES:		
De Drift Wines	P O Box 156, AUGRABIES, 8874	LETTER
Mr A J van Zyl	P O Box 173, KAKAMAS, 8870	LETTER
Mr FJ Nel	P O Box 211, KAKAMAS, 8870	LETTER

6.3 Issues identified

A summary of the issues raised during the public participation process, as well as inputs from I & A parties on this scoping report, will be discussed with DENC and will form part of the EIA report.

SECTION G

7. PLAN OF STUDY FOR EIA

7.1 Description of the tasks

The EIA Report will consist of the following:

i) details of the EAP and his/her experience;
ii) detailed description of the proposed activity;
iii) description of the property on which the activity is to be undertaken;
iv) description of the environment that will be affected;
v) details of the public participation process;
vi) a description of the tasks that will be undertaken as part of the EIA process, including any specialist reports or specialised processes, and the manner in which such tasks will be undertaken.

7.2 An **indication of the stages** at which the competent authority will be consulted

The competent authority will be consulted:

- with the submission of the application form and Scoping report;
- during the Scoping Report stage for a site visit
- comments received during the public participation process will be submitted to the competent authority;
- during the EIA stage a site visit will be arranged to Schuitdrift Oost farm and
- if found necessary by the competent authority, a meeting in this regard.

7.3 A description of the proposed **method of assessing** the environmental issues and alternatives, including the option of not proceeding with the activity

During the execution of this environmental evaluation, the following general principles will apply:

i. gathering of information and data on variables relevant to the determining of possible impacts;
ii. interpretation and analysis of the data gathered;
iii. identification of significant environmental impacts; and
iv. representation (communication) of the findings during the analysis.

The following table gives an indication of the criteria which will be used, during the EIA process, to identify potential environmental impacts, (both natural- and man made environment) and the way it will be quantified.

POTENTIAL IMPACTS	EXTENT –	INTENSITY	DURATION	MITIGATORY POTENTIAL –	ACCEPTABILITY	DEGREE OF CERTAINTY –
5.1 ARCHAELOGICAL						
5.2 FLORA						
5.3 FAUNA						
5.4 LAND USES						
5.5 WATER AVAILI						
5.6SEWAGE DISPOSAL						
5.7 SOLID WASTE						
5.8 POLLUTION: AIR/NOISE						
5.9 PUBLIC HEALTH						
5.10 RISKS + HAZARDS						

7.4 Particulars of the **public participation process** that will be conducted during the EIA process:

A detailed public participation process will be followed with the identified interested and affected parties (I & AP's) to reflect any issues of significance to the project.

7.5 Proposed **project schedule** that will be followed during the EIA process.

PHASE	ITEM	TIME FRAMES
1	PRE-CONSULTATION MEETING - Consultation with client - Visit the site - Gather the needed information to complete the Application for Authorisation form	ACCEPTANCE OF TENDER
2	DOCUMENT RELEVANT INFORMATION - Complete Application for and send to applicant for signature and commissioner of oath	1 week
3	COMPILE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT - Get relevant information - Do networking for public participation process - Preparing of documentation for public participation - Request specialist studies, when relevant	1 month
4	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - Comments requested from interested and affected parties. - Advertising of proposed project - Courier Draft SR to department/local authorities - Take specialists on site visit (when requested) - Register all interested and affected parties.	40 days
5	REVIEW COMMENTS - Review comments received during PP process - Compile commence and response report	20 Days
6	COMPILE FINAL SR - Submit Final SR to DENC	30 days
7	COMPILE EIA REPORT + EMP - Acceptance of Final SR by DENC - Review all specialist inputs - Address comments received in report - Gather outstanding information - Submit EIA Report	30 days
8	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - Submit EIA Report to DENC - Submit EIA Report to department for comments if any - Inform interested and affected parties of EIA report reviewing and opportunity for comments, if any - Request that all comments be submitted at DENC	40 days
9	DENC ACKNOWLEDGEMENT - DENC accept/reject EIA	60 days
10	DENC AUTHORIZE	45 days

SECTION H

8. CONCLUSION

This draft scoping report has been submitted to various government departments for review. All comments on this public participation process and scoping report will be forwarded to DENC. During the EIA process all of these comments received as well as any responses by the EAP to these inputs, will also be included in the report and forwarded to DENC.

Following the above mentioned actions DENC must, within 30 days of receipt of a scoping report, consider the report, and in writing inform the EAP of the decision taken in this regard.