

**CONSULTATION BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED TOWNSHIP
ESTABLISHMENT ON THE REMAINDER OF PORTION 8 OF THE FARM BOSCHOEK 103 JQ,
UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF RUSTENBURG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, NORTH WEST
PROVINCE.**

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Report Title Consultation Basic Assessment Report for the Proposed Township Establishment on the remainder of Portion 8 of the farm Boschoek 103 JQ, under the Jurisdiction of Rustenburg Local Municipality, North West Province.

Document ID Boschoek Township Establishment
Date 15 March 2021

Approval:

Name: Mankaleme M. Magoro
Title: Environmental Assessment Practitioner (Cand.Nat.Sci.)
EAP Signature:

.....

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

I **Mankaleme M. Magoro**, in my capacity as an Environmental Assessment Practitioner, hereby declare that I-

- Act as an independent consultant;
- Do not have any financial interest in the undertaking of the activity, other than remuneration for the work performed in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998);
- Undertake to disclose, to the competent authority, any material information that has or may have the potential to influence the decision of the competent authority or the objectivity of any report, plan or document required in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998);
- As a registered member of the South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions, will undertake our profession in accordance with the Code of Conduct of the Council, as well as any other societies to which we are members; and
- Based on information provided to us by the project proponent, and in addition to information obtained during this study, have presented the results and conclusion within the associated document to the best of our professional judgement.

Signature _____ Date _____

PURPOSE OF THE BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT:

The Basic Assessment Report (BAR) forms part of a series of reports and information sources that are being provided during the BAR process of the proposed township establishment. The purpose of this BAR is to:

- Present the proposed township establishment project and the need for the project;
- Describe the affected environment at an enough level of detail to facilitate informed decision-making;
- Provide an overview of the Basic Assessment Process being followed, including public participation;
- Assess the predicted positive and negative impacts of the project on the environment;
- Provide recommendations to avoid or mitigate negative impacts and to enhance the positive benefits of the project;
- Provide an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) for the proposed project. This DBAR is being made available to all Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) and stakeholders for a 30-day review period.

All comments submitted during the review of the draft/ consultation BAR will be incorporated into the final BAR as applicable. The Final BAR will then be submitted to the North West Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism for decision-making.

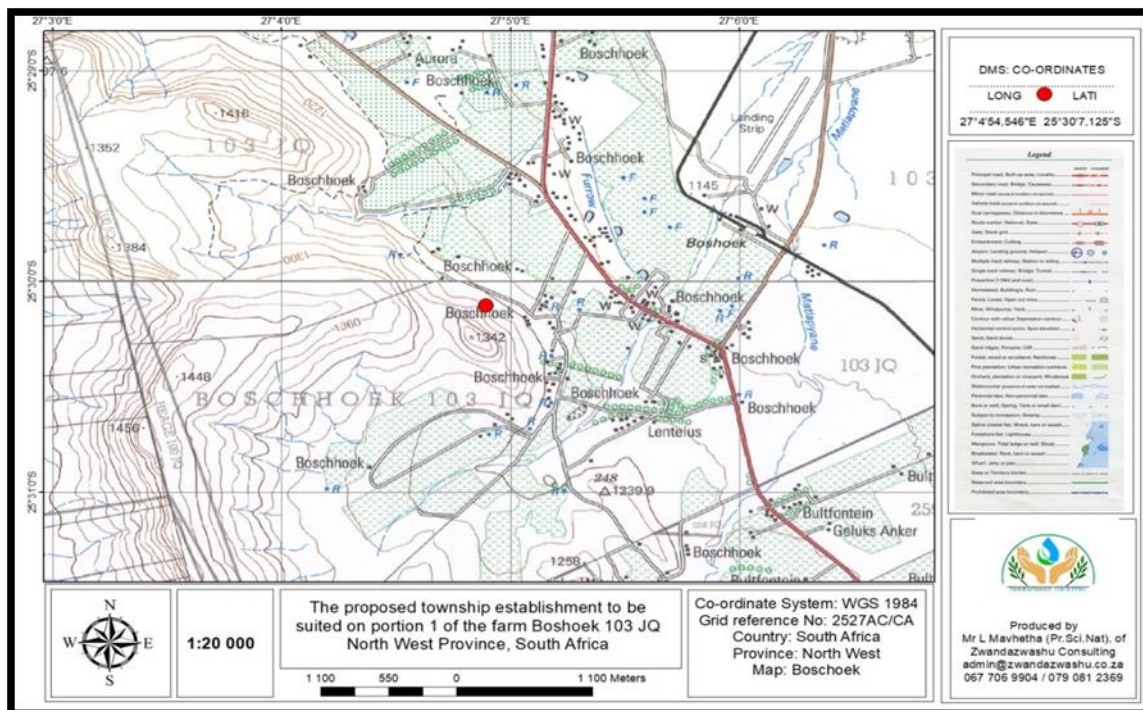
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This draft basic assessment report concentrates on the proposed township establishment with 540 mixed land-uses (530 residential 1, 4 business, 2 educational, 2 municipal, 1 institutional and 1 public open space) on the remainder of portion 8 of the farm Boschoek 103 JQ within the Rustenburg Local Municipality and Bojanala District Municipality in the North West Province. The site is currently accessed via the gravel road which connects to the existing provincial road R565.

The proposed development site is located roughly at the following coordinates:

Latitude: 25°30' 8.25"S; Longitude 27°05 '1.05 "S

SG 21-digit code: T0JQ0000000010300000e



Locality map of the project area

The proposed township establishment will occupy about 15.81 hectares. Essential infrastructure such as potable water, sewage, electricity and roads will also be supplied to make the development more sustainable.

The proposed development is listed in terms of Government Notice R324 and R327 the National Environmental Management Act, (Act 107 of 1998) and therefore requires an Environmental Impact Assessment (Basic Assessment) to be undertaken. The aim of the EIA is to ultimately ensure that environmental impacts are taken into consideration, to ensure stakeholder engagement, and to provide decision makers with sufficient information to make an informed decision on the proposed development.

This document outlines the basic assessment process followed, the proposed development and the context in which it will take place, and identifies the potential environmental impacts. The purpose of the EIA process is to define the range of the impact assessment in order to make an informed decision on the proposed activity.

A Public Participation Process runs concurrently with the Basic Assessment Phase. The purpose of this process is to identify all Interested and Affected Parties (I&AP"s), and to allow such parties the opportunity to provide input and comment regarding the EIA process, including issues and alternatives that are to be investigated. The Basic Assessment Report is made available for the public to comment. The Public Participation Process therefore facilitates informed decision-making. The BA Report (this document) represents the initial identification of key issues as highlighted by the relevant authorities, Interested and/or Affected Parties (I&AP) and professional judgement of the Environmental Assessment Practitioner.

The EIA allows for the identification of the anticipated impacts, particularly those, which require specialist investigations in order to inform decision making in terms of environmental sustainability of the site and natural resource management. The results of all the specialist studies, a full assessment of the impacts and proposed alternatives will form part of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR).

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DEFINITIONS

Alternatives

Alternatives are different means of meeting the general purpose and need of a proposed activity. Alternatives may include location or site, activity, process or technology, or the no-go alternative.

Contaminated

Means the presence in or under any land, site, buildings or structures of a substance or micro-organism above the concentration that is normally present in or under that land, which substance or micro-organism directly or indirectly affects or may affect the quality of soil or the environment adversely.

Cumulative Impacts

Impacts that result from the incremental impact of the proposed activity on a common resource when added to the impacts of the other past, present or reasonably foreseeable future activities. Cumulative impacts can occur from the collective impacts of individual minor actions over a period and can include both direct and indirect impacts.

Direct Impacts

Impacts that are caused directly by the activity and generally occur at the same time and at the place of the activity (e.g. noise generated by blasting operations on the site of activity). These impacts are usually associated with the construction, operational or maintenance of an activity and are generally obvious and quantifiable.

Environment

The surroundings within which humans exist and that are made up of

- the land, water and atmosphere of the earth;
- micro-organisms, plant and animal life;
- any part or combination of (i) and (ii) and the interrelationships among and between them; and,
- the physical, chemical, aesthetic and cultural properties and conditions of the foregoing that influence human health and wellbeing.

Environmental Aspects

Elements of an organization's activities, products or services that can interact with the environment.

Environmental Degradation

Refers to pollution, disturbance, resource depletion, loss of biodiversity, and other kinds of environmental damage; usually refers to damage occurring accidentally or intentionally as a result of human activities.

Environmental Impacts

Any change to the environment, whether adverse or beneficial, wholly or partially resulting from an organization's activities, products or services.

Environmental Impact Assessment

A systematic process of identifying, assessing and reporting environmental impacts associated with an activity and includes basic assessment and Scoping and EIR (NEMA EIA Regulations).

Environmental Impact Report

A report assessing the potential significant impacts as identified during the environmental impact assessment.

Environmental Management Plan

This document that provides appropriate mitigation measures designed to minimize or eliminate the significant adverse impacts that may be caused as a result of the proposed project.

Interested and affected parties (I&APs)

Individual, communities or groups, other than the proponent or the authorities, whose interests may be positively or negatively affected by proposal or activity and/or who are concerned with a proposal or activity and its consequences. These may include local communities, investors, business association, trade unions, customers, consumers and environmental interest group. The principle that environmental consultants and stakeholder engagement practitioners should be independent and unbiased excludes these groups from being considered stakeholders (DEA, 1998).

Land Use

The various ways in which land may be employed or occupied. Planners compile, classify, study and analyse land use data for many purposes, including the identification of trends, the forecasting of space and infrastructure requirements, the provision of adequate land area for necessary types of land use, and the development or revision of comprehensive plans and land use regulations.

Mitigate

The implementation of practical measures to reduce adverse impact (DEA).

Monitoring

Means the continuous or non-continuous measurement of a concentration, or other parameters for purpose of assessment or control of environmental quality or exposure, and the interpretation of such measurements.

Pollution

Means any change in the environment caused by—

- i. substances;
- ii. radioactive or other waves; or
- iii. noise, odours, dust or heat,

emitted from any activity, including the storage or treatment of waste or substances, construction and the provision of services, whether engaged in by any person or an organ of state, where that change has an adverse effect on human health or well-being or on the composition, resilience and productivity of natural or managed ecosystems, or on materials useful to people, or will have such an effect in the future;

Pollution Prevention

Any activity that reduces or eliminates pollutants prior to recycling, treatment, control or disposal.

Public Participation Process

A process of involving the public in order to identify needs, address concerns, in order to contribute to more informed decision making relating to a proposed project, or development.

Remediation

Means the interim or permanent elimination through mitigation or abatement of toxic or biohazard contaminants that pose human health consequences or threats to the environment.

Topography

Topography, a term in geography, refers to the "lay of the land" or the physio-geographic characteristics of land in terms of elevation, slope and orientation.

Toxicity

Refers to the inherent property of a substance to cause injury or an adverse effect in a living organism.

Vegetation

All of the plants growing in and characterizing a specific area or region; the combination of different plant communities found there.

Waste

Any substance, whether that substance can be reduced, re-used, recycled and recovered—

- (a) that is surplus, unwanted, rejected, discarded, abandoned or disposed of;
- (b) which the generator has no further use of for the purposes of production;
- (c) that must be treated or disposed of; or
- (d) that is identified as a waste by the Minister by notice in the Gazette, and includes waste generated by the mining, medical or other sector, but—
 - (i) a by-product is not considered waste; and
 - (ii) any portion of waste, once re-used, recycled and recovered, ceases to be waste;

Township

A new area being developed for residential or industrial use

ABBREVIATIONS

BAR	– Basic Assessment Report
CBD	– Central Business District
CA	– Competent Authority
CEMP	– Construction Environmental Management Plan
CLO	– Community Liaison Officer
DEA	– Department of Environmental Affairs
EAP	– Environmental Assessment Practitioner
ECO	– Environmental Control Officer
EIA	– Environmental Impact Assessment
EIS	– Ecological Importance and Sensitivity
EMP	– Environmental Management Programme
EMPr	– Environmental Management Programme report
GN	– Government Notice
Ha	– Hectares
I&AP	– Interested and Affected Party
KM	– Kilometers
MAP	– Mean Annual Precipitation
MM	– Millimeters
NEMA	– National Environmental Management Act, Act 107 of 1998 as amended
NEMAQA	– National Environmental Air Quality Act
NEMWA	– National Environmental Management Waste Act
NWA	– National Water Act
PM	– Project Manager
PPP	– Public Participation Process
R	– Regulation
NWDEDECT	– North West Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism
PHRA	– Provincial Heritage Resource Agency
SAHRA	– South African Heritage Resource Agency

SECTION A

1. DETAILS OF THE APPLICANT AND EAP

1.1. PROJECT APPLICANT DETAILS

Name of Applicant	Rustenburg Local Municipality
Contact Person	Sello Victor Makona
Postal/ Physical Address	Cnr. Nelson Mandela & Beyers Naude, Rustenburg, 0300
Telephone No.	014 590 3551
Cell	083 445 4406
Email	munman@rustenburg.gov.za

1.2. DETAILS AND EXPERTISE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER

EAP Company	Leago Environmental Solutions
Contact Person	Mankaleme M. Magoro
Address	66 Graham Road, Lombardy Business Park, Block 5, Unit 79, Pretoria, 0084
Tel	012 807 7445
Cell	081 428 6116
Email	Mankaleme@leagoenviro.co.za or info@leagoenviro.co.za
Qualifications	Bachelor of Earth Sciences in Mining and Environmental Geology
Expertise	Key expertise and experience include environmental impact assessments, environmental management plans, public participation process, geotechnical investigation studies and project management.

1.3. SPECIALIST STUDIES

Specialist studies are undertaken to investigate issues of concern where these require specialist know-how. The need for specialist studies is identified during the EIA Phase by means of consultation with relevant stakeholders, I&AP"s and professional judgement.

To isolate the salient opportunities and constraints of the environment upfront, some of the specialist studies have been undertaken at an early stage and are thus already included in the Basic Assessment Report. This approach is considered proactive as it enables informed decision making in the planning and design processes.

1.3.1 DETAILS OF THE SPECIALIST AND THE STUDIES CONDUCTED

Specialist studies conducted	Specialists
Ecological/ Biodiversity Study	Africa Ecological and Development Services
Heritage Study	PGS Heritage
Geotechnical Study	Soil Kraft
Civil and Electrical Engineering Services Report	Dalimede (Pty) Ltd
Electrical Report	Dalimede (Pty) Ltd
Traffic Impact Assessment	ABIDIA
Floodline	Dalimede (Pty) Ltd

Table 1: Specialist studies conducted.

2. SECTION B

2.1. PROJECT BACKGROUND

Leago Environmental Solutions has been appointed by Nkanivo Development Consultants on behalf of Rustenburg Local Municipality as an Independent Environmental Assessment Practitioners (EAP) to undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment Process (Basic Assessment Report) for the proposed township establishment on the remainder of portion 8 of the Farm Boschoek 103 JQ, Rustenburg Local Municipality in the North West Province. The project area measures approximately 15.81 hectares and will yield 540 stands.

Essential infrastructure such as potable water, sewage and electricity will also be supplied to make the development more sustainable.

The proposed activity requires an Environmental Impact Assessment (Basic Assessment Reporting) to be undertaken in compliance with the regulatory requirements of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMA) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations 2017, GN R.324 and R327.

The purpose of this document is to identify the initial key issues or concerns as highlighted by the relevant authorities, Interested and/or Affected Parties (I&AP"s) and professional judgement of the Environmental Assessment Practitioner.

The purpose of the Environmental Impact Assessment Process (BAR) is to address the issues, potential impacts and feasible alternatives.

2.2. PROPOSED ACTIVITY

2.2.1. Location of the Proposed Activity

The proposed activity is located on the remainder of portion 8 of the farm Boschoek 103 JQ. The site is currently accessed via the gravel road which connects to the existing provincial road R565. Additionally, the subject property is also in closer proximity to the Rustenburg Central Business District (CBD) as well as the Sun City Resorts.

The proposed development site is located roughly at the following coordinates:

Latitude: 25°30' 8.25"S; Longitude 27°05 '1.05 "S

SG 21-digit code: T0JQ00000000010300000

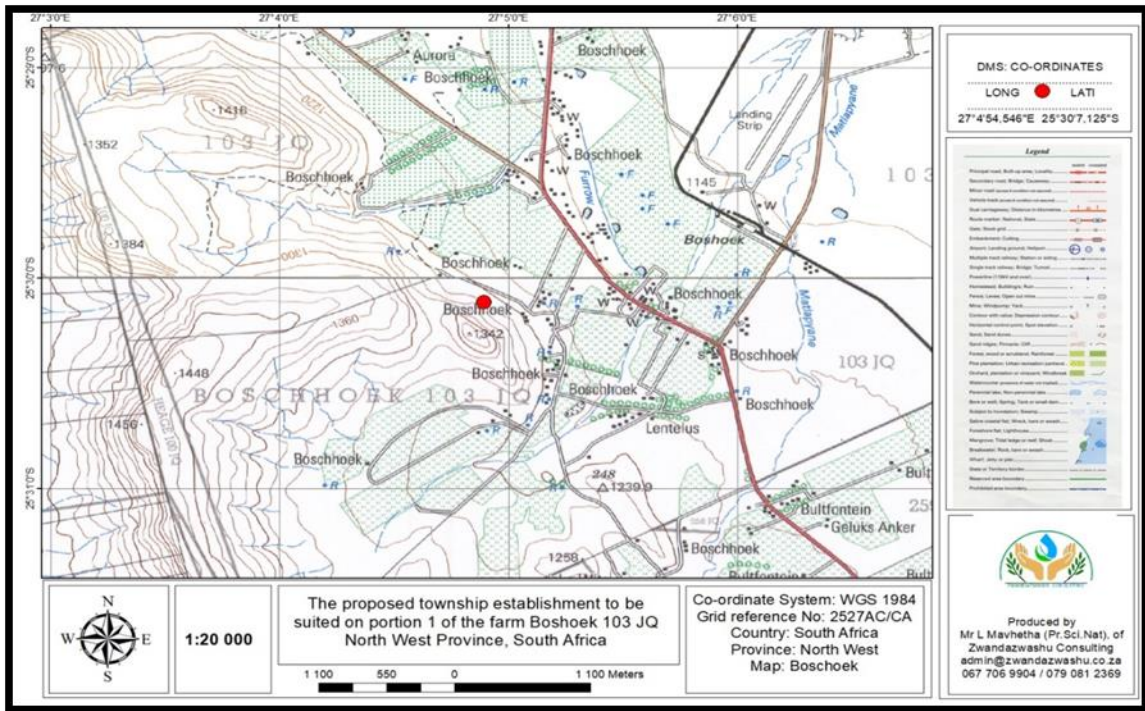


Figure 1: Locality map of the proposed development site.

2.2.2. Description of Proposed Activity

The proposed township development entails 540 stands for:

- 530 Residential (dwelling units)
- 4 Business 1 (retail)
- 2 Educational (crèche)
- 1 Institutional (Place of worship)
- 2 Municipal
- 1 public open space

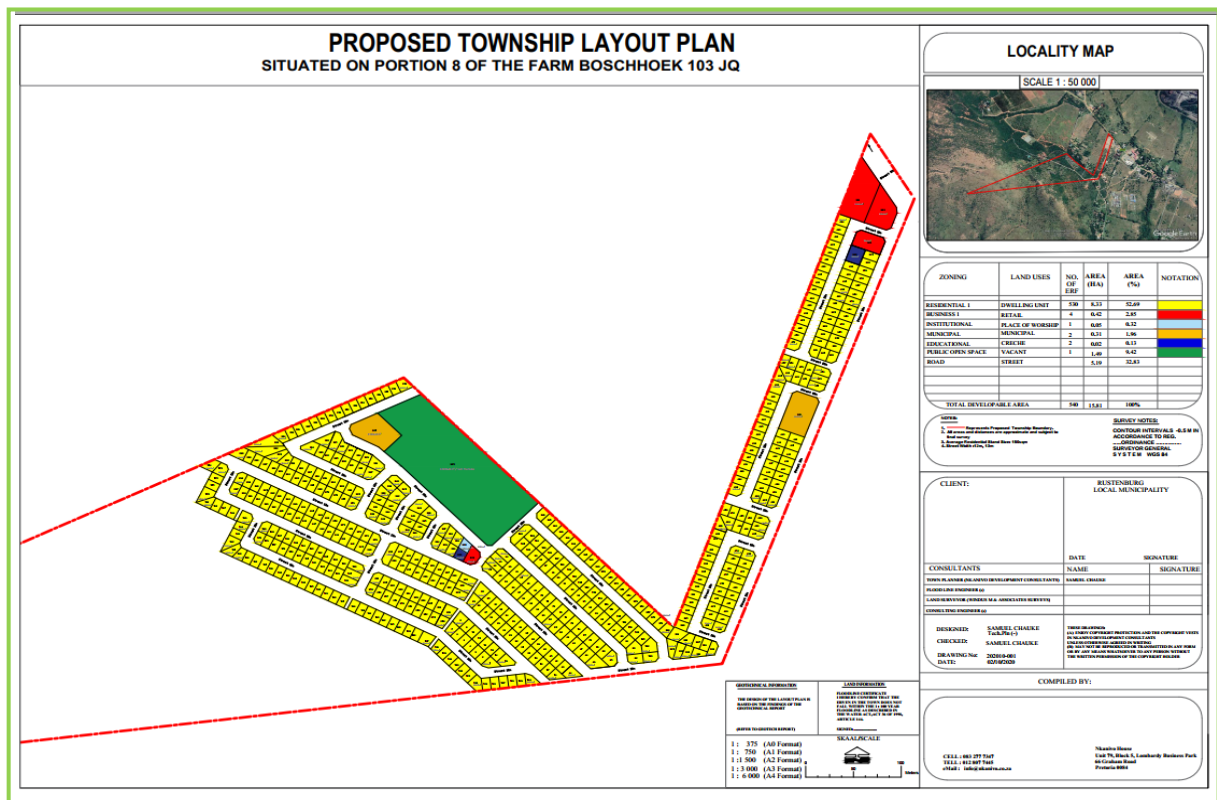


Figure 2: Layout plan of the proposed development

2.3. FEASIBLE AND REASONABLE ALTERNATIVES

2.3.1. Site Alternatives:

Site alternatives are not applicable for this project. The site was also selected so that mainly the disturbed land will be developed as it is already being invaded and illegally occupied.

2.3.2. Activity Alternatives:

The current preferred activity is deemed to be the only feasible activity alternative as this activity will result in improved housing which can accommodate more people and reduce the number of informal settlements. No other activities were considered in this application due to the assessed need and feasibility of the proposed activity.

2.3.3. Design Alternatives:

The unique character and appeal of Boschhoek were taken into consideration with the design philosophy. Various layout alternatives were considered by the applicant and town planners, also taking terrain and environmental constraints into account, the current design plan being the result, however there is a possibility of a layout alternative.

2.3.4 Operational Aspects

The operational aspects of the activity relate to the improved housing for the local community. No other alternatives were deemed feasible other than the proposed activity.

2.3.5. No-go option:

This option would come into effect if this assessment reveals fatal flaws in the process. To date no fatal flaws have been revealed. The no-go alternative of not developing the proposed site would leave the environment in the current state.

2.4. SOCIO ECONOMIC CHARACTER OF THE SITE

According to the Provincial profile of the North West Census 2011, almost four-fifths (76,9%) of the households in North West reside in formal dwellings, which is slightly below the national average of 76,9%. North West has the highest proportion of households residing in informal dwellings (21,5%), above the national average of 13,8%.

In North West, 24,9% of households live in rented dwellings. Bojanala has the highest proportion of households living in rented dwellings (30,8%).

District	Census 2011	
	Rented	Owned
Bojanala	30,8%	69,3%
Ngaka Modiri Molema	14,9%	85,2%
Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati	13,0%	87,0%
Dr Kenneth Kaunda	28,7%	71,3%
North West	24,9%	75,1%

Table 2: Percentage of households which rent or own their dwellings by district, Census, 2011.

2.5. NEED AND DESIREBILITY OF THE PROJECT

According to the 2030 National Development Plan (NDP) Executive Summary (2013), the government must look to invest “in new infrastructure in areas that directly affect the poor, such as proper housing.” The NDP (2013) places emphasis on promoting sustainable livelihoods by ensuring “that individuals or families, irrespective of income, can access services such as housing.”

This activity will be beneficial to the society and local communities for the following reasons:

- Temporary employment opportunities will be created during the construction phase of the development;
- New permanent employment opportunities will be created during the operational phase (business sites);
- The proposed township establishment will provide land on which the Rustenburg Local Municipality can rehouse occupants of the informal housing areas. This will subsequently allow the municipality to eradicate the informal settlement within the area. This will then have a positive impact on the economy, as there will be a decrease in land invasions.

2.6. LEGISLATION AND GUIDELINES

The following environmental legislation was considered in the evaluation of activities and the development of the basic assessment report.

LEGISLATION	SECTIONS/ACT NO.	PURPOSE
The Constitution of South Africa (No 108 of 1996)	Chapter 2	Bill of rights
	Chapter 24	Environmental Rights
National Environmental Management Act (No 107 of 1998, as amended)	Section 2	Defines the strategic environmental management goals and objectives of the government. Applies through-out the republic and to the actions of all organs of state that may significantly affect the environment.
	Section 24	Provides for the prohibition, restriction and control of activities which are likely to have a detrimental effect on the environment.
	Section 28	The developer has a general duty to care for the environment and to institute such measures as may be needed to demonstrate such care.
Environmental Conservation Act (No 73 of 1989) and regulations.	Section 19 and 19A	Prevention of littering by employees and sub-contractors during construction and the maintenance phases of the proposed housing project.
National Heritage Resources Act (No 25 of 1999) and regulations	Section 34	No person may alter or demolish any structure or part of a structure which is older than 60 years without a permit issued by the relevant provincial heritage resources authority.
	Section 35	No person may, without a permit issued by the responsible heritage resources authority destroy, damage, excavate, alter, deface or otherwise disturb any archaeological or paleontological site.
	Section 36	No person may, without a permit issued by the South African Heritage Resource Agency (SAHRA) or a provincial heritage resources authority destroy, damage, alter, exhume, remove from its original position or otherwise disturb any grave or burial ground older than 60 years which is situated outside a formal cemetery administered by a local authority. "Grave" is widely defined in the Act to include the contents, headstone or other marker of such a place, and any other structure on or associated with such place.
	Section 38	This section provides for Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs), which are not already covered under the ECA. Where

		they are covered under the ECA the provincial heritage resources authorities must be notified of a proposed project and must be consulted during the HIA process. The Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) will be approved by the authorizing body of the provincial directorate of environmental affairs, which is required to take the provincial heritage resources authorities' comments into account prior to making a decision on the HIA.
Occupational Health and safety Act (No 85 of 1993)	Section 8	General duties of employers to their employees
	Section 9	General duties of employers and self-employed persons to persons other than their employees
Hazardous Substances Act (No 15 of 1973) and regulations		Provides for the definition, classification, use, operation, modification, disposal or dumping of hazardous substances
SANS 10103 (Noise Regulations)		The measurement and rating of environmental noise with respect to annoyance and to speech communication.
National Environment Management Biodiversity Act (No.10 of 2004)		The purpose of this Act is to provide for the management and conservation of South Africa's biodiversity within the framework of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998; and the protection of species and ecosystems that warrant national protection; the sustainable use of indigenous biological resources; the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from bio prospecting involving indigenous biological resources; the establishment and functions of a South African National Biodiversity Institute; and for matters connected therewith

Table 3: Legislations and guidelines considered

2.6.1. LISTED ACTIVITIES TRIGGERED BY THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

The proposed development triggers the “listed activities”. These are the activities that could impact significantly on the environment and therefore require Environmental Authorisation from the Competent Authority which is NWDEDECT.

Listed Activities	Listing Notice And Activity No.	Description of Project Activity	Relevance to the proposed development
GN. R327, 07 April 2017	Listing Notice 1, Activity 27	The clearance of an area of 1 hectares or more, but less than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation, except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for— (i) the undertaking of a linear activity; or (ii) maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.	The clearance of an area of 15.81 Ha.
R 324, 07 April 2017	Listing Notice 3, Activity 12 (h): iv	h. North West iv. Critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority	The proposed development site is located on a Critical Biodiversity Area 2.

Table 4: Listed activities triggered by the proposed activity/ development.

2.6.2. Water and Wastewater Management

The National Water Act (Act No. 36 of 1998) aims to provide management of the National water resources to achieve sustainable use of water for the benefit of all water users. This requires that the quality of water resources is protected as well as integrated management of water resources with the delegation of powers of institutions at the regional or catchments level. The purpose of the Act is to ensure that the Nation’s water resources are protected, used, developed, conserved, managed and controlled in ways, which take into account:

- Meeting the basic human needs of present and future generation;
- Promoting equitable access to water;
- Promoting the efficient, sustainable and beneficial use of water in the public interest;
- Facilitating social and economic development;
- Providing for growing demand for water use;

- Protecting aquatic and associated ecosystems and their biological diversity; and
- Reducing and preventing pollution and degradation of water resources.

Section 21(c) and (i) of the water use licence will be triggered in the construction of a crossing bridge and the licence has been applied.

2.6.3. Waste

All waste must be disposed of at appropriately licensed (in terms of Section 20 of the Environment Conservation Act, 1989 (Act No 73 of 1989) landfill sites. Waste generated during the construction as well as operational phases of the project must therefore be disposed of at sites which have received the necessary permits or exemptions.

2.6.4. Heritage Resources

The protection of archaeological and paleontological sites and material is the responsibility of the Provincial Heritage Resources Authority and all archaeological objects, paleontological material and meteorites are the property of the state. Any person who discovers archaeological or paleontological objects or material or a meteorite in the course of development must immediately report the find to the responsible heritage resources authority, or to the nearest local authority offices or museum, which must immediately notify such Heritage Resources Authority.

The Act identifies various activities that require the submission of an EIA to Provincial Heritage Resource Authorities, if an evaluation of the impact of such development on heritage resources is not required in terms of any other legislation. The proposed development requires a heritage investigation as it will involve changing the character of the site >5 000 m² (Section 38 of NHRA).

Furthermore, other legislative measures which may be of relevance include the Removal of Graves and Dead Bodies Ordinance (Ordinance no. 7 of 1925), the Human Tissues Act (Act no. 65 of 1983, as amended), the Ordinance on Excavations (Ordinance no. 12 of 1980) as well as any local and regional provisions, laws and by-laws that may be in place.

The final decision for the approval of permits, or the removal or destruction of sites, structures and artefacts, rests with the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) (or relevant PHRA).

2.6.5. Other Legislation, Regulations, Policy and Guidelines

Other relevant legislative framework, regulations, policy and guidelines which are or may become applicable during the EIA process include, amongst others, the following:

- **National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act:** The aim of this act is to provide for the management of South Africa's biodiversity with NEMA's framework.

- **National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act:** The Protected Areas Act provides for the protection and conservation of ecologically viable areas, which are representative of South Africa's diversity, as well as natural landscapes and seascapes.
- **Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act:** Regulations 7 and 8 deals with the protection of wetlands and water courses, while regulations 15 and 16 deals with invasive plant species and bush encroachment.
- **Convention of Biological Diversity:** South Africa is a signatory of the Convention on Biological Diversity, and therefore has a duty to conserve and rehabilitate biological resources which are considered important for the conservation of biological diversity.
- Promotion of Access to Information Act, 2000.

3. SECTION C: ENVIRONMENTAL SYNOPSIS

3.1. BIOPHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

3.1.1. Climate

Boschoek receives most of its rainfall in mid-summer, with an average annual temperature of 14° degrees and about 459 mm of rain in a year. Temperatures range from 18 °C in June and 36°C in December.

3.1.2. Vegetation

According to the Ecological Study Report, the proposed township is located on the Savanna biome. This biome is defined by a herbaceous layer dominated by grass species and a discontinuous to sometimes very open tree layer. The proposed township will only occur on a single Savanna vegetation type namely the Zeerust Thornveld. (See Appendix 3.4-Ecological Study Report)

The proposed development is also located on a Critical Biodiversity Area 2 (CBA 2) and Ecological Support Area 2 as per the screening tool.

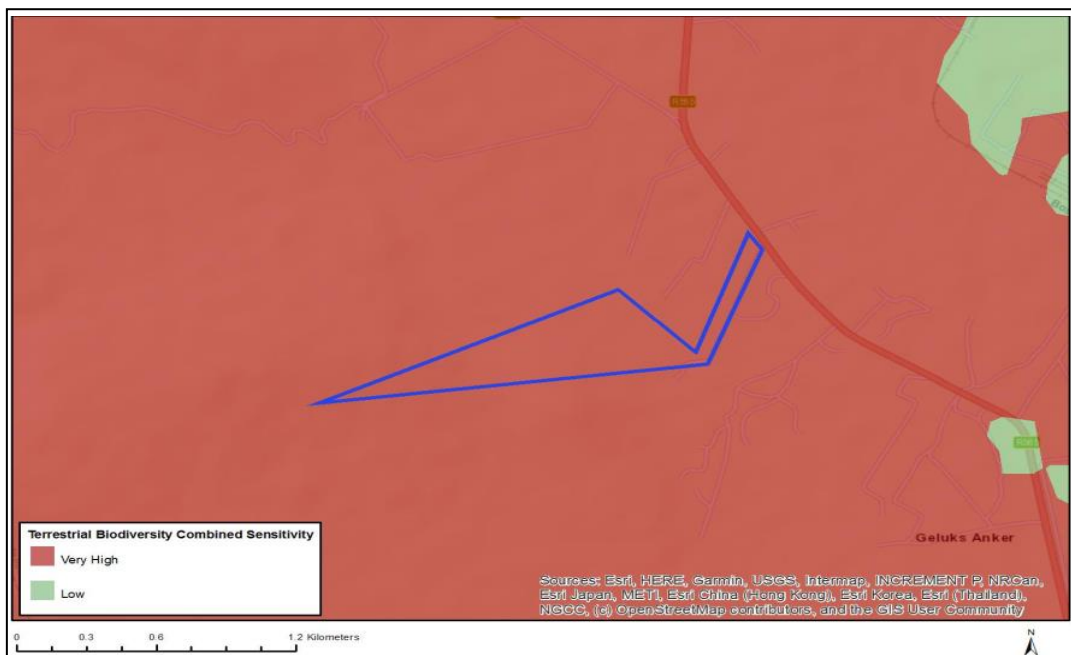


Figure 3: Sensitivity Map

3.1.3. Topography

The proposed development site is characterised by gentle undulating slopes.

3.1.5. Ground Water and Geology of the Site

Based on the geotechnical study report, the site is underlain by the Kolobeng Norite of the Rustenburg Layered Suite (Bushveld Igneous Complex). The bedrock material includes norite, diabase and hybrid rocks.

There was no seepage or perched water table encountered on any of the trial pits during the geotechnical field work.

3.1.6. Cultural and Historical Sites

According to the Heritage study report, there are 10 sites which were identified/ recorded within the proposed development site.

3.1.7. Flood line

The proposed development site is not affected by the 1:100 flood line

3.1.7. Current Land-Use

There are existing houses on site, however they were developed and occupied illegally.

3.1.7. Storm Water Management

The storm water will drain on according to the slope of the natural ground, however, the storm water discharge control must be applied in order to reduce the damaging effect of the increase in runoff due to densification.

3.1.8. Emissions into the Atmosphere

There will be dust from construction activities. We therefore suggest that a detailed Air Quality Study would not be necessary.

3. 2. THE FOLLOWING ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES ARE ALSO ENVISAGED FOR THE DEVELOPMENT:

3.2.1. Water Source

Water in Boschoek area is currently sourced from the boreholes. The borehole pumps are powered by a generator, and are currently pumped for two hours per day.

(See Appendix 3.1-Engineering Service Report)

3.2.2. Sewer Handling and Discharge

Boschoek area currently has no existing wastewater treatment works. Sewer is currently handled onsite through the use of septic tanks and pit toilets.

3.2.3. Electricity

There are existing MV feeder lines that are supplying the area. The MV line is a Mink Conductor.

3.2.4. Solid Waste

A regional landfill situated nearest the site is to be used to dispose solid waste. The local municipality will be responsible for collecting and disposing the solid waste. If the municipality is not able to provide this service, then a private company will need to be appointed by the development owners for the service.

3.2.5. Access and Roads

The site is currently accessed through a gravel road which connects to the main tarred R565 road.

3.3. ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Design measures will completely be environmentally friendly. The following measures will be considered:

- The architectural design will ensure that there will be a proper natural flow of air into and outside of the buildings occur deliberately as ventilation.
- Proper insulation of the ceilings is required because as much as 50% of heat losses in a building can be attributed to a lack of ceilings and ceiling insulation, this will significantly reduce heating and cooling expenses.

3.3.1. Power Supply

- Conservation of energy or the usage of renewal and sustainable energy technology must be a priority. This can be in the form of solar panels that generate and store electricity.

3.3.2. Lighting

- Compact fluorescent light bulbs are recommended as compared to ordinary light bulbs as they also assist for security purpose too

4. SECTION D: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

4.1. OBJECTIVES

As an important component of the EIA process, the public participation process involves public inputs from interested and affected parties (I & APs) according to Section 56 of the NEMA 2010 Regulations. I & AP may comment during the planning phase of the proposed project.

The key objectives of the public participation process are to:

- Identify a broad range of I & APs, and inform them about the proposed project;
- Understand and clearly document all issues, underlying concerns and suggestions raised by the I & APs; and
- Identify areas that require further specialist investigation.

The complete description of the Public Participation Process will be included in Appendix 4.

4.2. A summary of the most pertinent events will be as follows:

- An application form for EIA Authorisation will be submitted to Competent Authority (DEDECT).
- Notices will be placed up on various points on site.
- Background information letters and I&AP registration form will be distributed by hand („knock and drop“), and by email to adjacent landowners/ residents, and relevant authorities.
- A newspaper notice will also be placed in the local newspaper.

4.2.1 Advertisement and Notice

The proposed project will be advertised in the local newspaper to inform people about the project and request them to register their names and comment on the proposed development.

4.2.2. Authority Participation

The Basic Assessment Report will be sent/ circulated to the stakeholders for observation and comments. No comments were received from all organisations so far.

4.2.3. Issues Raised by Interested and Affected Parties

No issues were raised so far that needed to be addressed by the Environmental Assessment Practitioner.

5. SECTION E: IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The impacts anticipated to occur as a result of the proposed development will be evaluated to determine their significance.

Significance will be determined for scenarios involving both „before“ and „after“ mitigation. The baseline scenario which is ultimately evaluated is the proposal as described in the EIAR, bearing in mind that the environmental planning exercise as well as the process of investigating alternatives has already excluded a number of significant impacts.

The following evaluation criteria are used:

Nature: This is a qualified description of the impact and how it affects the receiving environment.

Extent: Here it is established what the spatial size of the impact will be:

- Limited to the development footprint.
- Within the defined study area (the site). o Affects the neighbours (region).
- Within the relevant province.
- Extends way beyond the site (National / International).

Duration: The timeframe over which the effects of the impact will be felt are described as: o Immediately reversible (unique).

- Short term (e.g. 0-10 years).
- Medium term (e.g. 11-25 years).
- Long term (as long as the operational phase).
- Permanent.

Intensity: The impact is assessed with regards to levels of modification it has on the receiving environment: o No known impact.

- Natural processes not affected.
- Environment is affected, yet the modified processes will continue and return to a similar functioning state.
- Environment is affected, yet the modified processes will continue.
- Process is disturbed and as a consequence will permanently cease.

Probability: The likelihood of the impact actually occurring is indicated as:

- Extremely unlikely – Less than 5% sure of a particular fact or likelihood of an impact occurring.
- Unlikely – Less than 40% sure of a particular fact or the likelihood of an impact occurring.
- Possible – Only 40% sure of a particular fact or of the likelihood of an impact occurring.

- Probable – Over 70% sure of a particular fact, or of the likelihood of that impact occurring.
- Definite - More than 90% certainty. Substantial supportive data exists to verify the assessment.

Status: The status is clarified in terms of it being a benefit or a constraint:

- P - Positive impact
- N - Negative impact

Significance: Based on the above, the significance rating scale is determined as follows:

- Very low - Impact would be negligible. In the case of negative impacts, almost no mitigation and or remedial activity would be needed, and any minor steps, which might be needed, would be easy, cheap and simple. In case of positive impacts, alternative means would almost all likely be better, in one or a number of ways, than this means of achieving the benefit.
- Low - Impact would be of a low order and with little real effect. In the case of negative impacts, mitigation and / or remedial activity would be either easily achieved or little would be required, or both. In case of positive impacts alternative means for achieving this benefit would likely be easier, cheaper, more effective, less time-consuming, or a combination of these.
- Moderate - Impact would be real but not substantial within the bounds of those, which could occur. In the case of negative impacts, mitigation and / or remedial activity would be both feasible and fairly easily possible. In the case of positive impacts, other means of achieving these benefits would be about equal in time, cost and effort.
- High - Impacts of a substantial order. In the case of negative impacts, mitigation and / or remedial activity would be feasible but difficult, expensive, time-consuming or some combination of these. In the case of positive impacts, other means of achieving this benefit would be feasible, but these would be more difficult, expensive, time-consuming or some combination of these.
- Very high - Of the highest order possible within the bounds of impacts which could occur. In the case of negative impacts, there would be no possible mitigation and / or remedial activity to offset the impact at the spatial or time scale for which it was predicted. In the case of positive impacts, there is no real alternative to achieving the benefit.

The assessment of impacts must adhere to the minimum requirements in the EIA Regulations, 2014 and should take applicable official guidelines into account. The issues raised by interested and affected parties should also be addressed in the assessment of impacts.

6.2. Impacts that may result from the planning and design, construction, operational, decommissioning and closure phases as well as proposed management of identified impacts and proposed mitigation measures

A summary and anticipated significance of the potential direct, indirect and cumulative impacts that are likely to occur as a result of the planning and design phase, construction phase, operational phase, decommissioning and closure phase, including impacts relating to the choice of site/activity/technology alternatives as well as the mitigation measures that may eliminate or reduce the potential impacts listed. This impact assessment must be applied to all the identified alternatives to the activities identified in Section B of this report.

Design/Planning Phase					
IDENTIFIED IMPACTS- PLANNING PHASE					
IMPACT		SIGNIFICANCE RATING OF IMPACT BEFORE MITIGATION	PROPOSED MITIGATION		SIGNIFICANCE RATING OF IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION
Direct Impacts					
Poor Design- Structural failures		High (Negative)	Ensure compliance with the industry standards		Low (Negative)
Indirect Impacts					
Disregard of legislative requirement		High (Negative)	Ensure compliance with relevant legislation and legal standards		Low (Negative)

Construction Phase			
IDENTIFIED IMPACTS- CONSTRUCTION PHASE			
IMPACT	SIGNIFICANCE RATING OF IMPACT BEFORE MITIGATION	PROPOSED MITIGATION	SIGNIFICANCE RATING OF IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION
Direct Impacts			
Loss of terrestrial vegetation and faunal habitat, specifically the secondary woodland areas from construction activities.	Medium (Negative)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain the viability of the indigenous seed bank in excavated soil so that it can be used for subsequent re-vegetation of any disturbed areas. Prevent impact of construction activities to extend on to neighbouring land-demarcated and fenced construction 	Low (Negative)

		<p>camp; strict control of labourers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid unnecessary loss of indigenous trees. 	
Increased risk of dust and erosion from clearing of vegetation and earth moving vehicles	Medium (Negative)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All vehicles must be along existing lines or tracks. • Erosion protection measures must be implemented on the site to reduce erosion and sedimentation of the receiving environment. Measures could include: Sediment traps Sandbags Bunding around soil stockpiles. • Adequate dust control strategies should be applied to minimise dust disposition, they can include periodic spraying of roads with water, cover trucks to prevent dust emission during transportation. 	

Increased risk of spillages associated with construction activities, maintenance and repair of vehicles	Medium (Negative)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regularly check vehicles, machineries and equipment operating on site to ensure that none have leaks or cause spills of oil, diesel, grease or hydraulic fluid. • Emergency incident reporting and remedial measures must be in place. • Small oil spills must be cleaned immediately with an oil spill kit. • Drip trays should be used during the servicing of vehicles. The content thereof must be disposed in accordance with relevant hazardous material disposal requirement. • Measures to contain spills must be readily available on site (Spill Kits). • All hazardous substance spills must be reported to the contractor and the ECO to be recorded and investigated. 	Low (Negative)
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Waste collection services	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confirmation from the municipality must be sought to ensure the municipal waste collection service will collect the household waste generated by the proposed development. 	Low (Negative)
Increased risk for soil, groundwater pollution resulting from poor waste management	Medium (Negative)	<p>Waste on site shall be strictly controlled and monitored. Only approved waste disposal methods shall be allowed, and it includes the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Topsoil</u>- Topsoil must be spread unto areas that are to be grassed on site. <u>Material</u>- Landfilled, spoiled in closed borrowed pit with permission from landowner or the pit owner. <u>General Construction Waste</u>- Must be removed from bins at sufficient intervals to prevent overflow. This waste must be stored in skips within a designated waste storage area in the Contractor's Camp. General waste must be transported to the local municipal General Waste Landfill Site by the Municipality, the Contractor or a private waste disposal Contractor. Service agreements in this regard must be obtained by the Applicant / Contractor prior to the commencement of construction activities. It is recommended that general wastes be separated on site and delivered to appropriate depots for recycling. This would be facilitated by the provision of separate and labelled bins /skips. <u>Hazardous construction waste</u>- Must be stored in a designated, access controlled, sign posted and bunded storage area. This waste must be collected as and when necessary by an appropriately trained Service Provider and must be transported to a Hazardous Waste Landfill Site for disposal. Waste must not be buried on site. 	Low (Negative)
Potential noise impact from the use of construction equipment (for the	Medium (Negative)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limit construction activities to day time hours. Construction personnel must wear 	Low (Neutral)

construction of the proposed township establishment		<p>personal protective equipment where appropriate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All machineries to be utilised on the site must be fitted with muffers and must be maintained in good working conditions in order to minimize noise. • The contractor shall warn all local community that could be affected by the noise generation from construction activities. 	
Increase in storm water runoff resulting from construction activities	Medium (Negative)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To prevent storm water damage, the increase storm water runoff resulting from construction activities must be estimated and drainage patterns accessed accordingly. A drainage plan must be submitted to the Engineer for approval. • Temporary cut off drains and berms may be required to capture storm water and promote infiltration. 	Low (Negative)
Potential health injuries to construction personnel as a result of construction work (i.e. welding fumes. This impact is rated as neutral.	Medium (Neutral)	The contractor must ensure that all construction personnel are provided with adequate PPE for use where appropriate.	Low (Neutral)
Disturbance of Heritage Resources from construction activities.	Low (Negative)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SAHRA must immediately be alerted in case evident or artefacts, paleontological fossils, additional graves or heritage resources are discovered during the course of development. 	Negligible
Socio-economic Impact: Employment creation and skills development opportunities during the construction phase, which is expected to give rise to approximately 10 new jobs. This impact is rated as positive.	Medium (Positive)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance the use of local labour and local skills as far as reasonably possible. • Where the required skills do not occur locally, and where appropriate and applicable, ensure that relevant local individuals are trained. • Ensure that an equitable percentage allocation is provided for local labour employment as well as specify the use of small-to-medium enterprises and training specifications in the Contractors contract. 	High (Positive)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that goods and services are sourced from the local and regional economy as far as reasonably possible. 	
Air quality impact: Emissions from construction vehicles and generation of dust as a result of earthworks, and mixing of construction materials.	Medium (Negative)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that cleared (excavated) areas and unpaved surfaces are sprayed with water (obtained from an approved source) to minimise dust generation. Approved soil stabilisers may be utilised to limit dust generation. Ensure that construction vehicles travelling on unpaved roads do not exceed a speed limit of 40 km/hour. Adequate dust control strategies should be applied to minimise dust deposition, for example: Periodic spraying of the entrance road and environmentally-friendly dust control measures (e.g. mulching and wetting) where and when dust is problematic 	Low (Negative)
Indirect Impacts			
Socio-economic impact: Secondary industries may benefit from the proposed project in the form of the provision of produce and pork products. This impact is rated as positive.	Low (Positive)	Ensure that local industries are utilised as suppliers, where applicable/practical.	Medium (Positive)
No-go alternative			
<p>Direct Impacts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None of the impacts mentioned above will occur. The existing site will remain uncleared which will result in no clearance of indigenous vegetation If the proposed project does not proceed, increased income and economic spin-off activities will not be realised. <p>Indirect Impacts:</p> <p>There are no indirect impacts during the construction phase for the No-go Option.</p> <p>Cumulative Impacts:</p> <p>There are no cumulative impacts during the construction phase for the No-go Option.</p>			
Operational Phase			
IDENTIFIED IMPACTS- OPERATIONAL PHASE			
IMPACT	SIGNIFICANCE RATING OF	PROPOSED MITIGATION	SIGNIFICANCE RATING OF

	IMPACT BEFORE MITIGATION		IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION
Direct Impacts			
Ground water contamination caused by leaks from the construction vehicles	High (Negative)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow acceptable maintenance and operational practices to ensure consistent, effective and safe performance of the infrastructure. All accidental surface spills of oil or fuel from construction vehicles must be contained on-site and diverted to the oil /water separator or similar. 	Low (Negative)
Land contamination as a result of spillages that could occur during the transfer of petroleum products from road tanker to storage tanker	Medium (Negative)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measure for emergency reporting and remedy must be provided. Train forecourt staff on implementation of spillage containment emergency plan, including usage of spill containment kit. 	Low (Negative)
Potential noise impact from construction trucks.	Low (Negative)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage vehicle drivers to switch off their engines when parked. (i.e. no idling). This will limit engine emissions. The use of appropriate signage can assist in this regard. Provide strict management rules for personnel who are working at the construction site 	Low (Negative)
Visual impacts will increase during the operation phase due to development and lighting	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lighting and layout to be maintained as per the layout plan to ensure bright street lighting is not permitted 	Low
Potential impact on the health of operating personnel resulting in potential health injuries. This impact is rated as neutral	Medium (Neutrals)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operational personnel must wear basic PPE as necessary during the construction phase. A complete First Aid Kit must be readily available on site and regularly serviced. Personnel must be trained in health and safety awareness and management of emergency situations. 	Low (Neutral)
Lack of road maintenance will lead to a deterioration in the internal and access roads	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Road maintenance must be done regularly by the Rustenburg Local Municipality 	Low
Risk of fire explosion	Medium (Negative)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevent spread of fire to surrounding buildings or vegetation. Adequate firefighting training must be 	Low (Negative)

		<p>given to staff.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency numbers must be displayed with the correct details of the nearest firefighting station at all times. • Prevent effluent from firefighting (foam, water, fuel, chemicals) from entering surface/groundwater, stormwater systems, and septic tanks. • Ensure that relevant signage e.g. no smoking, is displayed in potentially dangerous areas and is abided by. 	
The development may lead to an increase in crime	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure effective measures are included in the operation of the township to reduce the chances of crime increase 	Low
Socio-economic Impact: Skills development opportunities and economic spin off activities will also occur during the operational phase. This impact is rated as positive.	Medium (Positive)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance the use of local labour and local skills as far as reasonably possible. • Where the required skills do not occur locally, and where appropriate and applicable, ensure that relevant local individuals are trained. • Ensure that goods and services are sourced from the local and regional economy as far as reasonably possible. 	High (Positive)
Indirect Impacts			
Impact on the surrounding community in terms of visibility and great environment	Medium (Negative)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that surrounding gardens are well maintained. The planting of indigenous vegetation is encouraged. • Use water sparingly in maintaining gardens. • Ensure that the township lighting does not disturb surrounding residents or users of surrounding roads (e.g. direction, glare, flashing). • Institute an appropriate building and site maintenance programme. 	Low (Negative)
No-go alternative			

Direct Impacts

- None of the impacts mentioned above will occur.
- If the proposed project does not proceed, increased income and economic spin-off activities will not be realised.

Indirect Impacts

There are no indirect impacts during the operation phase for the No-go Option.

Cumulative Impacts

There are no cumulative impacts during the operational phase for the No-go Option.

Table 5: Impact assessment rating

6. SECTION F: CONCLUSION AND RECOMENDATIONS

The objective of the EIA process (Basic Assessment Process) is to define the range of the impact assessment. It is believed that this objective has been achieved and adequately documented in the Basic Assessment Report.

The EAP recommends that the implementation and strict adherence to the EMPr forms part of the conditions of an Environmental Authorisation for the development. The EAP also recommends that all mitigation measures as described in this Basic Assessment Report be included as part of the conditions of the authorisations granted for the development. Furthermore, the developer should accept responsibility for appointing service providers that comply with the legislative requirements of the country and who have standing agreements with the necessary authorities where required.

The following measures/ plans must also be required as part of the approval:

- The Waste Management Plan must be developed approved; and implemented.
- Communication or awareness must be undertaken to the project team to ensure maximum participation and compliance to the EMPr.
- The EMP attached and the mitigation measures related to it must be adhered to at all times and the appointed ECO must ensure that the developer complies with the EMP.
- An ECO must be appointed to monitor compliance with the authorization and develop compliance reports to be submitted to the Department during the construction phase.
- It is recommended that adequate storm water management be incorporated in the design of the proposed development in order to prevent erosion and the associated sedimentation of the surrounding areas. All areas affected by construction which are to remain as open space areas should be rehabilitated upon the completion of the construction phase of the development.
- All of the recommendations in the specialist reports that are included as a part of this application should be implemented & strictly adhered to in order to counteract adverse and cumulative impacts to the biophysical & social environments.