



## **environmental affairs**

Department:  
Environmental Affairs  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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0169

Fax No: 012-665-1886

### **PER FACSIMILE / MAIL**

Dear Ms Muruven

#### **APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION: THE PROPOSED UMZIMVUBU WATER PROJECT - NTABELANGA - LALINI CONJUNCTION SCHEME AND ASSOCIATED ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE ALFRED NZO, JOE GQABI AND O. R. TAMBO DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES, EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE**

The Final Scoping Report (FSR) and Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment dated June 2014 and received by the Department on 20 June 2014 refers.

The Department has evaluated the submitted FSR and the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment dated June 2014 and is satisfied that the documents comply with the minimum requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2010. The FSR is hereby accepted by the Department in terms of regulation 30(1) (a) of the EIA Regulations, 2010.

You may proceed with the environmental impact assessment process in accordance with the tasks contemplated in the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment as required in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2010.

Please ensure that comments from all relevant stakeholders are submitted to the Department with the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR). This includes, but is not limited to Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEDEAT), Eskom SOC Limited, Endangered Wildlife Trust, Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Department of Water Affairs, Department of Energy, O R Tambo, Joe Gqabi and Alfred Nzo District Municipalities, Department of Rural Development and Land Reform, World Wildlife Fund, Eastern Cape Provincial Heritage Resources Council, affected local municipalities and all interested and affected parties consulted during the scoping phase, etc. Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the Final EIR. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof should be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.

In addition, the following amendments and additional information is required for the draft and final EIR:

- a) Following a review of the application form received on 01 April 2014, this Department advises that the application form must be amended and resubmitted to only include specific listed activities for activities triggered under GNR 546 dated 18 June 2010. Please ensure that the amended application form includes the fax number of the applicant.
- b) Please note that the Department's application form template has been amended and can be downloaded from the following link <https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms>.
- c) An amended application form needs to be submitted to this Department to display the correct listed activities **within 10 days from the date of this letter**. The listed activities which apply to the development must be accompanied by a description of the particular aspect of the development that is applicable.
- d) To ensure that the timeframes as stipulated in the EIA, Regulations, 2010 are met, the information requested must be submitted in the timeframe as specified above. Should this information not be forthcoming, this Department reserves the right to retract this acceptance letter and thus thereby rejecting the application.
- e) A covering letter must accompany the amended application form to facilitate the administrative process.
- f) The impacts of the proposed facility on water courses and water resources in the area must be assessed in the EIA phase.
- g) The total footprint of the proposed development should be indicated. Exact locations of the roads, pipelines, gauging weir, electricity infrastructure, dam wall, and associated infrastructure should be mapped at an appropriate scale. Please ensure that geographic coordinates of all the aforementioned infrastructures are provided in both the draft and final EIR.
- h) Should a Water Use License be required, proof of application for a license needs to be submitted.
- i) Possible impacts and effects of the development on the surrounding community.
- j) The EIR should include information on the following:
  - Environmental costs vs benefits of the proposed Mzimvubu Water Project; and
  - Economic viability of the proposed development (Mzimvubu Water Project) to the surrounding area and how the local community will benefit.
- k) Information on services required on the site, e.g. sewage, refuse removal, water and electricity. Who will supply these services and has an agreement and confirmation of capacity been obtained?
- l) A construction and operational phase EMP to include mitigation and monitoring measures.
- m) Should blasting be required, appropriate mitigation measures should be provided.

The applicant is hereby reminded to comply with the requirements of regulation 67 with regard to the time period allowed for complying with the requirements of the Regulations, and regulations 56 and 57 with regard to the allowance of a comment period for interested and affected parties on all reports submitted to the competent authority for decision-making. The reports referred to are listed in regulation 56(3a-3h).

Please ensure that the Final EIR includes at least one A3 regional map of the area and the locality maps included in the final EIR must illustrate the different proposed infrastructure and their alignments. The maps must be of acceptable quality and as a minimum, have the following attributes:

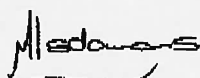
- Maps are relatable to one another;
- Cardinal points;
- Legible legends;
- Indicate alternatives;
- Latest land cover;
- Vegetation types of the study area; and
- A3 size locality map.

Further, it must be reiterated that, should an application for Environmental Authorisation be subject to the provisions of Chapter II, Section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act No.25 of 1999, then this Department will not be able to make nor issue a decision in terms of your application for Environmental Authorisation pending a letter from the pertinent heritage authority categorically stating that the application fulfils the requirements of the relevant heritage resources authority as described in Chapter II, Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act No.25 of 1999.

You are requested to submit two (2) copies of the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to the Department and at least one electronic copy (CD/DVD) of the complete final report with the hard copy documents.

You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No 107 of 1998, as amended, which stipulates that no activity may commence prior to an environmental authorisation being granted by the Department.

Yours sincerely



**Mr Ishaam Abader**

**Deputy Director-General: Legal, Authorisations, Compliance and Enforcement**  
**Department of Environmental Affairs**

**Letter signed by: Ms Milcent Solomons**

**Designation: Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations**

**Date: 15/07/2014**

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	Mr A Mfenyana	Eastern Cape Depts of Economic Development and Environmental Affairs	Tel: 043-605-7011	Fax: 043-605-7300
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	Mr Z.A. Williams	Joe Gqabi District Municipality	Tel: 045-979-3006	Fax:045-971-0251
	Mr M.Z. Silinga	Alfred Nzo District Municipality	Tel: 039-254-5000	Fax:039-254-0343