



ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPACT ASSESSMENT
FOR THE MZIMVUBU
WATER PROJECT

DEA REF. No 14/12/16/3/3/2/677 (Dam Construction) 14/12/16/3/3/2/678 (Electricity Generation) 14/12/16/3/3/1/1169 (Roads)





NTABELANGA DAM BORROW PITS AND QUARRY ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

FINAL February 2015

NTABELANGA DAM BORROW PITS AND QUARRY ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

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Management Plan

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The following page must be signed upon awarding of the contract and serves as acknowledgment that the appointed Engineer and Contractor accept and understand the contents of this Environmental Management Plan as approved by the Developer.

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Chief Director: Engineering Services	Date
CONTRACTOR Accepted by:	
Name:	Date

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE MZIMVUBU WATER PROJECT

LIST OF REPORTS

REPORT TITLE	DWS REPORT NUMBER
Inception Report	P WMA 12/T30/00/5314/1
Scoping Report	P WMA 12/T30/00/5314/2
Environmental Impact Assessment Report	P WMA 12/T30/00/5314/3
Environmental Management Programme	P WMA 12/T30/00/5314/14
Integrated Water Use License Application for the Mzimvubu Water Project: Technical Report	P WMA 12/T30/00/5314/4
Ntabelanga Dam borrow pits and quarry Environmental Management Plan	P WMA 12/T30/00/5314/5
Lalini Dam borrow pits and quarry Environmental Management Plan	P WMA 12/T30/00/5314/6
SUPPORTING REPORTS	
Social Impact Assessment	P WMA 12/T30/00/5314/7
Economic Impact Assessment	P WMA 12/T30/00/5314/8
Visual Impact Assessment	P WMA 12/T30/00/5314/9
Floral Impact Assessment	P WMA 12/T30/00/5314/10
Faunal Impact Assessment	P WMA 12/T30/00/5314/11
Heritage Impact Assessment	P WMA 12/T30/00/5314/12
Water Quality Study	P WMA 12/T30/00/5314/13
Aquatic Ecology Assessment	P WMA 12/T30/00/5314/15
Wetland Assessment	P WMA 12/T30/00/5314/16
Rapid Reserve Determination: Tsitsa River at Lalini	P WMA 12/T30/00/5314/17

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE MZIMVUBU WATER PROJECT

DEA REF No. 14/12/16/3/3/2/677 (Dam construction application) 14/12/16/3/3/2/678 (Electricity generation application) 14/12/16/3/3/1/1169 (Roads application)

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DWS Report No: P WMA 12/T30/00/5314/5

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ACRONYMNS AND ABBREVIATIONS

BID Background Information Document

BLMC Biodiversity Land Management Class

CIDB Construction Industry Development Board

CBA Conservation Biodiversity Area

CER Contractor's Environmental Representative

BLMC Biodiversity Land Management Classes

DEA Department of Environmental Affairs

DMR Department of Mineral Resources

DM District Municipality

DWS Department of Water and Sanitation

EA Environmental Authorisation

EC Eastern Cape

ECBCP Eastern Cape Biodiversity Conservation Plan

ECO Environmental Control Officer

EER Engineer's Environmental Representative

EIA Environmental Impact Assessment

EMPL Environmental Management Plan

FSL Full Supply Level

GN Government Notice

HIA Heritage Impact Assessment

I&AP Interested and Affected Parties

IRR Issues and Response Report

MSDS Material Strategy Data sheets

MAR Mean Annual Runoff

MPRDA Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Amendment Act, 2008 (Act No.

49 of 2008)

MWP Mzimvubu Water Project

MWP EMPr Mzimvubu Water Project Environmental Management Programme

NEMA National Environmental Management Act (No.107 of 1998)

NEMBA National Environmental Management Biodiversity Act (No.10 of 2004)

NEMWA National Environmental Management: Waste Act (No. 59 of 2008)

NFEPA National Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Area

Ntabelanga
Ntabelanga
Dam Borrow and Quarry Environmental Management Plan

B&Q EMPL

OHSA Occupation Health and Safety Act (Act 85 of 1993)

SAHRA South African Heritage Resource Agency

SoER State of the Environment Report

subWMA Sub-Water Management Areas

IUCN International Union for Conservation of Nature

WMA Water Management Area

EMPR Environmental Management programme

GG Government Gazette

GN Government Notice

V Vertical (height)

H Horizontal (height)

IGCN International Union for conservation of nature

LIST OF UNITS

MW Mega Watt

m Meters

mm milli-meters

m³ Cubic Meters

km Kilo meter

km² Square Kilometers

ha Hectare

°C Degrees Celsius

% Percentage

Ha Hectare

1. INTRODUCTION

The Mzimvubu River catchment in the Eastern Cape of South Africa is within one of the poorest and least developed regions of the country. Development of the area to accelerate the social and economic upliftment of the people was therefore identified as one of the priority initiatives of the Eastern Cape Provincial Government.

Harnessing the water resources of the Mzimvubu River, the only major river in the country which is still largely unutilised, is considered by the Eastern Cape Provincial Government, as offering one of the best opportunities in the Province to achieve such development.

The five pillars on which the Eastern Cape Provincial Government proposed to model the Mzimvubu River water resources development are:

- Forestry;
- Irrigation;
- Hydropower;
- Water transfer; and
- Tourism.

As a result of this the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) commissioned the Mzimvubu Water Project (MWP) which consists of two multi-purpose dams on the Tsitsa River, a major tributary to the Mzimvubu River. Socio-economic upliftment is expected to be achieved through bulk potable water supply schemes for domestic and industrial water supply, bulk raw water supply schemes for irrigated agriculture, hydropower generation, other associated development, and the creation of temporary and permanent jobs. A Locality Map for the project is provided in **Figure 1**.

Construction materials such as sand, gravel and rock material will be required for the construction of the dams, roads and associated infrastructure. Existing licensed quarries and borrow pits in the area may not be adequate or suitable to provide all the required construction materials and it is estimated that five (5) borrow areas and one (1) rock quarry will be necessary for Ntabelanga Dam and associated infrastructure.

The permitting of the material sources required for the project will be undertaken in accordance with the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Amendment Act, 2008 (Act. 49 of 2008) (MPRDA) and its associated Regulations, R527 of 23 April 2004. The applicant, DWS as an organ of state, has obtained exemption from the provisions of sections 16, 20, 22 of the MPRDA in respect of any activity to remove any mineral for the construction and maintenance of dams, harbours, roads and railway lines and for the purposes incidental thereto, as allowed for by the said Act in section 106 (1). Therefore the use of the material sources is subject only to the preparation, submission, and approval of an Environmental Management Plan (EMPL) compiled in accordance with requirements of sections 39 (3) and 41 of the MPRDA.

The purpose of this EMPL (hereafter referred to as Ntabelanga B&Q EMPL) is to identify and assess potential impacts related to the use of five (5) borrow pits and one (1) rock quarry associated with the construction of the Ntabelanga Dam and associated works as a component of the MWP. A separate EMPL for the use of borrow pits and a rock quarry is compiled for the Lalini Dam and associated works as another component of the MWP.

Once approved the Ntabelanga B&Q EMPL must be read and implemented in conjunction with the approved Mzimvubu Water Project Environmental Management Programme (MWP EMPR) and Water Use Licence conditions.

1.1 OBJECTIVES OF THE EMPL

The overall objectives of the EMP are defined as follows:

- To fulfil the requirements of Sections 39 of the MPRDA;
- To fulfil the criteria described in regulations 52 of MPRDA Government Notice,
 No. 527 of 23 April 2004.
- To inform Interested and affected parties (I&AP) of the Project and to provide them with an opportunity to express any concerns or issues and to participate in the process;
- To identify and assess potential impacts associated with the activity;
- Identify proposed mitigation and management measures to minimize adverse impacts and benefits; and
- Planned monitoring and performance assessment of the environmental management plan.

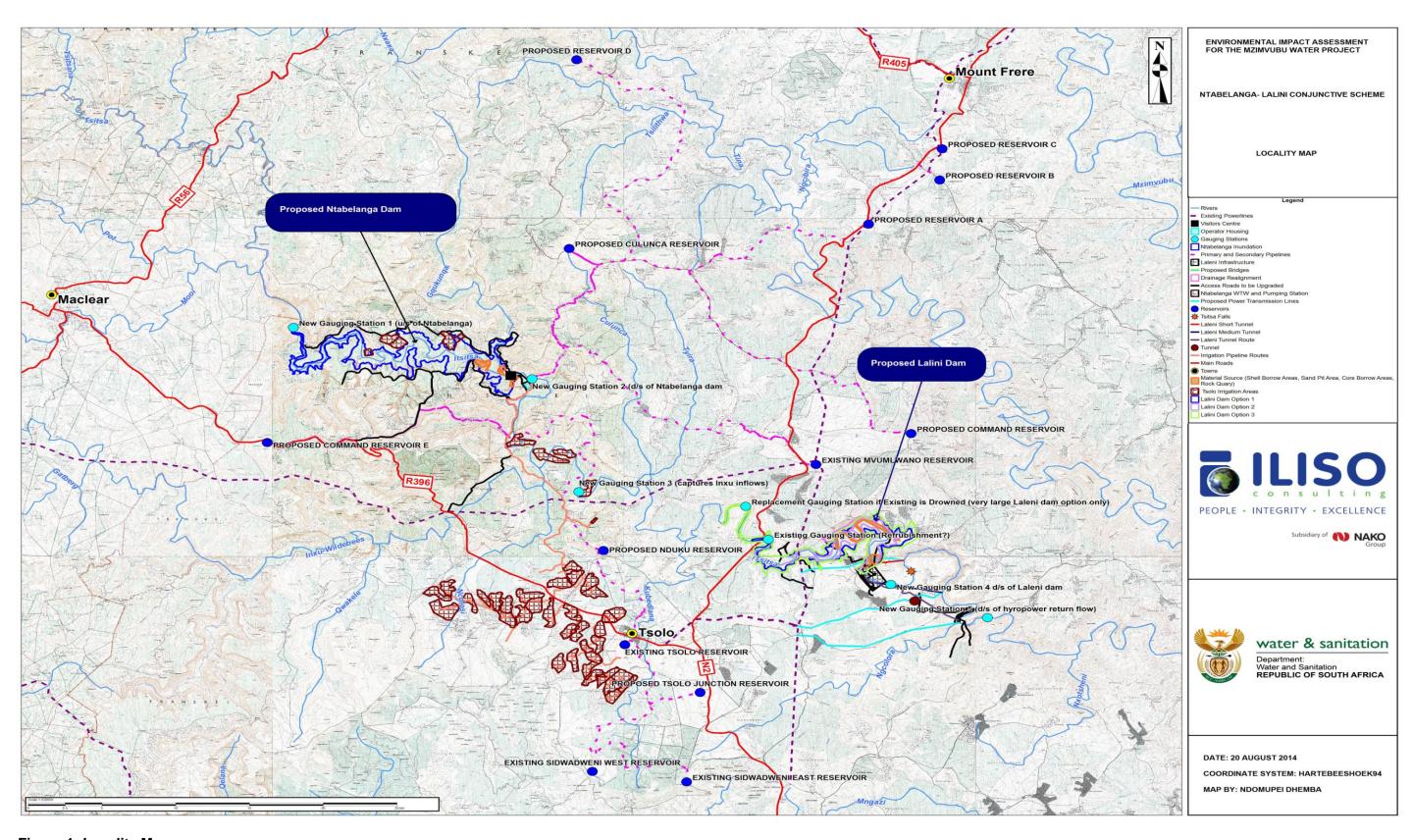


Figure 1: Locality Map

1.2 ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

Effective environmental management during the planning, design and construction phases of the project will be dependent on a number of project personnel. The purpose of this section is to define roles for personnel and allocate responsibilities in the execution of the Ntabelanga B&Q EMPL.

1.2.1 Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)

The DWS is the applicant of the authorisation, the developer of the project and the client of the Contractor and Engineer. Under the South African environmental law, applicants are accountable for the potential impacts of activities being undertaken as well as managing these impacts. DWS, therefore, has the overall environmental responsibility to ensure that the implementation of the Ntabelanga B&Q EMPL complies with national and provincial legislation as well as with the conditions of the Environmental Authorisation (EA) for the Mzimvubu Water Project.

The DWS may delegate environmental compliance / responsibility to nominated agents such as the Engineer.

1.2.2 Engineer

The Engineer is responsible for design of the works and supervision of the construction contract. The Engineer is the DWS's representative on site and is ultimately responsible for:

- Compliance with legal environmental requirements;
- Confirming that the Ntabelanga B&Q EMPL forms part of the contract documents;
- Placing the Ntabelanga B&Q EMPL on the site meeting agenda;
- Directs on site teams implementation and compliance with the Ntabelanga B&Q EMPL;
- Consults and co-operates with the Environmental Control Officer (ECO) appointed by the DWS on environmental matters;
- Reports to DWS; and

 The Engineer may appoint an Engineer's Environmental Representative (EER) to plan and direct the implementation of the Ntabelanga B&Q EMPL and provide advice on environmental matters.

The EER will:

- Provide support and advice, via the Engineer regarding environmental matters during the entire project lifecycle;
- Distribute all statutory requirements, including permits, authorisations and licences;
- Keep a copy of the Ntabelanga B&Q EMPL on site;
- Provides Environmental Awareness training for the Engineers staff;
- Keep record of all activities on site, problems identified and transgressions noted;
- Submit monthly environmental reports to the Engineer detailing environmental performance of the Contractor;
- Reporting at construction site meetings;
- Conduct and manage a schedule of Internal Audits. Internal audit reports are submitted to the Engineer;
- Maintain and manage a complaints register;
- Maintain and manage an incidents and non-conformance register;
- Monitor records of proof of all training undertaken on site; and
- Keep records relating to monitoring and auditing on site and make these available for inspection to any relevant and competent authority in respect of this development.

1.2.3 Environmental Control Officer (ECO)

An Independent ECO will be appointed by the DWS to monitor and audit compliance and report environmental compliance to the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA). Once appointed, the name and contact details of the ECO must be submitted to the Director: Compliance Monitoring of the DEA. The ECO will:

- Keep record of all activities on site, problems identified, transgressions noted and a task schedule of tasks undertaken by the ECO;
- Confirm that the requirements of the Ntabelanga B&Q EMPL are communicated, understood and implemented by personnel on site;
- Manage scheduled audits and inspections on contractors' performance on site.

- Monitor Ntabelanga B&Q EMPL compliance through regular site visits and inspections during the pre-construction, construction and rehabilitation phases;
- Submit findings of compliance to the Ntabelanga B&Q EMPL in monthly compliance reports to DEA;
- Submit emergency incident reports to DEA; and
- All documentation e.g. audit/ monitoring/ compliance reports and notifications, required to be submitted to DEA in terms of this authorisation, must be submitted to the *Director: Compliance Monitoring* at the Department.

1.2.4 Contractor

The Contractor implements the Ntabelanga B&Q EMPL specifications on site. The Contractor may appoint a Contractor's Environmental Representative (CER) to assist with the implementation of the Ntabelanga B&Q EMPL.

The Contractor's Environmental Representative (CER) will:

- Conduct a pre-construction survey prior to commencement of construction activities. This must be in a written report format which includes photographic records, co-ordinates of important features and descriptions thereof;
- Provide Environmental Awareness training for Contractor's Engineers, foremen, site staff and any visitors to the site. A record of all training and visitors induction must be kept on site;
- Tool Box talk relating to specific Environmental Aspects must be communicated to all staff on site. Records of this training must be kept on site;
- Provide Environmental Management input on all method statements to ensure mitigation measures are identified and implemented before the activity commences:
- Undertaking monitoring and analysing of data, the results of which must be submitted in a report format to the Engineer/EER and the ECO on a monthly basis; and
- Maintain and manage an incidents and non-conformance register.

1.2.5 Contractor Management

Contractor management will be affected through specific activities as listed below:

• At the tender briefing meeting environmental management expectations during the project shall be highlighted;

- The Ntabelanga B&Q EMPL shall be included with the tender documents;
- Once the Contractor is appointed they should be instructed to develop a
 document that should indicate how they plan to ensure compliance with the
 Ntabelanga B&Q EMPL will be carried out.

1.3 STRUCTURE OF THE REPORT

The report is structured as follows:

- Chapter 2: Project Overview
- Chapter 3: Legislative requirements
- Chapter 4: Applicant Details and Land ownership
- Chapter 5: Description of the Environment
- Chapter 6: Description of the proposed mining activity
- Chapter 7: Regulation 52 (2)(b): Assessment summary rating
- Chapter 8: Regulation 52 (2)(c): Proposed Mitigation Measures
- Chapter 9: Minimum operation standard
- Chapter 10: Regulation 52 (2) (d): Financial Provision
- Chapter 11: Regulation 52 (2) (e): Planned Monitoring of the EMPL
- Chapter 12: Regulation 52 (2) (g): Record of the Public Participation Process
- Chapter 13: Regulation 52 (2) (h): Undertaking to execute the EMPL
- Chapter 14: References

2. PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Mzimvubu River Catchment is situated in the Eastern Cape (EC) Province of South Africa. The project footprint spreads over three DMs namely the Joe Gqabi DM in the north west, the OR Tambo DM in the south west and the Alfred Nzo DM in the east and north east.

The proposed Ntabelanga Dam site is located approximately 25 km east of the town Maclear and north of the R396. The proposed Lalini Dam site is situated approximately 17 km north east of the small town Tsolo. The Mzimvubu River has four major tributaries, namely the Mzintlava, Kinira, Tina and Tsitsa Rivers. The proposed Ntabelanga and Lalini Dams are situated on the Tsitsa River

2.1 WATER RESOURCES INFRASTRUCTURE

Water Resource Infrastructure for the Mzimvubu Water Project includes:

- A dam at the Ntabelanga site with a storage capacity of 490 million m³;
- A dam at the Lalini site with a storage capacity of approximately 150 million m³;
- A tunnel/conduit and power house at Lalini dam site for generating hydropower;
- Five new flow gauging stations to measure the flow that is entering and released from the dams. These flow gauging points will be important for monitoring the implementation of the Reserve and for operation of the dams;
- Wastewater treatment works at the dam sites;
- Accommodation for operations staff at the dam sites; and
- Two thirds of the water (annual yield) at the Ntabelanga Dam will be utilised for hydro-energy, one sixth for potable water and one sixth for irrigation.

2.1.1 The Ntabelanga Dam

The technical characteristics of the proposed Ntabelanga Dam are summarised below:

Dam wall crest length: 440 m

Maximum dam wall height: 67 m

Mean Annual Runoff of River at Dam:

Volume impounded by dam:

415 million m³/a

490 million m³

Spillway capacity:

5 530 m³/sec

Dam type: RCC with integral spillway

Inundated area upstream at max flood level: ± 40 km²

2.1.2 The Lalini Dam

The Lalini Dam characteristics are summarised below:

Dam wall crest length: 250 m

Maximum dam wall height: 32 m

Mean Annual Runoff of River at Dam:

Volume impounded by dam:

150 million m³

Inundated area upstream at max flood level:

± 15 km²

2.1.3 Flow Gauging Weir

Five new flow measuring weirs will be required in order to measure the flow that is entering and released from the dams. These flow gauging points will be important for monitoring the implementation of the Reserve and for operation of the dams.

Each weir will take about six months to construct and will be a low concrete structure with erosion control measures on both banks to prevent out-flanking. It is envisaged that construction of the weirs will form part of the dam construction contract.

2.2 DOMESTIC WATER SUPPLY INFRASTRUCTURE

The Ntabelanga Dam will supply potable water to 539 000 people, which is estimated to increase to 730 000 people by year 2050. The domestic water supply infrastructure will include:

- An intake structure and associated works at Ntabelanga Dam;
- A regional water treatment works at Ntabelanga Dam;
- Potable bulk water distribution infrastructure for domestic and industrial water requirements (primary and secondary distribution lines);
- Bulk treated water storage reservoirs strategically located; and
- Pumping stations.

A significant portion of the domestic water supply schemes in this area will fall under the OR Tambo and Joe Gqabi DMs. Some communities are already served by schemes, which have been taken into account in the development of the proposed infrastructure. The total bulk water and potable water pipeline servitudes total approximately 375 km.

2.3 IRRIGATION

The Ntabelanga Dam will also provide water to irrigate approximately 2 900 ha. This project includes bulk water conveyance infrastructure for raw water supply to edge of field. About 2 450 ha of the high potential land suitable for irrigated agriculture is in the Tsolo area and the rest near the proposed Ntabelanga Dam and along the river, close to the villages of Machibini, Nxotwe, Culunca, Ntshongweni, Caba, Kwatsha and Luxeni.

Agricultural land near the river will be supplied with raw water pumped by pipeline from the nearest river abstraction point on the Tsitsa River, downstream of the Ntabelanga Dam. For the Tsolo area schemes, raw water would be pumped from the dam to a storage reservoir and delivered to the edge of these fields through a bulk water distribution system. These lands are located near to the following settlements/wards: Godini, Qhotira, KuGubengxa, St Cuthberts, Jwabuleni, Mazizini, KwaNomadolo and Gumbini. For the other areas, raw water would be abstracted directly from the adjacent dam or river using mobile pumping systems.

The proposed farming model is commercial irrigation farming. Forty five (45) rationalised farming units of between 40 and 90 ha each (average of 60 ha) are envisaged. This will require acceptance of a change of land use and mind set from the current subsistence farming approach.

Distribution to the farming units will be mostly gravity based, with booster stations for higher lying areas.

2.4 Power

The feasibility study results indicate that the viability of the proposed Ntabelanga Dam is dependent on its development as a strategic part of a conjunctive hydropower scheme.

There will also be a small hydropower plant at Ntabelanga Dam – to generate between 0.75 MW and 5 MW (average 2.1 MW). This will comprise a raw water pipeline from the dam to a building containing the hydropower turbines and associated equipment, and a discharge pipeline back to the river just below the dam wall. The impact is expected to be similar to that of a pumping station.

The hydropower plant at the proposed Lalini Dam and tunnel (used conjunctively with the Ntabelanga Dam) will generate an average output of 30 MW when operated as a base load power station and up to 150 MW if operated as a peaking power station. The power plant will require a tunnel/conduit of approximately 7 km linking the dam to the power plant downstream of the dam and below the gorge. Neither the Lalini Dam nor the hydropower plant will be visible from the Tsitsa Falls.

The power line to link the Lalini power station to the existing Eskom grid will be approximately 18.5 km and the power line linking the Ntabelanga Dam to the Eskom grid will be approximately 13 km. Power lines will also be constructed to supply power from the Eskom grid for construction at the two dam sites and for operating five pumping and booster stations along the bulk distribution infrastructure.

3. LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

3.1 Environmental principles

The following principles should be considered at all times during the preconstruction and construction phase activities:

- The environment is considered to be composed of biophysical, economic and social components;
- Construction is a disruptive activity and all due consideration must be given to the environment, including the social environment, during the execution of a project to minimise the impact on affected parties;
- Minimisation of areas disturbed by construction activities (i.e. the footprint of the construction area) should minimise many of the construction related environmental impacts of the project and reduce rehabilitation requirements and costs;
- As minimum requirements, all relevant standards relating to international, national, provincial and local legislation, as applicable, shall be adhered to. This includes requirements relating to waste emissions (e.g. hazardous, airborne, liquid and solid), waste disposal practices, noise regulations, road traffic ordinances, etc.; and
- Every effort should be made to minimise, reclaim and/or recycle "waste" material.

3.2 Environmental Permits, License and Authorisations

The following authorisations and permits are required prior to the activity commencing:

- Blasting Blasting permits are required from the Department of Mineral Resources in accordance with the Explosives Act (Act 26 of 1956).
- Waste disposal All waste (general and hazardous) generated during the construction may only be disposed of at appropriately licensed sites. Government Notice (GN) 921, promulgated in terms of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act (Act 59 of 2008) (NEMWA), lists Waste Management Activities in respect of which a waste management licence is required. These include various activities associated with the storage of waste, reuse, recycling and recovery of waste, treatment of waste (which includes the

remediation of contaminated land) and disposal of waste. The Schedule to the Notice distinguishes between two categories of waste management activities which require licensing and for which a basic assessment process (for Category A Waste Management Activities) or an Environmental Impact Assessment process (for Category B Waste Management Activities) must be conducted.

Construction activities usually result in hazardous as well as general waste.

NEMWA defines "general waste" as waste that does not pose an immediate hazard or threat to health or to the environment, and includes—

- (a) domestic waste;
- (b) building and demolition waste (which cannot be used as fill or other beneficial use):
- (c) business waste; and
- (d) Inert waste.

Where

"building and demolition waste" means waste, excluding hazardous waste, produced during the construction, alteration, repair or demolition of any structure, and includes rubble, earth, rock and wood displaced during that construction, alteration, repair or demolition; and

"inert waste" means waste that-

- (a) does not undergo any significant physical, chemical or biological transformation after disposal;
- (b) does not burn, react physically or chemically biodegrade or otherwise adversely affect any other matter or environment with which it may come into contact; and
- (c) does not impact negatively on the environment, because of its pollutant content and because the toxicity of its leachate is insignificant.
- NEMWA GN 926 presents the norms and standards for the storage of waste.
 The requirements of waste storage facilities; management of waste storage facilities; and general provisions required, are outlined.
- Storage of hazardous substances Hazardous substances must be stored and handled in accordance with the appropriate legislation and standards, which may include the Hazardous Substances Act, the Occupational Health and Safety Act, and relevant associated Regulations.

- Health and safety of work teams Construction Regulations (2003) published under the Occupational Health and Safety Act (Act 85 of 1993) apply to construction activities including "the moving of earth, clearing of land, the making of an excavation, piling, or any similar type of work". A "health and safety plan" which addresses hazards, and includes safe working procedures to mitigate, reduce or control the hazards identified, is required under this Act. A risk assessment must also be undertaken by an appropriately qualified person(s) and the Contractor shall ensure that all employees under his or her control are informed, instructed and trained by a competent person regarding any hazard and the related work procedures before any work commences, and thereafter at such times as may be determined in the risk assessment.
- Heritage resources Before any heritage resources are demolished or damaged a permit should be obtained prior to any actions been taken. Permit applications must be submitted to South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA).
- Removal of trees The removal of protected and indigenous trees from the dam basin requires a permit in terms of the National Forest Act (Act 84 of 1998).
- Removal and transportation of endangered fauna and flora A permit must be obtained from the relevant nature conservation agency for the removal or destruction of indigenous, protected and endangered plant and animal species.
 Copies of permits required must be submitted to the DEA for record keeping purposes.
- Water abstractions Water abstracted from any sources for construction purposes requires authorisation by DWS.
- Removal of graves Permits are required for the removal of graves in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act (No 25 of 1999) section 36.
- Asphalt Plants GN 893 of 2013 in GG 37054 dated 22 November 2013 provides a list of activities which result in atmospheric emissions which have or may have a significant detrimental effect on the environment, including health, social conditions, economic conditions, ecological conditions or cultural heritage. Activities include Macadam preparation (the mixing of aggregate and tar or bitumen to produce road surfacing in permanent facilities and mobile plants). These activities require an Atmospheric Emission Licence in terms of Section 37 of the Act.
- Borrow areas and Quarries Government Gazette No 26501 dated July 2004 states that the Minister of Mineral Resources, acting in terms of section 106 (1)

of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No 28 of 2002) (MPRDA) exempts the DWS, amongst other institutions, from the provisions of sections 16, 20, 22 and 27 of said Act in respect of any activity to remove any mineral for the construction and maintenance of dams, harbours, roads and railway lines and for purposes incidental thereto. Section 106 (2) of the MPRDA states that in such cases the DWS must still compile an EMP for approval in terms of Section 39 (4) of the Act.

3.3 CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT BOARD

The Construction Industry Development Board (CIDB) is a Schedule 3A public entity established by Act of Parliament (Act 38 of 2000) to promote a regulatory and developmental framework that builds the construction delivery capability for South Africa's social and economic growth.

The Construction Registers Service of the CIDB comprises the Register of Contractors and the Register of Projects which have been established in terms of the CIDB Act (Act 38 of 2000). The Register of Contractors grades and categorises contractors according to financial and works capability. It is mandatory for public sector clients to apply the Register of Contractors when considering construction works tenders. The Register of Contractors facilitates public sector procurement and serves as a framework for contractor development.