

Appendix F: Public Participation Process

APPROVED PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS PLAN

Public participation is an integral part of the EIA process, and affords potentially interested and potentially affected parties (I&APs) an opportunity to participate in the EIA process, or to comment on any aspect of the development proposals.

The PPP set out in this plan complies with the requirements set out in Chapter 6 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (as amended), any applicable guidelines published in terms of Section 24J of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), The Department's Circular EADP 0028/2014 on the "One Environmental Management System".

SUMMARY OF PPP PROPOSED

1. Giving notice to all potential interested and affected parties (*Reg 41(2) EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended*)

- **Fixing a notice board at the proposed development site**
- **Giving written notice to the landowner and directly adjacent neighbours**
- **Placing an advertisement in at least one local newspaper**

The notice will include an executive summary comprehensive enough to make it possible for the Interested and Affected Parties to form a fair idea of the project proposed for commenting purposes.

Should any meetings or workshops be required, it will be conducted virtually using Microsoft Teams in accordance with the Directives.

2. Register of interested and affected parties (*Reg 42 EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended*)

Details of all registered I&APs, organs of state and key departments as set out in the Regulations will be provided in the PPP document to be submitted with the BAR.

3. Registered interested and affected parties entitled to comment on reports and plans (*Reg 43 EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended*)

Availability of the Draft BAR for comment:

A number of methods would be required to be undertaken to ensure that the Draft BAR is accessible by ALL organs of state, key departments and registered I&APs for a **30-day commenting period**. As far as possible electronic notifications of the availability of the reports will be used. The proposed methods have been set out below:

- Draft BAR available to download from EAP website
 - All organs of state, key departments and registered I&APs which have the capacity to receive emails will be notified via email of the availability of the Draft BAR for download from the EAP's website.
 - Organs of state, key departments and registered I&APs for which only a postal address has been provided will be notified via registered mail of the availability of the Draft BAR for download from the EAP's website.
 - Registered I&APs for which only a contact number has been provided will be notified via sms or phone call of the availability of the Draft BAR for download from the EAP's website.
 - Availability of the Draft BAR for 30 day commenting will be advertised by fixing a notice board at the proposed development site; giving written notice via email to the landowner and directly adjacent neighbours; placing and advertisement in at least one local newspaper.

- Hard copies / CD copies
 - Organs of state and key departments which require hard copies or CD copies will be sent the required version of the Draft BAR via registered mail, **if requested**.
- Access to disadvantaged individuals
 - If registered I&APs will not be able to access the report electronically a hard copy of the report will be made available at the municipal offices closest to the site, **if required**.

Methods used to notify each organ of state, key department and registered I&AP as well as proof thereof will be recorded and included as part of the Final BAR submitted for decision.

4. Comments of interested and affected parties to be recorded in reports and plans (Reg 44 EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended)

Where written comments cannot be provided (either via email or hard copy), provision for a comments box, WhatsApp Messaging Service and/or telephonic recording of comments will be provided.

The comments and responses report in accordance with the requirements of the Regulations will be included as part of the final BAR to be submitted to the decision-making authority.

5. Submission of the report to the decision-making authority case officer

Reports will be submitted via email to the case officer, with attached pdf versions of the report or, if too large to attach to an email, to be made available via an electronic link provided in the email that is accessible by the Directorate. The Directorate may require that a hard copy of the reports also be submitted to the Department by a certain date, but this will be confirmed by the Department accordingly.

All proof of having conducted the Public Participation Process in terms of Chapter 6 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (“EIA”) Regulations, 2014 (as amended) will be supplied to the decision making authority (the Department) as part of the Final Basic Assessment Report.

STEPS TAKEN AND STILL TO BE TAKEN DURING PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS IN LINE WITH APPROVED PPP PLAN

This section of the report is included in compliance with the Regulations. Potential I&APs were/will be notified about the project by:

1. Giving notice to all potential interested and affected parties (Reg 41(2) EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended)

- **Fixing a notice board at the proposed development site**
- **Giving written notice to the landowner and directly adjacent neighbours**
- **Placing an advertisement in at least one local newspaper**

The notice boards were placed at the site on 28/11/2024. Notices were also posted (for those not having email addresses) to relevant neighbouring landowners on 02/12/2024 and emailed on 29/11/2024. Newspaper notice was placed in the Suid-Kaap Forum on 29/11/2024.

2. Register of interested and affected parties (Reg 42 EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended)

Details of all registered I&APs, organs of state and key departments as set out in the Regulations will be provided in the PPP document to be submitted with the Final BAR.

In accordance with Sections 11 and 18 of POPI Act, 2013 (Act No.14 of 2013): The personal information and comments provided will be included in Final Basic Assessment report to be submitted to the Competent Authority to enable informed decision-making. Also, if you choose to register as an I&AP your personal information will be made available to an appellant in the case of an appeal, and an applicant/EAP/independent person for purposes of being informed and given access to an audit report. This information may be made available in terms of section 11(1)(c) and 11(1)(d) of the POPIA, without requiring consent.

The following Key Departments and Organs of State were and will also be included as registered I&APs:

- DEA&DP: Development Management Region 3
- DEA&DP: Planning
- CapeNature
- DEA&DP: Pollution and Chemicals Management
- DEA&DP: Waste Management
- DEA&DP: Biodiversity Management
- Department of Agriculture, Western Cape
- Heritage Western Cape
- Garden Route District Municipality
- Hessequa Municipality
- Breede Gouritz Catchment Management Agency
- Gouritz Cluster Biosphere Reserve
- Western Cape Government: Department of Infrastructure
- Transnet

3. Registered interested and affected parties entitled to comment on reports and plans (Reg 43 EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended)

Availability of the Pre-Application and Draft BAR for comment:

A number of methods would be required to be undertaken to ensure that the Draft BAR is accessible by ALL organs of state, key departments and registered I&APs for a **30-day commenting period**. As far as possible electronic notifications of the availability of the reports will be used. The proposed methods have been set out below:

- Pre-application and Draft BAR available to download from EAP website

- All organs of state, key departments and registered I&APs which have the capacity to receive emails will be notified via email of the availability of the Draft BAR for download from the EAP's website.
- Organs of state, key departments and registered I&APs for which only a postal address has been provided will be notified via registered mail of the availability of the Draft BAR for download from the EAP's website.
- Registered I&APs for which only a contact number has been provided will be notified via sms or phone call of the availability of the Draft BAR for download from the EAP's website.
- Availability of the Draft BAR for 30 day commenting will be advertised by fixing a notice board at the proposed development site; giving written notice via email to the landowner and directly adjacent neighbours; placing and advertisement in at least one local newspaper.
- Hard copies / CD copies
 - Organs of state and key departments which require hard copies or CD copies will be sent the required version of the Draft BAR via registered mail, **if requested**. Hard copies and CD copies will be sanitised to comply with the general provisions of the Directives.
 - A hard copy of the Draft BAR will also be placed at the local library or local community centre for review and a "Comments Register" will be available with this hard copy for community members to write in any comments/questions they might have on the Draft BAR which will be collected at the end of the 30 day commenting period and included in the comments and response report of the Final BAR.
- Access to disadvantaged individuals
 - If registered I&APs will not be able to access the report electronically a hard copy of the report will be made available at the municipal offices closest to the site, **if required**.
- Access to the document must be done in accordance with social distancing measures as required by applicable Regulations pertaining to health and safety.
 - Registered I&APs will be notified by either email, registered mail, sms, notices erected at places accessible by I&APs, or by direct phone call. The method of notification would be determined by the details provided by the registered I&AP.

Methods used to notify each organ of state, key department and registered I&AP as well as proof thereof will be recorded and included as part of the Final BAR submitted for decision.

4. Comments of interested and affected parties to be recorded in reports and plans (Reg 44 EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended)

Where written comments cannot be provided (either via email or hard copy), provision for a comments box, WhatsApp Messaging Service and/or telephonic recording of comments will be provided.

The comments and responses report in accordance with the requirements of the Regulations is included as part of the final BAR to be submitted to the decision-making authority.

5. Workshop with Key Role players

No public participation meetings have been held nor has been requested to date.

The following meetings have been held with BOCMA officials to discuss the proposal and way forward with Water Use application on:

- 2 December 2025 Site Meeting with the EAP, municipal and BOCMA officials attending
- 5 May 2025 Site Meeting with the EAP, municipal and BOCMA officials attending.
- 1 July 2025 Online Teams Meeting with the EAP, municipal and BOCMA officials attending

6. Submission of the report to the decision-making authority case officer

Reports will be submitted via email to the case officer, with attached pdf versions of the report or, if too large to attach to an email, to be made available via an electronic link provided in the email that is accessible by the Directorate. The Directorate may require that a hard copy of the reports also be submitted to the Department by a certain date, but this will be confirmed by the Department accordingly.

All proof of having conducted the Public Participation Process in terms of Chapter 6 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (“EIA”) Regulations, 2014 (as amended) will be supplied to the decision making authority (the Department) as part of the Final Basic Assessment Report.

<p>EAP to address all comments received in the Final BAR and submit the FINAL BAR to DEA&DP for a decision. Note: Submission of FINAL BAR to DEA&DP must be within 90 days of submission of the APPLICATION</p>	<p>EAP</p>	<p>14</p>																																			
<p>DEA&DP to grant or refuse environmental authorization. DWS to grant or refuse Water Use Authorisation</p>	<p>DEA&DP & DWS</p>	<p>107</p>																																			
<p>EAP to inform all the key departments and registered I&AP'S on the outcome of the application/s</p>	<p>EAP</p>	<p>14</p>																																			



PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

PROJECT TITLE: PROPOSED WATER TREATMENT WORKS ON ERF RE/557 AND ERF 672, HEIDELBERG, WESTERN CAPE

DEA&DP PRE-APPLICATION REF: 16/3/3/6/7/1/D6/13/0278/23

Notice of a Public Participation Process (PPP) is hereby given in terms the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (2014, as amended) made under Section 24 (5) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), Act No. 107 of 1998 (as amended). Notice is given of the public participation process commenced by **Hessequa Municipality to apply for an Environmental Authorization.**

Proposed Project Description: The Hessequa Municipality proposes to construct a Water Treatment Works (“WTW”) on the erven 672 and RE/557 just below the southern wall of the Bloekombos Dam at Heidelberg – Western Cape. Water will be pumped from the Bloekombos Dam and treated at the proposed Treatment Works from where it will be pumped along a new pipeline to be laid within the road reserve along Muir Street and going underneath the railway line along Market Street and ending at Kleinhans Street, from there the pipeline will connect with existing pipeline to the reservoir. The proposed development site is accessed off Muir Street. The expected footprint for the WTW will be approximately 0.5ha mostly to be located on the relatively flat lying area just below the downstream wall of the Bloekombos Dam.

Location: The proposed WTW is to be located northwest of Heidelberg and on Erf RE/557 and Erf 672 directly below the southern Bloekombos damwall. The site can be accessed off Muir Street in Heidelberg.

Listed Activities:

Activity No(s):	Provide the relevant Basic Assessment Activity(ies) as set out in Listing Notice 1	Describe the portion of the proposed project to which the applicable listed activity relates.
12	The development of— (ii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more; where such development occurs— (c) if no development setback exists, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse—	Water Treatment Works development of 5000m ² within 32m from the edge of a non-perennial watercourse and dam.
19	The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 10 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or	Water Treatment Works development which will have a discharge point with sand trap within the adjacent non-perennial watercourse.



	rock of more than 10 cubic metres from a watercourse;	
Activity No(s):	Provide the relevant Basic Assessment Activity(ies) as set out in Listing Notice 3	Describe the portion of the proposed project to which the applicable listed activity relates.
12	<p>The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.</p> <p>(i) Western Cape (i) Within any critically endangered or endangered ecosystem listed in terms of section 52 of the NEMBA or prior to the publication of such a list, within an area that has been identified as critically endangered in the National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment 2004;</p>	<p>Water Treatment Works developments of 5000m² within an area containing remnants of Critically Endangered – Eastern Ruens Shale Renosterveld</p>

Procedure: A basis assessment process will be applied to the application.

Exemption: No application for any exemption is sought.

Opportunity to participate: Interested and Affected Parties are invited to register their interest in the process or provide written comments to Enviro-EAP [Johmandie Pienaar (EAP)] within **30 days** of this notice. The period of 15 December 2024 to 05 January 2025, is excluded from the reckoning of days, however any registration request received during this period will also be recorded and registration will be acknowledged.

The project title, your full name, contact details, plus indication of any direct business, financial, personal, or other interest you may have in this application must please be provided and fully described. Further information can be obtained from the contact person indicated in this notice.

Contact: Johmandie Pienaar
Enviro-EAP, PO Box 205, Agulhas 7287
Tel/Cell: 072 240 3092
Fax: 086 435 4691
Email: admin@enviro-eap.co.za

THE REGSITRATION PERIOD STARTS _____ AND ENDS _____



Photo 1: Site notice placed at entrance to Bloekombos Dam from Muir Street on 28/11/2024.

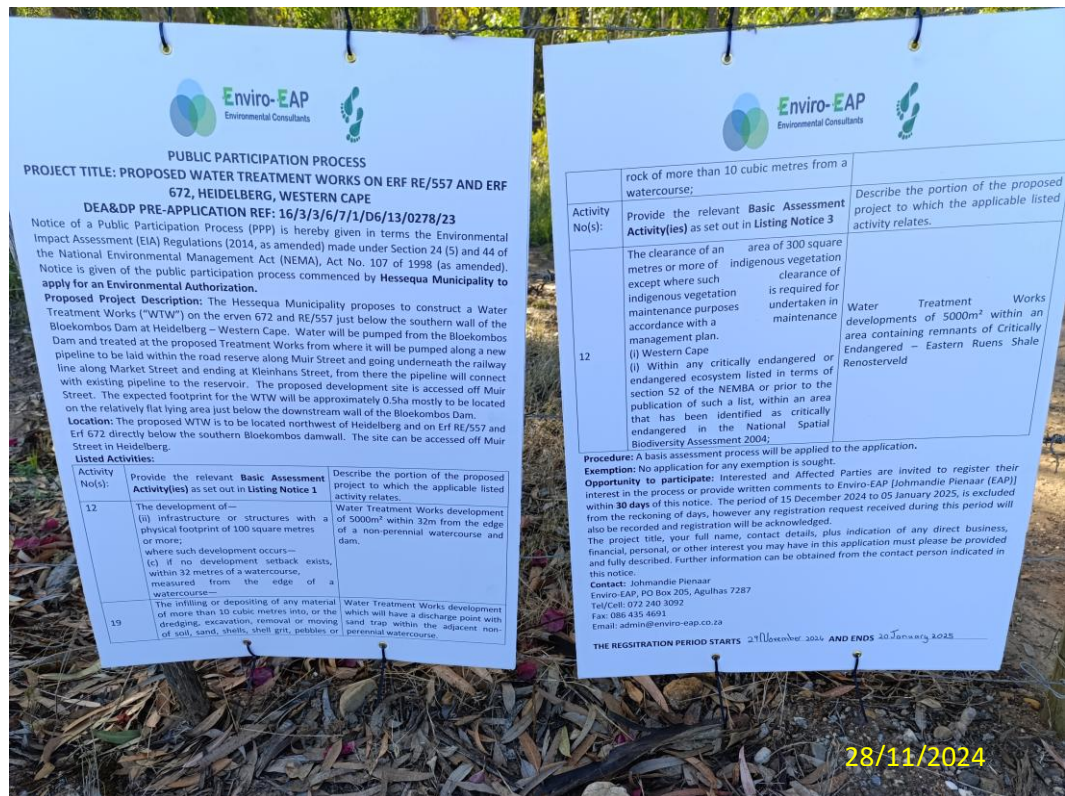


Photo 2: Site notice placed at entrance to Bloekombos Dam from Muir Street on 28/11/2024.

NEIGHBOURS NOTICE SENT ON 29/11/2024 AND 02/12/2024 AND PROOF THEREOF

From: Johmandie Pienaar

Sent: Friday, 29 November 2024 20:12

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: Shahida Kennedy <shahidak@hessequa.gov.za>; Andries Grundlingh <andriesg@tessengineers.co.za>; Admin <admin@enviro-eap.co.za>

Subject: Direct Neighbours Notice - PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS FOR PROPOSED WATER TREATMENT WORKS ON ERF RE/557 AND ERF 672, HEIDELBERG, WESTERN CAPE

Good day

You receive this notice as an identified landowner of property directly bordering unto the proposed application property which is **ERF RE/557 AND ERF 672, HEIDELBERG, WESTERN CAPE**.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

PROJECT TITLE: PROPOSED WATER TREATMENT WORKS ON ERF RE/557 AND ERF 672, HEIDELBERG, WESTERN CAPE

DEA&DP PRE-APPLICATION REF: 16/3/3/6/7/1/D6/13/0278/23

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Proposed Project Description: The Hessequa Municipality proposes to construct a Water Treatment Works (“WTW”) on the erven 672 and RE/557 just below the southern wall of the Bloekombos Dam at Heidelberg – Western Cape. Water will be pumped from the Bloekombos Dam and treated at the proposed Treatment Works from where it will be pumped along a new pipeline to be laid within the road reserve along Muir Street and going underneath the railway line along Market Street and ending at Kleinhans Street, from there the pipeline will connect with existing pipeline to the reservoir. The proposed development site is accessed off Muir Street. The expected footprint for the WTW will be approximately 0.5ha mostly to be located on the relatively flat lying area just below the downstream wall of the Bloekombos Dam.

Location: The proposed WTW is to be located northwest of Heidelberg and on Erf RE/557 and Erf 672 directly below the southern Bloekombos damwall. The site can be accessed off Muir Street in Heidelberg.

Listed Activities:

Activity	Provide the relevant Basic Assessment	Describe the portion of the proposed
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No(s):	Activity(ies) as set out in Listing Notice 1	project to which the applicable listed activity relates.
12	The development of— (ii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more; where such development occurs— (c) if no development setback exists, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse—	Water Treatment Works development of 5000m ² within 32m from the edge of a non-perennial watercourse and dam.
19	The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 10 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock of more than 10 cubic metres from a watercourse;	Water Treatment Works development which will have a discharge point with sand trap within the adjacent non-perennial watercourse.
Activity No(s):	Provide the relevant Basic Assessment Activity(ies) as set out in Listing Notice 3	Describe the portion of the proposed project to which the applicable listed activity relates.
12	The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan. (i) Western Cape (i) Within any critically endangered or endangered ecosystem listed in terms of section 52 of the NEMBA or prior to the publication of such a list, within an area that has been identified as critically endangered in the National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment 2004;	Water Treatment Works developments of 5000m ² within an area containing remnants of Critically Endangered – Eastern Ruens Shale Renosterveld

Procedure: A basis assessment process will be applied to the application.

Exemption: No application for any exemption is sought.

Opportunity to participate: Interested and Affected Parties are invited to register their interest in the process or provide written comments to Enviro-EAP [Johmandie Pienaar (EAP)] within **30 days** of this notice. The period of 15 December 2024 to 05 January 2025, is excluded from the reckoning of days, however any registration request received during this period will also be recorded and registration will be acknowledged.

The project title, your full name, contact details, plus indication of any direct business, financial, personal, or other interest you may have in this application must please be provided and fully described. Further information can be obtained from the contact person indicated in this notice.

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Email: admin@enviro-eap.co.za

THE REGSITRATION PERIOD STARTS 2 DECEMBER 2024 AND ENDS 22 JANUARY 2025



Proof

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS
NEIGHBOURS NOTICE POSTAL LIST
PROJECT TITLE: PROPOSED WATER TREATMENT WORKS ON ERF RE/557 AND ERF 672,
HEIDELBERG, WESTERN CAPE
DEA&DP PRE-APPLICATION REF: 16/3/3/6/7/1/D6/13/0278/23**

POSTAL ADDRESS	PROOF OF POSTAGE
TRANSNET BPK POSBUS 1831 Bellville 7535	INSURED PARCEL PA 244 405 764 ZA CUSTOMER COPY 301012
A PANZEK MARKSTRAAT 37 Heidelberg 6665	INSURED PARCEL PA 244 405 747 ZA A BOOK COPY
DOW HEIDELBERG SECONDARY SCHOOL PRIVATE BAG X9160 Cape Town 8000	INSURED PARCEL PA 244 405 720 ZA CUSTOMER COPY 301012



REGISTERED LETTER GEREGISTREERDE BRIEF <small>(with an insurance option/met 'n versekeringsopsie)</small>		Postage paid R <u>44 = X3.</u> c
		Service fee/Diensgold R _____ c Insurance/Versekering R _____ c Total/Totaal R _____ c
Full tracking and tracing/Volledige volg en spoor		Insured value of contents Versekerde waarde van inhoud R _____ c
Addressed to/Geadresseer aan <u>Enviro - EAP</u> <u>3/ three on list</u>	Enquiries/Navrae Toll-free number Tolvry nommer 0800 111 502	Initial of accepting officer <u>[Signature]</u> Paraaf van aandeem-beampte
Postcode Postkodo	Affix Track and Trace customer copy Plate Volg-on-Spoor-kliëntafskrif	Date stamp BREDASDCRP 2024-12-02 COUNTER 4 7280 Datumstempel
<small>The value of the contents of this letter is as indicated and compensation is not payable for a letter received unconditionally. Compensation is limited to R100.00. No compensation is payable without documentary proof. Optional insurance up to R2 000.00 is available and applies to domestic registered letters only. Die waarde van die inhoud van hierdie brief is soos aangedui en vergoeding sal nie betaal word vir 'n brief wat sonder voorbehoud ontvang word nie. Vergoeding is beperk tot R100.00. Geen vergoeding is sonder dokumentêre bewys betaalbaar nie. Opsionele versekering tot R2 000.00 is beskikbaar en is slegs op binnelandse geregistreerde briewe van toepassing.</small>		

ADVERTISEMENTS PLACED IN THE SUID-KAAP FORUM ON 29/11/2025

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

**PROJECT TITLE: PROPOSED WATER TREATMENT WORKS ON ERF RE/557 AND ERF 672, HEIDELBERG, WESTERN CAPE
DEA&DP PRE-APPLICATION REF: 16/3/3/6/7/1/D6/13/0278/23**

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Location: The proposed WTW is to be located northwest of Heidelberg and on Erf RE/557 and Erf 672 directly below the southern Bloekombos damwall. The site can be accessed off Muir Street in Heidelberg.

Listed Activities: Listing Notice 1 - Listed Activity: 12, 19; and Listing Notice 3 – Listed Activity: 12.

Exemption: No application for any exemption is sought.

Opportunity to participate: Interested and Affected Parties are invited to register interest for the respective application within the process, or provide written comments to Enviro-EAP within 30 days of this notice (excluding public holidays). The period of 15 December 2024 to 05 January 2025, is excluded from the reckoning of days, however any registration request received during this period will also be recorded and registration will be acknowledged. The project title, your full name, contact details, plus indication of any direct business, financial, personal or other interest you may have in this application must please be provided and fully described.

The registration period starts 29 November 2024 and ends 20 January 2025.

Contact: Johmandie Pienaar

Enviro-EAP, PO Box 205, Agulhas 7287

Tel/Cell: 072 240 3092

Fax: 086 435 4691

Email: admin@enviro-eap.co.za

Heidelberg United mors met Ladismith

■ Clive Pretorius

HEIDELBERG - Heidelberg United-krieketklub het op hul tuisveld hul eerste tuisligawedstryd teen Ladismith op spannende wyse gewen. Met die sege het United vergoed vir hul verloor die vorige week met hul eerste ligawedstryd weg teen Mosselbaai. In beide

wedstryde het United se kolwers nie die mas opgekom nie en moes die boulders die kole uit die vuur krap. Hier moet die naam van Daniello du Preez, United se aanvangsbouler, genoem word. Du Preez het met sy akkurate en vurige boulerwerk die knoop deurgehaak met 'n skitterende bouldontleding van 7/32 in 10 beurte. United se kolwers het weer gefaal en

in hul toegelate 50 beurte net 96 lopies aangeteken. Ladismith moes 97 aanteken, maar danksy Du Preez se vurige boulerwerk is hulle vir 89 in 22.1 beurte uitgebou om United 'n waardevolle bonuspunt te verseker. In die vorige wedstryd het Du Preez 4/27 na sewe beurte ingeoos om sy totaal op 11 paaltjies vir twee wedstryde te bring.



Daniello du Preez vier hier een van sy paaltjies op pad na sy kaptein, Jaylin Opperman.

HESSEQUA MUNICIPALITY

ON-SITE MOVABLES AUCTION

VARIOUS MOVABLES:

VARIOUS MOVABLES INCLUDING VEHICLES, WATER TANKS, SCRAP FURNITURE, TOOLS, OFFICE EQUIPMENT & LAPTOPS, GENERATORS, COMPRESSORS, REFRIGERATORS, BRUSH CUTTERS, LDV FIRE FIGHTING UNIT, FALCON MULCHER.

Viewing: Monday, 9 December 2024, 09H00 - 15H00
Auction Date: Tuesday, 10 December 2024, 11:00 AM

Registration: From 09:00 at Old Power Station, 1 Hospital Street, Riversdale.

On-site Auction at 2 Sites:

1. Movable Items: 1 Fritz Grub Crescent, Industrial Area, Riversdale
2. Vehicles: Old Power Station, 1 Hospital Street, Riversdale

MOVABLES TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

BIDDING REQUIREMENTS: ID & PROOF OF RESIDENCE to register (FICA), R5,000 refundable deposit payable only by EFT on registration to CLAREMART AUCTIONEERS (PTY) LTD. NO CASH or CARD payments. Full settlement required immediately after the Auction. Please refer to our Catalogue for full terms and conditions.

TERMS OF PURCHASE: Bid Price (plus 15% VAT) + 5% Auctioneer's commission (incl. VAT on commission).

Contact: Shane Fourie 083-332-0870
021-425-8822 | info@claremart.com | www.claremart.com

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

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DEA&DP PRE-APPLICATION REF: 16/3/3/6/7/1/06/13/0278/23

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Location: The proposed WTW is to be located northwest of Heidelberg and on Erf RE/557 and Erf 672 directly below the southern Bloekombos dam wall. The site can be accessed off Muir Street in Heidelberg.

Listed Activities: Listing Notice 1 - Listed Activity: 12. 19; and Listing Notice 3 - Listed Activity: 12.

Exemption: No application for any exemption is sought.

Opportunity to participate: Interested and Affected Parties are invited to register interest for the respective application within the process, or provide written comments to Enviro-EAP within 30 days of this notice (excluding public holidays). The period of 15 December 2024 to 05 January 2025, is excluded from the reckoning of days, however any registration request received during this period will also be recorded and registration will be acknowledged. The project title, your full name, contact details, plus indication of any direct business, financial, personal or other interest you may have in this application must please be provided and fully described.

The registration period starts 29 November 2024 and ends 20 January 2025.

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Enviro-EAP, PO Box 205, Agulhas 7287
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Fax: 086 435 4691
Email: admin@enviro-eap.co.za

Every

40

seconds

a suicide occurs, every 3 seconds an attempt is made

HELP IS AVAILABLE

24 hours/day
7 days/week

Suicide Crisis Helpline
0800 567 567
www.sadag.org

WESTERN CAPE
LIQUOR AUTHORITY

IMPORTANT NOTICE

FORM 3A - NOTICE OF APPLICATIONS FOR LIQUOR LICENCES IN TERMS OF SECTION 37(1) OF THE WESTERN CAPE LIQUOR ACT, 2008 - [REG. 10(1)]

Notice is hereby given that the following applications for liquor licences have been lodged with the Western Cape Liquor Authority (the Authority) and with the designated liquor officers of the indicated South African Police Service offices. The applications concerned may, up to and including the 28th day from the date of publication of the application, upon request and free of charge, be inspected by any person, at the offices of the Authority or the designated liquor officer listed hereunder. Copies of an application can be obtained from the Authority after payment of the prescribed fee. Objections and representations must be lodged in writing with the Authority and the designated liquor officer in accordance with section 39 of the Act.

VORM 3A - KENNISGEWING VAN AANSOEK OM DRANKLISENSIES INGEVOLGE ARTIKEL 37(1) VAN DIE WES-KAAPSE DRANKWET, 2008 - [REG. 10(1)]

Hiermee word kennis gegee dat die volgende aansoek om dranklisensies ingedien is by die Wes-Kaapse Drankowerheid (die Owerheid) en] by die aangewese drankbeampies by die aangeduië Suid-Afrikaanse Polisiedienskantore. Die betrokke aansoek kan, tot en met die 28ste dag vanaf die datum van publikasie van die aansoek, op versoek en gratis deur enige persoon besigtig word by die kantore van die Owerheid of die aangewese drankbeampies hieronder gelys. Afskrifte van 'n aansoek kan by die Owerheid verkry word na betaling van die voorgeskryfde fooi. Besware en veroeë moet ooreenkomstig artikel 39 van die Wet skriftelik by die Owerheid en die aangewese drankbeampies ingedien word.

IFOMU 3A - ISAZISO SOKUFUKWA KWESICELO SEPHEPHA MVUME NGOKWECANDELO 37(1) LOMTHETHO WOTYWALA WENTSHONA KOLONI KA-2008 - [UMGAQO 10(1)]

Isaziso siyanikezelwa ukuba ezi zicelo zilandelayo zamaphhepha mvume otywala zifakwe kwabasemaGunyeni ezoTywala eNtshona Koloni (abasemaGunyeni) nakumagosa ajongene nemiba engotywala kwii-ofisi ezixeliweyo zeeNkonzo zamaPolisa aseMzantsi Afrika. Izicelo ekubhekiselwa kuzo zingakwazi kwiintsuku ezingamashumi amabini anesibhozo (28) ukususela ngomhla wokupapashwa kwesi cicelo, xa eceliwe kwaye simahla, ziye kuhlolwa nguye navuphi umntu okwi-Ofisi esemaGunyeni okanye yegosa elijongene nemiba engotywala elikelwe apha ngezantsi. Iikopi zisicelo zingafumaneka kwabasemaGunyeni emva kwentlawulo emiselweyo. Uchaso neengxelo ezixhasayo ezibhalweyo zingafakwa kwabasemaGunyeni nakwigosa elijongene nemiba engotywala ngokwecandelo 39 loMthetho.

No.	Full name of applicant Valle naam van aansoeker Igama elipheleleyo lomfaki-sicelo	Name under which business will be conducted Naam waaronder besigheid bedryf sal word Igama ishishini eza kushishina phantsi kwalo	Address of the proposed premises Adres van die voorgenoemde perseel Idilesi yesakhiwo	Kind of licence applied for Tipe lisensie waarom aansoek gedoen word Uhlobo lwephepha mvume olucelayo	South African Police Services designated liquor officer office where the application has been lodged Suid-Afrikaanse Polisiedienskantoor van die aangewese drankbeampies waar die aansoek ingedien is i-Ofisi yeGosa elijongene nemiba engotywala yeeNkonzo zamaPolisa eMzantsi Afrika apho isicelo sifakwe khona
1	Dröevlakte Distillery (Pty) Ltd	Dröevlakte Distillery	Portion 60 (a portion of portion 59) of the Farm Modderfontein No. 417, Riversdale, 6670	On & Off - Consumption	Silbaai
2	Dröevlakte Distillery (Pty) Ltd	Dröevlakte Distillery	Portion 60 (a portion of portion 59) of the Farm Modderfontein No. 417, Riversdale, 6670	Micro-Manufacture On & Off - Consumption	Silbaai
3	Jacobus Hermanus Labuschagne	Die Stoor/The Barn	Masterstock Plaas, Gedeelte 21, Silbaai, 6674	On - Consumption	Silbaai

TABLE 1: LIST OF IDENTIFIED KEY DEPARTMENTS, ORGANS OF STATE AND REGISTERED I&APs FOR PRE-APPLICATION DRAFT BAR PHASE

Note: In accordance with the POPI Act, 2013 (Act No.14 of 2013) the personal details of registered interested and affected parties other than the Key departments and Organs of State cannot be provided in the Draft Basic Assessment Report to be made available to the public. Therefore, these details will only be included in the Final Basic Assessment Report to be submitted to the Decision-making Authority.

STAKEHOLDER	CONTACT & REF NR	TELEPHONE	FAX	EMAIL
DEA&DP: Spatial Planning (Region 3)	Mr. Steven Kleinhans	044 814 2022		DEADPEIAAdmin.George@westerncape.gov.za Shireen.Pullen@westerncape.gov.za
DEA&DP: Planning	Elma Vreken			Elma.vreken@westerncape.gov.za
CapeNature Scientific Services: Land Use Advice Private Bag X5014 Stellenbosch 7599	Mr. Rhett Smart	021 866 8000	021 866 1523	rsmart@capenature.co.za
DEA&DP: Pollution & Chemicals Management Private Bag X9086 Cape Town 8000	Ms. Arabel McClelland	021 483 2752	021 483 3254	Rabia.Reynolds@westerncape.gov.za Arabel.McClelland@westerncape.gov.za
DEA&DP: Waste Management Private Bag X9086 Cape Town 8000	Mr. Lance McBain Charles	021 483 2728	021 483 4425	Lance.McBain-Charles@westerncape.gov.za Hassan.Parker@westerncape.gov.za Alet.vanstaden@westerncape.gov.za
DEA&DP: Biodiversity and Coastal Management Private Bog X9086 Cape Town 8000	Marlene Laros	021 483 5126	-	Marlene.laros@westerncape.gov.za Masnoona.jongie@westerncape.gov.za Caren.george@westerncape.gov.za
DEA&DP: Air Quality Management Private Bag X1 Elsenburg 7606	Nokulunga Goqo	021 483 6510		Nokulunga.Goqo@westerncape.gov.za deadp.aqm@westerncape.gov.za
Department of Agriculture, Western	Cor van der Walt	021 808 5099	021 808 5092	Brandon.Layman@westerncape.gov.za

Cape Private Bag X1 Elsenburg 7606	(CD copies of report provided)			Cor.VanderWalt@westerncape.gov.za
Heritage Western Cape	Stephanie Barnardt Ref: HM/ EDEN/ HESSEQUA / HEIDERBERG / ERF 672 AND RE OF ERF 557 Case No: HWC24072513SB0726	021 829 3315		Ceoheritage@westerncape.gov.za Stephanie.Barnardt@westerncape.gov.za
Hessequa Municipality PO Box 29 Riversdale 6670	Mr Hendrik Visser			shagon@hessequa.gov.za rhuschan@hessequa.gov.za hendrik@hessequa.gov.za shahidak@hessequa.gov.za bruno@hessequa.gov.za
Garden Route District Municipality Environmental Management P.O. Box 12 George 6530	Nina Viljoen	044 803 1318		gibbs@edendm.co.za nina@gardenroute.gov.za mm@gardenroute.gov.za
Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management Agency Private Bag X3055 Worcester 6850	Elkerine Rossouw	023 3468000	023 347 2012	erossouw@bocma.co.za mmthimkhulu@bocma.co.za pntanzi@bocma.co.za
Department of Water and Sanitation Dam Safety	Breede-Gouritz: Mr JJ Smith - 012 336 8894. Berg-Olifants: Mr M Mokwele - 012 336 7165			damsafety@dws.gov.za smithj2@dws.gov.za mokwelem@dws.gov.za mzimu@bgcma.co.za
Department of Infrastructure Western Cape Government Private Bag X9083 Cape Town 8000	Head of Department	021 483 2180	021 483 2166	HOD.Infrastructure@westerncape.gov.za Vanessa.Stoffels@westerncape.gov.za



Transnet LTD Property Management PO Box 1831 Bellville 7535	Anel Abrahams	-	-	enquiries@transnet.net Anel.Abrahams@transnet.net
Gouritz Cluster Biosphere Reserve	Mrs Marinda van As	028 050 0576	-	admin@gouritz.com
Simon van der Stel Foundation Southern Cape PO Box 4037 George East 6539	Mr Raymond Auerbach		-	raymond.auerbach@mandela.ac.za
South African Civil Aviation Authority				environment@caa.co.za
REGISTERED INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES (Details to be provided to the decision making authority during the submission of the Final Basic Assessment Report)				
Registered I&AP 1 				
Registered I&AP 2 				

TABLE 2: COMMENTS AND RESPONSE REPORT TABLE FOR COMMENTS RECEIVED ON DEA&DP NOI AND DURING I&AP REGISTRATION PERIOD

I&AP/KEY DEPARTMENT	DATE	COMMENT	RESPONSE
DEA&DP: Development Management Region 3	15/04/2025	<p>ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND COMMENT ON THE NOTICE OF INTENT TO APPLY FOR BASIC ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED WATER TREATMENT WORKS ON ERF RE/557 AND ERF 672, HEIDELBEG, WESTERN CAPE</p> <p>1. The abovementioned above-mentioned document received by the Directorate: Development Management (Region 3) hereinafter referred to as “this Directorate” on 26 July 2023, refers.</p> <p>2. It is understood that the proposal entails the development of a water treatment works just below the southern wall of the Bloekombos dam on the above-mentioned property, The expected footprint for the WTW will be approximately 0.5ha mostly to be located on the relatively flat lying area just below the downstream wall of the Bloekombos Dam.</p> <p>3. <i>Environmental Impact Assessment Process</i> Based on the listed activities which will be triggered, for which written Environmental Authorisation is required, a Basic Assessment process must be followed in order to apply for Environmental Authorisation.</p> <p>4. <i>National Web Based Environmental Screening Tool Report</i> 4.1 This Directorate notes the National Web Based Environmental Screening Tool Report that has been attached to the Notice of Intent. In accordance with Regulation 16(1)(b)(v) the report must also be attached to the application for environmental authorisation.</p>	<p>1.-</p> <p>2.-</p> <p>3.-</p> <p>4.1 – 4.2 Screening Tool Report has been updated and amended according to specialists investigations done, refer to Appendix J of the BAR.</p>

		<p>4.2 The findings of the screening tool report which identifies the involvement of 9 specialists in the process as well as your site verification report which identifies 4 specialist assessments as part of the Basic Assessment process is noted.</p> <p><i>5. Protocols or Minimum Information Requirements:</i></p> <p>In light of the protocols published in the national gazette, the screening tool report (“STR”) and the site sensitivity verification report (SSVR), please note the following:</p> <p>The SSVR does not comply with the minimum information requirements set out in the respective Protocols. Please be advised that SSVR which complies with the minimum information requirements must be appended to the BAR. Notwithstanding the requirements, the EAP has provided information and proposals regarding the sensitivity of the site and proposed assessments for the respective themes in the NOI Form. The themes are discussed below:</p> <p><u><i>Agricultural Theme</i></u></p> <p>The agricultural theme is rated as “Medium”. The EAP however argues that the sensitivity must be “low” instead of “medium” as the site is not zoned Agriculture. Notwithstanding the arguments made about zoning, please note that the protocol requires that an agricultural compliance statement be undertaken by a SACNASP registered agricultural or soil scientist for a sensitivity rating of “medium” or “low”.</p> <p>The SSVR has not refuted the delineation of the theme or the</p>	<p>The SSVR refutes the delineation of the theme and</p>
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	<p>need to assess the soil capability for agriculture purposes.</p> <p>In addition, hereto, please ensure that comment from the Department of Agriculture is obtained and submitted to this Directorate preferably prior to the submission of the application form, but at least with the submission of the final BAR.</p> <p><u>Archaeological and Cultural & Paleontological sensitivity Themes</u></p> <p>The Archaeological and Cultural Heritage as well as the Palaeontological themes are rated as “low”. This Directorate acknowledges that a Notice of Intent to Develop (NID) should be submitted to Heritage Western Cape in order to solicit their comment. Final comment from Heritage Western Cape must be submitted with the final BAR.</p> <p><u>Animal species sensitivity theme</u></p> <p>The animal species theme was rated as “high”. The EAP has motivated that the sensitivity rating be reduced to “Medium” because the site’s indigenous habitat has been completely transformed in the past and it is isolated, encroached by dense stands of eucalyptus trees and minimal remaining indigenous vegetation area on site.</p> <p>In light hereof, the Competent Authority requires that the procedure set out in the Protocol regarding the Medium Sensitivity Species of Conservation Concern Confirmation be followed.</p> <p>Please note that—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ where SCC are found on site or have been confirmed 	<p>requirement for an Agricultural Impact Assessment based on the fact that the proposed 0.5ha development site is not zoned for agricultural use and the location is not adequate or suitable for viable agricultural activities.</p> <p>The Department of Agriculture has been included as a commenting authority.</p> <p>HWC NID was submitted to the HWC whom confirmed no HIA required. Refer to Appendix E1 of the BAR.</p>
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		<p>to be likely present, a Terrestrial Animal Species Specialist Assessment must be submitted in accordance with the requirements specified for “very high” and “high” sensitivity in this protocol.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Similarly, where no SCC are found on site during the site inspection or the presence is confirmed to be unlikely, a Terrestrial Animal Species Compliance Statement must be submitted. <p>In addition, hereto, comment from CapeNature must be submitted along with the final BAR.</p> <p><u><i>Aquatic sensitivity theme</i></u></p> <p>The aquatic sensitivity theme is rated as “very high” due to the site being located adjacent to a nonperennial drainage line and just below the Bloekombos Dam. Although the EAP recommends that the rating be reduced to “medium”, it is acknowledged that an Aquatic Biodiversity Impact Assessment will be conducted in terms of the protocol. The Department of Water and Sanitation Risk Assessment will be conducted in terms of the water use authorization application because the development is within 100m from a water course and 500m from the wetland. Also ensure that the Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management Agency (BGCMA) also provides comment on the proposal in terms of the applicability of the National Water Act to the proposal.</p> <p><u><i>Plant species theme</i></u></p> <p>The STR rates the Plant Species Theme sensitivities as “Medium”. The finding presented in the SSVR is that the sensitivity rating is “medioum”.</p> <p>Therefore, the Competent Authority requires that the EAP or appointed specialist must consult the South African National</p>	<p>Terrestrial Animal Species Compliance Statement was conducted refer to Appendix G2.</p> <p>CapeNature is included as a commenting authority.</p> <p>Following specialist site sensitivity verification a Aquatic Impact Compliance Statement was conducted refer to Appendix G1 of the BAR.</p> <p>BOCMA is a commenting authority and pre-application meetings have already been held with BOCMA to determine information requirements for Water Use application process. Progress of Water Use Application process will be provided with the Draft and Final BAR,</p>
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	<p>Biodiversity Institute (SANBI) as indicted in the STR; and the procedure set out in the Protocol regarding the Medium Sensitivity Species of Conservation Concern Confirmation be followed.</p> <p>Please note that—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Where SCC are found on site or have been confirmed to be likely present, a Terrestrial Plant Species Specialist Assessment must be submitted in accordance with the requirements specified for “very high” and “high” sensitivity in this protocol. ○ Similarly, where no SCC are found on site during the investigation or if the presence is confirmed to be unlikely, a Terrestrial Plant Species Compliance Statement must be submitted. <p>Comment must also be obtained from CapeNature in this regard. Final comment from CapeNature must be attached to the final BAR.</p> <p><u>Terrestrial Biodiversity sensitivity theme</u></p> <p>The Terrestrial Biodiversity sensitivity theme sensitivity is rated “very high”; however, the EAP has recommended that the sensitivity be lowered to “medium”. The EAP submits that the proposed development site’s indigenous habitat has been completely transformed in the past and minimal indigenous vegetation remains on the site. Notwithstanding this, a Terrestrial Impact Assessment which complies with the protocols will be undertaken. The</p> <p><i>Please note that where the National Protocols apply, these protocols must be complied with.</i></p> <p><u>Other specialist studies or inputs</u></p>	<p>Following specialist site sensitivity verification a Terrestrial Plant Compliance Statement was conducted refer to Appendix G3 of the BAR.</p> <p>CapeNature is included as a commenting authority.</p> <p>Terrestrial Biodiversity Impact Assessment was conducted refer to Appendix G4 of the BAR.</p>
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		<p><i>Geotechnical assessment</i></p> <p>Notwithstanding the motivation by the EAP, in light of the location of the proposed development a geotechnical assessment should be undertaken. Furthermore, the dam safety risk assessment for the Bloekombos Dam must be taken into consideration in this regard.</p> <p>3.6 Public Participation Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A public participation process (“PPP”) that meets the requirements of Regulation 41 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) must be undertaken. You are advised that public participation may be undertaken prior to the submission of the application, although this is not mandatory. It is the Environmental Assessment Practitioner’s discretion at what stage the requirements of Regulation 41 are met, whether during the proposed application (pre application) process or formal application process. You are reminded that a period of at least 30 days must be provided to all potential or registered interested and affected parties to submit comment on the BAR and EMPr. ▪ Should a public participation process, which includes the circulation of the pre-application BAR for comment, be undertaken prior to submission of an 	<p>Geotechnical investigation has been undertaken refer to Appendix G5 of the BAR.</p> <p>A copy of the Dam Safety Report is attached to the BAR as Appendix L3, however as per instructions received from the Hessequa Municipality dam safety interventions currently under consideration are strictly maintenance-related and only planned for a later stage, after the construction of the proposed water treatment works. These works are aimed at preserving the structural integrity and operational safety of the existing infrastructure and does not constitute new development or expansion, and should therefore not fall part of the EIA process related to the construction of the new water treatment works.</p> <p>3.6 Noted.</p>
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		<p>Application Form to this Directorate, in terms of Regulation 40, the pre-application BAR may also be submitted to this Directorate for commenting purposes. Please ensure a minimum of one electronic copy of the pre application BAR is submitted to this Directorate for commenting purposes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In terms of Section 24O (2) and (3) of NEMA and Regulations 7(2) and 43(2) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, any State Department that administers a law relating to a matter affecting the environment relevant to the application must be requested to comment within 30 days. Please note that the EAP is responsible for such consultation. Therefore, it is requested that the EAP include proof of such notification to the relevant State Departments in terms of Section 24O (2) and (3) of NEMA in the BAR, where appropriate. ▪ This Department reminds applicants and/or EAPs not to conduct public participation processes over the festive period, i.e., during the period Friday, 15 December 2023 to Friday, 5 January 2024. Unless justified by exceptional circumstances, and as agreed to by the Department as the relevant competent authority, the proponent and applicant must refrain from conducting any public participation process during the period of 15 December to 5 January. ▪ Your list of State Departments to include in the PPP is noted and supported, However, please include a project schedule with dates with the submission of the pre-application Basic Assessment Report. ▪ Delivery of reports/documents must be done in a manner provided for in section 47D of the NEMA and 	
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		<p>the Directions: Provided that all registered I&APs have access to such facilities. Electronic versions of reports may be made accessible through any of the following non exhaustive list of methods: websites, Zero Data Portals, community or traditional authorities, Cloud Based Services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The timeframes regarding comment period must be specified. All potential interested and affected parties including I&APs and organs of state identified in Section 3 of the Public Participation plan, must be afforded a minimum of three (3) calendar days from date of notification before the 30-day commenting period on the Basic Assessment Report (Pre Application or formal process report). However, where the third day falls on a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday, it must be extended to the end of the next day which is not a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday. Please consider this Department’s Circular: DEA&DP 0008/2024: ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE RESPECTIVE DISCIPLINES WITHIN THE DIRECTORATE: FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT DURING THE FESTIVE PERIOD. ▪ Please consider the following guidance regarding the Application Programme: Once the Application Form is submitted to this Directorate, the programme should allow for the 10-day acknowledgement period, prior to any Public Participation commencing, so that this Directorate can confirm that the application is in order. ▪ It must be possible to cross-reference the proposed delivery of documents to the preferences indicated in the I&AP Register. ▪ Notwithstanding the above, please note the Basic 	
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		<p>Assessment Report (BAR) must comply with public participation process in terms of Regulation 32(1)(a)(aa) read together with Regulation 41. Proof of the requirements in accordance with Regulation 41 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (as amended) (“EIA Regulations, 2014). In the event where Regulation 41 has not been complied with during the pre-application phase it must be complied with during the application phase of the process.</p> <p>4 Pre- Application Consultation</p> <p>5.1 Its noted from the NOI that you do not intend to have a pre-application meeting. Please note that this Directorate will, at any stage, make itself available for a pre-application meeting, should this be required to provide further guidance and advice in terms of Regulation 8 on the process requirements and the administration of your application. Just contact us with possible dates for such a meeting.</p> <p>4.2 Please note that the pre-application consultation is an advisory process and does not pre-empt the outcome of any future application, which may be submitted to the Directorate.</p> <p>5.3 No information provided, views expressed and/or comments made by officials during the pre application consultation should in any way be seen as an indication or confirmation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ that additional information or documents will not be requested ➤ of the outcome of the application. 	<p>4. Noted.</p>
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	<p>5 Need and Desirability In terms of the NEMA EIA Regulations, when considering an application, the Department must take into account a number of specific considerations including inter alia, the need for and desirability of any proposed development. As such, the need for and desirability of the proposed activity must be considered and reported on in the BAR. The BAR must reflect how the strategic context of the site in relation to the broader surrounding area, has been considered in addressing need and desirability. Refer to the Department’s Guideline on Need and Desirability (March 2013).</p> <p><i>6 Synchronisation applications: National Water Act, Act No. 36 of 1998 (“NWA”) <u>(Synchronisation of the WULA – EIA processes / applications)</u></i></p> <p>a) The NOI states that the proposal will also require a water use license in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) (“NWA”). Your attention is drawn to the requirement of the one environmental system to synchronise water use licence application and the EIA application in order to ensure that all processes involved inform one another. You are also reminded that the duty of the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (“EAP”) to take note of the timeframes and synchronise all processes. It is important that all technical studies and subsequent reports submitted in terms of that process, be submitted together with the BAR. Failure to give effect to the one environmental system may prejudice the success of the application.</p> <p>b) Also note that this Directorate will require a final recommendation from the Breede-Olifants Catchment Management Agency (BOCMA) which</p>	<p>5. Refer to Appendix K: Need and Desirability Motivation as attached to the BAR.</p> <p>6. The following meetings have been held with BOCMA officials to discuss the proposal and way forward with Water Use application on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 December 2025 Site Meeting with the EAP, municipal and BOCMA officials attending • 5 May 2025 Site Meeting with the EAP, municipal and BOCMA officials attending. • 1 July 2025 Online Teams Meeting with the EAP, municipal and BOCMA officials attending <p>Progress report of Water Use Application process will be provided with the Draft and Final BAR,</p>
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		<p>indicates whether there are any reasons why a WULA permit/general authorisation cannot be issued on the proposed development. This information will put this Directorate in a position to make an informed decision on the proposed amendment and to avoid incremental decision-making.</p> <p>c) In the spirit of co-operative governance, the case officer from this Directorate would avail herself for a site inspection with the relevant officials from the BOCMA.</p> <p><i>National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999) (“NHRA”) (Synchronisation of the HIA – EIA processes / applications)</i></p> <p>Section 38 of the NHRA sets out the requirements regarding the integration of the decision-making processes with that of the EIA Regulations 2014, however, under the provision that the necessary information is submitted and any comments and recommendations of the relevant heritage resources authority (HWC) with regard to such development have been provided and taken into account prior to the granting of the authorisation. Further to the above:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ An application for Environmental Authorisation, must include, where applicable, the investigation, assessment and evaluation of the impact of any proposed listed or specified activity on any national estate referred to in section 3(2) of the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999), excluding the national estate contemplated in section 3(2)(i)(vi) and (vii) of that Act. ▪ Where Section 38 of the NHRA is triggered, the Standard Operating Procedure between Heritage Western Cape and this Department must be 	<p>HWC NID was submitted to the HWC whom confirmed no HIA required. Refer to Appendix E1 of the BAR.</p>
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		<p>followed. If Section 38 is applicable to the proposed development, then the proponent/applicant is required to submit a Notice of Intent to Develop (“NID”) to Heritage Western Cape and attach a copy to thereof to the EIA application form. If Heritage Western Cape requires a Heritage Impact Assessment, the Heritage Impact Assessment must be undertaken as one of the specialist studies of the EIA process to be undertaken in terms of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014. It is reasonable to suspect that the proposed activity triggers an activity identified in section 38 of the NHRA and it is likely that the national estate may be impacted. Comment from Heritage Western Cape must be obtained to substantiate this.</p> <p><i>7 Government Policies and Plans, Guidelines, Environmental Management Instruments:</i></p> <p>You are advised that when undertaking the EIA process, it is the responsibility of the EAP and Specialists to take into account all the government policies and plans, guidelines, environmental management instruments and other decision making instruments in respect of the application process or the kind of activity which will be the subject of the application, including the guidelines, information documents or circulars developed by this Department which include inter alia, the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Guideline for the Review of Specialist Input in the EIA process (June 2005). ▪ Guideline for Environmental Management Plans (June 2005). ▪ Guideline on Generic Terms of Reference for EAPs and Project Schedules (March 2013) 	<p>7. Noted.</p>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Guideline for determining the scope of specialist involvement in EIA processes, June 2005. ▪ Guideline for involving visual and aesthetic specialists in the EIA process, June 2005. DEA (2017), ▪ Guideline on Need and Desirability, Department of Environmental Affairs. <p>8 Please ensure the Basic Assessment Report (“BAR”) and Environmental Management Programme (“EMPr”) contain all information requirements outlined in Appendices 1 and 4 respectively of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (GN R. 982 of 4 December 2014, as amended).</p> <p>9 Please ensure that the Basic Assessment contains a comparative assessment of the preferred alternative, the no-go alternative and at least one other alternative.</p> <p>General</p> <p>10 In accordance with the Directions regarding measures to address, prevent and combat the spread of COVID-19 (Government Notice No. 650 of 5 June 2020) during Alert Level 1, all applications, reports and documents, which include all signatures and Annexures which are included as part of the application and subsequent reports, must be submitted via e-mail to the relevant official, with attached PDF versions of letters and reports. If the documents are too large to attach to an e-mail, the competent authority must be notified per e-mail and provided with an electronic link to such documents that is accessible by the relevant authority.</p> <p>11 With reference to this Department’s Circular No. 0027/2021 of 15 December 2021, please note that from 1</p>	<p>8. Noted.</p> <p>9. Noted.</p> <p>10. Noted.</p> <p>11. Noted.</p>
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	<p>February 2022 all general EIA queries, correspondence, applications, non-applications and reports must be e-mailed to this Directorate’s dedicated e-mail address.</p> <p>In this regard the following procedure for the submission of documents must be followed when submitting documents to the Directorate: Development Management (Region 3) –</p> <p>(a) submitted electronically per electronic mail to this Directorate’s generic e-mail address and copied to the assigned case officer. Note: The Directorate: Development Management (Region 3), has created a generic e-mail address to centralise its administration within the component (i.e. notifying clients of decisions and receiving EIA applications, Notice of Intent form; request for fee reference numbers, etc.): DEADPEIAAdmin.George@westerncape.gov.za</p> <p>or</p> <p>(b) uploaded electronically to the designated folder on the Directorate’s OneDrive system which has been assigned to the EAP. Note: The document must be placed in an appropriately named folder and the reference number included (where applicable). This Directorate must be notified via e-mail once the document has been uploaded. Such notification must include a screenshot of the documents that have been uploaded within the folder.</p> <p>12 Kindly note that this Directorate requires that when the pre-application BAR is submitted, an electronic copy of the document must be submitted to this Directorate for consideration. Hard copies of the document are no longer required but must be made available upon request.</p>	<p>12 Noted.</p>
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		<p>13 Please note that the activity may not commence prior to an environmental authorisation being granted by this Directorate. It is an offence in terms of Section 49A(1)(a) of the NEMA for a person to commence with a listed activity unless the Competent Authority has granted an Environmental Authorisation for undertaking it. Failure to comply with the requirements of Section 24F of the NEMA shall result in the matter being referred to the Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Directorate of this Department. A person convicted of an offence in terms of the above is liable to a fine not exceeding R10 million or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding 10 years, or to both such fine and imprisonment.</p> <p>14 This Department reserves the right to revise or withdraw initial comments or request further information from you based on any new or revised information received Please note that the proposed development may not commence prior to an environmental authorisation being granted by the Department.</p> <p>15 This Department reserves the right to revise or withdraw initial comments or request further information from you based on any information received.</p>	<p>13. Noted.</p> <p>14. Noted.</p> <p>15. Noted.</p>
Registered I&AP 2	13/01/2025	<p>I have a personal interest in the project as I am a resident of Heidelberg and live close to where the proposed project will be.</p> <p>I have the following questions:</p> <p>What is the expected noise pollution during construction and operational phase?</p>	<p>Additional noise due to construction activities and associate operational phase of the proposed development are</p>

		<p>Will we still have access to the dam and surrounding area for recreational use?</p> <p>Are there any potential air pollutants of the project?</p> <p>What happens to the waste generated by the proposed system?</p> <p>What will the financial implications be for the residents of Heidelberg, e.g. Will there be water tariff increases or decreases?</p> <p>I have noticed that there is no additional information on your website under Public Participation.</p> <p>Could you please send additional information on the project.</p>	<p>expected to be produced, however construction noise will only be temporary and all possible mitigation measures will be implemented as per the requirements of the EMP to minimise noise production as far as possible. Noise levels produced during the construction and operational phases must not exceed the allowable maximum urban noise levels and must be regulated by the requirements of the EMP.</p> <p>Yes, public access to the dam and surrounding area for recreational use will remain.</p> <p>There is no expected air pollutants associated within the WTWs.</p> <p>Refer to the WTW Technical Report attached as Appendix L2 to the BAR and process descriptions as provided in the BAR which explains how sludge and overflow from sludge dams will be managed.</p> <p>Water tariff increase or decreases will be managed by the municipality as per standard practices, the construction and operation of the proposed WTWs is budgeted for by the municipality during annual budget reviews.</p> <p>All registered interested and affected parties are informed of information available for comments as it becomes available.</p>
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PROOF OF DEA&DP NID REPLY LETTER AND COMMENTS RECEIVED DURING I&AP REGISTRATION PERIOD



Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning

Shireen Pullen

Directorate: Development Management, Region 3
Shireen.Pullen@westerncape.gov.za | Tel: 044 814 2021

REFERENCE: 16/3/3/6/7/1/D6/13/0278/23
DATE OF ISSUE: 7 November 2024

Manager: Civil Planning and Project Management
Hessequa Municipality
Civic Centre
Van den Berg Street
RIVERSDALE
6670

Attention: Mrs Shahida Kennedy

E-mail: shahidak@hessequa.gov.za

Dear Madam,

ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND COMMENT ON THE NOTICE OF INTENT TO APPLY FOR BASIC ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED WATER TREATMENT WORKS ON ERF RE/557 AND ERF 672, HEIDELBEG, WESTERN CAPE

1. The abovementioned above-mentioned document received by the Directorate: Development Management (Region 3) hereinafter referred to as "this Directorate" on 26 July 2023, refers.
2. It is understood that the proposal entails the development of a water treatment works just below the southern wall of the Bloekombos dam on the above-mentioned property, The expected footprint for the WTW will be approximately 0.5ha mostly to be located on the relatively flat lying area just below the downstream wall of the Bloekombos Dam.
3. *Environmental Impact Assessment Process*
Based on the listed activities which will be triggered, for which written Environmental Authorisation is required, a Basic Assessment process must be followed in order to apply for Environmental Authorisation.
4. *National Web Based Environmental Screening Tool Report*
 - 4.1 This Directorate notes the National Web Based Environmental Screening Tool Report that has been attached to the Notice of Intent. In accordance with Regulation 16(1)(b)(v) the report must also be attached to the application for environmental authorisation.
 - 4.2 The findings of the screening tool report which identifies the involvement of 9 specialists in the process as well as your site verification report which identifies 4 specialist assessments as part of the Basic Assessment process is noted.
5. *Protocols or Minimum Information Requirements:*
In light of the protocols published in the national gazette, the screening tool report ("STR") and the site sensitivity verification report (SSVR), please note the following:

The SSVR does not comply with the minimum information requirements set out in the respective Protocols. Please be advised that SSVR which complies with the minimum information requirements

Page 1 of 7

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Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning | Directorate: Development Management (Region 3)
George Regional Office: 4th Floor, York Park Building, 93 York Street, George, 6529

must be appended to the BAR. Notwithstanding the requirements, the EAP has provided information and proposals regarding the sensitivity of the site and proposed assessments for the respective themes in the NOI Form. The themes are discussed below:

● Agricultural Theme

The agricultural theme is rated as "Medium". The EAP however argues that the sensitivity must be "low" instead of "medium" as the site is not zoned Agriculture. Notwithstanding the arguments made about zoning, please note that the protocol requires that an agricultural compliance statement be undertaken by a SACNASP registered agricultural or soil scientist for a sensitivity rating of "medium" or "low".

The SSVR has not refuted the delineation of the theme or the need to assess the soil capability for agriculture purposes.

In addition, hereto, please ensure that comment from the Department of Agriculture is obtained and submitted to this Directorate preferably prior to the submission of the application form, but at least with the submission of the final BAR.

● Archaeological and Cultural & Paleontological sensitivity Themes

The Archaeological and Cultural Heritage as well as the Palaeontological themes are rated as "low". This Directorate acknowledges that a Notice of Intent to Develop (NID) should be submitted to Heritage Western Cape in order to solicit their comment. Final comment from Heritage Western Cape must be submitted with the final BAR.

● Animal species sensitivity theme

The animal species theme was rated as "high". The EAP has motivated that the sensitivity rating be reduced to "Medium" because the site's indigenous habitat has been completely transformed in the past and it is isolated, encroached by dense stands of eucalyptus trees and minimal remaining indigenous vegetation area on site.

In light hereof, the Competent Authority requires that the procedure set out in the Protocol regarding the Medium Sensitivity Species of Conservation Concern Confirmation be followed.

Please note that—

- where SCC are found on site or have been confirmed to be likely present, a Terrestrial Animal Species Specialist Assessment must be submitted in accordance with the requirements specified for "very high" and "high" sensitivity in this protocol.
- similarly, where no SCC are found on site during the site inspection or the presence is confirmed to be unlikely, a Terrestrial Animal Species Compliance Statement must be submitted.

In addition, hereto, comment from CapeNature must be submitted along with the final BAR.

● Aquatic sensitivity theme

The aquatic sensitivity theme is rated as "very high" due to the site being located adjacent to a nonperennial drainage line and just below the Bloekombos Dam. Although the EAP recommends that the rating be reduced to "medium", it is acknowledged that an Aquatic Biodiversity Impact Assessment will be conducted in terms of the protocol. The Department of Water and Sanitation Risk Assessment will be conducted in terms of the water use authorization application because the development is within 100m from a water course and 500m from the wetland. Also ensure that the Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management Agency (BGCMA) also provides comment on the proposal in terms of the applicability of the National Water Act to the proposal.

● Plant species theme

The STR rates the Plant Species Theme sensitivities as "Medium". The finding presented in the SSVR is that the sensitivity rating is "medioum".

Therefore, the Competent Authority requires that the EAP or appointed specialist must consult the South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI) as indicted in the STR; and the procedure set out in the Protocol regarding the **Medium Sensitivity Species of Conservation Concern Confirmation** be followed.

Please note that—

- where SCC are found on site or have been confirmed to be likely present, a **Terrestrial Plant Species Specialist Assessment** must be submitted in accordance with the requirements specified for "very high" and "high" sensitivity in this protocol.
- similarly, where no SCC are found on site during the investigation or if the presence is confirmed to be unlikely, a **Terrestrial Plant Species Compliance Statement** must be submitted.

Comment must also be obtained from CapeNature in this regard. Final comment from CapeNature must be attached to the final BAR.

● Terrestrial Biodiversity sensitivity theme

The Terrestrial Biodiversity sensitivity theme sensitivity is rated "very high"; however, the EAP has recommended that the sensitivity be lowered to "medium". The EAP submits that the proposed development site's indigenous habitat has been completely transformed in the past and minimal indigenous vegetation remains on the site. Notwithstanding this, a Terrestrial Impact Assessment which complies with the protocols will be undertaken. The

Please note that where the National Protocols apply, these protocols must be complied with.

● Other specialist studies or inputs

● Geotechnical assessment

Notwithstanding the motivation by the EAP, in light of the location of the proposed development a geotechnical assessment should be undertaken. Furthermore, the dam safety risk assessment for the Bloekombos Dam must be taken into consideration in this regard.

3.6 Public Participation Process

- ❖ A public participation process ("PPP") that meets the requirements of Regulation 41 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) must be undertaken. You are advised that public participation may be undertaken prior to the submission of the application, although this is not mandatory. It is the Environmental Assessment Practitioner's discretion at what stage the requirements of Regulation 41 are met, whether during the proposed application (pre-application) process or formal application process. You are reminded that a period of at least 30 days must be provided to all potential or registered interested and affected parties to submit comment on the BAR and EMPr.
- ❖ Should a public participation process, which includes the circulation of the pre-application BAR for comment, be undertaken prior to submission of an Application Form to this Directorate, in terms of Regulation 40, the pre-application BAR may also be submitted to this Directorate for commenting purposes. Please ensure a minimum of one electronic copy of the pre-application BAR is submitted to this Directorate for commenting purposes.

- ❖ In terms of Section 24O (2) and (3) of NEMA and Regulations 7(2) and 43(2) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, any State Department that administers a law relating to a matter affecting the environment relevant to the application must be requested to comment within 30 days. Please note that the EAP is responsible for such consultation. Therefore, it is requested that the EAP include proof of such notification to the relevant State Departments in terms of Section 24O (2) and (3) of NEMA in the BAR, where appropriate.
- ❖ This Department reminds applicants and/or EAPs not to conduct public participation processes over the festive period, i.e., during the period Friday, 15 December 2023 to Friday, 5 January 2024. Unless justified by exceptional circumstances, and as agreed to by the Department as the relevant competent authority, the proponent and applicant must refrain from conducting any public participation process during the period of 15 December to 5 January.
- ❖ Your list of State Departments to include in the PPP is noted and supported, However, please include a project schedule with dates with the submission of the pre-application Basic Assessment Report.
- ❖ Delivery of reports/documents must be done in a manner provided for in section 47D of the NEMA and the Directions: Provided that all registered I&APs have access to such facilities. Electronic versions of reports may be made accessible through any of the following non-exhaustive list of methods: websites, Zero Data Portals, community or traditional authorities, Cloud Based Services.
- ❖ The timeframes regarding comment period must be specified. All potential interested and affected parties including I&APs and organs of state identified in Section 3 of the Public Participation plan, must be afforded a minimum of three (3) calendar days from date of notification before the 30-day commenting period on the Basic Assessment Report (Pre-Application or formal process report). However, where the third day falls on a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday, it must be extended to the end of the next day which is not a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday. Please consider this Department's Circular: DEA&DP 0008/2024: *ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE RESPECTIVE DISCIPLINES WITHIN THE DIRECTORATE: FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT DURING THE FESTIVE PERIOD.*
- ❖ Please consider the following guidance regarding the Application Programme: Once the Application Form is submitted to this Directorate, the programme should allow for the 10-day acknowledgement period, prior to any Public Participation commencing, so that this Directorate can confirm that the application is in order.
- ❖ It must be possible to cross-reference the proposed delivery of documents to the preferences indicated in the I&AP Register.
- ❖ Notwithstanding the above, please note the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) must comply with public participation process in terms of Regulation 32(1) (a) (aa) read together with Regulation 41. Proof of the requirements in accordance with Regulation 41 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (as amended) ("EIA Regulations, 2014). In the event where Regulation 41 has not been complied with during the pre-application phase it must be complied with during the application phase of the process.

- 4 Pre- Application Consultation
- 5.1 Its noted from the NOI that you do not intend to have a pre-application meeting. Please note that this Directorate will, at any stage, make itself available for a pre-application meeting, should this be required to provide further guidance and advice in terms of Regulation 8 on the process requirements and the administration of your application. Just contact us with possible dates for such a meeting.
- 4.2 Please note that the pre-application consultation is an advisory process and does not pre-empt the outcome of any future application, which may be submitted to the Directorate.
- 5.3 No information provided, views expressed and/or comments made by officials during the pre-application consultation should in any way be seen as an indication or confirmation:
- that additional information or documents will not be requested
 - of the outcome of the application.
- 5 Need and Desirability
- In terms of the NEMA EIA Regulations, when considering an application, the Department must take into account a number of specific considerations including *inter alia*, the need for and desirability of any proposed development. As such, the need for and desirability of the proposed activity must be considered and reported on in the BAR. The BAR must reflect how the strategic context of the site in relation to the broader surrounding area, has been considered in addressing need and desirability. Refer to the Department's Guideline on Need and Desirability (March 2013).
- 6 Synchronisation applications:
- **National Water Act, Act No. 36 of 1998 ("NWA")**
(Synchronisation of the WULA – EIA processes / applications)
 - a) The NOI states that the proposal will also require a water use license in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) ("NWA"). Your attention is drawn to the requirement of the one environmental system to synchronise water use licence application and the EIA application in order to ensure that all processes involved inform one another. You are also reminded that the duty of the Environmental Assessment Practitioner ("EAP") to take note of the timeframes and synchronise all processes. It is important that all technical studies and subsequent reports submitted in terms of that process, be submitted together with the BAR. Failure to give effect to the one environmental system may prejudice the success of the application.
 - b) Also note that this Directorate will require a final recommendation from the Breede-Olifants Catchment Management Agency (BOCMA) which indicates whether there are any reasons why a WULA permit/general authorisation cannot be issued on the proposed development. This information will put this Directorate in a position to make an informed decision on the proposed amendment and to avoid incremental decision-making.
 - c) In the spirit of co-operative governance, the case officer from this Directorate would avail herself for a site inspection with the relevant officials from the BOCMA.
 - **National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999) ("NHRA")**
(Synchronisation of the HIA – EIA processes / applications)
Section 38 of the NHRA sets out the requirements regarding the integration of the decision-making proses with that of the EIA Regulations 2014, however, under the provision that the necessary information is submitted and any comments and recommendations of the relevant heritage

resources authority (HWC) with regard to such development have been provided and taken into account prior to the granting of the authorisation. Further to the above:

- An application for Environmental Authorisation, must include, where applicable, the investigation, assessment and evaluation of the impact of any proposed listed or specified activity on any national estate referred to in section 3(2) of the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999), excluding the national estate contemplated in section 3(2) (i) (vi) and (vii) of that Act.
- Where Section 38 of the NHRA is triggered, the Standard Operating Procedure between Heritage Western Cape and this Department must be followed. If Section 38 is applicable to the proposed development, then the proponent/applicant is required to submit a Notice of Intent to Develop ("NID") to Heritage Western Cape and attach a copy to thereof to the EIA application form. If Heritage Western Cape requires a Heritage Impact Assessment, the Heritage Impact Assessment must be undertaken as one of the specialist studies of the EIA process to be undertaken in terms of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014. It is reasonable to suspect that the proposed activity triggers an activity identified in section 38 of the NHRA and it is likely that the national estate may be impacted. Comment from Heritage Western Cape must be obtained to substantiate this.

7 *Government Policies and Plans, Guidelines, Environmental Management Instruments:*

You are advised that when undertaking the EIA process, it is the responsibility of the EAP and Specialists to take into account all the government policies and plans, guidelines, environmental management instruments and other decision making instruments in respect of the application process or the kind of activity which will be the subject of the application, including the guidelines, information documents or circulars developed by this Department which include inter alia, the following:

- Guideline for the Review of Specialist Input in the EIA process (June 2005).
- Guideline for Environmental Management Plans (June 2005).
- Guideline on Generic Terms of Reference for EAPs and Project Schedules (March 2013)
- Guideline for determining the scope of specialist involvement in EIA processes, June 2005.
- Guideline for involving visual and aesthetic specialists in the EIA process, June 2005.
- DEA (2017), Guideline on Need and Desirability, Department of Environmental Affairs.

8 Please ensure the Basic Assessment Report ("BAR") and Environmental Management Programme ("EMPr") contain all information requirements outlined in Appendices 1 and 4 respectively of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (GN R. 982 of 4 December 2014, as amended).

9 Please ensure that the Basic Assessment contains a comparative assessment of the preferred alternative, the no-go alternative and at least one other alternative.

General

10 In accordance with the Directions regarding measures to address, prevent and combat the spread of COVID-19 (Government Notice No. 650 of 5 June 2020) during Alert Level 1, all applications, reports and documents, which include all signatures and Annexures which are included as part of the application and subsequent reports, must be submitted via e-mail to the relevant official, with attached PDF versions of letters and reports. If the documents are too large to attach to an e-mail, the competent authority must be notified per e-mail and provided with an electronic link to such documents that is accessible by the relevant authority.

11 With reference to this Department's Circular No. 0027/2021 of 15 December 2021, please note that from 1 February 2022 all general EIA queries, correspondence, applications, non-applications and reports must be e-mailed to this Directorate's dedicated e-mail address.

In this regard the following procedure for the submission of documents must be followed when submitting documents to the Directorate: Development Management (Region 3) -

- (a) submitted electronically per electronic mail to this Directorate's generic e-mail address and copied to the assigned case officer.

Note: The Directorate: Development Management (Region 3), has created a generic e-mail address to centralise its administration within the component (i.e. notifying clients of decisions and receiving EIA applications, Notice of Intent form; request for fee reference numbers, etc.):

DEADPEIAAdmin.George@westerncape.gov.za

OR

- (b) uploaded electronically to the designated folder on the Directorate's OneDrive system which has been assigned to the EAP.

Note: The document must be placed in an appropriately named folder and the reference number included (where applicable). This Directorate must be notified via e-mail once the document has been uploaded. Such notification must include a screenshot of the documents that have been uploaded within the folder.

12. Kindly note that this Directorate requires that when the pre-application BAR is submitted, an electronic copy of the document must be submitted to this Directorate for consideration. Hard copies of the document are no longer required but must be made available upon request.
13. Please note that the activity may not commence prior to an environmental authorisation being granted by this Directorate. It is an offence in terms of Section 49A(1)(a) of the NEMA for a person to commence with a listed activity unless the Competent Authority has granted an Environmental Authorisation for undertaking it. Failure to comply with the requirements of Section 24F of the NEMA shall result in the matter being referred to the Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Directorate of this Department. A person convicted of an offence in terms of the above is liable to a fine not exceeding R10 million or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding 10 years, or to both such fine and imprisonment.
14. This Department reserves the right to revise or withdraw initial comments or request further information from you based on any new or revised information received. Please note that the proposed development may not commence prior to an environmental authorisation being granted by the Department.
15. This Department reserves the right to revise or withdraw initial comments or request further information from you based on any information received.

Yours faithfully

Francois Naudé Digitally signed by Francois Naudé
Date: 2024.11.07 09:55:24 +02'00'

pp _____
HEAD OF DEPARTMENT
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT MANAGEMENT SERVICES: REGION 3
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

Copied to: EAP: Ms. Johmandie Pienaar Email: johmandie@enviro-eap.co.za

Registered I&AP 2

[REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, 13 January 2025 18:59

To: Admin <admin@enviro-eap.co.za>; Johmandie Pienaar <johmandie@enviro-eap.co.za>; Nicolaas Hanekom <nicolaas@enviro-eap.co.za>

Subject: Proposed water treatment works on erf RE/557 and erf 672 Heidelberg Western

Good afternoon

I would like to register as an Interested and Affected party for the Proposed water treatment works on erf RE/557 and erf 672 Heidelberg Western project.

My name and surname is: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I have a personal interest in the project as I am a resident of Heidelberg and live close to where the proposed project will be.

I have the following questions:

What is the expected noise pollution during construction and operational phase?

Will we still have access to the dam and surrounding area for recreational use?

Are there any potential air pollutants of the project?

What happens to the waste generated by the proposed system?

What will the financial implications be for the residents of Heidelberg, e.g. Will there be water tariff increases or decreases?

I have noticed that there is no additional information on your website under Public Participation.

Could you please send additional information on the project.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]

PROOF DISTRIBUTION PRE-APPLICATION DRAFT BAR TO ALL REGISTERED INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES AND KEY DEPARTMENTS

From: Johmandie Pienaar

Sent: Friday, 26 September 2025 08:58

To: DEADP-EIAAdmin George <deadpeiaadmin.george@westerncape.gov.za>; 'Shireen Pullen' <shireen.pullen@westerncape.gov.za>

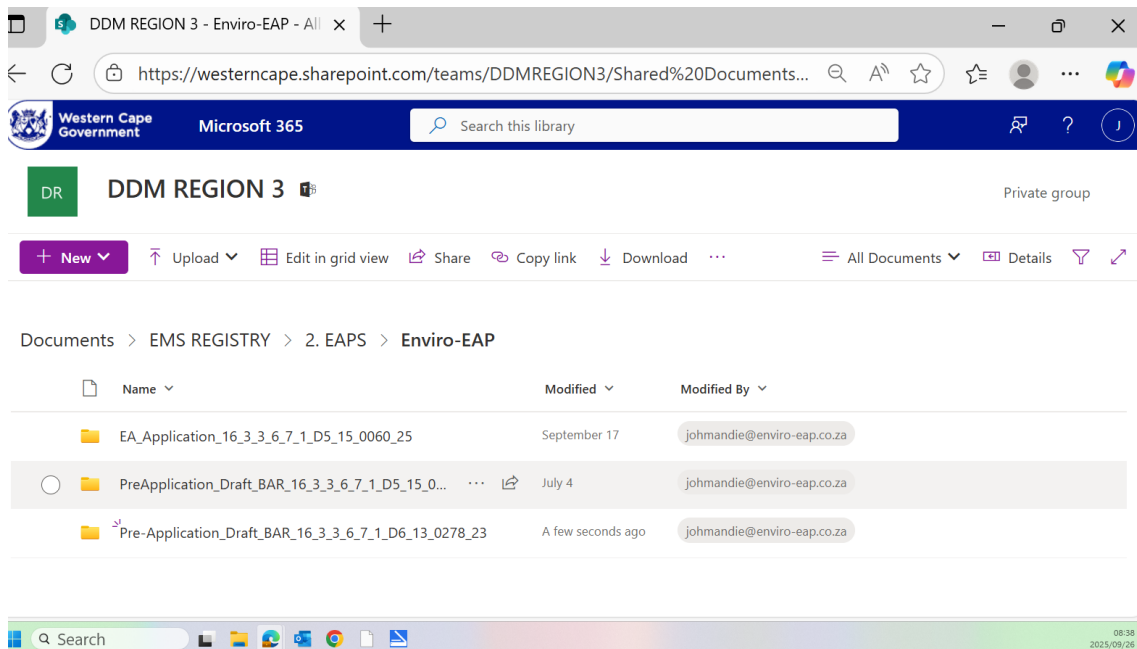
Cc: Shahida Kennedy <shahidak@hessequa.gov.za>; Bruno Lario <bruno@hessequa.gov.za>; Admin <admin@enviro-eap.co.za>

Subject: NOTIFICATION OF COMMENTING PERIOD COMMENCEMENT FOR DIRECTORATE: DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT (REGION 3): PRE-APPLICATION DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT PROPOSED HEIDELBERG WATER TREATMENT WORKS ON ERF RE/557 AND ERF 672, HEIDELBERG, WESTERN CAPE

**NOTIFICATION OF FORMAL SUBMISSION AND AVAILABILITY OF THE PRE-APPLICATION DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR 30 DAYS TO THE DIRECTORATE: DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT (REGION 3)
PROPOSED HEIDELBERG WATER TREATMENT WORKS ON ERF RE/557 AND ERF 672, HEIDELBERG, WESTERN CAPE
PRE-APPLICATION REF: 16/3/3/6/7/1/D6/13/0278/23**

Notice is given of a Public Participation Process (PPP) commenced by **Hessequa Municipality** to apply for an Environmental Authorization in terms the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (2014, as amended) made under Section 24 (5) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), Act No. 107 of 1998 (as amended). You have received this email as the decision-making authority and a key department for **environmental and planning commenting** purposes for the ***PROPOSED HEIDELBERG WATER TREATMENT WORKS ON ERF RE/557 AND ERF 672, HEIDELBERG, WESTERN CAPE***

This email serves as a written notification of the availability of the ***Pre-application Draft Basic Assessment Report*** for **30-day commenting period (excluding public holidays)** to the Directorate: Development Management (Region 3) and screenshot proof as per below is provided that the documents have been uploaded to the dedicated OneDrive folder.



(1) AVAILABILITY OF THE PRE-APPLICATION DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT:

The Pre-application Draft Basic Assessment Report and appendices are also accessible via: -
 (i) electronic download on our website at <https://enviro-eap.co.za/public-participation/> (**available for download for the entire commenting period**). Please scroll down the public participation web page until you find the relevant project title and reference number as per the project details provided above.
 (ii) hardcopies and/or cd copies will only be sent via SAPO – registered mail service **on request** or where a postal address is the only means of contact provided.

(2) COMMENTING PERIOD OF THE PRE-APPLICATION DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT AND DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS SUBMISSION BY THE DIRECTORATE: DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT (Region 3)

The commenting period of the Pre-application Draft Basic Assessment Report is **30 days (excluding public holidays)**, starting from the **1 October 2025** and ending on **30 October 2025**. Your comments on the Pre-application Draft Basic Assessment Report must be provided within the regulatory 30-day commenting period or by no later than the **30 October 2025**.

(3) SUBMISSION OF COMMENTS

Please direct your comments in writing for the attention of the responsible EAP as per the contact information provided below:

Responsible EAP: Johmandie Pienaar
Email: johmandie@enviro-eap.co.za or admin@enviro-eap.co.za
Direct #: 072 240 3092 (*contact methods: Calls, sms or whatsapp*)
Fax: 086 435 4691

CONSULTATION WITH OTHER ORGANS OF STATE / KEY DEPARTMENTS AND REGISTERED I&APs [NEMA S240]

To facilitate adequate consultation with State Departments that administers laws relating to a matter affecting the environment in accordance with the requirements of Section 240 of NEMA, please be advised that all other registered interested and affected parties, organs of state, key departments, and/or stakeholders were notified electronically of the availability of the Pre-application Draft Basic Assessment Report on **26 September 2025 and notified of the 30 day commenting period ending 30 October 2025**. As such all RI&APs and Stakeholders are considered to

be “in possession” of the Pre-application Draft Basic Assessment Report and appendices from the date of electronic notification. A list of RI&APs and Stakeholders consulted, and their respective contact information to be included in **Appendix F of the Final Basic Assessment Report to be submitted to the Department.**

SECTIONS 11 AND 18 OF POPI ACT, 2013 (Act No.14 of 2013):

The personal information and comments provided will be included in reports to be submitted to the Competent Authority to enable informed decision-making. Also, if you choose to register as an I&AP your personal information will be made available to an appellant in the case of an appeal, and an applicant/EAP/independent person for purposes of being informed and given access to an audit report. This information may be made available in terms of section 11(1)(c) and 11(1)(d) of the POPIA, without requiring consent.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Johmandie Pienaar

Environmental Assessment Practitioner
EAPASA Registration Nr. 2020/2326



Email: johmandie@enviro-eap.co.za

Cell: 072 240 3092

Fax: 086 435 4691

Web: www.enviro-eap.co.za

Postal Address: Enviro-EAP

PO Box 205

Agulhas

7287

From: Johmandie Pienaar

Sent: Friday, 26 September 2025 08:58

To: onlinecomms@dlrrd.gov.za; 'Shireen Pullen' <shireen.pullen@westerncape.gov.za>; DEADP-EIAAdmin George <deadpeiaadmin.george@westerncape.gov.za>; 'Rhett Smart' <rsmart@capenature.co.za>; RABIA REYNOLDS <rabia.reynolds@westerncape.gov.za>; Arabel McClelland <arabel.mcclelland@westerncape.gov.za>; Lance McBain-Charles <lance.mcbain-charles@westerncape.gov.za>; Hassan Parker <hassan.parker@westerncape.gov.za>; Marlene Laros <marlene.laros@westerncape.gov.za>; Masnoona Jongie <masnoona.jongie@westerncape.gov.za>; Caren George <caren.george@westerncape.gov.za>; nokulunga.Goqo@westerncape.gov.za; DEADP AQM <deadp.aqm@westerncape.gov.za>; Brandon Layman <brandon.layman@westerncape.gov.za>; Cor Van der Walt <cor.vanderwalt@westerncape.gov.za>; Ceoheritage <ceoheritage@westerncape.gov.za>; Stephanie Barnardt <stephanie.barnardt@westerncape.gov.za>; 'Shagon Carelse' <shagon@hessequa.gov.za>; 'Rhuschan Manho' <rhuschan@hessequa.gov.za>; Hendrik Visser <hendrik@hessequa.gov.za>; David Gibbs <david@davidgibbs.co.za>; gibbs@edendm.co.za; nina@gardenroute.gov.za; Elkerine Rossouw <erossouw@bocma.co.za>; Makhosi Mthimkhulu <mmthimkhulu@bocma.co.za>; Philisiwe Ntanzi <pntanzi@bocma.co.za>; HOD.infrastructure@westerncape.gov.za; Vanessa Stoffels <vanessa.stoffels@westerncape.gov.za>; GRP-TCC-Enquiries <enquiries@transnet.net>; Anel Abrahams Transnet Freight Rail CPT <anel.abrahams@transnet.net>; admin@gouritz.com; natiedes@telkomsa.net; Lutendo Netshilema <lutendon@dalrrd.gov.za>; raymond.auerbach@mandela.ac.za; marika.champion@westerncape.gov.za

Cc: Admin <admin@enviro-eap.co.za>; Shahida Kennedy <shahidak@hessequa.gov.za>; Bruno Lario bruno@hessequa.gov.za

Bcc: [REDACTED]

Subject: FW: NOTIFICATION OF COMMENTING PERIOD COMMENCEMENT: PRE-APPLICATION DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR PROPOSED HEIDELBERG WATER TREATMENT WORKS ON ERF RE/557 AND ERF 672, HEIDELBERG, WESTERN CAPE

NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF THE PRE-APPLICATION DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR 30 DAYS

**PROJECT TITLE: PRE-APPLICATION DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR PROPOSED HEIDELBERG WATER TREATMENT WORKS ON ERF RE/557 AND ERF 672, HEIDELBERG, WESTERN CAPE
DEA&DP PRE-APPLICATION REF: 16/3/3/6/7/1/D6/13/0278/23**

Dear Stakeholder

You have received this email as a registered interested and affected party, organ of state, and/ or key department for the **PROPOSED HEIDELBERG WATER TREATMENT WORKS ON ERF RE/557 AND ERF 672, HEIDELBERG, WESTERN CAPE**

This email serves as a written notification of the availability of the **Pre-Application Draft Basic Assessment Report** for **30-day commenting period (excluding public holidays)**.

(1) AVAILABILITY OF THE PRE-APPLICATION DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT:

The Pre-application Draft Basic Assessment Report and appendices are accessible via: -

(i) electronic download on our website at <https://enviro-eap.co.za/public-participation/> (**available for download for the entire commenting period**). Please scroll down the public participation web page until you find the relevant project title as per the project details provided above.

(ii) hardcopies and/or cd copies will only be sent via SAPO – registered mail service on request or where a postal address is the only means of contact provided.

(2) COMMENTING PERIOD OF THE PRE-APPLICATION DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT AND DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS SUBMISSION

The commenting period of the Pre-application Draft Basic Assessment Report is **30 days (excluding public holidays)**, starting from the **1 October 2025** and ending on **30 October 2025**. Your comments on the Pre-application Draft Basic Assessment Report must be provided within the regulatory 30-day commenting period or by no later than the **30 October 2025**.

(3) SUBMISSION OF COMMENTS

Please direct your comments in writing for the attention of the responsible EAP as per the contact information provided below:

Responsible EAP: Johmandie Pienaar

Email: johmandie@enviro-eap.co.za or admin@enviro-eap.co.za

Direct #: 072 240 3092 (contact methods: Calls, sms or whatsapp)

Fax: 086 435 4691

CONSULTATION WITH ORGANS OF STATE / KEY DEPARTMENTS [NEMA S240]

To facilitate adequate consultation with State Departments that administers laws relating to a matter affecting the environment in accordance with the requirements of Section 240 of NEMA, please be advised that all registered interested and affected parties, organs of state, key departments, and/or stakeholders were [in receipt of this email] notified electronically of the availability of the Pre-application Draft Basic Assessment Report on this day **26 September 2025**. As such all RI&APs and Stakeholders are considered to be “in possession” of the Pre-application Draft Basic Assessment Report and appendices from the date of electronic notification. A list of RI&APs and Stakeholders consulted, and their respective contact information to be included in ***Appendix C of the Final Basic Assessment Report to be submitted to the Department.***

SECTIONS 11 AND 18 OF POPI ACT, 2013 (Act No.14 of 2013):

The personal information and comments provided will be included in reports to be submitted to the Competent Authority to enable informed decision-making. Also, if you choose to register as an I&AP your personal information will be made available to an appellant in the case of an appeal, and an applicant/EAP/independent person for purposes of being informed and given access to an audit report. This information may be made available in terms of section 11(1)(c) and 11(1)(d) of the POPIA, without requiring consent.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Johmandie Pienaar

Environmental Assessment Practitioner

EAPASA Registration Nr. 2020/2326



Email: johmandie@enviro-eap.co.za

Cell: 072 240 3092

Fax: 086 435 4691

Web: www.enviro-eap.co.za

Postal Address: Enviro-EAP
PO Box 205
Agulhas
7287



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Postal Address	Proof
Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development Attention: Lutendo Netshilema Polkadraai Road (R310) Stellenbosch 7600. Tel: 021 944 1423	PostNet Bellville Edward Street 021 910 1221 bellville@posnet.co.za Private Bag X 21 Tygervalley, 7536

DATE: 29 September 2025

Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development
Directorate: Land and Soil Management
Private Bag X5015
Polkadraai Road
Stellenbosch
7599
Att: Lutendo Netshilema

APPLICANT HESSEQUA MUNICIPALITY
PROJECT TITLE: PRE-APPLICATION DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR PROPOSED HEIDELBERG WATER TREATMENT WORKS ON ERF RE/557 AND ERF 672, HEIDELBERG, WESTERN CAPE
DEA&DP PRE-APPLICATION REF: 16/3/3/6/7/1/D6/13/0278/23

Good day,

Enclosed please find a CD copy of the Pre-application Draft Basic Assessment Report for the above mentioned application.

You are hereby notified of the 30 day commenting period (starting from the date of this letter and excluding public holidays) within which you must please provide your comments on the abovementioned report.

Johmandie Pienaar
Environmental Assessment Practitioner
EAPASA Registration Nr. 2020/2326



Email: johmandie@enviro-eap.co.za
Cell: 072 240 3092
Fax: 086 435 4691
Web: www.enviro-eap.co.za
Postal Address: Enviro-EAP
PO Box 205
Agulhas
7287

Proof



Enviro-EAP
Environmental Consultants



Postal Address	Proof
Department of Agriculture Attention: Mr Cor van der Walt Admin Building, Muldersvlei Road, Elsenburg 7606 Tel: 021 808 5099	PostNet Bellville Edward Street 021 910 1221 bellville@postnet.co.za Private Bag X 21 Tygervally, 7536

DATE: 29 September 2025

Department of Agriculture
Private Bag X1
Elsenburg
7606
Att: Cor van der Walt

APPLICANT HESSEQUA MUNICIPALITY
PROJECT TITLE: PRE-APPLICATION DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR PROPOSED HEIDELBERG WATER TREATMENT WORKS ON ERF RE/557 AND ERF 672, HEIDELBERG, WESTERN CAPE
DEA&DP PRE-APPLICATION REF: 16/3/3/6/7/1/D6/13/0278/23

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Johmandie Pienaar
Environmental Assessment Practitioner
EAPASA Registration Nr. 2020/2326



Enviro-EAP
Environmental Consultants



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Cell: 072 240 3092
Fax: 086 435 4691
Web: www.enviro-eap.co.za
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PO Box 205
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Contact johmandie Tel (+27) 722403092		Contact Mr Cor van der welt Tel (+27) 218085099																															
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WE HAVE SEEN AND AGREE TO THE STANDARD CONDITIONS OF CARRIAGE (OVERLEAF) WHICH SHALL APPLY TO THIS CONSIGNMENT AND ALL FUTURE CONSIGNMENTS ACCEPTED BY POSTNET. WE FURTHER DECLARE THAT THIS CONSIGNMENT DOES NOT CONTAIN DANGEROUS GOODS.																																	
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TABLE 3: COMMENTS AND RESPONSE REPORT TABLE FOR COMMENTS RECEIVED ON PRE-APPLICATION DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

I&AP/KEY DEPARTMENT	DATE	COMMENT	RESPONSE
DEA&DP Development Management Region 3	31/10/2025	<p>DEA&DP Development Management Region 3 31/10/2025</p> <p>COMMENT ON THE PRE-APPLICATION BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT (BAR) FOR THE PROPOSED WATER TREATMENT WORKS ON ERF RE/557 AND ERF 672, HEIDELBERG, WESTERN CAPE</p> <p>1. The above-mentioned report submitted to the Directorate: Development Management (Region 3) hereinafter referred to as “this Directorate” by your appointed registered Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) Mrs. Johmandie Pienaar with EAPASA Registration Number: 2020/2326 of Enviro EAP by on 26 September 2025 refers.</p> <p>2. This letter serves as acknowledgement of receipt of the above-mentioned document by this Directorate.</p> <p>3. Please be advised that a typographical error was made with the Department’s case reference number quoted in the previous correspondence (namely: 16/3/3/6/7/1/D6/13/0278/23). Kindly quote the abovementioned reference number (viz 16/3/3/6/7/1/D5/7/0231/24) in any future correspondence in respect of this pre-application.</p> <p>4. According to the pre-application BAR the proposal entails the development of a Water Treatment Works (“WTW”) on the erven 672 and RE/557 just below the southern wall of</p>	<p>1.-</p> <p>2.-</p> <p>3. Noted.</p> <p>4. –</p>

		<p>the Bloekombos Dam in Heidelberg. Water will be pumped from the Bloekombos Dam and treated at the proposed Treatment Works from where it will be pumped along a new pipeline to be laid within the road reserve along Muir Street from where it will connect with existing bulk distribution system in Heidelberg. The proposed WTW will consist of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WTW package plant with maximum capacity of 3 000m³/day (3MI/day) and a footprint of 100m²; • Surface abstraction by floating pumps from Bloekombos Dam on a variable demand basis along an 60m long x 200mm uPVC pipeline above ground where it goes over and along the dam wall and below ground from the foot of the dam wall to the WTW. • Three (3) sludge settling ponds (27m x 12m x 1.8m deep and a capacity of 518m³ each) for backwash water collections and sludge settlement. The proposed cut and fill construction of the three sludge settling lagoon will have 3m high support embankments with a total footprint of 1200m² ; • A collector sump and pumps for return flow of supernatant from sludge dams back into Bloekombos dam via the canal to optimise water use. Return flow water to be pumped along an underground 110mm x 187m long uPVC pipe to the canal inlet point at the dam; • A pump station and 200mm x 650m uPVC pipeline for final water distribution from the WTW into the bulk distribution system in Heidelberg via Muir Street; • An area of 260m² for the parking of vehicle parking and the storage of materials; 	
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stormwater Pipeline of 68m x 450mm concrete class 100D and Sludge dams overflow pipeline 34m x 110mm uPVC with outlet headwall within non-perennial drainage line. Widening and re alignment of existing 3m wide access road from Muir Street by 1m (84m long x 4m wide), and three 4m access roads total distance of 72m to sludge dams. • A 3-phase 400/230V nominal supply at 50hz from the nearest transformer with 55m long underground cable. <p>5. This Directorate has reviewed the documentation and comments as follows:</p> <p>5.1 Agricultural Impact According to the pre-application BAR, the sensitivity rating for this theme should be “low” instead of “medium” as the Screening Tool Report (STR). As previously advised on the comment on the NOI, you are required to appoint a SACNASP registered agricultural or soil scientist a undertake an agricultural compliance statement for the proposed development. No such compliance statement appears to be appended to the pre-application BAR and the the latter does not demonstrate how this aspect has been addressed.</p> <p>Kindly ensure that the final BAR that will be submitted to the competent authority contains such compliance statement or confirmation from the Western Cape Department Of Agriculture which confirms that the soil capability is not fit for agricultural purposes.</p> <p>5.2 Terrestrial Biodiversity</p>	<p>5.1 A SACNASP registered soil scientist (Mr Johan Lanz) was appointed to undertake a agricultural compliance statement. The agricultural compliance statement has been attached to the BAR as Appendix G6.</p> <p>5.2 All specialist requirements included in EMP.</p>
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	<p>The BAR and Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment states that the area located below the Bloekombos Dam where development is proposed contains disturbed pioneer indigenous vegetation species originally part of Endangered - Eastern Ruens Shale Renosterveld. The afore-mentioned specialist assessment however indicated that a small portion of the proposed development is mapped as Terrestrial Critical Biodiversity Area, but that the mapping is incorrect as this area is located on an existing road. It is expected that the development will lead to the clearance of ±1 200m² medium sensitivity indigenous vegetation. The overall impact is rated as low negative provided that all the mitigation measures are included in the Environmental Management programme. Kindly ensure that the final BAR includes and EMPr that contains all the mentioned mitigation identified in the specialist report and linked to the management outcomes identified in the EMPr.</p> <p>5.3 Terrestrial Plant and Animal Species Assessments</p> <p>It is noted that the respective assessments for these two themes were undertaken by Mr Nicolaas Hanekom on the same date (i.e., 7 August 2025). Both reports do not fully comply with the minimum information requirements set out in the respective Protocols for a Compliance Statement. It is also unclear what duration the site inspection was undertaken for.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the above, the specialist input indicates that no species of conservation concern were found on site. Notwithstanding the afore-mentioned, a clear contingency plan must be included in the EMPr for if and when such SCC be located during construction and where it must be</p>	<p>5.3 Terrestrial Plant and Animal Species Compliance Statement updated and complies with the minimum information requirements as set out in the respective Protocols. Protocols requirements have been listed in each compliance statement and it has been indicated in the compliance statement where these requirements have been addressed in the specialist report.</p> <p>Animal species search and rescue mitigation measures are included as part of EMP requirements.</p>
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	<p>relocated to.</p> <p>5.4 Aquatic Biodiversity Assessment</p> <p>According to the Aquatic Biodiversity protocol an Aquatic Biodiversity Specialist Assessment must be prepared by a specialist registered with the South African Council for Natural Scientific Professionals (“SACNASP”) with expertise in the field of aquatic sciences and an Aquatic Biodiversity Compliance Statement must be prepared by a suitably qualified specialist registered with the SACNASP, with expertise in the field of aquatic sciences. According to the information in the compliance statement, Mr. Hanekom is registered (Registration No: 004415) as a Professional Natural Scientist in the field of Ecological Sciences [“Pri Sci Nat (Ecology)”]. Furthermore, according to the SACNASP database of registered scientists (URL: https://www.sacnasp.org.za/scientists), Mr. Hanekom is registered as a Candidate Natural Scientist in the field of aquatic science. According to the South African Qualifications Authority (“SAQA”), only a Professional Natural Scientist can sign off on scientific reports.</p> <p>It is noted that the compliance statement has been signed off by Mr Hanekom in his Pri Sci Nat (Ecology) capacity and not as Professional Scientist registered in the field of aquatic science. It has not been demonstrated that the required core practices and experience in the field of aquatic science are appropriate, nor that the required professional registration is correct. It is not apparent why this assessment should be accepted. In light of the above, Mr. Hanekom does not appear to have the requisite professional registration to perform the duties required by the Aquatic Biodiversity</p>	<p>5.4 The following evidence is provided to demonstrate that Mr N Hanekom has the required professional registration to conduct the Aquatic Compliance Statement.</p> <p>On 29 July 2025 Mr. Nicolaas Hanekom submitted a request to SACNASP to confirm registration category required to conduct Freshwater Specialist Aquatic Assessments. As per email correspondence received from Mr. Phutiane Letsoalo Pri. Sci. Nat Scientific Adviser for SACNASP (South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions) he confirmed the following, “A freshwater specialist conducting aquatic biodiversity assessments would typically register under Ecological Science field of practice or Aquatic Sciences, depending on the specific job that the Scientist is carrying out. Ecological Science field mainly covers professionals who work on ecosystems, biodiversity, and environmental assessments, including freshwater ecosystems. Sometimes as alluded above, depending on the task/job that the Scientist carries out, it might fall under Aquatic Science or a related field within Conservation Sciences. ...”</p> <p>As confirmed Mr. Nicolaas Hanekom is registered (Registration No: 004415) as a Professional Natural Scientist in the field of Ecological Sciences. Furthermore Mr. Hanekom is also registered as a Candidate Natural Scientist in the field of aquatic science.</p> <p>Hence according to the confirmation as received from SACNASP Scientific Advisor, Mr. Phutiane Letsoalo, Mr Hanekom’s does have the requisite professional registration and qualification as Professional Natural Scientist in the field</p>
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	<p>protocol and the Aquatic Biodiversity Compliance Statement is not likely to be accepted. It is therefore advised that the relevant study should be undertaken by a Professional Natural Scientist in the field of aquatic science and the report included in the BAR.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the above, it is not apparent that the report complies with all the minimum information requirements of the protocol. It is also noted that a site inspection was undertaken on the same date as the other specialist assessments; however the duration of the inspection has not been provided.</p> <p>5.5 Dam Safety Assessment</p> <p>The findings of the Dam Safety Assessment is noted. Kindly ensure that the final BAR contains comment from the Department of Water and Sanitation’s Dam Safety Office in terms of any additional requirements which may be required in terms of dam safety.</p> <p>5.6 Synchronising applications in terms of other applicable legislation with the EIA process</p> <p>The requirement for a water use license in terms of Section 21 of the National Water Act (Act No. 36 of 1998) (“NWA”)and authorisation in terms of the Section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999) (“NHRA”) is noted (i.e., ‘Record of Decision’ attached to the pre application BAR).</p> <p>Please be reminded sub-section 24C(11) to the National Environmental Management Act, Act 107 of 1998, as</p>	<p>of Ecological Science to perform the duties required by the Aquatic Biodiversity protocol and the Aquatic Biodiversity Compliance Statement. Copy of this email as proof is provided in the amended Aquatic Compliance Statement.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the above, a peer review of the Aquatic Compliance Statement was initiated, and the Aquatic Compliance Statement was updated accordingly, findings of the peer review is available under Appendix G.</p> <p>5.5 Department of Water and Sanitation Dam Safety Office to be included as key department from which comments would be requested during the Draft BAR phase.</p> <p>5.6 Water Use Application is underway and progress made reported upon in the Draft BAR phase. Refer to Appendix L4.</p>
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	<p>amended (NEMA) came into effect on 30 June 2023 and requires that “a person who requires an environmental authorisation which also involves an activity that requires a licence or permit in terms of any of the specific environmental management Acts (i.e., NWA), must simultaneously submit those applications to the relevant competent authority or licensing authority, as the case may be, indicating in each application all other licences, authorisations and permits applied for”.</p> <p>Please be advised that the EIA process and the Water Use Application process must be synchronised. You are reminded that if these processes are not properly aligned, the lack of synchronisation; omission of any reports/information; or delay as a result thereof, may prejudice the success of the application for environmental authorisation.</p> <p>In addition to the above, this Directorate will require a final recommendation from the Breede Olifants Catchment Management Agency (BOCMA) indicating whether there are any reasons why a WULA permit/general authorisation cannot be issued on the proposed development. This information will put this Directorate in a position to make an informed decision on the proposed amendment and to avoid incremental decision-making.</p> <p>5.7 Alternatives</p> <p>Your consideration of technology alternatives are noted. However it is unclear whether all the technology alternatives will be implemented along with the preferred lay-out (Alternative 2). Please clarify going forward.</p>	<p>5.7 Preferred technology alternatives to be implemented confirmed in the BAR under Alternative Assessment.</p>
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	<p>Furthermore, all identified alternatives must be comparatively assessed, including the cumulative impact of all identified alternatives.</p> <p>5.8 Geotechnical Considerations</p> <p>Although there are no major concerns pertaining to the geotechnical considerations of the proposed development, you are encouraged to include all the “potential and possible” mitigation measures in the EMPr to be submitted with the final BAR. Such mitigation measures must also be linked to the specific management outcomes stipulated in the EMPr.</p> <p>5.9 Consultation with DEA&DP</p> <p>No pre-application meeting was requested, nonetheless, you are reminded that this Directorate will, at any stage, make itself available for a pre-application meeting, should this be required to provide further guidance and advice in terms of Regulation 8 on the process requirements and the administration of your application. Just contact us with possible dates for such a meeting.</p> <p>Please note that the pre-application consultation is an advisory process and does not pre-empt the outcome of any future application, which may be submitted to the Directorate.</p> <p>No information provided, views expressed and/or comments made by officials during the pre application consultation should in any way be seen as an indication or confirmation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ that additional information or documents will not be 	<p>5.8 All potential and possible mitigation measures as per the Geotechnical Investigation conducted included in the EMPr requirements.</p> <p>5.9 –</p>
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	<p>requested ➤ of the outcome of the application.</p> <p>6. Content of EMPr</p> <p>Please ensure the Environmental Management Programme (“EMPr”) contain all information requirements outlined in Appendix 4 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (GN R. 982 of 4 December 2014, as amended).</p> <p>7. Content of the final BAR</p> <p>The BAR must contain all the information outlined in Appendix 1 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 and must also include and address any information requested in any previous correspondence in respect of this matter. Please be reminded that in accordance with Regulation 19 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, the Department hereby stipulates that the BAR (which has been subjected to public participation) must be submitted to this Department for decision within 90 days from the date of receipt of the application by the Department. However, if significant changes have been made or significant new information has been added to the BAR, the applicant/EAP must notify the Department that an additional 50 days (i.e. 140 days from receipt of the application) would be required for the submission of the BAR. The additional 50 days must include a minimum 30-day commenting period to allow registered I&APs to comment on the revised report/additional information.</p> <p>If the BAR is not submitted within 90 days or 140 days, where an extension is applicable, the application will lapse in terms</p>	<p>6.-</p> <p>7.-</p>
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	<p>of Regulation 45 of Government Notice Regulation No. 982 of 4 December 2014, and your file will be closed. Should you wish to pursue the application again, a new application process would have to be initiated. A new Application Form would have to be submitted.</p> <p>NOTE: Furthermore, in accordance with Environmental Impact Assessment best-practice, you are kindly requested to notify all registered Interested and Affected Parties including the authorities identified in the Public Participation Plan of the submission of the FBAR and to make the document available to them. This will provide such parties an opportunity to review the document and how their issues were addressed. Also note that the final BAR must include a comments and responses report which clearly demonstrate how the inputs received has been addressed and taken into account.</p> <p>8. Please note that it is an offence in terms of Section 49A(1)(a) of the NEMA for a person to commence with a listed activity unless the Competent Authority has granted an Environmental Authorisation for undertaking it. Failure to comply with the requirements of Section 24F of the NEMA shall result in the matter being referred to the Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Directorate of this Department. A person convicted of an offence in terms of the above is liable to a fine not exceeding R10 million or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding 10 years, or to both such fine and imprisonment.</p> <p>9. Please note that the activity may not commence prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by the Department.</p>	<p>8.-</p> <p>9.-</p>
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		10. This Department reserves the right to revise or withdraw initial comments or request further information from you based on any information received.	10.-
CapeNature	31/10/2025	<p>Pre-Application Basic Assessment Report for the Proposed Water Treatment Works on Remainder of Farm 557 and Erf 672, Heidelberg (DEA&DP ref no: 16/3/3/6/7/1/D6/13/0278/23)</p> <p>CapeNature would like to thank you for the opportunity to comment on the application and would like to make the following comments.</p> <p>Desktop Information</p> <p>The proposed development footprint is mapped as No Natural in the Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan (BSP) apart from a very small encroachment of Critical Biodiversity Area 1 (CBA). The vegetation occurring at this location is Eastern Rûens Shale Renosterveld listed as endangered. There is a non-perennial river traversing the study area.</p> <p>The results from the screening tool indicate very high sensitivity for terrestrial biodiversity, high sensitivity for animal species, medium sensitivity for plant species and low sensitivity for aquatic biodiversity. The site sensitivity verification amended the sensitivity to medium-low for terrestrial biodiversity and plant species and low for animal species and aquatic biodiversity. Accordingly, an impact assessment was conducted for terrestrial biodiversity and compliance statements for the other themes.</p> <p>Specialist Studies</p>	

		<p>The terrestrial biodiversity assessment indicates that the proposed development footprint (consisting of the water treatment works and associated infrastructure including pipelines and road upgrades) has been significantly disturbed. Historical disturbance would have included cultivation and dam construction, and the current footprint is mainly occupied by a dense stand of mature alien and invasive gum (<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp.) trees with the remainder dominated by pioneer grasses. The CBA is contested, in which regard we wish to note that in certain cases, very small fragments of CBA are often outliers from the process of developing the BSP and can be considered as errors.</p> <p>There is however disturbed pioneer indigenous vegetation present of which a few species observed are listed. The vegetation would nonetheless not be considered as representative of Eastern Rûens Shale Renosterveld. The earliest historical Google Earth imagery (2003) indicates the presence of a gum stand and fallow lands on the footprint indicating that the disturbance and invasion of aliens is not recent, as does the name of Bloekombos Dam from which water is abstracted. Areas subjected to longer periods of disturbance have reduced remnants indigenous species (including propagules) and lower restoration potential. The areas dominated by gum trees are mapped as medium sensitivity and the transformed areas are mapped as very low sensitivity.</p> <p>Two layout alternatives are presented, and the impact assessment assesses both alternatives. The impacts on animal and plant species during the construction phase are rated as medium negative prior to mitigation and low after</p>	<p>As per correspondence received from the specialist – <i>“Both the gum stand and transformed areas are ecosystems which are present as a result of high levels of historical disturbance and are therefore both highly resilient ecosystems. The</i></p>
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	<p>mitigation. Impacts on terrestrial vegetation during the construction phase are rated as medium negative both before and after mitigation. The impacts during the operational phase for both are reduced to low negative after mitigation. According to the National Biodiversity Offset Guidelines, a residual impact of medium meets the thresholds which require investigation of a biodiversity offset, which in this case is applicable for impacts on terrestrial vegetation during the construction phase.</p> <p>The plant species compliance statement does not provide any additional information to the terrestrial biodiversity impact assessment with regards to plant species and more specifically plant species of conservation concern. The only difference is the addition of a photograph of the adjacent intact renosterveld which clearly contrasts the difference with the habitat present on site and would be best placed within the terrestrial biodiversity impact assessment. It is further noted that the impact assessment on animal and plant species is better placed within the animal species and plant species studies, although in this case they are compliance statements.</p> <p>The site ecological importance (SEI) was calculated for the two habitats identified and included in both the terrestrial biodiversity and plant species reports which resulted in the medium sensitivity for the gum stand and very low sensitivity for the transformed areas as reported above. We wish to query the calculations of the SEI. It states that the biodiversity importance and the receptor resilience for the transformed areas are both very low which results in an SEI of very low, however the table indicates that the SEI should then be low. For the gum stand the biodiversity importance</p>	<p><i>resilience was therefore revised and rated very high with a resultant SEI of very low. Therefore, no offset is required in terms of the biodiversity offset guidelines. In accordance with the amended sensitivity rating for the terrestrial ecological features a low negative residual impact can be expected. Biodiversity offset considerations is therefore not required."</i></p> <p>As per correspondence received from the specialist, <i>"Indigenous plant species recorded within the development footprint area included in the compliance statement, which confirm presence of pioneer species and that both the gum stand and transformed areas are ecosystems which are present as a result of high levels of historical disturbance and are therefore both highly resilient ecosystems. Photo of northeastern intact indigenous vegetation area in comparison to transformed development area also included in Terrestrial Impact Assessment report"</i></p> <p>As per correspondence received from the specialist – <i>"Both the gum stand and transformed areas are ecosystems which are present as a result of high levels of historical disturbance and are therefore both highly resilient ecosystems. The resilience was therefore revised and rated very high with a resultant SEI of very low. Therefore, no offset is required in terms of the biodiversity offset guidelines. In accordance with the amended sensitivity rating for the terrestrial ecological features a low negative residual impact can be expected. Biodiversity offset considerations is therefore not required."</i></p>
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	<p>and receptor resilience are both rated as low with the resultant SEI of medium which is correct according to the table.</p> <p>CapeNature however wishes to contest the ratings provided for receptor resilience and queries if this has been misinterpreted. The receptor resilience should be an assessment of whether the ecosystem in its current condition is resilient to disturbance and not the resilience of the original ecosystem to past disturbances unrelated to the proposed development. In this regard both the gum stand and transformed areas are ecosystems which are present as a result of high levels of historical disturbance and are therefore both highly resilient ecosystems. The resilience should therefore be rated as high or very high with a resultant SEI of very low. We further wish to recommend that the impact ratings should be re-evaluated after a reassessment of the SEI and the need for a biodiversity offset verified accordingly.</p> <p>The animal species compliance statement evaluates the likelihood of the two species flagged in the screening tool occurring on the site and indicates that both species are highly unlikely to occur on the site as it does not contain habitat which is suitable for these species, which is supported. Animal species observed during the fieldwork are listed including insects, reptiles and mainly birds, thereby providing evidence of a search for species of conservation concern. However, we wish to query the record of <i>Cecropis rufula</i> as this species does not occur in South Africa and is not currently a species name recognised by the IUCN. We further wish to query if the nests observed are those of <i>Ploceus capensis</i>. No concluding statements are provided</p>	<p>As per correspondence received from the specialist, "<i>Cecropis rufula</i> name was amended to <i>Hirundo rustica</i>. <i>Ploceus capensis</i> were recorded on site during survey. It was concluded that should the proposed mitigation measures as listed in the compliance statement be implemented that the overall significance of the impacts on animal sensitivity of the site and surrounds will be of overall low negative significance."</p>
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	<p>however the outcome of the animal species compliance statement is that the impact is of low significance.</p> <p>The aquatic biodiversity compliance statement verifies the presence of the non-perennial river to the west of the development footprint. It states that the original river is 16 m away, in which regard we wish to query if this implies that the river has been diverted or rerouted. We also wish to query if the delineation of the river as indicated in the National Geospatial Information (NGI) data as reflected on CapeFarmMapper is accurate.</p> <p>The river is described as impacted by the same factors as for the terrestrial environment and mainly consists of a narrow minor channel, however the railway forms a blockage resulting in a damming effect. The artificial wetland/dam is located downstream of the development footprint and does not continue downstream of the railway possibly entering the stormwater system. The present ecological state (PES) of both the instream and riparian habitat of the river is rated as seriously modified (E) and the ecological importance and sensitivity (EIS) as moderate. The conclusion is that the impact will be of low significance provided the mitigation measures are implemented.</p> <p>Project Design</p> <p>The mitigation measures also refer to operation of the water treatment works and associated impacts. The technical report provides background to the project need and design. The option of disposing of the by-product of treatment into the sewer system, however the municipal sewer system cannot handle the volumes. Settling ponds have therefore</p>	<p>As per correspondence received from the specialist, <i>“The statement on the location of the western non-perennial drainage line does not imply that the river has been diverted or rerouted but is intended to indicate the edge of the current non-perennial drainage line lies 16m away from the edge of the intended water treatment works. The delineation of the drainage line as reflected on CapeFarmMapper is not entirely accurate as reflected on Figure 6 of the aquatic compliance statement.”</i></p>
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		<p>been proposed, in which the supernatant is recycled back to the Bloekombos Dam where it will re-enter the treatment cycle. The sludge which settles at the bottom is pumped out twice a year.</p> <p>The alternatives section of the Basic Assessment Report includes the various alternatives investigated by the Hessequa Municipality to increase the supply of potable water to the town of Heidelberg. The two layout options are presented which received the same impacts ratings for all impacts in the terrestrial biodiversity impact assessment. Layout 2 is motivated as the preferred layout as it has a higher volume capacity for water treatment and it has a stormwater and overflow channel to accommodate stormwater flow and overflow from the sludge dams which exits into the non-perennial river.</p> <p>CapeNature wishes to query the selection of the preferred alternative from a biodiversity perspective. The other alternative layout does not include a channel which deposits overflow water into the river, and it is therefore interpreted that all supernatant water is returned to the dam. There is the potential for impacts on the river from the overflow water which may not be of a suitable quality. Return of the supernatant water to the dam will have a lower impact. We therefore wish to recommend the option of all supernatant water being piped back to the dam with no overflow return to the river as a preferred option from an ecological perspective and if this is not feasible will need to be well motivated.</p> <p>Conclusion</p>	<p>Layout/design alternative 3 which incorporates a reed bed as part of supernatant treatment and recommends sludge dams overflow to be discharged back into the Bloekombos Dam have been provided by the municipality and assessed, and has been indicated as the preferred layout/design alternative.</p>
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		<p>In conclusion, CapeNature recommends that the SEI and the impact assessment for terrestrial biodiversity is re-evaluated based on the inputs provided by CapeNature and following this, the requirement for a biodiversity offset determined. We do not agree with the selection of the preferred layout alternative from a biodiversity perspective and recommend that there is further investigation of avoidance of deposition of overflow water into the river. Other queries should also be responded to.</p> <p>CapeNature reserves the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on any additional information that may be received.</p>	<p>Refer to comments as addressed above. Further alternative investigations were done and avoidance of deposition of overflow water into the drainage line recommended as the preferred alternative.</p>
BOCMA	14/10/2025	<p>COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSED HEIDELBERG WATER TREATMENT WORKS ON ERF RE/557 AND 672, HEIDELBERG, WESTERN CAPE</p> <p>The above-mentioned report with DEA&DP Ref: 16/3/3/6/7/1/D6/13/0278/23 has reference.</p> <p><u>The Breede-Olifants Catchment Management Agency (BOCMA) has the following comments:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No operation is allowed within 100m of a water resource or 1:100 year flood line, whichever is the greatest. If the proposed activity falls within this area, authorisation need to be put in place in terms of the National Water Act (NWA), 1998 (Act No 36 of 1998). This is to ensure that the riparian ecological status of the water resource will not be negatively impacted. 2. Please note that any development within 500m from the boundary of any wetland requires authorisation in terms of the National Water Act (NWA), 1998 (Act No. 36 of 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Water use application is underway for proposed Water Treatment Works within 100m of a watercourse and 500m of a wetland. Following the review of the Draft BAR containing the information as requested by BOCMA during pre-application consultations BOCMA to confirm applicable water use activities to be applied for. 2. Water use application is underway for proposed Water Treatment Works within 100m of a watercourse and 500m of a wetland. Following the review of the Draft BAR containing

		<p>1998).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. No water may be abstracted from any surface water body and groundwater unless authorised by this Agency. 4. Where solid waste disposal is to take place on site, ensure that only non-toxic materials which have no risk of polluting the groundwater, are buried in designated approved areas at acceptable depths below ground level. 5. No surface, ground or storm water may be polluted because of any activities on the site. 6. The rehabilitation plan of the site must ensure that the final condition of the site is environmentally acceptable and that there will be no adverse long-term effects on the surrounding environment especially the water resources. 7. Please note that all requirements as stipulated in the National Water Act (NWA), 1998 (Act No.36 of 1998) must be adhered to. 8. Please note that this Agency reserves the right to amend and/or add to the comments made above in the light of subsequent information received. 	<p>the information as requested by BOCMA during pre-application consultations BOCMA to confirm applicable water use activities to be applied for.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Water to be abstracted from the Bloekombos Dam in line with existing approval for water abstractions registration. Refer to Appendix L5 for existing water abstraction registration. 4. No solid waste disposal are proposed to take place on site. 5. Mitigation measure to prevent environmental pollution have been included in the Environmental Management Programme to be implemented during construction and operation of Water Treatment Works. 6. Rehabilitation of impacted areas during construction to be conducted in line with the requirements of the EMP. 7. Requirement is as per requirements of the EMP. 8. Noted.
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		In you have any questions don't hesitate to contact the official at the above-mentioned details.	
Heritage Western Cape	26/09/2025	Please use this email as confirmation that the previous NID remains valid and in accordance. Therefore, HWC's previous comments still stand.	No heritage related investigations required as per previous NID comments received from HWC.
Transnet Freight Rail	26/09/2025	This application will not affect Transnet directly; the proposed Heidelberg Water Treatment Site is approximately 100 m away from the closest Transnet boundary.	Noted

PROOF OF COMMENTS RECEIVED DURING PRE-APPLICATION DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT



Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning
Shireen Pullen

Directorate: Development Management, Region 3
Shireen.Pullen@westerncape.gov.za | Tel: 044 814 2021
DEADPEIAAdmin.George@westerncape.gov.za | Tel: 044 814 2006

REFERENCE: 16/3/3/6/7/1/D5/7/0231/24
DATE OF ISSUE: 31 October 2025

Municipal Manager
Hessequa Municipality
% Manager: Civil Planning and Project Management
Civic Centre
Van den Berg Street
RIVERSDALE
6670

Attention: Mrs. Shahida Kennedy

Email: shahidak@hessequa.gov.za

Dear Madam,

COMMENT ON THE PRE-APPLICATION BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT (BAR) FOR THE PROPOSED WATER TREATMENT WORKS ON ERF RE/557 AND ERF 672, HEIDELBERG, WESTERN CAPE

1. The above-mentioned report submitted to the Directorate: Development Management (Region 3) hereinafter referred to as "this Directorate" by your appointed registered Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) Mrs. Johmandie Pienaar with EAPASA Registration Number: 2020/2326 of *Enviro EAP* by on 26 September 2025 refers.
2. This letter serves as acknowledgement of receipt of the above-mentioned document by this Directorate.
3. Please be advised that a typographical error was made with the Department's case reference number quoted in the previous correspondence (namely: 16/3/3/6/7/1/D6/13/0278/23). Kindly quote the abovementioned reference number (viz **16/3/3/6/7/1/D5/7/0231/24**) in any future correspondence in respect of this pre-application.
4. According to the pre-application BAR the proposal entails the development of a Water Treatment Works ("WTW") on the erven 672 and RE/557 just below the southern wall of the Bloekombos Dam in Heidelberg. Water will be pumped from the Bloekombos Dam and treated at the proposed Treatment Works from where it will be pumped along a new pipeline to be laid within the road reserve along Muir Street from where it will connect with existing bulk distribution system in Heidelberg. The proposed WTW will consist of the following:
 - WTW package plant with maximum capacity of 3 000m³/day (3MI/day) and a footprint of 100m²;
 - Surface abstraction by floating pumps from Bloekombos Dam on a variable demand basis along an 60m long x 200mm uPVC pipeline above ground where it goes over and along the dam wall and below ground from the foot of the dam wall to the WTW.
 - Three (3) sludge settling ponds (27m x 12m x 1.8m deep and a capacity of 518m³ each) for backwash water collections and sludge settlement. The proposed cut and fill construction of

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Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning
George Regional Office: 4th Floor, York Park Building, 93 York Street, George, 6529



the three sludge settling lagoon will have 3m high support embankments with a total footprint of 1200m² ;

- A collector sump and pumps for return flow of supernatant from sludge dams back into Bloekombos dam via the canal to optimise water use. Return flow water to be pumped along an underground 110mm x 187m long uPVC pipe to the canal inlet point at the dam;
- A pump station and 200mm x 650m uPVC pipeline for final water distribution from the WTW into the bulk distribution system in Heidelberg via Muir Street;
- An area of 260m² for the parking of vehicle parking and the storage of materials;
- Stormwater Pipeline of 68m x 450mm concrete class 100D and Sludge dams overflow pipeline 34m x 110mm uPVC with outlet headwall within non-perennial drainage line. Widening and re-alignment of existing 3m wide access road from Muir Street by 1m (84m long x 4m wide), and three 4m access roads total distance of 72m to sludge dams.
- A 3-phase 400/230V nominal supply at 50hz from the nearest transformer with 55m long underground cable.

5. This Directorate has reviewed the documentation and comments as follows:

5.1. *Agricultural Impact*

According to the pre-application BAR, the sensitivity rating for this theme should be "low" instead of "medium" as the Screening Tool Report (STR). As previously advised on the comment on the NOI, you are required to appoint a SACNASP registered agricultural or soil scientist to undertake an agricultural compliance statement for the proposed development. No such compliance statement appears to be appended to the pre-application BAR and the latter does not demonstrate how this aspect has been addressed.

Kindly ensure that the final BAR that will be submitted to the competent authority contains such compliance statement or confirmation from the Western Cape Department Of Agriculture which confirms that the soil capability is not fit for agricultural purposes.

5.2. *Terrestrial Biodiversity*

The BAR and Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment states that the area located below the Bloekombos Dam where development is proposed contains disturbed pioneer indigenous vegetation species originally part of Endangered - Eastern Ruens Shale Renosterveld. The afore-mentioned specialist assessment however indicated that a small portion of the proposed development is mapped as Terrestrial Critical Biodiversity Area, but that the mapping is incorrect as this area is located on an existing road. It is expected that the development will lead to the clearance of ±1 200m² medium sensitivity indigenous vegetation. The overall impact is rated as low negative provided that all the mitigation measures are included in the Environmental Management programme. Kindly ensure that the final BAR includes an EMP that contains all the mentioned mitigation identified in the specialist report and linked to the management outcomes identified in the EMP.

5.3. *Terrestrial Plant and Animal Species Assessments*

It is noted that the respective assessments for these two themes were undertaken by Mr Nicolaas Hanekom on the same date (i.e., 7 August 2025). Both reports do not fully comply with the minimum information requirements set out in the respective Protocols for a Compliance Statement. It is also unclear what duration the site inspection was undertaken for.

Notwithstanding the above, the specialist input indicates that no species of conservation concern were found on site. Notwithstanding the afore-mentioned, a clear contingency plan must be

included in the EMPr for if and when such SCC be located during construction and where it must be relocated to.

5.4. Aquatic Biodiversity Assessment

According to the Aquatic Biodiversity protocol an Aquatic Biodiversity Specialist Assessment must be prepared by a specialist registered with the South African Council for Natural Scientific Professionals ("SACNASP") with expertise in the field of aquatic sciences and an Aquatic Biodiversity Compliance Statement must be prepared by a suitably qualified specialist registered with the SACNASP, with expertise in the field of aquatic sciences. According to the information in the compliance statement, Mr. Hanekom is registered (Registration No: 004415) as a Professional Natural Scientist in the field of Ecological Sciences ["*Pri Sci Nat (Ecology)*"]. Furthermore, according to the SACNASP database of registered scientists (URL: <https://www.sacnasp.org.za/scientists>), Mr. Hanekom is registered as a Candidate Natural Scientist in the field of aquatic science. According to the South African Qualifications Authority ("SAQA"), only a Professional Natural Scientist can sign off on scientific reports.

It is noted that the compliance statement has been signed off by Mr Hanekom in his Pri Sci Nat (Ecology) capacity and not as Professional Scientist registered in the field of aquatic science. It has not been demonstrated that the required core practices and experience in the field of aquatic science are appropriate, nor that the required professional registration is correct. It is not apparent why this assessment should be accepted. In light of the above, Mr. Hanekom does not appear to have the requisite professional registration to perform the duties required by the Aquatic Biodiversity protocol and the Aquatic Biodiversity Compliance Statement is not likely to be accepted. It is therefore advised that the relevant study should be undertaken by a Professional Natural Scientist in the field of aquatic science and the report included in the BAR.

Notwithstanding the above, it is not apparent that the report complies with all the minimum information requirements of the protocol. It is also noted that a site inspection was undertaken on the same date as the other specialist assessments; however the duration of the inspection has not been provided.

5.5. Dam Safety Assessment

The findings of the Dam Safety Assessment is noted. Kindly ensure that the final BAR contains comment from the Department of Water and Sanitation's Dam Safety Office in terms of any additional requirements which may be required in terms of dam safety.

5.6. Synchronising applications in terms of other applicable legislation with the EIA process

The requirement for a water use license in terms of Section 21 of the National Water Act (Act No. 36 of 1998) ("*NWA*") and authorisation in terms of the Section 38 of the *National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999) ("NHR")* is noted (i.e., 'Record of Decision' attached to the pre-application BAR).

Please be reminded sub-section 24C(11) to the National Environmental Management Act, Act 107 of 1998, as amended (NEMA) came into effect on 30 June 2023 and requires that "a person who requires an environmental authorisation which also involves an activity that requires a licence or permit in terms of any of the specific environmental management Acts (i.e., NWA), must simultaneously submit those applications to the relevant competent authority or licensing authority, as the case may be, indicating in each application all other licences, authorisations and permits applied for".

Please be advised that the EIA process and the Water Use Application process must be synchronised. You are reminded that if these processes are not properly aligned, the lack of synchronisation; omission of any reports/information; or delay as a result thereof, may prejudice the success of the application for environmental authorisation.

In addition to the above, this Directorate will require a final recommendation from the Breede-Olifants Catchment Management Agency (BOCMA) indicating whether there are any reasons why a WULA permit/general authorisation cannot be issued on the proposed development. This information will put this Directorate in a position to make an informed decision on the proposed amendment and to avoid incremental decision-making.

5.7. Alternatives

Your consideration of technology alternatives are noted. However it is unclear whether all the technology alternatives will be implemented along with the preferred lay-out (Alternative 2). Please clarify going forward.

Furthermore, all identified alternatives must be comparatively assessed, including the cumulative impact of all identified alternatives.

5.8. Geotechnical Considerations

Although there are no major concerns pertaining to the geotechnical considerations of the proposed development, you are encouraged to include all the "potential and possible" mitigation measures in the EMPr to be submitted with the final BAR. Such mitigation measures must also be linked to the specific management outcomes stipulated in the EMPr.

5.9. Consultation with DEA&DP

No pre-application meeting was requested, nonetheless, you are reminded that this Directorate will, at any stage, make itself available for a pre-application meeting, should this be required to provide further guidance and advice in terms of Regulation 8 on the process requirements and the administration of your application. Just contact us with possible dates for such a meeting.

Please note that the pre-application consultation is an advisory process and does not pre-empt the outcome of any future application, which may be submitted to the Directorate.

No information provided, views expressed and/or comments made by officials during the pre-application consultation should in any way be seen as an indication or confirmation:

- that additional information or documents will not be requested
- of the outcome of the application.

6. Content of the EMPr

Please ensure the Environmental Management Programme ("EMPr") contain all information requirements outlined in Appendix 4 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (GN R. 982 of 4 December 2014, as amended).

7. Content of the final BAR

The BAR must contain all the information outlined in Appendix 1 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 and must also include and address any information requested in any previous correspondence in respect of this matter. Please be reminded that in accordance with Regulation 19 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, the Department hereby stipulates that the BAR (which has been subjected to public participation) must be

submitted to this Department for decision within 90 days from the date of receipt of the application by the Department. However, if significant changes have been made or significant new information has been added to the BAR, the applicant/EAP must notify the Department that an additional 50 days (i.e. 140 days from receipt of the application) would be required for the submission of the BAR. The additional 50 days must include a minimum 30-day commenting period to allow registered I&APs to comment on the revised report/additional information.

If the BAR is not submitted within 90 days or 140 days, where an extension is applicable, the application will lapse in terms of Regulation 45 of Government Notice Regulation No. 982 of 4 December 2014, and your file will be closed. Should you wish to pursue the application again, a new application process would have to be initiated. A new Application Form would have to be submitted.

NOTE: Furthermore, in accordance with Environmental Impact Assessment best-practice, you are kindly requested to notify all registered Interested and Affected Parties including the authorities identified in the Public Participation Plan of the submission of the FBAR and to make the document available to them. This will provide such parties an opportunity to review the document and how their issues were addressed. Also note that the final BAR must include a comments and responses report which clearly demonstrate how the inputs received has been addressed and taken into account.

8. Please note that it is an offence in terms of Section 49A(1)(a) of the NEMA for a person to commence with a listed activity unless the Competent Authority has granted an Environmental Authorisation for undertaking it. Failure to comply with the requirements of Section 24F of the NEMA shall result in the matter being referred to the Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Directorate of this Department. A person convicted of an offence in terms of the above is liable to a fine not exceeding R10 million or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding 10 years, or to both such fine and imprisonment.
9. Please note that the activity may not commence prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by the Department.
10. This Department reserves the right to revise or withdraw initial comments or request further information from you based on any information received.

Yours faithfully

pp **Francois Naudé**  Digitally signed by Francois Naudé
Date: 2025.10.31 16:49:52 +02'00'

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT MANAGEMENT SERVICES: REGION 3
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING
(reference: 16/3/3/6/7/11/D5/7/0231/24)

Copied to: EAP: Ms. Johmandie Pienaar Email: johmandie@enviro-eap.co.za



CONSERVATION INTELLIGENCE: SOUTH

postal 16 17th Avenue, Voelklip, Hermanus, 7200
physical 16 17th Avenue, Voelklip, Hermanus, 7200
website www.capenature.co.za
enquiries Rhett Smart
telephone 087 087 8017
email rsmart@capenature.co.za
reference LS14/2/6/1/6/5/557&672_WTW_Heidelberg
date 31 October 2025

Enviro-EAP (Pty) Ltd
P.O. Box 205
Agulhas
7287

Attention: Johmandie Pienaar
By email: johmandie@enviro-eap.co.za

Dear Ms Pienaar

Pre-Application Basic Assessment Report for the Proposed Water Treatment Works on Remainder of Farm 557 and Erf 672, Heidelberg (DEA&DP ref no: 16/3/3/16/7/1/D6/13/0278/23)

CapeNature would like to thank you for the opportunity to comment on the application and would like to make the following comments.

Desktop Information

The proposed development footprint is mapped as No Natural in the Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan (BSP) apart from a very small encroachment of Critical Biodiversity Area I (CBA). The vegetation occurring at this location is Eastern Rûens Shale Renosterveld listed as endangered. There is a non-perennial river traversing the study area.

The results from the screening tool indicate very high sensitivity for terrestrial biodiversity, high sensitivity for animal species, medium sensitivity for plant species and low sensitivity for aquatic biodiversity. The site sensitivity verification amended the sensitivity to medium-low for terrestrial biodiversity and plant species and low for animal species and aquatic biodiversity. Accordingly, an impact assessment was conducted for terrestrial biodiversity and compliance statements for the other themes.

Specialist Studies

The terrestrial biodiversity assessment indicates that the proposed development footprint (consisting of the water treatment works and associated infrastructure including pipelines and road upgrades) has been significantly disturbed. Historical disturbance would have included

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cultivation and dam construction, and the current footprint is mainly occupied by a dense stand of mature alien and invasive gum (*Eucalyptus sp.*) trees with the remainder dominated by pioneer grasses. The CBA is contested, in which regard we wish to note that in certain cases, very small fragments of CBA are often outliers from the process of developing the BSP and can be considered as errors.

There is however disturbed pioneer indigenous vegetation present of which a few species observed are listed. The vegetation would nonetheless not be considered as representative of Eastern Rûens Shale Renosterveld. The earliest historical Google Earth imagery (2003) indicates the presence of a gum stand and fallow lands on the footprint indicating that the disturbance and invasion of aliens is not recent, as does the name of Bloekombos Dam from which water is abstracted. Areas subjected to longer periods of disturbance have reduced remnants indigenous species (including propagules) and lower restoration potential. The areas dominated by gum trees are mapped as medium sensitivity and the transformed areas are mapped as very low sensitivity.

Two layout alternatives are presented, and the impact assessment assesses both alternatives. The impacts on animal and plant species during the construction phase are rated as medium negative prior to mitigation and low after mitigation. Impacts on terrestrial vegetation during the construction phase are rated as medium negative both before and after mitigation. The impacts during the operational phase for both are reduced to low negative after mitigation. According to the National Biodiversity Offset Guidelines, a residual impact of medium meets the thresholds which require investigation of a biodiversity offset, which in this case is applicable for impacts on terrestrial vegetation during the construction phase.

The plant species compliance statement does not provide any additional information to the terrestrial biodiversity impact assessment with regards to plant species and more specifically plant species of conservation concern. The only difference is the addition of a photograph of the adjacent intact renosterveld which clearly contrasts the difference with the habitat present on site and would be best placed within the terrestrial biodiversity impact assessment. It is further noted that the impact assessment on animal and plant species is better placed within the animal species and plant species studies, although in this case they are compliance statements.

The site ecological importance (SEI) was calculated for the two habitats identified and included in both the terrestrial biodiversity and plant species reports which resulted in the medium sensitivity for the gum stand and very low sensitivity for the transformed areas as reported above. We wish to query the calculations of the SEI. It states that the biodiversity importance and the receptor resilience for the transformed areas are both very low which results in an SEI of very low, however the table indicates that the SEI should then be low. For the gum stand the biodiversity importance and receptor resilience are both rated as low with the resultant SEI of medium which is correct according to the table.

CapeNature however wishes to contest the ratings provided for receptor resilience and queries if this has been misinterpreted. The receptor resilience should be an assessment of whether the ecosystem in its current condition is resilient to disturbance and not the resilience of the original ecosystem to past disturbances unrelated to the proposed development. In this regard both the gum stand and transformed areas are ecosystems which are present as a result of high levels of historical disturbance and are therefore both highly resilient ecosystems. The resilience should therefore be rated as high or very high with a resultant SEI of very low. We further wish to recommend that the impact ratings should be re-evaluated after a reassessment of the SEI and the need for a biodiversity offset verified accordingly.

The animal species compliance statement evaluates the likelihood of the two species flagged in the screening tool occurring on the site and indicates that both species are highly unlikely to occur on the site as it does not contain habitat which is suitable for these species, which is supported. Animal species observed during the fieldwork are listed including insects, reptiles and mainly birds, thereby providing evidence of a search for species of conservation concern. However, we wish to query the record of *Cecropis rufula* as this species does not occur in South Africa and is not currently a species name recognised by the IUCN. We further wish to query if the nests observed are those of *Ploceus capensis*. No concluding statements are provided however the outcome of the animal species compliance statement is that the impact is of low significance.

The aquatic biodiversity compliance statement verifies the presence of the non-perennial river to the west of the development footprint. It states that the original river is 16 m away, in which regard we wish to query if this implies that the river has been diverted or rerouted. We also wish to query if the delineation of the river as indicated in the National Geospatial Information (NGI) data as reflected on CapeFarmMapper is accurate.

The river is described as impacted by the same factors as for the terrestrial environment and mainly consists of a narrow minor channel, however the railway forms a blockage resulting in a damming effect. The artificial wetland/dam is located downstream of the development footprint and does not continue downstream of the railway possibly entering the stormwater system. The present ecological state (PES) of both the instream and riparian habitat of the river is rated as seriously modified (E) and the ecological importance and sensitivity (EIS) as moderate. The conclusion is that the impact will be of low significance provided the mitigation measures are implemented.

Project Design

The mitigation measures also refer to operation of the water treatment works and associated impacts. The technical report provides background to the project need and design. The option of disposing of the by-product of treatment into the sewer system, however the municipal

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sewer system cannot handle the volumes. Settling ponds have therefore been proposed, in which the supernatant is recycled back to the Bloekombos Dam where it will re-enter the treatment cycle. The sludge which settles at the bottom is pumped out twice a year.

The alternatives section of the Basic Assessment Report includes the various alternatives investigated by the Hessequa Municipality to increase the supply of potable water to the town of Heidelberg. The two layout options are presented which received the same impacts ratings for all impacts in the terrestrial biodiversity impact assessment. Layout 2 is motivated as the preferred layout as it has a higher volume capacity for water treatment and it has a stormwater and overflow channel to accommodate stormwater flow and overflow from the sludge dams which exits into the non-perennial river.

CapeNature wishes to query the selection of the preferred alternative from a biodiversity perspective. The other alternative layout does not include a channel which deposits overflow water into the river, and it is therefore interpreted that all supernatant water is returned to the dam. There is the potential for impacts on the river from the overflow water which may not be of a suitable quality. Return of the supernatant water to the dam will have a lower impact. We therefore wish to recommend the option of all supernatant water being piped back to the dam with no overflow return to the river as a preferred option from an ecological perspective and if this is not feasible will need to be well motivated.

Conclusion

In conclusion, CapeNature recommends that the SEI and the impact assessment for terrestrial biodiversity is re-evaluated based on the inputs provided by CapeNature and following this, the requirement for a biodiversity offset determined. We do not agree with the selection of the preferred layout alternative from a biodiversity perspective and recommend that there is further investigation of avoidance of deposition of overflow water into the river. Other queries should also be responded to.

CapeNature reserves the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on any additional information that may be received.

Regards

Rhett Smart
Digitally signed
by Rhett Smart
Date: 2025.10.31
19:46:13 +02'00'

Rhett Smart

For: Manager: Landscape Conservation Intelligence South



101 York Street 3rd Floor Room 302 George 6530 PO Box 1205 George 6530

☎: Mr. Mthimkhulu

☎: 023 346 8000

✉: mmthimkhulu@bgcma.co.za

📍: 4/10/2/H80C/ERF RE/557 AND 672, HEIDELBERG,

ENVIRO-EAP

PO Box 205

Agulhas

7287

Attention: Johmandie Pienaar

Dear Madam,

COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSED HEIDELBERG WATER TREATMENT WORKS ON ERF RE/557 AND 672, HEIDELBERG, WESTERN CAPE

The above-mentioned report with DEA&DP Ref: 16/3/3/6/7/1/D6/13/0278/23 has reference.

The Breede-Olifants Catchment Management Agency (BOCMA) has the following comments:

1. No operation is allowed within 100m of a water resource or 1:100-year flood line, whichever is the greatest. If the proposed activity falls within this area, authorisation needs to be put in place in terms of the National Water Act (NWA), 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998). This is to ensure that the riparian ecological status of the water resource will not be negatively impacted.
2. Please note that any development within 500m from the boundary of any wetland requires authorisation in terms of the National Water Act (NWA), 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998).
3. No water may be abstracted from any surface water body and groundwater unless authorized by this Agency.
4. Where solid waste disposal is to take place on site, ensure that only non-toxic materials which have no risk of polluting the groundwater, are buried in designated approved areas at acceptable depths below ground level.
5. No surface, ground or storm water may be polluted because of any activities on the site.
6. The rehabilitation of the site must ensure that the final condition of the site is environmentally acceptable and that there will be no adverse long-term effects on the surrounding environment especially the water resources.
7. Please note that all requirements as stipulated in the National Water Act (NWA), 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) must be adhered to.

8. Please note that this Agency reserves the right to amend and / or add to the comments made above in the light of subsequent information received.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the official at the above-mentioned details.

MR. JAN VAN STADEN



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (ACTING)

DATE: 14/10/2025

From: Stephanie Barnardt <Stephanie.Barnardt@westerncape.gov.za>
Sent: Friday, 26 September 2025 09:39
To: Johmandie Pienaar <johmandie@enviro-eap.co.za>
Subject: RE: NOTIFICATION OF COMMENTING PERIOD COMMENCEMENT: PRE-APPLICATION DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR PROPOSED HEIDELBERG WATER TREATMENT WORKS ON ERF RE/557 AND ERF 672, HEIDELBERG, WESTERN CAPE

Good day, Johmandie

Please use this email as confirmation that the previous NID remains valid and in accordance. Therefore, HWC's previous comments still stand.

Kind regards,

Important notices:

[December closure 2024 \(last day for application Friday, 22 November 2024\)](#)

[Unauthorized work: S51 letters](#)

[2025 Calendar](#)

Application forms 2024: [Applications Link](#)

[Notice](#)

Stephanie-Anne Barnardt-Delport
Specialist Heritage Officer (Archaeologist)(Professional ASAPA Member: 745)
Heritage Western CapeTel: (+27) 021 829 3315

Heritage Resource Management Services
Protea Assurance Building Greenmarket Square, Cape Town

Website: www.hwc.org.za / www.westerncape.gov.za



From: Anel Abrahams Transnet Freight Rail CPT <Anel.Abrahams@transnet.net>
Sent: Friday, 26 September 2025 14:25
To: Johmandie Pienaar <johmandie@enviro-eap.co.za>
Subject: RE: NOTIFICATION OF COMMENTING PERIOD COMMENCEMENT: PRE-APPLICATION DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR PROPOSED HEIDELBERG WATER TREATMENT WORKS ON ERF RE/557 AND ERF 672, HEIDELBERG, WESTERN CAPE

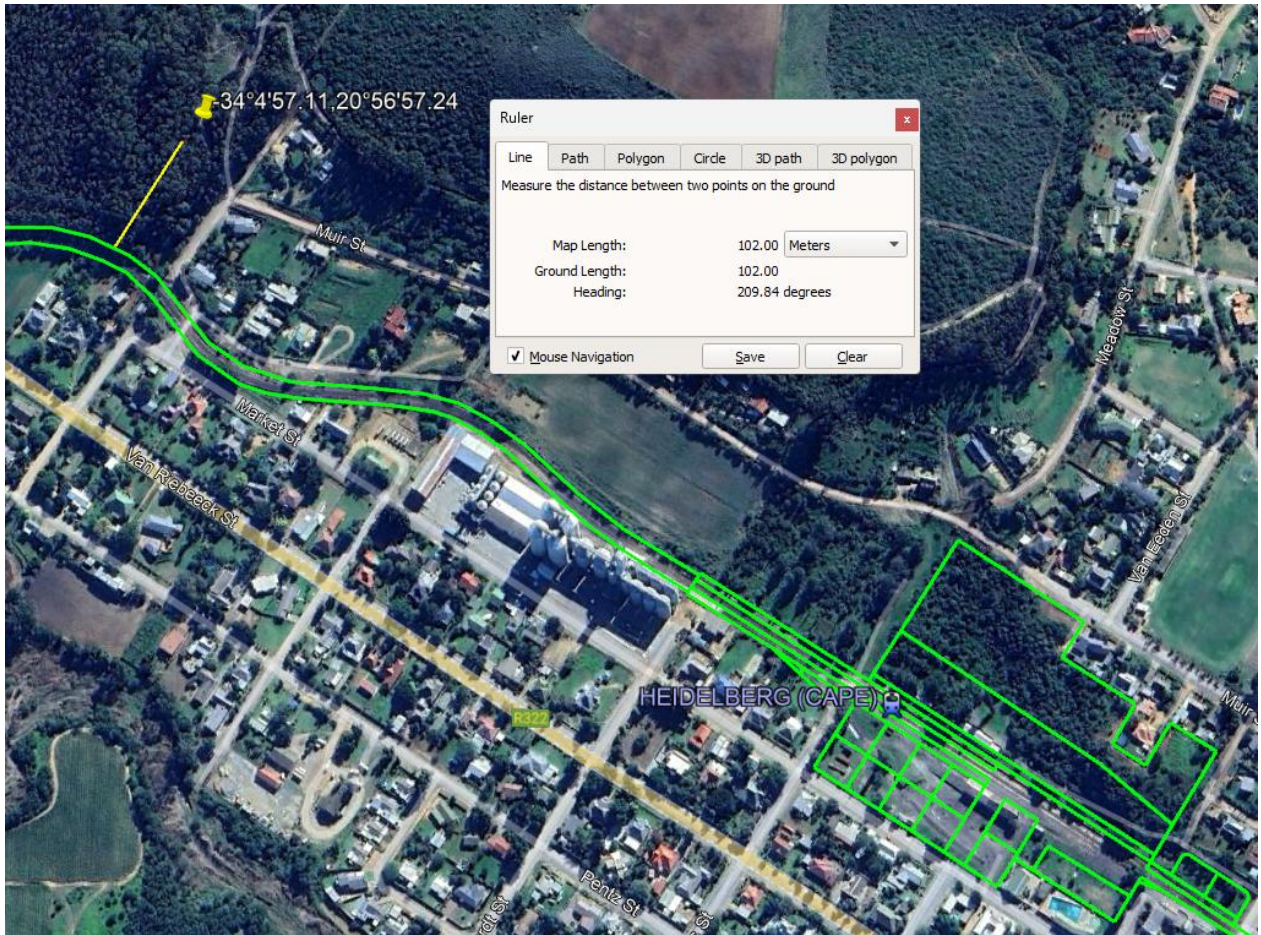
Good day

Your e-mail below refers.

This application will not affect Transnet directly; the proposed Heidelberg Water Treatment Site is approximately 100 m away from the closest Transnet boundary.

Please see images below:





Anel Abrahams

Infrastructure Maintenance, Bellville
 Transnet Rail Infrastructure Manager (TRIM)

☎ 021 940 2011

☎ 000 000 000

☎ 000 000 0000

✉ anel.abrahams@transnet.net

www.transnet.net