



LEAP

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09 December 2014

Simon N Mafu
Administrative Unit of the Sustainable Utilisation of the Environment (SUE) Branch
Gauteng Dept of Agriculture and Rural Development
Diamond Building
11 Diagonal Street
Johannesburg, 2001
Tel: (011) 240 2500

Dear Sir;

**RE: INANDA GATE POLO FIELD ON THE REMIANDER OF PORTION 154 OF THE FARM
DIEPSLOOT 388 JR, CITY OF JOHANNESBURG METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY - BAR
REJECTED
GAUTENG REFERENCE NR 002/13-14/E0284**

The above matter and the letter from the Department dated 10 November 2014 rejecting the Basic Assessment Report refers.

We wish to address the reasons for the rejection of the Basic Assessment Report according to the numbers in the rejection letter:

a) *"The final Basic Assessment Report (BAR), including the Application Form talks about the following activities that have been applied for, which is Listing Notice 1 Activities 11; 18; 37; 39 and 40. Please note that these are not necessary and the Application Form and assessment of the impacts in the BAR must be amended as such"*

Page 3 to 9 of the application form has been amended and is attached hereto for your attention.

b) *"The only specialist study in the final BAR submission was the Wetland Assessment. The BAR does not adequately address other concerns such as the potential occurrence of African Grass Owls and the African Bullfrogs, which occur in the wider area ... In addition it is strongly advised that the studies that ... be undertaken and submitted as part of the amended BAR."*

An Ecological Assessment including the biodiversity requirements of the Department has been conducted by Enviroguard, refer to Section 8 of the Basic Assessment report as well as to **Annexure G2** attached to the Basic Assessment report.

c) *"The departmental Geodatabase also shows that the perennial river running through the site is habitat to the red listed mammal species *Lutra maculicollis* otherwise known as the Spotted Necked Otter."*

An Ecological Assessment including the biodiversity requirements of the Department has been conducted by Enviroguard, refer to Section 8 of the Basic Assessment report as well as to **Annexure G2** attached to the Basic Assessment report, which addresses this matter.

d) *Egoli Granite Grassland covers the area extensively with the occurrence of *Gnaphalium nelsonii* habitat. A Vegetation study needs to be done"*

An Ecological Assessment including the biodiversity requirements of the Department has been conducted by Enviroguard, refer to Section 8 of the Basic Assessment report as well as to **Annexure G2** attached to the Basic Assessment report, which addresses this matter.

- e) *"Please note that all Biodiversity studies must be conducted in accordance to the "GDARD Requirement for Biodiversity Assessments" document dated March 2014."*

An Ecological Assessment including the biodiversity requirements of the Department has been conducted by Enviroguard, refer to Section 8 of the Basic Assessment report as well as to **Annexure G2** attached to the Basic Assessment report, which addresses this matter.

- f) *"There is no indication that a Water Use License for National Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) has been applied for, however the BAR talks about abstraction of ground water from an existing borehole on the site....."*

The report incorrectly indicated that the water will be obtained from groundwater; however the applicant will connect to an existing water line from the Northern Works Treatment Works.

- g) : *"The BAR does not have a Storm Water Management Plan even though issues around storm water, water erosion and sewerage are constantly brought up in the Environmental Management Programme"*

Addressed. Refer to the Storm Water Management Plan attached to the Basic assessment report under **Annexure A**.

- h) *"The EMPr talks about 'Founding conditions' for individual structures which must be confirmed by a qualified geologist but no Geotechnical study has been included in the BAR."*

The site falls within the halfway house granite geological area. Geotechnical reports have been completed for sites situated adjacent to the site, which also falls within the halfway house granite geological area. Refer to section 8 of the Basic Assessment Report. The reports are attached to the Basic Assessment Report under **Annexure G3**.

According to the 1:250 000 geological sheet 2528 Pretoria, the site is underlain by granite-gneiss, granite and amphibolite of the Johannesburg Granite Dome. The bedrock consists of poorly exposed biotite tonalite, trondjemite, granodiorite and migmatite varieties. The geological maps and accompanied explanation do not indicate any specific mineral deposits present on the site.

- i) *"The Geotechnical study is also important as there are exposed rocky outcrops on the site and blasting has been listed as a possibility in the EMPr."*

The site falls within the halfway house granite geological area. Geotechnical reports have been completed for sites situated adjacent to the site, which also falls within the halfway house granite geological area. Refer to section 8 of the Basic Assessment Report. The reports are attached to the Basic Assessment Report under **Annexure G3**.

- j) *"The EMPr also talks about a maintenance yard, which should appear on the layout plan but it is not reflected as such."*

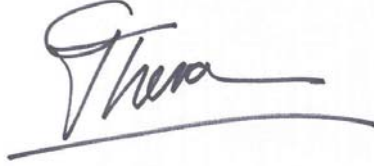
No maintenance yard will be constructed the EMPr has been amended accordingly.

- k) *"Two graves were found in the area of the site. However, the BAR does not address how they will be protected or how they will be affected by the Polo field."*

Addressed. Refer to Section 10 of the Basic Assessment Report.

l) *"The BAR does not mention various socio-economic impacts such as potential job creation for the local community, concentrating only the potential crime alleviation."*
Addressed. Refer to section 9 of the Basic Assessment report.

Yours truly

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gwen Theron', with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

Dr Gwen Theron

PrLArch 97082

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