

# APPENDIX F: CORRESPONDENCE FROM I&APS

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## Comments Received After Submission of the Final Scoping Report and Prior to the Review of the Draft EIA and EMPr

### 1. Comments from Juristic Organs of State and State Departments

**From:** Bloem Marisa [<mailto:BloemM@dws.gov.za>]  
**Sent:** 14 November 2018 01:17 PM  
**To:** Sandra Wren <[sandy@publicprocess.co.za](mailto:sandy@publicprocess.co.za)>  
**Subject:** FW: Scheepersvlakte 98

Hi Sandy

These comments are valid as included in the Final Scoping Report.

Kind regards  
Marisa

**From:** Bloem Marisa  
**Sent:** 12 November 2018 08:34 AM  
**To:** [sandy@publicprocess.co.za](mailto:sandy@publicprocess.co.za)  
**Subject:** Scheepersvlakte 98

Good Day Sandy

Please find attached comments for the above mentioned project from the Department of Water and Sanitation.

Kind regards  
Marisa



## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

P.O. Box X6041, Port Elizabeth 6000	Tel: 041 501 0717	Enquiries: M. Bloem
E-mail: bloemm@dws.gov.za	Fax 086 537 4689	Ref: Scheepersvlakte No. 98

Public Process Consultants  
P.O. Box 27688  
Greenacres  
PORT ELIZABETH  
6000

Attention: Ms. S. Wren

### **SCOPING REPORT FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT ON REMAINDER OF PORTION 7 OF THE FARM SCHEEPERSVLAKTE NO. 98, IN THE SUNDAYS RIVER VALLEY MUNICIPALITY**

The office acknowledges the receipt of the above-mentioned Scoping Report. The Scoping Report was evaluated and the inputs are provided below:

The applicant has an existing water use licence for the taking of water from the Lower Sundays River Water User Association in terms of Section 21 (a) of the National Water Act (Act 36 of 1998) which is for the abstraction of 5 850 000m<sup>3</sup> of water per annum to irrigate 650ha. The client proposes to store water in a balancing dam during periods when water is not released at the LSRWUA canal system.

The applicant is proposing to construct a balancing dam with a storage capacity of 140 000m<sup>3</sup> which will trigger Section 21 (b) of the National Water Act; (Act No. 36 of 1998); storage of water from the water resource requires water use authorization from the Department.

The applicant is advised to undergo the process of applying for a water use licence application for the proposed water use activity.

**Please note that any use of water without an authorization is a contravention as in accordance with Section 151 of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998).**

Please do not hesitate to contact this office should you have any enquiries.

Yours Faithfully

ACTING DIRECTOR – INSTITUTIONAL ESTABLISHMENT

Date: 09 NOVEMBER 2018

## 2. Comments from I&APs

**From:** Marius Calitz <mcalitz@humkoop.co.za>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 14 November 2018 12:35 PM  
**To:** Marisa Jacoby  
**Subject:** RE: NOTICE OF SUBMISSION OF FINAL SCOPING REPORT: AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE REMAINDER OF PORTION 7 OF THE FARM SCHEEPERS VLAKTE NO. 98, IN THE SUNDAYS RIVER VALLEY MUNICIPALITY (DEDEAT REFERENCE: EC/06/C/LN2/M/47-2018)

Hallo Marisa.

Baie dankie vir die terugvoering.

Vriendelike groete.



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**From:** Sandra Wren  
**Sent:** 19 November 2018 09:06 AM  
**To:** 'Gerard Fick'; Marisa Jacoby  
**Cc:** 'Willem Bouwer'; waldo@sunrivercitrus.co.za  
**Subject:** RE: NOTICE OF SUBMISSION OF FINAL SCOPING REPORT: AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE REMAINDER OF PORTION 7 OF THE FARM SCHEEPERS VLAKTE NO. 98, IN THE SUNDAYS RIVER VALLEY MUNICIPALITY (DEDEAT REFERENCE: EC/06/C/LN2/M/47-2018)

Hi Gerard

We will forward this comment to the project applicant and their irrigation specialist for a detailed response and revert back to you.

Regards

Sandy Wren  
Public Process Consultants  
120 Diaz Road, Adcockvale, PE, 6001  
PO Box 27688, Greenacres, 6057  
041 374 8426 (p) 041 373 2002 (f)  
082 4909 828 (cell)  
[sandy@publicprocess.co.za](mailto:sandy@publicprocess.co.za)  
[www.publicprocess.co.za](http://www.publicprocess.co.za)

**From:** Gerard Fick [<mailto:gerard@sunrivercitrus.co.za>]  
**Sent:** 16 November 2018 03:48 PM  
**To:** Marisa Jacoby <[marisa@publicprocess.co.za](mailto:marisa@publicprocess.co.za)>; Sandra Wren <[sandy@publicprocess.co.za](mailto:sandy@publicprocess.co.za)>  
**Cc:** 'Willem Bouwer' <[willem@sunrivercitrus.co.za](mailto:willem@sunrivercitrus.co.za)>; waldo@sunrivercitrus.co.za  
**Subject:** RE: NOTICE OF SUBMISSION OF FINAL SCOPING REPORT: AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE REMAINDER OF PORTION 7 OF THE FARM SCHEEPERS VLAKTE NO. 98, IN THE SUNDAYS RIVER VALLEY MUNICIPALITY (DEDEAT REFERENCE: EC/06/C/LN2/M/47-2018)  
**Importance:** High

Dear Marisa,

Thank you for the documents with regard to the development on the remainder of portion 7 of the farm Scheepersvlakte No. 98.

We would like to follow up on detail regarding the proposed new dam to be constructed during the proposed development phase, as stated in your Scoping Report:

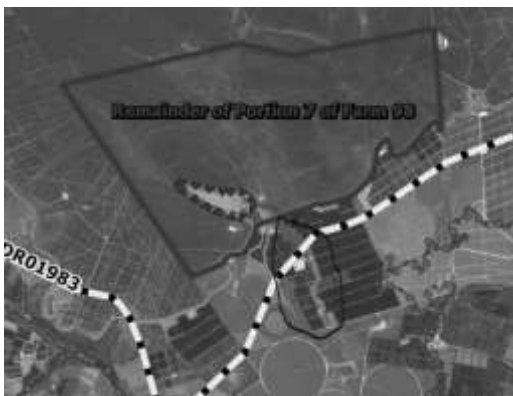
*“a further ~7ha is required to be disturbed to facilitate the construction of a proposed new irrigation water storage dam (~140 000m<sup>3</sup> storage capacity). Two supply pipelines are proposed to convey irrigation water from the offtake point on the canal to the proposed irrigation water storage dam. These will have an internal diameter of 450mm each and will be installed over a distance of ~700m”*

and

*“The overflow dam, just south of the southern boundary of the Farm, receives overflow from the Scheepersvlakte Dam. This has resulted in a stand of Phragmites australis, which has expanded over time, since the discharge commenced.”*

Our question is therefore where would this proposed dam be constructed on the proposed development map as provided in your mail. Also where and how the overflow of the proposed dam would be and the effect to the current overflow area. Would this be in the same area? Or would the overflow occur on a different identified area, if so where would this be? Also should this area be on the current overflow area, what are the mitigating factors to prevent excess overflow as the overflow water flows through our farming operation and there is a high probability that this may cause increased erosion and widening of the marsh area in our farm caused by the existing overflow of the Scheepersvlakte Dam. As you can imagine, this is an area of irritation (putting it mildly) as complaints were raised with the municipality on a continuous basis from 1997. Please see image below, area marked in blue.

Should any detail of our query not make sense or should you have additional queries, please do not hesitate to contact either myself or Mr Bouwer.



Regards,

Gerard Hick

Financial manager  
Sunriver Citrus CC - Scheepersvlakte Farm - Sundays, Eastern Cape, South Africa  
Tel: 042 234 0122 Fax: 036 487 2164 Cell: 074 734 3425  
E-pos: gerard@sunrivercitrus.co.za



**From:** Willem Bouwer <[willem@sunrivercitrus.co.za](mailto:willem@sunrivercitrus.co.za)>  
**Sent:** 15 November 2018 15:47  
**To:** [gerard@sunrivercitrus.co.za](mailto:gerard@sunrivercitrus.co.za); [waldo@sunrivercitrus.co.za](mailto:waldo@sunrivercitrus.co.za)  
**Subject:** FW: NOTICE OF SUBMISSION OF FINAL SCOPING REPORT: AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE REMAINDER OF PORTION 7 OF THE FARM SCHEEPERS VLAKTE NO. 98, IN THE SUNDAYS RIVER VALLEY MUNICIPALITY (DEDEAT REFERENCE: EC/06/C/LN2/M/47-2018)

## Comments Received During the Review of the Draft EIA

### 1. Comments from Juristic Organs of State and State Departments

**From:** Sandra Wren  
**Sent:** 13 March 2019 09:58 AM  
**To:** 'Maretha Alant'  
**Cc:** Nick De Goede; Marisa Jacoby; Zandri Grobbelaar; Dries Engelbrecht  
**Subject:** RE: Scheepers Vlakte draft EIA

Hi Maretha

Thank you for the comments submitted below. I have forwarded your request for a meeting below to the Department of Environmental Affairs.

Regards

Sandy Wren  
Public Process Consultants  
120 Diaz Road, Adcockvale, PE, 6001  
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[sandy@publicprocess.co.za](mailto:sandy@publicprocess.co.za)  
[www.publicprocess.co.za](http://www.publicprocess.co.za)

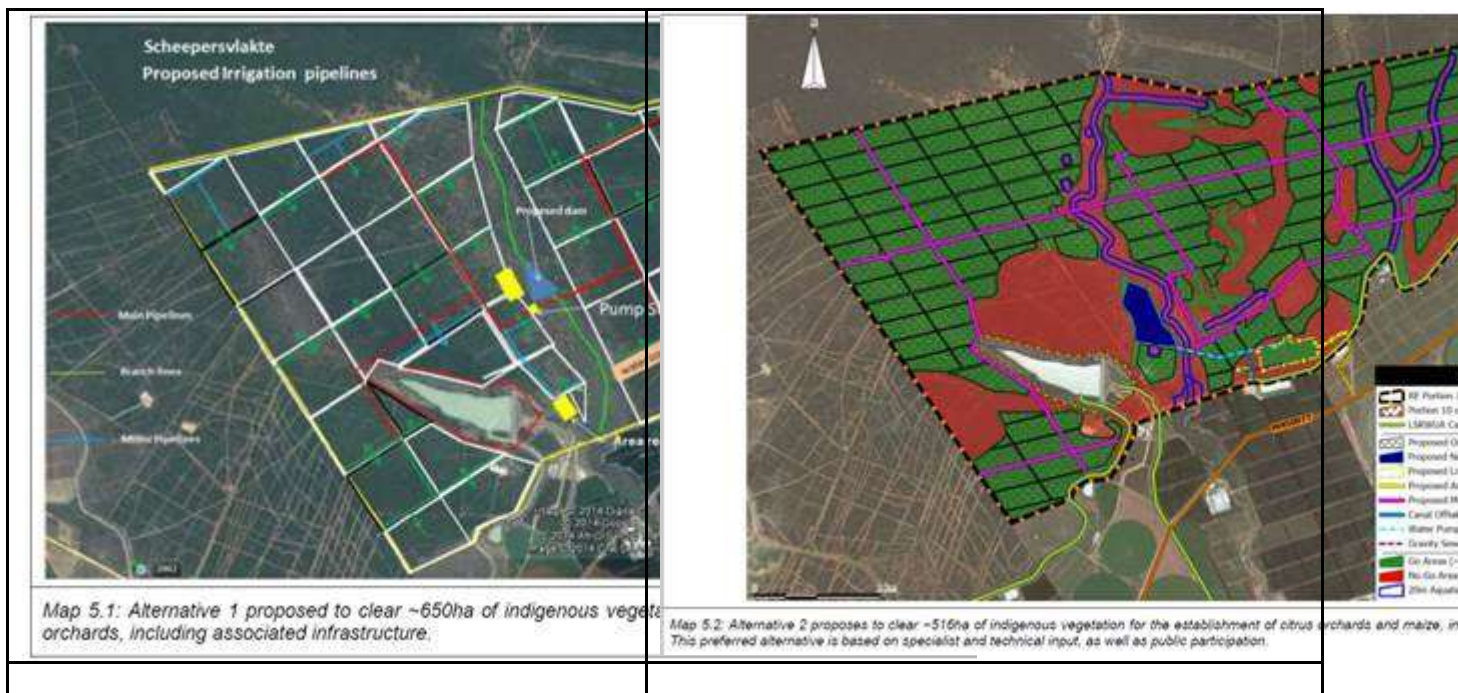
**From:** Maretha Alant [<mailto:maretha.alant@sanparks.org>]  
**Sent:** 12 March 2019 03:16 PM  
**To:** Sandra Wren <[sandy@publicprocess.co.za](mailto:sandy@publicprocess.co.za)>  
**Cc:** Nick De Goede <[nick.degoede@sanparks.org](mailto:nick.degoede@sanparks.org)>; Marisa Jacoby <[marisa@publicprocess.co.za](mailto:marisa@publicprocess.co.za)>; Zandri Grobbelaar <[zandri@publicprocess.co.za](mailto:zandri@publicprocess.co.za)>; Dries Engelbrecht <[Dries.Engelbrecht@sanparks.org](mailto:Dries.Engelbrecht@sanparks.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: Scheepers Vlakte draft EIA

Hi Sandy

A brief summary of our discussion today:

1. I am taking this case to the National Park Planning meeting in Pretoria on 19 March to obtain approval to negotiate a Biodiversity Stewardship agreement on the property. Regional support has been given.
2. The current 'no go' areas seem to have pipelines and roads that fragment the landscape (where no disturbance is desirable) in places as well as other infrastructure. Alternative 2 in its current format cannot be supported.
3. A landscape-scale approach that links up with adjacent CBAs/nature reserves to form a functional conservation network with a good biodiversity conservation outcome is the desired state for this CBA area. The map should state "conservation area" not only "no go" area. The best potential for a functional conservation corridor appears to be the eastern and northern portions of the property. The conservation area should be managed with an approved Management Plan.
4. The applicant has obtained a Water Use Licence from DWS for the taking of water from a water resource in terms of Section 21(a) of the National Water Act which entitles them to utilise 650ha (5 850 000m<sup>3</sup> per annum) of water from the LSRWUA canal system. In order to irrigate the proposed agricultural development, the construction of a new irrigation water storage dam (140 000m<sup>3</sup> storage capacity; 7ha footprint), as well as the installation of irrigation pipelines of varying diameters is required.

Size of property 852 ha. Proposed disturbance footprint (Go Areas) is 580 ha. Proposed no go areas is 272 ha. EIA application is for clearing of 516 ha. Conservation area should be determined taking landscape connectivity and biodiversity conservation into account. As a default 272 ha was proposed but the size may have to increase.



I suggest we have a meeting to discuss an improved Site Development Plan that takes conservation adequately into consideration. SANParks may be able to assist with alien clearing.

Please let me know about a proposed date early in April. It will be great if Andries Struwig can be present.

Regards  
Maretha

**From:** Sandra Wren [<mailto:sandy@publicprocess.co.za>]  
**Sent:** 12 March 2019 10:55 AM  
**To:** Maretha Alant  
**Cc:** Nick De Goede; Marisa Jacoby; Zandri Grobbelaar  
**Subject:** RE: Scheepers Vlakte draft EIA

Hi Maretha

Please see the screen shot attached of our webpage, circled in red at the bottom of the page and highlighted in yellow is the word "next", click on this to navigate between and open the various Chapters and Appendices of the Draft EIA.

For your ease of reference attached are the following Chapters of the Draft EIA:

Executive Summary (as requested)  
 Chapter 2: Project Description  
 Chapter 5: Assessment of Alternatives (as requested)  
 Chapter 6: Ecological  
 Chapter 7: Aquatic Assessment

Should you require any additional Chapters please do not hesitate to contact us.

Further note that we have sent to you via registered mail a CD copy of the report, which includes all Chapters and Appendices of the Draft EIA.

Regards

Sandy Wren  
 Public Process Consultants  
 120 Diaz Road, Adcockvale, PE, 6001

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**From:** Maretha Alant [<mailto:maretha.alant@sanparks.org>]  
**Sent:** 11 March 2019 03:07 PM  
**To:** Sandra Wren <[sandy@publicprocess.co.za](mailto:sandy@publicprocess.co.za)>  
**Cc:** Nick De Goede <[nick.degoede@sanparks.org](mailto:nick.degoede@sanparks.org)>  
**Subject:** Scheepers Vlakte draft EIA

Hi Sandy

I can't open the Chapters or Draft EIA from the website, can only open appendixes. Can you perhaps email Chapter 5 and the executive summary.

The screenshot shows the website for Public Process Consultants, which specializes in Environmental Impact Assessment and Public Participation Management. The page is titled "Draft EIA" for the "Scheepersvlakte" project. A sidebar on the left lists various documents, including chapters 1 through 5, an executive summary, and comment forms. The main content area displays a list of documents with their titles, hit counts, and dates. The documents listed are:

- Scheepersvlakte - Draft EIA - App A - Project EAP CV (0 hits, 03/05/2019)
- Scheepersvlakte - Draft EIA - App B - Correspondence with DEDEAT (1 hit, 03/05/2019)
- Scheepersvlakte - Draft EIA - App C - Specialist Declarations (0 hits, 03/05/2019)
- Scheepersvlakte - Draft EIA - App D - Project

Regards  
Maretha

Maretha Alant  
Environmental Planner  
Garden Route National Park (Regional Office)  
Thesen Jetty, Thesen Island, Long Street  
Tel: 044 302 5613  
Cell: 083 4554050  
P.O. Box 3542, Knysna, 6570  
[www.sanparks.org](http://www.sanparks.org)

## 2. Comments from I&APs

**From:** Marisa Jacoby  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 05 March 2019 12:59 PM  
**To:** 'gerard@sunrivercitrus.co.za'  
**Cc:** Sandra Wren  
**Subject:** NOTICE OF COMMENT PERIOD - DRAFT EIA REPORT AND EMPR: AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE REMAINDER OF PORTION 7 OF THE FARM SCHEEPERS VLAKTE NO. 98, SRVM (DEDEAT REFERENCE: EC/06/C/LN2/M/47-2018)  
**Attachments:** Scheepersvlakte - Draft EIA - Ch2 - Project Description - final - March 2019.pdf; Scheepersvlakte - Draft EIA - Ch4 - EIA Process - final - March2019.pdf; Scheepersvlakte - Draft EIA - Executive Summary - final - March2019.pdf; Scheepersvlakte - Locality Map - cmprssd.bmp; Scheepersvlakte - Comment Form - Draft EIA - final - 5March2019.pdf; Scheepersvlakte - Let 5 - Draft EIA - for merging - final - 5March2019.pdf

Dear Mr Fick

**RE: NOTICE OF COMMENT PERIOD - DRAFT EIA REPORT AND EMPR: AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE REMAINDER OF PORTION 7 OF THE FARM SCHEEPERS VLAKTE NO. 98, IN THE SUNDAYS RIVER VALLEY MUNICIPALITY (DEDEAT REFERENCE: EC/06/C/LN2/M/47-2018)**

Our telephonic conversation of this morning refers. With respects to your concerns raised regarding the potential overflow of the proposed dam to be constructed on Scheepers Vlakte Farm as part of the proposed agricultural development, please find attached a copy of the following Chapters as contained in the Draft EIA Report.

- Chapter 2: Project Description

Section 2.2.2.4 on pages 2.14 and 2.15 include the dam construction methodology as well as the precautionary measures which have been proposed in order to reduce the potential overflow from the proposed dam.

- Chapter 4: EIA Process and Public Participation

Table 4.3 on pages 4.20 to 4.22 contain the Comments and Responses Trail for comments which were raised after submission of the Final Scoping Report to DEDEAT. Your comments, as well as the responses provided, are contained on page 4.21 and 4.22.

Full copies of the report, including the EMPr can be downloaded from the website [www.publicprocess.co.za](http://www.publicprocess.co.za)

Attached you will also find notification of the release of the Draft EIA Report and EMPr for a 31-day review period, extending from 5 March 2019 to 5 April 2019, as well as an Executive Summary of the Draft EIA Report, a Locality Map and a Comment Form. Hard copies of this correspondence has also been sent via normal mail.

Please let us know if you have any further comments or concerns regarding the proposed development during the abovementioned comment period.

We trust you will find the above in order.

Thank you.

Regards

Marisa Jacoby (BSc Hons)  
Environmental Assessment Practitioner  
Public Process Consultants  
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Port Elizabeth  
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