

FULL SCOPING AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS

Coega Kammas Kloof Broiler Facility: Proposed Poultry Broiler House Development and associated infrastructure on a Portion of Farm 191 Coega Kammas Kloof, Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality as well as a Water Pipeline



BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT, September 2021

INTRODUCTION

The project proponent, The JN Venter Beleggings Trust, proposes the construction and operation of 24 broiler house facilities, including associated infrastructure, on portions of Farm 191 Coega Kammas Kloof, Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality. The farm portion under assessment is approximately 1 435 ha in extent and is currently zoned as Agriculture 1. It is proposed that two separately fenced in development clusters, of 12 broiler houses each are constructed, east and west of the R335 (Addo Road). Broiler production refers to the raising of chickens for meat. Associated infrastructure includes, internal roads, access, employee dwellings, bulk services (water, stormwater management, effluent management and broiler support services, generator room, maintenance unit, tool shed). It is the intention of the proponent to make use of a combination of Eskom and Renewable energy to provide the necessary electricity. The renewable energy component will consist of a 3 MW Photovoltaic (Solar) array and associated infrastructure (battery/inverter room and powerlines), approximately 8ha in size, on an eastern portion of Farm 191. It is further proposed that a new water storage dam, with a capacity of ~65 000 m³ (~3ha), will be constructed in order to provide the water required for the broiler facility. This dam will also provide emergency water storage for an adjacent proposed citrus development, referred to as Umzi Wabantu Citrus, which is subject to a separate Scoping and EIA. Subject to the outcome of the detailed specialist assessments as well as public participation, it is anticipated that the development footprints will be ~91ha (~40ha for each of the two clusters, ~8ha for the PV, and ~3ha for the water storage dam).

In order to convey water to the proposed development the proponent also proposes the installation of an irrigation pipeline (ø450mm) from an existing farm dam, operated by the applicant, on the farm known as Middledrift, Sundays River Valley Municipality (SRVM), over a length of approximately 11.8 km. The existing dam on Middledrift, which has been subject to a separate Basic Assessment Process, is located on Portion 10 of Farm T'Zoetgeneugd No. 192. The proposed pipeline route as well as the length and diameters of the pipeline, will be confirmed through the assessment process. The following properties will be affected by the proposed pipeline route:

- Portion 10, 11 and 41 of Farm T'Zoetgeneugd No. 192, SRVM
- Farm 717, SRVM and NMBM

In terms of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), published in GN R326, 327, 325 and 324, promulgated under Chapter Five of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMAA), and published in Government Gazette 40772 on the 7 April 2017, the project requires full Scoping and EIA. The proponent has appointed Public Process Consultants as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to undertake the assessment, including public participation for this project.

PROJECT LOCALITY

Farm 191, known as Coega Kammas Kloof, is located along the R335 road (Port Elizabeth/ Addo Road), immediately south of the northern boundary of the NMBM ~15km north of Motherwell. The R335 road bisects the farm from north to south into a western and eastern portion. The nearest boundary of the Addo Elephant National Park is located ~8.5km NE of Farm 191. In order to supply water to the proposed development a pipeline is proposed to be installed from an existing farm dam located on Portion 10 of Farm T'Zoetgeneugd No. 192, which forms part of the farm known as Middledrift. The start of the pipeline is proposed to be installed approximately 5km from the nearest boundary of the Addo Elephant National Park. The locality map attached provides an overview of the location of the proposed development and associated pipeline.

HOW CAN I PARTICIPATE IN THIS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PROCESS?

In terms of regulation 42(b) of Government Notice R326, Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are to request in writing, that their names be placed on the register of I&APs. To register on the database, complete the comment and registration form included with this correspondence or submit your contact details (via fax or email), stating your full name, address and contact numbers, to the consultant indicated in this documentation. In terms of regulation 43(1), a registered I&AP is entitled to comment in writing on all reports and plans submitted as part of the Public Participation Process and raise any issues which may be of significance to the consideration of the application. Additionally, I&APs are required to disclose any direct business, financial, personal or other interest which they may have in the approval or refusal of the application. By registering on the project database, you will be notified as and when information on the project is available for I&AP review and comment.

Compliance with the Protection of Personal Information Act 4 of 2013

The Protection of Personal Information Act 4 of 2013 (POPIA) was enacted to give effect to the constitutional right to privacy by safeguarding personal information processed by a responsible party. You have been identified as a potential Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) for this assessment process. As required by Regulation 42 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), your name and interest in this assessment process, as well as your contact information (eg. telephone number, email address and postal address) will be placed on a register of I&APs for the duration of the assessment process, which must be submitted to the competent authority, DEDEAT (Sarah Baartman Region). The I&AP register will not be included in the reports which will be released for public review, nor will it be provided to any other third parties without your explicit consent. Should you not want your name to be included in the I&AP register, which is submitted to DEDEAT, please specifically request to be de-registered. In which case you will no longer receive correspondence regarding this assessment process. In

compliance with Regulation 44 of the EIA Regulations, any information contained in comments made during the assessment process must be included in the reports that are made available for public review. However, this will not include your personal contact information. Therefore, please note that should you make comments during the assessment process it will be accepted that you have given consent for your name and interest in the assessment to be included in reports and for your contact information to be provided to DEDEAT. In addition, should an appeal be lodged against the DEDEAT's decision, the appellant will have to be provided with a copy of the I&AP register, containing your contact information, in order to comply with Regulation 4 (1) of the National Appeal Regulations, 2014.

WHAT DOES THIS DOCUMENT TELL YOU?

This document provides you, as an I&AP, with background information on the proposed broiler house development, as well as the Scoping and EIA and Public Participation Process. It indicates how you can become involved in the assessment process, receive information and raise issues that may interest and/ or concern you. The sharing of information forms an important component of the Public Participation Process and provides you with the opportunity to become actively involved in the EIA Process from the outset. The input received from I&APs together with scientific and technical investigations assists the competent authority, in this instance the Eastern Cape Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEDEAT), Sarah Baartman Region, with their decision-making.

WHAT DOES THE PROJECT ENTAIL?

The areas proposed for the establishment of the 24 fully enclosed broiler houses, consisting of two, separately fenced-in clusters, with 12 houses each, is located on Farm 191 Coega Kammas Kloof (~1435,32 ha), NMBM. The broiler houses will be constructed to accommodate 45 000 to 48 000 birds each with the standard 56-day grower (8 week) model applying. The farm is currently zoned Agriculture 1 and the area proposed to be cleared to accommodate the combined facility, including associated infrastructure (internal roads, bulk services, employee dwellings and broiler supporting infrastructure), is anticipated to be ~80ha in extent (~40ha for each of the two clusters). Each cluster will be fenced in and will consist of four, separately fenced in operational units, comprising three broiler houses each. It is proposed that the two separately fenced-in clusters of 12 houses each be constructed with a separation distance of ~2km's between the clusters, for biosecurity reasons. Therefore, one cluster is proposed to be located in the western half of the farm and the other cluster in the eastern half of the farm.

While Eskom have confirmed the availability of electricity for the project, the proponent proposes to utilise a combination of renewable energy (Solar and Storage) from a 3 MW Photovoltaic (PV) facility as well as Eskom supply. It is proposed that a photovoltaic plant is constructed on an eastern portion of Coega Kammas Kloof with a capacity to provide ~3MW, so as to provide for the energy requirements of the facility. The footprint of the PV plant is anticipated to be ~7 ha with a 1 ha substation (battery and inverter room), thus a total of 8 ha. The facility will require the construction of an Eskom line directly into the 3 MW substation as well as the construction of a privately owned 22kV line from the eastern broiler footprint to the western broiler footprint.

In order to supply water to the proposed development a pipeline is proposed to be installed from an existing dam on the applicant's farm, known as Middledrift (consisting of Portion 6, 10 and 40 of Farm T'Zoetgeneugd No. 192) in the Sundays River Valley Municipality. The proposed water supply pipeline, with an estimated internal diameter of $\varnothing 450\text{mm}$ is anticipated to measure approximately 11.8km in total length, extending from an existing dam (~94 698m³ storage capacity) located on Portion 10 of Middledrift Farm to a new proposed dam on Farm 191. The water will be required to be treated prior to use in the poultry facilities and for domestic consumption and will therefore also temporarily be stored in reservoirs on Farm 191. Water will thus be supplied from the LSRWUA canal system from existing water use entitlements assigned to Portion 6, 10 and 40 of Farm T'Zoetgeneugd No. 192. The proposed new farm dam on Farm 191 will have a capacity to store ~65 000m³ of water and a footprint of ~3ha.

Associated with each of the ~40ha development clusters are the following project components; wash bay area, manager's dwelling, 4x employees' dwellings, 2 x boiler room and coal store, tool shed, maintenance unit, generator room, 4 x entrance (including wash room and chemical store), 12 x feed silos, 4 x mortality room, and the following proposed bulk services:

- An existing water storage dam on a nearby farm, operated by the applicant, is proposed as the source of water for the 24 broiler houses, as well as for domestic consumption.
- New ~65 000m³ water storage dam on Farm 191
- 2 x Water storage reservoirs (283m³ capacity each),
- 1 x water treatment facility, pump room and water storage tanks associated with western cluster only.
- Installation of water reticulation for the 24 broiler houses, as well as for domestic consumption.
- Installation of domestic effluent management.
- Construction of stormwater management infrastructure.
- Construction of new access point and access road, as well as new servitude road for adjacent landowner.
- Internal roads (6 – 8m width, turning circles up to 50m wide)
- Establishment of a photovoltaic plant (3MW) to provide for the energy requirements of the facility
- Establishment of Eskom power line to connect to the 3MW substation
- Establishment of privately owned 22kv power line connecting the western and eastern broiler facilities

The location and size of the preferred development footprints will be determined through specialist and technical input, authority consultation, as well as consultation with I&APs. However, it is anticipated that a total of ~91ha will be required to be cleared in order to accommodate the various components described above.

In future, and subject to a separate environmental assessment process the proponent proposes to utilise an approximate 950 hectare portion of the farm for the cultivation of citrus and a variety of annual crops, including associated infrastructure (internal roads, irrigation infrastructure, laydown areas, logistical pre-sort facility and offices). The logistical services area will provide

joint services to the proposed Umzi Wabantu Citrus Development proposed to be located on portions of Farm 191 as well as the adjacent Portion 2, 3 and 4 of Farm 191.

ALTERNATIVES AND SITE SELECTION

A key component of the EIA Process is the identification and assessment of reasonable and feasible alternatives. The following alternatives have been identified and will be considered in the assessment process:

- No-go alternative
- Layout/ footprint alternatives
- Pipeline route alternatives
- Alternatives as identified by I&APs

Reasonable and feasible alternatives as raised by I&APs, specialists and the technical team will be considered in the assessment process.

OVERVIEW OF THE SCOPING AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS

In terms of the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), published in GN R326, 327, 325 and 324, promulgated under Chapter Five of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMAA), and published in Government Gazette 40772 on the 7 April 2017, the project requires full Scoping and EIA. The table below lists potential listed activities in GN R327, 325 and 324, which trigger a full Scoping and EIA Process and which may require Environmental Authorisation, should such be granted. A cautious approach has been adopted towards the identification of listed activities. Where there is currently uncertainty with regards to the applicability of a listed activity, it has been included in the table below. **Farm 191 has been incorrectly mapped as a Protected Area in terms of the NMBM Bioregional Plan. It has been confirmed that the site is neither a formal Protected Area nor an informal Conservation Area.**

EIA Regulations (2014), as amended	Project Component
GN R327 (Listing Notice 1)	
<p><i>"1. The development of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity from a renewable resource where—</i></p> <p><i>(ii) the output is 10 megawatts or less but the total extent of the facility covers an area in excess of 1 hectare;</i></p>	<p>It is proposed that a photovoltaic plant is constructed on an eastern portion of Coega Kammas Kloof with a capacity to provide ~3MW, so as to provide for the energy requirements of the facility. The footprint of the PV plant is anticipated to be ~7 ha with a 1 ha substation (battery and inverter room), thus a total of 8 ha.</p>
<p><i>"5. The development and related operation of facilities or infrastructure for the concentration of—</i></p> <p><i>(ii) more than 5 000 poultry per facility situated outside an urban area, excluding chicks younger than 20 days;</i></p> <p><i>(iv) more than 25 000 chicks younger than 20 days per facility situated outside an urban area."</i></p>	<p>It is proposed that each of the 24 broiler houses will accommodate 45 000 to 48 000 day-old chicks (totaling 1 080 000 – 1 152 000 for the entire facility).</p> <p>The birds will be reared from one day old to 42 days. It is anticipated that more than 5000 poultry older than 20 days and 25 000 chicks younger than 20 days will be concentrated within the 24-house facility during the 42-day cycle.</p> <p>The area proposed for development falls outside of an urban area. This listed activity requires Environmental Authorisation.</p>
<p><i>"8. The development and related operation of hatcheries or agri-industrial facilities outside industrial complexes where the development footprint covers an area of 2 000 square metres or more."</i></p>	<p>The combined development footprint of the broiler facility, including all associated infrastructure (proposed new dam and PV plant), is proposed to be approximately 91 hectares (910 000 square metres) and falls outside of an industrial complex.</p> <p>The broiler facility could be considered an agri-industrial facility in terms of the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended) and would require Special Consent Zoning in terms of Municipal Regulations. This listed activity requires Environmental Authorisation.</p>
<p><i>"9. The development of infrastructure exceeding 1 000 metres in length for the bulk transportation of water or storm water—</i></p> <p><i>(i) with an internal diameter of 0,36 metres or more; or</i></p> <p><i>(ii) with a peak throughput of 120 litres per second or more;"</i></p>	<p>Water supply to the development is proposed to be sourced from an existing dam (94 698m³) on a nearby farm operated by the applicant via a new water pipeline with an estimated internal diameter of ø450mm, to be installed over a length of approximately 11.8km's (11 800 metres). In addition, internal domestic water reticulation and pipes to convey stormwater will be required to be installed within the facility. The length, internal diameter and throughput capacity of all of these pipelines will be determined by the project's civil engineer. This listed activity requires Environmental Authorisation.</p>
<p><i>"10. The development and related operation of infrastructure exceeding 1 000 metres in length</i></p>	<p>Pipes of varying diameters and lengths will be required to be installed to convey water to the 24 broiler houses and for domestic effluent management. The length, internal diameter and throughput capacity of all of these pipelines will be</p>

<p>for the bulk transportation of sewage, effluent, process water...—</p> <p>(i) with an internal diameter of 0,36 metres or more; or</p> <p>(ii) with a peak throughput of 120 litres per second or more;”</p>	<p>determined by the project’s civil engineer. The applicability of this listed activity will be determined through the assessment process.</p>
<p>“11. The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity—</p> <p>(i) outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33 but less than 275 kilovolts; or”</p>	<p>The details of the electricity transmission and distribution infrastructure that will be required to be constructed to provide electricity for the proposed broiler facility, which falls outside of an urban area, are still to be determined. The applicability of this listed activity will be determined through the assessment process.</p>
<p>“13. The development of facilities or infrastructure for the off-stream storage of water, including dams and reservoirs, with a combined capacity of 50 000 cubic metres or more, unless such storage falls within the ambit of activity 16 in Listing Notice 2 of 2014.”</p>	<p>In order to provide the necessary water to the proposed poultry broiler facility, a new water storage dam, with a capacity of ~65 000 m³, is proposed to be constructed on Farm 191. The location and dimensions of the dam are to be confirmed. The applicability of this listed activity will be determined through the assessment process.</p>
<p>“17. Development—</p> <p>(ii) in an estuary;</p> <p>(v) if no development setback exists, within a distance of 100 metres inland of the high-water mark of the sea or an estuary, whichever is the greater;</p> <p>in respect of—</p> <p>(e) infrastructure or structures with a development footprint of 50 square metres or more—”</p>	<p>Water to the proposed development will be supplied via a pipeline with an estimated length of 11.8km, from an existing dam (~94 698m³ storage capacity) on the farm Middledrift, to Farm 191. The pipeline will have to be installed within the upper reaches of the Sundays River Estuary. The footprint of the pipeline and associated structures through the estuary and within 100 metres of the estuary, may exceed 50 square metres, but will be determined by the relevant specialists during the assessment process. The applicability of this listed activity will be determined through the assessment process.</p>
<p>“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;”</p>	<p>A number of drainage lines have been identified on the site. It is possible that some of the associated infrastructure, for example, roads or pipelines may have to be installed across some of these drainage features (watercourses), thus requiring the deposition, excavation or removal of material of more than 10 cubic metres. The applicability of this listed activity will be determined through the assessment process.</p>
<p>“19A. The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 5 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock of more than 5 cubic metres from –</p> <p>(ii) the littoral active zone, an estuary or a distance of 100 metres inland of the highwater mark of the sea or an estuary, whichever distance is the greatest; or”</p>	<p>Water to the proposed development will be supplied via a pipeline with an estimated length of 11.8km, from an existing dam (~94 698m³ storage capacity) on the farm Middledrift, to Farm 191. The pipeline will have to be installed within the upper reaches of the Sundays River Estuary. The amount of material that may have to be deposited, excavated or removed within the estuary or within 100 metres of the estuary may exceed 5 cubic metres, but will be determined by the relevant specialists during the assessment process. The applicability of this listed activity will be determined through the assessment process.</p>
<p>“24. The development of a road—</p> <p>(ii) with a reserve wider than 13,5 meters, or where no reserve exists where the road is wider than 8 metres;</p> <p>but excluding a road—</p> <p>(c) which is 1 kilometre or shorter.”</p>	<p>The proposed western cluster of the broiler facility will require a new access point and a new access road, while both the eastern and western clusters will require internal roads which are anticipated to range between 4 and 8 meters in width. However, at certain points, these roads will be required to extend up to 50 meters in width to accommodate the turning circle of trucks. In addition, the proposed development will require the development of a new servitude road, expected to be 8 meters wide, to ensure access for an adjacent landowner across Farm 191. The combined length of the roads proposed to be constructed on Farm 191 will probably exceed 1 kilometre. The above proposed access points and roads requires confirmation by the Traffic Specialist and the project’s civil engineer. This listed activity requires Environmental Authorisation.</p>
<p>“28. Residential, mixed, retail, commercial, industrial or institutional developments where such land was used for agriculture, game farming,</p>	<p>Farm 191 is currently utilized for game farming and falls outside of an urban area. The proposed development of a poultry broiler facility can be considered as “agri-industrial” and the combined footprint proposed for development is approximately ~91ha.</p>

<p>equestrian purposes or afforestation on or after 01 April 1998 and where such development:</p> <p>(ii) will occur outside an urban area, where the total land to be developed is bigger than 1 hectare;</p>	<p>This listed activity requires Environmental Authorisation.</p>
<p>GN R325 (Listing Notice 2)</p>	
<p>"15. The clearance of an area of 20 hectares or more of indigenous vegetation,..."</p>	<p>The project proposes the construction and operation of 24 broiler houses, including associated infrastructure, which will require the clearance of approximately 91 hectares of vegetation, most of which is anticipated to be indigenous. This listed activity requires environmental authorisation.</p>
<p>GN R324 (Listing Notice 3)</p>	
<p>"2. The development of reservoirs, excluding dams, with a capacity of more than 250 cubic metres.</p> <p>a. Eastern Cape</p> <p>ii. Outside urban areas, in:</p> <p>(ff) Areas within 10 kilometres from national parks or world heritage sites or 5 kilometres from any other protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA or from the core area of a biosphere reserve;</p>	<p>Water to the proposed development will be supplied via a pipeline from an existing dam (~94 698m³ storage capacity) on the farm Middledrift, to a new proposed dam (~65 000m³ storage capacity) on Farm 191. The water will be required to be treated prior to use in the poultry facilities and for domestic consumption and will therefore also temporarily be stored in four water storage reservoirs on Farm 191. The combined storage capacity of these reservoirs is anticipated to exceed 250 cubic metres.</p> <p>Farm 191 is in the Eastern Cape, falls outside of an urban area and within 8.5 kilometers of the nearest boundary of the Addo Elephant National Park. The farm has been incorrectly mapped as a Protected Area in terms of the NMBM Bioregional Plan. It has been confirmed that the site is not a formal Protected Area or an informal Conservation Area. The applicability of this listed activity will be determined through the assessment process.</p>
<p>"4. The development of a road wider than 4 metres with a reserve less than 13,5 metres.</p> <p>a. Eastern Cape</p> <p>i. Outside urban areas:</p> <p>(gg) Areas within 10 kilometres from national parks or world heritage sites or 5 kilometres from any other protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA or from the core areas of a biosphere reserve, excluding disturbed areas;</p>	<p>The proposed western cluster of the broiler facility will require a new access point and a new access road, while both the eastern and western clusters will require internal roads which are anticipated to range between 4 and 8 meters in width. However, at certain points, these roads will be required to extend up to 50 meters in width to accommodate the turning circle of trucks. In addition, the proposed development will require the development of a new servitude road, expected to be 8 meters wide, to ensure access for an adjacent landowner across Farm 191.</p> <p>Farm 191 is in the Eastern Cape, falls outside of an urban area and within 8.5 kilometers of the nearest boundary of the Addo Elephant National Park. The farm has been incorrectly mapped as a Protected Area in terms of the NMBM Bioregional Plan. It has been confirmed that the site is not a formal Protected Area or an informal Conservation Area. The applicability of this listed activity will be determined through the assessment process.</p>
<p>"12. The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation...</p> <p>a. Eastern Cape</p> <p>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>ii. Within critical biodiversity areas identified in bioregional plans;</p> <p>iv. Outside urban areas, within 100 metres inland from an estuarine functional zone; or...</p>	<p>Water to the proposed development will be supplied via a pipeline with an estimated length of 11.8km, from an existing dam (~94 698m³ storage capacity) on the farm Middledrift, to Farm 191. The pipeline will have to be installed within the estuarine functional zone of the Sundays River Estuary and within 100 metres thereof. In addition, it is possible that the vegetation that will be removed to accommodate the installation of the pipeline in the vicinity of the Sundays River Estuary may be Albany Alluvial Vegetation which is listed as an Endangered ecosystem in terms of section 52 of NEMBA. A portion of the pipeline is also proposed to be installed in an area, on an adjacent farm, which has been identified as a Critical Biodiversity (CBA) in the NMBM Bioregional Plan, The extent of indigenous vegetation to be cleared in this regard will be determined by the aquatic and vegetation specialists.</p> <p>The farm has been incorrectly mapped as a Protected Area (PA1) in terms of the NMBM Bioregional Plan. It has been confirmed that the site is not a formal Protected Area. The applicability of this listed activity will be determined through the assessment process.</p>

<p>“14. The development of—</p> <p>(ii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 10 square metres or more;</p> <p>where such development occurs—</p> <p>(a) within a watercourse;</p> <p>(c) if no development setback has been adopted, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse;</p> <p>a. Eastern Cape</p> <p>i. Outside urban areas:</p> <p>(ff) Critical biodiversity areas or ecosystem service areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans;</p> <p>(hh) Areas within 10 kilometres from national parks or world heritage sites or 5 kilometres from any other protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA or from the core area of a biosphere reserve;</p> <p>(jj) In an estuarine functional zone, excluding areas falling behind the development setback line; or</p>	<p>A number of drainage lines have been identified on the site. It is possible that some of the associated infrastructure, for example, roads or pipelines may have to be installed across some of these drainage features (watercourses) or within 32 metres thereof.</p> <p>Water to the proposed development will be supplied via a pipeline with an estimated length of 11.8km, from an existing dam (~94 698m³ storage capacity) on the farm Middledrift, to Farm 191. The pipeline will have to be installed within the estuarine functional zone of the Sundays River Estuary.</p> <p>The disturbance footprint is likely to exceed 10 square metres within a watercourse or within 32 metres thereof.</p> <p>The area under assessment is in the Eastern Cape, falls outside of an urban area and within 6.5 kilometers (pipeline crossing of the Sundays River) of the nearest boundary of the Addo Elephant National Park. The portion of the Sundays River, proposed for installation of the pipeline, has been identified as an Aquatic Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA 1) in terms of the ECBCP 2019 and a CBA in terms of the NMBM Bioregional Plan. The farm has been incorrectly mapped as a Protected Area in terms of the NMBM Bioregional Plan. It has been confirmed that the site is not a formal Protected Area or an informal Conservation Area. The applicability of this listed activity will be determined through the assessment process.</p>
<p>“18. The widening of a road by more than 4 metres, or the lengthening of a road by more than 1 kilometre.</p> <p>a. Eastern Cape</p> <p>i. Outside urban areas:</p> <p>(gg) Areas within 10 kilometres from national parks or world heritage sites or 5 kilometres from any other protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA or from the core area of a biosphere reserve;</p> <p>(ii) Areas on the watercourse side of the development setback line or within 100 metres from the edge of a watercourse where no such setback line has been determined;</p> <p>(kk) A watercourse; or”</p>	<p>The existing main access road to the farm, located off the R335, may need to be widened by more than 4 meters. This requires confirmation by the Traffic Specialist.</p> <p>A number of drainage lines have been identified on the site. It is possible that the road which will be required to be widened may cross a drainage line (watercourse) or fall within 100 metres thereof.</p> <p>Farm 191 is in the Eastern Cape, falls outside of an urban area and within 8.5 kilometers of the nearest boundary of the Addo Elephant National Park. The farm has been incorrectly mapped as a Protected Area in terms of the NMBM Bioregional Plan. It has been confirmed that the site is not a formal Protected Area or an informal Conservation Area. The applicability of this listed activity will be determined through the assessment process.</p>

The applicability of all the listed activities indicated above will be determined through the assessment process. The listed activities require Environmental Authorisation from the DEDEAT, prior to the commencement of any activities on the site.

In addition, application may have to be made for a Water Use Licence in terms of Section 21 water uses as stipulated in the Water Use Licence Application and Appeals Regulations, 2017 published in GN R267.

The Scoping and EIA Process needs to show the competent authority, the DEDEAT, and the project proponent, what the consequences of their choices will be in biophysical, social and economic terms. Public involvement forms an important component of this process, by assisting in the identification of issues and alternatives to be evaluated. The Scoping and EIA Process being implemented can be divided into four phases namely:

- **Pre-Application Scoping Phase**
 - Project Announcement and Registration of I&APs (30 days)
 - Draft Consultation Scoping Report Review (30 days)
- **Application and Scoping Phase**
 - Submission of Application Form for Environmental Authorisation to the DEDEAT
 - Consultation Scoping Report Review (30 days)
 - Submission of Final Scoping Report to the DEDEAT
- **Environmental Impact Assessment Phase (EIA Phase)**
 - Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report Review (30 days)
 - Submission of Final Environmental Impact Assessment Report to the DEDEAT
- **Decision Making and Appeal Period**
 - Notice to I&APs of decision and appeal period

To meet the timeframes as prescribed in the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), specialist studies to be included as part of this assessment process will commence in parallel to the Scoping Process. The following specialist studies are proposed to be undertaken for this assessment:

- Terrestrial Biodiversity Specialist Assessment
- Aquatic Biodiversity Specialist Assessment
- Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment
- Phase 1 Palaeontological Impact Assessment
- Traffic Impact Assessment
- Visual Impact Assessment
- Roads and Wet Services Report

PHASE 1: PRE-APPLICATION SCOPING PHASE (*CURRENT STAGE*)

- **Project Announcement and Registration of I&APs**

The first stage in the process entails notification to the DEDEAT, as well as interested and affected parties (I&APs) of the intention to proceed with the Scoping and EIA Process. Identified I&APs are provided with a Background Information Document (BID) on the project, a locality map and a comment form. An advertisement will be placed in a local newspaper and a site notice board will be erected at the site. I&APs are required to register their interest in the project to receive further project information. I&APs will be provided with a **30-day** period in which to register their interest on the project database and raise any issues for inclusion in the Draft Consultation Scoping Report (Draft CSR).

- **Draft Consultation Scoping Report Review**

A Draft CSR, including a Comments and Responses Trail, indicating the issues and concerns raised by I&APs during the **30-day** project announcement period, will be compiled. This report will include the Plan of Study for EIA, outlining the specialist studies proposed to be undertaken for this assessment, as well as the methodology for the identification and rating of impacts. As per Appendix 2 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), the objectives of the Scoping Process are to:

- *“identify relevant policies and legislation relevant to the activity;*
- *motivate the need and desirability of the proposed activity in the context of the preferred location;*
- *identify and confirm the preferred activity, technology alternative and/ or site alternative; or if no alternatives, including location alternatives were investigated, the motivation for such;*
- *identify the key issues to be addressed in the assessment phase;*
- *confirm the level of assessment, methodology and expertise required as well as the extent of further consultation to be undertaken to determine the impacts and risks the activity will impose on the preferred site to inform the location of the development footprint within the preferred site; and*
- *identify suitable measures to avoid, manage or mitigate identified impacts and to determine the extent of the residual risks that need to be managed and monitored.”*

The Draft CSR will be released for a **30-day** comment period. All registered I&APs on the project database will be notified in writing of the opportunity to comment. In order to assist I&APs with their understanding of the project and to facilitate the identification of issues for inclusion in the Consultation Scoping Report (CSR), I&APs will be provided with an executive summary of the Draft CSR, as well as a comment form. Copies of the report will also be made available on the website www.publicprocess.co.za.

PHASE 2: APPLICATION AND SCOPING PHASE

- **Submission of Application Form**

An Application Form for Scoping and EIA will be compiled based on the relevant project information provided by the project proponent, as well as preliminary specialist input and will be submitted to the DEDEAT.

- **Consultation Scoping Report Review**

In parallel to the compilation and submission of the Application Form, the CSR will be compiled. This report will include a Comments and Responses Trail indicating the issues and concerns raised by I&APs during the 30-day project announcement period, as well as the 30-day review of the Draft CSR (Phase 1: Pre-application Scoping Phase). Subsequent to the submission of the Application Form to the competent authority, the CSR will be released for a minimum, **legislated 30-day** comment period. All registered I&APs on the project database will be notified in writing of the opportunity to comment. In order to assist I&APs with their understanding of the project and to facilitate the identification of issues for inclusion in the Final Scoping Report (FSR), I&APs will be provided with an executive summary of the CSR, as well as a comment form. Copies of the report will also be made available on the website www.publicprocess.co.za.

- **Final Scoping Report Submission**

The FSR, together with the Plan of Study for EIA, will be prepared for submission to the DEDEAT for their decision-making, within 44 days of submission of the Application Form. The comments received from I&APs, the competent authority and other affected/ Juristic Organs of State and State Departments, during the review processes, will be included in the **FSR** before it is submitted to the DEDEAT for their consideration. All I&APs on the project database will be notified in writing of the submission of the FSR to the competent authority. The FSR will include the Plan of Study for EIA and Terms of Reference for specialist studies to be undertaken as part of the EIA process. No I&AP review period is proposed for the FSR.

PHASE 3: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PHASE

Once DEDEAT accepts the FSR, with or without conditions, and upon receipt of the approval thereof, the EIA Phase may proceed or continue with the tasks contemplated in the Plan of Study for EIA. The purpose of this stage of the EIA is to undertake specialist investigations to address the issues identified through the Scoping Process which may be of significance

to the consideration of the application. The specialists will build on the information that was gathered for Phase 1 but will focus their studies on the area under assessment. The specialist studies will include the assessment of alternatives, identification of impacts and the determination of the significance of impacts. Specialists will, where appropriate, formulate mitigatory measures to maximise positive benefits or avoid/ minimise potential negative impacts.

- **Draft EIA Report and Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) Review**

The Draft EIA Report and Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) will be prepared and released for a **30-day** review period and will include, amongst others, the following:

- Address issues that have been raised through the Scoping Process;
- Assess alternatives in relation to the proposed activity, including different means of meeting the general purpose and requirements of the activity, including No Go Option;
- Assess potential impacts; and
- Recommend management actions to enhance positive benefits or avoid/ minimise negative impacts.

All registered I&APs will be notified in writing of the **30-day** comment period. All comments received from I&APs and authorities via meetings held or written correspondence during this period will be compiled into a Comments and Responses Trail for inclusion in the Final EIA Report. The Comments and Responses Trail will indicate the nature of the comment, when and who raised the comment, as well as indicate how the comment received has been considered in the Final EIA Report, in the project design or the EMPr for the project.

- **Final EIA Report and EMPr Submission**

The Final EIA Report, including the Comments and Responses Trail and EMPr will be compiled for submission to the competent authority for their consideration. The applicant must within **106 days** of acceptance of the Scoping Report submit to the competent authority an Environmental Impact Report, inclusive of specialist studies and an EMPr which has been subjected to a **30-day** Public Participation Process. All I&APs on the project database will be notified in writing of the submission of the Final EIA Report.

PHASE 4: DECISION MAKING AND APPEAL PERIOD

All I&APs on the project database will be notified in writing once the competent authority has reached a decision on the application. The applicant must, within 14 days of the date of the decision, notify all registered I&APs of the decision and provide them with access to the decision and reasons for the decision, as well as indicate the manner of appeal.

WHAT IS YOUR ROLE AS AN I&AP?

1. I&APs are required to respond to the letters of notification and/ or newspaper advertisements and register their interest on the project database.
 - By emailing, faxing or mailing a comment form to the Environmental Impact Assessment Practitioner (EAP) indicated below.
 - By registering your interest in the project, you will be kept informed throughout the Scoping and EIA Process and will be notified of any opportunities to comment.
2. I&APs are required to state their area of interest and/ or concern in the matter.
 - By emailing, faxing or mailing a comment form to the EAP indicated below.
 - By telephonically contacting the EAP if you have a query, comment, or require further project information.
 - By reviewing the Draft Reports and submitting any comments/ issues within the specified comment periods.

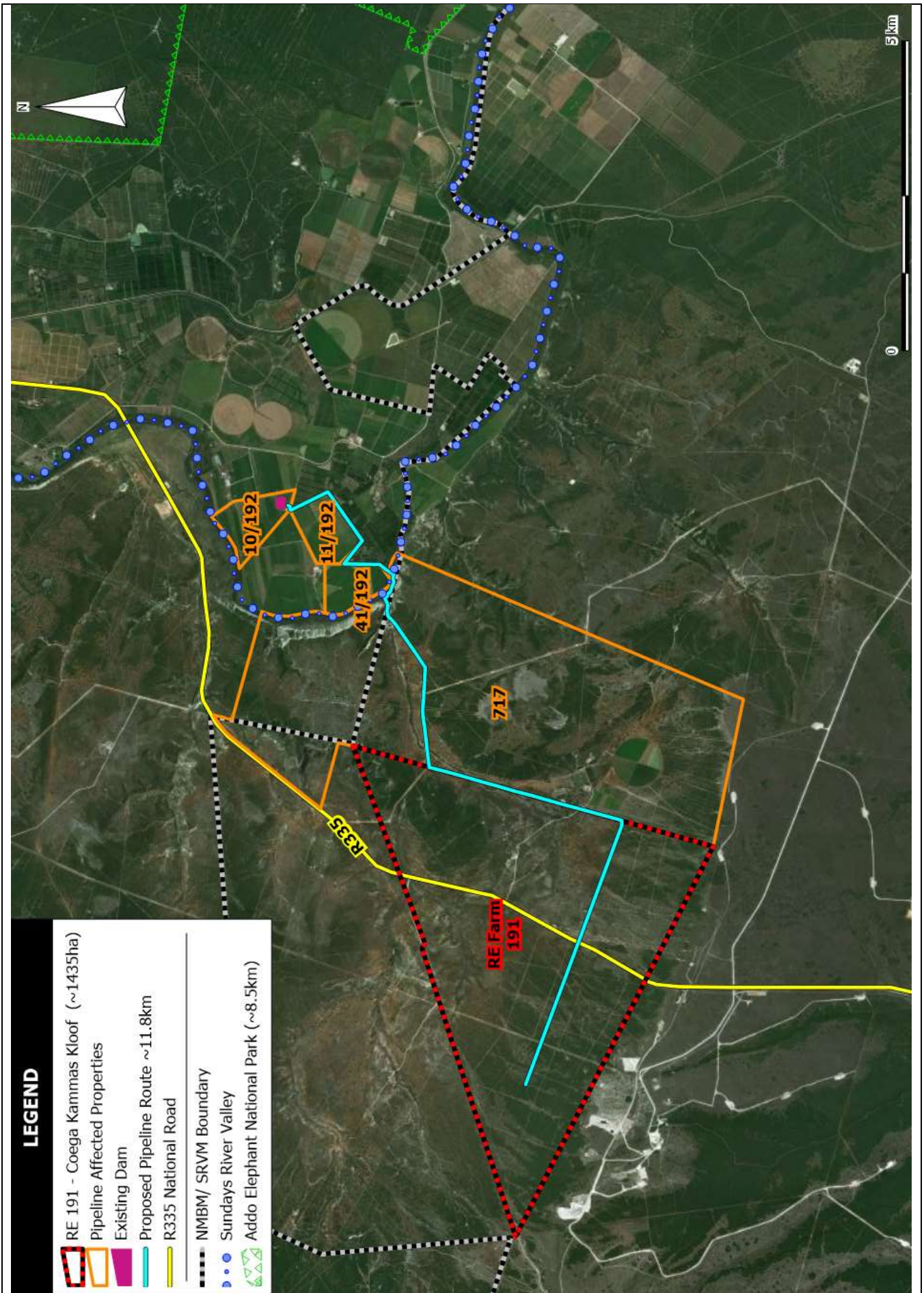
WHO SHOULD YOU CONTACT?

Sandy Wren, Public Process Consultants

PO Box 27688, Greenacres, 6057.

Phone 041-374 8426; Fax 041-373 2002 Email sandy@publicprocess.co.za

Information on the project can be downloaded from the following website: www.publicprocess.co.za



Locality of the Remainder of Farm 191 and proposed new water pipeline route, as well as the properties affected by the proposed new water pipeline route, in relation to major roads, municipal boundaries and towns, in the Sundays River Valley Municipality and Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality.