



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

KwaZulu Natal Regional Office
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ATTENTION: MS PHILLIPA HARRISON

Dear Madam

RE: BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT (BID) FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VICTORIA MOTHER AND CHILD CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE HOSPITAL, STEPDOWN FACILITY AND BOUTIQUE HOTEL ON ERF 9194, PIETERMARITZBURG.

Reference is made to the above-mentioned document sent to this Office via email on the 11th January 2016.

This Department would like the following to be addressed in Basic Assessment Report:

1. Wetland delineation report and its functional assessment as well as its proximity from the project area.
2. Working method statement and other possible alternatives.
3. Impact and mitigation measures of each alternative on the water resources.
4. Stormwater management including the prevention of erosion and sedimentation.
5. Sewage and wastewater management (i.e. treatment and disposal) including the type of toilet facilities to be provided for construction workers.
6. Spill contingency plan for the construction phase.
7. Erosion control measures.

8. Management and location of storage areas on site for materials such as fuels, cement, chemical, etc.
9. Geotechnical investigation.
10. Environmental Management Programme for the construction and operation phase of the project.
11. An operational Management Plan including aspects related to water and wastewater management for the facility.
12. In addition, the following points need to be taken into consideration:
 - Any activity occurring within 500m radius of a wetland boundary, as well as watercourse crossings, constitutes a Water Use in terms of Section 21 (c) & (i) of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) (NWA) and must be authorised as such prior to construction.
 - Should any activity be identified as a Section 21 (c) and (i) water uses, the Applicant must delineate the watercourse and riparian habitat using this Department's guideline; "A Practical Field Procedure for Identification and Delineation of Wetlands and Riparian Areas" (DWAF, 2005). The Applicant will require authorisation from this Department for any activity within the riparian habitat or 1:100 year floodline, whichever is the greatest distance from the watercourse.
 - The Applicant will need to contact Ms Zamashenge Hadebe on 031 336 2700/2767 to set up a Pre-Water Use Authorisation Application meeting to determine the type of authorisations required as well as the technical requirements and administrative process that need to be followed.
 - It is imperative to identify all water uses listed under Section 21 of the NWA that will be triggered by the proposed project in order to obtain the necessary authorisation prior to construction. These water uses are listed in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Water Uses requiring Authorisation

S21(a)	taking water from a water resource;
S21(b)	storing water;
S21(c)	impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse;
S21(d)	engaging in a stream flow reduction activity (currently only commercial afforestation);
S21(e)	engaging in a controlled activity – activities which impact detrimentally on a water resource (activities identified in s37(1) or declared as such under s38(1)) namely: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ irrigation of any land with waste or water containing waste which is generated through an industrial activity or a waterwork; ➤ an activity aimed at the modification of atmospheric precipitation; ➤ a power generation activity which alters the flow regime of a water resource; or ➤ intentional recharge of an aquifer with any waste or water containing waste
S21(f)	discharging waste or water containing waste into a water resource through a pipe, canal, sewer, sea outfall or other conduit;
S21(g)	disposing of waste or water containing waste in a manner which may detrimentally impact on a water resource;
S21(h)	disposing in any manner of water which contains waste from, or has been heated in,

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	any industrial or power generation process;
S21(i)	altering the bed, banks, course or characteristics of a watercourse;
S21(j)	removing, discharging or disposing of water found underground if it is necessary for the efficient continuation of an activity or for the safety of people; and
S21(k)	using water for recreational purposes

13. This Department awaits a copy of a Basic Assessment Report in order to provide detailed comments.

Please do not hesitate to contact this Office should you have any concerns, comments or queries.

Yours faithfully



for ACTING CEO: PONGOLA-UMZIMKULU PROTO CMA

NM/nm/14072

Date: 18/01/2016