



**REFERENCE:** 16/3/3/6/7/1/B5/2/1367/17  
**ENQUIRIES:** Mr. D. Matthews  
**DATE:** 2018 -11- 05

The Trustees and Board of Directors  
Harmony Trust & Morester Boerdery  
P. O. Box 20  
**KOUE BOKKEVELD**  
6836

**Attention: Mr H. Jurries and Mr D. van der Merwe**

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Dear Sir

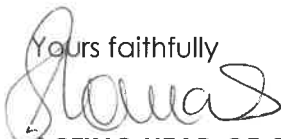
**COMMENT ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT ("SR") FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF THE HARMONY DAM ON THE REMAINDER OF FARM HOUDENBEK NO. 415, CERES**

1. The draft SR dated October 2018, as received by the Department on 1 October 2018, refers.
2. The proposal entails construction of an instream dam in an unnamed tributary of the Houdenbek River on the Remainder of Farm Houdenbek No. 415. The dam specifications are:
  - 2.1 Dam wall length: 280m
  - 2.2 Dam wall height: 12,8m
  - 2.3 Dam capacity: 250 000m<sup>3</sup>
  - 2.4 Dam surface area: 5,4ha
3. The Department has the following comments that must be addressed and included in the in-process SR:
  - 3.1 Since Activity 14 of Listing Notice ("LN") 3 is triggered, Activity 12 of LN 1 must be excluded from the list of applicable activities because of the exclusionary provision within the activity which reads, "(cc)activities listed in activity 14 in Listing Notice 2 of 2014 or activity 14 in Listing Notice 3 of 2014, in which case that activity applies;"
  - 3.2 It is unclear whether a pipeline will be constructed as part of the proposal. A description and layout plan, detailing and illustrating the proposed development and all associated infrastructure must be provided. Furthermore, the listed activities associated with the transportation of water must be included, if applicable.
  - 3.3 Limited information is included for Alternative B, which involves the expansion of an unused dam. As such, more information must be provided for the aforementioned alternative for a comparative assessment of the alternatives that were considered. Especially since the motivation for the preferred alternative includes having a smaller

footprint and lower evaporation rate, which is contradictory to the information of the Preliminary Design Report dated 26/02/2018 compiled by Sarel Bester Ingeneurs BK.

- 3.4 In addition to the above, it is unclear whether this Alternative B will be included for further assessment in the Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA") phase.
  - 3.5 The Plan of Study ("PoS") does not conform to the content requirements outlined in Appendix 2 of EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended). As such, the PoS must be amended to be in line with the content requirements contained in Appendix 2 of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended).
  - 3.6 It is recommended that a Maintenance Management Plan ("MMP") that addresses all maintenance activities for infrastructure to be constructed as part of the development must be included in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report ("EIAR"). The PoS for the EIA phase must be updated to include this aspect.
4. Regulatory requirements:
- 4.1 Proof of the notifications and the copies of the notifications letters sent to registered I&APs for the comment on the pre-application draft SR must be included.
  - 4.2 All representations and comments received during the pre-application commenting period must be included in the in-process draft SR and any responses by the EAP to those representations and comments must be tabulated in a comments and response report.
  - 4.3 The minutes of any meetings held by the EAP with I&APs and other role players which record the views of the participants.
  - 4.4 Please be advised that an original signed and dated applicant declaration is required to be submitted with the final SR to this Department for decision-making. It is important to note that by signing this declaration, the applicant is confirming that they are aware and have taken cognisance of the contents of the report submitted for decision-making. Furthermore, through signing this declaration, the applicant is making a commitment that they are both willing and able to implement the necessary mitigation, management and monitoring measures recommended within the report with respect to this application.
  - 4.5 In addition to the above, please ensure that original signed and dated EAP and specialist declarations are also submitted with the final SR for decision-making.
5. You are reminded that the SR must contain all the information outlined in Appendix 2 of Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA") Regulations 2014 (as amended).
6. Kindly quote the above-mentioned reference number in any future correspondence in respect of the application.
7. Please note that the activity may not commence prior to an environmental authorisation being granted by the Department.
8. The Department reserves the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on the information received.

Yours faithfully



**ACTING HEAD OF COMPONENT  
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT MANAGEMENT SERVICES: REGION 1  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING**

CC: (1) Ms I. Erasmus (EnviroAfrica CC)  
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