

# EnviroAfrica

## INVITATION TO APPEAL

Registered I&APs: June 2019

Environmental Planning and Impact Assessment Consultants  
Omgevingsbehoedende en Inasakevoerende Konsultante

I&AP List for: **Kaastroom WWTW** DEADP Ref:  
Advert Placed: **Friends of Prince Albert** Date:  
**8/02/2019**

No.	Title	Initials/Name	Surname	Affiliation	Postal Address	Town/City	Code	Telephone	Fax	E-mail
1.	Ms	Anneleen	Vorst	Acting Municipal Manager Prince Albert Municipality	Private Bag X53	Prince Albert	6930	066 229 7077		ashlev@panun.gov.za/ annleer@panun.gov.za
2.	Property Land Owners:			Prince Albert Municipality						
3.	Occuriers									
4.	Municipality									
4.1	Mr.	Anneleen	Vorst	Acting Municipal Manager Prince Albert Municipality						ashlev@panun.gov.za/ annleer@panun.gov.za
4.2	The Municipal Manager			Central Karoo District Municipality	Private Bag X560	Baerfort West	6970	023 449 1000	023 4151253	annleer@panun.gov.za
4.3	Ms	Anneleen	Vorst	Senior Operational Manager Prince Albert Municipality	Private Bag X53	Prince Albert	6930	066 229 7077		annleer@panun.gov.za
5.	Municipal Ward Councilor:									
5.1	Me	David	Congie	Ward Councilor Ward 2 (George Local Municipality)	21 Pastorie Street	Prince Albert	6930	0448019055		dcongr@george.gov.za
5.2	Ms	Linda	Jaquet	Ward Councilor Prince Albert Municipality				0792138797		lajuet@panun.gov.za
6.	Ratepayers's association									
6.1										
7.	State Organizations:									
7.1	Mr	R	Makahane	Breedde-Gouritz Catchment Management Area (GGCMA)	P.O. Box 1205	George	6530	0784674260	044 8732199	mmakahane@ggcma.co.za
7.2	Mr	Collin	Fordham	Cape Nature (George)	P/Bag X 6546	George	6530	044 - 802 5928	086 - 645 2546	cfordham@capenature.co.za
7.3	Ms	Waseeta	Dhansay	Heritage Western Cape	Private Bag X9067	Cape Town	8000	021 483 9543	021 483 9845	waseef.dhansay@westerncape.gov.za
7.4	Mr.	Cor	Van der Walt	Department of Agriculture - Landuse Management	Private Bag X1	Eberburg	7607	021 808 5099	021 808 5092	corvdlw@elzenburg.com
7.5	Mr	Hannes	Muller	Dept Agriculture Eden District						HannesM@elzenburg.com
7.6	Mr	Derrill	Daniels	Dept Water and Sanitation	Private Bag X16	Sanlamhof	7532	021 950 7267	086 585 6935	DanielsD@dwa.gov.za
7.7	Mr	Jacques	Kiel	Dpt Water Affairs and Forestry George	Lower York Street	George, Eastern Cape	6529	0448022700		krl@dwa.gov.za
7.8	Ms	Jessica	Christie	DEADP (George)	93 York Street, 4th Floor York Building	George	6530	044 805 8650	044 805 8631	jessica.christie@westerncape.gov.za
7.9	Mr	Lance	Mc Bain-Charles	DEADP Waste Management	Private Bag X9086	Cape Town	8000	021 483 8378		lance.mcbain@westerncape.gov.za
7.10	Ms	Nicole	Garcia	DEADP Pollution & Chemicals Management	Private Bag X9087	Cape Town	8001	021 483 2760		Nicole.Garcia@westerncape.gov.za
7.11	Mr	Evan	Burger	PWWG: Department Transport & Public Works	P.O. Box 2603	Cape Town	8000	021 483 2180	021 483 2166	Evan.Burger@westerncape.gov.za
8.	Neighbours									
8.1	Mr	Jurie	Kiue	RE Kaastroom 178	P.O. Box 1	Kaastroom		0799879867		avondrus@awireless.co.za
8.2	Ms	Colene	Runkel	SANRAL Statuere beheer (Thornlands 71/159 N2)	Private Bag X19	Bellville	7535	021 957 4600		runkel@ira.co.za
8.3	Ms	Nicole	Abrahams	SANRAL EIAS (Thornlands 71/159 N2)				021 957 4600		abrahams@ira.co.za
8.4	Ms	Rene	de Kock	SANRAL				22 957 4600		delkock@ira.co.za
8.5				Frans G Steenkamp Trust	RE 29 Kaastroom 178					ostrich.products@gmail.com
8.6										
8.7										
9.	Other									
9.1										

Somerset West

29 -11- 2019

Folio 9  
7129

29 November 2019

Dear Interested and Affected Party,

NOTICE OF DECISION: APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998 (ACT 107 OF 1998) AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT ("EIA") REGULATIONS, 2014: Proposed Upgrade of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014: Proposed Upgrade of the Klaarstroom Oxidation Pond Waste Water Treatment System, Prince Albert Local Municipality.

You have been registered as an interested and affected party (I&AP) for the above-mentioned project.

EnviroAfrica, on behalf of Prince Albert Local Municipality, would like to inform you of a positive Environmental Authorisation (EA) that has been issued by the Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP) on the 25<sup>th</sup> November 2019 for the proposed Upgrade of the Klaarstroom Oxidation Pond Waste Water Treatment System, Prince Albert Local Municipality.

Outcome: ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION GRANTED  
Date of Decision: 2019-11-25  
Date of Issue: 2019-11-25  
EIA Ref. No.: 16/3/3/C2/3/0008/19

Please find a copy of the reasons for the DEA&DP's decision (Annexure 3 to the EA), attached. The full EA will also be available on EnviroAfrica's website at [www.enviroafrica.co.za](http://www.enviroafrica.co.za) (under Projects/Completed/Klaarstroom).

As a registered I&AP, you have the right to appeal the above decision. Appeals must be submitted within 20 days from the date of this notification, according to the procedure summarised in the attached 'Appeals Procedure' document.

If you need any additional information, please call Inge 021-851 1616.

Kind regards



Inge Erasmus  
EnviroAfrica cc



## APPEALS

Appeals must comply with the provisions contained in the National Appeal Regulations 2014 (as amended).

1. An appellant (if the holder of the decision) must, within 20 (twenty) calendar days from the date on which notification of the decision was sent to the holder by the Competent Authority –
  - 1.1. submit an appeal in accordance with Regulation 4 of the National Appeal Regulations 2014 (as amended) to the Appeal Administrator; and
  - 1.2. submit a copy of the appeal to any registered I&APs, any Organ of State with interest in the matter and the decision-maker i.e. the Competent Authority that issued the decision.
2. An appellant (if NOT the holder of the decision) must, within 20 (twenty) calendar days from the date on which the holder of the decision sent notification of the decision to the registered I&APs–
  - 2.1. submit an appeal in accordance with Regulation 4 of the National Appeal Regulations 2014 (as amended) to the Appeal Administrator; and
  - 2.2. submit a copy of the appeal to the holder of the decision, any registered I&AP, any Organs of State with interest in the matter and the decision-maker i.e. the Competent Authority that issued the decision.
3. The holder of the decision (if not the appellant), the decision-maker that issued the decision, the registered I&AP and the Organs of State must submit their responding statements, if any, to the appeal authority and the appellant within 20 (twenty) calendar days from the date of receipt of the appeal submission.
4. The appeal and the responding statement must be submitted to the address listed below:

By post:                   Western Cape Ministry of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and  
Development Planning  
Private Bag X9186  
CAPE TOWN  
8000

By facsimile:           (021) 483 4174; or

By hand:                 Attention: Mr Marius Venter (Tel: 021 483 2659)  
Room 809  
8<sup>th</sup> Floor Utilitas Building, 1 Dorp Street, Cape Town, 8001

**Note:** For purposes of electronic database management, you are also requested to submit electronic copies (Microsoft Word format) of the appeal, responding statement and any supporting documents to the Appeal Authority to the address listed above and/ or via e-mail to [DEADP.Appeals@westerncape.gov.za](mailto:DEADP.Appeals@westerncape.gov.za)

5. A prescribed appeal form as well as assistance regarding the appeal processes is obtainable from Appeal Authority at: Tel. (021) 483 2659, E-mail [DEADP.Appeals@westerncape.gov.za](mailto:DEADP.Appeals@westerncape.gov.za) or URL <http://www.westerncape.gov.za/eadp>.

## ANNEXURE 3: REASONS FOR THE DECISION

In reaching its decision, the Competent Authority considered, inter alia, the following:

- a) The information contained in the Application Form received on 5 June 2019, the Basic Assessment Report (FBAR) and EMPr submitted together with the FBAR on 9 October 2019;
- b) Relevant information contained in the Departmental information base, including the Guidelines on Public Participation, Alternatives (dated March 2013);
- c) The objectives and requirements of relevant legislation, policies and guidelines, including section 2 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and section 63 of National Environmental Management: Integrated Coastal Management Act, 2008 (Act No. 24 of 2008);
- d) The comments received from I&APs and responses to these, included in the FBAR dated October 2019;
- e) The balancing of negative and positive impacts and proposed mitigation measures; and
- f) Appropriate information was made available in the report to understand the environmental and spatial context and the case officer is familiar with the area.

A site inspection was conducted by Ms Jessica Christie and Mr Francois Naudé from the Directorate Development Management (Region 3) on 1 October 2019.

All information presented to the Competent Authority was taken into account in the consideration of the application for Environmental Authorisation. A summary of the issues that were considered to be the most significant for the decision is set out below.

### 1. Public Participation

The public participation process included:

- identification of and engagement with interested and affected parties (I&APs) including organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the activity to which the application relates;
- fixing a notice board at the site and at the site in March 2019;
- giving written notice to the owners and occupiers of land adjacent to the site and any alternative site where the listed activities are to be undertaken, the municipality and ward councillor, and the various organs of state having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the listed activities on 5 June 2019;
- the placing of a newspaper advertisement in the 'Prince Albert Vriend' in March 2019; and
- making the draft Basic Assessment Report available to I&APs for public review from 5 June 2019 to 8 July 2019. Also, making the revised Basic Assessment Report available for public review from 8 August 2019 to 8 September 2019.

The following Organs of State provided comment on the proposal:

- ❖ WCG DEA&DP: Pollution and Chemicals Management
- ❖ WCG: DEA&DP: Waste Management
- ❖ Breede Gouritz Catchment Management Agency
- ❖ CapeNature
- ❖ Heritage Western Cape
- ❖ SANRAL
  
- ❖ General Public / Interested & Affected Parties (I&APs) included:
  - Prince Albert Municipality Ward Councillor – Linda Jaquet
  - Neighbouring Property Owner – J Klue

All the comments and issues raised by the respective *Organs of State* that were captured in the Basic Assessment Report were responded to by the EAP. The Directorate: Development Management (Region 3) is satisfied with the responses provided by the EAP to these other organs of state.

## 2. Alternatives

### Preferred Alternative (Herewith Approved):

The proposed upgrade of the Klaarstroom Waste Water Treatment Works will result in the removal, excavation and infilling of soil within drainage lines at the existing waste water treatment works of more than 10 cubic metres. The proposal also includes the expansion of the facultative pond where the footprint of the structures and infrastructure will be increase by more than 100 square metres.

The proposal also includes the alteration of the facility to include a temporary drying bed in the area initially dedicated to the proposed disposal of the sludge grit & screenings. It is proposed that the temporary drying bed have a footprint of  $\pm 250\text{m}^2$  with a berm of  $\pm 200\text{mm}$  to  $\pm 500\text{mm}$  high and an impermeable liner; and the construction of a pipeline from the works to a new proposed galvanised dam on RE/34/178, at the sports field where the treated effluent will be used as irrigation. The preferred alternative for the pipeline is Alternative C.

### Alternatives considered:

The application is for the upgrade and expansion of an existing facility. No site alternatives were investigated as the project aims to upgrade and expand the existing Klaarstroom WWTW. The location of the WWTW and its proposed extensions are favoured as the natural slope assists in allowing gravity flow through the system and also reduces the volume of earth works required for construction.

In light of the above, design alternatives were investigated and assessed:

- ❖ Inclusion of a temporary sludge drying bed:  
An area was selected for the establishment of a temporary drying bed. This area is considered to be completely transformed. The existing inlet works and septic tanks are currently situated on this area. The drying bed will have a footprint of  $250\text{m}^2$  with a 200mm to 500 mm high berm.
- ❖ Collect and dispose sludge at alternative WWTW:  
Another alternative that was considered was to tanker the untested sludge to a larger Waste Water Treatment Works (WWTW) such as Prince Albert WWTW. However, this will only be allowed should the facility conform to acceptable method of sludge disposal as per Volume 1-5 of the "Guidelines for the utilization and disposal of wastewater sludge", Water Research Commission, TT 261/07, 2006. It is unlikely that a WWTW facility will accept untested sludge. For this reason, this alternative was not considered a viable alternative and not investigated any further.
- ❖ Disposal of sludge on site:  
The original and only alternative investigated initially was to bury untested sludge on site in a dedicated area. This alternative is however not favoured by DEA&DP: Directorate Waste Management and Directorate Pollution and Chemicals Management without the obtainment of a waste license. As a precautionary principle, the untested sludge is considered hazardous waste. According the NEM:WA the burying of any quantity of hazardous waste to land will require a waste licence which will be a timeous and expensive process. Therefore, this was not considered a viable alternative.

It is considered to be beneficial to use the treated, final effluent for irrigation of the sports field in Klaarstroom village, hereby not using drinking water and reducing water demand in a drought stricken town. Therefore, no other activity alternatives for the use of the treated effluent was considered.

Irrigation of the sports field with the final treated effluent, will be made possible by using a gravity system as the wastewater treatment plant is located at a higher elevation than the sports field. It is proposed to construct a 160mm ø uPVC pipeline of ±500m in length from the effluent storage point which will terminate in a new galvanized dam at the sports field. A small pump station (2m<sup>2</sup>) will be provided at the dam to provide a flow of 4.5l/s at a head of 3.5bar feeding a crawling irrigator which will be used to irrigate the sports field. A chip doser for the dosing of a calcium hypochlorite solution into the circular dam will be provided to disinfect the final effluent prior to irrigation to avoid any pathogens from remaining in the irrigation water.

#### "No-Go" Alternative

This means that the current situation will remain where the final effluent from the current oxidation pond is used to irrigate the veld north of the ponds. The current effluent is not considered up to standard for irrigation. This effluent eventually finding its way into the Sand river. The No-go option with regards to the irrigation of treated effluent is therefore not preferred.

### **3. Impact Assessment and Mitigation Measures**

#### **3.1 Activity need and desirability**

The Provincial Spatial Development Framework ('PSDF') for the Western Cape March 2014 widely addresses the adoption of the reuse of wastewater effluent as standard practices. The proposed upgrade of the Klarstroom WWTP will allow for the use of the treated effluent to be used for irrigation purposed at the Klarstroom Primary School Sports field.

The proposed upgrade of the Klarstroom WWTP will not compromise the integrity of the existing IDP of Prince Albert, but will contribute to reaching goals as set out in the plan. The Prince Albert IDP 2012-2017 has emphasised that all WWTW need to be operating at functional and acceptable levels. The IDP states that the Klarstroom WWTW will be upgraded as the funding application has been approved.

The Western Cape Integrated Waste Management Plan 2017–2020 addresses wastewater treatment works and sewage sludge disposal. In this regard, with the correct mitigation and management practices in place, the upgraded Klarstroom WWTP can contribute to the successful disposal of sewage sludge.

In addition to complying with regulatory requirements, the proposed upgrade is aimed at improving the efficiency of the WWTW and reducing the biophysical impacts of such a facility on the environment.

#### **3.2 Biophysical Impacts**

The Botanical Impact Report stated that Klarstroom is located in the valley bottom at the foot of the Swartberg Mountains where the Meiringspoort gorge opens up into the Great Karoo. The WWTW upgrade and pipeline will be located on an almost level area within this open valley. The slight slopes vary slightly from northeast to southwest, from the WWTW. The seasonal Sand River, passes to the northwest of the WWTW and drains into the Groot River, which passes behind (to the west) of Klarstroom. It was clear that this does not have any significant influence on the vegetation encountered.

The upgrade of the WWTW facility will include a marginal setback from the watercourse as well as design measures to reduce the risk of contamination and to prevent storm water from entering the facility.

#### **3.3 Biodiversity**

The vegetation that will be impacted by the proposed WWTW upgrade and pipeline is very small. If it is taken into account that the area where the existing WWTW is, is completely transformed, the additional footprint will approximately be 5000 m<sup>2</sup>, while the pipeline will have a localised yet insignificant impact of veld of which most is located in already disturbed or transformed veld portions. The improved treatment of waste water and re-use of the treated effluent on the existing sports field is regarded as a

positive measure toward reducing the impacts of releasing treated effluent directly into a watercourse, as such no primary aquifers were identified in the area where the treated effluent will be irrigated.

### 3.4 Heritage / Archaeological Aspects

According to the CTS Heritage Screener the WWTW is situated on the outskirts of a small Karoo town, and alongside a river, it is likely that Early, Middle and Later Stone Age artefacts are present within the WWTW site. In addition, some of the area has been surveyed for rock art and a number of rock art sites have been identified within 20km of the proposed development area. However, as this site is already developed, and as this site is located far from any rocky outcrops, it is unlikely that any significant archaeological resources or rock art sites will be impacted by the proposed development.

The evaluation fulfils the requirements of the relevant heritage resources authority (Heritage Western Cape) and the comments and recommendations of Heritage Western Cape have been taken into consideration in deciding this application.

### 3.5 Other Impacts

No significant cultural, noise and visual impacts have been identified.

## 4. Scope and Validity of the Environmental Authorisation

This environmental authorisation does not define specific operational aspects. In light of the proposed implementation programme, the monitoring and post-construction rehabilitation can be adequately incorporated in the construction phase. A period of 12-months is specified for the final monitoring and post-construction rehabilitation to be completed after the construction phase is finalised. The environmental authorisation's validity period has been granted for a period of 2-years, during which period the expansion activities must commence and be concluded within a period of 12-months. The Holder is required to substantially implement the proposal within a period of 12-months after the environmental authorisation is issued.

## 5. National Environmental Management Act Principles

The National Environmental Management Principles (set out in section 2 of the NEMA, which apply to the actions of all organs of state, serve as guidelines by reference to which any organ of state must exercise any function when taking any decision, and which must guide the interpretation, administration and implementation of any other law concerned with the protection or management of the environment), *inter alia*, provides for:

- the effects of decisions on all aspects of the environment to be taken into account;
- the consideration, assessment and evaluation of the social, economic and environmental impacts of activities (disadvantages and benefits), and for decisions to be appropriate in the light of such consideration and assessment;
- the co-ordination and harmonisation of policies, legislation and actions relating to the environment;
- the resolving of actual or potential conflicts of interest between organs of state through conflict resolution procedures; and
- the selection of the best practicable environmental option.

## 6. Conclusion

In view of the above, the NEMA principles, compliance with the conditions stipulated in this Environmental Authorisation, and compliance with an approved EMP, the Competent Authority is satisfied that the proposed listed activities will not conflict with the general objectives of integrated environmental management stipulated in Chapter 5 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and that any potentially detrimental environmental impacts resulting from the listed activities can be mitigated to acceptable levels.

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**END**  
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