

PRE-APPLICATION MEETING FOR THE PROPOSED MTUNZINI SANITATION PROJECT

Date: 17 April 2019

Time: 10h00 -12h00

VENUE: ACER (AFRICA) ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS, 12 HELY HUTCHINSON ROAD, MTUNZINI

Present:

| Name | Designation |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Mr D. Keal (DK) | ACER – Project EAP |
| Mr G. Churchill (GC) | ACER – Senior EAP |
| Mr M.C Madela (MCM) | ECA Engineer |
| Mr M.E Mdamba (MM) | KZN EDTEA Impact Assessment Manager |
| Mr S. Nzuzza (SN) | KZN EDTEA Official |
| Ms S. Mlungwana (SM) | KZN EDTEA Official |
| Ms S.S Mabaso (SSM) | ACER Intern |
| Ms N. Mkhize (NM) | ACER Intern |

Welcome and Introduction

- GC welcomed everyone and thanked everyone for making the time to come through to Mtunzini for the meeting.
- GC requested everyone introduce themselves and state their designation.
- Everyone introduced themselves, stated their company/organisation and their designation.

Apologies

- Mr Churchill expressed apologies on behalf of the District Municipality and stated that MCM would be representing the District Municipality at the meeting.

Project Description

- DK and GC provided a description of the proposed project. The following details were provided:
 - The Municipality is looking to upgrade the existing Mtunzini sewage system by constructing a new WWTW, with six subsequent pumping stations and a waterborne reticulation system.
 - The objective of the project to connect the entire town to the formal sewer system.
 - The proposed location of the WWTW and pump station were identified by the engineers taking into account the topography of the land and future residential developments in Mtunzini.
 - Areas in town currently connected to the sewer system were identified and those portions of town currently using septic tanks were identified.
 - GC noted that there is currently a problem with overflow of septic tanks from houses in Mtunzini which ultimately reaches the uMlalazi Nature Reserve.

- GC noted that the current WWT does not have the capacity to handle the sewage discharge from Mtunzini which also leads to raw sewage entering the uMlalazi Nature Reserve.

Need and the desirability of the proposed development

- DK and GC noted that the current WWTW is under capacity and cannot cater for the entire town.
- The current WWTW will also not be able to cater for any further growth in the town.
- Currently overflow from septic tanks and the existing WWTW flows into the uMlalazi Nature Reserve and the uMlalazi River.
- MM asked for clarification as to whether new pipelines would be installed or if existing pipelines would be upgraded.
- GC noted that there would not be any upgrades to the existing pipelines and that there would be a significant amount of new pipelines (reticulation, rising mains and gravity feeds) installed.

Identified listed activities

- DK noted all of the Listed Activities which will be triggered as a result of the project:
 - Listing Notice 1 -Activity 15
 - Listing Notice 1- Activity 19
 - Listing Notice 1 – Activity 27
 - Listing Notice 3- Activity 12
 - Listing Notice 3 – Activity 14
- DK requested clarity regarding Listing Notice 1 – Activity 27 and whether the whole project can be considered linear.
- MM noted that the pump stations and WWTW would not be considered part of the linear development and therefore there is a possibility that Activity 27 will be triggered.
- DK asked whether the project is considered an expansion or upgrade?
- MM noted that as the current WWTW is not being expanded and is being decommissioned, the Listed Activities referring to 'expansion' are not triggered.
- MM queried why Listing Notice 1 Activity 25 was not considered.
- GC responded that the WWTW does not exceed 2000 cubic meters.
- SN queried if no activities in Listing Notice 2 would be triggered.
- DK, GC and MM confirmed that no activities would be triggered.
- MM queried if any decommissioning activities would be triggered. GC and DK confirmed that this would be investigated and included if necessary.

Identified Interested and affected

- DN noted that the following I&APs have been identified:
 - KZN Ezemvelo Wildlife,
 - AMAFA,
 - Mtunzini Community inclusive of Zini Estate,
 - DEDTEA,
 - Mtunzini Conservancy,
 - Riverland community,
 - DWS
 - Local and District Municipalities.

Speciality Studies to be taken

- ❑ DK noted that the DEA Screening Tool had been used and that the following specialist studies had been recommended:
 - Agricultural impact assessment
 - Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment
 - Palaeontology Impact Assessment
 - Terrestrial Biodiversity Impact Assessment
 - Aquatic Biodiversity Impact Assessment
 - Hydrology Assessment
 - Geotechnical Assessment
 - Health Impact Assessment
 - Socio- Economic Assessment
 - Ambient Air Quality Impact Assessment
- ❑ DK and GC stated that they do not think that all these studies are required and requested clarity of MM.
- ❑ MM noted that the exclusion from some of the studies can be motivated for and that the motivation must appear in the BAR.
- ❑ DK stated that the following specialist studies would be undertaken during the assessment process:
 - Wetland assessment and delineation
 - Geohydrology
 - Geotech
 - Aquatic study (GC stated this was requested by DWS at the Water Use License pre-application meeting)
 - Heritage study
 - Vegetation study
- ❑ MM confirmed that he is happy with the proposed specialist studies and could not think of any additional studies that may be required. MM stated that the need for additional studies may arise during the assessment process should findings from the assessment require the need.

Public Participation Process

- ❑ DK noted that adverts would be placed in the Zululand Observer and the Hornbill and that an onsite notice board would be placed at the entrance to town and outside the Spar.
- ❑ MM enquired about public meetings.
- ❑ GC added that a public meeting would more than likely take place but ACER would be engaging directly with key stakeholders in Mtunzini such as the Mtunzini Residents Association, Mtunzini Conservancy, EKZNW and the municipal councillors.

Project Approach

- ❑ DK stated that it is hoped that the DBAR will be submitted by mid-June and the final BAR by early August.

Recommendation

- ❑ MM stated that he was satisfied with what had been discussed.
- ❑ SN and SM agreed they were satisfied with what was discussed during the meeting.

Closure

- ❑ DK thanked everyone for attending and for their input.
- ❑ A site visit to the existing and proposed WWTW was held after the meeting closure.