

BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED UPGRADE OF THE WATER PIPELINE NETWORK IN CARLSWALD, GAUTENG PROVINCE

PRE-APPLICATION MEETING – DRAFT MINUTES

CLIENT : Johannesburg Water SOC (JW)
CONSULTANT : Zitholele Consulting (Pty) Ltd (ZC)
PROJECT NO. : 20085
DATE : 12 September 2022
TIME : 09h00 to 11h00
VENUE : Site
REFERENCE : 20085-11-Min-002

PRESENT

Ms. Natasha Lalie (ZC) NL Mr. Jan Swart (ZC) JS
Mr. Sehloti Mamogobo (ZC) SM Mr. Teboho Leku (GDARD) TL
Ms. Jenitha Girdary (JW) JG

APOLOGIES

Ms. Jessica Morwasehla (ZC) JM

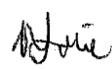
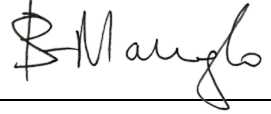
ITEM	DISCUSSION POINTS	ACTION, DATE
1	AGENDA	
1.1	<p>The following was discussed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Welcome and Introduction2. Project Background and Description3. Specialist Studies4. Key concerns / discussion5. Way Forward <p>The format of the site meeting was a reconnaissance demarcation of the areas proposed for the reservoir and water pipeline upgrade. The minutes of this meeting, records the on-site discussions with the attendees.</p>	Note
2	WELCOME AND ATTENDANCE	
2.1	NL opened the meeting and welcomed all attendees.	Note
2.2	All present introduced themselves. A record of the meeting attendees are listed in the minutes (<i>Appendix 1</i>).	Note

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3	PROJECT BACKGROUND AND DESCRIPTION	
3.1	<p>JS indicated the purpose for the project is to improve and ensure an uninterrupted supply of water in the areas that experience shortages due to new and future developments.</p> <p>JS indicated that three route alignments were identified by the engineering team. One of the route alignments is not feasible for construction due to a high point in the route.</p> <p>The two other route alignments will cross wetland areas. TL replied that the engineering team must investigate other alternatives that avoid encroachment into the wetlands. Reasons for crossing the wetlands must be provided. Attempts must be made to ensure that the mitigation hierarchy is followed, where avoidance of the wetland is of utmost importance. Where this is not possible, methods of minimizing the impact on wetlands must be reported on. Mitigation measures for impacting on the wetland must be clear and practical.</p> <p>JS replied that the proposed pipeline will be routed along the road reserve. At road crossings, the method of construction will be pipe-jacking to avoid traffic disruptions. Construction for the remainder of the route alignment will be open excavation/trenching method.</p> <p>The site visit commenced at the proposed reservoir site, which is currently vacant land. The attendees then proceeded along the two alternative route alignments.</p>	<p>Note</p> <p>Note</p> <p>JS, September 2022</p> <p>JM, October 2022</p> <p>Note</p> <p>Note</p>
4	SPECIALIST STUDIES	
4.1	<p>NL added that Zitholele has undertaken the Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment (DFFE) Screening Tool Report and the following Specialist Studies were recommended to be undertaken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural Impact Assessment • Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment • Palaeontological Impact Assessment • Terrestrial Biodiversity Impact Assessment • Aquatic Biodiversity Impact Assessment • Geotechnical Assessment • Socio-Economic Assessment • Plant Species Assessment • Animal Species Assessment <p><u>Agricultural Impact Assessment:</u></p> <p>NL indicated that the route alignment occurs within the road reserve and agricultural practices would therefore not be sustainable within a road reserve. The proposed reservoir occurs on vacant land and 60% of this area will be used for the reservoir. The laydown area will be located at this site. TL added that the identification of the soil profile must be determined from the Geotechnical Assessment. NL added that the site</p>	<p>Note</p>

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	<p>is owned by JRA, and it is JRA's mandate to provide access to water, which is a basic need. Therefore, a motivation will be provided in the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) for not undertaking an Agricultural Impact Assessment. Furthermore, agricultural practices within a built-up urban area is not a compatible landuse within the greater study area.</p> <p><u>Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA):</u> NL stated that this study will be undertaken, and the findings will be provided in the forthcoming Draft BAR.</p> <p><u>Palaeontological Impact Assessment:</u> NL indicated that the site occurs in a low palaeontological sensitive area and a motivation for not undertaking this study will be provided in the BAR. However, a statement reporting on the palaeontological sensitivity will be provided in the HIA and the BAR.</p> <p><u>Terrestrial Biodiversity Impact Assessment:</u> NL indicated that the road reserve is mostly transformed. The reservoir site is currently open veld and is unutilized. This Specialist study will cover the full extent of the project that includes the reservoir site. The findings will be provided in the forthcoming Draft BAR.</p> <p><u>Aquatic Biodiversity Impact Assessment:</u> NL stated that this study will incorporate an assessment of the wetlands within the 500m radius of the study area. The findings will be provided in the forthcoming Draft BAR.</p> <p><u>Geotechnical Assessment:</u> NL indicated that this study has been undertaken for the reservoir site. She enquired if the Department would require a Geotechnical study for the pipeline route alignment, noting that the depth of the trench will be 2m. TL replied that, in terms of the BA process, a Geotechnical Study is not required for the road reserve where the pipeline is to be laid.</p> <p>TL added, that, however, Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) must be consulted at the Pre-Application Meeting to confirm if a Geotechnical Study is required for the General Authorisation (GA) or Water Use License Application (WULA).</p> <p>JG mentioned that the groundwater levels were requested by DWS on their other applications. Should this study be requested by DWS at the Pre-Application Meeting with the Department, this study will have to be undertaken. As this will have a cost implication, the JW Project Manager must be consulted with, to ensure additional budget is available for this study.</p>	<p>JM, October 2022</p> <p>JM, October 2022</p> <p>JM, October 2022</p> <p>JM, October 2022</p> <p>JM, October 2022</p> <p>Note</p> <p>JM, October 2022</p> <p>JM, October 2022</p>

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	<p><u>Socio-Economic Assessment:</u></p> <p>NL stated that the socio-economic impacts on the receiving environment i.e. traffic, dust, visual, noise, safety and security etc, will be minimised with the implementation of mitigation measures that will be included in the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr), which is a legally-binding document for implementation by the Developer.</p> <p>The community will be given ample notice when construction will take place in their vicinity to ensure minimal disruptions to access to private property. SM replied that a Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA) was undertaken for the reservoir site. He added that the construction activities within the road reserve will be fast-tracked to ensure minimal delays to traffic flow on the municipal roads.</p> <p>He added that disruptions to water supply will be communicated to the affected parties in advance.</p> <p>JG stated that it is the Contractor's responsibility to rehabilitate the construction area and the road verges that will be affected by the construction activities. This must be stated in the EMPr.</p> <p>TL stated that a Socio-Economic Impact Assessment would not be required, provided that mitigation measures to minimise the above impacts are clearly stated in the EMPr and the impacts are assessed in the BAR.</p> <p><u>Plant Species Assessment:</u></p> <p>NL added that this assessment will be included in the Terrestrial Biodiversity Impact Assessment.</p> <p><u>Animal Species Assessment:</u></p> <p>NL added that this assessment will be included in the Terrestrial Biodiversity Impact Assessment.</p>	<p>Note</p> <p>Note</p> <p>Note</p> <p>JM, October 2022</p> <p>JM, October 2022</p> <p>Note</p> <p>Note</p>
5	KEY CONCERNS / DISCUSSION	
5.1	<p>TL stated that each listed activity that would be triggered by the proposed development must be assessed.</p> <p>TL stated that the description and assessment of the alternatives must be made clear in the BAR, noting the comments made earlier regarding, avoidance, minimisation, and mitigation of the impacts on the wetlands.</p> <p>TL indicated that the road reserve seems small opposite the filling station and enquired if this is correct? JS stated that the road reserve up to the property fence will be confirmed with the cadastral information.</p> <p>TL stated that the Greater Kayalami Conservancy (lobby group) must be added to the database of Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs).</p>	<p>JM, October 2022</p> <p>JM, October 2022</p> <p>Note</p> <p>JM, October 2022</p>
6	WAY FORWARD	
6.1	<p>NL stated that the Specialist Studies will be undertaken, and the findings interpreted and assessed in the BAR that will be made available to both GDARD and the public for review, simultaneously.</p>	<p>JM, October 2022</p>

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	TL confirmed that he may not be the Case Officer on the Application. The case officer will be assigned once the application is lodged with the Department.	Note
7	CLOSURE	
7.1	NL thanked all attendees for their participation and attendance, and closed the meeting. With no further matters arising, the meeting ended at approximately 11h00.	Note

ACTION	FUNCTION	NAME	DATE	SIGNATURE
Prepared	Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP)	Ms. N. Lalie	21.09.2022	
Reviewed	Project Manager	Mr. Sehlodi Mamogobo	27.09.2022	
Approved	Environmental Officer	Mr. Teboho Leku		

APPENDIX 1: ATTENDANCE REGISTER

