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**EIA REFERENCE**: 16/3/3/1/B3/38/1069/21 **NEAS REFERENCE**: WCP/EIA/0001006/2021

**DATE OF ISSUE:** 20 April 2022

The Applicant
Friedcorp 345 (Pty) Ltd.
P.O. Box 1065
WELLINGTON
7654

Attention: Mr. G. Spies

Cell: 083 546 5744

Email: therina@groenbergenviro.co.za

Email: Cindy.winter@drakenstein.gov.za

Email: Gawie@masgcor.co.za

Dear Sir

APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998 (ACT 107 OF 1998) AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS, 2014 (AS AMENDED): THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE KUIERBOS DAM ON PORTION 14 OF FARM 80, WELLINGTON.

- 1. With reference to the above application, the Department hereby notifies you of its decision to **grant the Environmental Authorisation** ("EA") and to adopt the Maintenance Management Plan, together with the reasons for the decision.
- 2. In terms of Regulation 4 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, (as amended), you are instructed to ensure, within 14 days of the date of the Environmental Authorisation, that all registered Interested and Affected Parties ("I&APs") are provided with access to and reasons for the decision, and that all registered I&APs are notified of their right to appeal.
- 3. Your attention is drawn to Chapter 2 of the National Appeal Regulations, 2014 (as amended), which prescribes the appeal procedure to be followed. This procedure is summarized in the attached Environmental Authorisation.

Yours faithfully

MR. ZAAHIR TOEFY

**DIRECTOR: DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT (REGION 1)** 

Cc: (1) Ms. T. Oberholzer (GroenbergEnviro (Pty) Ltd.) (2) Ms. C. Winter (Drakenstein Municipality)





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## **ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION**

APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998 (ACT 107 OF 1998) AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS, 2014 (AS AMENDED): THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE KUIERBOS DAM ON PORTION 14 OF FARM 80, WELLINGTON.

With reference to your application for the abovementioned, find below the outcome with respect to this application.

### **DECISION**

By virtue of the powers conferred on it by the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) ("NEMA") and the Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA") Regulations, 2014, the Competent Authority herewith **grants Environmental Authorisation** to the applicant to undertake the listed activity specified in section B below with respect to the Preferred Alternative as described in the Basic Assessment Report ("BAR") received on 2 February 2022.

In terms of the NEMA and the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), the Competent Authority hereby **adopts the Maintenance Management Plan** for the proposed development of the Kuierbos dam on Portion 14 of Farm 80, Wellington.

The applicant for this Environmental Authorisation is required to comply with the conditions set out in section E below.

# A. DETAILS OF THE APPLICANT FOR THIS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

The Applicant Friedcorp 345 (Pty) Ltd. P.O. Box 1065

WELLINGTON

7654

Cell: 083 546 5744

Email: <u>Gawie@masgcor.co.za</u>

The abovementioned applicant is the holder of this Environmental Authorisation and is hereinafter referred to as "**the holder**".

# **B. LISTED ACTIVITIES AUTHORISED**

Listed Activity		Project Description	
Listing Notice 1		The proposed dam will	
Activity Number: 12		cover an area of 0.8ha	
The development of-		and is within a drainage line and unnamed stream.	
i.	dams or weirs, where the dam or weir, including infrastructure	ine and official fed siream.	
	and water surface area, exceeds 100 square metres; or		
ii.	infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100		
	square metres or more; where such development occurs –		
	a) within a watercourse;		
	b) in front of a development setback; or		
	c) if no development setback exists, within 32 metres		
	of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a		
	watercourse; excluding-		
	(aa) the development of infrastructure or		
	structures within existing ports or harbours that		
	will not increase the development		
	footprint of the port or harbour.		
	(bb) where such development activities are related		
	to the development of a port or harbour		
	in which case activity 26 in Listing Notice 2 of		
	2014 applies;		
	(cc) activities listed in activity in Listing Notice 2 of 2014		
	or activity 14 in Listing Notice 2 of 2014 or activity		
	14 in Listing Notice 3 of 2014, in which case that		
	activity applies;		
	(dd)where such development occurs within an urban		
	area,		
	(ee) where such development occurs within existing		
	road, or road reserves or railway line reserves; or		
	(ff) the development of temporary infrastructure or		
	Structures where such infrastructure will be		
	removed within 6 weeks of the commencement		

of development and were indigenous vegetation will not be cleared.	
Listing Notice 1 Activity Number: 19 The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 10 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock of more than 10 cubic metres from a watercourse; but excluding where such infilling, depositing, dredging excavation, removal or moving –	The proposed dam will result in the excavation/moving of more than 10m³ of sand/soil/rock within a drainage line and unnamed stream.
<ul> <li>a) will occur behind a development setback;</li> <li>b) is for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan;</li> <li>c) falls within the ambit of activity 21 in this Notice, in which case that activity applies;</li> <li>d)occurs within existing ports or harbours that will not increase the development footprint of the port or harbour or;</li> <li>e) where such development is related to the development of a port or harbour, in which case activity 26 in Listing Notice 2 of 2014 applies.</li> </ul>	

The abovementioned list is hereinafter referred to as "the listed activities".

The holder is herein authorised to undertake the following alternative as it relates to the listed activities:

The proposed development will entail the development of an in-stream dam and associated infrastructure on Portion 14 of Farm 80, Wellington. The proposed dam will have a storage capacity of 20 000m³, a wall height of 4.9m, and a water surface area at Full Supply Level of approximately 0.6ha. The proposed development will also include re-routing the drainage line around the dam to the west of the dam area. The development footprint of the proposed development will be approximately 0.8ha.

## C. SITE DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

The authorised listed activities will be undertaken on Portion 14 of Farm 80, Wellington and has the following co-ordinates:

Latitude (S)	33°	34'	43.87"
Longitude (E)	18°	56'	38.85 "

The SG digit codes are: C05500000000008000014

Refer to Annexure 1: Locality Plan and Annexure 2: Site Plan

The above is hereinafter referred to as "the site".

### D. DETAILS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER

c/o Ms. T. Oberholzer GroenbergEnviro (Pty) Ltd. P.O. Box 1058

WELLINGTON

7654

Cell: 082 089 5750

Email: therina@groenbergenviro.co.za

### E. CONDITIONS OF AUTHORISATION

# Scope of authorisation

1. The holder is authorised to undertake the listed activities specified in Section B above in accordance with and restricted to the preferred Alternative described in the BAR received on 2 February 2022 on the site as described in Section C above.

2. The holder must commence with the listed activities on the site within a period of **five (5) years** from the date issue of this Environmental Authorisation.

3. The development must be concluded within **ten (10)** years from the date of commencement of the Listed Activities.

4. The holder shall be responsible for ensuring compliance with the conditions by any person acting on his/her behalf, including an agent, sub-contractor, employee or any person rendering a service to the holder.

5. Any changes to, or deviations from the scope of the alternative described in section B above must be accepted or approved, in writing, by the Competent Authority before such changes or deviations may be implemented. In assessing whether to grant such acceptance/approval or not, the Competent Authority may request information in order to evaluate the significance and impacts of such changes or deviations, and it may be necessary for the holder to apply for further authorisation in terms of the applicable legislation.

## Written notice to the Competent Authority

6. Seven calendar days' notice, in writing, must be given to the Competent Authority before commencement of construction activities.

6.1. The notice must make clear reference to the site details and EIA Reference number given above.

6.2. The notice must also include proof of compliance with the following conditions described herein:

Conditions: 7, 8 and 12.

## Notification and administration of appeal

- 7. The holder must in writing, within 14 (fourteen) calendar days of the date of this decision-
  - 7.1. notify all registered Interested and Affected Parties ("I&APs") of -
    - 7.1.1. the outcome of the application;
    - 7.1.2. the reasons for the decision as included in Annexure 3;
    - 7.1.3. the date of the decision; and
    - 7.1.4. the date when the decision was issued.
  - 7.2. draw the attention of all registered I&APs to the fact that an appeal may be lodged against the decision in terms of the National Appeals Regulations, 2014 detailed in Section F below;
  - 7.3. draw the attention of all registered I&APs to the manner in which they may access the decision;
  - 7.4. provide the registered I&APs with:
    - 7.4.1. the name of the holder (entity) of this Environmental Authorisation,
    - 7.4.2. name of the responsible person for this Environmental Authorisation,
    - 7.4.3. postal address of the holder,
    - 7.4.4. telephonic and fax details of the holder,
    - 7.4.5. e-mail address, if any, of the holder,
    - 7.4.6. the contact details (postal and/or physical address, contact number, facsimile and e-mail address) of the decision-maker and all registered I&APs in the event that an appeal is lodged in terms of the 2014 National Appeals Regulations.
- 8. The listed activities, including site preparation, may not commence within **20 (twenty**) calendar days from the date of issue of this Environmental Authorisation. In the event that an appeal is lodged with the Appeal Authority, the effect of this Environmental Authorisation is suspended until the appeal is decided.

## Management of activity

- 9. The draft or Environmental Management Programme ("EMPr") submitted as part of the application for Environmental Authorisation is hereby approved and must be implemented.
- 10. The Maintenance Management Plan ("MMP") appended to the EMPr is hereby adopted as part of this Environmental Authorisation and must be implemented.
- 11. The EMPr including the MMP must be included in all contract documentation for all phases of implementation.

### Monitoring

12. The holder must appoint a suitably experienced environmental control officer ("ECO"), or site agent where appropriate, before commencement of the proposed development to ensure compliance with the provisions of the EMPr, MMP and the conditions contained herein. The ECO must conduct

- site visits as prescribed in the EMPr and must submit ECO Reports on a monthly basis to the competent authority.
- 13. A copy of the Environmental Authorisation, EMPr, MMP, audit reports and compliance monitoring reports must be kept at the site of the authorised activity, and must be made available to anyone on request, including a publicly accessible website.
- 14. Access to the site referred to in Section C above must be granted, and the environmental reports mentioned above must be produced, to any authorised official representing the Competent Authority who requests to see it for the purposes of assessing and/or monitoring compliance with the conditions contained herein.

# **Auditing**

- 15. In terms of Regulation 34 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, the holder must conduct environmental audits to determine compliance with the conditions of the Environmental Authorisation, the EMPr and submit Environmental Audit Reports to the Competent Authority. The Environmental Audit Report must be prepared by an independent person, that is not the ECO referred to in Condition 10 above and must contain all the information required in Appendix 7 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014.
- 16. The audit reports must be compiled and subsequently submitted to the Department in the following manner:
  - 16.1. The holder must undertake an environmental audit and submit an Environmental Audit Report to the Competent Authority within 3 (three) months of commencement of construction.
  - 16.2. A final Environmental Audit Report must be submitted within 3 (three) months of completion of the development of the dam.
  - 17. The audit report must indicate compliance status with the conditions of this Environmental Authorisation, and the EMPr and make recommendations for improved environmental management.
  - 18. The holder must, within 7 days of the submission of each of the above-mentioned reports to the Competent Authority, notify all potential and registered I&APs of the submission and make the report available to anyone on request and on a publicly accessible website (if applicable).

### **Specific Conditions**

19. Should any heritage remains be exposed during excavations or any other actions on the site, these must immediately be reported to the Provincial Heritage Resources Authority of the Western Cape, Heritage Western Cape. Heritage remains uncovered or disturbed during earthworks must not be further disturbed until the necessary approval has been obtained from Heritage Western Cape.

Heritage remains include: meteorites, archaeological and/or palaeontological remains (including fossil shells and trace fossils); coins; indigenous and/or colonial ceramics; any articles of value or antiquity; marine shell heaps; stone artifacts and bone remains; structures and other built features

with heritage significance; rock art and rock engravings; and/or graves or unmarked human burials including grave goods and/or associated burial material.

- 20. A qualified archaeologist and/or palaeontologist must be contracted where necessary (at the expense of the holder) to remove any heritage remains. Heritage remains can only be disturbed by a suitably qualified heritage specialist working under a directive from the relevant heritage resources authority.
- 21. An integrated waste management approach, which is based on waste minimisation and incorporates reduction, recycling, re-use and disposal, where appropriate, must be employed. Any solid waste must be disposed of at a landfill licensed in terms of the applicable legislation.
- 22. All noise and sounds generated during the proposed development must comply with the relevant SANS codes and standards and the relevant noise regulations.

# F. GENERAL MATTERS

- 1. Notwithstanding this Environmental Authorisation, the holder must comply with any other statutory requirements that may be applicable when undertaking the listed activities.
- 2. Non-compliance with a condition of this Environmental Authorisation or EMPr may render the holder liable to criminal prosecution.
- 3. If the holder does not commence with the listed activities within the period referred to in Condition 2, this Environmental Authorisation shall lapse for that activities, and a new application for Environmental Authorisation must be submitted to the Competent Authority. If the holder wishes to extend the validity period of the Environmental Authorisation, an application for amendment in this regard must be made to the Competent Authority prior to the expiry date of the Environmental Authorisation.
- 4. The holder must submit an application for amendment of the Environmental Authorisation to the Competent Authority where any detail with respect to the Environmental Authorisation must be amended, added, substituted, corrected, removed or updated. If a new holder is proposed, an application for Amendment in terms of Part 1 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 must be submitted.
  - Please note that an amendment is not required if there is a change in the contact details of the holder. In this case, the Competent Authority must only be notified of such changes.
- 5. The manner and frequency for updating the EMPr is as follows:

  Amendments to the EMPr, must be done in accordance with Regulations 35 to 37 of the EIA Regulations 2014 or any relevant legislation that may be applicable at the time.

### G. APPEALS

Appeals must comply with the provisions contained in the National Appeal Regulations 2014.

- 1. An appellant (if the holder of the decision) must, within 20 (twenty) calendar days from the date the 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 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 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 to the Appeal Administrator; and
  - 2.2 Submit a copy of the appeal to the holder of the decision, any registered I&AP, any Organ 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 Organ 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 3721)

Room 809, 8th 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 <a href="mailto:DEADP.Appeals@westerncape.gov.za">DEADP.Appeals@westerncape.gov.za</a>.

5. A prescribed appeal form as well as assistance regarding the appeal processes is obtainable from Appeal Authority at: Tel. (021) 483 3721, e-mail <a href="mailto:DEADP.Appeals@westerncape.gov.za">DEADP.Appeals@westerncape.gov.za</a> or URL <a href="http://www.westerncape.gov.za/eadp.">http://www.westerncape.gov.za/eadp.</a>

### H. DISCLAIMER

The Western Cape Government, the Local Authority, committees or any other public authority or organisation appointed in terms of the conditions of this Environmental Authorisation shall not be responsible for any damages or losses suffered by the holder, developer or his/her successor in any instance where construction or operation subsequent to construction is temporarily or permanently stopped for reasons of non-compliance with the conditions as set out herein or any other subsequent document or legal action emanating from this decision.

Email: <a href="mailto:therina@groenbergenviro.co.za">therina@groenbergenviro.co.za</a>
Email: <a href="mailto:Cindy.winter@drakenstein.gov.za">Cindy.winter@drakenstein.gov.za</a>

Your interest in the future of our environment is appreciated.

Yours faithfully

MR. ZAAHIR TOEFY

**DIRECTOR: DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT (REGION 1)** 

**DATE OF DECISION: 20APRIL 2022** 

Cc: (1) Ms. T. Oberholzer (GroenbergEnviro (Pty) Ltd.)

(2) Ms. C. Winter (Drakenstein Municipality)

# **ANNEXURE 1: LOCALITY MAP**



Figure 1: Location on Portion 14 of Farm 80, Wellington.

# **ANNEXURE 2: SITE PLAN**

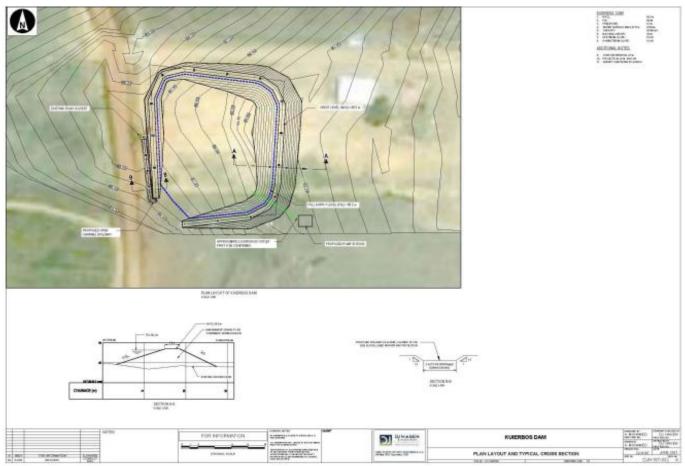


Figure 2: Proposed site plan

### **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 by the Department on 9 November 2021 and the EMPr submitted together with the Basic Assessment Report on 2 February 2022;
- b) Relevant information contained in the Departmental information base, including the Guidelines on Public Participation and 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);
- d) The comments received from I&APs and responses to these, included in the Basic Assessment Report received on 2 February 2022; and
- e) The balancing of negative and positive impacts and proposed mitigation measures.

No site visits were conducted. The Competent Authority had sufficient information before it to make an informed decision without conducting a site visit.

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 the most significant for the decision is set out below.

### 1. Public Participation

The public participation process included:

- identification of and engagement with I&APs;
- fixing a notice board at the site where the listed activities are to be undertaken;
- the placing of a newspaper advertisement in the "Paarl Post" on 16 December 2021;
- giving written notice to the owners and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the listed
  activities are to be undertaken, the municipality and ward councilor, and the various Organs of
  State having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the listed activities;
- making the draft BAR available to I&AP's for comment from 19 November 2021 to 11 January 2022.

The Department is satisfied that the Public Participation Process that was followed met the minimum legal requirements and that the comments raised and responses thereto were included in the comments and response report.

Specific alternatives, management and mitigation measures have been considered in this Environmental Authorisation and EMPr to adequately address the concerns raised.

### 2. Alternatives

### Site alternatives

Two site alternatives were considered which entailed placing the dam on the north-western or north- eastern side of the farm. Placing the dam on the north-western side of the farm was preferred (herewith authorised). This alternative was preferred as the site is transformed and is not located adjacent to an area identified as a Critical Biodiversity Area.

## **Design alternatives**

Design alternative 1
Storage capacity of 20 000m³
Wall heigh of 4.9m
Embankment crest length of 205m
Surface area level at full supply level of 0.8ha

Design alternative 2 **(preferred - herewith authorised)**Storage capacity of 20 000m³
Wall heigh of 4.9m
Embankment crest length of 280m
Surface area level at full supply level of 0.6ha

Design alternative 3
Storage capacity of 11 770m³
Wall heigh of 4.2m
Embankment crest length of 238m
Surface area level at full supply level of 0.5ha

### Preferred alternative – (Herewith authorised)

The proposed development will entail the development of an in-stream dam and associated infrastructure on Portion 14 of Farm 80, Wellington. The proposed dam will have a storage capacity of 20 000m³, a wall height of 4.9m, and a water surface area at Full Supply Level of approximately 0.6ha. The proposed development will also include re-routing the drainage line around the dam to the west of the dam area. The development footprint of the proposed development will be approximately 0.8ha.

This alternative was preferred due to the fact that the site is transformed and it is close to the existing infrastructure.

## The "No-Go" Alternative

The "No-Go" option of not proceeding with the proposed development is not preferred, as the benefits associated with the proposed development will not be realised. The applicant wishes to construct a dam on the farm to ensure that there will be sufficient water storage and supply for irrigation.

### 3. Impact Assessment and Mitigation measures

## 3.1. Activity need and desirability

The proposed property is zoned Agricultural, and the proposed development is therefore in keeping with the land use rights applicable to the property. The proposed dam will allow the applicant to increase the financial viability of the farm, ensure significant employment security and sufficient water storage and supply for irrigation.

## 3.2. Biophysical impacts

The proposed in-stream dam will be located on a site that has already been transformed to agricultural land, with no natural vegetation remaining. The site does not contain any CBA ("Critical Biodiversity Area") or ONA ("Other Natural Area"). The site is indicated as containing Swartland Shale Renosterveld (Critically Endangered). The remaining portion of the farm is classified as Swartland Alluvium Fynbos, which is classified as vulnerable.

According to the Freshwater statement (dated 22 July 2021 and compiled by Everwater Freshwater Consulting Services) the small stream as well as the section of the floodplain wetland (associated with the Berg River) located on the property have been modified from their natural state. In light of this, there will be no loss of habitat and freshwater biodiversity associated with the construction of the dam. The specialist regards the impacts associated with the construction of the proposed dam to be of low to very low negative significance. Furthermore, diverting runoff around the small dam will have a very low to negligible impact on the flow of the Berg River.

## 3.3. Impact on Heritage Resources

Heritage Western Cape confirmed in correspondence dated 3 November 2021, that there is no reason to believe any heritage assessment is required, as the site is deemed to have no heritage significance. Additionally, the applicant will comply with Conditions 19 and 20 of this Environmental Authorisation and provisions of the EMPr. This will help to ensure the protection of any heritage resources that may be encountered on the site.

The development will result in both negative and positive impacts.

# **Negative Impacts:**

- Minor noise and dust impacts will be experienced during the construction phase; and
- Modification and disturbance of watercourses.

# Positive impacts:

- The proposed development will secure a water resource for irrigation during the summer months;
- Creation of temporary and permanent employment opportunities; and
- The development will increase the economic viability of the farm.

# 4. 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.

### 5. Conclusion

In view of the above, the NEMA principles, compliance with the conditions stipulated in this Environmental Authorisation, and compliance with the EMPr, 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.

