

**30 September 2020**

**NOTIFICATION OF SECOND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PERIOD:**

**30 September 2020 – 29 October 2020**

**GNEC Code: 20621**

**DEA&DP REF: 16/3/3/6/7/1/B2/32/1433/19**

Dear Interested and Affected Part

**INFORMING OF START OF THE FIRST PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PERIOD THE PROPOSED EXPANSION OF THE EXISTING PRELOADS RESERVOIR SYSTEM LOCATED ON THE REMAINDER OF ERF 19909, WORCESTER, WESTERN CAPE.**

The proposed development site is located just North of the N1 highway within Worcester. The property is situated adjacent to and North of the Golden Valley Casino as well as adjacent to and West of the Worcester Golf Club. The property boasts a total of 745365.5 m<sup>2</sup> in extent. The property consists predominately out of unchanged landscape with an existing reservoir being located on the property.

The existing four reservoirs have been in existence for numerous years, providing the town of Worcester with water. In the past few years, the town of Worcester has undergone rapid growth in terms of residential and commercial developments. As a result of this rapid growth, as well as the recent drought conditions, the bulk provision of infrastructure needs to be timeously planned and implemented to ensure adequate service delivery.

The applicant (Breede Valley Municipality) therefore proposes the construction of a new 20,0 ML reservoir with associated pipeline at the existing Pre-Loads Reservoir site to increase the reservoir's storage capacity.

At present, the existing Worcester Pre-Loads Water Reticulation system has insufficient capacity to supply the future developments within the area. Therefore, at present, there is a need for the development of the proposed infrastructure. The proposed development will thus result in a positive outcome for the area of Worcester.

Guillaume Nel Environmental Consultants (GNEC) have been appointed by the applicant to facilitate the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process for the proposed reservoir development on the Remainder of Erf 19909, Worcester, Western Cape.

The current system consists out of four 13.27 ML reservoirs located on the Remainder of Erf No. 19909. The proposed development will entail the construction of a new and additional 20,0 ML reservoir along with the associated pipeline adjacent to and to the West of the operational system. It is furthermore proposed that the new reservoir will connect to the existing system. Therefore, only a short pipeline will be constructed. The proposed development will be contained to an area of approximately 5144 m<sup>2</sup> in size.

The existing access road will be rerouted adjacent to and West of the new reservoir. This access road will be used during the operational phase as the reservoir will be constructed on the existing access road. It should be noted that the road will be approximately 203 meters in length.

In addition, the existing fire break before the casino (Brand pad) will be used for access during the construction phase. Since natural vegetation has been cleared in the fire break, no impacts on the receiving environment are foreseen. This will ensure that during the construction phase, the proposed development will not impact on the nearby Golden Valley Casino.

Furthermore, due to the surrounding area consisting of unchanged landscape, a botanical assessment has been conducted in order to assess the impact that the proposed development will have on any natural vegetation.

Taking the above mentioned proposed mixed-use development into account, the following listed activities will be triggered:

- **Listing Notice 3 (GN No. R. 985):** Activity 16.

A Basic Assessment application process is therefore being facilitated in order for the necessary authorisations to be obtained from the Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP).

Additionally, a Notice of Intent to Develop (NID) was submitted to Heritage Western Cape in November 2019 where after a positive Record of Decision was issued to the client indicating that no additional Heritage related impact assessments are required. The ROD was received on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December 2019.

The aim of this EIA process is to ensure that:

- Public participation will be conducted, i.e. to afford stakeholders and/or the community sufficient opportunity to provide comment on the proposed development; and

The Second Public Participation Process will run from the **30<sup>th</sup> of September 2020 until the 29<sup>th</sup> of October 2020.**

Please refer to GNEC's website ([www.gnec.co.za](http://www.gnec.co.za)) to access additional information pertaining to the EIA application. Please also note that responses to the comments received during the first public participation period have been included in the Comments and Responses Report.

Meanwhile, should you have any queries, please feel free to contact myself, at:

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Yours sincerely,

**Heloise Groenewald**

For GNEC

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