

# OVERBERG DISTRIKSMUNISIPALITEIT DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY UMASIPALA WESITHILI



*MELD ASB/PLEASE QUOTE*

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27 April 2020

**GUILLAUME NEL**

**P.O Box 2632  
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For attention: Christoff Dippenaar

**RE: PROPOSED REHABILITATION AND UPGRADING OF TRUNK ROAD 28 SECTION 2 (TR28/2) (R43) AND RELATED EXISTING DEGRADED STORM WATER INFRASTRUCTURE (CULVERTS), BETWEEN STANFORD AND GANSBAAL, FROM KM 23.83 TO KM 43.88, WESTERN CAPE.**

**DEA&DP REF: 16/3/3/6/7/1/E2/37/1016/20**

The Overberg District Municipality's department of Environmental Management Services values to opportunity to give input on the proposed development.

Based on the Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan of 2017 the application area is situated mainly next to an ESA and Protected Area. The National Wetland Map 5 (NWM5) also indicate no delineated wetlands in the proximity of the road.

In the Botanical Assessment report, it is stated that two vegetation types occur within the study area, namely Overberg Dune Strandveld (Least Threatened) and Agulhas Limestone Fynbos (Vulnerable). Regardless of the lower conservation classification of these two ecosystems the road reserves play an important role as an ecological corridor. Therefore, the removal of indigenous vegetation should be limited as far as possible. Several Milkwood Trees have also been recorded along the study area and need to be protected and accommodated in the road design.

In terms of climate change projections for the Western Cape, the province does experience more intense rainfall events. This ultimately leads to the increase of flooding events, challenges with stormwater systems and increase in soil erosion. An assessment should be

done to determine if the capacity of the current culvert structures as proposed is adequate and climate change resilient. Areas where wetlands occur should be drained by culverts along the full width of such wetland and not concentrated towards single culverts to ensure the maintenance and ecological functioning of these areas.

Mitigation measures as proposed in the Botanical as well as the Freshwater Report are supported.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D P Beretti', is written over a light blue grid background.

**D P BERETTI**  
**MUNICIPAL MANAGER**