

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
Final Environmental Impact Assessment Report for
the Proposed Construction, Operation and
Decommissioning of a Seawater Reverse Osmosis
Plant and Associated Infrastructure in
Tongaat, Kwazulu-Natal

FINAL
EIA
REPORT



APPENDIX C:

Correspondence
with DEA

APPENDIX C: CORRESPONDENCE WITH DEA

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APPENDIX C.1 – Letter of Acknowledgment of Receipt of Correspondence relating to the Change in Project Managers



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447- PRETORIA - 0001- Environment House - 473 Steve Biko Road - PRETORIA
Tel (+ 27 12) 399 9372

DEA Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/652

Enquiries: Mr Herman Alberts

Tel: 012 399 9371 E-mail: HAlberts@environment.gov.za

Ms Annick Walsdorff
CSIR
PO Box 320
STELLENBOSCH
7599

Tel: 021 888 2661
E-mail: awalsdorff@csir.co.za

PER MAIL/ E-MAIL

Dear Ms Walsdorff

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF NOTICE OF CHANGE IN PROJECT MANAGERS FOR
THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION, OPERATION AND DECOMMISSIONING OF A 150 ML/DAY
SEA WATER REVERSE OSMOSIS (SWRO) PLANT AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE
PROPOSED BY UMGENI WATER AT TONGAAT ON THE KWAZULU-NATAL NORTH COAST**

The Department confirms having received the notice of change in project manager dated 23 February 2015 for the above-mentioned project on 10 March 2015.

You are hereby reminded that the activity may not commence prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by the Department.

Yours sincerely

Mr Sabelo Malaza
Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Environmental Affairs
Letter signed by: Mr Herman Alberts
Designation: Environmental Officer: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Date: 23/03/2015

APPENDIX C.2 – Letter of Acknowledgment of Receipt of Final Scoping Report



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Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447 · PRETORIA · 0001 · Environmental House · 473 Steve Biko Road · PRETORIA
Tel (+ 27 12) 399 9972

DEA Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/652

Enquiries: Ms Nyiko Nkosi

Tel: 012 399 9392 **E-mail:** NNkosi@environment.gov.za

Annick Walsdorff
CSIR Consulting and Analytical Services
PO Box 320
STELLENBOSCH
7599

Telephone Number: 021 888 2693
Email : awalsdorff@csir.co.za

PER FACSIMILE / MAIL

Dear Walsdorff

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF FINAL SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED
CONSTRUCTION, OPERATION AND DECOMMISSIONING OF A 150 ML/DAY SEA WATER
REVERSE OSMOSIS (SWRO) PLANT AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE PROPOSED
BY UMGENI WATER AT TONGAAT ON THE KWAZULU-NATAL NORTH COAST WITHIN
ETHEKWINI MUNICIPALITY IN THE KWAZULU NATAL PROVINCE**

The Department confirms having received the final Scoping Report for the above-mentioned project on 26 May 2015.

You are hereby reminded that the activity may not commence prior to an environmental authorisation being granted by the Department.

Yours sincerely

Mr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Environmental Affairs

Letter signed by: Ms Mmatlala Rabothata

Designation: Environmental Officer: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Date: 09/06/2015

APPENDIX C.3 - Letter of Acceptance of FSR



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447 · PRETORIA · 0001 · Environment House · 473 Steve Biko Road · Arcadia · PRETORIA
Tel (+ 27 12) 399 9372

NEAS Reference: DEA/EIA/0002351/2014

DEA Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/652

Enquiries: Ms Nyiko Nkosi

Telephone: 012-399-9392 E-mail: nnkosi@environment.gov.za

Mr Paul Lochner
CSIR
P.O. Box 320
STELLENBOSCH
7599

E-mail: plochner@csir.co.za / awalsdorff@csir.co.za

PER MAIL / EMAIL

Dear Mr Lochner

APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION: PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION, OPERATION AND DECOMMISSIONING OF A 150ML/DAY SEA WATER REVERSE OSMOSIS PLANT AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE IN TONGAAT ON THE KWAZULU-NATAL NORTH COAST, WITHIN ETHEKWINI METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY, KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE.

The Final Scoping Report (FSR) and Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment dated May 2015 and received by the Department on 20 May 2015 refers.

The Department has evaluated the submitted FSR and the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment dated May 2015 and is satisfied that the documents comply with the minimum requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2010. The FSR is hereby accepted by the Department in terms of regulation 30(1) (a) of the EIA Regulations, 2010.

You may proceed with the environmental impact assessment process in accordance with the tasks contemplated in the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment and as required in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2010.

All comments and recommendations made by all stakeholders and Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) on the Draft SR, and submitted as part of the Final SR, must be taken into consideration when preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIR) in respect of the proposed development. Please ensure that all mitigation measures and recommendations in the specialist studies are addressed and included in the final EIR and Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

Please ensure that comments from all relevant stakeholders are submitted to the Department with the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR). This includes but is not limited to the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs, the Department of Transport, the Department of Water & Sanitation (DWS), the Department of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries (DAFF), the Department of Rural Development & Land Reform, Amafa aKwaZulu Natali, Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, Coastwatch KwaZulu-Natal, Eskom Holdings SOC Limited, Transnet, Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa (PRASA), Department of Environmental Affairs: Branch - Oceans and Coast and eThekweni Metropolitan Municipality. Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the Final EIR. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof must be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.

S. L.

In addition, the following amendments and additional information is required for the EIR:

- a) Details of the future plans for the site and infrastructure after decommissioning and the possibility of upgrading the proposed infrastructure to more advanced technologies.
- b) The total footprint of the proposed development should be indicated. Exact locations of the reverse osmosis plant, pipelines, roads, power lines, canals, bridges, tunnels, facilities for the storage of dangerous goods and all other associated infrastructure should be mapped at an appropriate scale.
- c) A clear description of all associated infrastructure. This description must include, but is not limited to the following:
 - Power lines;
 - Internal roads infrastructure; and
 - All supporting onsite infrastructure.
- d) With regards to infilling and excavation of watercourses for the construction of the reverse osmosis plant, the applicant is required to provide an indication of the preferred and alternate locations from which the material used for infilling will be sourced, and where excavated material will be stored and/or disposed of. In addition, the impacts associated with this activity must be assessed in the EIR.
- e) The EAP must engage the relevant provincial environmental authority with regards to development in geographic areas triggering GNR 546: Activities 2, 4, 10, 12, 13, 14, 16, 19 and 24, to confirm applicability of these activities.
- f) Please ensure that only the specific listed activities that are applicable and relevant to the proposed development are included in both the amended application form and the EIR. Should there be activities that are no longer applicable to the proposed development, the application form must be amended and resubmitted to the Department, together with the EIR.
- g) The EIR must provide an assessment of the potential impacts and proposed mitigation measures for each of the listed activities applied for.
- h) The EIR must provide the corner/bend point coordinates for the proposed development site (note that if the site has numerous bend points, all bend point coordinates must be provided) as well as the start, middle and end point of all linear activities.
- i) The EIAr must provide a detailed motivation as to the need and desirability of the proposed development, as well as the specific location.
- j) Should a Water Use License be required, proof of application for a license needs to be submitted.
- k) The impacts of the proposed facility on marine ecology must be assessed in the EIA phase. Similar existing projects must be taken into consideration in the EIAr, when assessing the potential impacts of the return brine on the marine environment.
- l) The potential impacts of the proposed development on nearby natural coastal and/or dune forest(s) must be assessed, as per the correspondence from DAFF dated 16 May 2014.
- m) Possible impacts and effects of the proposed development on the surrounding industrial, residential and holiday/tourist areas must be assessed.
- n) The EIR must include information on the following:
 - Environmental costs vs benefits of the reverse osmosis plant activity; and
 - Economic viability of the facility to the surrounding area and how the local community will benefit.
- o) Information on services required on the site, e.g. sewage, refuse removal, water and electricity. Who will supply these services and has an agreement and confirmation of capacity been obtained?
- p) An EMPr dealing with the construction, operation and decommissioning phases that will include mitigation and monitoring measures.

S.L.

The applicant is hereby reminded to comply with the requirements of regulation 67 with regard to the time period allowed for complying with the requirements of the Regulations, and regulations 56 and 57 with regard to the allowance of a comment period for interested and affected parties on all reports submitted to the competent authority for decision-making. The reports referred to are listed in regulation 56(3a-3h).

Please ensure that the Final EIR includes at least one A3 regional map of the area and the locality maps included in the final EIR illustrate the different proposed alignments and above ground storage of fuel. The maps must be of acceptable quality and as a minimum, have the following attributes:

- Maps are relatable to one another;
- Cardinal points;
- Co-ordinates;
- Legible legends;
- Indicate alternatives;
- Latest land cover;
- Vegetation types of the study area; and
- A3 size locality map.

Please ensure that all the relevant Listing Notice activities are applied for, that the Listing Notice activities applied for are specific and that they can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure in the project description. Should there be changes on listed activities as applied for, the amended application form must be submitted to the Department together with the EIR.

Further, it must be reiterated that, should an application for Environmental Authorisation be subject to the provisions of Chapter II, Section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act No.25 of 1999, then this Department will not be able to make nor issue a decision in terms of your application for Environmental Authorisation pending a letter from the pertinent heritage authority categorically stating that the application fulfils the requirements of the relevant heritage resources authority as described in Chapter II, Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act No.25 of 1999.

You are requested to submit two (2) copies of the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to the Department and at least one electronic copy (CD/DVD) of the complete final report with the hard copy documents.

You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No.107 of 1998, as amended, which states that no activity may commence prior to an environmental authorisation being granted by the Department.

Yours sincerely



Mr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Environmental Affairs

Letter signed by: Mr Siboniso Mbense

Designation: Deputy Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Date: 17/06/2015

CC:	Umgeni Water	Ms P Ndlovu	Tel: (033) 268 7172	Email: Phumi.Ndlovu@umgeni.co.za
	KZN DEDTEA	Ms Y Govender	Tel: (031) 302 2861	Email: yugeshnie.govender@kzndae.gov.za

APPENDIX C.4 - Letter of Acknowledgement of Receipt and Approval of Request for Extension



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447 PRETORIA 0001 Environment House - 473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia, PRETORIA
Tel (+ 27 12) 399 9372

DEA Reference: 14/12/16/33/2/652

Enquiries: Ms Nyiko Nkosi

Telephone: 012-399-9392 E-mail: nnkosi@environment.gov.za

Ms Annick Walsdorff
CSIR
PO Box 320
STELLENBOSCH
7599

Tel: 021 888 2661
Email: awalsdorff@csir.co.za

PER MAIL / EMAIL

Dear Ms Walsdorff

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF SUBMISSION TIMEFRAME: APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION, OPERATION AND DECOMMISSIONING OF A 150ML/DAY SEA WATER REVERSE OSMOSIS PLANT AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE IN TONGAAT ON THE KWAZULU-NATAL NORTH COAST, WITHIN ETHEKWINI METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY, KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE

Your letter dated 10 November 2015 and received by the Department on 10 November 2015, requesting an extension of the timeframes for submission of the draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) for the abovementioned project, has reference.

This Department accepts your request to keep the file open. The draft EIAR must be submitted to the Department by **31 March 2016**.

Failure to submit the draft EIAR by this date will result in the Department closing the abovementioned file for all administration purposes. Should you then decide to further pursue the application after closure of the file, a new application for environmental authorisation in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, must be submitted to this Department before such activity (ies) may commence.

You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No 107 of 1998, as amended, that no activity may commence prior to an environmental authorisation being granted by the Department.

Yours faithfully

Mr Sabelo Malaza
Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Environmental Affairs
Letter signed by: Ms Fiona Grimett
Designation: Deputy Director (Acting): Public Sector
Date: 16/11/2015

CC	Ms P Ndlovu	Umgenti Water	Tel: (033) 268 7172	Email: Phumi.Ndlovu@umgeni.co.za
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APPENDIX C.5 - Letter of Acknowledgement of Receipt of Draft EIA Report



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Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447 · PRETORIA · 0001 · Environmental House · 473 Steve Biko Road · PRETORIA
Tel (+ 27 12) 399 9972

DEA Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/652

Enquiries: Ms Nyiko Nkosi

Tel: 012 399 9392 **E-mail:** NNkosi@environment.gov.za

Annick Wlsdorff
CSIR Environmental Management Services
P.O Box 320
STELLENBOSCH
7599

Tel: 021 888 2661
Email: awalsdorff@csir.co.za

PER E-MAIL / MAIL

Dear Sir/Madam

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION A SEA WATER
REVERSE OSMOSIS (DESALINATION) PLANT AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE AT
TONGAAT ON THE KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE**

The Department confirms having received the Environmental Impact Assessment Report for the
above-mentioned project on 22 March 2016.

You are hereby reminded that the activity may not commence prior to an environmental
authorisation being granted by the Department.

Yours sincerely

Mr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Environmental Affairs

Letter signed by: Ms Senisha Soobramany

**Designation: Control Environmental Officer (Grade A): Coordination and Strategic
Planning and Support**

Date: 5 April 2016