



REFERENCE NUMBER: 16/3/3/6/3/F1/11/2154/25

DATE OF ISSUE: 11 NOVEMBER 2025

The Board of Directors
Twente Partners Farms (Pty) Ltd
P. O. Box 323
PIKETBERG
7320

For Attention: Mr. Jannie De Klerk

Cell: 082 777 3873

E-mail: jannie@grootvleiboerdery.co.za/
adupreez@twentepartners.com

Dear Sir

THE ADOPTION OF THE MAINTENANCE MANAGEMENT PLAN IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998 (ACT NO. 107 OF 1998) ("NEMA") AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT ("EIA") REGULATIONS, 2014 (AS AMENDED): THE MAINTENANCE OF TWO FARM DAMS AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE ON PORTION 7 OF THE FARM NO. 153, STEENEBRUG, PIKETBERG

1. The request for the adoption of a Maintenance Management Plan ("MMP") for the maintenance of two farm dams and associated infrastructure, received by this Directorate via electronic mail correspondence on 4 August 2025, this Directorate's acknowledgement letter (dated 15 August 2025), the draft MMP, received by this Directorate via electronic mail correspondence on 21 August 2025, this Directorate's acknowledgement letter (dated 22 September 2025), this Directorate's comments on the draft MMP (dated 22 September 2025), the final MMP, received by this Directorate via electronic mail correspondence on 13 October 2025, and this Directorate's correspondence (dated 31 October 2025), acknowledging receipt of the final MMP, refers.
2. In terms of the NEMA and the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), the Competent Authority hereby adopts the final MMP.
3. Based on the information contained in the final MMP, it is hereby confirmed that the proposed maintenance and management of two farm dams and associated infrastructure fall within the ambit of the following Listed Activity in terms of the NEMA and the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended):

Listing Notice 1 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended)

Activity Number: 19

Activity Description:

"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—

(a) will occur behind a development setback;

(b) is for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan;

- (c) falls within the ambit of activity 21 in this Notice, in which case that activity applies;
- (d) occurs within existing ports or harbours that will not increase the development footprint of the port or harbour; or
- (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."

4. A Public Participation Process ("PPP") that complies with the minimum requirements for public participation was conducted. The PPP entailed the following:
 - 4.1. Notification of the availability of the draft MMP was sent to Interested and Affected Parties ("I&APs"), including adjacent landowners and/or managers of adjacent land, as well as Organs of State, including the Bergrivier Local Municipality, West Coast District Municipality, the National Department of Water and Sanitation, and CapeNature;
 - 4.2. A minimum commenting period of thirty (30) days was afforded to the abovementioned I&APs and Organ of State to comment on the draft MMP; and
 - 4.3. No objections were received. The comments that were received were included and adequately responded to in the final MMP. This Directorate is satisfied that the PPP followed met the minimum legal requirements.
5. In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), the Competent Authority hereby agrees to the final MMP for the proposed maintenance and management plan of two farm dams and associated infrastructure on Portion 7 of the Farm No. 153, Steenebrug, Piketberg. The MMP comprises of the following maintenance and management activities:
 - 5.1. Removal of silt from the two dams to restore the registered storage capacity.
 - 5.2. Emergency repairs to dam walls and related infrastructure, when required.
 - 5.3. Maintenance and repairs to water pipelines, including replacing damaged sections, securing loose fittings or treating corrosion.
 - 5.4. Excavation or trenching may be required to facilitate necessary maintenance works such as the replacement of fence posts or pipeline repairs.
 - 5.5. Removal of vegetation and debris from areas where maintenance work is required.
 - 5.6. Implementation of erosion control measures around the dams and disturbed areas.
 - 5.7. Periodic flushing or scouring of pipelines to maintain capacity and address the build-up of organic materials.
 - 5.8. Gravel road maintenance, including regular inspections to identify issues, grading and pothole repairs to maintain an even surface.
 - 5.9. Regularly clear drainage features, such as ditches and culverts, to prevent erosion.
 - 5.10. General maintenance and repairs to the pump house and associated pipelines.
6. In the situation where rehabilitation is required after maintenance activities have ceased, the following general rehabilitation guidelines apply and must be implemented:
 - 6.1. All disturbed areas must be rehabilitated once maintenance activities have ceased.
 - 6.2. All foreign materials not used in the rehabilitation activities must be removed from the site.
 - 6.3. No waste or stockpiles should be left within or near watercourses.

- 6.4. Re-vegetation of all exposed soil with indigenous plants and irrigate newly planted areas if required, to ensure establishment.
 - 6.5. Alien invasive species should be monitored and removed promptly.
 - 6.6. The area to be rehabilitated must first be landscaped, only where necessary, to match the topography of the surrounding area, as it was prior to the maintenance activities.
 - 6.7. All landscaping must, as far as possible, be done by hand, as the use of large construction vehicles and machinery are strongly prohibited. All areas that do not require landscaping must be left as is.
 - 6.8. Stockpiles and vehicles must keep a buffer distance of at least 15m from the watercourses.
 - 6.9. Care must be taken to ensure that no material stemming from rehabilitation activities be dumped within any of the streams and/or wetland areas.
7. In addition, please note the following:
- 7.1. Since the proposed maintenance and management activities will be undertaken in accordance with the final MMP for the proposed maintenance and management of two farm dams and associated infrastructure on Portion 7 of the Farm No. 153, Steenebrug, Piketberg, an Environmental Authorisation for the abovementioned Listed Activity in terms of the NEMA and EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), is not required.
 - 7.2. Any other statutory requirements that may be applicable to the undertaking of the development must be adhered to.
 - 7.3. The fact that the final MMP is agreed to by the Competent Authority does not absolve you from your general "Duty of Care", set out in Section 28 (1) of the NEMA, which states that:

"Every person who causes, has caused or may cause significant pollution or degradation of the environment must take reasonable measures to prevent such pollution or degradation from occurring, continuing or recurring, or, in so far as such harm to the environment is authorised by law or cannot reasonably be avoided or stopped, to minimise and rectify such pollution or degradation of the environment."

Note: When interpreting their "Duty of Care" responsibility, cognizance must be taken of the principles of sustainability contained in Section 2 of the NEMA.
 - 7.4. It is reiterated that the adoption of the final MMP only relates to the Listed Activity mentioned above. If any of the other Listed Activities are triggered, then Environmental Authorisation will have to be obtained in terms of the NEMA. If the maintenance work is in any way amended, additional Listed Activities might become applicable. It remains the responsibility of the proponent to determine if Listed Activities are triggered and to ensure that the necessary Environmental Authorisation is obtained.
8. Please note that I&APs that registered during the PPP must be informed of this decision and to the fact that an appeal may be lodged against the decision in terms of the National Appeal Regulations, 2025, as detailed hereunder.

9. APPEALS

Appeals must comply the National Appeal Regulations, 2025 (Government Notice No. R. 5985 in Government Gazette No. 52269 of 13 March 2025). Please note the provisions of Regulations 1(2) and (3) of the National Appeal Regulations, 2025 when calculating the period of days.

- 9.1. The holder (applicant) of this decision must submit an appeal to the Appeal Administrator, any registered I&APs, including Organs of State, and the decision maker (Competent Authority who issued the decision) within twenty (20) calendar days from the date this Decision was sent by the decision maker.
- 9.2. The I&APs (not the holder of this Decision) must submit an appeal to the Appeal Administrator, the holder (applicant) of the Decision and the decision maker within twenty (20) calendar days from the date this Decision was sent to the registered I&APs by the holder (applicant) of the decision.
- 9.3. All appeals submitted must:
 - 9.3.1. be in writing in the appeal form obtainable from the Departmental website;
 - 9.3.2. include supporting documents referred to in the appeal; and
 - 9.3.3. include proof of payment of the prescribed non-refundable appeal fee, if prescribed.
- 9.4. The holder (applicant) of the decision must:
 - 9.4.1. notify registered I&APs of any appeal received, and make the appeal available to them, within five (5) calendar days after the 20-day appeal period ends.
 - 9.4.2. Submit proof of this notification to the Appeal Administrator within five (5) calendar days after sending the last notification.
- 9.5. The applicant, where applicable, the decision-maker, or any person notified under Regulation 4 of the National Appeal Regulations, 2025 may submit a Responding Statement within twenty (20) calendar days from the date they received the appeal, in the form obtainable from the Department website to the Appeal Administrator and to the appellant, where the appellant is not the applicant.
- 9.6. Appeals, Responding Statements and supporting documents must be submitted to the Appeal Administrator by means of one of the following methods:
 - a. **By e-mail:**
DEADP.Appeals@westerncape.gov.za or
 - b. **By hand** where that person submitting does not hold an electronic mail account:
Attention: Mr Marius Venter
Room 809, 8th Floor Utilitas Building,
1 Dorp Street, Cape Town, 8001

Note: You are also requested to submit an electronic copy (Microsoft Word format) of the appeal, responding statement and any supporting documents to the Appeal Administrator via email or to the address listed above.

A prescribed appeal form, responding statement form as well as assistance regarding the appeal processes is obtainable from the relevant website of the Appeal Authority: <http://www.westerncape.gov.za/eadp> or the office of the Minister at: Tel.: (021) 483 3721 or email: DEADP.Appeals@westerncape.gov.za

10. If there is a material non-compliance by the holder of this agreement, the Competent Authority shall deliver a written notice to the holder. The notice shall specify any acts and omissions constituting the breach, and that the Competent Authority shall withdraw its adoption of the final MMP not less than ten (10) days after receipt of the notice if the breach is not remedied in ten (10) days. The effect of this will be that Environmental Authorisation in terms of NEMA shall be required before undertaking the activities stipulated in the final MMP.
11. The Department will not be held liable for any loss or damage to property or person, as a consequence of the activities to be undertaken in accordance with the adopted final MMP.
12. This Directorate reserves the right to revise or withdraw its comments or request further information from you based on any information received.

Your interest in the future of the environment is greatly appreciated.

Yours faithfully

MR. ZAAHIR TOEFY
DIRECTOR: DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT

Copied to:

(1) Ms. Amanda Fritz-Whyte (PHS Consulting)

Email: amanda@phsconsulting.co.za
josie@phsconsulting.co.za