

Part Two Amendment of the Environmental Authorisation for the proposed Development of a Wastewater Treatment Works at Lanseria, Gauteng Province

GAUT/002/17-18/E0235

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

19 February 2021

PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

This Background Information Document (BID) has been structured to provide all potential Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) with a concise overview of the proposed project activities as well as the associated Environmental Authorisation Processes. Furthermore this BID also intend to provide I&APs with information relating to the manner in which I&APs can voice any issues concerning the proposed project. The compilation and distribution of this BID form part of the Public Participation Process for the project.

When you complete and return the registration form included with the BID, you will be included in the stakeholder database and receive further documents for review and comment. Your comment will ensure that all issues of concern are incorporated. To raise your concerns, please complete the enclosed registration sheet, write a letter, call or e-mail the public participation office. All documents will be available on the internet at www.zitholele.co.za/environmental, under heading "Lanseria Part 2 Amendment".

For enquiries, please contact: Dr Vosloo \ Mrs Mapinga/ Ms Morwasehla
Zitholele Consulting (Pty) Ltd
Building 1, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand, 1685
PO Box 6002, Halfway House, 1685
Tel: 011 207 2060
Fax: 086 674 6121
E-mail: Lanseriaoa@zitholele.co.za

1. BACKGROUND AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

Johannesburg Water SOC Ltd (JW) appointed Zitholele Consulting (Pty) Ltd to conduct a Part two amendment of the Environmental Authorisation (EA), in terms of Regulation 31 of the EIA Regulations of 2014 (GN R. 326), as amended, for the development of Wastewater Treatment Works (WwTW) in Lanseria, Gauteng Province. The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the proposed development of Wastewater Treatment Works in Lanseria was conducted by NEMAI Consulting in 2017, and the EA was granted on the 16th of November 2017. The Part 2 EA Amendment is required for the removal of Condition 3.3 and the amendment of of Layout 2 of Site 1 as stipulated in Condition 3.1 of the EA.



Figure 1: Location of the Lanseria WwTW in Lanseria, Gauteng Province

2. DESCRIPTION OF THE STUDY AREA

The Wastewater Treatment Works (WwTW) site is situated in Lanseria within the City of Johannesburg Metropolitan Municipality in the Gauteng Province. The site is located near the Jukskei River, adjacent to the northern boundary of Northern Farms. Lanseria International Airport is approximately 2.5 km south-west of the project site. Lanseria and parts of Diepsloot are located downstream of the existing wastewater and sewage collection and drainage network, feeding the Northern WwTW.

3. NEED AND DESIRABILITY OF THE PROJECT

JW has taken a strategic investment decision to develop a new WwTW in Lanseria, Gauteng. As the largest city in South Africa, the City of Johannesburg (CoJ) is home to more than 5.05 million people (Draft CoJ IDP, 2019/2020). Therefore, sanitation forms one of the core elements to ensure a decent standard of living and the provision of proper sanitation services is one of the key objectives of the National Development Plan.

Diepsloot and Lanseria are earmarked for future urban development and bulk municipal infrastructure is already established or being established in the area. The Lanseria Airport has recently started operating commercial flights and as a result, the pressure for development near the airport is increasing. With the increasing population growth expected in and around Lanseria, there is an increase in the demand for the sewer systems to handle the amounts of wastewater flows generated. Therefore, the need for a WwTW is necessary to provide sanitation service to the public. Hence an EIA was conducted for the development of a Wastewater Treatment Works in Lanseria.

Subsequent to the EA being granted in 2017, Johannesburg Water commissioned the detailed engineering design to be undertaken for the Lanseria WWTW development in preparation for the construction of the WWTW development. Development of the detailed engineering design highlighted the need to affect several necessary design changes in the detailed engineering design.

Additionally, a condition in the EA contradicts the proposed activities described and assessed in the original EIA Application, Final Environmental Impact Report, and Engineering Design Layout submitted with the application to the department for consideration. The activity descriptions and engineering design layout clearly indicated that some of the infrastructure would have to be placed within the delineated wetland and buffer area. Therefore, a part 2 amendment process must be undertaken for the amended engineering design and the removal of the condition in the EA.

4. LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The amendment of the EA is underpinned by the legal provisions of the National Environmental Management Act, No 107 of 1998 (NEMA), as amended. These acts have specific regulations governing potential impacts on the receiving environment and ambient air and include:

- Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014, as amended (GN R.326);

In terms of these acts and associated regulations the following amendments to the EA are proposed:

EA Condition	Proposed Amendment
<p><u>Condition 3.1:</u> <i>“Environmental Authorization is granted for Site 1 Layout 2 “the proposal”, the proposed Wastewater Treatment development is important for the well-being of the citizen, however, prior to construction, the applicant must find a suitable site offset site with similar environmental ecological characteristics to compensate for the loss of biodiversity sensitivities for the proposed site.”</i></p>	<p>The proposed amendment of Condition 3.1 <u>does not propose changes to the wording of Condition 3.1</u>. However, this condition references the to changes made to the engineering design associated with the development, i.e. Site 1 Layout 2 “the proposal”, that is approved by the EA.</p>
<p><u>Condition 3.3:</u> <i>“All the activities must be outside of a 30m GDARD wetland buffer, it must not encroach the delineated wetland and buffer area.”</i></p>	<p>The proposed amendment of Condition 3.3 <u>does not propose changes to the wording of Condition 3.3</u>. The proposed amendment of Condition 3.3 proposes the removal of this condition from the EA.</p>

The following amendment processes must therefore be undertaken:

1. Part 2 EA Amendment process.

5. PART 2 AMENDMENT PROCESS

An EA may be amended if the proposed amendment will result in a change to the scope of a valid environmental authorisation where such change will result in an increased level or change in the nature of impact where such level or change in nature of impact was not:

- Assessed and included in the initial environmental authorisation; or
- Taken into consideration in the initial environmental authorisation and the change does not, on its own, constitute a listed or specified activity.

The Part 2 EA Amendment Process is summarised in Figure 2 and will be carried out by Zitholele for required amendment to existing EA.

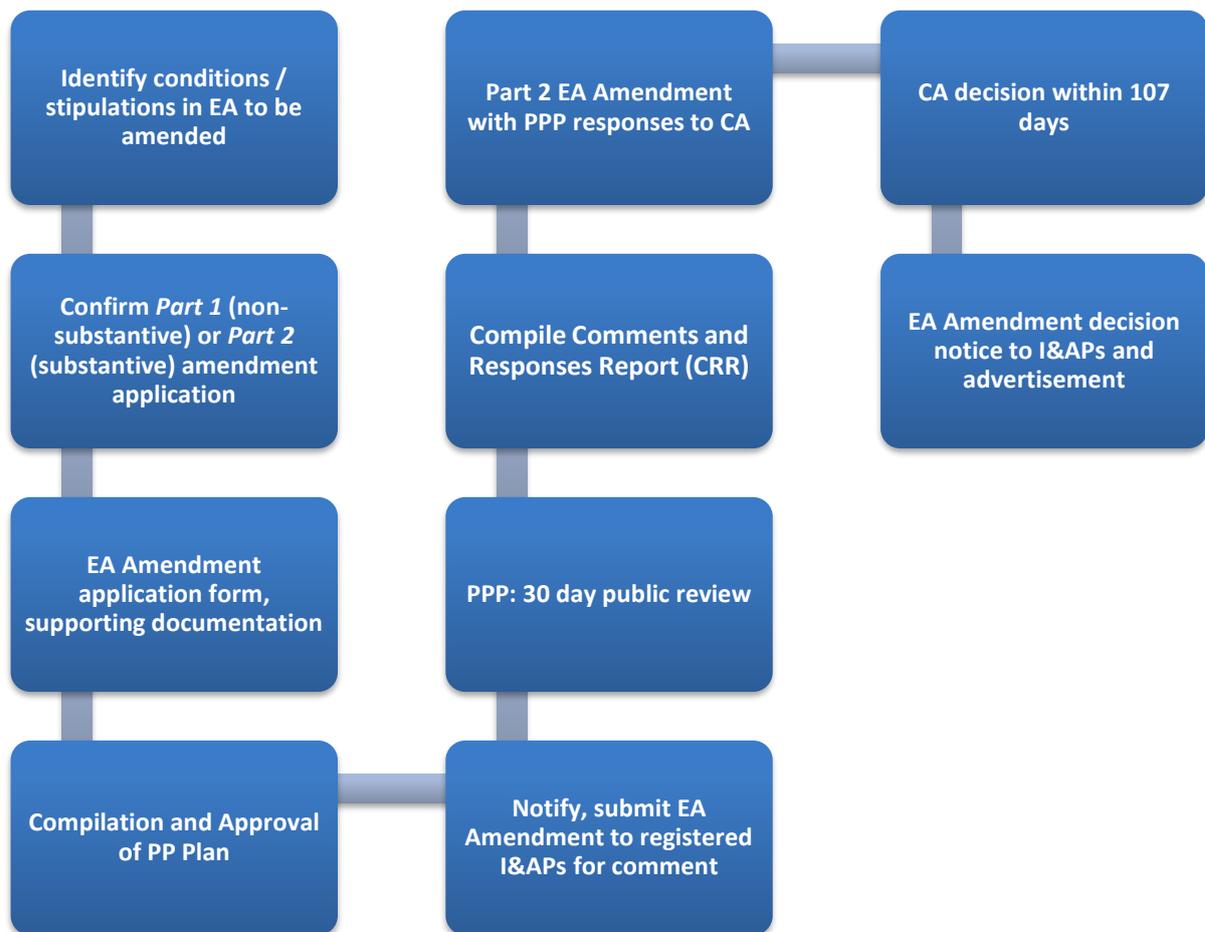


Figure 2: Process Flow Diagram for the steps required in an EA Amendment Process

A decision on the application for EA Amendment is usually reached within 107 days of receipt of the final application documentation by the Competent Authority.

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

As an important element in undertaking the EA Amendment for the project, Zitholele Consulting will conduct the public participation process as set out in the NEMA EIA regulations, 2014 (as amended). Applicable guidelines and best practice procedures will furthermore be taken into consideration. The public participation process will enable stakeholders to contribute to the process through information sharing and to review the findings of the independent studies that are to be undertaken.

In terms of the COVID-19 pandemic, new directions have been issued by the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) to provide guidance on EIA and PPP processes in terms of the COVID restrictions. In terms of GN No.650 (Directions regarding measures to address, prevent and combat the spread of Covid-19 relating to National Environmental Management Permits and Licences), dated 29 April 2020; a Public Participation Plan must be compiled

and submitted to GDARD for approval prior to commencing with the PPP. This PP Plan must present the anticipated public engagement process in light of the restrictions in force at the time as well as all safety measures and protocols observed. Zitholele has compiled this PP Plan and submitted to GDARD for approval. The following steps of the public participation Process was approved and will be undertaken :

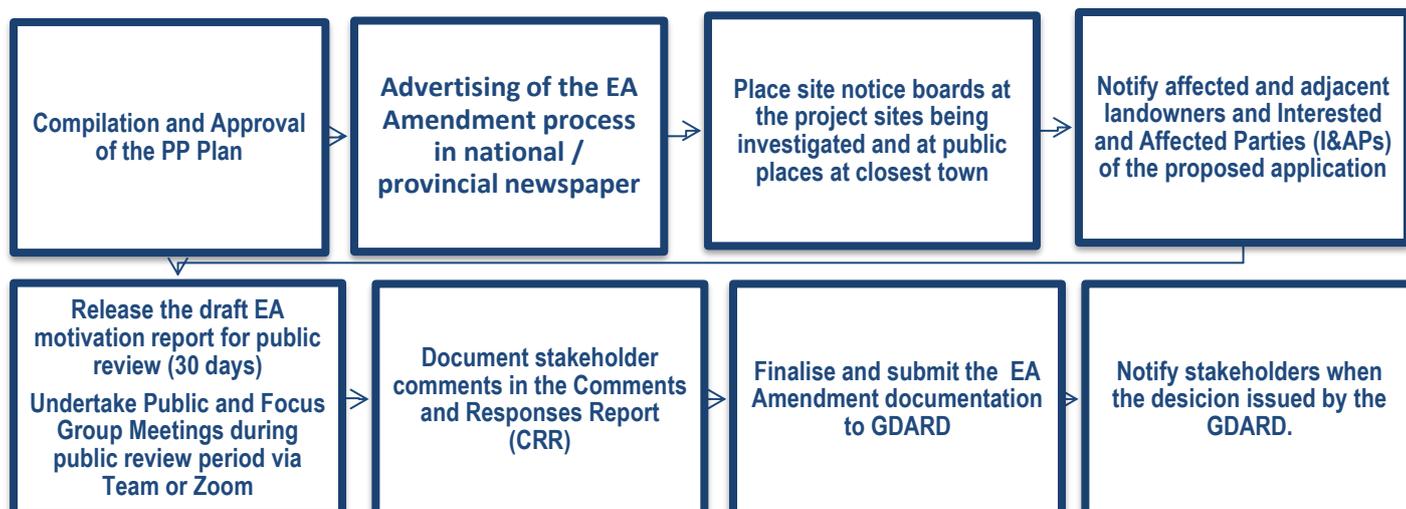


Figure 3: Process Flow of the Public Participation Process

7. AVAILABILITY OF APPLICATION DOCUMENTATION

The EA Amendment Application Documentation will be placed at the public venue listed below. The Interested and Affected Parties will be notified of the commencement of public review via email and a newspaper advertisement:

- Diepsloot Public Library - 383 Ingonyama St, Diepsloot West, Diepsloot, 2189
- Zitholele Consulting website (www.zitholele.co.za/environmental/, under heading “Lanseria Part 2 Amendment”)

The advertisement will be placed in the Cosmo City Chronicles Newspaper to also inform the public of the availability of the Part 2 EA Amendment Motivation Report.

Information pertaining to the EA Amendment can be requested from the PPP desk on the details below:

Dr Mathys Vosloo / Mrs Tebogo Mapinga / Miss Jessica Morwasehla
Zitholele Consulting (Pty) Ltd, P O Box 6002, Halfway House, 1685
Tel: (011) 207 2060, Fax: 086 674 6121, or Email: Lanseriaoa@zitholele.co.za

8. DECISION-MAKING (ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION)

Based on the information provided in the final EA Amendment documentation, the Competent Authority will make a decision to grant or refuse EA amendment. The granting of environmental authorisation amendment will allow the Applicant to proceed with implementing the proposed project activities. Once the Competent Authority has reached a decision, with regards to granting the environmental authorisation amendment, all registered I&APs will be notified thereof within 14 days of the date of the decision. An appeal may be lodged against the decision made in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (107 of 1998) and National Appeal Regulations, 2014. I&APs will be notified of the decision made by the Competent Authority by means of the following methods:

- Via electronic mail;
- Facsimile (to I&APs who do not have access to electronic mail); and
- Registered mail (to those I&APs who do not have access to electronic mail nor facsimile facilities).

The EA Amendment Process will be concluded by the notification of I&APs of the decision made by the Competent Authority.

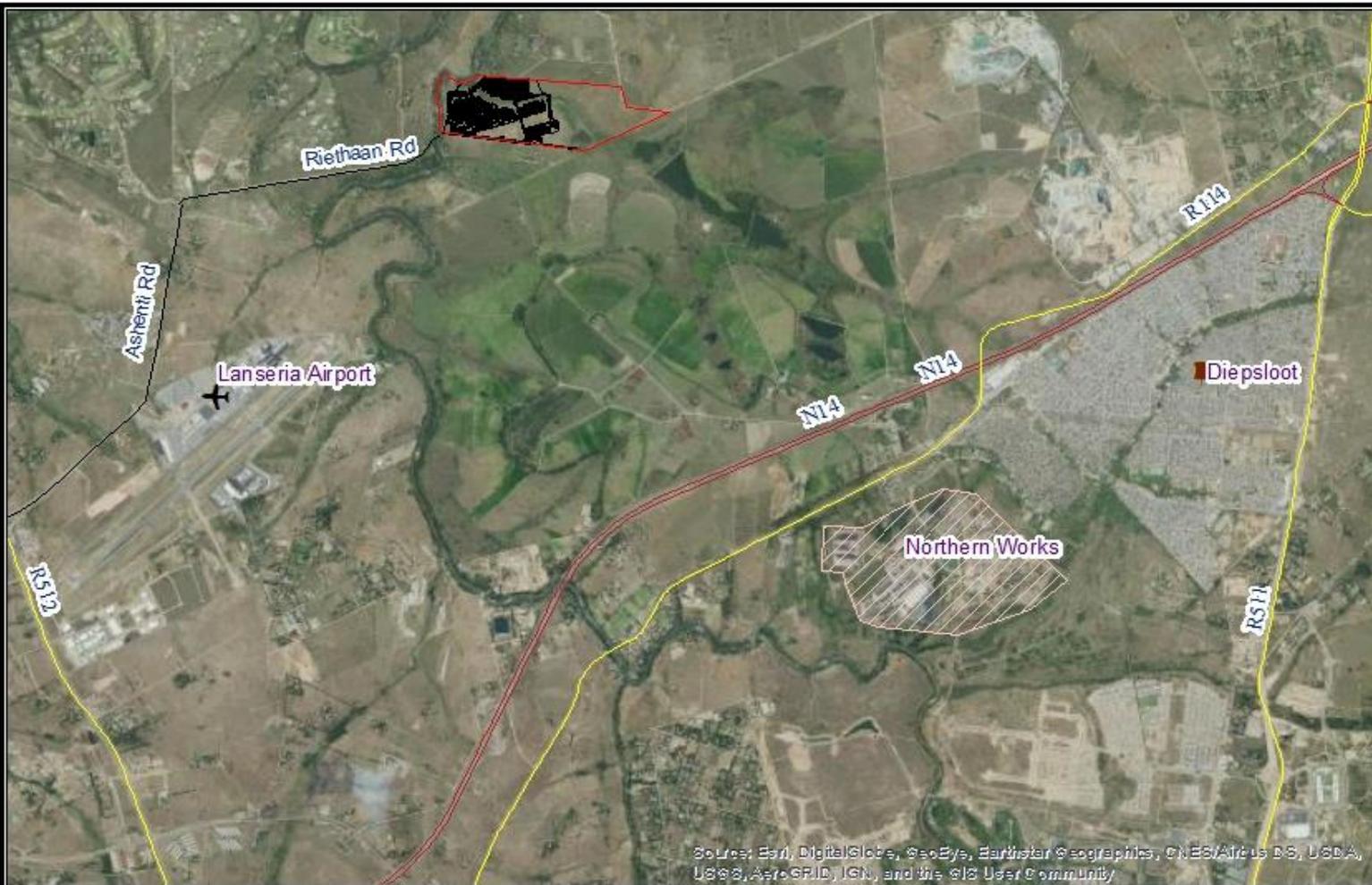
9. MAP OF PROJECT LOCATION

A locality Map of the proposed project can be found in Figure 4 below.

10. BID COMMENT SHEET

A comment sheet associated with this project and EA Amendment process is included at the end of this BID. Please complete and return to the PPP desk by email to the email address provided, fax to the number provided or by submitting your enquiries telephonically to the PPP desk via the landline number specified in the left column on page 1 of this BID.

Information contained on this drawing is the copyright of Zitholele Consulting (Pty) Ltd. Unauthorised use or reproduction of this plan either wholly or in part without written permission infringes copyright. © Zitholele Consulting (Pty) Ltd.



LEGEND

- Proposed Layout 2
- Lanseria WwTW Boundary
- 📍 Town
- National Road
- Regional Road
- Other Roads
- ▨ Northern Works

RESOURCES



REFERENCE

PROJECTION WGS 1984 Web Mercator Auxiliary Sphere

PROJECT

LANSERIA PART 2 AMENDMENT

TITLE

LANSERIA WWTW LOCALITY MAP



GIS	JM	22 Jul 2020	PROJECT No. 20003
CHECK	MV	22 Jul 2020	SCALE 1:80 000
REVIEW	MV	22 Jul 2020	A3 REV 0

Figure 4: Locality Map of the Proposed Project

