

**From:** Stephanie Barnardt <Stephanie.Barnardt@westerncape.gov.za>  
**Sent:** Monday, 23 November 2020 09:26  
**To:** ameesha@sesc.net  
**Subject:** RE: THE 30-DAY COMMENTING PERIOD ON THE PRE-APPLICATION BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED EXPANSION OF MELKHOUTFONTEIN CEMETERY ON ERF 566 AND PORTION 141/480, HESSEQUA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, WESTERN CAPE.

Good day Ameesha

Thank you for informing HWC.

Please note that our previous comment still stand as seen below.

566 and 141180	proposed expansion of an existing cemetery	Still Bay, Hessequa	S38(4)-NID	20061006SB0720E		No further studies are required in terms of Section 38 of the NHRA	Since there is no reason to believe that the proposed expansion of an existing cemetery will impact negatively on heritage resources.
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Please let me know if you need the formal comment.

**HWC December 2020 Operation Procedure**  
<https://www.hwc.org.za/node/2520>

Kind regards,

**Stephanie-Anne Barnardt**  
**Heritage Officer (Archaeologist)**  
Heritage Resource Management Services  
Heritage Western Cape

3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Protea Assurance Building  
Green Market Square  
Cape Town  
8001

**Email:** [stephanie.barnardt@westerncape.gov.za](mailto:stephanie.barnardt@westerncape.gov.za)  
**Website:** <https://www.hwc.org.za>





**From:** ameesha@sesc.net <ameesha@sesc.net>

**Sent:** Friday, 20 November 2020 10:01

**To:** ameesha@sesc.net

**Subject:** FW: THE 30-DAY COMMENTING PERIOD ON THE PRE-APPLICATION BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED EXPANSION OF MELKHOUTFONTEIN CEMETERY ON ERF 566 AND PORTION 141/480, HESSEQUA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, WESTERN CAPE.

**Importance:** High

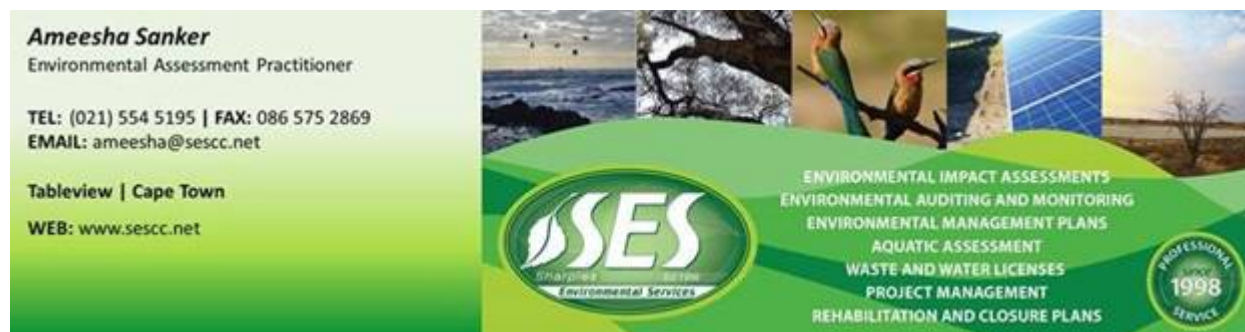
Good Day,

This is a reminder that the commenting period for the Proposed Expansion of Melkhoutfontein Cemetery on Erf 566 and Portion 141/480, Hessequa Local Municipality, Western Cape, will expire on **Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> of November 2020.**

If you have not already sent through your comments, kindly do so as soon as possible.

Thank you.

Kind Regards,



**From:** ameesha@sesc.net <ameesha@sesc.net>

**Sent:** Friday, 23 October 2020 10:06

**Subject:** THE 30-DAY COMMENTING PERIOD ON THE PRE-APPLICATION BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED EXPANSION OF MELKHOUTFONTEIN CEMETERY ON ERF 566 AND PORTION 141/480, HESSEQUA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, WESTERN CAPE.

**Importance:** High

Dear Commenting Authorities, Organs of State and/or Potential Interested & Affected Parties (I & AP's).

**THE 30-DAY COMMENTING PERIOD ON THE PRE-APPLICATION BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED EXPANSION OF MELKHOUTFONTEIN CEMETERY ON ERF 566 AND PORTION 141/480, HESSEQUA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, WESTERN CAPE.**

Sharples Environmental Services cc (SES) has been appointed by Zutari, on behalf of Hessequa Local Municipality (applicant), to undertake the application for Environmental Authorization process in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No. 107 of 1998), in accordance with the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (as amended 2017), for the Proposed Expansion of Melkhoutfontein Cemetery on Erf 566 and Portion 141/480, Hessequa Local Municipality, Western Cape.

This email serves to inform you that the Pre-Application Basic Assessment Report (Pre-App BAR) is now being made available for comment.

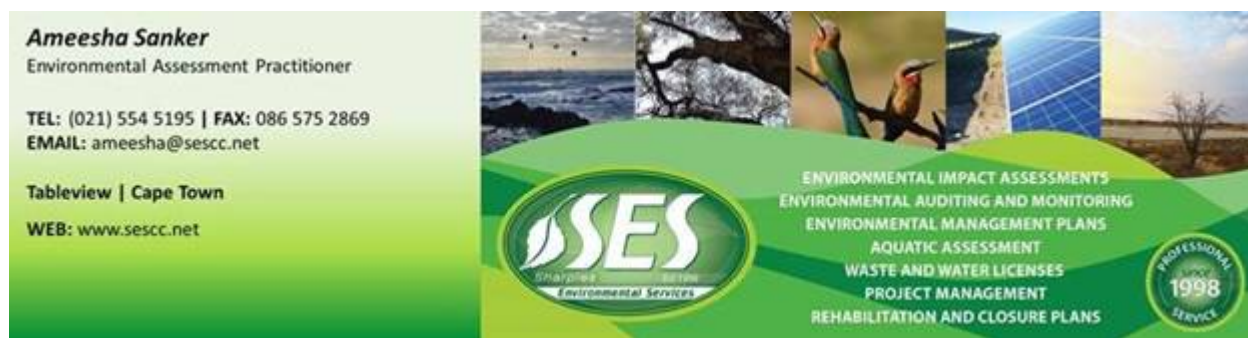
A hard-copy of the document has been made available at the Melkhoutfontein Public Library (address: Community Centre, Heide Avenue, Melkhoutfontein). The document is also available for download from our website (<https://sescc.net/public-eia-documents-impact-assessment-reports/>).

The Pre-App BAR is available for comment until 24<sup>th</sup> November 2020. Comment on the document and proposed activity must therefore be submitted in writing on or before 24<sup>th</sup> November 2020 by means of the following: Fax: 086-575 2869, email: [ameesha@sescc.net](mailto:ameesha@sescc.net) or postal address: PO Box 443, Milnerton, 7435.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries.

Thank you.

Kind Regards,



**Ameesha Sanker**  
Environmental Assessment Practitioner

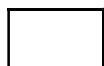
TEL: (021) 554 5195 | FAX: 086 575 2869  
EMAIL: [ameesha@sescc.net](mailto:ameesha@sescc.net)

Tableview | Cape Town  
WEB: [www.sescc.net](http://www.sescc.net)

**SES**  
Sharples Environmental Services

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENTS  
ENVIRONMENTAL AUDITING AND MONITORING  
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLANS  
AQUATIC ASSESSMENT  
WASTE AND WATER LICENSES  
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**Our Ref:** HM/ /HESSEQUA/STILL BAY/ERF 566 AND ERF 141/480  
**Case No:** 20061006SB0720E  
**Enquiries:** Stephanie-Anne Barnardt  
**E-mail:** stephanie.barnardt@westerncape.gov.za  
**Tel:** 021 483 5959  
**Cell:** 076 481 8392 (during the lock-down period)  
**Date:** 4 August 2020

Hessequa Municipality  
PO Box 29  
Riversdale  
6670  
acrm@wcaccess.co.za



**RESPONSE TO NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO DEVELOP: FINAL**  
**In terms of Section 38(2) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) and the Western Cape**  
**Provincial Gazette 6061, Notice 298 of 2003**

**NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO DEVELOP: PROPOSED EXPANSION OF AN EXISTING CEMETERY, ERF 566 AND ERF 141/480, MELKHOUTFONTEIN, STILL BAY, SUBMITTED IN TERMS OF SECTION 38(1) OF THE NATIONAL HERITAGE RESOURCES ACT (ACT 25 OF 1999)**

**CASE NUMBER: 20061006SB0720E**

The matter above has reference.

Heritage Western Cape is in receipt of your application for the above matter received on 21 July 2020. This matter was discussed at the Heritage Officers meeting held on 27 July 2020.

You are hereby notified that, since there is no reason to believe that the proposed expansion of an existing Cemetery, Erf 566 and Erf 141/480, Melkhoutfontein, Still Bay will impact on heritage resources, no further action under Section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) is required.

However, should any heritage resources, including evidence of graves and human burials, archaeological material and paleontological material be discovered during the execution of the activities above, all works must be stopped immediately and Heritage Western Cape must be notified without delay.

This letter does not exonerate the applicant from obtaining any necessary approval from any other applicable statutory authority.

HWC reserves the right to request additional information as required.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the official above and quote the case number.

Yours faithfully

pp.

.....

Dr. Mxolisi Dlamuka

**Chief Executive Officer, Heritage Western Cape**

[www.westerncape.gov.za/cas](http://www.westerncape.gov.za/cas)

**Street Address:** Protea Assurance Building, Green Market Square, Cape Town, 8000 • **Postal Address:** P.O. Box 1665, Cape Town, 8000  
• **Tel:** +27 (0)21 483 5959 • **E-mail:** ceoheritage@westerncape.gov.za

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**Idilesi yendawo:** kumgangatho 3, kwisakhiwo iprotea Assurance, Greenmarket Square, eKapa, 8000 • **Idilesi yeposi:** Inombolo yebhokisi yeposi 1665, eKapa, 8000 • **Iinombolo zomnxeba:** +27 (0)21 483 5959 • **Idilesi ye-imeyile:** ceoheritage@westerncape.gov.za

**postal** Private Bag X6546, George, 6530  
**physical** 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Rentzburg Hof, 42 Courtenay Street,  
Bodorp, George 6529  
**website** [www.capenature.co.za](http://www.capenature.co.za)  
**enquiries** Megan Simons  
**telephone** +27 87 087 3060 fax +27 44 802 5313  
**email** [msimons@capenature.co.za](mailto:msimons@capenature.co.za)  
**reference** LE14/2/6/1/6/5/RE566&480-141\_cemetery\_Stilbay  
**date** 09 December 2020

Sharples Environmental Services cc,  
P.O. Box 443,  
Milnerton,  
7435

Attention: Ms Ameesha Sanker  
By email: [ameesha@sesc.net](mailto:ameesha@sesc.net)

Dear Ms Ameesha Sanker

**PRE-APPLICATION DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: PROPOSED  
EXPANSION OF THE MELKHOUTFONTEIN CEMETERY ON ERF 566 AND  
PORTION 141/480, HESSEQUA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY.**

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CapeNature would like to thank you for the opportunity to review your application for the proposed expansion of the Melkhoutfontein Cemetery, Still Bay. The proposed expansion will entail the following as extracted from the dBAR:

*“The proposed expansion of the Melkhoutfontein Cemetery will entail the extension of the property by an additional 1.83 hectares, allowing the inclusion of an additional 1863 plots. The existing fence line, gravel access road, and water pipeline will be extended further South, into ERF 566, and a tap will be position at the southern-most point of this line, for provision of water. Proposed Scope of Works:*

- *Demolish wall boundary (eastern and southern side of site) and erect new boundary wall around extension.*
- *Clear 8 339m<sup>2</sup> proposed extension on Erf 566 and Erf141/480 (combined).*
- *Extend existing access road, with gravel/asphalt finish.*
- *Implement stormwater management design specific to site.*
- *Rehabilitation with indigenous vegetation and rescued bulbs/cuttings from degraded fynbos.”*

Please note that our comments only pertain to the biodiversity related impacts and not to the overall desirability of the application. CapeNature wishes to make the following comments:

According to the Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan (WCBSP 2017)<sup>1</sup> the site is mapped as Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBA 1: Terrestrial, Aquatic and River and CBA 2: Terrestrial)

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<sup>1</sup> Pool-Stanvliet, R., Duffell-Canham, A., Pence, G. & Smart, R. 2017. The Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan Handbook. Stellenbosch: CapeNature.

The Western Cape Nature Conservation Board trading as **CapeNature**

Board Members: Associate Prof Denver Hendricks (Chairperson), Prof Gavin Maneveldt (Vice Chairperson), Ms Marguerite Loubser, Mr Mervyn Burton, Dr Colin Johnson, Prof Aubrey Redlinghuis, Mr Paul Slack



and Ecological Support Areas (ESA 2: Restore). Non-perennial rivers flow along the southern boundary of the site and forms part of a Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Areas<sup>2</sup> River Corridor, climate adaptation corridor, and is mapped as part of the Southern Coastal Belt Watercourse Protection. The vegetation units present is **Vulnerable** Albertinia Sand Fynbos<sup>3</sup> and Least Concerned Canca Limestone Fynbos<sup>4</sup>. The former will be listed as Least Concerned in the updated draft ecosystem threat listings for the updated National Biodiversity Assessment (2018).

## Freshwater Habitat impact Assessment

We agree with the freshwater assessment that there are no aquatic habitats within the proposed cemetery expansion site. The assessment mentioned that the river ecosystem will not be disturbed if the No-Go zones are adhered to, however it mentioned in the conclusion that the wetland downslope could be impacted. Nonetheless, there might be some impacts from the construction phase, even though the impacts may be less and if the mitigation measures are implemented. It is **very** important that all mitigation measures be implemented. Regarding Table 7 on the evaluations of potential impacts and reversibility (pages 30-31); we are unclear regarding the reversibility marked as “barely” if mitigation measures are implemented. Does this mean that if mitigation measures are implemented, the impact has limited reversibility? Sewage and chemicals must not enter the aquatic habitat thus the positioning of these facilities should be within the already disturbed areas and away from the watercourse. The contractors and municipal workers have to stay out of the No-Go areas and away from the 28m **buffer** of the watercourse.

## Biodiversity Survey

The fieldwork for the biodiversity survey was undertaken during June, which is during the winter season, and not ideal for plant surveying as some geophytes, annuals and other flowering plants might have been missed. Using Google Earth Satellite Imagery, the site has been transformed over time, which agrees with the botanical specialist report. The survey recorded various plant species including two Species of Conservation Concern namely: *Aspalathus sanguinea* and *Leucospermum praecox*, endemics such as *Lampranthus fergusoniae* and *Acmadenia densifolia*, and protected trees *Sideroxylon inerme*. Even though the area is degraded, the local species are well represented and should be protected and restored after the operational phase. We support the comment that search and rescue should be done prior to construction and these species can be used during rehabilitation. In addition, a CapeNature permit would be required for plant and animal search-and-rescue. The botanical report mentioned that agricultural activities, developments and the increase in invasive alien plants are threats to the indigenous vegetation thus the mitigation measures should be strictly implemented as proposed by the specialist in order to minimize the disturbance footprint.

The property has *Sideroxylon inerme* (milkwood), which is a listed indigenous protected tree species<sup>5</sup>. Therefore, during the construction these trees should not be disturbed or damaged, without obtaining a permit from Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF). Prior to construction carefully mark the trees that will be retained and have measures to protect these trees. Throughout the development, the impact on the protected trees must be minimal and they should be clearly marked during the construction phase.

<sup>2</sup> Nel, J.L., Murray, K.M., Maherry, A.M., Petersen, C.P., Roux, D.J., Driver, A., Hill, L., Van Deventer, H., Funke, N., Swartz, E.R., Smith-Adao, L.B., Mbona, N., Downsborough, L. & Nienaber, S. (2011). Technical Report for the National Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Areas project. WRC Report No. K5/1801.

<sup>3</sup> National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (10/2004): National list of ecosystems that are threatened and in need of protection. 2011.

<sup>4</sup> Skowno, A. L., Poole, C. J., Raimondo, D. C., Sink, K. J., Van Deventer, H., Van Niekerk, L., Harris, L. R., Smith-Adao, L. B., Tolley, K. A., Zengeya, T. A., Foden, W. B., Midgley, G. F. and Driver, A. 2019. National Biodiversity Assessment 2018: The status of South Africa's ecosystems and biodiversity. Synthesis Report. Pretoria, South Africa. 214 pp.

<sup>5</sup> Notice of the List of Protected Tree Species under the National Forest Act, 1998 (Act No. 84 of 1998)

The Species of Conservation Concern and local endemics should be translocated. Extreme caution should be applied during the relocation of the plants to ensure they are not damaged. Suitable micro-habitats must be identified and consider eliminating any threats to the plants, once relocated. A Botanical Specialist must oversee the process and determine a the correct season to give the plants an adequate chance to establish.

In terms of the Alien and Invasive Species regulations, specific alien plant species are either prohibited or listed as requiring a permit; aside from restricted activities concerning, *inter alia*, their spread, and should be removed<sup>6</sup>. The removal of invasive alien plant species must be continuous and around properties adjacent to the road and should continue beyond the operational phase. A site-specific invasive alien plan should be compiled and outline the following:

- delineate the locations of invasive alien plants in relation to the development areas and illustrate this on a map;
- stipulate a timeframe and strategy for alien plant removal (which are potentially the best months of the year to destabilise and remove the alien plants, based on weather conditions/patterns);
- list potential methods of clearing (i.e. herbicides or cutting); and
- list the relevant indigenous plant species used for the rehabilitation (with accompanying photographs).

The aim of this process will be to provide the municipality with relevant information regarding which invasive alien plants should be removed. Followed by the re-vegetation, with indigenous plants. In terms of the rehabilitation, the municipality officials that will assist in the rehabilitation should be trained in terms of which indigenous plant species to collect, where these species can be locally found, how and what time of year to collect the seeds (or cuttings) and lastly state if the any planted vegetation should be irrigated and how frequent? The disturbed areas should also be rehabilitated after their operational phase.

Identify and label separate waste receptacles for different waste. Waste generated during construction and operational phases must be emptied regularly to ensure they do not overflow. Removal of waste and building materials must be disposed, offsite, at a registered disposal facility. Waste outside of the expansion footprint should also be removed during construction until post-operational.

During the clearing of indigenous vegetation and invasive alien plants, areas susceptible to erosion must be protected by installing the necessary temporary structures.

The Environmental Control Officer (ECO) should be present, if possible, during the clearing of alien invasive plant species and vegetation to ensure the implementation of the proposed mitigation measures and to identify any harmful activities.

In conclusion, the watercourse should be considered as No-Go areas and the 32m buffer must be strictly implemented. The removal of invasive alien plants must be continuous and indigenous fynbos species should be used during the rehabilitation. Protected trees should not be harmed during the construction and clearly marked if they would be retained or re-located.

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<sup>6</sup> National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act 2004. (Act No.10 of 2004). Draft Alien and Invasive Species Regulations 2018. Government Gazette no. 112

CapeNature reserves the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on any additional information that may be received.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Megan Simons', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

**Megan Simons**  
**For: Manager (Landscape Conservation Intelligence)**





## BREED-GOURITZ

CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AGENCY

101 York Street 3rd Floor Rm 302 George 6530, P.O. Box 1205 George 6530

✉: Mr. Mthimkhulu  
566, HESSEQUA

☎: 023 346 8000

✉: mmthimkhulu@bgcma.co.za

📁: 4/10/2/H90E/ERF

SES  
PO Box 443  
Milnerton  
7435

**Attention: Ameesha Sanker**

Dear Madam,

### COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSED EXPANSION OF MELKHOUTFONTEIN CEMETERY ON ERF 566 & PORTION 141/480, HESSEQUA MUNICIPALITY, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

The above mentioned report, has reference.

The Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management Agency (BGCMA) has the following comments:

1. No operation is allowed within 100m of a water resource or 1:100 year flood line, whichever is the greatest. If the proposed activity falls within this area, authorisation needs to be put in place in terms of the National Water Act (NWA), 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998). This is to ensure that the riparian ecological status of the water resource will not be negatively impacted.
2. Please note that any development within 500m from the boundary of any wetland requires authorisation in terms of the National Water Act (NWA), 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998).
3. No water maybe abstracted from any surface water body and groundwater unless authorized by this Agency. Where will the water for the proposed activity are sourced from?
4. Where solid waste disposal is to take place on site, ensure that only non-toxic materials which have no risk of polluting the groundwater, are buried in designated approved areas at acceptable depths below ground level.
5. No surface, ground or storm water may be polluted as a result of any activities on the site. Please use silt retention traps and a Storm water master plan to prevent erosion and pollution.



6. The rehabilitation of the site must ensure that the final conditions of the site is environmentally acceptable and that there will be no adverse long term effects on the surrounding environment especially the water resources.
7. Please note that all requirements as stipulated in the National Water Act (NWA), 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) must be adhered to.
8. Please note that this Agency reserves the right to amend and / or add to the comments made above in the light of subsequent information received.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact the official at the above mentioned details.

**MR. JAN VAN STADEN**



**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (ACTING)**

**DATE: 28/10/2020**





**Western Cape  
Government**

Transport and Public Works

**ROAD NETWORK MANAGEMENT**

Email: Lyle.Martin@westerncape.gov.za

tel: +27 21 483 2419

Rm 335, 9 Dorp Street, Cape Town, 8001

PO Box 2603, Cape Town, 8000

**REFERENCE : TPW (Job 28116)**

**ENQUIRIES : Mr L Martin**

**DATE : 23 November 2020**

Sharples Environmental Services

PO Box 443

**MILNERTON**

7435

Attention: Ms A Sanker

Dear Madam

**COMMENTING PERIOD ON THE PRE-APPLICATION BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED EXPANSION OF MELKHOUTFONTEIN CEMETERY ON ERF 566 AND PORTION 141 OF FARM 480, HESSEQUA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, WESTERN CAPE**

1. The following refer:
  - 1.1 Your e-mail on behalf of Sharples Environmental Services on 23 October 2020.
  - 1.2 Sharples Environmental Services' public participation plan 23/MHF/PPPlan/10/2020 dated October 2020.
  - 1.3 Element Consulting Engineers' preliminary engineering design report dated September 2018.
2. Minor Road 4896 (OP04896 ; Rooipitjie Road), for which this Branch is the Road Authority (Roads Ordinance 19 of 1976), is affected by this expansion. From an environmental point of view will this Branch offer no objection to the issuing of an Environmental Authorisation, provided that this Branch will be offered the opportunity to comment during a land use application phase; at which time this Branch will revise the access, parking arrangements, address the boundary wall along OP04896 and, if necessary, advise on designs that need to be submitted to this Branch's Chief Design Directorate for approval before construction thereof may commence.

Yours faithfully

**SW CARSTENS**

**For CHIEF DIRECTOR: ROAD NETWORK MANAGEMENT**

## ENDORSEMENTS

1. Sharples Environmental Services

Attention: Ms A Sanker (e-mail: [ameesha@sescs.net](mailto:ameesha@sescs.net))

2. Garden Route District Municipality

Attention: Mr JG Daniels (e-mail)

3. District Roads Engineer  
Oudtshoorn

4. Mr SW Carstens (e-mail)

5. Mr E Burger (e-mail)



Messrs. Sharples Environmental Services  
Table View  
Cape Town

Attention: Ms. A. Sanker

**PROPOSED EXPANSION OF THE MELKHOUTFONTEIN CEMETERY ON ERF 566 AND  
PORTION 141/480, HESSEQUA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY.**

Your Email with attachment dated 09<sup>th</sup> November 2020 concerning the above mentioned refers.

1. The proposed expansion as well as the existing site is already stated in the draft report that a potential for ground water pollution is high.
2. Cemeteries are ideally situated where the water table is low, and at an acceptable distance from water sources such as rivers to avoid contamination.
3. In terms of Section 15(2) of the Regulations relating to the Management of Human Remains, R363 of May 2013, all burial sites must comply with the following environmental requirements: -
  - (a) Be located outside the 100-year floodplain;
  - (b) Be located at least 350 m from ground water sources used for drinking purposes and at least 500 m from the nearest habitable building;
  - (c) For a preferred burial site with a soil of sand-clay mix of low porosity and a small and fine grain texture, the water table should be at least 2.5m deep in order to allow for traditional grave depth of 1.8 meters;
  - (d) For areas with higher water tables, the local government may determine a reasonable depth with additional walling recommendations to protect underground water; and
  - (e) The covering soil shall not be less than 1 m, should two bodies be buried in the same grave, 300mm of soil shall be maintained between the coffins.

4. Exemptions to these regulations – Regulation 2 (2):

(a) A local government may, with the approval of the Director-General, in writing exempt any person from compliance with any provisions of these regulations where, in the opinion of the local government, non-compliance does not or will not create a health nuisance, health hazard or endanger human health; and that

(b) Such exemptions shall be subject to such conditions and valid for such a period as the local government may, with the approval of the Director-General or delegated person, lay down and stipulate.

(c) A local government must issue a certificate of exemption to a person, for exemption of any provision of these regulations.

**5. If any of the requirements referred to under point three (3) of this Notice cannot be met, the Section Municipal Health Services must be informed and needs to apply for approval from the Director General of the Department National Health to exempt the Hassequa Municipality from any non-compliances in terms of Regulation 15(2).**

6. Over and above the set requirements / recommendations in the Environmental Management Programme, Geohydrological and geotechnical assessment etc., this Office Concurs with the recommendations of the study on Geohydrological and Geotechnical Assessment namely that:

(a) Strict mitigation measures and groundwater monitoring plan should be implemented to prevent surface or ground water pollution due to any actions on the site as per the applicable requirements with respect to relevant legislation pertaining to water must be met.

(b) The aquifer developed for Melkhoutfontein is of strategic importance and requires strict protection.

(c) The cemetery expansion should only be allowed in the case that no abstraction takes place within 250 m of the cemetery.

(d) Irrespective of whether the cemetery expansion occurs, the groundwater monitoring recommendations should be implemented for the current cemetery.

(e) Should the cemetery expansion occur, the proposed expansion will need to conform to the standard industry mitigations measures for developing a cemetery in order to minimize contamination on site.

(f) The recommended monitoring of the groundwater system on site.

7. Further to that the following must be complied to.

(a) Any solid waste must be disposed of at a waste disposal facility licensed in terms of applicable legislation.

(b) The applicable requirements with respect to relevant legislation pertaining to occupational health and safety must be adhered to.

(c) The holder of the Environmental Authorisation must always ensure that the construction activities comply with the Noise Control Regulations in terms of the relevant legislation, namely –

(d) All noise and sound generated during all phases of the proposed development, as well as during the operation of the Cemetery, must comply with the relevant SANS codes and standards.

(e) Adequate ablution facilities must be provided on site during construction. The ratio of 15 people per ablution facility must not be exceeded.

8. Notwithstanding the Environmental Authorization, the holder must comply with any other statutory requirements that may be applicable when undertaking these activities.

9. Good practices will also include the maintenance of norms and standards, having a good set of by-laws, and having electronic software to assist the Municipality in cemetery management.

10. Therefore there is no objection to the expansion subject to compliance to all of the above.

Yours faithfully



**DISTRICT MANAGER: GARDEN ROUTE AND CENTRAL KAROO**

**DATE: 08 January 2021**

Melkhoutfontein Cemetery On Erf 566 And Portion 141/480,  
Hessequa Local Municipality.



**To:** Marilise Van Wyk <[Marilise.VanWyk@zutari.com](mailto:Marilise.VanWyk@zutari.com)>

**Cc:** Lizet Cronje <[lizet@hessequa.gov.za](mailto:lizet@hessequa.gov.za)>; Rhuschan Manho <[rhuschan@hessequa.gov.za](mailto:rhuschan@hessequa.gov.za)>; Collab Info <[info@hessequa.gov.za](mailto:info@hessequa.gov.za)>

**Subject:** Kommentaar ; Uitbreiding van Melkhoutfontein begraafplaas

Marilise

Die sluitingsdatum vir lewering van kommentaar sluit mos vandag.

Ek het geen negatiewe kommentaar nie en ondersteun die uitbreiding van die bergraafplaas soos voorgestel ten volle.

Ek vertrou dat die EIA goedkeuring spoedig afgehandel kan word.

Is daar nog enige iets anders wat jul van my nodig het?

U antwoord word waardeur.

Groete

Yours Faithfully / Die Uwe / Ozithobileyo



**André Hansen** | Specialist: Solid Waste, Public Facilities and Amenities

National Diploma in Public Health

Directorate: Technical Services

**HESSEQUA MUNICIPALITY**

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Postal address: P.O. Box 29, Riversdale, 6670

**24-hour EMERGENCY number: 028 713 2222** (Fire & Rescue and Accidents)

**3<sup>rd</sup> GREENEST MUNICIPALITY IN SOUTH AFRICA IN 2016**

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# HESSEQUA

Munisipaliteit / Municipality / U Masipala



Rig alle korrespondensie aan die Munisipale Bestuurder  
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Van den Bergstraat

RIVERSDAL(E)

H S Visser/lc

Navrae/Enquiries:

MFT/141/480

Verw. / Ref:

2 February 2021

**Attention: Marilise van Wyk  
ZUTARI**

Dear Me. / Mrs.

## MELKHOUTFONTEIN CEMETRY

1. The Hessequa Council adopted the Spatial Development Framework on the 30<sup>th</sup> of April 2013 and approved the amended document in 2017.
2. The cemetery is partly situated on a portion of the Remainder of Erf 566 and on a portion of Portion 141 of the Farm Melhoutfontein Nr 480.
3. Attached is the SDF map of Melkhoutfontein indicating the cemetery and proposed expansion of it.

We trust that you will find this in order.

Yours faithfully

**HS VISSER**  
**DIRECTOR: DEVELOPMENT PLANNING**

## STREEKKANTORE / REGIONAL OFFICES

ALBERTINIA

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STILBAAI

Tel: (028) 713 7831

SLANGRIVIER

Tel: (028) 713 7892

JONGENSFONTEIN

Tel: (028) 713 7850

HEIDELBERG

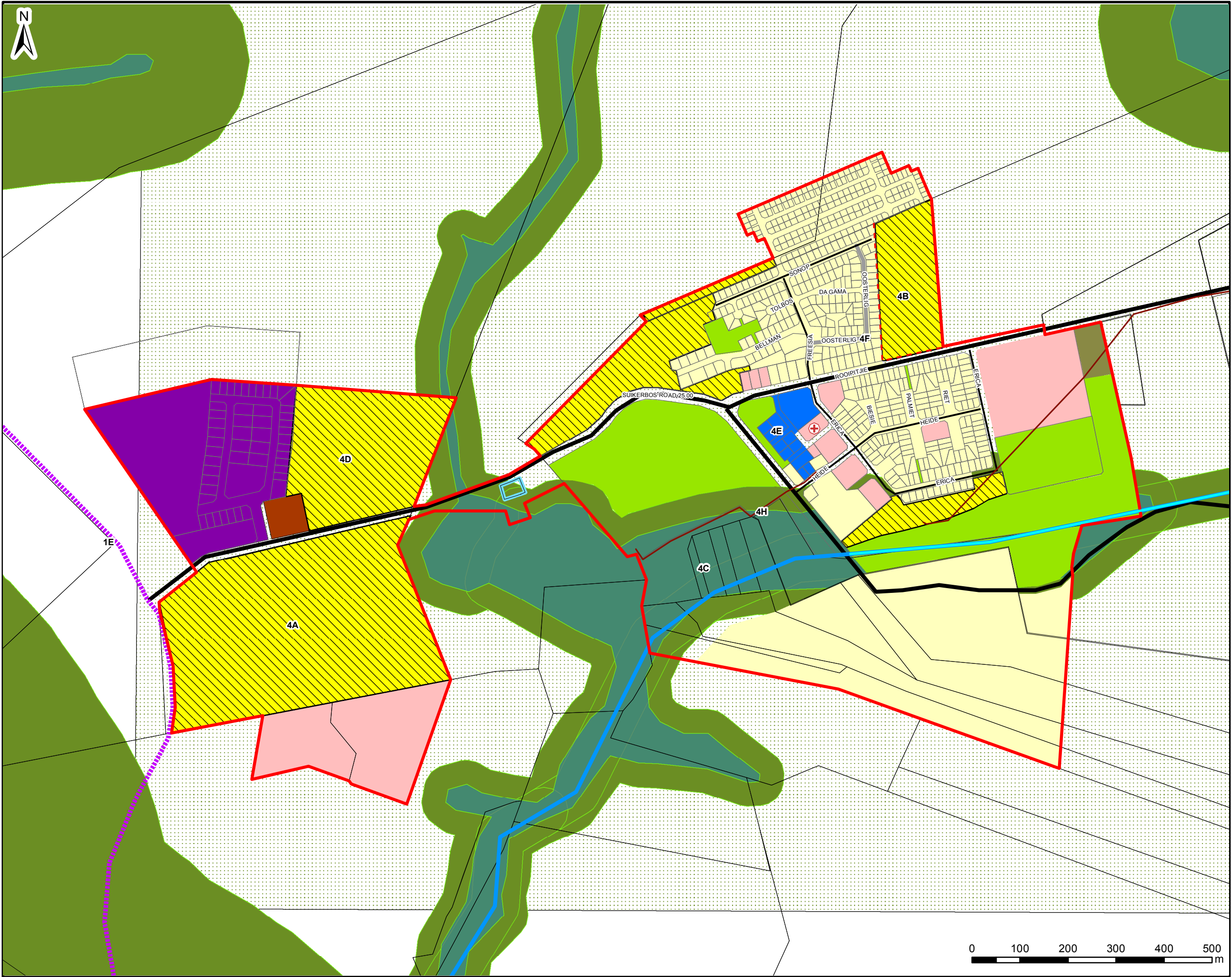
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GOURITSMOND

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WITSAND

Tel: (028) 713 7868



KONSEP RUIMTELIKE  
ONTWIKKELINGS-  
RAAMWERK

RUIMTELIKE VOORSTELLE:  
MELKHOUTFONTEIN

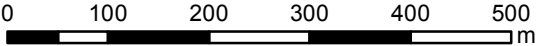
- RUIMTELIKE BEPLANNINGSEENHEDE**
- GETRANSFORMEERDE AREA
  - BEWARINGSAREA
  - KRITIESE BIODIVERSITEIT AREA (CBA) BUFFER
  - KRITIESE BIODIVERSITEIT AREA (CBA)
  - LANDBOU
  - BUFFER SONE
  - CSIR DUINE BESTUURSPLAN
  - NATUUR RESERVAAT
  - STILBAAI BESKERMDE MARIENE AREA
  - RIVIERE
- RESIDENSIEEL**
- BESTAANDE ONTWIKKELDE AREA
  - EKSTENSIEF RESIDENSIEEL
  - VOORGESTELDE LAE DIGTHEID (< 15 u/ha)
  - VOORGESTELDE LAE EN MEDIUM DIGTHEID
  - VOORGESTELDE HOE DIGTHEID (> 35 u/ha)
  - VOORGESTELDE VERDIGTINGSGEBIED
  - OORD
  - GEMENGDE BEHUISING TIPOLOGIE
  - NOOD BEHUISING
  - HOTEL
- BESIGHEID EN INDUSTRIEEL**
- SSK
  - SAKENODUS
  - BESIGHEID
  - GEMENGDE GRONDGEBRUIKE
  - DIENSBEDRYF
  - VOORGESTELDE DIENSBEDRYF
  - LIGTE INDUSTRIE
  - VOORGESTELDE LIGTE INDUSTRIE
- GEMEENSKAPSFASILITEITE**
- AKTIWITEITSAREA
  - GEMEENSKAPSFASILITEITE
  - VOORGESTELDE GEMEENSKAPSFASILITEITE
  - OOP RUIMTE
  - GHOLFBAAN
  - BEGRAAFPLAAS
  - INFORMELE BESIGHEID
  - TOERISME EN PLAASLIKE EKONOMIESE ONTWIKKELING
- ANDER**
- Owerheid
  - DIENTE OPGRADERINGSPROJEKTE >R1000 000
  - 500m RIOOL BUFFER
  - HISTORIESE GEBIED
  - VLEGVELD
  - VOORGESTELDE HOTEL
  - HOSPITAAL / KLINIEK
  - HAWE
  - PAALIE
  - VERSPREIDER
  - VERSAMELROETE
  - VOORGESTELDE ROETE
  - AKTIWITEITSROETE
- STEDELIKE GRENS**
- HOE PRIORITEITSGRENS
  - LAE PRIORITEITSGRENS
- TEGENSE PROJEKTE < R1000 000**
- VOORGESTELDE / OPGRADERING VAN BESTAANDE PAD
  - VOORGESTELDE / OPGRADERING VAN BESTAANDE RIOOL LYN
  - VOORGESTELDE / OPGRADERING VAN BESTAANDE WATER PYP
  - VOORGESTELDE / OPGRADERING VAN BESTAANDE SUBSTASIE

DATE: APRIL 2017	HESSEQUA MUNISIPALITEIT  DIREKTORAAT: ONTWIKKELINGSBEPLANNING
SCALE: 1:7 500	
DRAWING NO: 5.4	
FILE NAME: Plan - Ruimtelike Voorstelle MELKHOUTFONTEIN	

**INDEMNITY**

Under no circumstances shall the Hessequa Municipality be held liable for any consequential damages or loss of profit resulting from accuracy or completeness of data here presented.

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**Our Ref:** HM/ /HESSEQUA/STILL BAY/ERF 566 AND ERF 141/480  
**Case No:** 20061006SB0720E  
**Enquiries:** Stephanie-Anne Barnardt  
**E-mail:** stephanie.barnardt@westerncape.gov.za  
**Tel:** 021 483 5959  
**Cell:** 076 481 8392 (during the lock-down period)  
**Date:** 4 August 2020

Hessequa Municipality  
PO Box 29  
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acrm@wcaccess.co.za



**RESPONSE TO NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO DEVELOP: FINAL**  
**In terms of Section 38(2) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) and the Western Cape**  
**Provincial Gazette 6061, Notice 298 of 2003**

**NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO DEVELOP: PROPOSED EXPANSION OF AN EXISTING CEMETERY, ERF 566 AND ERF 141/480, MELKHOUTFONTEIN, STILL BAY, SUBMITTED IN TERMS OF SECTION 38(1) OF THE NATIONAL HERITAGE RESOURCES ACT (ACT 25 OF 1999)**

**CASE NUMBER: 20061006SB0720E**

The matter above has reference.

Heritage Western Cape is in receipt of your application for the above matter received on 21 July 2020. This matter was discussed at the Heritage Officers meeting held on 27 July 2020.

You are hereby notified that, since there is no reason to believe that the proposed expansion of an existing Cemetery, Erf 566 and Erf 141/480, Melkhoutfontein, Still Bay will impact on heritage resources, no further action under Section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) is required.

However, should any heritage resources, including evidence of graves and human burials, archaeological material and paleontological material be discovered during the execution of the activities above, all works must be stopped immediately and Heritage Western Cape must be notified without delay.

This letter does not exonerate the applicant from obtaining any necessary approval from any other applicable statutory authority.

HWC reserves the right to request additional information as required.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the official above and quote the case number.

Yours faithfully

pp.

.....

Dr. Mxolisi Dlamuka

**Chief Executive Officer, Heritage Western Cape**

[www.westerncape.gov.za/cas](http://www.westerncape.gov.za/cas)

**Street Address:** Protea Assurance Building, Green Market Square, Cape Town, 8000 • **Postal Address:** P.O. Box 1665, Cape Town, 8000  
• **Tel:** +27 (0)21 483 5959 • **E-mail:** ceoheritage@westerncape.gov.za

**Straatadres:** Protea Assuransie-gebou, Groentemarkplein, Kaapstad, 8000 • **Posadres:** Posbus 1665, Kaapstad, 8000  
• **Tel:** +27 (0)21 483 5959 • **E-pos:** ceoheritage@westerncape.gov.za

**Idilesi yendawo:** kumgangatho 3, kwisakhiwo iprotea Assurance, Greenmarket Square, eKapa, 8000 • **Idilesi yeposi:** Inombolo yebhokisi yeposi 1665, eKapa, 8000 • **Iinombolo zomnxeba:** +27 (0)21 483 5959 • **Idilesi ye-imeyile:** ceoheritage@westerncape.gov.za



**PER E-MAIL / MAIL**

**REFERENCE:** 16/3/3/6/7/1/D5/12/0171/20  
**ENQUIRIES:** Shireen Pullen  
**DATE OF ISSUE:** 24 November 2020

Director: Technical Services  
Hessequa Municipality  
PO Box 29  
**RIVERSDALE**  
6670

**Attention: Mr. R. Manho**

Tel: (028) 713 7831  
E-mail: rhuschan@hessequa.gov.za

Dear Sir

**COMMENT ON THE PRE-APPLICATION BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED EXPANSION OF THE MELKHOUTFONTEIN CEMETERY ON ERF 566 AND PORTION 141/480, STILL BAY, HESSEQUA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY**

1. The abovementioned document received by the Directorate: Development Management (Region 3), hereinafter referred to as "this Directorate" via electronic mail on 4 October 2020 refers.
2. This letter serves as an acknowledgment of receipt of the abovementioned document by this Directorate.
3. It is understood that the proposal entails the expansion of an existing cemetery in Still Bay on Erf 566 and portion 141/480, Melkhoutfontein. The expansion will include the clearance of approximately 8 339m<sup>2</sup> on both properties, the demolition of a boundary wall between the eastern and southern side of the site and the erection of a new boundary wall around the extended area, the extension of an existing access road, with gravel/asphalt finish, the Implementation of stormwater management design specific to site and the rehabilitation of the site with indigenous vegetation and rescued bulbs/cuttings from degraded fynbos.
4. This Directorate has reviewed the pre-application BAR and comments as follows:
  - 4.1 It is noted that the proposed cemetery is located within close proximity of the Melkhoutfontein aquifer. The aquifer developed for Melkhoutfontein is of strategic importance and requires strict protection. Specific mitigation measures should be written into the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) to ensure this aquifer is protected from the impacts that may potentially result from the proposed cemetery expansion.

- 4.2 It is also noted that a General Authorisation is applicable to the proposal. This should be confirmed by the Breede Gouritz Catchment Management Agency (BGCMA). Groundwater monitoring and sampling requirements must also be incorporated into the EMPr.
- 4.3 It is understood that no alternatives were considered for the proposal based on the fact that there is an existing cemetery and this is merely an expansion. Please note that the aim of the consideration of alternatives in the EIA Process is to find the best Environmentally Practicable Environmental option. Although it is acknowledged that there might not be an alternative site for the proposed expansion, it must be noted that alternatives are not limited to site alternatives. It may also include, but is not limited to lay-out alternatives, design, operational and technology alternatives, etc. You are therefore strongly advised to consider alternatives to avoid potential impacts. The BAR must comparatively assess all the feasible and reasonable alternatives in order to select the best practicable environmental option.
- 4.4 The pre-application BAR notes that the entire expansion area forms part of a Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA) that runs in a west-east direction from the Duiwenhoksrivier (in the west) to the Gourits River (in the east) across the Goukou, linking several nature reserves along the way. Comment from CapeNature will be crucial in this regard.
- 4.5 The findings of the Terrestrial Biodiversity Study done in June 2020 indicated that another site inspection should be undertaken early November 2020 to eliminate the low possibility that one or more of the other three butterfly species of conservation concern could occur on or near the site. Please clarify whether such site inspection was undertaken and what the findings of the inspection was.
- 4.6 This Directorate notes the involvement of numerous specialists in the process. It is reiterated that **any specialist performing work related to any of the fields of practice listed in Schedule I of the Natural Scientific Professions Act, 2003 (Act 27 of 2003) must be registered with the South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions ("SACNASP")**<sup>[1]</sup> in any of the prescribed categories [Section 18] and further to this, only a person registered with the SACNASP may practise in a consulting capacity [Section 20].
- 4.7 In the case where a specialist assessment was commissioned prior to 9 May 2020, you are required to submit proof to the competent authority that the work was commissioned prior to said date (e.g. approved quotation for specialist assessment and/or proof of work being carried out).
- 4.8 The Pre-application BAR submitted to this Directorate did not have an EMPr attached to it. Please ensure that the final document to be submitted to the competent authority must contain an EMPr that complies with the provisions of Appendix 4 of the NEMA EIA Regulations. The EMPr should include management actions and outcomes and must clearly distinguish between the two.
5. Please note that the activity may not commence prior to an environmental authorisation being granted by this Directorate.

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[1] **SACNASP** – the legislated regulatory body for natural science practitioners in South Africa.  
[www.westerncape.gov.za](http://www.westerncape.gov.za)

6. This Directorate reserves the right to revise or withdraw initial comments or request further information from you based on any information received.

Yours faithfully

pp 

**HEAD OF COMPONENT  
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT MANAGEMENT SERVICES: REGION 3  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING**

Copied to:  
Ms. A. Sanker

Sharples Environmental Services cc

E-mail: [ameesha@sesc.net](mailto:ameesha@sesc.net)  
[info@sesc.net](mailto:info@sesc.net)



**PER E-MAIL / MAIL**

**REFERENCE:** 16/3/3/6/7/1/D5/12/0171/20  
**ENQUIRIES:** Shireen Pullen  
**DATE OF ISSUE:** 2020/12/15

Director: Technical Services  
Hessequa Municipality  
PO Box 29  
**RIVERSDALE**  
6670

**Attention: Mr. R. Manho**

Tel: (028) 713 7831  
E-mail: rhuschan@hessequa.gov.za

Dear Sir

**SITE VERIFICATION REPORT AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGMENT PROGRAMME (EMPr) FOR THE PROPOSED EXPANSION OF THE MELKHOUTFONTEIN CEMETERY ON ERF 566 AND PORTION 141/480, STILL BAY, HESSEQUA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY**

1. The abovementioned documents received by the Directorate: Development Management (Region 3), hereinafter referred to as "this Directorate" via electronic mail on 23 November 2020 and 24 November 2020, respectively refers.
2. This letter serves as an acknowledgment of receipt of the abovementioned documents by this Directorate.
3. **EMPr**
  - 3.1 It is noted that the EMPr contains measures related to the adherence health and safety legislation and general construction matters. Please note that this will have an influence on the auditing of compliance with the EMPr since all measures included in the EMPr needs to be audited. As such it is advised that any additional information or guidance to what is specified in Appendix 4 and Section 24N of NEMA, should be clearly separated from the body of the report (i.e. appendices).
  - 3.2 It is also requested that the terminology in the EMPr related to the execution of tasks be checked for consistency. Terms such as "should" and "may", which do not provide clear instruction or cannot be enforced, must be avoided in the document.
  - 3.3. The frequency for the submissions of ECO reports and Auditing reports is not clear. Please provide clarity in this regard within the EMPr.
  - 3.4 This Directorate is also of the opinion that the EMPr should contain specific mitigation measures to ensure this aquifer is protected from the impacts that may potentially result from the proposed cemetery expansion.

#### 4. **Site verification Report**

##### 4.1 *Agricultural Theme*

It is noted that agricultural input is disregarded based on the findings of Mr. Mark Berry and the EAP. According to protocol, an agricultural theme that results in medium sensitivity requires a minimum of a compliance statement to be done by an agricultural soil scientist that is registered with the South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions ("SACNASP")<sup>[1]</sup>. Alternatively, the Department of Agriculture must be consulted to determine whether an agricultural specialist assessment needs to be conducted and submitted along with the Basic Assessment Report.

##### 4.2 *Plant and Animal Species Theme*

According to the screening tool report both the Plant Species and Animal Species themes at the proposed site have been sensitivity ratings of "medium". In light thereof, it is noted that a site inspection was done by Mark Berry which indicated that the site is severely degraded. Please note that the minimum requirements for animal and plant species where the sensitivity came up "medium" is a compliance statement by a SACNASP registered specialist that should be submitted along with the Basic Assessment Report. In the case where a specialist assessment was commissioned prior to 9 May 2020, you are required to submit proof to the competent authority that the work was commissioned prior to said date (e.g. approved quotation for specialist assessment and/or proof of work being carried out).

##### 4.3 *Terrestrial Biodiversity Theme*

According to the Screening Tool Report a "Very High Sensitivity" has been assigned to the Terrestrial Biodiversity Theme and that this will be covered by the Butterfly Study as well as a Botanical Study that will be submitted along with the Basic Assessment Report.

5. Please note that this comment must be read in conjunction with the comment on the pre-application Basic Assessment Report issued on 24 November 2020.
6. Please note that the activity may not commence prior to an environmental authorisation being granted by this Directorate.
7. This Directorate reserves the right to revise or withdraw initial comments or request further information from you based on any information received.

Yours faithfully

---

**HEAD OF COMPONENT**

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT MANAGEMENT SERVICES: REGION 3**

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING**

Copied to:

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Sharpley Environmental Services cc

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[info@sescc.net](mailto:info@sescc.net)

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[1] **SACNASP** – the legislated regulatory body for natural science practitioners in South Africa.

[www.westerncape.gov.za](http://www.westerncape.gov.za)