

**PRE- APPLICATION MEETING MINUTES WITH DFFE**

**BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS, WATER USE LICENSE APPLICATION AND A  
 HERITAGE PERMIT FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF  
 NEW SYSTEM 1 AT RAND WATER VEREENIGING TREATMENT WORKS, INSTALLATION  
 OF APPROXIMATELY 7 KM PHASE 2 SLUDGE PIPELINE  
 IN VEREENIGING, 1.5 KM SLUDGE LINE IN PANFONTEIN AND ASSOCIATED  
 INFRASTRUCTURE WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF SEDIBENG DISTRICT  
 MUNICIPALITY, GAUTENG PROVINCE**

**DFFE REFERENCE: 2025-03-0025**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>REPRESENTING</b>	<b>EMAIL ADDRESS</b>
<b>PRESENT</b>		
Shonisani Selahle <b>(SS)</b>	Selahle Consultancy & Projects (Pty) Ltd	<a href="mailto:shonie@scprojects.co.za">shonie@scprojects.co.za</a>
Kgalalelo Gaobotse <b>(KG)</b>	Rand Water	<a href="mailto:kgaobots@randwater.co.za">kgaobots@randwater.co.za</a>
Jimmy Maluleke <b>(JM)</b>	Rand Water	<a href="mailto:jmalulek@randwater.co.za">jmalulek@randwater.co.za</a>
Trisha Rene Pillay <b>(TRP)</b>	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment	<a href="mailto:tpillay@dffe.gov.za">tpillay@dffe.gov.za</a>
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<b>APOLOGIES</b>		
Sinnah Mhlongo <b>(SM)</b>	Selahle Consultancy & Projects (Pty) Ltd	<a href="mailto:sinnah@scprojects.co.za">sinnah@scprojects.co.za</a>

<b>AGENDA</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Welcome &amp; Introduction</li> <li>2. Purpose of the Meeting</li> <li>3. Project Overview</li> <li>1. Basic Assessment Processes               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Public Participation Process</li> <li>- Listed Activities</li> <li>- Specialist Studies</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Input by DFFE</li> <li>3. Q&amp;A</li> <li>4. Closing</li> </ol>

<b><u>MEETING AGENDA DISCUSSION</u></b>	
<b>ITEM NO</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome &amp; Introduction</b>
	<p><b>TRP</b> opened the meeting by requesting a round of introductions from the applicant and the EAP on each side before commencing with the presentation. She further requested permission to record the meeting, and <b>SS</b> approved the request.</p> <p><b>SS</b> introduced herself as the senior EAP from Selahle Consultancy and Projects Pty Ltd, who is registered with EAPASA. She further sent an apology for <b>SM</b> due to other prior engagements as the meeting was moved from 24 April 2025 to 23 April 2025.</p> <p><b>KG</b> and <b>JM</b> also introduced themselves, stating that they are from the Environmental Authorisation and Compliance section in Rand Water, and they are the applicants.</p> <p><b>TRP, MK &amp; CA</b> introduced themselves to them that they are from the Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment, and <b>TRP</b> will be the Case Officer of the project.</p>
<b>2</b>	<b>Purpose of the Meeting</b>
	<p><b>SS commenced</b> with the meeting and requested anyone present in the meeting to adopt the meeting agenda prior to continuation with the presentation. <b>TRP</b> to adopt the agenda for the meeting.</p> <p><b>SS</b> continued with the presentation, outlining the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Purpose of the meeting and the project</li> <li>▪ Background of the project.</li> <li>▪ Triggered Listed Activities</li> <li>▪ Appointed Specialists</li> <li>▪ Public Participation Process undertaken to date</li> </ul>

		<b>SS</b> concluded the presentation, then opened the floor for questions and answers session
<b>3. Questions and Answers</b>		
<p><b>Q</b> = Question or Remarks from DFFE</p> <p><b>R</b> = Response by EAP/ Applicant</p> <p><b>F</b> =Final Remarks</p>		
5.1	<b>Q</b>	<p><b>CA:</b> Requested to understand the link between the Water Treatment Works and Sludge Pipelines, and to understand if this is one project or three. Furthermore, to understand the ponds at Panfontein and their use.</p> <p>He further queried about the Sludge Pipelines section of the projects as to how the sludge will be dealt with, and lastly, to understand if sludge is not regarded as hazardous waste.</p>
	<b>R</b>	<p><b>KG:</b> Responded and gave a brief scope of work and the link between the Water Treatment Works, and the two Sludge Pipelines. She further elaborated on the purposes of the ponds as shown in the Panfontein Locality Map, stating that ponds are used as emergency ponds in case the sludge needs to be treated or dried, and the small blocks are called beds. So all the water pumped from the Vereeniging Treatment Works goes through the sludge pipelines and ends up at the Panfontein site, where it gets treated. The second question was passed to <b>JM</b> by <b>KG</b> to respond to.</p> <p><b>JM:</b> Responded stating that Rand Water has a Waste Management License for the entire site, hence there is no need to undertake the WML application, but rather construction of the sludge pipelines. He concluded by ensuring that <b>CA</b>'s questions were duly responded to.</p> <p><b>CA:</b> Responded to say is covered.</p>
5.2	<b>Q</b>	<b>CA:</b> Added by asking if the sludge goes to existing licensed disposal site
	<b>R</b>	<b>JM:</b> Responded and said yes.
5.3	<b>Q</b>	<b>CA:</b> Queried about the ending point or connection point for Phase 2 Pipelines
	<b>R</b>	<b>KG:</b> Stated that the Phase 2 Sludge Pipeline will connect with an existing Connection Chamber along the Vaal River.
5.4	<b>Q</b>	<b>CA:</b> Asked if there is no link between the Phase 2 Sludge pipeline and the 1,5km Panfontein Sludge Pipeline, wanting to understand if they are two separate projects.
	<b>R</b>	<b>JM:</b> Responded stating that the 7km Sludge pipeline is called Phase 2, while the Panfontein is intended to upgrade the Sludge Pipelines that were constructed years ago.
5.5	<b>Q</b>	<b>CA:</b> Queried if all the proposed infrastructure will fall under the Rand Water Servitude, or if the land belongs to Rand Water and won't be entering any greenfield areas
	<b>R</b>	<b>JM:</b> Responded to say that all the land belongs to Rand Water, and they have registered servitude for all the proposed development.
5.5	<b>Q</b>	<b>CA:</b> Asked if the Rand water is going to install another Pipeline next to an existing infrastructure?
	<b>R</b>	<b>JM:</b> Responded by saying yes.
	<b>Q</b>	<b>TRP:</b> Queried regarding the specialist's studies, asking if all the specialist's studies were included based on the screening tool.

	R	SS: Confirmed
5.5	F	<b>Remarks by the Department</b>
		<p><b>TRP:</b> Advised that the competent Authority (DFFE) forms a part of the public Participation, so when the Draft Basic Assessment is distributed it should be sent to DFFE as well, she further added to say that a Site Sensitivity Verification report should form part of the Basic Assessment Report which it will confirm or dispute the sensitivity rating and it needs to be in the form of a report that complies with the protocol document.</p> <p><b>CA:</b> Advised that once the Application is lodged, the Draft Basic Assessment Report will be subjected to a 30-day comment period.</p> <p><b>TRP:</b> Added to say that the minutes of the meeting must be compiled, then sent through to DFFE for review and approval, which needs to be attached to the EA application form.</p>
6.		Vote of Thanks
		<b>SS:</b> Thanked each person who attended the meeting and for the input given for the proposed application.
7		The meeting was adjourned at 10:07 AM

#### Appendix 1: Pre-Application Presentation

# PRE-APPLICATION MEETING PRESENTATION WITH DFFE

**BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS, WATER USE LICENSE APPLICATION AND A HERITAGE PERMIT FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF NEW SYSTEM 1 AT RAND WATER VEREENIGING TREATMENT WORKS, INSTALLATION OF APPROXIMATELY 7 KM PHASE 2 SLUDGE PIPELINE IN VEREENIGING, 1.5 KM SLUDGE LINE IN PANFONTEIN AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF SEDIBENG DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, GAUTENG PROVINCE**

**REFERENCE: 2025-03-0025**

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Applicant : Rand Water

Date: 23 April 2025

Time: 09h30

Venue: Ms Teams



# AGENDA

1. Welcome & Introduction
2. Purpose of the Meeting
3. Project Overview
4. Basic Assessment Processes
  - a) Public Participation Process
  - b) Listed Activities
  - c) Specialist Studies
5. Input by DFFE
6. Q&A
7. Closing



# PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

The primary goal of seeking the Pre-Application meeting is to verify:

1. The specifications related to the proposed developments.
2. And seek clarification regarding certain matters that pertain to the Environmental Assessment processes
3. The Specialist studies to be conducted.
4. And aligning with the Listed activities as per NEMA Regulations.
5. Screening Tools Themes & Protocols
6. And outlining the proposed methodology for the Environmental Authorization process.
7. And determine DFFE's requirements.
8. And confirm the process and timeframes.



# PROJECT BACKGROUND

- Rand Water (applicant) proposes the Construction & Maintenance of New System 1 at Rand Water Vereeniging Treatment Works, the Installation of approximately 7 Km Phase 2 Sludge Pipeline in Vereeniging, and a 1.5 Km Sludge Pipeline in Panfontein, with Associated Infrastructure within the jurisdiction of Sedibeng District Municipality, Gauteng Province, South Africa.
- Selahle Consultancy and Projects (Pty) Ltd has been appointed as an Independent Environment Assessment Practitioner to undertake the Basic Assessment Process for the proposed developments.
- The proposed project spans three locations (i.e. **Vereeniging New System 1, Sludge Pipeline, and Panfontein Pipeline**) but remains within the jurisdiction of the Servitude of Rand Water. The three locations are as follows:



# VEREENIGING NEW SYSTEM 1

- The Vereeniging New System 1 is located at Rand Water Vereeniging Treatment Works.
- The New System 1 entails the demolition of the old System to allow for the installation of a new automated.
- The proposed development is for the Construction and Maintenance of New System 1 with the following associated infrastructure:
  - Construction of a new 250 MLD flocculator and 225 MLD sedimentation tank.
  - Installation of the de-sludge bridge.
  - Construction of access roads.
  - Installation of a raw water pipeline.
  - Installation of a sludge pipeline.
  - Construction of a Laboratory and
  - Installation of a new Carbon Dioxide dosing
  - Carbonisation Bay



# VEREENIGING NEW SYSTEM 1

The study area for proposed construction activities is located on Portion 111 of the Farm LEEUWKUIL 596 IQ & covers an extent of approximately 2.85 Hectares. The coordinates for the site are:

**26°41'15.46" S 27°55'06.63" E**

- Below is the locality map of the proposed development:



# VEREENIGING NEW SYSTEM1 – LOCALITY MAP

New System 1 at VG

Legend



Google Earth

Image © 2025 Maxar Technologies



200 m

# 7 KM PHASE 2 SLUDGE PIPELINE IN VEREENIGING

- The Phase 2 pipeline starts from the sludge pumping station inside Vereeniging Treatment Works and runs through established industrial area in the south of Vereeniging and along Rand Water Bulk Water Pipelines to the Vaal River Crossing.
- The proposed pipeline is the installation of approximately 7 km in length of 1000mm nominal internal diameter steel sludge pipe with an 8mm wall thickness which is to be laid from the Vereeniging Treatment Works to the Vaal River Crossing. Below are the Co-ordinates:

**Start Point: 26° 41'27.50" S 27° 54'41.83" E**

**Middle Point: 26° 41'55.80" S 27°54'51.63" E**

**End Point: 26°40'55.90" S 27°56'13.15" E**

- Below is the locality Map of the Phase 2 Pipeline:



# 7 KM PHASE 2 SLUDGE PIPELINE IN VEREENIGING – LOCALITY MAP

## PHASE 2 SLUDGE PIPELINE

Proposed Phase 2 Sludge Pipeline

- Legend**
- Start, Middle & End Points
  - Maccoulei Golf Club
  - Riviera on Vaal Resort
  - The Riviera on Vaal Hotel
  - Vereeniging
  - Vereeniging Kart Circuit



# 1.5 KM SLUDGE PIPELINE IN PANFONTEIN

- The Panfontein Sludge Pipeline will consist of the installation of a new interconnection sludge pipeline with approximately 1.5km in length and 800mm in diameter. Below are the Co-ordinates:

**Start Point: 26° 42' 15.72" S 28° 01' 40.08" E**

**Middle Point: 26° 42' 51.76" S 28° 02' 08.18" E**

**End Point: 26° 42' 32.01" S 28° 02' 05.84" E**

- Below is the locality Map of Pandfontein Sludge Pipeline:





# 1.5 KM SLUDGE PIPELINE IN PANFONTEIN – LOCALITY MAP

## PANFONTEIN SLUDGE LINE

Proposed 1.5m Panfontein Sludgeline

### Legend

-  Panfontein sludgeline
-  Sludgeline ring



Google Earth

Image © 2025 Airbus  
Map Data © 2023 AND  
Image © 2025 Maxar Technologies

2000 ft



# TRIGGERED LEGISLATION

## 1. ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

Based on the information regarding the proposed development, Selahle understands that the proposed development is a project that cannot commence without an Environmental Authorization in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) in line with the EIA Regulations that was promulgated in 2014 as amended and in accordance with the National Water Act (Act No.36 of 1998).

## THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT TRIGGERS:

1. **Listing Notice 1, Activity 9, 10, 12, 13, 19 & 27 of GNR 327 (as amended):**
  - **Activity 9(i):** The proposed development entails the installation of Sludge Pipelines that are more than 1 000 metres in length with internal diameters that are more than 0,36 metres.
  - **Activity 10(i):** The proposed development entails the installation of pipelines that will be used for bulk transportation of Sludge, the Pipelines are more than 1 000 metres in length with internal diameters that are more than 0,36 metres



# TRIGGERED LEGISLATION

- **Activity 12(ii):** The proposed installation of Phase 2 Sludge Pipeline will occur within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse.
- **Activity 13:** The proposed Construction of the Vereeniging New System 1 entails the capacity of storing 1400 ML/D(Megalitres Per day) of water pumped from the Vaal River.
- **Activity 19:** The proposed installation of the Sludge Pipelines will entail the infilling or depositing of any material of more than 10 cubic meters into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles, or rock of more than 10 cubic meters from a watercourse.
- **Activity 27:** The proposed development of the Vereeniging new system 1 and the pipelines entails the clearance of an area of 1 hectares or more, but less than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation.



# TRIGGERED LEGISLATION

## 2. Listing Notice 3, Activity 12(c) & 14(c) of GNR 324 (as amended):

- **Activity 12(c)(ii):** The proposed development entails the clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more, within the Gauteng Province where the development occurs Within Critical Biodiversity Areas or Ecological Support Areas identified in the Gauteng Conservation Plan or bioregional plans.
- **Activity 14(ii)(c):** The proposed installation of Phase 2 Sludge Pipeline will occur within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse within the Gauteng Province where the development occurs Within Critical Biodiversity Areas or Ecological Support Areas identified in the Gauteng Conservation Plan or bioregional plans.



# TRIGGERED LEGISLATION

## 2. WATER USE LICENSE APPLICATION

- A Water Use License Application process for the said proposed developments is also underway in terms of the Water Use License Application and Appeals Regulations, 2017(amended) promulgated under the National Water Act – NWA (Act No. 36 of 1998) and will be submitted to the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS).
- The proposed development falls within the Upper Vaal Water Catchment under the C22F Quaternary Catchment Boundaries.
- The triggered water uses for the proposed development are:
  - **Section 21(c):** impeding of the stream /river or diverting of the flow of the watercourse
  - **Section 21(i):** altering the bed, banks of a watercourse



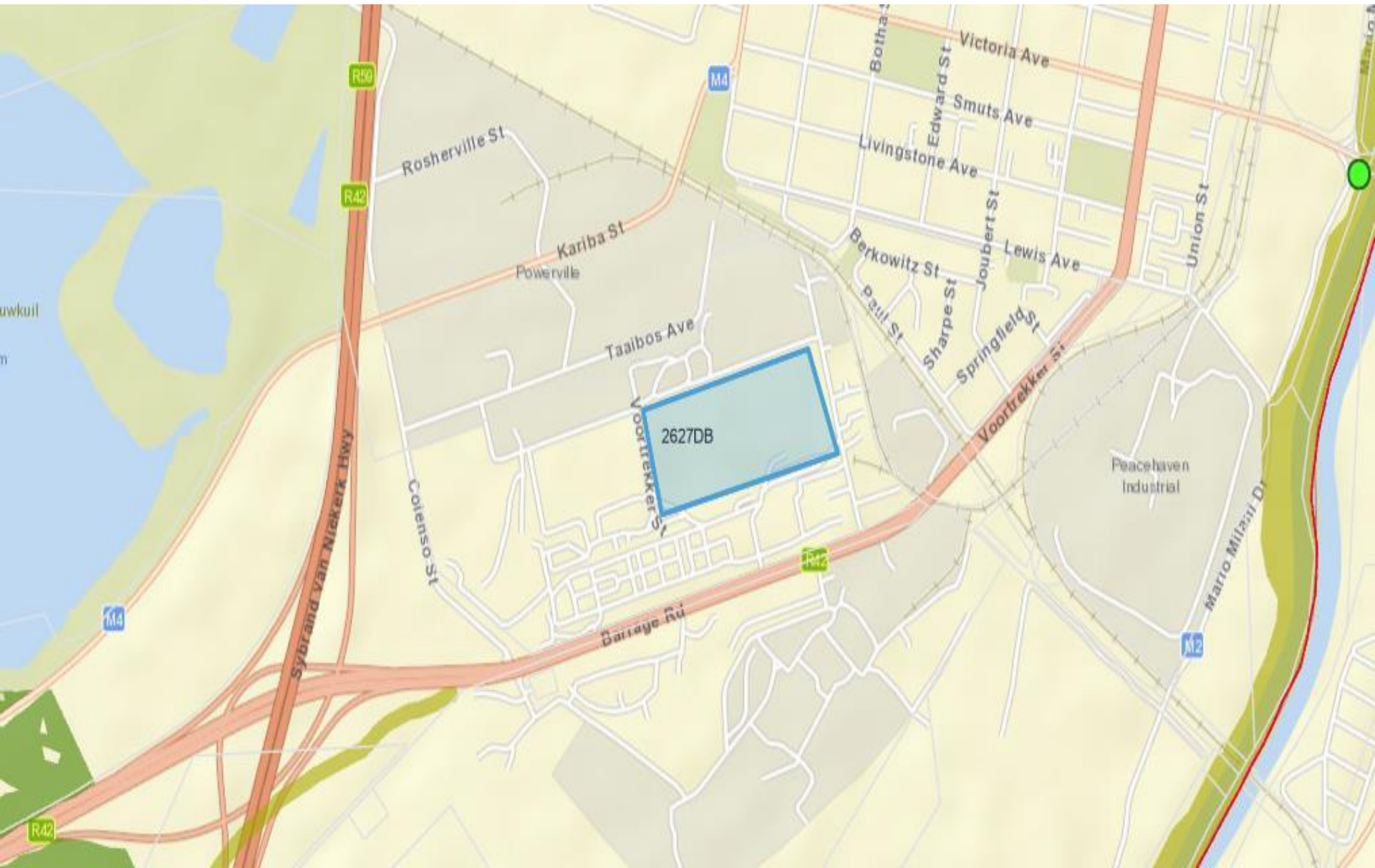
# TRIGGERED LEGISLATION

## 3. Heritage Permit

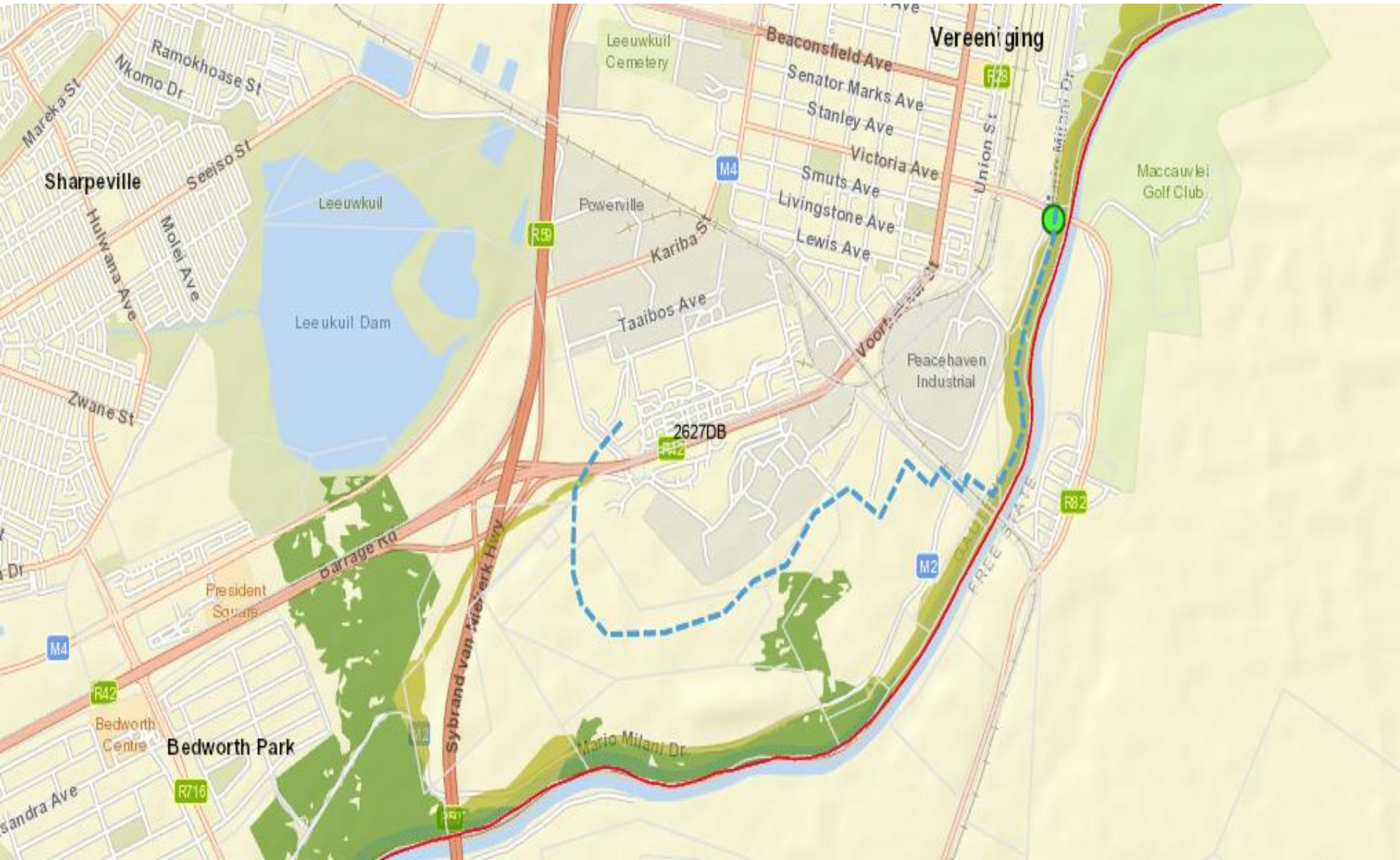
- The activities that will be undertaken at the Rand Water Vereeniging Treatment Works will require a Heritage Permit which it is believed to be over 100 years old and holds significant historical importance in South Africa's water supply history.
- Therefore, a Heritage Permit process the Vereeniging New System 1 is also underway in terms of Section 34(1) of the National Heritage Resource Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999) which mandates that any proposed modifications to the facility require prior approval from the competent authority.
- The application will be submitted to the Gauteng Provincial Heritage Resources Authority (PHRA-G).
- Furthermore, the South African Heritage Resource Authority will be notified in terms of Section 38(1)(a) and Section 38(c)(i) which mandates that every linear development exceeding 300m in length the authority should be notified.



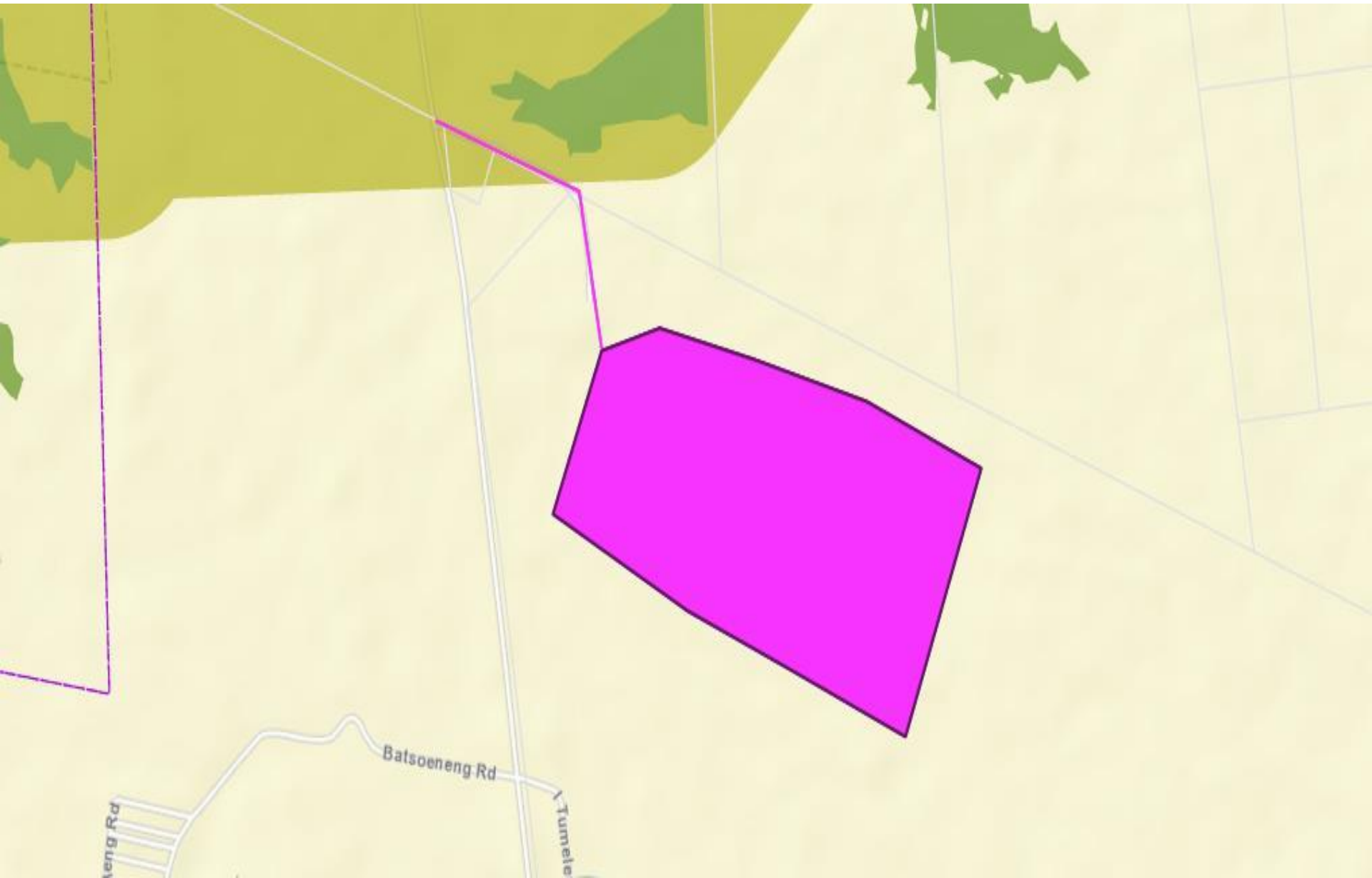
# SANBI GIS MAP FOR VG NEW SYSTEM 1



# SANBI GIS MAP FOR PHASE 2 PIPELINE



# SANBI GIS MAP FOR PANFONTEIN PIPELINE



# SCREENING TOOL THEMES FINDINGS

New System 1 (VG NS1), Phase 2 Sludge Pipeline (Phase 2 SP), Panfontein Sludge Pipeline (Pan-SP)

THEME	VERY HIGH SENSITIVITY	HIGH SENSITIVITY	MEDIUM SENSITIVITY	LOW SENSITIVITY
Agricultural	Pan SP	VG NS1 Phase 2 SP		
Animal Species		VG NS1 Phase 2 SP	Pan SP	
Aquatic Biodiversity	Phase 2 SP			VG NS1 Pan SP
Archaeological & Cultural Heritage	VG NS1 Phase 2 SP			Pan SP
Civil Aviation			VG NS1 Phase 2 SP Pan SP	
Defence				VG NS1 Phase 2 SP Pan SP
Palaeontology	Phase 2 SP		VG NS1 Pan SP	
Plant Species			Phase 2 SP Pan SP	VG NS1
Terrestrial Biodiversity	VG NS1 Phase 2 SP Pan SP			

# SCREENING TOOL PROTOCOL FINDINGS

New System 1 (VG NS1), Phase 2 Sludge Pipeline (Phase 2 SP), Panfontein Sludge Pipeline (Pan-SP)

PROTOCOL	VERY HIGH SENSITIVITY	HIGH SENSITIVITY	MEDIUM SENSITIVITY	LOW SENSITIVITY
Geotechnical Assessment	VG NS1		Pan-SP Phase 2 SP	
Socio-Economic Assessment		Pan-SP	VG NS1 Phase 2 SP	

# SITE SENSITIVITY VERIFICATION FOR ALL STUDY AREAS

THEME/ PROTOCOL	VERY HIGH SENSITIVITY	HIGH SENSITIVITY	MEDIUM SENSITIVITY	LOW SENSITIVITY	DISPUTE	AGREE	TYPE OF ASSESSMENT TO BE UNDERTAKEN
Agricultural	Pan SP	VG NS1 Phase 2 SP			Dispute		Compliance Assessment
Animal Species		VG NS1 Phase 2 SP	Pan SP			Agree	Impact Assessment
Aquatic Biodiversity	Phase 2 SP			VG NS1 Pan SP		Agree	Impact Assessment
Archaeological & Cultural Heritage	VG NS1 Phase 2 SP			Pan SP		Agree	Impact Assessment
Civil Aviation			VG NS1 Phase 2 SP Pan SP			Agree	Compliance Assessment
Palaeontology	Phase 2 SP		VG NS1			Agree	Impact Assessment

# SITE SENSITIVITY VERIFICATION FOR ALL STUDY AREAS

THEME/ PROTOCOL	VERY HIGH SENSITIVITY	HIGH SENSITIVITY	MEDIUM SENSITIVITY	LOW SENSITIVITY	DISPUTE	AGREE	TYPE OF ASSESSMENT TO BE UNDERTAKEN
Palaeontology	Phase 2 SP		VG NS1 Pan SP			Agree	Impact Assessment
Plant Species			Phase 2 SP Pan SP	VG NS1		Agree	Impact Assessment
Terrestrial Biodiversity	VG NS1 Phase 2 SP Pan SP					Agree	Impact Assessment
Geotechnical Assessment	VG NS1		Phase 2 SP Pan SP			Agree	Impact Assessment
Socio-Economic Assessment	Pan SP		VG NS1 Phase 2 SP			Agree	Impact Assessment

# SPECIALISTS STUDIES

## Specialist Studies to be undertaken:

1. Agricultural Compliance Study
2. Paleontology Impact Assessment Study
3. Heritage Impact Assessment Study
4. Aquatic Biodiversity Assessment Study
5. Flora & Fauna Assessment Study
6. Socio-Economic Assessment Study
7. Hydrological Assessment Study
8. Flood Line Determination Assessment Study
9. Stormwater Management Plan
10. Civil Aviation Study
11. Geotechnical Assessment Study



# PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS:

- Public Participation Process for the proposed project is ongoing, and this is done to ensure compliance with Regulation 19(1)(a) of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended).
- Phase 1 of the PPP commenced on **Wednesday, 16 April 2025** and the last day of the public participation process is **Thursday, 22 May 2025**.

## Tasks undertaken for the Public Participation Process (PPP):

- Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) and Organs of States were identified and notified about the proposed development. The I&APs and Organs of State notified are:
  - National, Provincial, and Local Government
  - Community-Based Organisations.
  - Non-Governmental Organisations and
  - Landowners, Neighbours etc.



# PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

## Formal notification of the application to interested and affected parties (including all affected and adjacent landowners) and other stakeholders.

- Publication of newspaper advert in Southern Star and Northern Star on 15 & 16 April 2025, respectively
- Site notices were erected on 16 April 2025
- BID's and Notification letters were distributed on 16 April 2025
- I&AP and other key stakeholders were directly informed of the proposed development by e-mail on 17 April 2025
- I&APs are given 30 days to comment and/or raise issues of concern regarding the proposed development.



# ORGAN OF STATES

The following are the Organs of States that were notified about the project:

- Department of Agriculture, Land Reform, and Rural Development
- Department of Defence Force
- Gauteng Department of Environment
- Department of Water and Sanitation
- Gauteng Provincial Heritage Resources Authority
- South African Heritage Resource Agency
- Midvaal Local Municipality
- Emfuleni Local Municipality
- Sedibeng District Municipality
- South African Civil Aviation Authority



# COMPETENT AUTHORITY

- **National Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Environment (DFFE)** is the Competent Authority in terms of Section 24C (2) (d) (iii) of NEMA which mandates that Activities undertaken, or is to be undertaken by a statutory body, excluding any municipality, performing an exclusive competence of the national sphere of government.



# CONCLUSION

This pre-application meeting is to request advice on how to approach this integrated application and to understand if the Listed Activities mentioned above are relevant.



# Q&A



# THANK YOU

