

Katherine de Jong

From: Carolyn <afromatz@telkomsa.net>
Sent: 10 December 2012 03:18 PM
To: 'Katherine de Jong'
Subject: RE: BID Canalisation Mngeni River

Thanks, Katherine

From: Katherine de Jong [mailto:kdejong@gibb.co.za]
Sent: 10 December 2012 02:45 PM
To: 'Carolyn'
Cc: 'Bianca Morgan'; 'Margaret Burger'; 'Penny Rees'; 'gfechter@gibb.co.za'; Jesse Jegels
Subject: RE: BID Canalisation Mngeni River

Dear Carolyn,

Thank you for your response to the above mentioned project. We have registered uMngeni Conservancy, DUCT and WESSA on the Interested and Affected Parties (I&AP) database for the proposed project.

As the Environmental Assessment Practitioners to the project GIBB are preparing a Comments and Response Report (CRR) as part of the Basic Assessment Process. Your comments will be captured in the CRR Report and will be addressed in the draft Basic Assessment Report. These documents will then be distributed to all I&APs including yourself. Please note that we will also give your apologies at the Public Meeting and mention the issues and concerns that you have given below, so that these will be captured in the public meeting minutes.

You are welcome to send us any further comments, concerns and/or issues in writing.

Kind Regards,

Katherine de Jong
Environmental Scientist

Cell: 071 355 8781
Tel: +27 31 267 8567
Email: kdejong@gibb.co.za



2nd Floor, IBM House, 54 Norfolk
Terrace,
Westville, Durban 3630
PO Box 1365, Westville, Durban
3630
Fax: +27 31 266 3310
Web: www.gibb.co.za

From: Carolyn [<mailto:afromatz@telkomsa.net>]
Sent: 10 December 2012 01:18 PM
To: kdejong@gibb.co.za
Cc: Bianca Morgan; 'Margaret Burger'; 'Penny Rees'
Subject: BID Canalisation Mngeni River

Dear Katherine

Thanks for your call following the concerns which I raised with Jesse of Gibb's Port Elizabeth office with respect to the inappropriate timing of the commencement of public participation, and it seems that not all registered I&APs were notified of the public meeting. I am satisfied that interested parties are now aware of the meeting on the 12th and that the uMngeni Conservancy and DUCT have been included (through WESSA) and will be afforded opportunities to meet the project team for specific issues should representatives not be able to attend on the 12th.

I will not be attending the meeting and I raise the following as issues:

- Need. The project received environmental authorisation in 2006 but it then lapsed. That the authorisation lapsed leads us to question the need for the project;
- The project is said to be required to prevent flooding of the Umgeni Business Park Phase 2 yet the EAP undertaking the EIA for the Business Park extension was unaware of eThekweni's project to address the flood risk. Clearly the two projects are being looked at in isolation which is not acceptable;
- A concerned person has notified me that the studies done for the 'canalisation' are dated 2005. A review of the studies should be undertaken;
- Estuarine Health. It must be assessed what the proposed activities will do to the Estuarine Health Score and this must be assessed in terms of other impacts such as removal of discharged treated water for re-use, and be assessed against National legislation, policy and principles ie National Water Act, SANBI National Biodiversity Assessment, Conservation Plans – National, Provincial, eThekweni.

The uMngeni estuary has seen the development of the city of Durban and has paid the cost in the form of massive habitat loss over the last century. Ongoing impacts of urban, sewage works and industrial runoff with the inevitable degradation of the aquatic environment is a concern and WESSA and Coastwatch object to activities which will result in the further loss of habitat.

Regards

Carolyn Schwegman
EIA Co-ordinator
WESSA KZN Region



Tel: +27 (0)39 975 2147
Cell: +27 (0)83 9814814

Fax to email: 086 7251884

Email: afromatz@telkomsa.net

Website: www.wessa.org.za

Address: P O Box 343, Pennington, 4184



PLEASE consider the environment before printing this e-mail!

This e-mail message, and any attached files, are confidential and may contain privileged information. Any views expressed in this message are those of the sender, except where the sender specifically states them to be the view of WESSA. In the interests of effective and appropriate communication, anyone who is not an addressee of this e-mail, may not copy, disclose, distribute or otherwise use it, or any part of it, in any form whatsoever. Furthermore, no-one may further distribute this e-mail, or any part of it, without permission of the author. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender immediately by return e-mail, and then delete this e-mail.