



M 3/6/5

Mr PR Steyn
K2011138641 (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd
PO Box 242
MOSSSEL BAY
6500

Cell: 082 577 2532
Email: tossie@steynsmica.co.za

Dear Mr Steyn

**AMENDMENT APPLICATION: PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT ON A PORTION OF THE REMAINDER OF
FARM VAALE VALLEY NO. 219, MOSSSEL BAY**

With reference to your application dated 1 August 2012 for the amendment of the environmental authorisation, find below the amended environmental authorisation in respect of the amendment application.

1. DECISION

By virtue of the powers conferred on me by the Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA") Regulations (5 September 1997) and the EIA Regulations (18 June 2010), I have decided to amend the appeal Environmental Authorisation which was granted on 18 August 2009 (Reference Number: EG12/2/1-AM18-Farm Vaalevalley 219/B, Mossel Bay). The following are amended:

1.1 The applicant's details which read as follows:

"Hartenbos Landgoed (Pty) Ltd
c/o Mr W van Rensburg
Bell House
Westlake Business Park
STEENBERG
7947
Cell: 083 790 1234
Fax: (044) 878 1449"

is amended to read as follows:

"K2011133641 (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd
c/o PR Steyn
PO Box 242
MOSSEL BAY
6500
Cell: 082 577 2532
Email: tossie@steynsmica.co.za"

1.2 Section J: Duration and date of expiry that read as follows:

"This activity must commence within a period of three years from the date of issue of the decision. If commencement of the activity does not occur within this period, the Record of Decision lapses and a new application for authorisation must be made in order for the activity to be undertaken"

is amended to read as follows:

"This environmental authorisation is valid for a period of **5 years** from the date of issue. The holder must commence with the listed activity within the said period or this environmental authorisation lapses and a new application for environmental authorisation must be submitted to the competent authority, unless the holder has lodged a valid application for the amendment of the validity period of this environmental authorisation (**i.e. the application must be submitted to the Minister responsible for environmental affairs in the Western Cape**), before the expiry of this environmental authorisation. In such instances, the validity period will be automatically be extended ("the period of administrative extension") from the day before this environmental authorisation would otherwise have lapsed, until the amendment application for the extension of the validity period is decided. The listed activity, including site preparation, may not commence during the period of administrative extension."

1.3 The Construction and Operational Phases Environmental Management Plans submitted as part of the application for authorisation must be amended as per the amendment applied for in this amendment application.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

2.1 In reaching my decision, I took the following information into consideration:

2.1.1 The information contained in the application for the amendment of the environmental authorisation dated March 2012; and

2.1.2 Additional information received on 22 August 2012, 27 September 2012, 28 September 2012 and 3 October 2012.

2.2 Below are the reasons for the decision to amend the environmental authorisation:

2.2.1 The granting of the proposed amendment of the environmental authorisation is not likely to adversely affect the environment or the rights or interests of other parties. No new

negative impacts will result due to this amendment application being granted. The negative environmental impacts to be associated with the proposed Hartenbos Landgoed development have already been assessed during the EIA process and these impacts will remain unchanged. The mitigation measures proposed in the EIA Report (dated 5 September 2008) will still be implemented to mitigate and/or avoid the associated negative impacts already identified.

2.2.2 The owner of the property (Ms MM Smit) passed away after the appeal Environmental Authorisation was issued and the property has subsequently been placed in care of the estate. The estate transport has only been recently finalised.

2.2.3 The company (i.e. Hartenbos Landgoed (Pty) Ltd) to which the authorisation was issued is currently under liquidation. The liquidators have seized control of the assets of Hartenbos Landgoed (Pty) Ltd, one of which is the appeal Environmental Authorisation granted on 18 August 2009.

2.2.4 The following contributed to the original applicant not being able to proceed with the selling of erven:

2.2.4.1 The economy has not fully recovered since the global recession;

2.2.4.2 Fears of a double-dip recession are discouraging people to buy erven at present; and

2.2.4.3 Rising material costs for the construction of dwellings.

2.2.5 The extension of the validity period is needed in order to allow adequate time for the new owner to secure funding for the development.

2.2.6 During the site visit which was undertaken by the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (Sharples Environmental Services cc) on 26 July 2012, it was determined that the vegetation cover has remained similar, the property was still being used for agricultural purposes i.e. grazing of cattle and there were no signs of clearing activities or disturbance visible on the property, other than the clearing of alien invasive plants. The sensitive vegetated areas as identified by the Vegetation and Fauna Sensitivity Analysis conducted by Conservation Management Services (2005) and the botanical survey conducted by Synecology (2008) are still present on the property.

Your interest in the future of our environment is appreciated.

Yours faithfully



ANTON BREDELL
MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT,
ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

DATE: 18.12.2012

Copies:

- 1. Ms M Schaaf (Sharples Environmental Services cc)
- 2. Mr J van Rensburg (Hartenbos Landgoed (Pty) Ltd)

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