



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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DEA Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2006

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PER EMAIL / MAIL

Dear Ms McDaid

NOTIFICATION OF WITHDRAWAL OF THE SUSPENSION OF THE APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF REGULATION 14 OF THE EIA REGULATIONS 2014 AS AMENDED FOR THE PROPOSED GAS TO POWER VIA POWERSHIP PROJECT AT THE PORT OF SALDANHA WITHIN THE SALDANHA BAY LOCAL MUNICIPALITY IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

The Section 13 Complaint received by the Competent Authority on 31 May 2021 and it's notification of suspension of the application letter dated 08 June 2021, refer.

- i. On 31 May 2021, the Competent Authority received written notice, as contemplated in Regulation 14(2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014 as amended from The Green Connection making allegations of suspected non-compliance by the appointed Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) with Regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.
- ii. Regulation 14 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended provides that, where an interested and affected party (I&AP) so notifies the Competent Authority of suspected non-compliance, the Competent Authority must investigate the allegation promptly and may suspend the application.
- iii. As a result of the above and in line with the relevant provisions of Regulation 14(1)(a), the Competent Authority suspended the application on 08 June 2021.
- iv. However, as the EIAr has already been submitted to the Competent Authority on 26 April 2021 and the Competent Authority believes there is very little reason why the decision-making process should be suspended pending the outcome of an investigative process against the EAP. As such, the Competent Authority reconsidered the matter and it concluded that there is no need for the suspension to stay in place.
- v. The Competent Authority has therefore decided to withdraw the suspension in terms of Regulation 14 of the EIA Regulations 2014 as amended while it will continue with the investigation regarding the allegation of non-compliance.

MS

- vi. The Competent Authority will continue with its review and consideration of the application for EA for the Proposed Gas to Power Powership Project at the Port of Saldanha Bay within the Saldanha Local Municipality in the Western Cape Province (14/12/16/2/2/2006) in terms of Regulation 24(1).

Yours faithfully



Mr Sabelo Malaza
Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Date: 23/06/2021

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