

Ref: 16018

10 January 2019

Mr TM Hlatshwayo  
P.O.Box 920  
2380  
[Thokozani.hlatshwayoss@gmail.com](mailto:Thokozani.hlatshwayoss@gmail.com)

**RE: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTEGRATED HUMAN SETTLEMENT (HOUSING DEVELOPMENT) IN DIRKIESDORP, MKHONDO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE ( DARDLEA REFERENCE: 1/3/1/16/1 G- 104 ;NEAS: MPP/EIA/0000506/2018)**

Dear Mr Thokozani Hlatshwayo

Your comments on the Draft Environmental Scoping Impact Assessment (DSR) dated **Wednesday, 14 November 2018** bears reference. In response to the comments you forwarded to our office on the DSR. We would like to take this opportunity of acknowledge receipt of your written comments and to provide the responses to your comments.

You are correct that biodiversity is a major concern for the proposed Dirkiesdorp township development due to the following reasons:

- The grass is not endemic to Mpumalanga, the grass is distributed in Mpumalanga and Gauteng Province. The grasslands forms part of the kaNgwane Montane Grassland veldtype that has a vulnerable status and is protected by the NEM:BA (National Environmental Management Biodiversity Act). (**Lidwala SA**).
- The freshwater of the same site it lies in an Ecological Support Area (ESA) for important sub catchments, in close proximity to a Critical Biodiversity Area River. (**Lidwala SA**).

LIDWALA CONSULTING ENGINEERS (SA) (PTY) LTD rf

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The answers regarding all comments raised during the public participation process are included in the Comment and Response Report attached as Appendix F of the Final Scoping Report (FSR). The FSR will be submitted to DARDLEA for decision making and will also be available on the Lidwala website ([www.lidwala.com](http://www.lidwala.com) )

Should you have comments on the FSR, kindly forward all your comments through to the Mpumalanga Department of Agriculture, rural development, land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA) for the attention of Ms Sindisiwe Mbuyane. Please see all her contact details below.

**Department of Agriculture, rural development, land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA)**

ATTENTION: Ms Sindisiwe Mbuyane

Private Bag X2777, Ermelo, 2350

Tel: 017 8111 4830

Fax: 017 811 3944

E-mail: [MbuyaneSB@mpg.gov.za](mailto:MbuyaneSB@mpg.gov.za)

Please include the application reference numbers in all correspondence (**DARDLEA REFERENCE: 1/3/1/16/1 G- 104; NEAS: MPP/EIA/0000506/2018**)

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any additional information

Yours faithfully for

LIDWALA CONSULTING ENGINEERS



Ms Moseketsi Mochesane (*Cert.Sci.Nat*)