



63 Wessel Road Rivonia 2128 PO Box 2597 Rivonia 2128 South Africa

Telephone: +27 (0)11 803 5726 Facsimile: +27 (0)11 803 5745

Web: www.gcs-sa.biz

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT AND INVITATION TO COMMENT

NOTIFICATION OF AN INTEGRATED WATER USE LICENCE APPLICATION (IWULA) PROCESS IN TERMS OF SECTION 21 OF THE NATIONAL WATER ACT, 1998 (ACT NO. 36 OF 1998) (NWA) FOR WATER USE ACTIVITIES TRIGGERED AT TAFELKOP MALL, TAFELKOP, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

Purpose of this Background Information Document

Purpose of this Background Information Document

The purpose of this document is to provide all interested and affected parties (I&APs) with information about the proposed application for an Integrated Water Use Licence Application (IWULA) for Tafelkop Mall (Pty) Ltd:

- Introduce and explain the IWULA process;
- Introduce and explain the Public Participation Process related to the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) (NWA);
- Invite all I&APs to comment on:
 - Environmental, physical, socio-economic and any other issues of concern related to the IWULA;
 - The proposed public participation and IWULA assessment process; and
 - Any other suggestions.

Date of Publication: 26 April 2024

Client Name: Tafelkop Mall (Pty) Ltd

GCS Project Number: 22-1028

DWS Reference No: WU28528

What is an Integrated Water Use Licence Application (IWULA) and what does a IWULA contain?

The NWA prescribes the processes to be followed when compiling a WULA, in respect of Section 21 activities that form the legal basis of this authorisation and identifies the relevant competent authority, the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS).

The purpose of this WULA is to assess all the required water uses for the Tafelkop Mall in terms of their extent, duration, intensity and significance relating to the specific activity and to ensure that there are sufficient water resources available for the activity, while taking cognisance of other water users needs including the environment. The process aims to ensure that all relevant factors are considered when evaluating the potential impacts of a project on the water resource, as well as developing appropriate management measures to mitigate these impacts.

1 BACKGROUND AND PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Tafelkop Mall (Pty) Ltd is proposing to build a shopping mall (Tafelkop Mall) located within the town of Tafelkop, Sekhukhune District Municipality in the Limpopo Province, South Africa. This area falls within the jurisdiction of the Elias Motsoaledi Municipality. Tafelkop is a settlement about 20km northeast of Groblersdal, Limpopo South Africa. The area is characterised by small settlements with a limited supply of formal retail facilities.

Tafelkop Mall will boasts over 134 shops, which include restaurants and service outlets. There is a notarial lease between Tafelkop Mall (Pty) Ltd and Tafelkop Retail (Pty) Ltd.

GCS Water and Environment (Pty) Ltd (GCS) were appointed by Fontis Development (Pty) Ltd to undertake the licensing process required to authorise water uses triggered in terms of Section 21 of National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) (NWA).

In compliance with the requirements of the NWA, Tafelkop Mall (Pty) Ltd is in the process of applying for a Water Use License (WUL) from the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) for water uses triggered in terms of Section 21 of the NWA. The following water uses have been identified and are being applied for as part of the Integrated Water Use License Application (IWULA) (See Table in Section 2):

- Section 21(a): Taking of water;
- Section 21(b): Storage of water; and
- Section 21(g): Disposing of waste in a manner which may detrimentally impact on a water resource.

2 INTEGRATED WATER USE LICENCE APPLICATION

National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) (NWA)

Water uses are identified in terms of Section 21 of the NWA. Any activity which is considered a water use may be undertaken if it is; a Schedule 1 use (e.g. abstracting groundwater for domestic use), a continuation of an existing lawful water use (a water use which took place between 1996 and 1998); which is permissible under the General Authorisation notices; or if a IWULA is issued for that water use by the DWS.

In order to apply for the water use associated with the proposed project, an IWULA needs to be compiled and submitted to the DWS. In this case, Tafelkop Mall (Pty) Ltd has to apply for a Water Use License (WUL) because of the water use that is triggered by the project.

The following water use requires authorisation for the IWULA in terms of Section 21 of the NWA (Figure 2.1):

WATER USE	DESCRIPTION	TRIGGERED BY
Section 21 of the NWA		
21 (a)	Taking of water from a water resource	Abstraction of groundwater from a borehole
21 (b))	Storage of water	Attenuation Dams Raw Water Storage tank Potable Water Storage Tanks
21 (g))	Disposing of waste in a manner which may detrimentally impact on a water resource	Raw Water Treatment Plant Sewage Treatment Plant

National Government has the overall responsibility for and authority over water resource management, including the equitable allocation and beneficial use of water in the public interest. A person can only be entitled to use water if the use is permissible under the NWA. The purpose of the IWULA is to identify and assess the potential environmental and socio-economic impacts associated with the project, to develop measures to manage and/or mitigate the negative impacts, and to enhance any potential positive impacts. The application further enables the DWS to process and make an informed decision with regards to the water resource and management thereof in the area where the project is located.

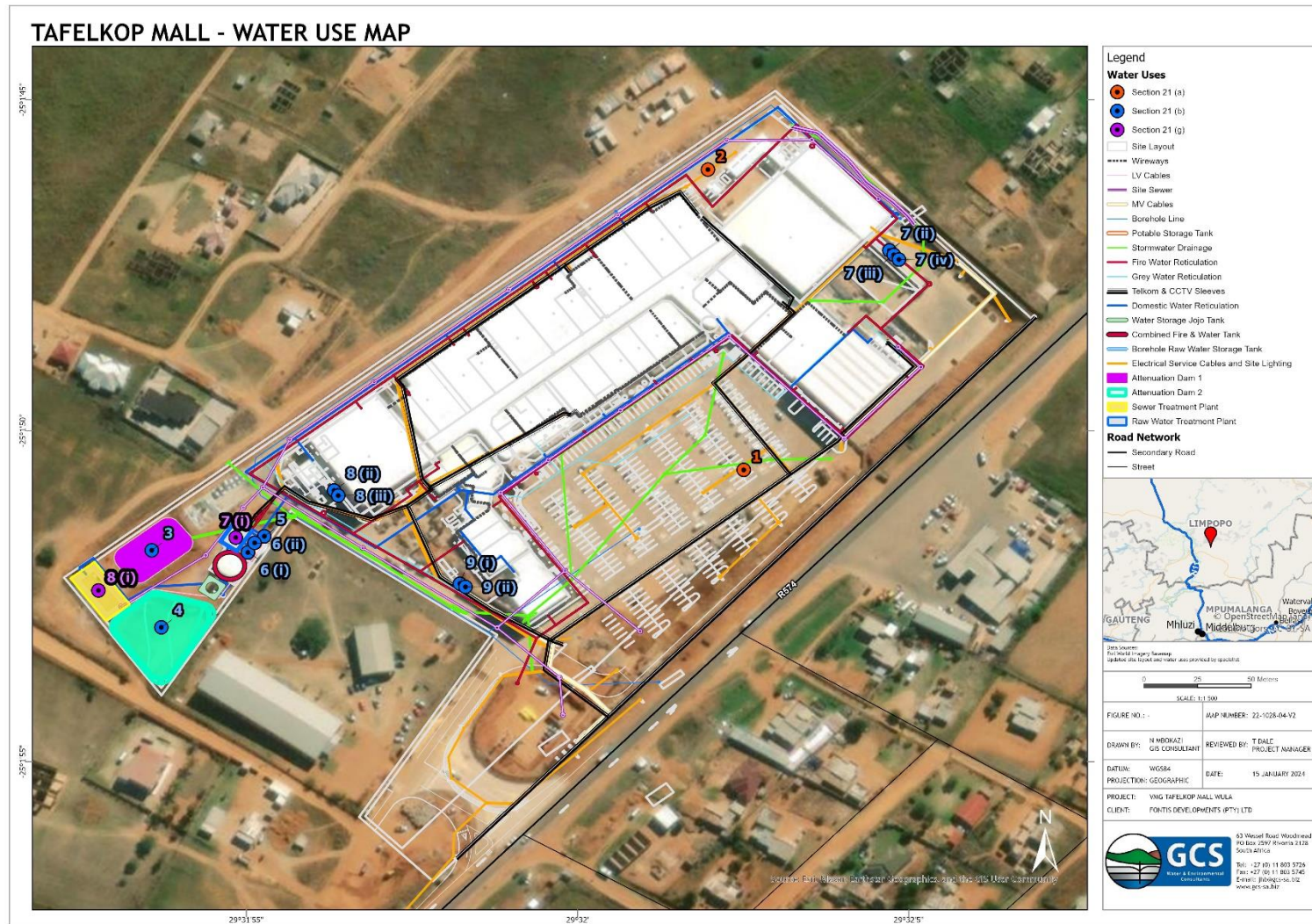


Figure 2.1: Proposed Water Use Locality

3 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

The required Public Participation Process (PPP) is outlined in the Government Notice Regulation No. 267, Regulations Regarding the Procedural Requirements for Water Use Licence Applications and Appeals published in Government Gazette No. 40713 on 24 March 2017. The Public Participation Process (PPP) is an important part of the authorisation process.

The key objective of public participation is to assist stakeholders to identify issues of concern, to make suggestions for enhanced benefits, and to comment on the findings of the IWULA.

Proposed steps in and scheduling of the process are as follows:

Step 1: Notify I&APs and identify issues

- a) Notify Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) of the project;
- b) Provide I&APs with a Background Information Document (BID) on the project, including a locality map and a Registration and Comment Sheet;
- c) **I&APs are required to register their interest in the project to receive further project information;** and
- d) Identify any issues/concerns and/or suggestions of I&APs with regards to the project (to be addressed and recorded in the Comment and Response Report).

Step 2: Public review of draft documentation

The draft IWULA will be placed for public review for a period of 60 days. All registered I&APs of the project will be invited to review and provide comments or queries on the report.

Step 3: Final Integrated Water Use Licence Application IWULA

The Final IWULA, including the Comment and Responses Report and will be compiled for submission to the DWS for decision making.

Step 4: Notify I&APs of the Authorisation and Appeal Period

All registered I&APs will be notified in writing of the authorisation for the project and the appeal period, as well as the manner of appeal.

4 BE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROCESS

Public involvement is an essential part of any environmental assessment process. You have been identified as an I&AP who may want to receive information regarding the above-mentioned project and will be allowed to provide your input into the environmental assessment process. All comments will be recorded and presented to the project team and regulatory authorities. You will receive feedback on how your comments have been taken into account and the outcome of the assessment.

I&APs include any person who will be directly or indirectly involved and/or affected by the project. To be recognised as an I&AP you must register with GCS Water and Environment (Pty) Ltd to be added to the stakeholder database for the project. You may communicate via fax, email or telephone to obtain further information or comment on the proposed IWULA (please see contact details below). All registered I&APs will be kept informed of the decision taken by the DWS.

How do you get involved?

You can get involved in the following ways:

- By registering your interest in the project with GCS as indicated below;
- By responding to our invitation for your involvement advertised in the local newspaper;
- By completing and forwarding the Registration and Comment Sheet to GCS if you have a query, comment, or require further project information;
- By telephonically contacting GCS; and
- By reviewing and commenting on the various reports within the stipulated comment period.

Public Notification

A major part of the PPP is to notify members of the public of the proposed activities, particularly those who may be directly or indirectly affected by the proposed project. This will be achieved via the following means:

- The placement of an advertisement in a local newspaper;
- Notices, which will be placed at and around the project area;
- Electronic distribution of BIDs to landowners and occupiers of land adjacent to the project area and to I&APs on request; and
- Written notifications to Local authorities, who will be automatically be registered as I&APs.

How to comment

Should you wish to register as an I&AP in order to be kept informed, please complete the registration form overleaf and submit to GCS via fax, post or email on/before **26 June 2024**. Any further enquiries can be directed to GCS telephonically, or via fax or email. It is important that you provide your contact details so that we may respond to your comments or questions.

Please note that should you require anyone else to be contacted, please provide their contact details as well. The IWULA report is accessible for download and comment from <https://www.gcs-sa.biz/public-documents/> (GCS website).

Contact Us

Tarryn Dale

Tel: 011 803 5726
Fax: 011 803 5745
Email: tarrynd@gcs-sa.biz
Postal Address: P.O. Box 2597
Rivonia
Johannesburg
2128



Tafelkop Mall (Pty) Ltd
Integrated Water Use Licence Application IWULA

I&AP Comment and Registration Form

GCS Ref No: 22-1028

Name:		Surname:	
-------	--	----------	--

Organisation / interest:

Postal / Residential address			
	Area:		Code:

Contact details	Tel:	()
	Fax:	()
	Mobile:	()
	Email:	

Please mark with an X to indicate whether you would like to participate in the process:

Yes, I would like to participate in this process and receive periodical updates	
---	--

No, I am not interested in participating and do not wish to receive further information	
---	--

Preferred method of communication	Email		Fax		Post	
-----------------------------------	-------	--	-----	--	------	--

Date commented	(DD / MM / YYYY)
----------------	--------------------

Please indicate any issues, comments and concerns with regards to the proposed project

Please indicate in which aspects you would require more information

Please indicate the contact details of any I&APs whom you think should be contacted

Name:		Surname:	
Tel:	()	Fax:	()
Mobile:	()		
Email:			

In order to be registered as an I&AP for this project, fax, mail, or e-mail the completed registration form before
26 June 2024 to Tarryn Dale at:
Tel: (011) 803 5726
Fax: (011) 803 5745
Email: tarrynd@gcs-sa.biz
Post: PO Box 2597, Rivonia, 2128