



**ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING
ASSESSMENT REPORT – MPOZOLO
CLINIC**

Report N^o
CDC-SBU-ESA-002-24

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BUSINESS UNIT/PROGRAMME	<i>IPD - Department of Health</i>
PROJECT MANAGER	<i>Sinethemba Dlepu</i>
SHE PROGRAMME MANAGER	<i>Siseko Gwavu</i>
PROJECT NAME	<i>Mpozolo Clinic, Gatyana, Erf 439, Amathole District</i>

	Screening pre-request documentation	Yes	No	Comments
1.	Signed SDP provided		X	Not Available
2.	KML file	X		
3.	Approved project scope	X		
4.	Sewer layout		X	Not Available
5.	Project Description	X		

SHE PM - Site/Document Assessment Findings

Not Applicable

No.	Environmental Screening Process	Yes	No	Comments
1.	Choose the development application category	X		
2.	Define the development footprint,	X		
3.	Determine the project description or scope,	X		
4.	Check site environmental sensitivity	X		
5.	Align with environmental legislation requirements,	X		
6.	Determine thresholds for environmental requirements, and	X		
7.	Output: Initial Environmental Screening Report.	X		

CDC Environmental Manager- Interpretation and recommendations

1 SCOPE

The scope of this report applies to the environmental pre-assessment of environmental requirements for the proposed construction of the Mpozolo Clinic. This report applies to all project specified activities that are necessary for the realisation of this project.

2 PROBLEM STATEMENT

The proposed construction of the Ntshele Clinic in Mpozolo Administrative Area (A/A), Gatyana, is expected to enhance healthcare services in the local community. However, the development may pose environmental risks that need to be identified and mitigated to ensure sustainable construction and operation. The project site is located within a semi-rural area, potentially sensitive to environmental impacts such as soil erosion, vegetation disturbance, water contamination, and disruption of local biodiversity.

The project could also affect the social and economic dynamics of the community, especially with regard to land use, resource allocation, and service delivery. In this regard, it is critical to assess the environmental baseline conditions and determine the potential environmental and socio-economic impacts associated with the clinic's development.

The key concerns include:

- Potential soil erosion due to vegetation clearance and construction activities.
- Water quality degradation in nearby watercourses from construction runoff.
- Loss of indigenous vegetation and possible disturbance to local fauna.
- Noise and air pollution during construction.
- Waste management issues during and post-construction.

This pre-assessment report aims to identify and evaluate these environmental risks, providing recommendations to ensure compliance with South African environmental regulations, particularly the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) and related policies. The findings will guide the decision-making process and help shape a comprehensive Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), if required.

Applicable legislation to this assessment:

- Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, (Act No. 108 of 1996), Section 24(b): Environment Rights;
- Occupational Health and Safety Act and Regulations, (Act No. 85 of 1993);
- National Environmental Management Act, (Act No. 107 of 1998), as amended and Integrated Environmental Management (IEM) Principles;
- National Water Act, NWA (Act No. 36 of 1998);
- National Water Amendment Act, (Act No. 27 of 2014);

- National Heritage Resources Act, NHRA (Act No. 25 of 1999) and related regulations as administered by the Eastern Cape Provincial Heritage Resources Agency (ECPHRA);
- ISO 45001:2018 and 14001: 2015; and
- Disaster Management Act, (Act No. 57 of 2002).

The assessment was conducted in accordance with the abovementioned legal framework based on Safety, Health and Environment (SHE) best practise to determine the legal requirements and other requirements through planning. Key activity undertaken has been the on-site assessments and site inspection to further investigate the site conditions.

3 LOCATION

Location of the proposed clinic.

Project Name	Location
Mpozolo Clinic	Mpozolo Administrative Area, Gatyana (Willowvale), Mbhashe Local Municipal Area, Gatyana, Farm/Erf No. 439.

Site coordinates for the proposed new clinic footprint.

Site Coordinates	Latitude	Longitude
Corner A	32°10'40.54"S	28°46'28.28"E
Corner B	32°10'42.99"S	28°46'26.58"E
Corner C	32°10'43.72"S	28°46'29.16"E
Corner D	32°10'41.11"S	28°46'31.03"E

4 FINDINGS

Following an on-site meeting and subsequent site inspection on October 9, 2024, the following are findings are to be noted:

Field Observations

- The proposed clinic will be constructed on Farm Name: Gatyana, Farm/Erf No. 439.
- SG Code: C11200000000043900000.
- The proposed development is for a primary health care facility— Mpozolo Clinic.
- The proposed clinic only utilises an area with a combined footprint of 6440 m².
- The site earmarked for the construction of the proposed New Mpozolo Clinic is a greenfield site with rubble material.
- The vegetation on the site is predominantly grassland, and patches of bare ground indicated disturbance and use in the previous preceding ten (10) year for school extra-curricular activities (sports field).

- The current land use in the surrounding area is predominantly rural households.
- The earmarked site is located within the premises of a local school, Mpozolo Junior Secondary School.
- There are no alien vegetation species on the identified site.
- The site has been cordoned off with a galvanised fence with access control.
- There are no invasive vegetation species on the site.
- There is no watercourse (including river, marsh, wetland, or tributary) identified on the site.
- The site is approximately 20 meters from the nearest man-made surface dam.
- The dam is predominantly used for livestock and communal irrigation.

Listed Activities

The following is a short summary of the anticipated NMEA EIA triggers and project implications – 2014 EIA Regulations (as amended) listed activities:

NEMA EIA Regulations (2014, as amended) listed activity		Implications to the Project
Listing Notice 1 - Activity No. 27	The clearance of an area of 1 hectare or more, but less than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation, except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for— (i) the undertaking of a linear activity; or (ii) maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.	The project entails the construction of the Ntshele Clinic on a footprint area of 6440m ² . This listed activity is therefore not triggered.
Listing Notice 1 - Activity No. 28	Residential, mixed, retail, commercial, industrial or institutional developments where such land was used for agriculture, game farming, equestrian purposes or afforestation on or after 01 April 1998 and where such development: (i) will occur inside an urban area, where the total land to be developed is bigger than 5 hectares; or (ii) will occur outside an urban area, where the total land to be developed is bigger than 1 hectare; excluding where such land has already been developed for residential, mixed, retail, commercial, industrial or institutional purposes.	The proposed project entails the construction of the Mpozolo Clinic on a portion land previously used as sports field. The approximate footprint of the site is 6440m ² . This listed activity is therefore not triggered.

Listing Notice 3 - Activity No. 12	<p>The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.</p> <p>a. Eastern Cape</p> <p>ii. Within critical biodiversity areas identified in bioregional plans;</p>	<p>The proposed project will entail the clearance of approximately 6440m², with the site being predominantly undeveloped. The site is located within the fenced boundary of the Mpozolo Junior Secondary School, is located within pre-existing land use of rural educational institution and has not been classified as CBA as identified in bioregional plans adopted by the competent authority.</p> <p>This listed activity is therefore not triggered.</p>
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Environmental Sensitivity

The following summary of the development site environmental sensitivities as per the Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment (DFFE) as required by the 2014 EIA Regulations (as amended) to screen their proposed site for any environmental sensitivity is identified as follows:

Themes	Very High Sensitivity	High Sensitivity	Medium Sensitivity	Low Sensitivity
Agriculture Theme		X		
Animal Species Theme			X	
Aquatic Biodiversity Theme	X			
Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Theme				X
Civil Aviation Theme			X	
Defence Theme				X
Palaeontology Theme	X			

Plant Species Theme				X
Terrestrial Biodiversity Theme	X			

5 STAKEHOLDER PERSPECTIVE

5.1 External stakeholders

- Eastern Cape Department of Health (EC DoH)
- Eastern Cape Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism (EC DEDEAT) – Amathole Regional Office.
- Mpozolo Community and Clinic Forum

5.2 Internal stakeholders (Only to Applicable Sections)

- Sustainability BU
- Coega DoH Programme
- Human Capital Solutions (HCS)

6 RECOMMENDATIONS

Following our findings stated above, the CDC recommend that the following is in place during our:


- Clearance of indigenous vegetation must be limited to the site area only.
- Minimize clearing of vegetation as much as possible and retain natural buffers around sensitive areas.
- Clearly mark construction boundaries to prevent unintended habitat destruction.
- The construction laydown areas must be kept to an absolute minimum and must be outside of CBAs and/or ESAs.
- A buffer-zone of 32 meters from the edge of watercourses must be observed.
- Develop a stormwater management plan to control runoff and prevent contamination of nearby water bodies.
- Limit dust by spraying water on unpaved surfaces and using dust suppressants where needed.
- Restrict noisy operations to daytime hours, if the clinic is near residential or sensitive areas, to minimize disturbances.
- Separate, store, and dispose of construction waste responsibly. Recycle where possible and ensure hazardous materials, such as oils or paints, are properly contained and disposed of.
- Once construction is complete, rehabilitate any disturbed areas by replanting indigenous vegetation and removing any temporary erosion control structures. This helps restore the site and supports biodiversity.

- Limit noise pollution by conducting noisy activities during daytime hours to minimize disturbance to nearby communities and wildlife.
- Store fuels, oils, and chemicals in secured, spill-proof containers and have a spill response plan in place.
- Service machinery regularly to prevent leaks, and store all fuel and lubricants in designated, bunded areas away from water sources.
- Conduct periodic checks to ensure that environmental measures are effective and adapt practices as needed.

By following these recommendations, construction can proceed in a way that minimizes potential environmental impacts and supports sustainability, thereby ensuring a more responsible and sustainable approach to clinic construction.

Construction activities will take cognizance of the principles of Section 28 of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No. 107 of 1998) **Duty of Care and Environmental Remediation** which states that: Every person who causes, has caused or may cause significant pollution or degradation of the environment must take reasonable measures to prevent such pollution or degradation from occurring, continuing or recurring, or, in so far as such harm to the environment is authorized by law or cannot reasonably be avoided or stopped, to minimize and rectify such pollution or degradation of the environment.

SHE PM (BU)	
Signature	
Date	

Environmental Manager (SBU)	Sisa Xabanisa
Signature	
Date	28 November 2024

Annexure A – Site Locality and Surrounding Features

