APPENDIX K: GUIDELINE ON NEED AND DESIRABILITY

QUESTIONS TO BE ENGAGED WITH WHEN CONSIDERING NEED AND DESIRABILITY

1. How will this development (and its separate elements/aspects) impact on the ecological integrity of the area?

1.1. How were the following ecological integrity considerations taken into account?:

1.1.1.Threatened Ecosystems,

1.1.2.Sensitive, vulnerable, highly dynamic or stressed ecosystems, such as coastal shores, estuaries, wetlands, and similar systems require specific attention in management and planning procedures, especially where they are subject to significant human resource usage and development pressure,

1.1.3.Critical Biodiversity Areas ("CBAs") and Ecological Support Areas ("ESAs"),

1.1.4.Conservation targets,

1.1.5.Ecological drivers of the ecosystem,

1.1.6.Environmental Management Framework,

1.1.7.Spatial Development Framework, and

1.1.8.Global and international responsibilities relating to the environment (e.g. RAMSAR sites, Climate Change,

etc.).

Response 1.1-1.1.8

The significant ecological biodiversity features present on the site will be impacted by the proposed development. The impacts include the clearance of natural vegetation including terrestrial ecological support area (ESA) found within the site. However, the development plan incorporates measures to mitigate the impact on ecological integrity. The development plan includes the allocation of open space, particularly within the portion of the ESA which aims to preserve and protect a significant part of the ecological features. The proposed development of the residential erven is in keeping with the SDF principles because this development is taking place in the existing urban area of Hermanus.

1.2. How will this development disturb or enhance ecosystems and/or result in the loss or protection of biological diversity? What measures were explored to firstly avoid these negative impacts, and where these negative impacts could not be avoided altogether, what measures were explored to minimise and remedy (including offsetting) the impacts? What measures were explored to enhance positive impacts?

The development involves the clearance of natural vegetation, including an Ecological Support Area (ESA) within the site. Despite this impact, the development plan includes open spaces to mitigate some of the disturbances to the ecosystem.

1.3. How will this development pollute and/or degrade the biophysical environment? What measures were explored to firstly avoid these impacts, and where impacts could not be avoided altogether, what measures were explored to minimise and remedy (including offsetting) the impacts? What measures were explored to enhance positive impacts?

The development has the potential to cause pollution and degradation of the biophysical environment, primarily through the clearance of natural vegetation, including an Ecological Support Area (ESA) within the site. The removal of vegetation can lead to soil erosion and disrupt local ecosystems. There is a great potential of seed dispersal of the invasive alien plants found within the site.

To address potential pollution and degradation of the biophysical environment associated with the development, the following measures have been explored:

- The development plan includes strategies for responsible vegetation management to minimize the impact on the ESA. Selective clearing and preservation of critical areas will be employed.
- To avoid soil erosion, erosion prevention measures, such as erosion control blankets, check dams, or similar techniques, will be implemented during and after construction.
- Given the potential for seed dispersal of invasive alien plants, the development plan includes measures for the control and removal of such species to prevent their spread.

Enhancement Measures:

- Efforts will be made to enhance positive impacts by engaging in ecological restoration practices. This may include reforestation initiatives and the reintroduction of native plant species.
- The incorporation of green infrastructure elements, such as sustainable landscaping and permeable surfaces, will be explored to enhance positive impacts on the biophysical environment.

1.4. What waste will be generated by this development? What measures were explored to firstly avoid waste, and where waste could not be avoided altogether, what measures were explored to minimize, reuse and/or recycle the waste? What measures have been explored to safely treat and/or dispose of unavoidable waste?

The development is expected to generate various types of waste during construction and operation:

- General Domestic waste
- Material Waste

Measures have been explored to manage this waste responsibly:
Avoidance Measures:

- The construction plan incorporates strategies to reduce waste generation. This includes efficient material use, minimizing overordering, and optimizing cutting to reduce offcuts.
- Design considerations aim to minimize waste generation, such as standardized construction elements that reduce the need for customization and waste.

Minimization, Reuse, and Recycling Measures:

- The development plan explores opportunities to recycle construction materials, such as concrete, metal, and wood waste. Materials suitable for recycling will be separated at the source.
- On-site waste sorting stations will be implemented to separate recyclable materials from general waste.

- Reuse of Construction Waste: Where feasible, construction waste, such as excess soil and rubble, will be reused on-site for landscaping or other appropriate purposes.

Treatment and Disposal Measures:

- The development will utilize Municipal waste disposal facilities for the safe disposal of non-recyclable waste.

- Waste management practices will adhere to local waste disposal regulations and guidelines.

Operational Waste Management:

A comprehensive waste management plan for the operational phase will be implemented, including strategies for household waste collection, recycling, and disposal.

1.5. How will this development disturb or enhance landscapes and/or sites that constitute the nation's cultural heritage? What measures were explored to firstly avoid these impacts, and where impacts could not be avoided altogether, what measures were explored to minimise and remedy (including offsetting) the impacts? What measures were explored to enhance positive impacts?

The proposed development has the potential to impact landscapes and sites that hold cultural heritage value. Here are the considerations and measures explored:

Potential Impacts:

1. The clearance of natural vegetation, including the Ecological Support Area (ESA), can impact the landscape and potentially disturb sites of ecological significance.
2. The transition from natural vegetation to residential development may alter the visual aesthetics of the landscape.

Avoidance and Minimization Measures:

1. The development plan incorporates a design that minimizes the impact on the landscape. This includes preserving significant vegetation where possible and maintaining a balance between development and natural elements.
2. Before construction, detailed assessments are conducted to identify and avoid areas of cultural heritage significance. Adjustments to the development plan are made to minimize impacts on these sites.

Remediation and Offset Measures:

1. Areas affected by vegetation clearance are rehabilitated post-construction, including the planting of indigenous vegetation to restore ecological balance.
2. If certain impacts are unavoidable, the development may consider cultural heritage offset initiatives. This could involve supporting projects that contribute positively to the preservation or enhancement of cultural heritage elsewhere.

Enhancement Measures:

1. The development plan explores the incorporation of heritage elements that celebrate and showcase the cultural history of the area.

1.6. How will this development use and/or impact on non-renewable natural resources? What measures were explored to ensure responsible and equitable use of the resources? How have the consequences of the depletion of the non-renewable natural resources been considered? What measures were explored to firstly avoid these impacts, and where impacts could not be avoided

altogether, what measures were explored to minimise and remedy (including offsetting) the impacts? What measures were explored to enhance positive impacts?

During the operational phase, the development will make use of the most up-to-date technology to use energy and water sparingly.

1.7. How will this development use and/or impact on renewable natural resources and the ecosystem of which they are part? Will the use of the resources and/or impact on the ecosystem jeopardise the integrity of the resource and/or system taking into account carrying capacity restrictions, limits of acceptable change, and thresholds? What measures were explored to firstly avoid the use of resources, or if avoidance is not possible, to minimise the use of resources? What measures were taken to ensure responsible and equitable use of the resources? What measures were explored to enhance positive impacts?

1.7.1. Does the proposed development exacerbate the increased dependency on increased use of resources to maintain economic growth or does it reduce resource dependency (i.e. de-materialized growth)? (note: sustainability requires that settlements reduce their ecological footprint by using less material and energy demands and reduce the amount of waste they generate, without compromising their quest to improve their quality of life)

1.7.2. Does the proposed use of natural resources constitute the best use thereof? Is the use justifiable when considering intra- and intergenerational equity, and are there more important priorities for which the resources should be used (i.e. what are the opportunity costs of using these resources this the proposed development alternative?)

1.7.3. Do the proposed location, type, and scale of development promote a reduced dependency on resources?

The development has implications for renewable natural resources and the ecosystems they are part of, and various measures have been explored to address their responsible and equitable use:

1. The proposed development involves the clearance of natural vegetation, including an Ecological Support Area (ESA) within the site. This can impact renewable resources such as plant biodiversity and ecosystem functions.
2. Soil erosion is likely to occur during the construction and operational phases. This can have an impact on soil organic matter which could inhibit plant growth.

Measures Explored to Avoid or Minimize Resource Use:

1. Efforts have been made to avoid critical areas like the ESA, minimizing the impact on plant biodiversity and the associated ecosystem.
2. Measures have been made to minimise the likelihood of erosion impact on the site such as opening trenches on the site to allow manageable flow of water during the construction phase.

Consideration of Carrying Capacity and Limits:

1. An impact assessment is conducted to evaluate the potential impact on the integrity of the resource and ecosystem. This includes considering carrying capacity restrictions, limits of acceptable change, and ecological thresholds.

Avoidance and Minimization Measures:

1. Where vegetation clearance is unavoidable, measures include selective clearing to minimize the impact on specific plant species and maintain ecological functions.

The proposed development has the potential to exacerbate the increased dependency on resources due to its nature of expanding urban infrastructure, which typically demands additional resources. Urban expansion often requires increased material and energy inputs for construction, infrastructure

development, and ongoing maintenance.

The development involves the construction of residential units, roads, and associated infrastructure, requiring significant material inputs.
The construction phase typically involves energy-intensive processes, contributing to increased energy demands.
Ongoing maintenance of roads, green spaces, and utilities contributes to resource use over the development's lifecycle.
Resource Dependency Reduction Measures: While the proposed development inherently contributes to increased resource use, sustainable practices can be integrated to mitigate the overall impact and move towards de-materialized growth:

1. Green Building Practices: Implementing green building standards and practices can reduce the environmental impact of construction, incorporating energy-efficient designs and sustainable materials.
2. Renewable Energy Integration: Incorporating renewable energy sources, such as solar panels, can help offset energy demands during the operational phase.
3. Waste Reduction Strategies: Implementing waste reduction and recycling initiatives during construction and operation can minimize the generation of construction and demolition waste.
4. Biodiversity Conservation: Designing the development to protect and enhance biodiversity can contribute to ecological balance and reduce the environmental impact.

1.8. How were a risk-averse and cautious approach applied in terms of ecological impacts?

1.8.1.What are the limits of current knowledge (note: the gaps, uncertainties and assumptions must be clearly stated)?

1.8.2.What is the level of risk associated with the limits of current knowledge?

1.8.3. Based on the limits of knowledge and the level of risk, how and to what extent was a risk-averse and cautious approach applied to the development?

Potential ecological impacts associated with the development were assessed by the qualified EAP. The significance of these impacts was determined, ranked, and mitigation measures to reduce the negative impacts have been provided and included in the EMPr requirements.

1.9. How will the ecological impacts resulting from this development impact on people's environmental right in terms following:

1.9.1. Negative impacts: e.g. access to resources, opportunity costs, loss of amenity (e.g. open space), air and water quality impacts, nuisance (noise, odour, etc.), health impacts, visual impacts, etc. What measures were taken to firstly avoid negative impacts, but if avoidance is not possible, to minimise, manage and remedy negative impacts?

1.9.2.Positive impacts: e.g. improved access to resources, improved amenity, improved air or water quality, etc. What measures were taken to enhance positive impacts?

Construction phase:
Noise generated from Vehicles and Machinery during the construction phase

- *Avoidance:* Schedule construction activities during non-sensitive hours.
- *Management:* Implement noise barriers, and use quieter machinery.
- *Remedy:* Establish a complaints mechanism and respond promptly to concerns.

Dust Generation from site clearing (High negative prior to mitigation and Very-low negative after mitigation)

- *Avoidance:* Implement dust suppression measures during construction.
- *Minimization/Management:* Use water trucks, and control speed limits on unpaved roads.
- *Remedy:* Monitor air quality, and respond to exceedances with corrective actions.

Visual Impact of Construction Site

- *Avoidance:* Implement construction site screening measures.
- *Management:* Use visual barriers and landscaping to reduce impact.
- *Remedy:* Develop a landscaping plan to restore visual aesthetics post-construction.

Vegetation Removal which will include loss of species, connectivity diversity, and endemic terrestrial ecosystems (Very high negative prior mitigation and low medium after mitigation)

- *Avoidance:* Conduct a thorough vegetation impact assessment.
- *Management:* Implement reforestation and habitat restoration.
- *Remedy:* the developer will do compensatory planting, and restoration of affected ecosystems.

1.10. Describe the linkages and dependencies between human well-being, livelihoods and ecosystem services applicable to the area in question and how the development's ecological impacts will result in socioeconomic impacts (e.g. on livelihoods, loss of heritage site, opportunity costs, etc.)?

The development will result in clearance of vegetation which can impact ecosystem services such as water regulation, soil stabilization, and biodiversity, potentially affecting the resilience and well-being of the broader ecosystem. Loss of vegetation will also result in alteration of the natural landscape which may impact the amenity and recreational value of the area, affecting the well-being of the residents who value green spaces. Many of the impacts associated with the removal of vegetation will include the loss of terrestrial ecosystem support areas (ESA).

The development may have associated opportunity costs, where alternative land uses that sustain ecosystems and provide ecosystem services are foregone.

1.11. Based on all of the above, how will this development positively or negatively impact on ecological integrity objectives/targets/considerations of the area?

The development is likely to have both positive and negative impacts on ecological integrity objectives/targets/considerations in the area:

Negative Impacts

- The primary negative impact is the clearance of vegetation, including a portion of the Ecological Support Area (ESA). This results in the loss of biodiversity, disruption of ecosystems, and potential habitat loss for various species.
- The removal of vegetation can lead to increased risks of soil erosion, impacting soil stability and potentially affecting water quality in nearby areas.

Positive Impacts

- The development plan includes the designation of open space within the ESA. This could contribute to maintaining some ecological features, providing potential areas for habitat restoration or conservation.
- The development's focus on creating single residential erven aligns with zoning regulations and the principles of sustainable development within an existing urban area. This may contribute to minimizing the spread of urbanization into more ecologically sensitive areas.

1.12. Considering the need to secure ecological integrity and a healthy biophysical environment, describe how the alternatives identified (in terms of all the different elements of the development and all the different impacts being proposed), resulted in the selection of the "best practicable environmental option" in terms of ecological considerations?

The selection of the "best practicable environmental option" in terms of ecological considerations involves a comprehensive evaluation of various alternatives and their impacts on the environment. In this context, the alternatives considered include different approaches to the development, taking into account ecological impacts and the overall goal of securing ecological integrity. Through careful evaluation and consideration of these alternatives, the proposed development aims to strike a balance between meeting human needs and minimizing negative ecological impacts, ultimately contributing to the best practicable environmental option for ecological considerations. The selection process involves the following considerations:

- The inclusion of open space within the Ecological Support Area (ESA) is a crucial aspect. This designation contributes to maintaining some ecological features and provides potential areas for habitat restoration or conservation, supporting the goal of ecological integrity.

- Choosing a development plan that aligns with zoning regulations and focuses on single residential erven within an existing urban area demonstrates a commitment to sustainable development principles. This helps in minimizing the spread of urbanization into more ecologically sensitive areas.

- The site is mostly covered by invasive alien plants, the removal of invasive alien plants is a positive measure that contributes to ecological integrity. By reducing the presence of alien vegetation, the development aims to mitigate negative impacts on native flora, supporting the health and balance of the ecosystem.

- Recognizing the ESA within the development plan and taking measures to minimize impacts on this area demonstrates a commitment to protecting critical ecological components.

1.13. Describe the positive and negative cumulative ecological/biophysical impacts bearing in mind the size, scale, scope, and nature of the project in relation to its location and existing and other planned developments in the area?

Positive Cumulative Ecological/Biophysical Impacts

- The development includes plans for the removal of invasive alien plants, contributing positively to the control of these species in the broader area. This can prevent the spread of invasives, benefiting native vegetation.

- The designation of open space within the Ecological Support Area (ESA) can have positive cumulative effects. Preserving green spaces contributes to biodiversity restoration, providing habitats and corridors for various species.

- Aligning with zoning regulations and focusing on single residential erven within an existing urban area helps concentrate development in a controlled manner, reducing the overall ecological footprint.

Negative Cumulative Ecological/Biophysical Impacts

- The cumulative effect of vegetation clearance for various developments in the area may lead to habitat loss, impacting local biodiversity. The loss of vegetation can contribute to soil erosion and changes in ecosystem composition.

- As multiple developments occur in the area, the cumulative impact may result in habitat fragmentation. This can hinder the movement of wildlife and reduce the overall ecological connectivity of the landscape.

- The combined effects of multiple developments may increase urbanization pressure on natural areas. This can lead to a reduction in the overall availability of green spaces and negatively affect the quality of the local environment.

2.1. What is the socio-economic context of the area, based on, amongst other considerations, the following considerations?:

2.1.1. The IDP (and its sector plans' vision, objectives, strategies, indicators and targets) and any other strategic plans, frameworks of policies applicable to the area,

2.1.2. Spatial priorities and desired spatial patterns (e.g. need for integrated of segregated communities, need to upgrade informal settlements, need for densification, etc.),

2.1.3. Spatial characteristics (e.g. existing land uses, planned land uses, cultural landscapes, etc.), and

2.1.4. Municipal Economic Development Strategy ("LED Strategy")

According to the Overstrand Municipality IDP (2023/2024), The Municipality's population increased by 56 721 people over a period of 20 years from 1996 to 2016. Overstrand's population has increased steadily from 80 432 in 2011 to 93 407 in 2016. Between 2011 and 2016 the population growth in Overstrand was 16.1 per cent. The population of the Overstrand municipal area is expected to

increase from 110 971 in 2022 to 124 826 in 2026, making it the second largest populated municipal area in the Overberg District.

In addition to the population increase, it is evident that Overstrand has a growing population that will increase the demand for housing, employment, service delivery, and related infrastructure developments. The increased population growth will therefore place increased pressure on municipal resources to develop new as well as maintain existing infrastructure. The ability to work from home has enabled households to move away from the economic hubs and settle in smaller towns such as Hermanus. This trend can be a valuable injection for the local economy as well as the municipality in terms of income generation, despite the increased demand for services *(Source: Western Cape Provincial Treasury, MERO 2021and SEP 2021).*

2.2. Considering the socio-economic context, what will the socio-economic impacts be of the development (and its separate elements/aspects), and specifically also on the socio-economic objectives of the area?

2.2.1. Will the development complement the local socio-economic initiatives (such as local economic development (LED) initiatives), or skills development programs?

The development aligns with the socio-economic objectives by contributing to local economic development. The creation of residential erven and the associated construction activities stimulate economic activity in the area, generating employment and income. This will likely contribute to investments in the area through property sales.

The construction phase provides opportunities for skills development and job creation. Local labour and contractors may be engaged, contributing to the skills enhancement of the local workforce.

2.3. How will this development address the specific physical, psychological, developmental, cultural and social needs and interests of the relevant communities?

In addressing the community needs and interests, the development aims to address the specific physical, psychological, developmental, cultural, and social needs and interests of the relevant communities in the following ways:

- The creation of a single residential and town housing erven caters to the physical needs of residents by providing individual housing units. The development plan, including open spaces, contributes to the physical well-being of the community by offering areas for recreational activities and green spaces.

- The establishment of a residential environment with single-family dwellings is designed to fulfill psychological and developmental needs. The construction of homes provides a sense of security and belonging, supporting the developmental aspects of community members.

- The development plan considers the cultural and social aspects of the community by adhering to zoning regulations and creating a residential environment. The design takes into account the cultural preferences for single-family homes and contributes to the social fabric of the community.

2.4. Will the development result in equitable (intra- and inter-generational) impact distribution, in the short and long-term? Will the impact be socially and economically sustainable in the short- and long-term?

The development aspires to achieve equitable distribution of impacts within the current generation and ensure that the benefits extend to future generations. By focusing on local employment, skills development, and sustainable housing solutions, the project aims to contribute to both short- and long-term social and economic sustainability.

2.5. In terms of location, describe how the placement of the proposed development will:

2.5.1. result in the creation of residential and employment opportunities in close proximity to or integrated with other,

2.5.2. reduce the need for transport of people and goods,

2.5.3. result in access to public transport or enable non-motorised and pedestrian transport (e.g. will the development result in densification and the achievement of thresholds in terms public transport),

2.5.4. compliment other uses in the area,

2.5.5. be in line with the planning for the area,

2.5.6. for urban related development, make use of underutilised land available with the urban edge,

2.5.7. optimise the use of existing resources and infrastructure,

2.5.8. opportunity costs in terms of bulk infrastructure expansions in non-priority areas (e.g. not aligned with the bulk infrastructure planning for the settlement that reflects the spatial reconstruction priorities of the settlement),

2.5.9. discourage "urban sprawl" and contribute to compaction/densification,

2.5.10. contribute to the correction of the historically distorted spatial patterns of settlements and to the optimum use of existing infrastructure in excess of current needs,

2.5.11. encourage environmentally sustainable land development practices and processes,

2.5.12. take into account special locational factors that might favour the specific location (e.g. the location of a strategic mineral resource, access to the port, access to rail, etc.),

2.5.13. the investment in the settlement or area in question will generate the highest socio-economic returns (i.e. an area with high economic potential),

2.5.14. impact on the sense of history, sense of place and heritage of the area and the socio-cultural and cultural-historic characteristics and sensitivities of the area, and

2.5.15. in terms of the nature, scale and location of the development promote or act as a catalyst to create a more integrated settlement?

2.5.1- 2.5.15 Answer:
The proposed development is within the existing urban of Hermanus. This is an ideal approach into creating new residential erven that is within the existing residential zoning for an effective usage of land, in this case provision of housing to minimise the shortage of housing availability in the area.

Positive impacts:

- This has a positive impact to provide job opportunities for the people in the surrounding and much improvement for the economic growth of the area.
- This also contributes to investments taking place in the area
- Instead of re-establishing and interrupting the new environment outside the urban which will pose more ecological effects on a wider range of environment, using existing land within an existing erven is cost-effective and environmentally friendly.
- In addition to this, this will also minimise urban sprawl since it is within the existing urban and not on the outskirts.
- Choosing this location will also contribute a great deal in preventing illegal dumping and revitalizing the area to a positive appeal.
- Part in this, the location of this proposed development is allowing it to utilize the existing bulk infrastructures for water and electricity provided by the municipality.

2.6. How were a risk-averse and cautious approach applied in terms of socio-economic impacts?

2.6.1. What are the limits of current knowledge (note: the gaps, uncertainties and assumptions must be clearly stated)?

2.6.2. What is the level of risk (note: related to inequality, social fabric, livelihoods, vulnerable communities, critical resources, economic vulnerability and sustainability) associated with the limits of current knowledge?

2.6.3. Based on the limits of knowledge and the level of risk, how and to what extent was a risk-averse and cautious approach applied to the development?

2.7. How will the socio-economic impacts resulting from this development impact on people's environmental right in terms following:

2.7.1. Negative impacts: e.g. health (e.g. HIV-Aids), safety, social ills, etc. What measures were taken to firstly avoid negative impacts, but if avoidance is not possible, to minimise, manage and remedy negative impacts?

1.7.2. Positive impacts. What measures were taken to enhance positive impacts?

N/A

2.8. Considering the linkages and dependencies between human wellbeing, livelihoods and ecosystem services, describe the linkages and dependencies applicable to the area in question and how the development's socio-economic impacts will result in ecological impacts (e.g. over utilisation of natural resources, etc.)?

In Vermont, the coastal suburb on the outskirts of Hermanus, there are intricate linkages and dependencies between human well-being, livelihoods, and ecosystem services. The area's appeal to visitors seeking natural beauty underscores its reliance on ecosystem services for tourism,

recreation, and overall quality of life. The beaches, hiking trails, and bird watching opportunities are not only recreational amenities but also vital components of the local economy, supporting livelihoods through tourism-related businesses and employment opportunities. However, the development's socio-economic impacts, such as increased tourism and population growth, may lead to ecological impacts due to the overutilization of natural resources. However, the socio-economic impacts of the development are carefully weighed against its ecological significance to ensure sustainable outcomes for both humans and the environment.

2.9. What measures were taken to pursue the selection of the "best practicable environmental option" in terms of socio-economic considerations?

The adherence to relevant regulations, guidelines, and sustainability standards was ensured throughout the EIA process to promote responsible and sustainable development practices that prioritize both socio-economic development and environmental protection.

2.10. What measures were taken to pursue environmental justice so that adverse environmental impacts shall not be distributed in such a manner as to unfairly discriminate against any person, particularly vulnerable and disadvantaged persons (who are the beneficiaries and is the development located appropriately)?Considering the need for social equity and justice, do the alternatives identified, allow the "best practicable environmental option" to be selected, or is there a need for other alternatives to be considered?

Refer to the answer above.

2.11. What measures were taken to pursue equitable access to environmental resources, benefits, and services to meet basic human needs and ensure human wellbeing, and what special measures were taken to ensure access thereto by categories of persons disadvantaged by unfair discrimination?

N/A

2.12. What measures were taken to ensure that the responsibility for the environmental health and safety consequences of the development has been addressed throughout the development's life cycle?

Throughout the development's life cycle, several measures are implemented to address the responsibility for environmental health and safety consequences. n EMP was developed to mitigate adverse impacts associated with the proposed development. The EMP outlines specific strategies and protocols to minimize environmental harm and ensure the safety of construction workers during the construction phase.

2.13. What measures were taken to:

2.13.1. ensure the participation of all interested and affected parties,

2.13.2. provide all people with an opportunity to develop the understanding, skills and capacity necessary for achieving equitable and effective participation,

2.13.3. ensure participation by vulnerable and disadvantaged persons,

2.13.4. promote community wellbeing and empowerment through environmental education, the raising of environmental awareness, the sharing of knowledge and experience and other appropriate means,

2.13.5. ensure openness and transparency, and access to information in terms of the process,

2.13.6. ensure that the interests, needs and values of all interested and affected parties were taken into account, and that adequate recognition were given to all forms of knowledge, including traditional and ordinary knowledge, and

2.13.7. ensure that the vital role of women and youth in environmental management and development were recognised and their full participation therein were be promoted?

N/A

2.14. Considering the interests, needs and values of all the interested and affected parties, describe how the development will allow for opportunities for all the segments of the community (e.g.. a mixture of low-, middle-, and high-income housing opportunities) that is consistent with the priority needs of the local area (or that is proportional to the needs of an area)

N/A

2.15. What measures have been taken to ensure that current and/or future workers will be informed of work that potentially might be harmful to human health or the environment or of dangers associated with the work, and what measures have been taken to ensure that the right of workers to refuse such work will be respected and protected?

N/A

2.16. Describe how the development will impact on job creation in terms of, amongst other aspects:

2.16.1. the number of temporary versus permanent jobs that will be created,

2.16.2. whether the labour available in the area will be able to take up the job opportunities (i.e. do the required skills match the skills available in the area),

2.16.3. the distance from where labourers will have to travel,

2.16.4. the location of jobs opportunities versus the location of impacts (i.e. equitable distribution of costs and benefits), and

2.16.5. the opportunity costs in terms of job creation (e.g. a mine might create 100 jobs, but impact on 1000 agricultural jobs, etc.).

The development of 33 residential erven in Hermanus, Vermont, will impact job creation primarily during the construction phase. This will involve a mix of temporary and permanent jobs, with a higher proportion of temporary employment during the construction period. The availability of labor in the area will likely match the required skills for construction work, potentially providing job opportunities for local residents. However, the distance from where labourers will have to travel may vary depending on the availability of skilled workers in the immediate vicinity.

2.17. What measures were taken to ensure:

2.17.1. that there were intergovernmental coordination and harmonisation of policies, legislation and actions relating to the environment, and

2.17.2. that actual or potential conflicts of interest between organs of state were resolved through conflict resolution procedures?

N/A to this development.

2.18. What measures were taken to ensure that the environment will be held in public trust for the people, that the beneficial use of environmental resources will serve the public interest, and that the environment will be protected as the people's common heritage?

2.19. Are the mitigation measures proposed realistic and what long-term environmental legacy and managed burden will be left?

The proposed mitigation measures appear to be realistic, given the context of the development and the potential environmental impacts identified.

2.20. What measures were taken to ensure that the costs of remedying pollution, environmental degradation and consequent adverse health effects and of preventing, controlling or minimising further pollution,environmental damage or adverse health effects will be paid for by those responsible for harming the environment?

N/A to this small scale of development.

2.21. Considering the need to secure ecological integrity and a healthy bio-physical environment, describe how the alternatives identified (in terms of all the different elements of the development and all the different impacts being proposed), resulted in the selection of the best practicable environmental option in terms of socio-economic considerations?

The selection of the best practicable environmental option was informed by a comprehensive analysis of the alternatives identified across various elements of the development and their associated impacts. This analysis considered the need to secure ecological integrity and a healthy bio-physical environment, along with socio-economic considerations. Alternative designs were explored to minimize adverse impacts on the environment while also addressing socio-economic needs. Factors such as habitat preservation, resource efficiency, and community well-being were weighed against potential impacts such as land use change, biodiversity loss, and socio-economic benefits. Through this process, the option that offered the most favorable balance between

environmental conservation and socio-economic development was selected as the best practicable environmental option.

2.22. Describe the positive and negative cumulative socio-economic impacts bearing in mind the size, scale, scope and nature of the project in relation to its location and other planned developments in the area?

The positive cumulative socio-economic impacts of the project include job creation during the construction phase, increased property values in the area due to improved infrastructure, and enhanced local economic activity from increased population density. Additionally, the project may contribute to the growth of local businesses and services, thereby improving the overall quality of life for residents. However, there are also negative cumulative socio-economic impacts to consider, such as increased traffic congestion and demand for public services. The size, scale, scope, and nature of the project, in conjunction with other planned developments in the area, will not greatly influence the distribution of these socio-economic impacts.