



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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TO	ALL STAKEHOLDERS
FROM	MR. SABELO MALAZA CHIEF DIRECTOR: INTEGRATED ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATIONS
SUBJECT	TIMEFRAMES PRESCRIBED FOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT, SECTION 24G AND WASTE MANAGEMENT LICENSE APPLICATIONS DURING THE PERIOD 15 DECEMBER 2019 TO 05 JANUARY 2020
DATE OF LETTER	09 December 2019

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

The Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries hereby informs all stakeholders of the provision in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations 2014 (as amended by Government Notice No. R. 326, dated 04 April 2017), about the mandatory exclusion period of 15 December to 05 January for the consideration of any timeframes prescribed in terms of the Regulations. Regulation 3(2) states that "For any action contemplated in terms of these Regulations for which a timeframe is prescribed, the period of 15 December to 5 January must be excluded in the reckoning of days."

This includes applications for environmental authorisations, applications for amendments to environmental authorisations, environmental management programme reports or exemptions from the provisions of the Regulations. Accordingly, Section 24G applications should also not be submitted to the Department during this period. Decisions on applications for environmental authorizations and notifications of decisions with regard to EIA applications will not be issued between 15 December 2019 and 05 January 2020.

Any timeframes associated with the public participation process must exclude the period 15 December 2019 to 05 January 2020. The timeframe of 30 days for State departments to comment on applications must also exclude this period. In accordance with Regulation 3(3), only in exceptional circumstances and if agreed to by the Department, may the applicant conduct any public participation during this period.

The Chief Directorate: Integrated Environmental Authorisations will be on a mandatory strategic planning exercise from the 12th to the 13th of December 2019. Any applications or reports submitted during this time will be deemed as having been received on the 06th of January 2020 when the DEFF offices reopen.

Yours faithfully

Mr. Sabelo Malaza
CHIEF DIRECTOR: INTEGRATED ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATIONS
Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries

Date: 09/12/2019

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