

**samantha@thembeka-env.co.za**

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**From:** Zama Langa <ZLanga@environment.gov.za>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 06 August 2020 10:29 AM  
**To:** samantha@thembeka-env.co.za  
**Cc:** 'Piet Theron'; 'Kamogelo Mokhine'; 'Stephanie Gopaul'; 'Kamo Mokhine'; Nyiko Nkosi; Dr. Danie Smit  
**Subject:** RE: Ref:14/12/16/3/3/1/2015-Public Participation Plan for the Bhangazi Cultural Heritage Lodge BA

Good day

You are invited to attend a meeting to discuss the Public Participation Plan and Way forward for the Bhangazi Cultural Heritage Lodge BA. This is to ensure that the EAP and the department are on the same page to avoid further delays of the project.

Proposed date: 07 August 2020 at 11h00 on MS Teams

Please confirm your availability so that I can send the MS Teams link for meeting.

Regards,

**Zamalanga Langa**  
**Environmental Officer Specialised Production**  
**Chief Directorate: Integrated Environmental Authorisation**  
**Sub Directorate: National Infrastructure Projects**  
**Department of Environmental Affairs**  
**Tel: 012 399 9389**  
**Cell: 072 146 4308**



**environment, forestry  
& fisheries**

Department:  
Environment, Forestry and Fisheries  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

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**From:** samantha@thembeka-env.co.za [mailto:samantha@thembeka-env.co.za]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 4, 2020 3:39 PM  
**To:** Zama Langa  
**Cc:** 'Piet Theron'; 'Kamogelo Mokhine'; 'Stephanie Gopaul'; 'Kamo Mokhine'  
**Subject:** Ref:14/12/16/3/3/1/2015-Public Participation Plan for the Bhangazi Cultural Heritage Lodge BA

Hi Zama

As you are aware TEC is assisting ERM in revising the BAR and the associated PP process for the above referenced application.

Please see attached the proposed Public Participation Plan for your review and approval.

It would be much appreciated if you could please provide your comments by 12 August 2020.

I look forward to your feedback.

Many thanks

Kind Regards

**Samantha Moodley** Pr. Sci. Nat  
Registered Environmental Assessment Practitioner



**Mobile:** +27 71 678 1951

[samantha@thembeka-env.co.za](mailto:samantha@thembeka-env.co.za)

[www.thembeka-env.co.za](http://www.thembeka-env.co.za)

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**From:** [samantha@thembeka-env.co.za](mailto:samantha@thembeka-env.co.za) <[samantha@thembeka-env.co.za](mailto:samantha@thembeka-env.co.za)>

**Sent:** Monday, 03 August 2020 3:13 PM

**To:** 'ZLanga@environment.gov.za' <[ZLanga@environment.gov.za](mailto:ZLanga@environment.gov.za)>

**Cc:** 'Kamogelo Mokhine' <[kamogelo@thembeka-env.co.za](mailto:kamogelo@thembeka-env.co.za)>; 'Stephanie Gopaul' <[Stephanie.Gopaul@erm.com](mailto:Stephanie.Gopaul@erm.com)>; 'Kamo Mokhine' <[kkmokhine@gmail.com](mailto:kkmokhine@gmail.com)>; 'Piet Theron' <[piettheron01@gmail.com](mailto:piettheron01@gmail.com)>

**Subject:** RE: Bhangazi Lodge Appeal

Dear Zama

Hope you are well.

Piet's e-mail from below refers.

We look forward to working with you to finalise this application.

My colleague Kamogelo, copied on this e-mail, has in fact been in touch already regarding the public comment period on the updated BAR.

As per your guidance we will be submitting a public participation plan to you for review and approval during the course of this week.

We look forward to receiving your feedback on that.

Thanks and take care.

Kind Regards

**Samantha Moodley** Pr. Sci. Nat  
Registered Environmental Assessment Practitioner



**Mobile:** +27 71 678 1951

[samantha@thembeka-env.co.za](mailto:samantha@thembeka-env.co.za)

[www.thembeka-env.co.za](http://www.thembeka-env.co.za)

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**From:** Piet Theron <[piettheron01@gmail.com](mailto:piettheron01@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Monday, 03 August 2020 2:57 PM

**To:** [samantha@thembeka-env.co.za](mailto:samantha@thembeka-env.co.za)

**Subject:** Fwd: Bhangazi Lodge Appeal

FYI

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Zama Langa** <[ZLanga@environment.gov.za](mailto:ZLanga@environment.gov.za)>

Date: Mon, Aug 3, 2020 at 2:54 PM

Subject: RE: Bhangazi Lodge Appeal

To: Piet Theron <[piettheron01@gmail.com](mailto:piettheron01@gmail.com)>

Dear Piet

I am very well thank you, Hope all is well on your end as well.

I will await Ms Moodley's call, look forward to it thank you.

Regards,

Zamalanga

---

**From:** Piet Theron [mailto:[piettheron01@gmail.com](mailto:piettheron01@gmail.com)]

**Sent:** Monday, August 3, 2020 2:44 PM

**To:** Zama Langa

**Cc:** Peter Velcich; Nyiko Nkosi; Rudessa Harris; Stephanie Gopaul; [samantha@thembeke-env.co.za](mailto:samantha@thembeke-env.co.za); Aruna Seepersadh; Paul Daphne

**Subject:** Re: Bhangazi Lodge Appeal

Dear Zama

Hope you're well and staying safe under lock down. Please note that ERM (through the appointment of one of their sub-contactors - Thembeke Environmental Consulting) has agreed to support the process to finalise and submit the Bhangazi Lodge BAR. Samantha Moodley (copied in this email) from Thembeke Environmental Consulting will be in touch with you shortly to discuss the proposed way forward.

Best regards

Piet

On Wed, Apr 29, 2020 at 4:15 PM Zama Langa <[ZLanga@environment.gov.za](mailto:ZLanga@environment.gov.za)> wrote:

Dear Peter

Our telephone conversation and your email below has reference, Please note that the Minister ruled that due to significant changes to the site layout, the revised BAR must be taken out for public participation. After which the revised BAR will be evaluated by the department for a decision.

Kindly also ensure that when you submit to the Department, you include a cover letter indicating that the amended draft BAR is submitted as a result of an appeal decision. Copy of appeal decision must form part of the cover letter. The application form will also need to be amended to include Nu Leaf as the new EAP.

I hope this provides clarity but if you require further assistance feel free to contact me. Stay Safe

Regards,

**Zamalanga Langa**

**Environmental Officer Specialised Production**

**Chief Directorate: Integrated Environmental Authorisation**

**Sub Directorate: National Infrastructure Projects**

**Department of Environmental Affairs**

**Tel: 012 399 9389**

**Cell: 072 146 4308**



---

**From:** Peter Velcich [mailto:[peter@nuleafsa.co.za](mailto:peter@nuleafsa.co.za)]

**Sent:** Wednesday, April 29, 2020 3:19 PM

**To:** Zama Langa

**Cc:** Rudessa Harris; 'Piet Theron'

**Subject:** RE: Bhangazi Lodge Appeal

Hi Zama,

- Further to our chat this afternoon, I would like to confirm that the project EAP can go ahead and update the DBAR, and resubmit to the I&AP's for a 30 day comment period.
- I ask for confirmation as the appeal decision advises under point 3.3.2 'Remit the matter to the Department for reconsideration, as alluded to in paragraphs 2.3.12 – 2.3.14 above.'

Kind regards

Peter Velcich (PrLArch)



*Integrated sustainable solutions*

Tel: +27 82 4420220

Fax: +27 86 571 6292

[peter@nuleafsa.co.za](mailto:peter@nuleafsa.co.za)

[www.nuleafsa.co.za](http://www.nuleafsa.co.za)



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**From:** Zama Langa <ZLanga@environment.gov.za>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 13 August 2020 11:48 AM  
**To:** samantha@thembeka-env.co.za  
**Cc:** 'Stephanie Gopaul'; 'Piet Theron'; 'Kamo Mokhine'; 'Kamo Mokhine'; Nyiko Nkosi; Ephron Maradwa  
**Subject:** RE: DEFF Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2015- PPP Plan for Bhangazi Cultural Heritage Lodge Basic Assessment

Good day

The Final Public Participation Process (PPP) Plan for the abovementioned project dated August 2020 and received by this department on 13 August 2020 and the MS Teams meeting held 07 August 2020 refers.

The Department has evaluated the Public Participation Plan which is submitted as per Minister Directive dated 05 June 2020 in response to Covid-19 pandemic and hereby approves the plan for the abovementioned project.

You may proceed with the public participation process in accordance with the tasks contemplated in the PPP plan. Should you wish to deviate from the submitted PPP Plan, the amended PPP Plan must be submitted to the Department for approval prior commencement.

Please ensure that the PPP plan forms part of the report that will be submitted to the department with a cover letter and appeal decision as discussed in our meeting.

You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), as amended, that no activity may commence prior to an Environmental Authorization being granted by the Department.

Regards,  
Zamalanga

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**From:** samantha@thembeka-env.co.za [mailto:samantha@thembeka-env.co.za]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 12, 2020 10:53 PM  
**To:** Zama Langa  
**Cc:** 'Stephanie Gopaul'; 'Piet Theron'; 'Kamo Mokhine'; 'Kamo Mokhine'  
**Subject:** DEFF Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2015- PPP Plan for Bhangazi Cultural Heritage Lodge Basic Assessment

Hi Zama

Hope all is well with you.  
Please find attached the revised Public Participation Plan for your approval.

Trust all is in order.  
Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Many thanks

Kind Regards

**Samantha Moodley** Pr. Sci. Nat  
Registered Environmental Assessment Practitioner



**Mobile:** +27 71 678 1951

[samantha@thembeka-env.co.za](mailto:samantha@thembeka-env.co.za)

[www.thembeka-env.co.za](http://www.thembeka-env.co.za)

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**Subject:** FW: Bhangazi Lodge Basic Assessment - Specialist Report Updates

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**From:** Stephanie Gopaul <[Stephanie.Gopaul@erm.com](mailto:Stephanie.Gopaul@erm.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 20 August 2020 7:21 PM  
**To:** Kamo Mokhine <[kkmokhine@gmail.com](mailto:kkmokhine@gmail.com)>  
**Cc:** Samantha Moodley <[samantha@thembeka-env.co.za](mailto:samantha@thembeka-env.co.za)>; Kamo Mokhine <[kamogelo@thembeka-env.co.za](mailto:kamogelo@thembeka-env.co.za)>;  
Krishni Maduray <[Krishni.Maduray@erm.com](mailto:Krishni.Maduray@erm.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Bhangazi Lodge Basic Assessment - Specialist Report Updates

Hi All

This is a problem and since the specialist requested a site visit and update on his report, I cannot see how this can be done in time for our disclosure period next week.

Kamo, this is not the feedback that was provided initially- did Zama change her mind?

I suggest that the 3 of us have an alignment call tomorrow to map the way forward.

Krish this implies that the specialist needs to be appointed to update their reports – one has states it is necessary so far....

Kind Regards,  
Stephanie Gopaul  
Principal Consultant

**ERM**

Suite S005 | 17 The Boulevard | Westway Office Park | Westville | 3635 | Durban | South Africa  
T +27 31 265 0033 | F +27 31 265 0150 |

E [stephanie.gopaul@erm.com](mailto:stephanie.gopaul@erm.com) | W [www.erm.com](http://www.erm.com)



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---

**From:** Zama Langa <[ZLanga@environment.gov.za](mailto:ZLanga@environment.gov.za)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 4:39 PM  
**To:** Kamo Mokhine <[kkmokhine@gmail.com](mailto:kkmokhine@gmail.com)>  
**Cc:** Samantha Moodley <[samantha@thembeka-env.co.za](mailto:samantha@thembeka-env.co.za)>; Stephanie Gopaul <[Stephanie.Gopaul@erm.com](mailto:Stephanie.Gopaul@erm.com)>; Kamo Mokhine <[kamogelo@thembeka-env.co.za](mailto:kamogelo@thembeka-env.co.za)>; Nyiko Nkosi <[NNkosi@environment.gov.za](mailto:NNkosi@environment.gov.za)>; Dr. Danie Smit <[Dsmit@environment.gov.za](mailto:Dsmit@environment.gov.za)>  
**Subject:** RE: Bhangazi Lodge Basic Assessment - Specialist Report Updates

Dear Kamo

Please note that, as discussed in our meeting all Specialist studies need to be updated to take into consideration the amended layout, this will mean that all Specialist which were commissioned for the proposed project need to provide statements/confirmations which confirms whether the change that have been made to the initial layout

will increase the level of impact or not. If it will increase the level of impact, further mitigation measures must include in the Specialist report , Basic assessment report the and EMPr.

The onus is on the EAP and Specialist on how this should be done, if specialist is of the opinion that they cannot provide these statements or confirmations as required without going to site to see the new location of some infrastructure as per amended layout, the way forward must be taken by you and the specialist.

Further to the above, new Specialist Declaration of Interest must also be obtained for all Specialist statement/confirmations to be obtained on new amended layout map.

Regards,  
Zamalanga

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**From:** Kamo Mokhine [<mailto:kkmokhine@gmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 18, 2020 2:02 PM  
**To:** Zama Langa  
**Cc:** Samantha Moodley; [Stephanie.Gopaul@erm.com](mailto:Stephanie.Gopaul@erm.com); Kamo Mokhine  
**Subject:** Re: Bhangazi Lodge Basic Assessment - Specialist Report Updates

Good day Zama,

I hope this email finds you well.

As per the discussion with DEFF on Friday 7 August 2020, we enquired with Specialists about updating their respective reports in light of the revised site layout.

The biodiversity specialist has just reverted indicating the need to do a site sensitivity verification , in line with the *GN R 320 (20 March 2020): "Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on Identified Environmental Themes* (please refer to the email below from Magnus van Rooyen).

We are committed to undertaking a thorough and transparent assessment in line with relevant legislation. However, given that the Bhangazi BAR is for an existing EA application (one submitted before GN R 320 was promulgated), would we still need to undertake the site sensitivity verification?  
Based on our understanding of the nature of the changes to the layout, we do not envisage that there would be changes that warrant detailed field assessments, given that the changes are all taking place in a footprint that has already been assessed comprehensively.  
The updates might include revising the impact assessment, however we still don't think this would require specialists going to site.

In this regard, we would like to propose that a desktop study be done by the biodiversity specialist to update the report.  
Please provide the DEFF's advice on the matter as we want to ensure that we fulfil all regulatory requirements but at the same time we do not want to put the construction schedule at risk or have the client incur further costs.

Your guidance on this matter will be much appreciated.  
We look forward to your feedback on the matter so we know how best to proceed.

Thank you so much  
Kind regards  
Kamogelo Mokhine  
073 588 7110

On Tue, Aug 18, 2020 at 9:41 AM Magnus Van Rooyen <[VanRooyenM@jgafrika.com](mailto:VanRooyenM@jgafrika.com)> wrote:

Hi Kamo,

I think we will struggle to update the report by the end of the week as the updating will require a site visit to consider the amendments of the layout.

Furthermore, the assessment must now be conducted in accordance with the recently published Government Notice 320 in terms of NEMA (20 March 2020): "Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on Identified Environmental Themes in terms of Sections 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of the NEMA, 1998, when applying for Environmental Authorisation". As the report will need to be completed in compliance with these newly promulgated Minimum Criteria it is likely that the reporting structure and content could change substantially which will require substantial additional effort which will have timing implications.

I will send a cost proposal through to you as soon as possible making provision for the abovementioned Government Notice.

All the best,

**Magnus Van Rooyen** Pr Sci Nat  
Executive Associate



Cell: +27 84 249 2365 | Direct: +27 33 343 6851 | Tel: +27 33 343 6700 | Fax: +27 33 343 6701  
Email: [VanRooyenM@jgafrika.com](mailto:VanRooyenM@jgafrika.com) | Web: <http://www.jgafrika.com>  
6 Pin Oak Avenue, Hilton, Pietermaritzburg, 3201, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa  
P.O. Box 794, Hilton, 3245, South Africa

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**From:** Kamo Mokhine <[kkmokhine@gmail.com](mailto:kkmokhine@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** 18 August 2020 9:01 AM  
**To:** Magnus Van Rooyen <[VanRooyenM@jgafrika.com](mailto:VanRooyenM@jgafrika.com)>  
**Cc:** Kamo Mokhine <[kamogelo@thembeka-env.co.za](mailto:kamogelo@thembeka-env.co.za)>  
**Subject:** Re: Bhangazi Lodge Basic Assessment - Specialist Report Updates

Hi Magnus,

Yes you can send through your cost for doing the updates.

We need to wrap up the BAR updates by the end of the week. How soon do you think you can update your report?

On Tue, Aug 18, 2020 at 8:56 AM Magnus Van Rooyen <[VanRooyenM@jgafrika.com](mailto:VanRooyenM@jgafrika.com)> wrote:

Good morning Kamo,

Based on the fact that the areas have changed, much of the assessment that was done by ourselves will need to be amended. Can I provide you a costing to do this?

All the best,

**Magnus Van Rooyen** Pr Sci Nat  
Executive Associate



Cell: +27 84 249 2365 | Direct: +27 33 343 6851 | Tel: +27 33 343 6700 | Fax: +27 33 343 6701  
Email: [VanRooyenM@jgafrika.com](mailto:VanRooyenM@jgafrika.com) | Web: <http://www.jgafrika.com>  
6 Pin Oak Avenue, Hilton, Pietermaritzburg, 3201, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa  
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**From:** Kamo Mokhine <[kkmokhine@gmail.com](mailto:kkmokhine@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** 18 August 2020 8:33 AM  
**To:** Magnus Van Rooyen <[VanRooyenM@jgafrika.com](mailto:VanRooyenM@jgafrika.com)>; [jannie@umsunguli.co.za](mailto:jannie@umsunguli.co.za);  
[andileg@agttc.co.za](mailto:andileg@agttc.co.za); Jon Marshall <[jon@enviroconsult.co.za](mailto:jon@enviroconsult.co.za)>  
**Cc:** Kamo Mokhine <[kamogelo@thembeka-env.co.za](mailto:kamogelo@thembeka-env.co.za)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Bhangazi Lodge Basic Assessment - Specialist Report Updates

Good day,

This email is in connection with the specialist updates for the Bhangazi BAR (please refer to my previous email).

This is a gentle reminder about my request for report updates or letters confirming that there won't be any updates. For your ease, I have attached an example of a letter that one of the other specialists wrote. Perhaps you can structure your letter the same way.

In addition, we will need new declarations signed by each specialist; I have attached a blank copy for your convenience.

Can I kindly get the updates/letter as well as the signed declaration by tomorrow (Wednesday 19 August). Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Kind regards  
Kamogelo Mokhine  
073 588 7110

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kamo Mokhine** <[kamogelo@thembeka-env.co.za](mailto:kamogelo@thembeka-env.co.za)>  
Date: Fri, Aug 7, 2020 at 2:53 PM  
Subject: Bhangazi Lodge Basic Assessment - Specialist Report Updates  
To: <[vanrooyenm@jgafrika.com](mailto:vanrooyenm@jgafrika.com)>, <[jannie@umsunguli.co.za](mailto:jannie@umsunguli.co.za)>, <[andileg@agtcc.co.za](mailto:andileg@agtcc.co.za)>, <[jon@enviroconsult.co.za](mailto:jon@enviroconsult.co.za)>, <[eco-logic@mweb.co.za](mailto:eco-logic@mweb.co.za)>  
Cc: Stephanie Gopaul <[Stephanie.Gopaul@erm.com](mailto:Stephanie.Gopaul@erm.com)>, Samantha Moodley <[samantha@thembeka-env.co.za](mailto:samantha@thembeka-env.co.za)>

Good day,

This email is in connection with the specialist studies conducted for the Bhangazi Cultural Lodge Basic Assessment (BA).

ERM is in the process of updating the Bhangazi Cultural Lodge Basic Assessment Report (BAR). Thembeke Environmental Consulting (TEC) has been brought on to facilitate the update as well as facilitate the Public Participation Process (PPP).

The Bhangazi Trust appointed NuLeaf Planning and Environmental to revise the lodge layout plan based on the concerns raised by Interested and Affected Parties in the 2019 PPP. The revisions primarily include relocating infrastructure from a greenfields site to a brownfields site concurrent with a significant reduction of the development footprint in the forest areas. The changes are as follows:

Mitigation Measure	Nett Result
Remove proposed new access road, in favour of using the existing access road to the fishing camp area.	No longer need to clear an extent of 200m <sup>2</sup> (forested area) for the access road alignment.
Relocate restaurant and pool complex from forest zone to disturbed fishing camp zone.	No longer need to clear an extent of 350 m <sup>2</sup> (forested area) for the restaurant and pool complex.
Following above, no requirement for new access road leading to restaurant complex.	No longer need to clear an extent of 200 m <sup>2</sup> (forested area) for the service road alignment.
Reducing the size of the proposed 2 and 4 bed chalet units from 75 m <sup>2</sup> to 50 m <sup>2</sup> and 40 m <sup>2</sup> respectively.	Potentially cleared area reduced from 1350 m <sup>2</sup> to 970 m <sup>2</sup> (footprint of raised decks, not necessarily clearance of forest canopy).
Forest infrastructure limited to chalets and boardwalks only, all on raised timber decks.	Reduction of impact on undergrowth.

TEC is in the process of updating the BAR to reflect these changes. This morning we had a meeting with the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF, formerly the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA)) to discuss the updating of the BAR and the PPP. One of the discussion points from the meeting was the specialist studies and whether or not

these have been updated to reflect the layout changes. The DEFF highlighted that **specialists** are required to make the necessary updates to their findings and impact assessments, and TEC will need to integrate these into the updated BAR. In this regard, we are requesting the following from specialists:

1. Review of the updated site layout plan in relation to the affected specialist area. Please find the plan attached.
2. Updating of the impact assessment in light of the layout changes.
3. Updating the specialist report, detailing the updates and indicating the sections of the report where the updates have been made.

Should there be no changes required, we kindly request that you draft an opinion/motivation letter detailing why you believe the new layout does not trigger any new impacts or affect the significance of the impacts already identified and assessed.

Can you kindly provide the updated report or motivation letter by Friday 14 August 2020.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions

Kind regards  
Kamogelo Mokhine  
073 588 7110

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**From:** Piet Theron <piettheron01@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, 02 March 2020 7:47 PM  
**To:** Krishni Maduray; Stephanie Gopaul  
**Subject:** Fwd: Appeal Ref. 14/12/16/3/3/1/2015  
**Attachments:** Bhangazi appeal\_FINAL\_27022020.pdf; Refusal of EA.PDF; Updated CRR.PDF; Annexure 5.jpg; Annexure 6.jpg; Annexure 7\_1.jpg; Annexure 7\_2.jpg

Good evening Krishni and Stephanie

Hope you're well. Herewith a copy of the Appeal that was submitted to DEFF last week Thursday 27 February 2020. A hard copy of the appeal documentation was also hand delivered to DEFF on Friday 28 February 2020.

Thank you very much for your support in this regard!

Regards

Piet

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Peter Velcich <[peter@nuleafsa.co.za](mailto:peter@nuleafsa.co.za)>  
**Date:** Thu, Feb 27, 2020 at 11:01 AM  
**Subject:** Appeal Ref. 14/12/16/3/3/1/2015  
**To:** <[Appeals@environment.gov.za](mailto:Appeals@environment.gov.za)>  
**Cc:** Piet Theron <[piettheron01@gmail.com](mailto:piettheron01@gmail.com)>, Aruna Seepersadh <[Aseepersadh@environment.gov.za](mailto:Aseepersadh@environment.gov.za)>, Siboniso Mbense <[siboniso@isimangaliso.com](mailto:siboniso@isimangaliso.com)>, <[PDaphne@environment.gov.za](mailto:PDaphne@environment.gov.za)>, Robert Mhlongo <[robert@isimangaliso.com](mailto:robert@isimangaliso.com)>, Sizo Sibiya <[sizo@isimangaliso.com](mailto:sizo@isimangaliso.com)>, Caiphus Khumalo <[Caiphus@isimangaliso.com](mailto:Caiphus@isimangaliso.com)>

Dear Sir / Madam.

Please find attached an Appeal with respect to the *Refusal of Environmental Authorisation* for the *Proposed Bhangazi Cultural Heritage Lodge, iSimangaliso Wetland Park*, DEA Ref. 14/12/16/3/3/1/2015.

Included as attachments:

- Appeal Document.
- Refusal of Environmental Authorisation Letter.
- Updated Comments and Response Report.
- Maps and plans in support of the appeal.

Note that a hardcopy of the above will be submitted to your office by tomorrow morning, 28/02/2020.

Kindly confirm receipt hereof via return email.

Kind regards,

Peter Velcich (PrLArch)



*Integrated sustainable solutions*

Tel: +27 82 4420220

Fax: +27 86 571 6292

[peter@nuleafsa.co.za](mailto:peter@nuleafsa.co.za)

[www.nuleafsa.co.za](http://www.nuleafsa.co.za)

