

DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

NO. 2717

4 November 2022

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998

(ACT NO. 107 OF 1998)

CONSULTATION ON THE INTENTION TO AMEND THE 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 NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998, WHEN APPLYING FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

I, Barbara Dallas Creecy, Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, hereby consult on the intention to, under sections 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), amend the protocol for the specialist assessment and minimum report content requirements for environmental impacts on terrestrial plant species, published under Government Notice No. 1150 in Government Gazette No. 43855 on 30 October 2020, by removing the reference to "terrestrial" where it occurs in the protocol, as set out in the Schedule.

This amendment would allow the protocol to apply to aquatic and terrestrial plant species.

The requirements of this protocol will apply from the date of publication, except where the applicant provides proof to the competent authority that the specialist assessment affected by this protocol had been commissioned by the date of publication of the protocol in the Government Gazette, in which case Appendix 6 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, will apply to such applications.

Members of the public are invited to submit written comments or inputs, within 30 days from the date of publication of this Notice in the Gazette, to the following addresses:

By post to: The Director-General
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Attention: Dr D Fischer
Private Bag X447
PRETORIA
0001

By hand at: Reception, Environment House, 473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia, Pretoria.

By e-mail: dfischer@dfpe.gov.za

Any inquiries in connection with the notice can be directed to Dr Dee Fischer at dfischer@dfpe.gov.za or (012)399 8843. Comments or inputs received after the closing date may not be considered.

The Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment complies with the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act No. 4 of 2013). Comments received and responses thereto are collated into a comments and response report which will be made available to the public as part of the consultation process. If a commenting party has any objection to his or her name, or the name of the represented company/ organisation, being made publicly available in the comments and responses report, such objection should be highlighted in bold as part of the comments submitted in response to this Government Notice.



BARBARA DALLAS CREECY
MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

SCHEDULE

1. The protocol for specialist assessment and minimum report content requirements for environmental impacts on terrestrial plant species, published under Government Notice No. 1150 in Government Gazette No. 43855 on 30 October 2020, is hereby amended by the substitution for–

- (a) "terrestrial plant species" of "plant species";
- (b) "Terrestrial Plant Species Specialist Assessment" of "Plant Species Specialist Assessment";
- (c) "Terrestrial Plant Species Specialist Assessment Report" of "Plant Species Specialist Assessment Report"; and
- (d) "Terrestrial Plant Species Compliance Statement" of "Plant Species Compliance Statement";

wherever these expressions occur.