

APPLICATION FOR NEMA SECTION 24G RECTROSPECTIVE APPROVAL RECTIFICATION OF UNLAWFUL COMMENCEMENT OR CONTINUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) LISTED ACTIVITIES ON PORTION 12 OF THE FARM VOGELFONTEIN 376 IR IN MEYERTON, MIDVAAL LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, GAUTENG PROVINCE

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT AND INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE

DATE: 12th JUNE 2026

PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

This Background Information Document (BID) has been structured to provide all potential Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) and stakeholders with a concise overview of the commenced project activities as well as the associated Section 24G Rectification Processes. Furthermore, this BID also intend to provide I&APs with information relating to the manner in which I&APs can voice any issues concerning the application.

The compilation and distribution of this BID forms part of the Public Participation Process for the S24G application. When you complete and return the registration form included in the BID, you will be included in the I&AP and stakeholder database and receive further S24G reports and documents for review and comment. Your comment(s) and inputs will ensure that all issues are incorporated in the project's Reports and Correspondence. To comment and make a contribution, please complete the enclosed registration sheet, write a letter, call or e-mail to the Environmental Assessment Practitioner and Department. All Section 24G Rectification application documents will be available on the company website at: www.tisenviro.co.za

For enquiries, please contact:
 TIS Environmental Consulting
 Njabulo Magagula (EAP)
 219 Bains Game
 Lodge
 Bainsvlei
 Bloemfontein
 9301

Cell: 084 946 4182
 E-mail: njabulo@tisenviro.co.za
 Website: www.tisenviro.co.za

1. OBJECTIVES OF THIS DOCUMENT

The main objectives of this document is to:

- Provide stakeholders and Interested and Affected Parties (I&AP) with the information about the unlawful commencement of a Chicken Egg-layer Facility for Africa Best Chicken (Ltd) Pty on Portion 12 of the of Farm the Vogelfontein 376 IR in Meyerton, Midvaal Local Municipality, in the Sedibeng District Municipality, within the Gauteng Province.
- Introduce and explain the Section 24G Rectification, Water Use License applications and Public Participation Processes to be followed for the commenced development, in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), (Act No. 107 of 1998), Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations of 2017, as amended, and Section 24G Fine Regulations, 2017.
- Invite all identified I&AP and stakeholders to register between the **12th June 2026 to 02nd July 2026** (excluding public holidays) as an Interested and Affected Party for the proposed Chicken Egg-Layer Facility for Africa Best Chicken (Pty) Ltd in Meyerton, Midvaal Local Municipality.

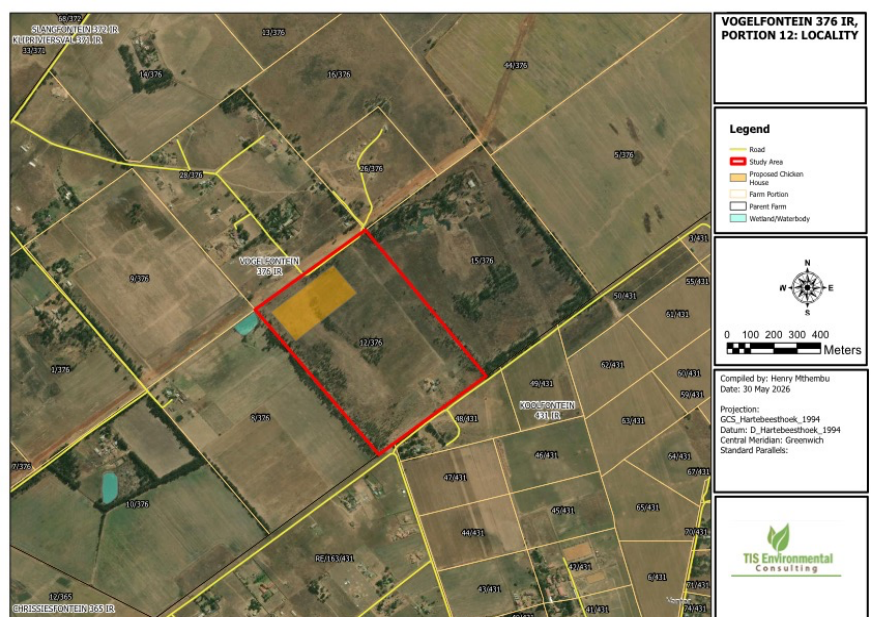


Figure 1: Location of proposed commenced Chicken Egg-Layer Farm on Portion 12 of the Farm Vogelfontein 376 IR in Meyerton within the Midvaal Local Municipality, Gauteng Province.

Property Details:

Property:	Portion 12 of the Farm Vogelfontein 376 IR, Meyerton		
Property Size:	40 ha	Zoning	Agriculture
SG Code:	T0IR00000000037600000		
Coordinates:	26°35'.22"S, 28°5'17"E		

2. BACKGROUND AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

TIS Environmental Consulting (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by African Best Chicken (Pty) Ltd (the applicant), as the registered and independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP), to conduct the Section 24G Rectification process for the unlawful commencement of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) listed activities on Portion 12 of the Farm Vogelfontein 376 IR in Meyerton, in the Midvaal Local Municipality, within the Gauteng Province (**Figure 1**).

African Best Chicken (Pty) Ltd as a company, has commenced to establish a Chicken Egg-Layer Poultry Farm for commercial purposes in Meyerton, south of Johannesburg. The site will be accessed from either Raymond road or Tait road. The Chicken Egg-layer Farm/Facility and associated infrastructure commenced without an Environmental Authorisation and Water Use License, and the applicant is seeking a retrospective Environmental Authorisation from the Gauteng Department of Environment, Directorate: Section 24G Enforcement and the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) respectively.

The commenced two phase development project triggers listed activities in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, Government Regulations (GNR) 324, 325 and 327 as amended on the 07th April 2017, promulgated under the National Environmental Management Act (Act no 107 of 1998) (NEMA) together with NEMA Section 24G Fine Regulations, 2017 and the National Water Act (Act no 36 of 1998).

The proposed layout plan of the Chicken Egg-Layer farm in Meyerton has been developed based on the initial site plan of African Best Chicken (Pty) Ltd, which will now then be informed by the specialist studies and environmental sensitivity mapping processing. The current preferred project development footprint measures 8.4 hectares in extent for Phase 1, with there being a desire at some point to expand the development within the 40-hectares developmental area (Phase 2). Upon completion, the chicken egg-layer facility and associated infrastructure on Portion 12 of the Farm Vogelfontein 376 IR in Meyerton will include the following (**Figure 2**) below:

- Chicken brooding houses (x4) with a total area of 16 019m², to house 55 000 baby chicks per house.
- Chicken Egg-layer houses (x10), with a total area of 84 058m², to house 55 000 chicken hens per house.
- Office block (1), 4 280m²
- Warehouses (x3), 5 506m²
- Egg packaging House, 7 241m²
- Security gate and bio-security gate (sterilizing dip), 165 m²
- Chick manure handling system (x4), including manure scrapper and manure conveyor, 7 992m²
- Communal Houses, private residence, canteen, change room and showers, 3 647m²
- 4-tier chicken-egg laying cages.
- Egg collection system.
- Feeding System (Pan feeder system).
- Watering system (nipple lines connected to a borehole or reservoir).
- Boreholes (4), 2 currently existing from previous agricultural activities and additional 2 boreholes to compensate Chicken Egg-Layer Facility farming activities.
- Water tanker and water storage.
- Heating and ventilation system (Electricity and generator).
- Chicken house curtain system.
- Waste storage area.
- Parking area.

Proposed Expansion in the future (Phase 2):

- Mixed agricultural farming activities, additional 2 brooder houses and 10 egg-layer chicken houses
- Training facilities and associated equipment.
- Manure and fertilizer facility.

The commenced development triggers the need for a NEMA Section 24G Rectification application process to be undertaken in terms of the Listing Notice 1 and Listing Notice 3 of the EIA Regulations of 2017, as amended. A Water Use License Application in terms of the National Water Act (NWA) (36 of 1998) will also be required and applied for separately, with regards to the 4 boreholes at the abovementioned property. The four (4) boreholes on site will be used for the washing of chicken houses and as drinking portable water and for basic sanitation uses.

The development is constructed or commenced on previously cultivated lands and disturbed areas, with potential destruction of natural indigenous vegetation from previous agricultural activities from the previous farm owner. The activities are in line with the existing agricultural land use within the area and with the site or property surrounded by farming activities. The larger benefits of the development include mainly the further preservation of sensitive environmental features and limiting the proposed construction works at permitted developmental areas only, employment creation and improving socio economic conditions of the area and district. The described activities are outside the urban edge and fits into the rural/ farming sense of place of the neighboring farms and plots. There will not be anticipated cumulative negative impacts on the rural landscaping of the area and as the area is already used for similar chicken farming activities.

According to Section 28 of NEMA, the legislation places a formidable “Duty of Care” on any person who causes or may cause significant environmental degradation, or who owns land on which such degradation has occurred, to take reasonable measures to prevent or remedy such impacts. By submitting a Section 24G Rectification application to the Gauteng Provincial Department of Environment, the landowner is thus fulfilling this prudent legal duty in good faith in prioritizing environmental preservation and protection.

The applicant, African Best Chicken (Pty) Ltd thus makes itself eligible to the restoration where necessary, the rehabilitation of the impacted environment or existing structures on the site, within the initially transformed developmental footprint, through using the recommendations of specialist reports Management and Mitigation Plans together with the site-specific Construction Environmental Management Programme (EMPr). African Best Chicken (Pty) Ltd through this Section 24G application and ongoing EIA processes, seeks to legalize the commenced unlawful activities in terms of the prescribed Section 24G of NEMA, to further ensure environmental compliance, avoid potential degradation of sensitive environmental resources, and maintain lawful land use of the African Best Chicken (Pty) Ltd Chicken Egg-Layer Facility/Farm construction, operational and decommissioning activities.

3. ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION AND LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

3.1. Environmental Authorisation

All relevant and applicable national, provincial and local legislation, policies and guidelines have been identified by the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) and will be included in the Section 24G Rectification Report and Water Use License Application. The Initial Environmental Screening was conducted by the appointed Environmental Assessment Practitioner (TIS Environmental Consulting) through using the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) National Environmental Screening Tool and additional Literature Review.

The National Environmental Management Act, 107 of 1998, EIA Regulations of 2017, as amended, together with the Section 24G Fine Regulations of 2017 revealed that the commenced Poultry Farm activities required an environmental authorisation to be granted by the Gauteng Department of Environment (GDoE) prior, as the proposed development mainly triggered the following listed EIA activities (**Table 1**) below.

Activities triggered in the EIA Regulations of 2017, as amended, Listing Notice 1 and Listing Notice 3 indicates that an application for an environmental authorisation through the Section 24G Rectification Application process as per the Section 24G Guidelines and related NEMA sections is required to be granted by the from the Gauteng Department of Environment (GDoE), with regards to the commenced Chicken Egg-layer Farm in Meyerton construction and related infrastructure activities.

Table 1: Listed Activities that may be applicable to the project:

Number and date of the relevant Notice	Activity No (s) (in terms of the relevant notice)	Description of each listed activity as per the project description
GN. R 327 (Listing Notice 1)	5	The development and related operation of facilities or infrastructure for the concentration of: (iv) more than 25 000 chicks younger than 20 days per facility situated outside an urban area.
	8	The development and related operation of hatcheries or agri-industrial facilities outside industrial complexes where the development footprint covers an area of 2 000 square meters or more.
	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.
GN. R 324 (Listing Notice 3)	12 (c)	The clearance of an area of 300 square meters or more of indigenous vegetation except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for maintenance purpose undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan. <i>In Gauteng:</i> <i>(ii) Within Critical Biodiversity Areas of Ecological Support Areas identified in the Gauteng Conservation Plan or bioregional plans.</i>

3.2. Water Use License Application

National Water Act (Act 36 of 1998), as amended, the proposed development may potentially require a Water Use License from the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) for the following activities:

- Section 21(a): Taking water from a watercourse (abstraction of water from six (4) boreholes located on the Africa Best Chicken and Cattle Farming (Pty) Ltd property).
- Section 21(b): Storing water abstracted from the boreholes that may be stored in dams and/or reservoirs at the facility.
- Section 21 (g): Disposing of waste in a manner that may detrimentally impact on a watercourse (Discharge of raw sewage or effluent water generated at the at the Chicken Egg-layer Farm into a settlement dam/pond for treatment).

In terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2017 as amended, the above listed activities were relevant at the time of commencement of the construction and development of the Chicken Egg-Layer Farm/Facility on Portion 12 of the Farm Vogelfontein 376 IR, Meyerton in the Midvaal Local Municipality, within the Sedibeng District Municipality, in the Gauteng province.

4. SECTION 24G RECTIFICATION APPLICATION PROCESS

The mandated ten (10) main steps to be followed for the 24G Rectification process as per NEMA and Section 24G Guidelines and as expected by the Gauteng Provincial Department of Environment as the competent authority, is comprised of the following:

4.1. Step 1:

Establish whether he/she/they are responsible for the commencement or continuation of an unlawful activity requiring authorisation in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations without the necessary prescribed authorisation from the competent authority.

4.2. Step 2:

Voluntarily submit an application for rectification to the Gauteng Provincial Department of Environment.

4.3. Step 3:

The Gauteng Provincial Department of Environment register and acknowledge the recipient of the Section 24G Rectification application by TIS Environmental Consulting.

4.4. Step 4:

The Section 24G Rectification application is then reviewed and a site inspection may be conducted by the Gauteng Provincial Department of Environment to verify the submitted information and site-specific environment features.

4.5. Step 5:

The Gauteng Provincial Department of Environment will advise the applicant on further procedural and information requirements by means of a directive or notice.

4.6. Step 6:

The Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) compiles the comprehensive Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and conduct the subsequent Public Participation Process (PPP) as per the EIA Regulations 2017 under NEMA (as amended).

4.7. Step 7:

The Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) submits the required reports together with proof of Public Participation Process to the Gauteng Provincial Department of Environment as per the notice.

4.8. Step 8:

The Gauteng Provincial Department of Environment reviews the submitted reports and advises the Member of the Executive Council (MEC) to inform his/her decision.

Step 9:

The Gauteng Provincial Department of Environment Member of the Executive Council (MEC) communicates his/her decision to the applicant.

Step 10:

The applicant informs the Interested and Affected Parties and relevant Stakeholders of the Gauteng Provincial Department of Environment MEC decision and implements immediately the MEC's decision.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

In terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 107 of 1998, as amended, Public Participation Process forms an integral part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process. Public Participation Process aims to provide individuals or people who may be affected by the proposed or commenced development with an opportunity to provide comment and to raise issues of concern about the proposed or commenced project activities, or to make suggestions that may result in enhanced benefits to the project.

Comments and contributions raised during the Public Participation Process will be captured, evaluated, and included in a Comment and Response Report (CRR) by the appointed Environmental Assessment Practitioner. These issues raised by I&AP and Stakeholders will be considered, addressed and be included in the S24G Rectification Report which will be submitted to the Gauteng Provincial Department of Environment as part of this ongoing application.

5.1. Breakdown of the Public Participation Process

In ensuring meaningful and effective public participation, the PPP will include the following crucial steps:

- Distribution of the Letters of invitation to participate in this Section 24G Rectification application process accompanied by this Background Information Document (BID) together with the Comment(s) Sheet below to adjacent landowners within 100m from the commenced or proposed developmental area, key individuals and public organizations within the sector, announcing the project and inviting their comment.
- Newspaper Advertisements (preliminary and mandatory) in the local newspaper (Vaal Week Blad) announcing the proposed project and providing opportunity to comment to Interested and Affected Parties, including Stakeholders.
- Site notices placed and erected at strategic places on the property in accordance with the requirements of the S24G Regulations, in order to announce the project.
- Key stakeholders in the area will be informed by means of a telephone or e-mail, and their participation recorded as such.
- All issues, concerns or contributions received from stakeholders will be captured in the Comments and Response Report (CRR) to be compiled by the EAP, which will then be used to categorize and prioritize project issues for further engagement.

The EAP will open and maintain the I&APs Register and will provide access to all reports or information related to this Section 24G Rectification application process. The PPP will mainly be undertaken in accordance with NEMA, the EIA Regulations, 2017 (as amended), and the Section 24G Fine Regulations, 2017. A minimum of two commenting periods are anticipated for this Section 24G Rectification application process for the unlawfully commenced Chicken Egg-Layer Farm/Facility in Meyerton.

5.2. Two Commenting Periods Expected

- Preliminary Public Participation Process in terms of Regulation 8 of the Section 24G Fine Regulations, 2017, with a 20 calendar day registration and comment period (the current process).
- Statutory Public Participation Process in terms of Regulation 41 of the EIA Regulations, 2017 (as amended). This will be a 30 calendar day comment period (excluding public holidays, school holidays but including weekends. All comments or concerns from Interested and Affected Parties (I&AP's) will be captured, considered and responded to in the project's Section 24G Rectification Report.

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND COMMENT ENCOURAGED

Interested and Affected Parties are invited to register on this Section 24 application process within 20 calendar days between Friday, 12th June 2026 to Tuesday, 2nd July 2026. To register for this project, I&APs must provide their name, contact details, and preferred method of communication in writing to the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) using the Comment Sheet and contact details below. In addition to this, I&APs must disclose any direct business, financial, personal, or other interests they may have in the Section 24G Rectification Application.

Only registered Interested and Affected Parties will be notified and updated throughout the Section 24G Rectification Application process. Any person unable to read or write or needing assistance to register or submit their comments, may request assistance from EAP during office hours.

ALL I&AP REGISTRATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE EAP BY TUESDAY, 02nd JULY 2026.

Please note that when registering as an I&AP, you consent to the lawful processing of personal information for the intended purposes, as prescribed by the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act No. 4 of 2013). Refer to our privacy policy on the TIS Environmental Consulting website: www.tisenviron.co.za

7. DELIVERABLES AND WAY FORWARD

The compiled Section 24G Application and draft Section 24G Report by TIS Environmental Consulting (Pty) Ltd, which will include detailed description of the project, overview of the affected environment, the identified and assessed potential impacts, as well as the relevant specialist studies conducted, will be circulated for comment to registered Interested and Affected Parties, government departments and relevant institutions of state during the Statutory Public Participation Process.

Registered Interested and Affected Parties, government or state departments, and organs of state will be notified by the EAP when the Section 24G Application and draft Section 24G Report is available for public review and comment.

All reports will be made available on TIS Environmental Consulting (Pty) Ltd website at the following company website: www.tisenviron.co.za

Only registered I&APs will be notified and updated throughout the process. When registering as an I&AP, you consent to the lawful processing of personal information for the intended purposes, as prescribed by the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act No. 4 of 2013).

8. CONTACT DETAILS OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER (EAP):

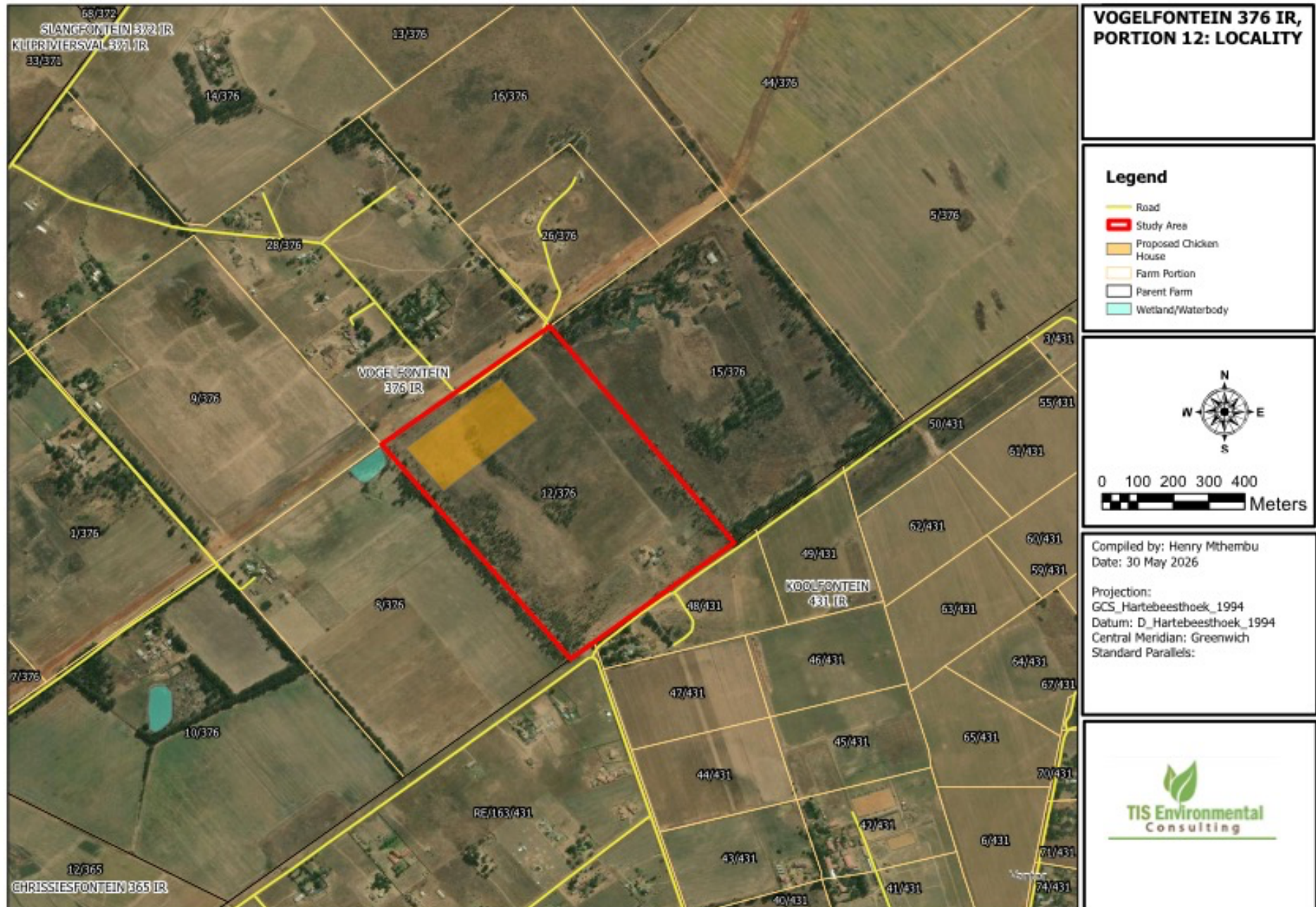


Njabulo Magagula (EAP)
219 Bains Game Lodge
Bainsvlei
Bloemfontein
9301

Cell: 084 946 4182

E-mail: njabulo@tisneviron.co.za

Website: www.tisenviron.co.za



INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES REGISTRATION FORM		
Name: Surname: Postal Address: Postal Code: Tel No: Fax No: Cell No: Email:		
Please state your interest in the proposed project:		
Comment(s):		
Do you require any additional information?		
Other parties which you think should be included in the EIA process:		
<i>Your comments are highly appreciated, and will be included in the final EIA report to be submitted to the decision-making authorities.</i>		
<u>PLEASE RETURN TO:</u> Njabulo Magagula TIS Environmental Consulting (Pty) Ltd 219 Bains Game Lodge Bainsvlei Bloemfontein 9301 Cell: 084 946 4182 njabulo@tisenviron.co.za www.tisenviron.co.za		