



08

CHAPTER EIGHT

CONCLUSION

8.1

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The EIA proved to be an appropriate method to evaluate the treatment of waste water as it provides a holistic overview for unique, specific projects which needs to be approved by appointed environmental consultants.

The following Environmental Impact Assessment report was compiled by the author. Environmental water specialist engineer, Coert Welman and waste specialist engineer, Nico Coetzee assessed and approved the EIA as a preliminary feasibility study. The principals of the water treatment process diagram (Figure 7.1) was approved by the environmental specialist and permission was hypothetically given to continue with the design of the facility.

8.2

THE SUSTAINABILITY BUILDING ASSESSMENT TOOL

The SBAT sustainable rating tool has been included for comparative research purposes to conclude the dissertations rating according to sustainability standards. The graph in Figure 8.1 indicates a low rating for the materials used in the project, yet the technical resolution of the project sets out to use recycled materials, steel off-cuts and renewable resources. The SBAT rating system is for residential application, but lacks adaptability and the understanding that each project has unique potential.

8.3

CONCLUSION

The months of research and exploration has led to an understanding of the extent of contamination entering our environment from the industrial and mining sector. The author's consultation with the environmental specialists Coert Welman and Nico Coetzee revealed the need for interventions such as the water treatment and research facility proposed by the author. The specialists recognized the academic contribution as valuable and advised that the project has potential to be used pilot plant which could be applied on larger scale at the point source. The specialists confirmed that the concept of intercepting contamination can be applied as an intensive on site remediation plan to address the more complex issue of contaminated groundwater.



Summarised Water Treatment and Research Facility with Community Development Interface Environmental Impact Assessment Information 21 October 2016

(Compiled as a planning document for early the Feasibility Phase assessment activity and discussion with Environmental Consultant Specialists – which are still to be appointed – Document For Internal use only)

Section 1 – Information describing the project	Details
<input type="checkbox"/> Purpose and physical characteristics of the property	<p>Water Treatment and Research Facility with Community Development Interface</p> <p>Location: North western quadrant of the intersection of the R42 and R57, Vanderbijlpark Site: 12.9 Hectare, Facility: 3768sqm Objective: Removal of heavy metals from industrial effluent – pilot facility for onsite water remediation for large industries.</p> <p>The facility is a small scale specialised environmental rehabilitation water treatment facility which intercepts and treats water (historically) known to be contaminated by industrial effluent containing heavy metals. The project allows for the collection of water which flows along natural storm waterway canals from contaminated land/ water sources), thus preventing known contaminated water from entering the Vaal River system. The site earmarked for the facility is situated at the intersection of the R42 and R57 in Vanderbijlpark.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/> Proposed access and transport arrangements	New ring road access from existing R42 and R57 as well as adjoining Municipal roads will be included into the project. These access options are ideal for the initial Construction Phase and eventual operation of the overall facility on completion of the project. Public transport infrastructure options will provided and be utilised for the Construction and eventual operation phase of the development.
<input type="checkbox"/> Numbers to be employed	Construction phase: approximately 200 Employees at peak periods Operating of the facility: approximately 92 employees
<input type="checkbox"/> Land use requirements and other physical features of the project	The site is a proclaimed road reserve which has been rezoned to a municipal servitude. There is evidence that landscape has been slightly disturbed, due to the proclaimed road excavations and back filling done a few decades back, but never completed. A portion of the facility's footprint sits on the disturbed landscape. Provincial and Municipal planning departments have indicated that there are no existing further plans with the current earmarked site.
<input type="checkbox"/> Production process and the operational features of the project	The facility will use an established algae treatment process as well as a natural wetland water treatment method (situated along the spine of the facility). The production of silk within the facility supplies fabric medium for the algae biofilm and forms part of the intended Community Development Interface.
<input type="checkbox"/> Type and quantities of raw materials, energy and other resources consumed	Methane (biogas) produced on site by the bio digesters will be used for cooking and heating requirements for the site. Construction materials include steel, concrete and gabion walls.
<input type="checkbox"/> Residues and emissions by type, quantity, composition and strength	The removal of heavy metals will be performed by the algae. Chromium, Lead and Copper have been identified and will be removed. The algae biofilms will be placed into an anaerobic bio digester generating Bio gas. Water from the sludge thickening process will enter the algae process again. Sludge containing traces of heavy metals will be removed and taken off site to be incinerated. Air Emissions need to comply with Section 8.1 of Air emissions act. <i>Note: The Feasibility Phase of the Project will consider the Waste Hierarchy options ensure waste disposal at a hazardous waste site is considered as a last option for this project.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Main alternative sites and alternative processes considered	An alternative site was considered closer to the industrial area, yet the flat topography didn't allow for gravity flow of the industrial effluent through the treatment processes. The current site's sloped gradient facilitates natural movement of the water is ideal for this project. Heavy metal removal through phytoremediation was considered as an alternative method, yet flash floods and storm water flow would wash all the heavy metals into the river network.
Section 2 – Information describing the site and its	Details



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environment	
Physical features	
<input type="checkbox"/> Population – proximity and number	Currently uninhabited
<input type="checkbox"/> Flora and fauna – in particular protected species and habitats	High diversity, no protected species found
<input type="checkbox"/> Soil – agricultural quality, geology and geomorphology	Unknown
<input type="checkbox"/> Water – aquifers, water courses and shorelines	Existing natural wetland and stormwater canals
<input type="checkbox"/> Air – climatic factors, air quality, etc.	Airshed Priority Area in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (39/2004) – See Air Quality Act requirements listed at www.environment.gov.za
<input type="checkbox"/> Architectural and historic heritage, archaeological sites and features	None
<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape and topography	Natural gradient towards the river – via natural existing storm waterways
<input type="checkbox"/> Recreational uses	None
Policy framework	
<i>Information considered in this section should include all relevant statutory designations such as sites of special scientific interest, areas of outstanding natural beauty, national parks, green belts, scheduled ancient monuments and listed buildings, etc.</i>	The site's wetland is currently performing environmental tasks of water filtration and purification, yet the heavy metals remain untreated and are potentially entering the Vaal River network. The project intends to protect the existing wetland as well as the established natural diversity.
<i>Reference should also be made to national, regional and local planning policy, and relevant EC directives.</i>	
Section 3 – Assessment of effect	
Details	
<i>Including direct and indirect, secondary, cumulative, short, medium and long-term, permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects of the project.</i>	
Effects on humans, buildings and man-made features	
<input type="checkbox"/> Change in population arising from the development	The water treatment and research facility has an important focus on Community Development. The facility intends to create work for the women of the community through the production of silk on site. The facility has a community auditorium and exhibition hall, yet these are daily visitors/employees and not permanent residents.
<input type="checkbox"/> Visual effects of the development on the surrounding area and landscape	The facility has been submerged into the disturbed landscape. The landscaped architectural form has been designed to be modest and simple. The roof level of the facility does not exceed the existing tree's heights of 10meters.
<input type="checkbox"/> Levels and effects of emissions from the development during normal operation	Incineration of the sludge with traces of heavy metals will take place off site according to regulation. The latest Technology (meeting all the requirements of the Air Quality Act) may allow for onsite incineration facility, which provides the benefit of utilising the onsite bio gas as fuel gas. This will be determined during the Feasibility phase of the Project.
<input type="checkbox"/> Levels and effects of noise from the development	Minor noise from the fabrication of silk. The facility is within close proximity to the R42 and R57. The nearby township of Bophelong township's edge is 1km from the facility.
<input type="checkbox"/> Effects of the development on local roads and transport	A new road has been proposed which links the original town of Vanderbijlpark to the facility. The new road claims an unmanaged series of parks 500meters from R42 and R57 intersection. An existing service road is widened for two way traffic to the facility. The facility will make provision for transport infrastructure on site for employees and community access to the public facilities & spaces on the site.
<input type="checkbox"/> Effects of the development on buildings, architectural and historic heritage, archaeological feature and human artefacts	None
Effects on flora, fauna and geology	



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<input type="checkbox"/> Loss of, and damage to, habitats and plant and animal species	The site is 12.9 hectare. 2.6 hectare or 20% of the site has been disturbed. The detention dam (7600sqm) and portion of the facility (3768sqm) will be constructed on disturbed land. The project proposes to keep 75% of the site as conservation area for natural biodiversity. Which leaves the remainder for the optional development of the public facilities, a clinic and an agricultural land remediation centre.
<input type="checkbox"/> Loss of, and damage to, geological, paleontological and physiographic features	None
<input type="checkbox"/> Other ecological consequences	The intention is for the existing ecology to be strengthened by the facility – the facility eventually becoming a micro ecosystem with organisms, plants and insects which uses natural systems to support the process of removal of heavy metals.
Effects on land	
<input type="checkbox"/> Physical effects of the development	The facility is located on the edge of a low lying wetland basin and requires a diversion berm and cut off berm to protect it from extreme flooding conditions.
<input type="checkbox"/> Effects of chemical emissions and deposits on site and surrounding land	Heavy metal hazardous waste will be removed from site and treated according to regulations as a last resort. <i>Note: Waste Hierarchy viable options will assessed during Feasibility.</i>
Effects on water	
<input type="checkbox"/> Effects of the development on drainage pattern in the area	The industrial effluent containing heavy metals flowing in the open storm canals will be intercepted and stored in a detention dam before treatment. The stormwater from the eastern residential area and south east Vaal Mall will be directed into the existing wetland via gabion canal.
<input type="checkbox"/> Changes to hydrographical characteristics	Improvement of the quality of water entering the Vaal River via existing natural water ways
<input type="checkbox"/> Effects on coastal or estuarine characteristics	None
<input type="checkbox"/> Effects of pollutants, waste, etc. on water quality	Improvement of the quality of water entering the Vaal River as well as removal of water contaminants
Effects on air and climate	
<input type="checkbox"/> Level and concentration of chemical emissions and their environmental effects	None on site
<input type="checkbox"/> Particulate matter	None – All processes will meet Air Quality Act
<input type="checkbox"/> Offensive odours	None
<input type="checkbox"/> Any other climatic effects	None
Other indirect and secondary effects associated with the project	
<input type="checkbox"/> Effects from traffic related to the development	Unknown :Early logistics study to be done for Feasibility Phase
<input type="checkbox"/> Effects arising from the extraction and consumption of materials, water, energy or other resources by the development	<p>Consumption of Materials The onsite fabrication of silk for the algae biofilm improves the environmental footprint of the treatment facility. A renewable, biodegradable material.</p> <p>Water The monthly rainwater is harvested to use directly for washing of hands, cooking and drinking. Clean raw water from the treatment process and the site grey water will enter the treatment wetland and flow into river network. Clean raw water will be used for the flushing of toilets and cleaning of equipment. Any domestic solid waste from the site will be handled according to Municipal requirements.</p> <p>Energy The methane from the bio digesters is used for the staff canteen and heating requirements. All organic waste is fed into the bio digester. Minimal Electrical power would have to be established to manage and</p>



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	control the overall facility. An option to generate electrical power on site by using Bio gas remains an option for this project.
<input type="checkbox"/> Effects of other developments associated with the project	impact on the environmental issues of contaminated land, water and community health will be addressed through developing the agricultural soil remediation centre and Bophelong clinic.
Section 4 – Mitigating factors	Details
<i>Where significant adverse effects are identified, a description of the measures to be taken to avoid, reduce or remedy those effects</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Site planning	Will be dealt with during EIA planning, activities and interaction with the District community communication sessions.
<input type="checkbox"/> Technical measures: – Process selection – Recycling – Pollution control and treatment – Containment	All these aspects of Technology Selection and alternative options according to the Waste management Hierarchy will be addressed during the Feasibility phase to ensure the Project as a whole is sustainable and successful for the community of Bophelong as a whole.
<input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetic and ecological measures: – Mounding – Design, colour, etc. – Landscaping – Tree planting – Measures to preserve habitats – Recording of archaeological sites – Measures to safeguard historic buildings	Final design and aesthetic options will be presented to the Client – to all decision making & assessment at the end of the Feasibility Phase.
Section 5 – Risk of accidents and hazardous developments	Details
When the proposed development involves materials that could be harmful to the environment in the event of an accident, the environmental statement should include an indication of the preventative measures that will be adopted so that such an occurrence is not likely to have a significant effect.	Full formal Project and Technical Risk studies will be undertaken during the early stages of the Feasibility Phase (for the entire Water Treatment and Research Facility with Community Development Interface). Risk reports will be communicated to Client, Local and Provincial Environmental Departments – to ensure all are informed and approvals and support for this positive environmental remediation type project is expedited.

Document assembled by: Jani Grala, Peter Grala (Process and Project Management Engineer), Nico Coetzee (Waste Treatment Specialist Engineer), Coert Welman (Environmental Water Act Specialist Engineer)

SUSTAINABLE BUILDING ASSESSMENT TOOL RESIDENTIAL

1.04

Achieved

SB SBAT REPORT

4.7

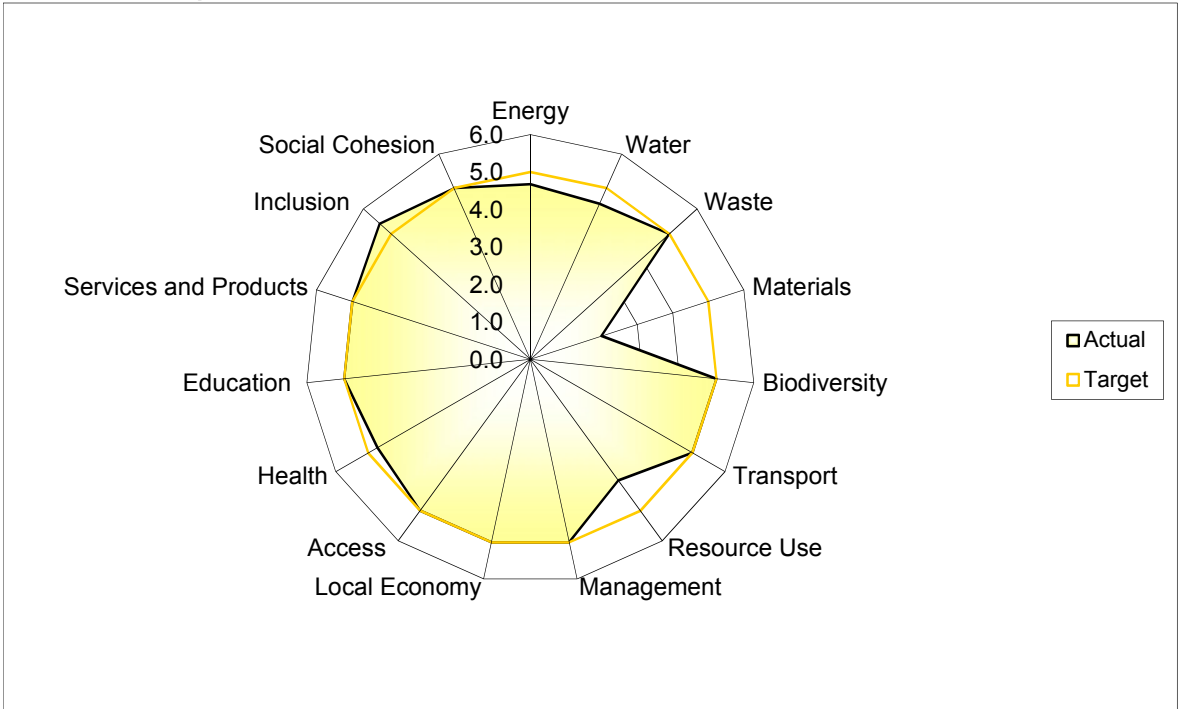
SB1 Project

Water Treatment and Research Facility with Community Development Interface

SB2 Address

North western quadrant of the intersection of the R42 and R57, Vanderbijlpark

SB3 SBAT Graph



SB4 Environmental, Social and Economic Performance

Score

Environmental	4.2
Economic	4.8
Social	5.0
SBAT Rating	4.7

SB5 EF and HDI Factors

Score

EF Factor	4.4
HDI Factor	5.0

SB6 Targets

Percentage

Environmental	85
Economic	96
Social	101

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ANNEXURE A_ *USER'S ACCOMODATION SCHEDULE*

Silkworm Rearers (6 trays per a person)
1st Instar (3-4days): 18 trays (50dfl each) – 3 workers
2nd Instar (2-3days): 54 trays – 9 workers
3rd instar (2-3days): 108 trays – 18 workers
4th instar (3-4days): 180 trays – 30 workers
5th instar (6-8days): 360 trays – 60 workers
Total – 60 workers for highest work load
The Rearers will also be responsible for the mulberry plantation.

Biofilm Fabrication
2 cocoon sorters
2 boilers
5 reelers
2 waste removal
1 fabrication manager
Total permanent staff – 11 people

Algae and Wetland System
5 biofilm workers
3 waste removal workers
1 manager
Total permanent staff - 8 people

Researcher Department
1 Algae Culturist Laboratory
1 Silkworm Geneticist Laboratory
1 System Ecologist Laboratory
1 Hydrologist Laboratory
1 Receptionist
Total permanent staff – 5 people

Canteen/Leisure
1 Receptionist
3 Canteen Staff
4 Cleaners
Total permanent staff – 8 people

Auditorium
Max 50 Student visitors/ Students attending lectures/ Community members attending lectures



ANNEXURE C RAINWATER HARVESTING

Rain Water Harvesting Information		June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May
Average Temperature - Celsius		9.4	9.6	12.5	16.6	19.2	20.0	21.0	21.5	21.3	19.8	16.3	12.7
Area of roof catchment													
Planted roof (North)		349	349	349	349	349	349	349	349	349	349	349	349
Planted roof (South)		288	288	288	288	288	288	288	288	288	288	288	288
Silk fabrication		238	238	238	238	238	238	238	238	238	238	238	238
Canteen		277	277	277	277	277	277	277	277	277	277	277	277
Rearing hall (North)		190	190	190	190	190	190	190	190	190	190	190	190
Rearing hall (South)		236	236	236	236	236	236	236	236	236	236	236	236
Lab's (North)		285	285	285	285	285	285	285	285	285	285	285	285
Lab's (South)		285	285	285	285	285	285	285	285	285	285	285	285
Rainfall Data													
mm													
Total roof Catchment area m ²		8	10	6	24	67	98	105	114	88	75	52	23
Total ave Daily rainfall m ³		2148	2148	2148	2148	2148	2148	2148	2148	2148	2148	2148	2148
Planted ave Daily rainfall m ³		0.57	0.72	0.43	1.72	4.80	7.02	7.52	8.16	6.30	5.37	3.72	1.65
Planted roof absorption of rainfall 50% m ³		0.08	0.11	0.06	0.25	0.71	1.04	1.11	1.21	0.93	0.80	0.55	0.24
Evaporation 2%-10% based on heat pattern m ³		0.02	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.13	0.64	0.72	0.80	0.61	0.48	0.28	0.10
Ave Daily rain harvested in tanks m ³		-0.11	-0.14	-0.09	-0.38	-1.13	-1.68	-1.83	-2.01	-1.54	-1.28	-0.83	-0.34
Ave Daily total harvested m ³		0.46	0.58	0.34	1.33	3.67	5.34	5.69	6.15	4.76	4.09	2.90	1.31
Water Demand Requirements													
Water consumption based on per person usage m ³		1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14
Daily water excess/(shortage)		-0.67	-0.56	-0.80	0.20	2.53	4.20	4.55	5.02	3.62	2.95	1.76	0.17
Only positive amounts require storage		-20.91	-17.34	-24.69	6.08	78.41	130.22	140.98	155.51	112.18	91.53	54.48	5.26
Excess water in the month													



ANNEXURE D_ USER'S WATER DEMAND



Home : [Water Calculators](#) : Commercial Water Calculator

Commercial Water Calculator

This calculator will assist in estimating your commercial building's water usage in comparison to the U.S. average and the LEED baseline. This tool is for illustration purposes only.

Building Information

Choose your calculation unit:

Days per year the building is occupied:

Number of male occupants:

Number of female occupants:



	Your Building	US Average	LEED Baseline
Toilets			
Liters per flush:	<input type="text" value="4.2"/>	7.6	6.1
Flushes per person per day (men):	<input type="text" value="1"/>	1	1
Flushes per person per day (women):	<input type="text" value="3"/>	3	3
Water use (liters/day):	739.2	1,337.6	1,073.6
Urinals			
Liters per flush:	<input type="text" value="0.49"/>	5.7	3.8
Uses per males per day:	<input type="text" value="2"/>	2	2
Water use (liters/day):	49.0	570.0	380.0
Bathroom Sink Faucets			
Liters per minute:	<input type="text" value="1.9"/>	7.6	1.9
Minutes per person per day:	<input type="text" value=".5"/>	.5	.5
Water use (liters/day):	87.4	349.6	87.4
Showers			
Liters per minute:	<input type="text" value="N/A"/>	7.5	9.5
Average shower duration per person (min.):	<input type="text" value="0.0"/>	0.0	0.0
% of staff using showers:	<input type="text" value="0"/>	0	0
Water use (liters/day):	0.0	0.0	0.0
Kitchen/Dining Area Faucets			
Liters per minute:	<input type="text" value="5.7"/>	7.6	8.3
Minutes per person per day:	<input type="text" value=".5"/>	.5	.5
Water use (liters/day):	262.2	349.6	381.8

	Your Building	US Average	LEED Baseline
Calculation Results			
Liters per person per day:	12.4	28.3	20.9
Liters per day:	1,137.8	2,606.8	1,922.8
Liters per month:	34,608.5	79,291.0	58,485.8
Liters per year:	284,450.0	651,700.0	480,700.0
% Reduction vs. average:	56.4%		
% Reduction vs. LEED Baseline:	40.8%		

In accordance with Regulation 4(e) of the General Regulations (G.57) for dissertations and theses, I declare that this thesis, which I submit for the Master of Architectural (Professional) at the University of Pretoria, is my own work and has not been submitted by me for a degree at this or any other institution.

I further state that no part of my thesis has already been or is currently being, submitted for any degree, diploma or other qualification.

I further declare that this thesis is my own work. Where reference is made to the work of others, the extent to which that work has been used is indicated and fully acknowledged in the text and list of references.

I further declare that the information in this document is recorded as perceived by the author and combine in its various parts to create a narrative of a polluted environment with no specific mention of the polluter, rather referring to the polluter as the collective heavy industry.

Jani Grala
2016