

CITY OF CHOICE



PIETERMARITZBURG
M S U N D U Z I

PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

The purpose of this document is to obtain comments and contributions from stakeholders for the development of the Air Quality Management Plan for the Msunduzi Municipality.

The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (1996) states that everyone has the right to an environment that is not harmful to their health or well-being. As part of the legal obligation and environmental responsibility tasked to them by the National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act No 39 of 2004 (NEM:AQA), the Msunduzi Municipality is in the process of developing an Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP). An AQMP describes the current state of air quality in an area, how it is changing over time and what can be done to ensure clean air is achieved and maintained. An AQMP provides objectives and sets a course of action to address significant sources of air pollution using appropriate solutions to ensure that health effects and environmental impacts are minimised.

Stakeholder Engagement and Technical Enquiries:

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THE MSUNDUZI MUNICIPALITY AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

BACKGROUND

In-line with National requirements, the Msunduzi Local Municipality has initiated the development of an AQMP. The objective of the project is to evaluate the current air quality status of the Municipality and develop an air quality management planning and reporting regime (according to the NEM:AQA) that is implemented efficiently and effectively. The aim of the project is to ensure the prevention of atmospheric pollution and improve air quality within the region.

The Msunduzi is a local municipality within the uMgungundlovu District, comprising of 37 wards. The Msunduzi is home to the city of Pietermaritzburg (founded in 1838), the provincial capital of KwaZulu-Natal, and is located along the N3 corridor linking Durban and Johannesburg.

The Msunduzi Municipality is named after the basin of the uMsunduzi River in which Pietermaritzburg is situated. The region is rich in cultural heritage and wilderness resources and is therefore a popular tourist destination.

The prominent economic activities in the Msunduzi include consumer sales and services, manufacturing, retail, training, tourism and professional services. Agriculture contributes less significantly to the region's GDP. However, this sector plays an important role in the Msunduzi's economic development and community upliftment strategy.

PROCESS TO REVIEW THE AQMP

The development of the AQMP will be guided by the Manual for Air Quality Management Planning developed by the Department of Environmental Affairs:

1 Baseline Assessment:

The baseline assessment includes the collection and review of topographical, meteorological, air quality and statistical data associated with the Msunduzi. The available emissions inventory of air pollution sources in the Msunduzi will be updated with specific focus on quantifiable sources such as industries, biomass burning, vehicles and domestic fuel burning. Air pollution impact areas will be determined using dispersion model simulations of priority pollutants for comparison with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards. The current capacity of Government (local, district and provincial) for air quality

management in terms of personnel, skills, resources and tools will also be reviewed.

This baseline characterisation provides the foundation for the development of the AQMP which will inform detailed strategies to meet the required air quality standards.

2 Gap and problem analysis:

Information gaps, capacity issues and identified air quality problems requiring intervention in the municipality will be determined based on the findings of the baseline assessment and capacity assessment. This provides the basis for the development of emission reduction strategies for air pollution sources in the Municipality.

3 Develop an air quality vision and goals:

The air quality vision, mission and objectives of the Msunduzi Municipality will then be developed based on the outcomes of the project.

4 Implementation plan and schedule:

An intervention strategy with implementation timeframes will be devised indicating roles, responsibilities and the required resources. Intervention strategies will be aligned with national emission reduction policies.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Stakeholder engagement is critical for the successful development and implementation of the AQMP. This will be ongoing throughout the duration of the project to ensure stakeholders comments are incorporated and addressed.

If you would like to register as a stakeholder, please send your contact details to the stakeholder engagement representative indicated in the left hand panel.

YOUR COMMENTS ARE IMPORTANT

Stakeholders can comment by email, by telephone or by attending the stakeholder engagement meetings. Draft and final documents will be directly distributed to registered stakeholders and also be available for download from wsp.com for review and comment prior to public meetings.



THE MSUNDUZI MUNICIPALITY AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN STAKEHOLDER REGISTRATION FORM

Please complete and return to: Loren Dyer – WSP: PO Box 670, Westville, 3630 Tel: (031) 240 8860 Fax: (031) 240 8861 E-mail: loren.dyer@wsp.com			
TITLE		FIRST NAME	
INITIALS		SURNAME	
ORGANISATION			
ADDRESS			
		POSTAL CODE	
TEL NO		FAX NO	
EMAIL			

