



TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

WITHDRAWAL OF DECISION I.T.O. SECTION 47C OF NEMA TO EXTEND THE TIMEFRAMES APPLICABLE IN TERMS OF NEMA AND THE EIA REGULATIONS, AFFECTED BY THE COVID-19 NATION-WIDE 21-DAY LOCKDOWN PERIOD

The declaration of a National State of Disaster on 15 March 2020¹ as well the Nation-Wide 21-Day Lockdown for the period 27 March 2020 to 16 April 2020² refer.

1. On 26 March 2020, I issued a decision in terms of Section 47C of the of *the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998)* (NEMA) to, in terms of all matters for which I am the Competent Authority, extend all timeframes in terms of NEMA and the EIA Regulations for actions and processes affected by the 21-Day Lockdown period, by two months (Copy of my 26 March 2020 decision attached as **Appendix 1**).
2. On 31 March 2020, *Directions issued by the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment in terms of Regulation 10(8) of the Regulations issued in terms of Section 27(2) of the Disaster Management Act, 2002 (Act No. 57 of 2002): Measures to address, prevent and combat the Spread of COVID-19* was published in the Government Gazette.³ (Copy of these Directions attached as **Appendix 2**).
3. **I hereby, with immediate effect withdraw my decision of 26 March 2020.** As such, only the abovementioned Directions issued by the National Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment shall apply in the Western Cape Province, and such Directions also **replaces the Departmental Circular: DEA&DP 0003/2020** (Copy of the Circular attached as **Appendix 3**). This procedure will remain in place until further notice.
4. Correspondence with all Departmental officials must, during the Lockdown period, please be *via* e-mail.
5. Enquiries with regard to the above-mentioned Directions, as it pertains to their individual responsibilities, may be directed to the following Departmental officials:

¹ Government Gazette No. 43096 of 15 March 2020 refers.

(Available at: http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43096_15-3_CoOperativeGovTradAff.pdf)

² The *Statement by President Cyril Ramaphosa on Escalation of Measures to Combat COVID-19 Epidemic* of 23 March 2020 refers. (Available at: <http://www.thepresidency.gov.za/speeches/statement-president-cyril-ramaphosa-escalation-measures-combat-covid-19-epidemic%2C-union>)

³ Government Notice No. R. 439 published in Government Gazette No. 43190 on 31 March 2020 refers.
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<p>Gavin Benjamin Director: Development Management (Region 3) Email: gavin.benjamin@westerncape.gov.za</p>	<p>Region 3: Garden Route District Municipal area and Central Karoo District Municipal area.</p>
<p>Eddie Hanekom Director: Waste Management Email: eddie.hanekom@westerncape.gov.za</p>	<p>Western Cape</p>
<p>Dr Joy Leaner Director: Air Quality Management Email: joy.leaner@westerncape.gov.za</p>	<p>Western Cape</p>
<p>Marius Venter Environmental and Planning Appeals Co-ordinator Email: marius.venter@westerncape.gov.za</p>	<p>Western Cape</p>

6. For the latest developments on the COVID-19 virus, please visit the following Western Cape Government website: www.westerncape.gov.za/coronavirus.

Yours sincerely



A BREDELL
MINISTER

DATE: 01/04/2020