



Cape Environmental Assessment Practitioners

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS

FOR 'DIEPWALLE FOREST TENTED CAMP' ON REMAINDER FARM 218 DEEP WALL,
GARDEN ROUTE NATIONAL PARK, KNYSNA

Notice is hereby given of a Public Participation Process in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA, Act No 107 of 1998 as amended).

An application for Environmental Authorisation via a **Basic Assessment** (BA) process is being undertaken to investigate the proposal to develop a temporary, seasonal tented camp within the Diepwalle Forest section of the Garden Route National Park, Knysna. The national Department of Forestry, Fisheries & the Environment (DFFE) is the competent authority mandated to make a decision in this case.

Proposal: Summer (Nov.- Apr.) luxury retreat, consisting of 15 guest tents on raised platforms within Forest fringe surrounding an existing clearing. Communal/dining & yoga deck in clearing. Wooden raised boardwalk linking decks & tent platforms. Canvas kitchen/storage & staff tents. Diepwalle Forest Station & associated Community Tea-Garden to be used as base for guest parking, logistics & preparation of food. All movable infrastructure to be removed during winter months. Operation of camp as per concession agreement with South African National Parks (SANParks).

DFFE Ref: 2023-01-0024 (Pre-Application)

Location & Access: Remainder Farm 218 Diepwall, near SANParks Diepwalle Forest Station, within Garden Route National Park. Site approx. 1.5ha in size within existing clearing & immediate forest, accessed via the existing 'Ysterhoutrug' private road, off the R339 provincial gravel road.

Applicant / Concessionaire: South African Experiences Trading (Pty) Ltd.

Environmental Practitioner: *Cape EAPrac*

Information Available: Draft Basic Assessment Report (DBAR) & Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) are available for a 30-day commenting period, extending **from Monday, 29 January to Tuesday 27 February 2024**. The reports can be accessed digitally via www.cape-eaprac.co.za / Active Projects or SANParks website: www.sanparks.gov.za / . A hard-copy is will be available at the SANParks Diepwalle Forest Station. Alternative platforms / access to reports can be arranged on request.

Deviations/Exemptions: None applied for.

NEMA Listed activities: Listing Notice 1 (Activities 12 & 19), Listing Notice 3 (Activities 6, 12 & 14).

In order to register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) for the BA process, individuals are requested to respond to this advert by submitting their complete contact details and comments to *Cape EAPrac* in writing (to address below) on or **before 27 February 2024**. [Correspondence throughout the remainder of the environmental process will only be distributed to registered I&APs].

Cape EAPrac – Attention: Siân Holder or Louise-Mari van Zyl,

Contact: louise@cape-eaprac.co.za, P.O. Box 2070 George 6530, Telephone: 044 874 0365

Take Note: Ito the POPIA legislation when registering as an I&AP a person consents to the lawful processing of personal information for the intended purposes, as described by the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act no. 4 of 2013). By registering/submitting comment a person agrees that his/her/their contact details will, where required by a public body, be reflected in regulated reports that must be compiled and submitted to the general public, registered stakeholders, organs of state as well as the competent authority for consideration and decision-making.

Date of Advertisement (Knysna Herald): **25 Jan. 2024**