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GENERAL NOTICES • ALGEMENE KENNISGEWINGS

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES**NOTICE 240 OF 2021****APPOINTMENT OF A PANEL OF EXPERTS TO LEAD A REVIEW OF THE SCIENTIFIC BASIS FOR THE BREACH THE MOUTH OF LAKE ST LUCIA ESTUARY**

The Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment under section 3A of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), intends to appoint a Panel of Experts that will function as an Advisory Committee, to review the scientific basis for the breach of the mouth of Lake St Lucia estuary.

The Panel of Experts will be required to:

1. Advise on the significance and impact of the opening of the estuary mouth and how this relates to the implementation of the GEF 5 project interventions and the St Lucia estuary management plan;
2. Advise on the exceptional circumstances, as defined in the estuarine management plan, that lead to the decision to open the mouth, including those of an environmental, social and economic nature;
3. Advise on the impact of the mouth opening on 6 January 2021 on the functioning of the estuary system and the wetland system as a whole, as well as the associated environmental, social and economic implications; and
4. Develop guidelines for the immediate and ongoing management of the system.

Members of the Panel of Experts, when viewed collectively, must be persons who:

- a) are suited to serve on the Panel of Experts by virtue of their qualifications, knowledge, expertise and experience in the fields of estuarine-wetlands management, conservation management, biodiversity policies and legislation, best environmental practices and matters related to World Heritage Site Management, and who would specifically be able to advise on the matters set out in point 1-4 above; and
- b) are committed to and subscribe to the objectives and principles of conservation and sustainable use as enunciated in section 24 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996, applicable policies and environmental legislation.

Members of the public are invited to nominate individual persons to be considered for appointment as members of the Panel of Experts. Self nominations will be accepted. Associations and organisations are invited to nominate members to be considered for appointment to represent such associations or organisations as members of the Advisory Committee. The nomination must be accompanied by the following information of the nominated person: An acceptance of the nomination, Curriculum Vitae, which contains the full names, ID number, gender, race, contact address, telephone and fax numbers, e-mail address and relevant qualifications and experience. Certified copies of the qualification certificates must be attached. Associations and organisations must provide the Curriculum Vitae of the members whom they nominate, as well as a detailed profile of the association or organisation.

The Minister reserves the right to appoint persons as members of the Expert Panel who may contribute to diversity and innovative recommendations on the basis of their recent learning, understanding of

new-found technology and previously disadvantaged persons whose unique viewpoints may result in novel approaches being adopted.

Nominations for members of the Panel of Experts must be submitted within 15 days of publication of this notice in the *Gazette*, to the following addresses:

By post: The Director-General
Department of Environmental Affairs
Attention: Mr. Sydney Nkosi
Chief Director: Protected Areas Systems Management
Private Bag X447
PRETORIA
0001

By hand: Ground Floor, Environment House, 473 Steve Biko Street, Arcadia, Pretoria, 0001.

By email: tnlloko@environment.gov.za or shnkosi@environment.gov.za

Any enquiries in connection with this Notice can be directed to Mr. Sydney Nkosi at 0674173771/012 399 9065 or Ms. Thumeka Ntloko at 0827698812/012 399 9531. Comments received after the closing date may not be considered.

The Government notice can be accessed at the following link:
https://www.environment.gov.za/legislation/gazetted_notices

Members of the Advisory Committee will be remunerated in accordance with the Public Finance Management Act, 1999 (Act No. 1 of 1999) and its associated National Treasury Regulations, 2001 and guidelines.

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