



NORTHERN CAPE
PROPERTY INVESTMENT
HOLDINGS

Registration No.: 2007/019438/07



The Editor
Sunday Times
P.O. Box 1742
Saxonwold
2132

Editor : stletters@sundaytimes.co.za
Accuracy : readers@sundaytimes.co.za
Comment : tellus@sundaytimes.co.za
Reporter : jordanb@sundaytimes.co.za

**Response and Comment on Article published on page 6 , May 4 2008 –
“Flamingo island rezoned to make way for housing project”.**

We address this letter to the management of the Sunday Times on behalf of Northern Cape Property Investment Holdings who are the developers of the proposed “Northgate” residential development in Kimberley.

We most strongly object to the headline and items within the text of the article and request immediate action by the Sunday Times to rectify the misleading and incorrect information published in the article of May 4 , 2008.

The Sunday Times reporter was furnished on Wednesday 30 April 2008 with the correct information and diagrams to ensure that there was no misleading or incorrect information , yet this officially correct information was ignored to create a sensationalist headline.

Our response for the record is as follows:

1. *Headline: "Flamingo island rezoned to make way for housing project"*

The headline is wholly incorrect and will cause an unwarranted uproar by environmentalists throughout the country. The flamingo island is situated within Kamfersdam and is not even on the property which we are rezoning. An extensive EIA and EMP have been commissioned and completed to ensure the protection and conservation of the flamingo's.

2. *"The city council rezoned the 380ha development site from agriculture to commercial and residential use, despite the area being earmarked as a conservation area in the city's draft spatial development plan"*

This statement is incorrect our submission to rezone was submitted in October 2007 under the issued and official spatial development plan of 2004. The new draft spatial development plan is just that a "draft" copy for comment and discussion which was issued on 16 April 2008 and does not show our proposed development area being earmarked as a conservation area.

3. *"The rezoning followed the appointment of former Kimberley municipal manager, Phemelo Sehunelo, to the board of property development company Group 1 Developments"*

This statement is incorrect and make it look as if Adv. Sehunelo utilized influence to assist us in obtaining our council rezoning, which is not the case. "Northgate" was given a council approval on 5 December 2007 and Adv. Sehunelo was appointed to the board of Group 1 Developments in March 2008, due to his extensive network of business links an assistance in acquiring potential developments in Gauteng.

4. *"The developers Environmental Impact Assessment has also drawn criticism from the Wildlife and Environmental Society of South Africa, whose members believe alternative sites should have been considered"*

The contents of this statement is incorrect as part of the EIA had a section on alternative sites where a minimum of 3 alternative sites were investigated by our engineers and town planners, who reported that these alternative sites were not satisfactory for a number of various reasons.

We kindly request that the management of the Sunday Times immediately rectify the incorrect statements as these statements may result in very negative publicity to the proposed development, which would in fact greatly benefit Kimberley. The negative publicity due to the incorrect information

being publish may result in huge monetary losses to the development and we would not wish this to occur.

Yours truly,
(For NCPIH and Group1)

Lionel Koster
(Managing Director)