

## **NORTHGATE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING**

PLEASE TAKE NOTE THAT THIS A TRANSCRIPT OF THE VIDEO RECORDING AND AT TIMES VERY DIFFICULT TO MAKE OUT EXACTLY WHAT WAS SAID.

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AH	Adrian Horwitz
BB	Brenda Booth
CH	Cathy Hart
10 CAS	Carolyn Ah Shene – Bird Life South Africa
CB	Representative from Carte Blanche
DC	Marcellos Conway, Anglican Church Environmental Network
ED	Erik Dillon
GM	Graham Anderson
15 IS	Ivan Steenkamp – Property Owner
JH	Juan Hohne
JL	Joe Loedolff – Group 1
JM	Johannes Mofeledi
JPL	Johan Lubbe – MVD
20 JVV	Joe Van Vrede
LT	Lerato Thys
MA	Mark Anderson
MC	Marcellos Conway
MM	Mpho Mpholosi
25 NB	Natalie Birch
PR	Peter Roux – Mediator
PH	Peter Hohne
PS	Phumelo Sehunelo
R1	Unidentified Kimberley Resident (1)
30 R2	Unidentified Kimberley Resident (2)
SAH	Representative of South African Heritage
SH	Samantha Hoffman – Resident of Kimberley
SE	Susan Erasmus
SM	Sharifa Myburgh, Roodepan Resident
35 SS	Stephen Squires – Falconry Association
TA	Tanya Anderson
TB	Tobias Buthelezi
TK	Tim Katloff

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PR: Okay, folks this is the time for questions and answers. If you can just keep that in mind, the conduct of the meeting. I see one hand.

TA: If I may, because the new Spatial Development Framework...

PR: Can you just say who, just for...

TA: Sorry, I am Tanya Anderson, I am commenting on behalf of the Western and the Northern Cape. Because the new Spatial Development Framework is out for public comment and it has been raised in this EIA process it has to be taken into consideration and I would like to just show some of the new Spatial Development Framework maps so that everybody is aware of where Northgate in relation to the plans in the Spatial Development Framework, so if I may.

PR: You are welcome to, but I think we must just run through the question thing – just let's get everybody's questions on the table and then we can run with that, if that's okay.

TA: After, completely afterwards?

PR: No, no, let's get a general discussion because I think it's important that people... There was a hand at the back.

JM: Hi, I am Johannes Mofeledi I am from the South African Heritage Agency. I just want to ask – I haven't heard anything on the Heritage Impact Assessments? That's my question.

PR: You are absolutely right. A Heritage Assessment Specialist's Study was conducted. I am sorry that I erred and didn't put it on. It was done by a Mr. Peter Beaumont, I think it's Dr. Beaumont – it could be - from the museum and that is attached to this final document – it has been completed. There was – I think in front was...

AH: Yes, a question going back...

PR: Just tell them your name.

AH: I am Adrian Horwitz, I am a representative of Northern Cape Ranches – which is the neighbouring property owner. One of the issues that we have with this development is as follows, we see the environment as a mutating system and we see the Draft Spatial Development Plan as an attempt to address the problems that have arisen which you have highlighted right at the beginning of your presentation. The various problems, the threats, increased waterborne sewerage, et cetera, et cetera.

5 So we see the new Spatial Development plan as a governmental attempt at addressing those issues and our problem with this development – we would not have a problem with the development if it complied fully with the new Spatial Development Plan and our problem all along has been that this Spatial Development Plan, the proposed one, seems to have been ignored in this process.

10 So, what we are saying is Government sees there are problems. Government is trying to address those problems and we believe that in the environmental assessment process and in the development of the town planning layout that that new draft should have been taken into account. Because there are obviously, it is recognised governmentally, there are obviously problems with development in this area and the draft SDF is a way of addressing those problems. And we see the development holistically as flying in the face of that particular attempt to address these problems.

15 PR: Okay. If I can just respond to you Barney, we used the old development as the basis for this. The new draft Spatial Development Plan was taken into account. The reason why it hasn't been addressed specifically is that there is a potential that it could change. Because there are... there is a lobby in its public participation process to have it altered.

20 And it may – how it might be altered we don't know. So, it may be altered in order to accommodate this development, it may not be altered so it is very difficult it as poison that is exactly how it is going to be. So, there is a possibility that the draft may change because it is currently in public participation phase. There was a hand at the back first.

25 MC: Marcellos Conway, Anglican Church of South Africa Environmental Network. I am trying to understand the figures that you presented to us relating to the environmental impact that you did and noticing that most of the scores range from moderate to very high, with only two of them scoring in the low to moderately low range – is that in fact saying to us that environmentally this whole project should not go ahead?

30 PR: What it is saying is that the mitigation measures that we are proposing must be taken into account. If it was to go ahead without any mitigation measures there would be a serious impact on the environment. So, what we are saying is that the mitigation measures that we are going to propose – and there will be a lot more that are going to come out because of this kind of forum – we are saying that they must be incorporated into the R.O.D. – that's the Record of Decision, in order to minimise those impacts. It's just a method of putting a scoring system to make it understandable – that's really what they are trying to achieve with that. I will come to you now, Brenda, there was a hand – there we go.

5 NB: Natalie Birch – I just want to come back to the Spatial Development Framework plan. Now, you know, in order to protect against urban sprawl and inappropriate development in sensitive areas the concept of an urban edge has been developed. The urban edge and the Spatial Development Framework Plan has been developed to guide basically development. And you know you keep saying that you've used the current SDF but this proposed development is not even in the planning domain of the current SDF, so normal protocol under these circumstances is that before development is approved the SDF has to be reviewed – and that clearly isn't the case here.

15 But even looking at the current SDF, if you take into consideration what has been put out is that there is a proposed buffer zone between Kamfersdam and development that's already existing – so there is a need for a buffer zone. So, it's just logical that if you are going to develop in other areas around Kamfersdam you need a buffer zone. So, it goes on from that that you can't just go ahead with the development you have to review the Spatial Development Framework Plan before you can say that this development can go ahead.

20 PR: Are you talking about the draft?

NB: Yes, the Spatial Development Plan has to be reviewed in the draft...

25 PR: No...

NB: That is an issue – it is a huge issue in terms of the planning.

30 JPL: Thank you very much, as far as the Spatial Development Plan issue is concerned, you people must remember one thing very clearly, when we prepared that plan against the wall the Spatial Development Framework in place is the existing one. Now to say you need to amend the lay out because of the new Spatial Development Framework, - I think it's a little bit unrealistic purely because that's been done. It's been approved; it's in the process of being finalised. So, how can you now add the new document that hasn't been... it's in the process of being approved; it hasn't been taken to Counsel. How can we now apply all of a sudden the principles as being establishment as far as a document of concern that's already... you see we did submit in October 2008... it's already submitted in October 2007. I think it's a little bit unrealistic. And also as far as the existing, the present Spatial Development Framework is concerned – the review part of it is concerned. It's now out of public participation. And there are a few irregularities. And definitely, I think, the client is definitely going to address the Municipality as far as land use rights have approved by Counsel – whether it has been incorporated or not incorporated. So, I think that's the basic background of it.

PR: Brenda, there was a hand here before you, I promise you I will come to you.

MM: Thanks, sir. Although you have been skipping me and concentrating on the back so it's fine.

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PR: Can you just say who you are, sir.

MM: My name is [Mpho Mpholosi] I am not staying far from where this development is being proposed. It's about a five hour walk from the actual where I am staying. And I can give you a practical example about one dam. It's called Witdam. It is just 15 minutes walk from where I am staying causing problems for us, the community there, because little children that are living around that area go to the dam when it's summer season to go and swim and some of them lost their life.

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So, my concern is that this new development that is going to take place – I haven't seen in your negative impact managing every loss of life that might happen. You understand? Because... and you have said that you are going to put some cameras and fencing, you haven't also mentioned who is going to maintain those things and see that the community won't be able to get easy accessibility to that dam. Thank you. [Applause]

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PR: One of the plans of the development is to erect an impenetrable fence which I am told is going to be about 2.5 m high. There are two designs out; 2.1 m high. It will also be fenced. Obviously it will be electrified fencing and it's proposed to have cameras on it. There is going to be a fund established. I am not sure of the figure, but it is approximately 1.5, is that right...

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R 1.5 million which will be invested purely for the maintenance of that fence and to prevent people from getting outside from the development into the Kamfersdam area and vice versa into the development area. The main reason for the perimeter fence was to try and protect the flamingo island. That's really where we... to stop people from getting in there and going onto the island. We did do a Social Impact Assessment. It was a specialist's study and it will be available in the document if you want to go through that. Thank you.

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BB: I'm Brenda Booth, we live on Flamingo Farm. The Spatial Development Framework issue, I believe is being fudged over very much. In the first place, in 2004 was the SDF which was followed then it should be followed correctly. According to that the area is outside of the urban edge. Which means it is not supposed to be developed, yet, happily that fact is ignored and the development is supposed to take place.

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PR: Okay. Johan, can you respond to that please.

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- JPL: Peter, there is no definition in the existing Spatial Development Framework prohibiting development outside the urban edge. There is no... in the latest amended edition, yes. But not the current one.
- 5 PR: We'll come back to you, there's a hand over there.
- TA: Can I present my map because it shows (unclear) before we go onto other questions that aren't related to this.
- 10 PR: I would be... [Applause]. I would be happy to do it, I did think that the forum for serious attack on the Spatial Development Framework is possibly at its public participation meeting. I don't know if it's the right thing to attack the Spatial Development Framework here. I am quite happy that Tanya does it, it will give us all an indication as to where we are with this thing.
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- But I do believe and I would just like to put it on record that the Spatial Development Framework has its own public participation process and if you needed to get it changed or if you wanted to say there is something wrong with it, that's the forum that it is going to happen in. It's not going to happen through the Department of Tourism and Environmental Affairs either. It's going to happen through the Municipality so I just think that we'll have a look at this but it needs to be taken to the right forum.
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- BB: No, I am just saying that I do believe that this is the correct forum something has been ignored and is being pushed under the table. I think what Tanya is going to show you know will demonstrate that.
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- PR: That's just a reminder.
- PR: (unclear) you put a virus on my computer.
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- TA Bbasically what this says... okay, can you hear me clearly? It basically says the SDF is the principal planning instrument that the Municipality has to use, okay, to inform their planning and their development and to make decisions and it binds the Municipality to exercising its Executive Authority. So, it's that by law they have to follow this Spatial Development framework and plan (unclear). It overrides the Physical Planning Act in the Northern Cape, the Town Planning Act and all of those. It is the principal planning tool, okay?
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- 40 Now, it's a legally required document, so it forms the foundation of the IDP and so on and then also in terms of the Act, if the Municipality and officials don't follow this Act they can be prosecuted for maladministration and fraud and so on, so it has got a lot of legal status and it should be followed by law.
- 45 Okay, now the urban edge – Natalie mentioned the urban edge there, that it's to restrict development so we don't have urban sprawl and it's also to protect

sensitive areas that fall outside the urban edge. Okay? So, there is a reason it's there. And also no development will approved beyond the urban edge unless the urban edge has been amended now through this new SDF review process – that is in the draft SDF, okay, and according to the municipal (unclear) Act.

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So, according the document the urban edge allows for population growth of 3% per annum for the next ten years. So, there should be enough space in the urban edge for a residential development.

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Okay, this is the old one that you saw now – the current 2004 SDF. I drew Northgate in there to show you it lies outside the urban edge... you can see outside the urban there, in black. And the red, that line shows you the urban edge. So, you can see it falls out. And the SDF says we are not allowed to develop outside the urban edge okay. So no approval of rezoning should happen outside of the urban edge.

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Okay, this is the new one. Which is now in for public comment and apparently at the moment they have only received one comment so far and it closes next week. There's not a lot of comment going in so it's basically finalised, it just has to be approved by Council.

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Okay, this shows you Northgate again, over there. Now, the urban edge has been amended for about half of the Northgate area, okay? And there are specifications about what you can do in these different areas and zoned different sub-areas, and I will show you a little bit about that and I won't go into detail, but there is a whole lot of sub-areas and every sub-area has got certain development that should happen within it and they have been zoned based on (unclear) assumption. Okay, we won't go into detail now – it will take to long.

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Now, if you look at the sub-area around Kamfersdam – it is now called the Kamfersdam Flamingo Conservancy and I put Northgate in red there to show you where it lies and but they... and there are specific guidelines and interventions that the Municipality should take to... when they decide on decision making on the development because they have to manage that area according to those guidelines and the impact decisions on developments that happen in that area.

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Now, here the green line is showing the sub-area, that's the green line – it shows you how far it extends and the yellow line is the urban edge. So you can see the Conservancy is outside the urban edge and part of Northgate is in the urban edge. Okay, these are the guidelines there. Basically they're saying you've got to prepare a plan to manage the area and look at all environmental factors. It has to be a sustainable conservancy and you have to implement mechanisms to control the water in the dam to protect the flamingos. You've

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got to operate water care works in a manner that contributes to maintaining the Flamingo Conservancy and you're not allowed to have permanent residential developments on the golf course, because they were worried about that. And, also that it's got to support the conservation of the flamingos – and so it's got support (unclear) tourism and hospitality. So, that's also saying that you are not allowed to have residential developments within the conservancy area – because it has to support conservation.

Now the Northgate sub-area, for Northgate, it's that thing over there within the urban edge that has been – the guidelines are there that you've got to support tourism and hospitality related developments in that area. So, that's got support the conservancy. Now, tourism and hospitality are like guesthouses and such like - eco-tourism in the vicinity. It is not residential and business development. So, according to these guidelines there shouldn't be residential and business development in that area either.

Then, if we look closely there are a whole lot of other areas that have got open space available. To the west of Kimberley there are certain sub-areas and around Roodepan there is other sub... there is areas in there that is open space – it's (unclear) in the urban edge, available for residential and all the guidelines there have to say is you need to densify that, fill them, we need to develop residential developments in those areas. So, that's all there, there is two examples of them – there is more, I just put those in to show you.

And what we've also got to look at is whether all of that residential development in there, is it privately owned? Is it municipal land? Who owns all that land? And, whether you can use those areas, but that also brings up the fact that we've got to look at alternative sites for this development and that's very important.

Okay, now, we also asked the consultancy who did the SDF code plan and we asked others in Cape Town who have done a lot of spatial development planning, and we asked their opinion about this and we said that we've raised the new SDF in the EIA process. And they said that because it's basically finalised in the city, it's approval by Council, and because it was raised, the new policies and plans must be used by the Council when deciding on rezoning and especially because of the international and national importance of Kamfersdam, it's a really (unclear) site. So, Council has a duty to consider the new SDF policy and clear guidelines and these are available – they have to... they have been included in EIA. That's basically it.

PR: Okay, folks. Questions.

JH: Thank you, my name is [Juan Hohne]. I am Managing Director of Ekapa Mining and I am sponsor of the designers, the Developers and zoners of the now famous flamingo island. Famous - why? If I may just use the forum to

put a few facts on the table so everybody understands the absolute sensitivity of the situation. Before I go ahead I would like to commend you for all your references to the flamingo island and the flamingos, but unfortunately I don't believe there is enough consideration or studies here.

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The same as last year this time we were expecting a few hundred chicks to be born on the island – to be bred and born. We are delighted this year, the count now exceeds 9,000 flamingo chicks representing some 10% of the Southern African lesser flamingo population. This is has resulted in comments like the one Dr. Brooks Childress, Chairman of the World Conservation Union of the Flamingo Settlers Group, "This the single most important conservation project for the threatened lesser flamingo in the world in recent years." We, as the Flamingo trust and Ekapa Mining were very delighted and very proud of the development there.

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The effect of this Northgate development is of grave concern to us. The most important subject which I want to dwell on today is the disposable sewerage. Concerning the Homevale sewerage works, my information is, was designed and is currently running at its capacity of some 50 million litres of all sewerage treatment per day. Kimberley is sending to it up and above 30 million litres per day, what are they doing with excess? Some of that is being processed through or pumped into, raw, into what is called a – just let me have a look – keeping dam; keeping meaning that any excess would be pumped into the dam and then pumped back to the sewerage works in low peak periods to process. Our information and study of this dam is that it has been running at full capacity and is overflowing raw sewerage directly into Kamfersdam ever since just after we built the island. I have photographs of two years ago showing this flow of raw sewerage.

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Furthermore, with preparation to this meeting, we this morning visited the site. We were absolutely horrified at the volume of raw sewerage flowing freely into Kamfersdam today. Proving that the Homevale sewerage works is completely under capacity for Kimberley as it is today.

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In February this year we noted a substantial blooming at the flow taking place in the dam... (unclear) appointed Dr. Jan Roos of the University of the Free State to do a study of it. This blooming, is where the top of the dam goes green and puffs up with massive algae development. And if I may just read a few of his comments, "The severe cyanobacterial bloom occurred at the Kamfersdam 18 February, 2008. The average chlorophyll A concentration was tested and found to be 1,600 mg per litre."

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Just so that we understand what that means there is a University of the Orange Free State table placing the severity of that test in different columns. You've got ideal, acceptable, tolerable and unacceptable – unacceptable goes to a maximum of a 1,500. The testing reading exceeded that at a 1,600.

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5 He further comments that he found no toxic cyanobacterial species – which, in discussion with him, are high toxins that can develop by... in excessive algae bloom conditions as happens up in Tanzania whereby tens of thousands of flamingos died from poisoning and his verbal comments are that he was surprised it wasn't here yet and he can expect this to happen at the rate of contamination of those chlorophyll concentrations.

10 He further says, "the algae concentrations are ascribed to high water temperature and (unclear) water column conditions in calm weather, low wind speed and driven by high nutrient input from the sewerage works" when he did this test. He did not visit and was not aware of the raw sewerage content flowing into Kamfersdam. We will direct him to this to further comment on.

15 Our concern is both on the water quality and the water quantity in Kamfersdam. The water quantity is rising in the rainy wet seasons of 50 to 100 mm per month and it is decreasing in the desired areas of half of that. The nett result is the dam is filling up rapidly. We are aware that Council is conducting and has appointed consultants to investigate the Homevale sewerage works for upgrade or additional sewerage works to be built. That is in consultation stage at the moment and as everybody is aware it will go through recommendation stages, design stages, budgeting stages, construction stages, commissioning stages and eventually production stages. How long will that take? Certainly not less than five years, possibly closer to ten years.

25 Now, my question is to you and the Developers, can you develop and build all these new units and Council would accept the raw sewerage from the development and you knowingly see that it gets added to the sewerage works at Homevale which knowingly will bypass the treatment process, because there is no more capacity there whatsoever... you knowingly see that the sewerage, raw sewer enters the Kamfersdam and potentially is a threat and a very serious threat is that it poisons Kamfersdam completely and destroys the flamingo population there that we are so carefully trying to preserve. What are you going to do about this? Thank you very much. [Applause]

30 PR: Thank you, Juan. Just to enlighten you – the EIA final document is going to have a substantial chapter on the conservation of the flamingos and the importance thereof and in particular the breeding island and all those comments from the world's leading specialists, Dr. Childress included and the man on your right, Mark Anderson, will be part of the EIA. It is not being papered over just for the sake of this presentation maybe it didn't get highlighted enough.

45 With regard to your comments on Kamfersdam – we are well aware, in terms of this EIA, as to what impact there is going to be. Our recommendation is that we do not build Phase 2 to 8 prior to the upgrading of Homevale – which

has to take place first, before those phases can get built. Also, the Developer has indicated that they are going to make available R20 million towards the Homevale upgrade and that's what I can tell you about it right now.

5 The water from Homevale, as you as well have pointed out, is an EIA under process which is (unclear) to another pan. Hopefully the upgrade will be of such a nature that water can be utilised effectively inside Kimberley to obviously have it of a standard that it can be used which will be a requisite from DWAF, but I do believe that the Municipality is at the moment operating without a water license and they have to go through that process as well. So the EFDR rights is a lengthy process as well, and our recommendations are in this EIA that it doesn't go ahead unless Homevale is upgraded.

15 Shew, there go the hands. There was a man right at the back who went first.

MC: Marcellos Conway. Anglican Church Southern Africa. I wonder is the Developer aware of the fact that R20 million is basically just the budget for the chemical treatment of the sewerage plant for one year. If they are going to chemically treat that plant with the best technology available for sewerage treatment at the moment. Where does that get us with upgrade? [Applause]

PR: A point well taken. I can see a need just to give you some information that I have part of those meetings with Municipality where we have been fighting for the last five to ten years with them to upgrade Homevale. The minutes of those meetings are available. The Development Bank has indicated that there is money available, the Municipality needs to write a letter and that's it. So, if you are trying to beat this developer maybe we should all go and beat the Municipality to get going. There was another – I will come back to you, there is a hand at the back that was up....

SM: Thank you very much. Is it me?

PR: Yes, go.

SM: Thank you. I have been putting up my hand for the past hour...

PR: I am sorry.

SM: And I know (unclear) but really...

PR: I am sorry. I am sorry. My mistake.

SM: Okay. My name is Shalima Myburgh and I am basically a concerned ratepayer within the Sol Plaatje Municipality. I just want to ask you a question. The figures, in terms of the mitigation measures that you were given and the formulas that you just followed in terms of the statistics were very impressive,

5 but from my point of view I would like to see in terms of the sustainability of this project, I would have liked to see more about the economic and the social impact. Because the basic question that myself as a ratepayer would like to ask you – is this development really necessary? Who benefits economically? Is this just purely greed and a financial decision, or is the (unclear)... are we fooling the people of Homevale, because you, sir, do not own Homevale, it is a suburb of the Sol Plaatje Municipality?

10 So, it is very easy to stand up there and say we're going to upgrade Homevale, you know, give the people the feeling that we're going to come into your suburb and we're going to make this whole environment better for you. Are the homes that you are putting up free? Are they being subsidised for the people of Homevale? Because the jobs that you are going to create, sir, are just temporary, it is not even sustainable.

15 The other question that I would like to ask you in terms of the figures that you propose this is a very expensive development. Your mitigation measures – and I am so glad that you have acknowledged all the environmental problems. The mitigation measures do not have costing attached to them. I would like to see that added to your development – because at the end of the day the question that remains to be seen is who actually benefits from this?

20 And having quantified the value of the ecosystem that you are working on versus the actual figure at the end of the day – and even mitigation measures, they should be enough firstly for the whole Kamfersdam area and secondly for the people Homevale. Because I personally don't see how the people of Homevale are going to benefit from this project. [Applause].

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30 PR: Thank you. Those are very valid points, the social impact study which will be attached as a specialist's report to this EIA will detail that and the economic impact study will also detail that. There was so much information that I could have put into this presentation that we would still be standing here at 12 o'clock tonight if I was going to detail the whole of the EIA so that is the reason why you didn't see it. But it is taken into consideration in the full document. There was a hand in front and I've still got to go there as well.... One here and then I am going to go to you right at the back and then here.

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40 PS: I am Adv. Sehunelo from Group 1, meaning the company that is responsible for this development... My name is Advocate Phumelo Sehunelo, I am from Group 1, the company responsible for the development of Northgate. I think a bit of background will assist some of us to say what led to our interest to this particular development. First and foremost is for us to say the land was on auction. The land was on auction. And in being private developers, clearly a land that is on auction solicits interest. And when I look around here I see  
45 some of the people that were also interested in the land – it is not for me to call names.

5 What then happened... what was an attraction to us, as Group 1, as a company when the land was advertised clearly you need to be able to know what are the land use opportunities for the land that is being advertised - the land was, it was specifically stated that it is a residential opportunity. We did our spadework. And the land was zoned for residential. There was a company that was owning the land previously. The name of the company was Rapid Trade Northern Cape Property Development Holdings, meaning the previous owner of this particular land.

10 The company doing the auction was Auction Alliance. You will excuse me if I go slowly because I want to be sure of my facts and then I want my facts to reach the necessary authorities. Now, I understand, I am a resident of Kimberley – as you well know. And there is currently a moratorium operating in the city - meaning that people who are able to develop are people who are having private land. So, as developers what must we do? What is the option? You migrate to other areas where there is no moratorium. You go to Bloemfontein – there is development on a daily basis. When you go there, there is something new coming up in Bloemfontein. So, I am staying here in Kimberley and again I am resident of South Africa. So, I have a choice. I have a choice where I want to do business – South Africa is allowing us.

25 So, the background is important. Why am I saying the background is important? It is to say that as developers what do we do? I have an interest that this city must be developed. I have that interest. And I will remain having that interest – that this city will be developed. I mean as a person, there have been personal sacrifices that I have done that this city must be developed. Amongst them, this mall that we are currently having in the city – it was an effort for us to have a mall. We were the only suburb in South Africa that was not having a mall like that. All other big cities are having malls, but it was again a struggle – but we end winning there is a mall currently that we are all enjoying.

35 Now, let's come to the reality – a bit of a background is important...

[All talking together].

40 PR: Right, everybody's got an opportunity. Everybody has an opportunity here – please.

45 PS: So, now let's come to what was the attraction for us as Group 1 to this particular property that is advertised on auction. One, the attraction of this property was the flamingos. It is a development attraction to us. Meaning, you can't have a development that is going to kill your attraction. So, it is important that we need to note that. And we also need to be able to state the

real facts around this particular development – because there is a bit of myth and half truth and innuendo regarding the development.

5 One – there have been developments before nearer to Kamfersdam and again nearer to where the flamingos are. I can state those developments. One, the N12 Highway between Joburg and Cape Town, is 180 m from Kamfersdam. These are facts. The Casino, the hotel and that entertainment complex is 860 m from Kamfersdam. The Group 1 development is 1.4 km where the flamingo breeding island is and 1 km from Kamfersdam.

10 Now interesting... you see the flamingos they are there and they have been there while these previous developments occurred. They occurred these developments and the flamingos are still there. These developments being nearer and ours being far from where they are. I wish the flamingos could be talking so that they must say please don't talk on my behalf. Because, how can we have such a disparity of information? I will also state – the way I have an interest of this city at heart, Friday I spent about two hours – Friday night around the very same development. The noise of the trains passing there – there is trains passing there, I don't know if it is every hour or what? But the noise, I think it's unbearable for the flamingos. But, everywhere where are they?

15 PS: So, coming to certain issues that I also want us to understand – you can't have a development where you say there is a new Spatial Development Framework coming and there is an old... it means there will be an impasse – why are there other people who are currently building? There is a mall next to Formula 1. There is a prison being built. There is a hospital being built. What are those people using? They are using the current development framework. [Applause.] What are we expected to do?

20 An important aspect again, people need to understand, the R20 million and the money that we are going to invest basically in this local infrastructure upgrade is not our... we are not supposed to do it. But it is a contribution to show our clear conscious towards development. When somebody says R20 million, what it will do? We are not supposed to. No developer is currently paying anything towards sewerage development. But we are saying from our camp, as Group 1, that it's a contribution that we want to do and it is a contribution that we are paying – we are doing this contribution precisely because we have the interest of the flamingos at heart. Luckily.

25 The water and sewerage problem in the Municipality – I am quite aware of that and these are the issues that one has been raising in my previous employment – for those who didn't know I was the previous City Manager of this city, so this development I am consciously involved in it. But why am I consciously involved? I am involved in such a way that at a particular point we need to have developers taking responsibility for the upgrade of municipal infrastructure – and that is what we are doing. We are the only developers

that are doing that. Currently there is huge development happening here – but they are not expected to pay a cent towards the upgrading of the sewerage network. But what we are doing from our side is that we will be contributing funds towards the municipal upgrade.

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So, that development is important to us. And it is important to the people of Kimberley. I can assure you again that your Roodepan area – people have to travel by taxi to come for an ATM. They have to take taxis for them to come and do groceries. [General agreement.] We are providing an opportunity that those people also can have facilities. [Applause.]

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PR: Folks, we just want to change the tape – we can all have a... okay folks we're back on screen. It's the lady at the back who was up first.

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SH: I'm Samantha Hoffman, a resident of Kimberley, and I would like to know... because this hasn't been brought up yet, with regards to this fence that's going to be built around the dam to protect the Flamingos. Number one, can Eskom afford to give us the electricity to supply that fence constantly to prevent people from getting through? Number two, what kind of safety measures are in place for children who play around and near an electrical fence? Number three, will our tourists like to come and photograph our flamingos in a virtual zoo? And, number four how is the fence going to be a barricade against wind blown pollution and waterborne pollution from chemicals, from tanks, mixing cement, tiling everything that goes into the construction. [Applause]

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PR: If I may, I would just like to respond and then I'm going to move to the next one. The perimeter fence is not there – it's not being built solely for the protection of the flamingos. So, it's not a ring fence around the flamingos. The reason for the perimeter fence is to secure the area so that people from the development don't end up in the conservation area and then end up on the... So, what they are trying to do is just to limit the movement of people onto the northern part of the dam as what's happening on the southern part of the dam because there is no barrier to stop people running in there with dogs, they catch flamingos by putting hooks on to a fishing line and they just cast into the mass of birds and they hook these birds and they kill them, and that's what... So, it's not a case of trying to build a wall around the flamingos.

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Regarding the wall itself, it's a 2.1 m high wall which is obviously either going to have barricades or it is going to be a solid wall and then it will be 3 strands of electricity on top of that just to prevent anybody from trying to climb over it. So, it's a security wall, it's not a barrier of...

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You're comment regarding Eskom and power, I would ask Johan to just respond to that in terms of the availability of Eskom and what has been made available to the development, as far as the development goes from the Municipality, can you?

45

JL: No, I'll do it.

PR: Okay, sorry, Joe is going to respond to that.

JL: I'm Joe, Joe Loedolf, Director of Group 1 Development the... Eskom is committed to... at least the Sol Plaatje Municipality with Eskom's backing, has committed to an electrical supply for Phase 1, the initial 630 units. As with the Homevale sewerage treatment plant upgrade as soon as we go ahead on Phases 2 – 8 then the significant contribution which needs to be made with Eskom and the Sol Plaatje Municipality as well to do upgrading of the electricity supply.

PR: Okay... no, no, the one behind you. Then it's there, and then here and then back... Whoa, I've got hands going. Okay.

IS: Thanks very much, Peter. I am Ivan Steenkamp, I am 1.7m tall and I've waited one and a half hours to talk - that's the disadvantage of sitting at the back. I want to speak quickly as a property owner on the notice that was circulated last year October as a person that this development, proposed development will directly take place in front of my house. Just opposite the road in fact. I am staying in Shubert, if you look at the map just opposite, adjacent to the road that leads to the current place. I also want to quickly say, and I want to add what the advocate was saying, as a resident of Roodepan for the past couple of years, I've been there all my life, that when we spoke about Urban Renewal Development while Mr Sehunelo was still at the Municipality as the Municipal Manager, we were driving that process.

And I know where he comes from. He was the first one who raised it once in a meeting – and I will never forget that. Why doesn't the urban renewal extend to a place like Roodepan? He specifically mentioned it. And I think when I read the papers, when I saw his involvement; I remember the thinking behind that. To say that, "Why is it that with things like... Kom ons sê dit in Afrikaans dan klink dit beter, en sê inwoners van Roodepan suig net aan die agterspeen. [General Agreement, applause]

Because the urban renewal has good intention, it was a Presidential project and it happened for Galeshewe – its fine. We understood that, but the question was asked that time, in the Municipality, "why can you just extend it a few kilometres and you include Roodepan and you also create development nodes for that area and there are potential for it?" So I am just say here tonight as my input that the time has arrived for the people of Roodepan and the surrounding areas to get this R 2 billion investment whether it is now for Phase 1 until phase 8, the spin off that's what we are looking for.

If you are creating a 600... and thank you very much for the documents that you e-mailed, I've read it all; if you created 600 m jobs to the construction and the ±400 plus retail jobs to the retail businesses and so on, it is already beneficial for our people. [Applause]

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And to say of if you have made the studies, the feasibility studies, whether you will have the people to support those businesses that will come up there, I will say yes. Our people do have money, a little but yes, they will buy from those shops.

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Secondly, that is to say...it comes to this thing of spatial development, where everything happens in space. You see years ago this development was mentioned for other areas, but it won't be able to go there. But what is happening now? It takes an old lady with a pension, and it's R800 or R900 or something now, R16 to travel to town, just to do one business transaction.

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Why can't that same old lady just walk over the street and do this business and still buy a little bit of goods and get the services? If they let me make a practical example, and I'm passionate about these thing so forgive me if I take a bit long of a long time, if the electricity goes off in Roodepan, the pre-paid, because the municipal offices there, they knock off... then people have to travel to Bimbos in Long Street to access pre-paid electricity and if these services will be able to come to us, we've been able to say, whoever is there, extend you hours so our people have access to your services right opposite the road.

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So, I'm saying that as much as we understand the issues that were raised here and the concerns... I'm saying there will socio-economic impact for our people. It will create the opportunity for small enterprises to take place there. It will create some economic spin off for our people that are living in that area.

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For myself, personal interest, and I had a meeting today with the National Treasury and they raised this the thing about development in townships. It means it gives me an opportunity as a home owner that my home property price can also increase, because it never happened. I would have stayed in that home and people just say, "Ja, jy bly in die lokasie in, en daai huis ons kan hom nie meer as daai value..." But those are the things that we are also looking at.

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So, I am also having that interest to say that as much as the discord around these issues that those are the type of things which I am saying that must happen. I understand. I have read your document and you have raised the issue of - and I work with the Department of Safety and Security in the Province – the issue of crime and this development, but I could also read about the mitigating steps that you will be able to take there.

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Just to highlight that I have also I also understood the issue of dust, saying that you would only do the development during office, I mean working hours. Yes, you would be able to consult with people if you have to work after hours and so forth.

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But just to conclude to say that I am lobbying and I am promoting this development to take place – for the developers to put necessary measures in place not to harm the environment and whatever goes for... because you see as we are in here, in this hall, we are probably the privilege ones who go back tonight and has some food on the table. Other people in Roodepan, I am talking about Roodepan now, they don't have that privilege.

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So I am looking forward for the day when I will be able to see people coming over that same road that I'm looking at every morning with at least with a Shoprite/Checkers pack in their hands and I now at least they went to this nearer shop here to go and do their groceries and at least they've got some money there – they're employed, they've been working at these retail shops and they've got food on the table for tonight. Thank you very much. [Applause]

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PR: Thank you, folks. There's obviously a desperate need to take this thing forward and not to... and obviously this forum needs to give everybody an opportunity, so I'm just going ask very friendly if we can keep this short because there are a lot of hands that are flying up and we are limited on time. Now, I am trying to keep track as to who goes where – that gentleman is next. And then it's here and then it's there. And then...

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TB: Thank you very much my name is Tobias Buthelezi. And just like the two previous speakers I know I am going to receive quite a bit of objection from this house, because I am going to align myself with what the previous two speakers have said. Unfortunately both speakers have made their speeches too long and I think that was probably because they did not have time to make it short. [Laughter] I will be very, very short just saying that it is time that we realize that the situation of housing, for instance, in this Province. It's like a doctor telling his patients who got a little longer to live than he initially thought – the bottom line is that patient is going to die still, he's just not now, maybe tomorrow. You know, that is the problem that we are having.

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It cannot be correct for us to say that we will be against developments taking place in Kimberley, because some of the very same... And I am glad for the background that Mr. Seunelo has given us, because some of the very same people who are objecting to this development does it so because it does not serve their interest and that is why they are objecting for this development.

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I'm not sure who they are and I'm not friends with any of the other people who want to make this development and I'm not going to benefit anything, but I am also a resident of this town and I travel extensively to other Provinces and it makes you feel very shy when you just go here 120 km out of Kimberley to Bloemfontein and you see the kind of development around. I am also lobbying for this development to take place.

All of the sudden you hear the flamingos, the people with the interest groups with the flamingos they come with all their... and I respect that, because that is what they feel like doing - protecting the flamingos. But yes, again, like Adv. Sehunelo has just pointed out, the flamingos can withstand all the noise of the cars, tucks and trains that are going past there. Why can't development take place further away from the development? You see? Now, people come here and they are interested and they have their right to say whatever they want to say. Just as we have the right to say that it is time that the residents of Kimberley wake up, you know, let us wake up.

And with all respect, I want to make mention of this, with all respect I have noted with great concern, you know when certain speakers spoke here – the amount of support that they are getting... Now please do not quote me out of context, but it would seem that developments that are taking place in the black areas, for instance, and the developments that are taking place in the white areas – you can notice the difference. You can notice the difference. You know, go anywhere in town where developments are taking place, you will see how they start taking place, how those developments are taking place. That is why Chairperson, I am glad that in your presentation you mentioned something like from development number 2 to number 8, you know, that is not going to happen unless this has been done.

Now go to Galeshewe where I come from – ek is nie ver van die tronk af nie - I did not object. You know, ek is nie ver van die tronk af nie. Die polisieman vat my daar, he does not have to use a van to take me to the trunk, he can march me. [Laughter]. Yes, I am a happy man that this development is taking place. The hospital is also not far away from me, you know. And let us come to our senses. Let us understand these things. En as hulle vir ons een complexitjie gaan daar bou [onduidelik] met 'n bank daar by Eskom dan wag ek... at least I cannot come to town anymore to come and draw money (unclear). Thank you. That is what they have done. And that was around. The next think hulle is besig om 'n hof te bou daar vir ons. You know. Still it is not far. We are fine. You know? We are fine like that. You see? [Applause]

PR: Thank you. Thank you for that. [Laughter] Folks, I must reiterate that this possibly is going to be a long drawn out thing, but in terms the Act that we follow; we have to give every person the right and opportunity to have their say. So now I am going... this gentleman was next and then it was... and then

it was here and then it was there... So, if we can keep it short it would be great.

5 R1: Okay, thank you. People I don't know do you know there is a saying of the rich will always get richer and the poor will always get poorer. Simply because in today's life only a few people are benefiting from what the country is producing and as much people as those people are benefiting they forget that there is some things that God has made for us to conserve and to look after.

10 As we have heard there are only four places in the world that have these kind of God created species. I'm saying that I'm not supporting the development. There should be an alternative place where this development is going to take place. [Applause] What I am saying again... if our Province is going to be marketed correctly, correctly – I am saying that. Our people, the poor people of this country will benefit. And that's a challenge to the relevant stakeholders. We should not just check and say two billion is being pumped in within a short period of time – my mother or my grandfathers – hulle was.... jy ken... hulle het by die boere gewerk daardie tye, dit was seer... you understand? But luckily enough we have our democracy, so we tend to forget some other things that were happening in the past and at the very same time they are still happening, you understand? So, I am saying that let us check an alternative place for that development and let us preserve or conserve God's creation. Thank you. [Applause]

25 PR: Right, if it's your first time that you're going to speak please don't forget to mention your name and I again ask if you can keep it short there are lots of hands going up. The next one is here.

30 JVV: My name is Joe van Vrede. We own a piece of property to the west of Northgate. It is an authorized SABS approved shooting range, one of two in the Northern Cape, and at this range we train all people with a firearm. Anyone who owns a firearm knows that they have to be approved by the police with the new regulations. As I said, this is one of two ranges in the Northern Cape. We shoot in an easterly direction - which is not correct – an approved range should shoot in a southern direction. We shoot in an easterly direction because when the range was built and when it was marketed and when we got permission from the police, the Municipality and the army, we were instructed to produce this range to shoot in an easterly direction because there were houses in a southern direction. Now Northgate comes along and they going to build a big complex with houses, with people living there and we are going to shoot directly into their houses. So I would like to know what safety precautions has Northgate provided for us, because we are not prepared to close our range.

45 We were told by the Managing Director of Northgate and he told me personally that if we don't sell the property to him, he will close us down. That was his

5 words to us. That is one threat against us. The second threat was that it won't be that... the Project Managers said to me, it won't be a problem to us, "it will cost us a couple of rand extra to move the roadway because the roadway has to come through our range into their complex and we're blocking that area and this is why they want to purchase this ground.

10 The Project Manager said to me, "It won't be a problem because we will just move the range slightly to the south. It will cost us a extra few bucks and bit of inconvenience but we'll get around you because we have already purchased Kader's property." which I knew was a lie at that particular time, because Kader's property up to now, and I talk under correction has not been purchased by them as yet. And then he said to me, well if you give us this inconvenience, we will then build the roadway alongside your property, we build a big back stop on the side and we will block all entrance to your property. So you won't be able to get into your property.

20 This is the attitude and this is the aggravation that one is getting from these people. I'm only a small stakeholder in this business, we are, and if, of course, the Managing Director, Mr. Koster, thinks that he owns us all in Kimberley. He comes down here and dictates to us what we must do and what he is going do and what he is not going to do. He threatened me, as I said, twice.

25 We were invited to the opening launch that they had at the casino and after their negotiations with us, we got a nice letter to state that this event is for VIP's only and your invitation to our launch as been withdrawn. [Laughter] I've got that in black and white. And this is the attitude that they've got because they come from Cape Town they think that we're plaasjapies [General agreement] and we can't be affected by the Capetonians big bosses with the plenty of bucks.

30 Another thing I'd like to know is where are they going to get the money to finance this project? I've asked them the question, where is the money coming from? To date I've had not had any answers – because we're talking about R2 billion. We don't want a R 2 billion rand projects in Cape Town, in Johannesburg, Pretoria or Durban, but now they want to come and build it in our dorpie, what is the reason for it? And as someone has said before there is plenty of other land in Kimberley and in the surrounding areas where they can put this project up and none of us would be here objecting like this. [Applause]

40 PR: Thank you for that. The people that can respond to that are sitting right here and they wish to do that.

45 JL: Joe Loedolf for the Developers. First of all I would like to correct Dr van Vrede the Kader property as he calls it was in fact purchased by... the sale was in September 2007 and the transfer was completed on the 17<sup>th</sup> of May 2008. And

5 the property is purchased The Developers obtained permission on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of  
November 2007 from Dr van Vrede and the shooting club to rezone portion 62,  
a portion of section 30 which forms a part of the farm Roodepan and should  
the purchase of the property not be finalised the flyover may well be moved a  
few kilometres to the north our south – whichever would have the least impact.  
It should also be noted that under their terms of the title deed 172.1 the  
government has specifically reserved the right to make or cause to be made on  
the said land such roads equivocally tender cetera as may be required. It  
10 should also be noted that under the (unclear) the government specifically  
reserves the right to make or cause to be made, on the cost of said loan, all  
the public benefits plus roads and et cetera that may be required. Thank you.

PR: There are others that are ahead...

15 JVV: I just want to correct the gentleman – we did not sign any rezoning form.

PR: There was a hand... Folks, just to reiterate we are not getting a debate here,  
please it's going to go long. But there was a hand there. Then there was one  
at the back and then I'm coming here.

20 CAS: Good evening, everyone. My name Carolyn Ah Shene and I represent Bird Life  
South Africa and the Bird Life Africa Partnership. We are basically coming in  
from the outside here because we are based in Johannesburg, although we  
25 have interest all over the country. And from what I have heard here, the site is  
the only conservation site of its kind in South Africa and one of the three in  
Southern Africa. [General discussion] No, no three in Southern Africa, one in  
East Africa and then two others internationally. Anyway, our concern is  
obviously the pink flamingos. Anyway, we have experts sitting here, I am not  
30 going to debate... I empathise with what is going on here, we need free socio-  
economic development but at the same time we also need to look at the  
environment and the future generation for our kids.

35 So, yes, fine, we need to develop. We need to empower the people. We need  
to get them to access certain facilities, but at the same time we are destroying  
the little bit of environment, like the flamingos and the other birds that  
basically occupy that area. So yes, you have mitigation measures in place, its  
going to come along, not long from now – where within a couple of years you  
will find another developer saying, "Well, this development was allowed to take  
40 place here, lets move it around to this area" and at end of it all some 10 or 20  
years there's nothing to be left over. Our future generations will be left with  
nothing.

45 So we rely on our greed, our greed to basically want to do this and want to do  
that to dictate. And at the end of it all you're going to be left with nothing. No  
water, no clean water, no fauna or flora for our future generations. And I just

feel that while we are considering all the other socio-economic benefits we need to look at the environmental concerns. Thank you. [Applause]

5 PR: Thank you. I just want to make a point that the EIA strongly comes out in that this development in that area can serve as a catalyst for further development and it is part of a problem which is addressed. It is being taken note of. It is not being hidden under... Folks, must I run a timer on the amount of time? We've got to give everybody a chance.

10 SH: Thank you, very much. I am going to be very, very quick because it comes back to my original question as regards economics. Okay, we're very people loosely throwing figures around and people are using the word development very loosely as if development means just any development. I agree with the Advocate, you know. If you feel passionate about Kimberley, again I'd wish you had mentioned something about economics.

15  
20 As a ratepayer, Kimberley has commercial development taking place, Kimberley has housing complexes taking place, I'd like to know where are the people who can afford this, because there isn't any jobs in Kimberley. Now, you want to put up shopping complexes in Roodepan, that's fine, but can the people afford to go there? So, if you want to do something how about building some factories at another site and quantify the ecological value versus the social impact. I just want something as an indicator to go by.

25 And, I am so glad the previous City Manager mentioned the Diamond Pavilion Mall. We are, we waited a long time for that mall and we got a fantastic mall. Those of us who are living here and my friend behind me has been quoting some fantastic statistics. I'd like him to go and ask, in two years – this is the second year that mall is open, how many people are unemployed. Because the economics of this town cannot sustain those shops. So, let's not fool ourselves, with economic figures and say 400 people are going to be employed.

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35 Are those 400 people going to be employed by Roodepan? How many of those managers are going to come from outside of the town anyway. Let us do some homework here. There is a mall. We waited a long time, but we must be only mall in South Africa in two years where people are sitting all over unemployed again. So, please let's not throw figures around. Let's look at percentages, ecosystems and compare it, quantify it, please.

40 PR: Thank you. [Applause] There's a hand before we go to...

45 SS: I'm Stephen Squires. I am the Chairman of the Falconry Association in the Free State and the Northern Cape. I would just like to point out your EIA seems to concentrate rather strongly on the flamingos and I did see what you say in mitigation towards the other 300 hectares which is essential going to

come to urban sprawl. You haven't quantified or borne in mind that fact that there is at least four or five other raptor species that are dependent on the edge of the pan for foraging area, not the water per se, but the area around it.

5 That development is going to take roughly 20% of the area around the pan and it's going to disappear completely where no self-respecting raptor will be able to forage. [Laughter]

10 Point number one. Point number two is the other thing that worries me is the run off from that urban area, it is essentially impermeable area – the concrete and the tar and the roofs. Roughly 200 ha are going to disappear under concrete and tar and impervious area. The pan is roughly 500 ha big, so you're going to look at a roughly one to two ratio. If you have a metre of rain fall on the urban area you're going to get a half a metre rise in the pan level.  
15 Now, there are measures in place to attenuate the water run off, what I want to know is, is it going to have a capacity to store roughly a million cubic metres or not? Because if it doesn't that water is going to end up straight in the pan – a rough calculation again. You've got about 8.3 km of shoreline, one year's rainfall all over Kimberley – you're going to lose roughly 10 ha around the edge  
20 of the pan for the water. So, these are the direct impacts you're going to have.

25 Then the third thing I would like to ask is who did your geotechnical survey for you?

PR: What was the guy's name?

JP: Stabilis.

30 PR: Stabilis.

SS: Stabilis?

35 PR: Yes.

SS: And where does one find that technical report?

PR: It's going to be a part of the document.

40 SS: So, it's not a part of the document yet?

PR: No, it is. It's out there. I think it went out with the Municipality Report prior to this.

45 SS: Thank you. And then the last point, your speaker was worried about the prices of the housing as a student of economics – if you add more to the supply, you

price tends to fall not increase. So, a 1,000 or a 1,600 odd residential units in a place like Kimberley is more likely to depress the price of housing rather than increase it. [Applause].

5 PR: Thank you. If I can just respond to that, we have commissioned a specialist storm water study to take into account what the expected run off currently is... or what the expected run off is and what it is going to be with that development. Unfortunately, I received that report this morning and I haven't had time to go through it, but it will be attached to this document and it will be taken into account.

10 In terms of the raptors – the avifauna specialist study has been done. It has also been under review and if it is deficient in that it will be highlighted and it will taken into account.

15 What was your other point? The economics...

SS: Supply and demand of your property, that was the...

20 PR: I think Mr. Manuel has got other ideas for our economics at the moment that is all going to come into play. And there was a hand here somewhere and I think it that was Natalie, and then it will go there.

25 NB: Natalie Birch. I just have a few comments, the first one is going back to the sewerage treatment, the Homevale sewerage treatment plant and the fact that it's been highlighted that this plant is already over capacity and that there are other developments in Kimberley that are now going to contribute to it, the prison, and now, Phase 1 of this development. The mitigation measures in the EIA say, well, it is going to be upgraded and it kicks in in Phase 2, so what is the mitigation for Phase 1 in terms of the effluent that is being generated by the development.

35 Surely the mitigation measure should be that the upgrade encompasses the whole development. That no development should take place until such time that the Homevale sewerage treatment plant has been upgraded to avoid any kind of disaster. What happens if there is a change of heart from the Developers and they decide not to proceed with Phase 2, they've got Phase 1 up and running and there is a delay from the Municipality's side in upgrading the sewerage treatment works? Then you've got additional sewerage from Phase 1 going into an overcapacity system – that impact needs to be addressed.

40 Then just another aspect in terms of the economics and... one of the things mentioned in this current spatial development plan is that the development has to be planned so that we don't get decentralisation – specifically referencing the CBD and now we are going to have a shopping mall out in the area which is great for the residents there, but it's going to impact on the CBD and that

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hasn't been addressed at all within in the EIA. It hasn't been addressed in the Social and Economic Impact Study that has been done. I mean there is already impact in the CBD from the closure of the road around the big hole and those businesses are suffering, what is that impact on the CBD going to be?

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And then also just going and looking at alternatives and assessing alternatives in the EIA, you know, (unclear) clearly states that alternatives need to be comparatively assessed – all the alternatives need to be assessed in terms of capital and operation costs, direct and indirect and accumulative impact, mitigation procedures and although we've gone through some sort of process alternatives and stuff there hasn't really been a focus on site alternatives. Or, looking at a much larger buffer zone. Pushing the development back – and those issues need to be addressed comprehensively otherwise we're not going to look at the issues of alternatives correctly.

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PR: Thank you. They are being addressed in the EIA, in the full document.

NB: Sorry, can I just add something as well – is that you keep saying it's being addressed and it's going to be addressed in the EIA document, well we've all been given access to a draft document where these issues aren't being addressed and now you've just been speaking about a storm water impact assessment that has been done and that you got this morning – are we going to have access to it? Are we going to have time to comment on these issues...?

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25

Generally with these EIA meetings what happens is that all specialists are here so that the public can address the specialists directly and ask questions pertaining to their specialist's report. But now we're getting... we don't have all the information available to us but yet we still need to make comments - which is difficult.

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PR: The full document with all specialist studies will be sent to you and you will have an opportunity to comment because as you know (unclear) does not close the door on comment until the day before the R.O.D. and you have the opportunity to appeal if you want to. So, all information will be made available to you, unfortunately we did invite the specialists to be here – the nature of the business is they were busy. And I can't get around that. But, you will have access to every single specialist's report and every document will get delivered to you.

35

40

R2: (unclear), Kimberley resident. My question, or actually comment is much in the same vein as the previous speaker – mitigation with respect to the sewerage. Phase 1 is excluded... And in light of your earlier comment about funds, funds were available from the National Government to improve the sewerage works and nothing has been done over a number of years – in fact decades. Why should we expect anything to be done on Phase 1 now? [Applause]

45

5 PR: One of the things that you should take into account is that potentially the people that are going to inhabit Phase 1 aren't being bussed into Kimberley. So, their impact is already sitting in Kimberley. They are using it. That is one of the aspects that it going to be taken into account and I see Joe wants to respond further to that.

10 JL: Yes, as Peter said, it is not our idea to bus people in to Kimberley. Kimberley is a relatively closed system as far as the population is concerned. If people are flushing the toilet in one area of Kimberley or they're flushing it in another area it's going to either one of two sewerage treatment plants. The developers do need to start development with Phase 1 in order to upgrade Homevale. It is also not... well, currently the occupation of Kimberley is – according to Johan Lubbe and the people in the know, is at 115%. So, in other words then 15% of people are living with other people – either in backyards or two families to a house, or with some other arrangement. There are a lot of people working for the state with housing subsidies and these people are currently living in RDP houses and lower cost houses which could be vacated so that more accommodation is made available for others.

20 Another thing is, I want to make abundantly clear is that building a luxury development. We are talking about the apartments starting price of R399 000 as we all saw in the press, and moving up to approximately R550 000. Shoulder pain they are priced in the medium price range.

25 PR: There was a hand right at the back.

30 SM: My name is Shalima Myburgh I am a resident of Roodepan, a single mother, from a disadvantaged background. My first question is – the people that have problems with the development, I don't remember them being my neighbours. I would think that they live in areas in town, then again, that guy over there said that we should move the development or rather the Developers should move to some other kind of place or wherever, and again I am saying that that place, that they are recommending would be in town – away from us? So, when do we get our chance? [Applause]

40 IS: I just want to maybe just emphasise what I said earlier that if you're not from Roodepan, I want to just put it in context, you won't understand the passion. We live there everyday. You see, there is a saying that says you shouldn't argue with people that do not have their facts right or know the difference or notice the difference.

45 Now, I am saying this that as much as the economics is coming up I only did Economics 1 then I stopped, but the logic for me saying that when these type of things happen within the township – I want to use the word township – it means a significant change even it means in the people's attitude that

somewhere somehow somebody is noticing them as human beings and are bringing these services, listen to this now, these services much closer to them, to uplift themselves.

5 You see, I am very much worried when we sit here – and it's true what she said earlier, and it seems like, you know, people that don't stay in Roodepan, that area surrounding Roodepan, don't understand. Let me tell you from the police point of view the problems that we are having now. The rate of crime came up – it's about 5,000 plus ervens now there for development for houses  
10 for those people. It has a major impact on our crime stats within the Roodepan precinct, the policing area. And now the new, a shanty came up there – it's also called Ivory Park now. Just around the corner from where I am staying. It is still very much a problem of crime within that area.

15 Now I am saying here lies this land in front of my house – the trade off is now do we want – if we leave it there, there like it is, although it is a private property, do we want tomorrow a hundred shacks to come up there? And what are we saying then to our people? All that you black people and coloured people are good for is to put up shacks, there's nowhere that you will be  
20 qualifying to get at least some sort of development taking place within the area [Applause].

25 Let me suggest, just to close this point, this is exactly what the apartheid system did. Because the Spatial Development Framework's objective is to bring the linkages in between with development of the services and I'm surprised that the lady sitting here – I just forgot her name... we worked together in housing, dealing with the state of this, although she is she's lobbying here for the environmental issues. She understands this. The Spatial Development Framework actually says it is about bringing those services  
30 through to our people so that people spend less money to get to the services because the apartheid system did exactly that to keep the services away from us. Thank you. [Applause]

35 PR: Thank you. I did say there was this hand here and then I am going there and then I am coming back here. Okay.

40 CH: Cathy Hart Kimberley resident, my understanding is that they are looking for an alternative place for development and it will be within Roodepan and not... and my understanding is too - of our situation in South Africa - is there are no black and white areas as per se anymore.

45 My concern is given the quality of the water in the Kamfersdam area and with the whole Kamfersdam situation has the interest been shown, or has the impact assessment been done on seepage of that water into the systems which could be detrimental to even residents staying there – discounting the whole flamingo issue. But, has that impact been done?

And that would include the Flamingo Casino, the Booths residence and the all the other areas in the area. Has that been done?

5                    Because if the Homevale issue is not addressed and anything goes by and there's a slight tremor and contaminated water is seeped into the water, the clean water that is being driven into the residential area, what is the impact on humans and has that looked at?

10            PR:            The Ground Water Study did take into account seepage and the impact on the water table, or the potential impact. So, they did take that issue into account. Alright, we're going to the back.

15            MC:            I'm Marcellos Conway, Anglican Church Environmental Network. First question is as regards waste disposal, we have a history in this country where developments are put up without the recognition of the waste produced by those developments. Are we going to see another landfill site being put up next to Roodepan and Northgate where we already have an inadequate landfill site at the moment? And also I would like to say the SDF presentation presented an alternative site right next to Roodepan which would then again address the socio-economic problems that we are seeing and I speak as a disadvantaged South African. [Applause]

20            PR:            Thank you. The accumulative impact of wastes are addressed in the EIA and it is a problem that the waste is going to add into the current landfill site and it needs to be addressed by the Municipality. There was a... it was here. And then I'm going there.

25            TA:            It actually goes back to the engineering services itself... The Spatial Development Framework said that all the engineering services – water, sewerage, storm water drains and so on, there have to be plans for that, which they have but it also says there that the Municipality and the Developer have to both pay for the internal and external engineering services together and that they come to some agreement. So, they have to pay that, it's not like they are just choosing to pay for the upgrade and sewerage that in the end they have to by law contribute to that. That is one thing.

30            TA:            The other thing was just to reiterate, we are not against the development. You know, we want to Kimberley as it is now with its new claim of being the flamingo capital with the only lesser flamingo breeding ground in Africa. And we want the Northgate development as well. But, we want it rather to become Westgate if possible. We want to be moved away the site and keep our dam and be have the socio-economic benefits involved.

35            TA:            And then also, with respect to the moratorium, I found out that the moratorium was declared on land sales and that the Municipality prioritise areas that had to

be sold for housing development. Now, if this was such a priority then the Municipality should sell its land for the development and lift the moratorium.

5 The Housing Minister mentioned in her speech about the moratorium in 2005 when it was instated that it was mooted for this reason – to prioritise land for housing sales and she also mentioned it shouldn't be in place for too long that you're going stifle development. So, we need to look at within the moratorium making municipal land available for this development.

10 PR: Thank you. At the back.

SAH: I'm from SA Heritage, and unfortunately I am not going to discuss anything on heritage, I am just trying to say that I have been reading in the newspapers about the Northgate development and what came out time after time was the flamingos and the natural resources we are having there.

15 I think we know there are flamingos, we know the water impact and we should also look at the fact this development might take place next to Roodepan and in that area you have other problems which are there. You have substance abuse, you've got all sorts of crimes and everything and I have heard that there is this offset... I couldn't just get the name right, in the beginning, the R5.2 million. I am just raising the concern to understand that at the end of the day the farm should not only to the conversation of flamingos and the environment. They should also look at the other socio-economic issues within Roodepan to balance the issue of the natural heritage that we had (unclear) the people which are living in the area. Thank you.

20 PR: Thank you.

MC: Marcellos Conway, Anglican Church Environmental Network. The other question I had was the thought that the Developers are not showing any initiative in the use of renewable energy sources in this development at all. So, we are therefore again coming down to the electricity burden and other factors that will come into that, i.e. sewerage, waste, et cetera.

30 PR: Do you want to respond?

JL: As part of the EIA we looked at solar panels, we looked at self-generation and it was weighed up in a similar matrix and found to be not viable. We had conversations with the Sol Plaatje Municipality – they are not prepared to maintain the solar system and it was recommended that we go ahead the Eskom system

40 MC: Can I introduce you to a company that would maintain it?

45

- CB: My name is (unclear) I'm from Carte Blanche. And I'm talking to the Developers. What other developments have you done considering Group 1 was only formed on 20 August 2007?
- 5 JL: Just a correction, Group 1 was not formed... Group 1 has been around for over two and half years. The company which was formed was Northgate Property Investment Holdings which is the company which holds the Kimberley development. Group 1 Development has been around for a lot longer than that. We've been around for about three years and just to answer your question we were formed... We are an amalgamation of a number of members from a number of companies who specialise in specialised development and and specialist project management companies. Between us there are we have 10 30 years of experience in project management and the development of residential, commercial and industrial properties.
- 15 Paragon Properties, which is our partner in this venture, was formed in 2004, also a Cape Town based company. A number of projects in the top-end market - all the directors from Paragon are from a previously disadvantaged background and the company obtains funding from institutional investors.
- 20 SM: Shalima Myburgh again for the disadvantaged people from Roodepan. [Laughter]
- 25 Okay, firstly, when the Casino was built was there not any blasting taking place? Was there not any noise disturbance? Still, the flamingos are there.
- 30 Secondly, the lady said that the people that would be working in the mall would come from out of town. My sister personally works at the Diamond Pavilion Mall, she spends a third of her salary on taxi fare to and fro. She has to look after her mother who lives alone. So, would it not be better for her to work nearer to her house where she would not spend that much on taxi fare?
- 35 And, the majority of the people working in the mall anyway are from disadvantaged backgrounds. And, why would we want factories if we can be managers. And our issue is about the flamingos and we are all for the conversation of the flamingos, we don't want them to go away. But since these guys have a plan in place for them not to disappear, there's a wall being put up; there are electric fences for the children who are going to play... I don't think these children will walk about five hours to the dam. So, there are stuff that is put in place to protect them, so what's the issue really about?
- 40
- 45 PR: Okay. Folks. [Applause]. What we've got be careful of is we don't belabour to many points because we are a little bit time bound – I know it's getting now nearly half past eight and that but we do need to give everybody an

opportunity. There was a hand there. And, I've forgotten about you. I think you've got to go first. Sorry...

5 LT: No, it's fine I won't complain about the time and I understand. My name is Lerato Thys and I think first and foremost I would like to thank you for this opportunity to come and really participate in this discussion.

10 However, I think it is good that we have the opportunity to hear the for and the against for this development. And if you look at the people that's going to benefit I think all of us can really benefit from this project. It's a good thing. And for development – and I'm sure that you have presented this as a mitigation against anything to disturb or to....

15 I think you have put that in place. However, we must have a real influence and I am lobbying for all of us that when we go out of this house let's go out as one really. Let's support the Group 1 in the good thing that they have done. It's not only for a certain group of people that are going to benefit.

20 I am a resident of Kimberley. I come from Johannesburg. I work in Johannesburg and I question, and I said but what's happening with Kimberley? It's like we can't think. People are coming from outside, they think on behalf of us. We can think for ourselves, we have our own people, we have our own minds. We can do it if ourselves. If we go with this town, let's go with it. Kimberley residents. Black, white, coloured, we are going away and it's that must go. We're not going to use that forever. So, now let's give a thumbs up to Group 1. [Applause]

PR: I'm going to come to you and Brenda is next.

30 BB: I want to reiterate that we are categorically for development in Kimberley. There is no way we want to do anyone out of any of the facilities which this new development promises. But, we maintain it is in the wrong area. And I would very much like to call on Mr. Mark Anderson if it is possible, in his personal capacity, to give us expert opinion, which I think is probably sadly lacking here to... [Disagreement]

35 BB: Well, I apologise if I am order but we don't have any of our specialist's reports, the authors of our specialist's reports – shall we put it that way and that is all that I am meaning by that. I would like him in his personal capacity and he is the man who is behind this whole thing to give his opinion

40 MA: My name is Mark Anderson and I am an ornithologist, but I am also a trustee of the Flamingo Environmental Trust and I have some knowledge about flamingos. I have been studying them for the last seventeen years. I have attended several international flamingo meetings in the United States of America, Europe and in Africa and I know a little bit about the flamingos in Kamfersdam. I have

5 been monitoring them monthly since 1995. And, I was the first who conceived the idea of the flamingo island. I would like to also say that the Flamingo Environment Trust is definitely for development in Kimberley and the housing development being proposed. We are very concerned though about some of the developments at Kamfersdam which could affect the flamingos, the most important of which is water quality.

10 There is some serious concerns about water quality, particularly with sewerage water flowing into the dam. There is the recent algal bloom which Mr. Hohne spoke about which is of grave to concern to us. At the moment we are just sitting with two species of cyanobacteria – spirulina and cyclotella which don't form toxins but the microcystis species which could do that does form toxins and could result in the mortality of the flamingos. And that microcystis species which could do that, does form toxins and could result in mortalities of the flamingos and microcystis which results in the deaths of tens of thousands of flamingos in East Africa. So, water quality does concern us.

15  
20 At the moment we are sitting with a problem at Kamfersdam which I am beginning to investigate. A fair number of the flamingos have lesions on their legs as well as frozen tibial tarsal joints and we think that this is related to deteriorated water quality and we're very concerned about that and I am working with a group of veterinary pathologists from the United States of America and South Africa to investigate this problem and we are almost certainly convinced that this is related to deteriorating water quality at Kamfersdam.

25  
30 Okay, the other thing which concerns us is disturbance. The flamingos did attempt to breed at Kamfersdam historically and they built 2,500 nests on the south eastern portion of the dam and I actually wrote up a document of those two breeding attempts in a scientific journal and the birds didn't proceed with the breeding event mainly because, we believe, of the disturbance. And that's the reason why we proposed the breeding island which was kindly constructed by Ekapa Mining.

35  
40 We don't know yet what any other development close to Kamfersdam... what effect it could have on the flamingos. I should just point out that flamingos up until now have only bred in three places in Africa: Etosha Pan in Namibia, Sua Pan in Botswana and Lake Natron in Northern Tanzania. Now these are massive, massive pans and lakes. They are thousands of hectares in extent where the water, when inundated it only fills to a couple of inches – the situation at Kamfersdam is very different to there, and the reason that the flamingos use those site is because they are very secluded and they have very limited disturbance. And that's why we were very surprised when the flamingos bred at Kamfersdam. It actually surpassed our wildest expectations, but we did think it was worth the effort.

A lot of it has got to do with, I believe, personally, to the fact that the property has been so well conserved by the Booth family. They have limited access to the property. There has been very limited disturbance there and I think that's why the flamingos bred successfully. We don't know yet whether any further developments close to Kamfersdam could in the long term affect the breeding of the flamingos on the island. Potentially it could, and you know, if one could consider using proportioning principles it may be a development of this nature should go somewhere else because there could be a long term effect on the breeding of flamingos at this dam.

Also, as it was mentioned there could be a catalyst for further developments in the area which could result in the site being less suitable for flamingos. What does concern me about the specialist's reports... what does concern the flamingos' interest group is that the analogies that have been used have been greater flamingos and not lesser flamingos. The greater flamingos are an entirely different species. They breed all over, they'll breed in your backyard very easily if you put water and the right food for them, but the lesser flamingo is very, very different. And I think, you know, will behave very differently if it was disturbed.

So, these are some of the things that the Flamingo Trust is concerned about and I think that they should be taken into account during the Environmental Impact Assessment. [Applause]

PR: Thanks Mark, the specialist's report, the avifauna specialist report is being reviewed, specifically for that. Thank you. Tanya, I know, but there was one here before your hand and then there and then you.

PS: Thank you, I initially introduce myself as Phumelo Sehunelo, Group 1. And I have been listening to the comments and people we want to emphasise from the group's side, I am talking here as the chairman of the group, that we are not going to be disregarding and trampling on people's interests. I mean, as a company we will still have continuous consultation and again interaction with the interest groups, environmentalists, the people from the trust. We need to be able to work together to be able to demonstrate that the two can co-exist.

And we are saying, as the chairman, to Dr. van Vrede if my CEO did say that I think I will apologise on his behalf and say that I mean we are looking for co-operation and working together to make the development possible. [Applause]

PR: Thank you very much. The next comment was there...

GM: Hi. My name is Graham Andrews and I represent the Northern Cape Master Builders Association. Just a quick question I would like to ask how come Kimberley is having this major electricity problem where the Council have in fact, and we can provide proof, stopped certain developments in Kimberley

because there is not enough electricity to supply a future development. The Council have also stated that they haven't applied for an upgrade from Eskom which will take another five years before Kimberley's electricity supply will be upgraded.

5

Now, why not upgrade people who have got electricity, the businesses that are there and keep the city going? Where is this project going to get electricity supply from unless they are going to cut from other areas? [Applause]

10 PR: I think that Joe is going to respond.

JL: Thanks, and I have answered that question. The Sol Plaatje Municipality I know that Johan said and I know that they did stop it at a stage because there wasn't enough. They have applied to Eskom, a while back already for the upgrade and they have said there is enough for Phase 1 it will require (unclear) which they can give us and they have an upgrade plan which is in position and it has been given to us in writing that they will be able to provide Phase 2 to 8 as soon as Eskom has done the upgrade.

15  
20 GA: Can I just ask... why is the development then at the moment being stopped? At the moment I can give you documentary proof of developers who want to develop housing in middle class and lower class areas, low income areas... but the development has been stopped?

25 PR: Guys, we need to stick to the theme of this meeting and I am sure that the Municipality would be able to answer that better than anybody sitting here. The next one was Tanya, and then it was...

30 TA: I would just like to raise a point about the mitigating measures and the fact that there is no guarantee that they are definitely going to be successful okay, there is a possibility that we are going to have groundwater pollution. The specialist that there will be groundwater pollution, but it will be insignificant or low impact for us, so it's going to happen okay? And if the mitigation measures aren't kept in place for perpetuity while people are living there, it's going to eventually happen. Now, the environmental law states that the polluter has to pay. I want to, if the groundwater gets contaminated, Kamfersdam gets contaminated – it can't be prevented even though you are monitoring it and you don't take preventative action and it gets polluted – who is going to pay for that pollution to be cleared? The developers, the people staying in Roodepan – because I don't think they are going to want to pay; the people staying in Northgate, they're not going to want to pay to clean up the pollution in Kamfersdam. Who is paying for that?

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40  
45 PR: Well, I think that what is going to happen is that when properties are being sold and people are going to take title on the properties and I would imagine it lies with the people who take title. And that is one of the reasons why we

suggested not to put a service station there, in the event that possibly there is a spill... Do you want to respond, Johan?

5 JPL: Yes.

PR: Okay. Johan will respond.

10 JPL: Meneer die voorsitter, ek wil lig werk op die reaksie oor die Homevale wat  
aanmekeer aangeraak word. Dit word voor die deur van Northgate gegooi van  
wat in die toekoms gaan gebeur met die Homevale se kwaliteit en die water  
vlakke, maar daar word nie daaraan gekyk... dit wat nou reeds in Kimberley aan  
die gaan is. Die ontwikkeling van woonstelle, meenthuise, informele  
15 ontwikkeling en eradication of the bucket system wat in die elk geval Homevale  
toe gaan. So, wat hier met Homevale in die toekoms gebeur hang nie net van  
Northgate af nie. In teendeel Northgate, Lerato Park en Laratong in al hierdie  
woongebiede kan bydra dat Homevale reeds moet opgradeer word. So, die  
Homevale, die Northgate ontwikkeling kan a fasiliteerder wees in die bydra om  
20 Homevale te laat opgradeer. So, ek dink nie 'n mens moet die hele Homevale  
situasie en die probleem daarmee voor Northgate gooi nie.

25 En dan wil ek net rubriek op die aksies van die Spatial Development Framework,  
ek het nou baie gesit en luister na wat hier gesê is deur spesialiste en mense  
wat nie daarmee werk nie... Wat vanaand gebeur het daar is feite wat gevat is  
uit die ou framework end die nuwe framework. Hulle is bymekaar gesit om a 'n  
doel te bewys. Die grondsgebruike wat voorgestel is in die draft framework is  
nog nie geverifieer deur die Raad nie. In teendeel ek sit met versoeke wat  
(onduidelik) potensiële veranderings van voorgestelde grondgebruike – so 'n  
30 lang lys. So, ons kan nie aanvaar dat dit wat in die draft spatial development  
framework voorgehou word... wat voorgehou is, is the gospel truth, dit werklik  
gebeur nie. Daar kan nog veranderings in daai dokument wees. So, ons moet  
die hele ding net in sy wye perspektief sien, dankie.

35 PR: Thank you. Natalie.

NB: Just to follow on what Johan was saying, the fact that all these other  
developments are already contributing to the situation at Homevale then why is  
further development being allowed without upgrading it. Surely the upgrade  
40 should take place now.

45 It's a critical thing. Why wait until after Phase 1? It shouldn't... we shouldn't  
have more development – it's clearly an issue. But yet again, ah, well, you  
know there is a whole developments coming in so we'll just push in an extra  
one. What's an extra when we've already got more coming in? The issue is  
that there is a problem now already and it needs to be addressed. You have to

mitigate that issue by upgrading the sewerage treatment now, not after Phase 1. It has to happen now.

5 And then the other thing that I wanted to say, just following on from what Tanya had said, is that there is the issue with the flamingos and yes, mitigation measures have been proposed, such as the wall, but that is mitigation and it doesn't guarantee that it is not going to impact on the flamingos. There are no guarantees. It could still impact on the flamingos although these mitigating measures have been implemented there is still a chance that it could impact on the flamingos.

10 PR: Thank you. There was one there, and then at the back and then Mark... are we starting to wind down?

15 MM: I think my question was not answered. What I asked - is there no alternative place where the development can take place and I haven't heard anyone answering that yet. I have been sitting here for quite some time and I haven't heard anyone answering that question, you understand? And, for point of correction I want to just say that those gentleman that was sitting here and the lady in the back - I have made a practical example, it is happening to our people. It is also, in fact storm water is coming to that point and it's the dam – we call it Witdam, seven children are drowning on a yearly basis. I have the record, we can get the record from the Municipality... This year, or last year. And people who are living in Galeshewe No. 5, they know. So, my impact is... how is the residential area going to impact on the life of the young ones? Even if you can say barricades or whatever... there is a way to get access to that dam. That is my point. And it's a direct negative impact on the population of the flamingos. Even the dogs can go there. The cats can go there. They do have access.

20 PR: They have got access now. Yes.

25 MM: What I am saying is that the residential area that you are going to... it's going to be much more higher than what is currently happening now.

30 PR: The proposed wall is actually to prevent people from going to the dam.

35 MM: I understand. My point is that residential settlement is going to have an... that is going to take place there the impact is going to be maybe higher than what it has been currently – that's a fact.

40 PR: That is why we are doing an impact assessment. The alternatives have been addressed. One of the issues with that alternative is as property owner you can decide what you want to do on your property. So, it's not a prerequisite that you have to look at other areas – yes, we do look at other areas, but as a

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property owner you can decide what it is that you do on your property under the auspices of the law.

5 MC: I just want to point out something that tends to be driven around when responding to Mr. Lubbe and his responding to a few things with calls to our own benefit. The Advocate used some of the information you gave to his benefit, where you quoted 1.2 km to the island, but the closest point being 250 m, the closest house being 560 m and so he used that information to manipulate his case as well.

10 And the other thing is that this eradication of the bucket system is being seen as adding to the problem of the sewerage. I believe it is already in the problem of the sewerage because those buckets have to go to be disposed and they go to be disposed at the Homevale sewerage works. They don't go anywhere else. So, that is already into the Homevale sewerage works. The eradication of the bucket system at the moment is a there from a health benefit to prevent our people from being infected by the breeding of bacteria in those buckets at home.

20 PR: Thank you. Mark.

MA: Thanks. I just want to say one or two more things. Mark Anderson, and I am trustee of the Flamingo Environmental Trust. I was surprised, Peter, that you didn't have any slides in your presentation with some of the positive attributes of Kamfersdam – which was one side that was definitely missing. I would just like to maybe emphasize to the audience maybe from of the positive things about the dam. Firstly, it's an important bird area – and that international recognition was given to it, it's very important for birds. It's a natural heritage site – in terms of the Department of Environmental Affairs, they have a natural heritage programme. And in fact a plaque and a certificate in the Booth's home which was signed by Nelson Mandela when the site was registered as a natural heritage site. And also it has the largest permanent population of flamingos in Southern Africa. It's the only place in South Africa that lesser flamingos breed. It's one of three places in Southern Africa where they breed, one of four in Africa and one of six in the world. The most important thing is the other sites are threatened by various factors - severe factors. For example at Lake Natron they plan to build a soda ash plant on the periphery of the dam which could have a huge impact on the site in Tanzania. So, Kamfersdam may become more and more important for lesser flamingos in the future.

40 I could give some examples. Etosha Pan – lesser flamingos only breed successfully on average every seven years and at Sua Pan in Botswana on average every three years. At Kamfersdam what we are looking at is there is a good chance that the flamingos are going to breed successfully every year and as a result the negative population trends that we have been seeing for many

decades of this species could be reversed and we could see the population increasing. This is one of the positives of the site.

5 The other thing is that I don't think we realise the importance of what's actually  
happened out at Kamfersdam this year. The fact that the flamingos have bred  
successfully on this island; I mean it's blown me away. In fact this morning I  
woke up early and I still thought I was dreaming – that this has actually been  
realised. It's just an incredible event and it's slowly more and more being  
10 realised by the international community – that this is a very significant event.  
And I have been to East Africa several times and I've actually been to Lake  
Natron, Lake Nakuru and some of these other lakes where flamingos occur and  
where they breed and I can tell you now that flamingo watching – our eco-  
tourists from America and Europe and other places – has been one of the most  
important eco-tourism activities in that part of the world. People go there to  
15 see those vast sites of thousands, hundreds of thousands of flamingos but the  
problem is these sites are very inaccessible, the numbers are declining at some  
of these wetlands because of die offs due to toxins produced by the  
cyanobacteria and other factors.

20 Yet here in Kimberley we have a site which is incredible accessible – next to a  
national road, we have a breeding site, the flamingos are probably going to  
breed regularly and I think there is incredible potential that is still waiting to be  
realised for ecotourism and for the economy of Kimberley. And I think that is  
something - that benefits every single citizen in this town is flamingo watching.  
25 And I think we mustn't lose sight of that. And the concern really, and you don't  
have any information, but if the northern parts of Kamfersdam become  
developed – if this Northgate is a stimulus for other development the site will  
become unsuitable for lesser flamingos and they can stop using Kamfersdam.  
So, these are some of the concerns of the Flamingo Environmental Trust.  
30 [Applause]

PR: You are right, I should have possibly had a positive there – but seeing as we  
were so heavily focussed on negative I didn't, and there was a whole lot of  
other information I could have put on. I assure you there is a whole chapter in  
35 the EIA which focuses purely on the breeding of flamingos and the importance  
thereof. And, with your permission, I will quote you in it, of your work that  
you've done, will be quoted in that EIA and it is going in as a part of the  
assessment.

40 BB: In the article which appeared in the DFA on Tuesday, was it Tuesday?  
Yesterday. Okay, Wednesday – it appeared Wednesday. There is a suggestion  
that the water be led away from Kamfersdam and put into another pan and an  
artificial island be constructed there and that the flamingos would breed. I  
would ask Mr. Mark Anderson to respond to that suggestion. I find it very  
45 difficult to believe that such an eventuality is possible

- 5 PR: What is happening is that the Municipality has commissioned an EIA to take water currently coming out of Homevale's excess water to another pan. That is the background to that. That study is ongoing and it has been mentioned by Mr. Hohne, and it's going to require all the specialist's studies as what we've done. So, it's not a given that it's going to happen. It's in process.
- 10 BB: I am not questioning the actual event – but I am question the flamingo breeding event that is due to take place there.
- 15 MA: Just to respond quickly. We've discussed this amongst ourselves several times and we don't really know what makes... well we know what makes Kamfersdam so suitable for flamingos is this high concentration of cyanobacteria which is developed over many decades. If the sewerage water was pumped elsewhere – the future sewerage water was pumped elsewhere we don't know how long a similar sort of situations would develop that would make the site equally attractive for lesser flamingos – it could be a very long time. In addition to that, if an artificial island was constructed at this wetland we don't know whether it would be successful – if the birds would breed successfully at such a wetland.
- 20 I've tried to canvass some opinions from some of my colleagues internationally and they feel that it would be highly unlikely – because some of the proposed sites are firstly much smaller than Kamfersdam, not as well protected and in the flight path of aircraft flying in and out of the Kimberley Airport. So, my feeling – and it's very subjective at this stage; and it's also the opinion of some of my colleagues is that other sites would not be as attractive in terms of feeding and a breeding area for lesser flamingos.
- 25 PH: Peter Hohne from Ekapa Mining, but also representing the Flamingo Environmental Trust. Ekapa Mining has been mining dumps in Kimberley for the last seventeen years and many of the dumps have been fully rehabilitated down to the natural state within a two to three kilometre radius from the CBD, leading to large open tracts of land suitable for development. Have any of these areas been explored as alternatives for Group 1 as an alternative?
- 30 PR: I am not aware of them being explored as alternatives. I don't know who owns that ground, people that had mining rights. Maybe it's De Beers who owns it. It will have to come from potentially the owners of the ground, or if it's municipal ground, I don't know... I don't think that has been explored - certainly not with us.
- 35 JL: Just to say quickly I have to agree with Peter Hohne on this. But as far as development is concerned we also wish the moratorium was lifted on municipal property. The reason that we went for this property, and we have in fact investigated other properties, there is another EIA which we are talking about
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- 45

but it's the only property which is viable to do this on. If there was a municipal property available and we could do this, we would.

5 PR: No more hands? Ah! Erik's went up first.

ED: No, he was first actually.

10 TK: Tim Katloff, Kimberley resident. I do agree that it is unlike for flamingos to breed at an alternative site, however, would the Developers be willing to give that a try before the development goes forth?

15 PR: If I can just add we didn't know if there birds were going to breed there either, so you know, there's no given 100% fact that yes, they are going to breed. We built the island hoping that they were going to breed and they did. So, maybe they do. You know, it's one of those unknowns at this stage that we can speculate about and we can debate forever on – and I am sure we will in future. There was a... sorry?

20 TK: Would they be willing to put that to the test?

PR: The developer would like to respond to you.

25 JL: We would also point out that the idea to move the (unclear) from Kamfersdam to whatever pan has been proffered does not come from the Developer. It is an initiative by Sol Plaatje Municipality to find solutions to the problem which they have at Kamfersdam. It's not something we initiated.

PR: Coming to you know, Erick.

30 ED: I'm Erik Dillon, citizen of Kimberley. Obviously there's a big difference, a big split between the two groups and I think we should come to a compromise and I don't we should subject the one to what the other wants and have the one group have their way. And so, I think, and I empathise with people that actually live in Roodepan that actually need those facilities but I am sure there is a compromise we can get to by not developing on the particular site where Group 1 wants to develop.

40 I just want to quote here from the newspaper, if actually says here, this is I think, ja it's Wednesday's, today's newspaper actually. It says here in the last paragraph, "If this development is really not wanted by the majority of the residents of Kimberley, we as developers will respect the wishes of the people of Kimberley and withdraw our development and investment from Kimberley immediately". That's in the newspaper.

45 I have a list of people here that couldn't make it today, but 60 people that petitioned against the development. And I think that the majority of the vote

5 from the people here, I think it's quite clear that most people don't want this on that site, I think, at least. And I think you should look at the alternatives in terms of compromising between the people that need the facilities but also respect that the flamingos are an asset and potentially a long-term investment for the city, because I don't think R 2 billion one off is going to make a difference to anybody. I, for one, won't be able to afford a house in the development – I don't earn enough money. I live in a flat, I don't live cushy house and I think we have to compromise. [Applause].

10 PR: I'll just give this a quick response – I mean, not to get into a debate. I think if we had to run around with a petition we might get some strange results.

15 IS: Thanks. Just a short point. [Laughter] but I still hold my position about Roodepan. Just to correct the gentleman a bit now on the issue that was mentioned – I think he confused himself also when he raised the issue. Now, my brother stays a few kilometres away from the polices station. So, I think the issues are that Witdam was never cordoned off from the town.

20 I think the Developers are saying, if we build here, we'll be looking to look at closing this place especially, because I think that the point he is trying to make is the influx of people to the residential area, the children, what is the potential of them going to the dam and drowning, and drowning and hence we had the drownings of the children and so on. I just wanted to make that clear. I think you answered that.

25 PR: Thank you.

30 TB: Secondly, the issue of the buckets on the dam and so on, if my information is correct it says that government had started to eradicate the buckets as we speak but I think they are starting to sat the nearly 90% have started. So, I was not clear on the impact of that bucket system. I understand buckets go and are dumped there at the sewerage works - but in a few months, years down the line we shouldn't have buckets. All of us should have toilets that flush.

35 But just what Erik has said now, is that right? On the newspaper article, and the petition and so on, I also want to caution – and it's not threatening and so on, but I am saying that... you know, I have been in my community for many years, and I am known because I was teaching the children also in that community... so if one could sell this deal of this development to the ordinary person in Roodepan I can tell you I can almost guarantee tomorrow you will see a different story in the paper. And I will not tell them lies. I will tell them the benefit of this development.

45 But, I will also give them a balanced story to say that whilst this development is good there is this potential of harming the environment in terms of the

flamingos. But, I tell you the ordinary person in the street, he's hungry and unemployed, will march to whoever's office – whether it's the Premier or the Municipality saying we demand this development because it is high time that we get it.

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And the 60 petition of people objecting against the development I will change into 200 000 people who in stay in Roodepan and the surrounding areas – and we must be able to see it as going forward. I am saying that with respect. I am not saying that's the way to go. But, if we need to put pressure on, I can tell this congregation here tonight that is the one of the mechanisms the community have. And then it can and I think we will see a different story.

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PR: Folks, I sense we're getting into a big debate here about things that we've covered. Is there anything that's out of what we haven't spoken about that we would like to cover?

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MC: Just one sentence in response to that, Peter. And, I mean, and that is to say that it's exactly that mentality that lands us in environmental problems again and again and again.

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PR: Thank you. That's why we are doing the study. [Applause]

JPL: I don't want to argue with the vote I just want to provide you with some professional and technical information. A waterborne sewer, with the emphasis on water, puts more pressure on any sewer work whatsoever because the base is water. The bucket system gets more solids in it so, as far as the water issue is concerned the impact of the bucket system – releasing it into the sewer works is not that heavy as a waterborne sewer.

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PR: Thank you. Do you have the honour of being last, or (unclear) you've got last now.

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ED: I just want to say it's not just about the people of Roodepan, it touches on everybody in Kimberley. Not just that section. We all have an interest, a vested interest in Kamfersdam and in the flamingos.

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It's not just the people of Roodepan that we have to... it's everybody really we have to be concerned about. And I think we can come to a compromise even if it means shifting it by 1 or 2 km, I don't see why it can't be done. In the interests of everybody of Kimberley – not just Roodepan's people; everybody. [Applause].

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PR: Thank you. Last, from the Heritage.

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SAH: I wonder if you could have such a participation process maybe in Roodepan or somewhere because some of the people that side don't have cars to come here

at 5 o'clock and stay here until this time of night? Changing the direction.  
[Applause]

- 5 PR: One hand went up very quickly.
- SE: I actually decided I wouldn't say anything tonight, my name is Susan Erasmus. I am concerned citizen of Kimberley. I have heard both sides of the story and there definitely both sides. I think we will have to find a compromise. But I am very interested to hear that the people that were talking about the job opportunities and the shops and so on, I would be very concerned to know, would those people actually be able to afford these house. As Erik said, who is actually going to buy these houses? I can understand that they need the shopping centre, that... the people living out there, that they want to have shops on their doorsteps and the job opportunities. But, are they actually going to be able to buy the houses there?
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- PR: Joe, do you want to respond?
- NB: Mr. Chairman we need to end please...
- 20 PR: This is the last response here, because my bladder is going to burst I've had about 5 litres of water. [Laughter]
- JL: Just a very brief response, we have obviously done our market research. What we find in Kimberley is that, especially from Roodepan I assume our team, is that in Kimberley a third of the population are working for the state. There is a lot of those people who have both husband and wife working for the state, they are earning dual incomes and both qualify for subsidies. They are a lot of people who are working for, or for... or for them, for the state and for parastatal organisations who are living in RDP houses or in houses which they... in a lower income house than what they could be living in. What they intend to do is to get those people to move out of RDP housing and lower income housing and to move into these houses in Northgate and that those lower income and RDP houses can then be occupied by individuals who are living in shacks or living in back yards.
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- R2: The question is are those Roodepan people?
- JL: Say again, are they?
- 40 R2: Roodepan people, I think that was what the...
- JL: Not necessarily, no. They are not all Roodepan people.
- 45 R2: That's what the question was

PR:

Folks, I thank you for the spirit in which this meeting was conducted, and I thank you for coming. The process still continues. Your comments will be collated. They will all be added into the document – all the questions and statements that I will let everybody know when this is available. It will also be advertised in the newspaper when it is available. It will be available at public places, and so I leave it there, if you have anymore comments that you would like please feel free to send them into us. Thank you for attending.  
[Applause]

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