Nru. 138

AWTORITÀ TA' MALTA DWAR L-AMBJENT U L-IPPJANAR

Notifika dwar l-Eżenzjoni minn Studju tal-Impatt Ambjentali

BI qbil mar-Regolament 3(8) tar-Regolamenti tal-2007 dwar l-Istima tal-Impatt fuq l-Ambjent (Avviż Legali 114 tal-2007), u minħabba li l-Awtorità ta' Malta dwar l-Ambjent u l-Ippjanar jidhrilha li l-proposta mhux probabbli li jkollha impatti sinjifikanti fuq l-ambjent, id-Direttur għall-Ħarsien tal-Ambjent jaqbel li l-proposta ma teħtieġx Studju dwar l-Impatt Ambjentali (EPS).

Id-Deskrizzjoni tal-Proġett (PDS) li ġiet ippreżentata bħala parti mill-applikazzjoni kkunsidrat b'mod suffiċjenti l-kwistjonijiet li jolqtu l-ambjent u għaldaqstant it-tħejjija ta' studju dwar l-impatt ambjentali mhux se żżid informazzjoni ġdida peress li l-Awtorità għandha l-informazzjoni kollha meħtieġa sabiex tiddeċiedi dwar din l-applikazzjoni. Skont l-informazzjoni li ġiet ippreżentata fid-Deskrizzjoni tal-Proġett (PDS) u fil-valutazzjoni li saret skont l-Iskeda IB tal-istess Regolamenti, ma jidhirx li l-proposta se jkollha impatti sinifikanti fuq l-ambjent.

No. 138

MALTA ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING AUTHORITY

Notification of Exemption of Environmental Planning Statement

IN conformity with Regulation 3(8) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (Legal Notice 114 of 2007), and in view of the fact that MEPA has determined that the proposal is unlikely to have significant environmental impacts, the Director of Environment Protection agrees that the proposal does not require the preparation of an Environmental Planning Statement (EPS).

The Project Description Statement (PDS) presented as part of the application has considered the environmental issues in a sufficient manner such that the preparation of an EPS would not add any new information and MEPA has all the necessary information to determine the application. From the information presented in the PDS and screening according to Schedule IB of the same Regulations, the proposal is not likely to have significant environmental effects.

Ġustifikazzjoni dettaljata tinstab hawn taħt:
A detailed justification is presented below:

Numru ta' Riferenza: PA 05672/09 u PA 05904/09
Post: Barriera 18, Ta' l-Għarix, Triq is-Siġġiewi, Qrendi
Proposta: PA 05672/09: Bini ta' tliet garaxxijiet industrijali sovrastanti f'barriera eżistenti tal-ġebla tal-franka. (Żewġ garaxxijiet ta' fuq diġà approvati).

PA 05904/09: Biex jinbnew garaxxijiet għall-ħażna ta' tagħmir/makkinarju relatat mal-attività tal-barriera.

Reference Number: PA 05672/09 and PA 05904/09
Location: Quarry 18, Ta' l-Għarix, Triq is-Siġġiewi, Qrendi
Proposal: PA 05672/09: To construct three overlying industrial garages in an existing soft stone quarry. (Two upper garages already approved).
PA 05904/09: To construct garages for the storage of equipment/machiner in relation to quarrying activity.

Dawn l-effetti potenzjali fuq l-ambjent, flimkien ma' numru ta' miżuri biex jittaffa l-impatt, ġew identifikati fid-Deskrizzjoni tal-Proġett (PDS) li kien sottomess lill-Awtorità fil-25 ta' Lulju, 2013 u fil-ġustifikazzjoni għall-eżenzjoni mill-Istudju dwar l-Impatt Ambjentali li ġiet sottomessa fil-31 ta' Lulju, 2013.

The following potential environmental impacts were identified and mitigation measures proposed in the Project Description Statement (PDS) submitted to MEPA on the 25th July, 2013 and the justification for proposal from carrying out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) submitted on 31st July, 2013.

Impatti potenzjali *Potential Impacts*	Rimarki fuq miżuri biex jittaffa l-impatt, eċċ. *Remarks on mitigation measures, etc.*
L-użu tal-art	Il-garaxxijiet proposti, maħsuba biss għall-ħażna tat-tagħmir u vetturi tal-barriera, jinsabu ġewwa barriera eżistenti tal-ġebel tal-franka. L-istrutturi mhumiex previsti li jaqbżu l-livell eżistenti

tat-triq u għalhekk m'hemm l-ebda impatt ambjentali sinifikanti minn perspettiva viżiva. Dan il-proġett, billi huwa wieħed temporanju, mhux qed jitqies li jxekkel ir-restawr aħħari tas-sit lura f'art agrikola (kif approvat fi PA 03834/04). Dan huwa bil-fehma li l-garaxxijiet jintużaw b'konnessjoni mal-attività tal-barriera u jiżżarmaw mal-waqfien tal-estrazzjoni tal-minerali (huwa stmat li l-barriera għandha riżorsa għal madwar 20 sena).

Land use — *The proposed garages, intended solely for the storage of quarrying equipment and vehicles, are located within an operational soft stone quarry. The structures are not envisaged to exceed the existing road level thus there is no significant environmental impacts from a visual point of view. Being temporary, the proposal is not considered to hinder the ultimate restoration of the site back to agricultural land (as approved in PA 03834/04). This is on the understanding that the garages are used in relation to the quarrying activity and are dismantled on cessation of the mineral extraction (estimated quarrying extraction lifetime is c. 20 years).*

Ilma tal-Pjan — Is-sit jinsab f'Żona ta 'Protezzjoni tal-*aquifer* u fil-viċinanza ta' żona fejn jinġabar l-ilma (*Water Catchement Area - South Malta Local Plan Policy SMCO 08*). Matul l-operat, x'aktarx li jiġi ġenerat skart relatat mal-manutenzjoni tal-vetturi u t-tagħmir tal-barrieri maħżuna. Impatti fuq l-*aquifer* se jittaffew permezz ta' miżuri li jinkludi lqugħ u art impermeabbli biex jiġi evitat/jinżamm tixrid aċċidentali. Qed jiġu proposti ġibjuni biex jinġabar l-ilma tal-wiċċ li joriġina mis-sit. Impatti fuq l-*aquifer* mhumiex probabbli li jkunu sinifikanti dment li jittieħdu miżuri kif suppost biex jiġu evitati kwalunkwe effetti negattivi fuq l-ilma tal-pjan.

Groundwater — *The site falls within an Aquifer Protection Zone and in the vicinity of a Water Catchment Area (South Malta Local Plan Policy SMCO 08). During operation, the proposals are likely to generate waste related to the servicing of the stored quarrying vehicles and equipment. Impacts to the aquifer will be mitigated through measures including bunded areas and impervious ground to avoid/contain spillages and accidental leaks. Reservoirs are being proposed to collect surface water runoff originating from the site. Impacts on the aquifer are not likely to be significant as long as measures are duly taken to avoid any likely negative effects on the groundwater.*

Ġestjoni tal-Iskart — Numru ta 'vetturi abbandunati u skart tal-metall huma preżenti fuq is-sit. Dawn joħolqu perikolu ta' tniġġiż partikolarment billi s-sit jinsab f'żona ta' protezzjoni tal-*aquifer*. Dan ikun jeħtieġ rimi xieraq skont il-ligi u f'konformità ma' dikjarazzjoni għall-metodu tat-tindif (*cleaning method statement*). Iż-żewġ proposti m'għandhomx jitqiesu aktar sakemm din id-dikjarazzjoni titwettaq b'mod adegwat għas-sodisfazzjon tal-MEPA.

Waste Management — *A number of abandoned vehicles and scrap metal are present on site, posing a pollution hazard, particularly noting that the site is within an aquifer protection zone. This will require appropriate disposal in accordance with legislation and an approved cleaning method statement. Both proposals shall not be considered further until a cleaning method statement is adequately prepared to MEPA's satisfaction.*

Minkejja dak li jissemma hawn fuq, l-Awtorità ta' Malta dwar l-Ambjent u l-Ippjanar iżżomm id-dritt li titlob lill-applikant li jissottometti informazzjoni oħra kif jista' jkun meħtieg biex tieħu deċiżjoni dwar l-applikazzjoni.

Is-7 ta' Frar, 2014

Notwithstanding the above, the Malta Environmental and Planning Authority reserves the right to request the applicant to submit additional information as may be necessary to determine the application.

7th February, 2014