

Meeting	EIA Public Consultation for EIA Report in relation to the following development permit application: PA 00977/17 - Upgrading of the primary water network between Ta` Qali reservoir, San Gwann reservoir and Pembroke reverse osmosis plant via a proposed underground tunnel. Site at Underground Tunnel Node 1 Attard, Node 2 Naxxar, Part between Mosta (Pantar Area). Nodes 3 & 4 Iklin, Nodes 5, 5b & 6 San Gwann, between Node 6 & 7 Swieqi, Node No.8 through Pembroke to Water Reverse Osmosis Plant off, Triq Il-Mediterran, Pembroke, Malta.
Date	02 nd May 2018
Duration	17:40 – 18:30
Location	Ta' Qali, The National Stadium, Millenium Stand, Trophies Lounge
ERA representatives	Kevin Mercieca (Deputy Director); Josianne Abela Vassallo (Team Manager, EIA); Yves De Blick (Assistant Environment Protection Officer, EIA)
Minutes taken by	Charmaine Zerafa (Administrative Assistant, Environment Assessment Unit)

Mr. Kevin Mercieca opened the meeting giving details about the proposed development which is currently subject to an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) (*PA 00977/17 - Upgrading of the primary water network between Ta` Qali reservoir, San Gwann reservoir and Pembroke reverse osmosis plant via a proposed underground tunnel. Site at Underground Tunnel Node 1 Attard, Node 2 Naxxar, Part between Mosta (Pantar Area). Nodes 3 & 4 Iklin, Nodes 5, 5b & 6 San Gwann, between Node 6 & 7 Swieqi, Node No.8 through Pembroke to Water Reverse Osmosis Plant off, Triq Il-Mediterran, Pembroke, Malta.*)

Details vis-à-vis the purpose of the meeting were provided, in particular that the meeting was part of the EIA process. It was also clarified that this was not the decision-taking meeting but was being held to present the EIA findings and to gather feedback from the public in due time for any relevant considerations to be factored in during the process.

Mr. Sasha Dunlop on behalf of AIS Consultants delivered a presentation explaining the studies carried out as part of the EIA.

Mr. Kevin Mercieca opened the floor for comments after the presentation.

Natalino Bezzina (Civil Protection Department).

Mr. Bezzina enquired with regards to the risks that will be encountered by first responders should an emergency arise during both construction and operation phase. He also asked whether training will be provided to CPD, police and any other emergency entities. With reference to tenders that will be issued, Mr. Bezzina enquired whether these will include the necessary emergency equipment like fire hydrants etc.

Mr. Kevin Mercieca (Environment and Resources Authority).

Mr. Mercieca explained that enquiries raised by CPD are not within the Environment and Resources Authority's remit, in view of the fact that the current process seeks to establish impacts from an environmental point of view. Such issues may be discussed with the Planning Authority when consultation with the Civil Protection Department is carried out.

Perit Mario Balzan (Water Services Corporation).

Perit Balzan on behalf of Water Services Corporation pointed out that tenders are currently being finalized and that one of such tenders will cover health and safety including fire hydrants. A qualified geologist shall be present on site during construction in order to minimize risks. Precautions are being taken into consideration however for the time being it has not been established whether training will be provided. Should the need arise WSC will take this into consideration with all authorities in question.

Mr. Kevin Mercieca closed the meeting by confirming that the points raised have been recorded and noted. He also thanked the participants and invited them to send any further comments, preferably by email to eia.malta@era.org.mt, or by post to 'The Director, Environment and Resources Authority, Hexagon House, Spencer Hill, Marsa', by 09th May 2018.