

# Wes-Kaapse Provinsiale Parlement Western Cape Provincial Parliament IPalamente yePhondo leNtshona Koloni

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#### **MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

# STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

Tuesday 7 June 2022 (at 13:30), Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

#### **PRESENT**

### **Members**

#### **Democratic Alliance**

Bosman, G Botha, LJ Mackenzie, RD (Additional Member) Van der Westhuizen, AP (Chairperson)

### **African National Congress**

Marran, P

#### **Apologies**

Mr SN August, Member (GOOD) Mr A Bredell, Minister of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning

### The following persons were in attendance:

# **Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning**

Mr G Gerber, Head of Department

Mr G Arendse, Chief Director - Environmental Quality

Dr Joy Leaner, Director - Environmental Quality

Ms S Benson, Environmental Officer Control B

Mr B Parker, Environmental Officer Control B

Mr P Harmse, Environmental Officer Control B

### **Western Cape Provincial Parliament**

Ms S Niekerk, Procedural Officer

Ms N Mshumpela, Committee Assistant

Mr S Hassam, Information Technology Assistant

Ms C Morris, Information Technology Assistant

# 1. Opening and welcome

The Chairperson opened the meeting and welcomed the members of the Committee, the departmental officials as well as the officials from the Western Cape Provincial Parliament.

# 2. Briefing by the Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning on Air Quality Management

The Department provided the Committee with an overview of the Air Quality Management Directorate within the Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning. The effect of air quality on human health and the environment was explained and the air quality management systems within a legislative context were highlighted.

Air Quality Planning and Information Management relating to Air Quality Governance, inclusive of oversight in municipalities, was explained as well as Air Regulatory Services with specific reference to the capacity of crematoria during the COVID-19 Pandemic and compliance monitoring and enforcement.

Comparative air quality figures for areas and towns were provided to the Committee as well as the challenges experienced and mitigation measures that were in place.

The Committee deliberated. Numerous issues were raised, including the public consultation process relating to the solid waste plant that was constructed adjacent to a residential area in Worcester, efforts for the limitation of the emission of methane gas at solid waste sites and the capacity within municipalities to compile Air Quality Management Plans and related bylaws.

#### 3. Consideration and adoption of Draft Committee Minutes

The Chairperson submitted the Draft Committee Minutes of 24 May 2022, which were considered and adopted.

#### 4. General

The Chairperson reminded the Committee of the upcoming Committee oversight visit to the Southern Cape that was scheduled to take place on 14 and 15 June 2022. Member Marran raised concern regarding the communication to members that claims for the private use of vehicles on committee visits would no longer be honoured against the Committee's budget and then informed the Committee that, together with the Procedural Officer, he would find an alternative solution in order to attend the Southern Cape visit.

## 5. Closing

The Chairperson expressed his appreciation to the members for their active participation in the meeting and also to the officials for their contribution to the success of the meeting.

Robert harizen
MR AP VAN DER WESTHUIZEN, MPP CHAIRPERSON: STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING
Date:23 June 2022

The meeting adjourned at 15:41.