

xxx April 2026
Nelisiwe Duma
Acting Head: Heath
eThekweni Municipality
9 Archie Gumede Place
Durban
4001

Dear Ms Duma

SUBMISSION IN SUPPORT OF APPLICATION FOR ISSUING A SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES PERMIT IN TERMS OF THE ETHEKWINI MUNICIPALITY: SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES BYLAW 2020 FOR THE SHONGWENI WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY

1. INTRODUCTION

EnviroServ owns and is the licensed operator of the Shongweni landfill site (“the Shongweni site” or “the site”) with Certificate of Registration, Permit No. SAP 3064.

- a.1 This is an application in terms of Section 5(1) of the Scheduled Activities Bylaw of 2020 for the Scheduled Activities Permit (SAP) required to operate the site in terms of the said Bylaw. In accordance with Municipal Notice 63 of 2020, we published our intention to apply for the SAP in an English and isiZulu daily newspaper on 30 March 2026 and copies of these adverts are attached for your attention. The full application document was also published on the EnviroServ website for the duration of the 14-day comments period and was available from 30 March 2026. The public comment period concluded on 13 April 2026. The document remains available on-line and can be accessed via the following link [Shongweni Permit Application - April 2026 | EnviroServ](#)

This application letter, together with the attached application form and supporting documents, should be considered as our formal application for the issuing of the SAP. This will enable eThekweni to decide on the outcome of the application before the expiry of the current SAP on 30 June 2026.

The SAP is required in addition to the waste management license (WML) issued in terms of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (“NEM: WA”), which EnviroServ holds. Said WML was issued by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE) in March 2020.

For the reasons set out fully below, EnviroServ therefore submits that:

- a) It is in the public interest that the SAP is issued so that EnviroServ may continue operations without interruption;
- b) It is in the interest of the greater eThekweni business community that the Shongweni landfill site continues to offer a commercially competitive, highly regulated and compliant hazardous waste management service particularly in the current economically challenging times experienced in our country;
- c) The Shongweni landfill site is the only such facility situated in eThekweni with this unique service offering;
- d) EnviroServ is committed to engaging with our surrounding communities and invests in them in a number of ways:
 - a. Our Enterprise Development programme is geared at empowering up and coming local service providers;
 - b. EnviroServ has a policy aimed at ensuring that local community members are considered first when vacancies become available;
 - c. As part of EnviroServ’s corporate commitment, we support various Socio-Economic Development (SED) projects which address the communities’ needs; and
 - d. Our Skills Development programme has seen the company take over one hundred KZN youths through learnerships in recent years, most of whom are differently abled. The majority of these young people had limited opportunities to improve their circumstances until EnviroServ intervened.
- e) EnviroServ has operated for the preceding 5 (five) years in full compliance with its current SAP issued on 30 June 2021;

- f) EnviroServ believes it is fair and reasonable, based on the information contained in this application, as well as the wealth of information already in the Municipality's possession, that a SAP be granted in line with the relevant by-law detailed in Municipal Notice 63 of 2020;
- g) Not issuing the SAP will impose a legal restriction that prevents the site from accepting waste streams, despite having a valid WML, and increases the risk of illegal dumping occurring with its consequent risks to community health and to the environment;
- h) Not issuing the SAP will exacerbate the risk of hazardous waste having to be transported by road over long distances to alternative disposal sites;
- i) To ensure continued service to our KZN client base of 540 (five hundred and forty) customers, EnviroServ committed significant capital to construct the approved Valley 3 landfill cell. The design, which was approved by DFFE and eThekweni in July 2024, is currently under construction and will realise a further 850,000m³ of airspace for landfilling which equates to 6 (six) years of airspace based on current waste volumes accepted. The construction is well advanced with the first phase having been commissioned in November 2025. The closure of the site due to not receiving the required SAP will result in an incomplete cell and unutilised airspace in a region that is already under severe pressure due to lack of available landfill capacity;
- j) The eThekweni Municipality's own waste management department is one of the KZN client base, having disposed 308,500 tons of waste at Shongweni over the past 3 (three) years and their use of the site remains ongoing.

2. HISTORY OF SUCCESSFUL STP/SAP APPLICATIONS

EnviroServ has since 5 October 2018 operated with strict adherence to various STP/SAPs issued by eThekweni, culminating in the current SAP issued in June 2021 which expires on 31 June 2026. EnviroServ, has accordingly demonstrated over the past 7 (seven) years that it is fully capable of complying with all conditions of the current and previously issued permits.

3. SAP APPLICATION PROCESS AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

With the current SAP approaching its expiration date of 30 June 2026, EnviroServ hereby submits for consideration an application before 30 April 2026.

Please refer to **Section 8** for the required and duly completed application document as prescribed by the Municipality.

We believe our timeous application for the SAP affords you a reasonable opportunity to consider our application before the current SAP expires on 30 June 2026.

4. COMPLIANCE WITH SAP MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

In compliance with the current SAP conditions, the following monitoring and reporting schedule has been adhered to:

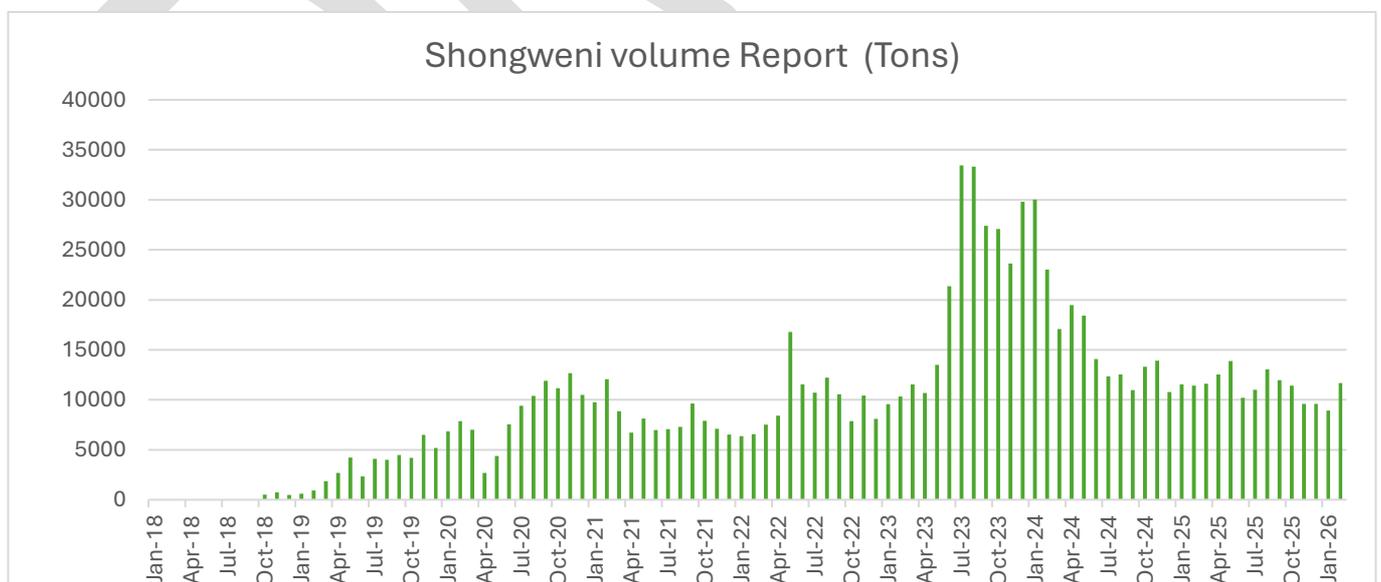
CLAUSE	DESCRIPTION	DUE DATE
DAILY		
3.1	Complaints received on internal lines	Daily when received
MONTHLY		
2.1.2.2.6	Availability and Efficiency of flare	Monthly
2.4.10	Leachate generated and quality report	Monthly
3.2	Complaints received on internal lines consolidated monthly report	Monthly
7.3	Noise complaints	Monthly
BIMONTHLY (every second month)		
2.2.6	Report of daily inventory of waste disposed on site	Every Second Month
2.4.2	Leachate disposed with copies of SDCs	Every Second Month
QUARTERLY		
2.1.1.5	Passive Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Report (Geozone)	Quarterly
2.1.2.1	Bio Filter performance	Quarterly
2.1.2.1.1	Bio Filter efficiency	Quarterly
2.1.2.2.1	Flare and BIDOX performance	Quarterly
2.1.3.2	A full quality assurance report for all monitoring equipment	Quarterly
2.1.3.4	Non-continuous ambient air quality monitoring	Quarterly
2.4.12	Leachate volume generated and disposed report including SDCs	Quarterly
BIANNUALLY		
1.9	Hold Performance Review Meeting	2 x per year
2.1.2.3.1	Report on the operability of all gas extraction wells and associated pipework at review meeting	2 x per year
2.1.3.3	Report on ambient air quality monitoring (presentation at review meeting)	2 x per year
ANNUALLY		
2.1.2.2.3	Conduct Atmospheric Emissions Assessment from flare	Annually

2.1.2.2.5	Submit interpretation of above results including flare maintenance log	Annually
2.1.3.6	Report as required in terms of National Emission Inventory Reporting Regulations	Annually
2.1.3.7	Report as required in terms of National Atmospheric Emission Inventory System	Annually (by March each year)
2.3.1	Copy of (J&W) Water Quality Monitoring Report to Permitting Authority	Annually
5.6	Conduct emergency drill for acute pollution	Annually
ONCE OFF		
1.8	Formulate a 5-year environmental improvement plan	01-Jun-22
2.1.1.4	Amended monitoring protocol for all emissions, (see 2.1.3.1)	31 September 2021
2.1.2.2.10	A reviewed Air Quality Specialist Report pertaining to all abatement systems	31 December 2021 (within 6 months)
2.1.3.1	Develop an ambient air quality monitoring protocol (see 2.1.1.4)	TBD
5.4	Formulate an emergency preparedness plan for acute pollution	TBD
2.4.4	Integrity review of all tanks	30-Jun-22
2.4.5	Develop leak detection and repair programme	30-Jun-22

5. MANAGEMENT OF WASTE

Waste acceptance and disposal is carried out strictly in accordance with the WML issued by DFFE on 26 March 2020. Daily inventories of all waste types and volumes are submitted to the permitting authority on a monthly basis in terms of Clause 2.2.6 of the current SAP. **Figure 1** below summarises the waste tonnages disposed on site.

Figure 1: Volumes disposed



To ensure continued service to our KZN client base of 540 (five hundred and forty) customers, EnviroServ committed significant capital to construct the approved Valley 3 landfill cell. This construction is currently underway and will realise a further 850,000m³ (eight hundred and fifty thousand m³) of airspace for landfilling which equates to 6 (six) years of airspace based on current waste volumes accepted. The construction of the Valley 3 landfill cell is well advanced and the first phase was commissioned in November 2025.

6. MANAGEMENT OF LIQUIDS

Stormwater

All storm water generated on site is separated into clean and contaminated streams, with the clean storm water discharged directly to the environment and the contaminated storm water captured and contained within the built-for-purpose dams on site.

EnviroServ has also introduced Temporary Capping of all non-operational portions of the landfill so as to minimise the infiltration of liquid into the waste body thus reducing leachate production, as well as reducing contaminated stormwater by keeping all stormwater runoff separated from waste, thereby reducing volumes of contaminated stormwater requiring treatment. The success of this system is evidenced by the reduction of volumes of effluent on site requiring processing and treatment and minimizes the risk of spill events during extreme rainfall events.

The contaminated storm water that is generated is tested to ensure compliance with specified limits and then ultimately transported to the Council's SWWTW for discharge.

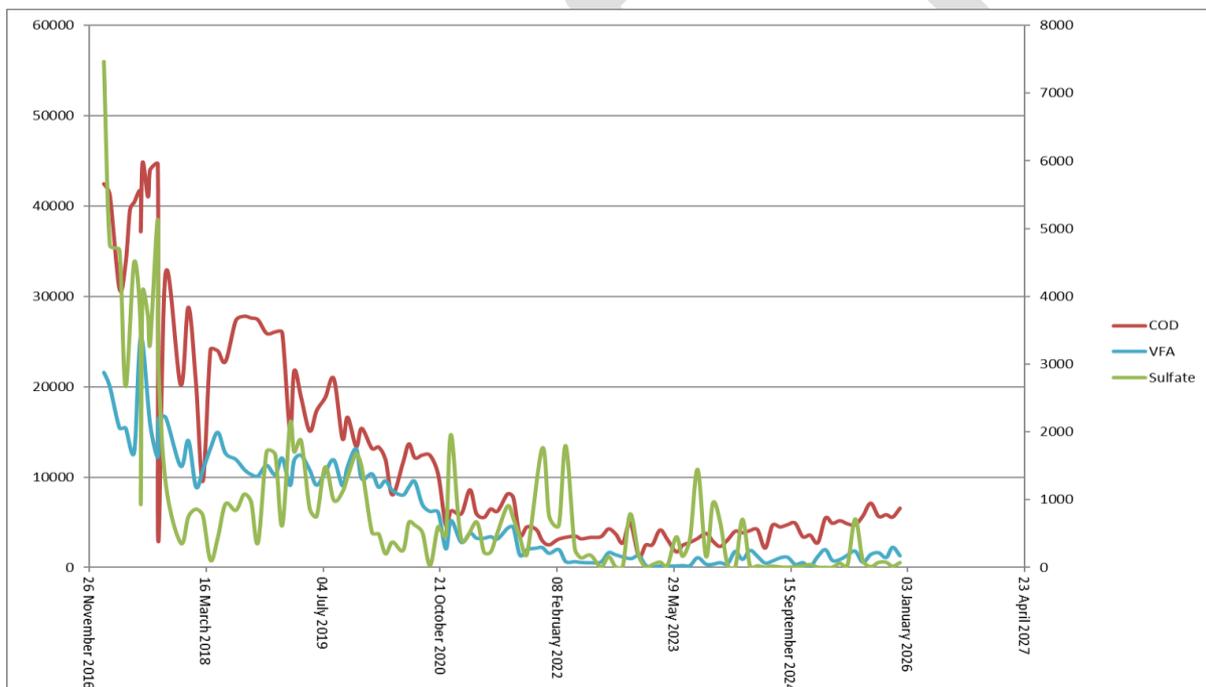
The discharge permit has recently (1 February 2026) been extended for 12 (twelve) months due to the continued compliance of the storm water discharged there. A copy of the renewed discharge permit is attached as **Section 18**.

Leachate

The leachate quality from Valley 2 has significantly improved as seen in Fig 2. below. Leachate quality monitoring done at Valley 2 since 2016 indicates a continued progression and stabilisation during the

methanogenic phase of landfill degradation experienced at the site. Analytical results show consistently low and stable concentrations of volatile fatty acids (VFAs), alongside reduced and steady chemical oxygen demand (COD) levels, demonstrating effective conversion of intermediate organic acids to methane. In addition, sulfate concentrations remain stable, reflecting limited sulfate reduction competition and balanced anaerobic conditions. Collectively, the sustained reduction in readily biodegradable compounds and the stabilisation of key leachate parameters confirm that the landfill remains firmly within the methanogenesis phase. EnviroServ does operate an onsite leachate treatment plant (LTP), using UF and RO membrane technology, to treat all leachate generated on site.

Figure 2: Valley 2 – Leachate Quality Results

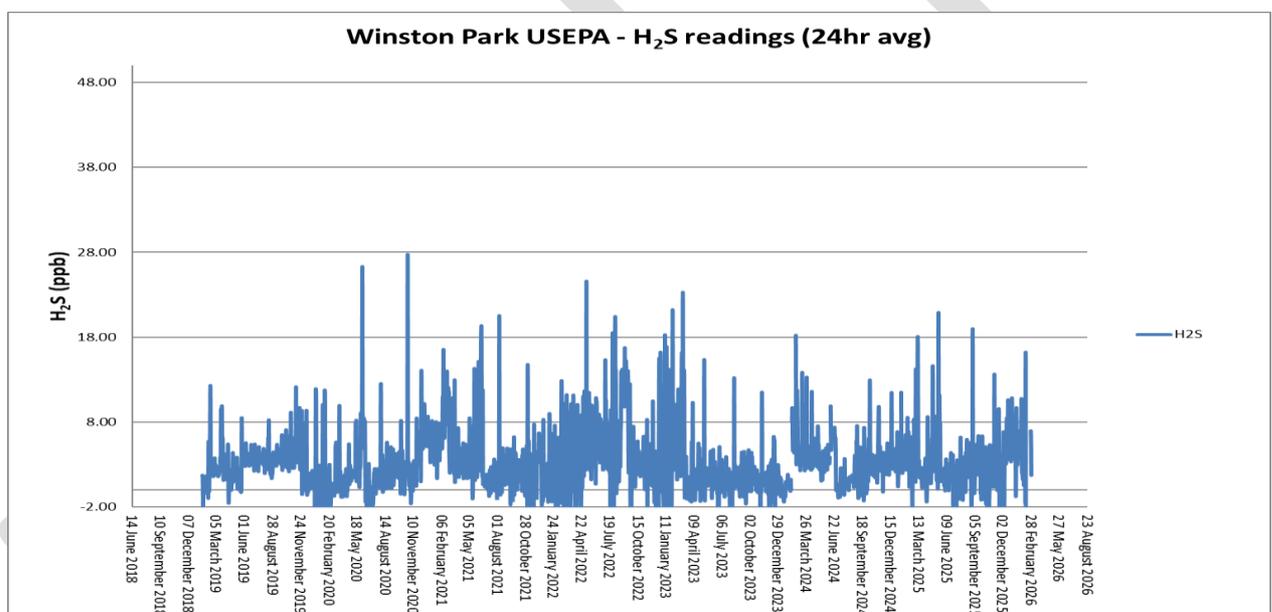


7. AMBIENT AIR QUALITY MONITORING

In recent years, EnviroServ has expanded its ambient air quality monitoring network to facilitate the monitoring of the ongoing operations as well as monitor the effectiveness of the completed remediation plan linked to historic odour events. The monitoring includes:

- a) EnviroServ installed a US EPA approved monitor (Serinus_SL-51) at Shongweni on 23 August 2017 to monitor H₂S (hydrogen sulfide) emissions, this being the only significant pollutant identified by INFOTOX in their review of the site that can be associated with odour complaints relating to Shongweni. This instrument was relocated on 19 January 2019 to a site in the Winston Park community as approved by eThekweni Health to provide accurate and credible data on ambient levels of H₂S in the UHA community. It has been operating continuously since installation at the approved site and full access to the instrument and its data has been granted to eThekweni Health and DFFE officials. Records show that H₂S measured has averaged <5ppb since 2019 (see Fig. 3 below).

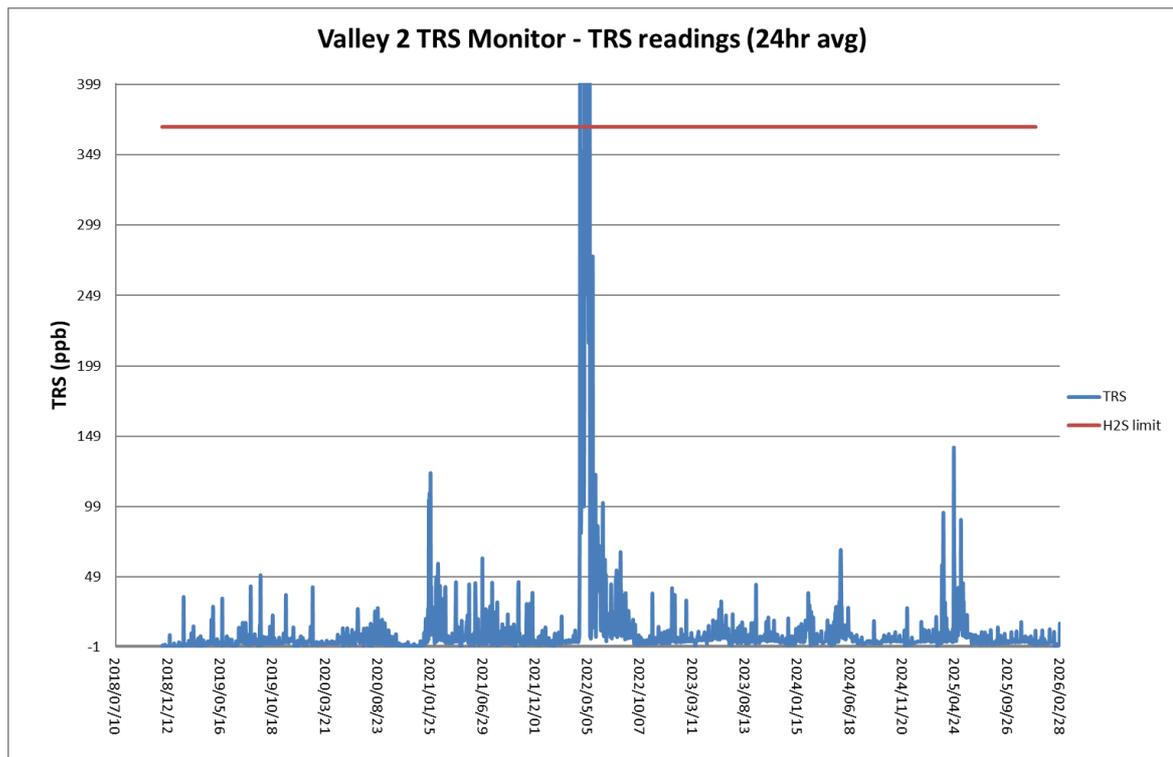
Figure 3: USEPA monitor – Serinus H₂S (Winston Park)



- b) A US EPA approved instrument (Teledyne TRS) was installed at Shongweni to replace the relocated Serinus_SL-51 monitor and reveals the relevant H₂S emission levels, as measured on-site at Shongweni at Valley 2 (adjacent to the contaminated storm water dam), to be orders of magnitude below the 369ppb (as a 24-hour average) value calculated by Airshed to have a <2% chance of exiting Shongweni's buffer zone at any significant concentration (see Fig. 4). The H₂S has averaged <10ppb since August 2018.

The Teledyne TRS measures total reduced sulfur (TRS) and not just H₂S. The monitor is thus able to measure the total sulfide species including odorous mercaptans as well as H₂

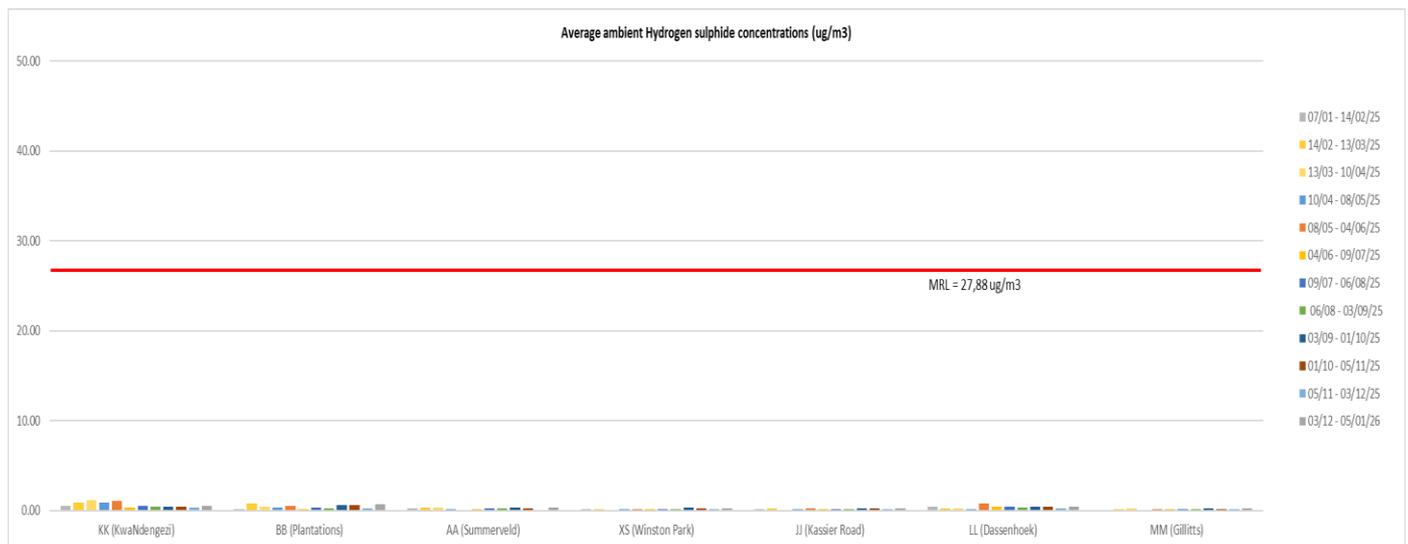
Figure 4: H₂S - Teledyne TRS monitor (Valley 2 Shongweni)



The data above clearly demonstrates that the mitigation measures implemented by EnviroServ at Shongweni have been successful in controlling fugitive H₂S emissions on site and that the “*containment of odours that are likely to be a nuisance*” has been successful.

- c) Geozone Environmental (Geozone) conducts ambient air sampling at selected locations on the Shongweni landfill site and within the surrounding residential areas. This sampling was performed in order to “*quantitatively measure ambient average concentrations of selected airborne contaminants and compare the results to relevant local / international ambient air quality reference standards*”. A Radiello passive sampler network monitors H₂S levels at 6 (six) offsite locations in the nearby residential areas. The levels recorded at these monitoring stations continue to show very low levels of H₂S which are well below the WHO and MRL limits (see Fig. 5 below).

Figure 5: Radiello Measurements at offsite Locations



Operations of the gas extraction, treatment and flare system

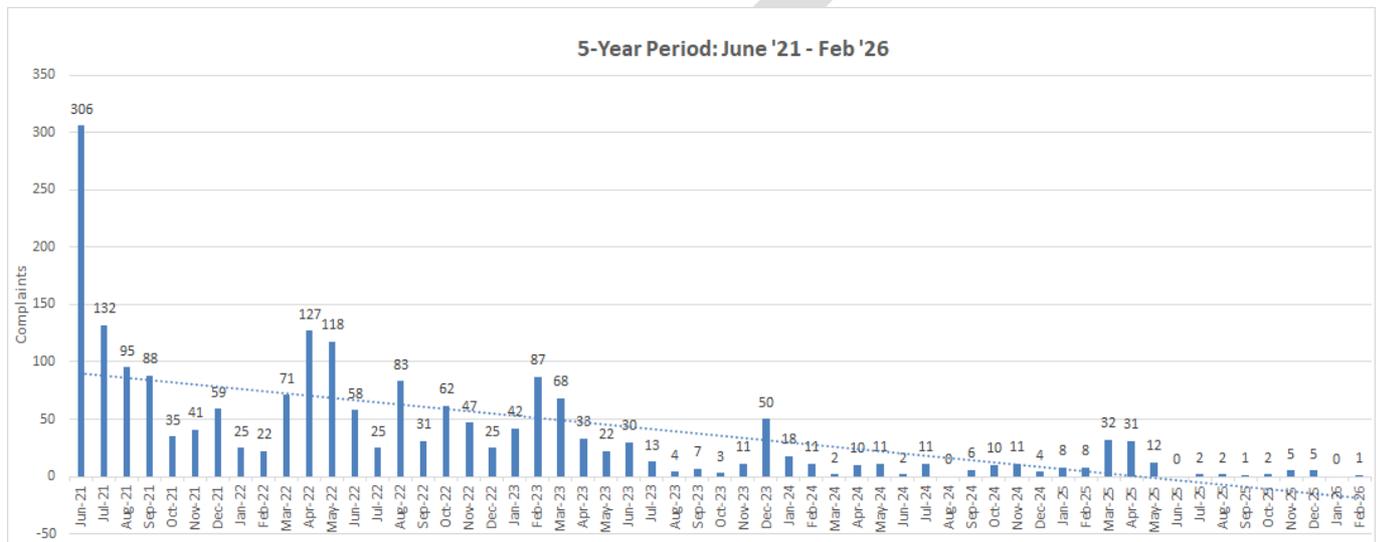
A suitable gas extraction and treatment solution was developed and installed to mitigate the potential for odorous H₂S emissions from Shongweni and has been in operation since September 2017. The LFG extraction and treatment system consists of:

- 6 (six) vertical wells and a stone drainage layer gas extraction system to extract the LFG consisting of methane (CH₄), carbon dioxide (CO₂) and hydrogen sulfide (H₂S).
- Biofilters to treat the extracted gas from the covered leachate storage tanks and reduce the H₂S content prior to thermal destruction.
- A BIDOX, H₂S biological scrubber to reduce the H₂S content in the extracted LFG prior to thermal destruction in a suitable flare.
- A permanent low calorific flare to thermally destroy the methane (CH₄) and hydrogen sulfide (H₂S).

Complaints

All odour related complaints received by EnviroServ with respect to the Shongweni site are investigated, and monthly reports in this regard are submitted to eThekweni Health. A significant reduction in complaints can be seen in Fig. 6 below.

Figure 6: Valley 2 – Complaints log per month



8. COMMUNITY INTERACTIONS

EnviroServ conducts various listed activities at its Shongweni facility. To ensure that local community stakeholders are updated on site activities and included in possible opportunities, the company has numerous formal and informal engagements with surrounding communities. These include:

a) *The Shongweni Monitoring Committee*

The Shongweni Monitoring Committee meeting, as a requirement of the waste management license (WML) issued by the DFFE, meets at least once every six months (ie. twice a year) and is attended by various interested and affected parties made up of more than 30 (thirty) Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), Community Based Organisations (CBOs) and Authority Representatives (viz. eThekweni Municipality; Department of Water and Sanitation; Provincial Environment; and DFFE). The meetings are facilitated and chaired by an independent Chairperson that was democratically elected by members of the Committee at a meeting held on

21 September 2017. Please refer to **Section 28** for a copy of the minutes of the Monitoring Committee meeting held on 20 November 2025.

- b) *Regular meetings* are held with local traditional leaders, community leaders, various community groups and other members of the community.
- c) EnviroServ's *Enterprise Development programme* is geared at empowering up and coming local service providers. At the Shongweni landfill site in particular, services such as catering, maintenance, plant and equipment, alien plant eradication, transport, photography, grass cutting, etc. are procured from local service providers. In recent years, no fewer than 10 (ten) procurement opportunities, including strategic contracts, have been awarded to SMMEs within previously disadvantaged communities located closest to the Shongweni site.
- d) In addition to the above, EnviroServ has a policy aimed at ensuring that *local community* members are considered first when *vacancies* are available. During the past six years, approximately two hundred (200) community members have been employed on various projects undertaken at the site. Some community members have secured permanent employment at our other facilities within KwaZulu-Natal.
- e) As part of EnviroServ's corporate commitment, we also support various *Socio-Economic Development (SED)* projects that address the communities' needs. We support clinics, NGOs, as well as schools (by providing uniforms to underprivileged learners). At Ecgekeni Primary School, we collaborated with the school management to address classroom shortages. As a result of our intervention, the school now has a state-of-the-art kitchen to support the government's school feeding programme.
- f) Our *Skills Development programme* has seen the company take over 100 (one hundred) youths through learnerships in recent years, most of whom are persons with disabilities. The majority of these young people had very limited opportunities to improve their circumstances until EnviroServ intervened.
- g) To ensure ongoing engagement between EnviroServ and local communities, we have appointed 3 (three) dedicated SMMEs: Amaphisi in Kwandengesi (Ward 12), Masogenyeza in Ward 7, and NWQKAGCWABE in Ward 4. These companies focus on maintaining a direct link between the company and the communities. The owners are local residents who understand community dynamics and idiosyncrasies, ensuring that communities are fully included and informed. EnviroServ itself is located within Ward 7.

9. IMPLICATIONS OF SAP NOT BEING ISSUED

If the SAP were not to be issued, a number of socio-economic implications would arise:

- a) The site would be forced to stop accepting waste, and the board of EnviroServ would face the likely decision of having to close the site, and consequently the KwaZulu-Natal division of the company. The alternative, which will prevent job losses and permit EnviroServ to continue to provide a vital service to the community, is for the SAP to be renewed and for EnviroServ to continue to manage the site under the supervision of both eThekweni and DFFE.
- b) Should the Shongweni site permanently close, 290 (two hundred and ninety) direct jobs are expected to be lost in the region and it is highly unlikely that the employees made redundant could be absorbed into other EnviroServ operations across the country.
- c) Suppliers who currently provide services to EnviroServ in respect of the Shongweni site will lose their current revenue associated with this operation.
- d) EnviroServ is invested in our surrounding communities and this will no longer be possible. This will include:
 - a. Loss of our Enterprise Development programme which is geared at empowering up and coming local service providers;
 - b. EnviroServ will no longer employ from the local communities;
 - c. EnviroServ will no longer support Socio-Economic Development (SED) projects in these communities; and
 - d. The surrounding communities will no longer benefit from our Skills Development programme.
- e) The closure of the site would result in the loss of training and upskilling of staff and would also cause the loss of corporate social investment in the surrounding community.
- f) To ensure continued service to our KZN client base of 540 (five hundred and forty) customers, EnviroServ committed significant capital to construct the approved Valley 3 landfill cell. Phase 1 was approved by DFFE for the commencement of landfilling operations in November 2025. The construction of Phase 2 and 3 is ongoing and will realise a total of 850,000m³ of airspace for landfilling, which equates to 6 (six) years of airspace based on current waste volumes accepted. The construction of the Valley 3 cell is well advanced, and Phase 1 was commissioned in November 2025. The closure of the site will result in an incomplete cell and unutilised airspace in a region that is already under severe pressure due to lack of available landfill capacity.
- g) The closure of EnviroServ KZN operations would be extremely detrimental to waste management in the region as other waste disposal companies, including eThekweni's waste management

services whom have, in the past 3 (three) years disposed of 308,500 tons of waste to the site, are not able to offer alternative services, resulting in capacity issues in dealing with the waste that is produced in the region.

- h) EnviroServ, its customers, and the broader KwaZulu-Natal economy will be severely prejudiced if the SAP is not issued.

10. CONCLUSION

Based on the information contained in this submission, and given the continued improvement shown on the site, as well as the ongoing compliance with the existing SAP, EnviroServ believes it has made out a good case for eThekweni to issue a new SAP for the site. This is particularly so, in circumstances where:

- a) The site has and continues to operate efficiently and effectively and in compliance with all relevant legislation and the overriding Waste Management Licence (WML) as evidenced by the latest Independent External Compliance audit attached in **Section 27**;
- b) EnviroServ has complied fully with the existing SAP;
- c) The closure of the site will have a substantial negative effect on employment and many of EnviroServ's eThekweni stakeholders;
- d) Should the permit not be issued, there is now more than ever an increased risk of illegal dumping occurring as waste generators using the Shongweni landfill have no local alternative, particularly with the closure of Marianhill, the City's only other disposal facility in the Western region;
- e) It is in the public interest that the SAP be issued to ensure continued operations and associated improvements;
- f) EnviroServ offers a licenced essential service; and
- g) The balance of interest favours the issuing of the SAP.

Yours faithfully

Esme Gombault

Acting Chief Executive Officer

On behalf of EnviroServ Waste Management (Pty) Ltd