

## GENERAL NOTICE 697 OF 2025

**NOTIFICATION: ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION APPLICATION PROCESS**

Aqua Farming (Pty) Ltd (hereafter referred to as the applicant) has appointed Environmental Impact Management Services (Pty) Ltd (EIMS) as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to assist with undertaking the required authorisation processes (including the statutory public participation), and to compile and submit the required documentation.

<b>Applicant:</b>	<b>Aqua Farming (Pty)</b>
<b>Application/s:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Environmental Authorisation (EA) in accordance with the National Environmental Management Act, NEMA (Act 107 of 1998- as amended), GNR984,2014 (Listing Notice 2) and GNR985, 2014 (Listing Notice 3).</li> <li>Water Use Licence (WUL) for various relevant water uses in accordance with the National Water Act – NWA (Act 36 of 1998).</li> </ul> <p>Additional activities to be applied for may be raised and will be confirmed during the process.</p>
<b>Activity</b>	The applicant wishes to develop pivot irrigation systems for the cultivation of seed potatoes, potatoes, onions, and various grass-feed crops. The development of these pivots will occur in phases/seasons over the course of 7 years. With each phase/season, approximately 175 Ha will be cleared for the pivots. Therefore, after approximately 7 years a total of 1050 Ha will have been cleared. The total area that will need to be assessed in support of the Environmental Authorisation application for the project is 1800 ha. Additionally, Aqua Farming wishes to build a buffer dam as a reservoir for irrigation water with a capacity of approximately 50 000 m <sup>3</sup> of water. This water will be sourced from the Vaal River. The current existing water use license will need to be amended accordingly.
<b>Location:</b>	The proposed project is located approximately 20 km North from Kimberley, on the Remainder of the Farm Bulpan 51, the Remainder of the Farm Witpan 52, Portion 2 of the Farm Eerste Aan Leg 50 and a section of Portion 16 of the Farm Droogfontein 62, in the Sol Plaatje Local Municipality, Frances Baard District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

EIMS will be following the procedures defined in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (GRN982 of 2014, as amended) for undertaking a Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Water Use Licence Application (WULA) process. In accordance with Chapter 6 of the EIA Regulations, a public participation process will be undertaken. You are hereby invited to register and comment on the proposed project and application/s. By registering as an interested and affected party you consent to the collection and processing of your personal information as per the EIMS Privacy Notice available at [www.eims.co.za/public-participation](http://www.eims.co.za/public-participation). In order to avoid missing out on opportunities for public participation please submit I&AP registrations, or any queries, comments, or concerns with regards to this application, as soon as possible to EIMS at:

Contact Person: Alex Msipa  
 EIMS Reference Number: 1680  
 Postal Address: P.O. Box 2083; Pinegowrie; 2123  
 Telephone: (011) 789 7170/ Fax: (086) 571 9047  
 E-mail: [aqua@eims.co.za](mailto:aqua@eims.co.za)



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Please include the project reference number **1680** in all correspondence.

Further information will be available at [www.eims.co.za/public-participation/](http://www.eims.co.za/public-participation/). Please note that in the event that you are unable to access the website due to data constraints please contact EIMS for alternative arrangements.

**KENNISGEWING: OMGEWINGSMAGTIGING AANSOEKPROSES**

Aqua Farming (Edms) Bpk (hierna die aansoeker genoem) het Environmental Impact Management Services (Edms) Bpk (EIMS) as die Omgewingsevalueringspraktisyn (EAP) aangestel om te help met die onderneem van die vereiste magtigingsprosesse (insluitend die statutêre openbare deelname), en om die vereiste dokumentasie saam te stel en in te dien.

<b>Aansoeker</b>	<b>Aqua Farming (Pty)</b>
<b>Aansoek/s:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Omgewingsmagtiging (EA) in ooreenstemming met die Nasionale Omgewingsbestuurswet, NEMA (Wet 107 van 1998- soos gewysig), GNR984,2014 (Noteringskennisgewing 2) en GNR985, 2014 (Noteringskennisgewing 3).</li> <li>Watergebruiklisensie (WUL) vir verskeie relevante watergebruike in ooreenstemming met die Nasionale Waterwet – NWA (Wet 36 van 1998).</li> </ul> <p>Bykomende aktiwiteite waarvoor aansoek gedoen moet word, kan geïdentifiseer word en sal tydens die proses bevestig word.</p>
<b>Aktiwiteit</b>	<p>Die aansoeker wil spilpuntbesproeiingstelsels ontwikkel vir die verbouing van moere, aartappels, uie en verskeie grasvoergewasse. Die ontwikkeling van hierdie spilpunte sal in fases/seisoene oor die loop van 7 jaar plaasvind. Met elke fase/seisoen sal ongeveer 175 Ha vir die spilpunte ontwikkel word. Die totale oppervlakte wat dus verwyder sal word oor die loop van 7 jaar sal 1050 Ha wees. Die totale oppervlakte wat geassesseer sal word ter ondersteuning van die Omgewingsmagtigingsaansoek vir die projek is 1800 ha. Daarbenewens wil Aqua Farming 'n bufferdam bou as 'n reservoir vir besproeiingswater met 'n kapasiteit van ongeveer 50 000 m3 water. Hierdie water sal uit die Vaalrivier verkry word. Die huidige bestaande watergebruiklisensie sal dienooreenkomstig gewysig moet word.</p>
<b>Liggings:</b>	<p>Die voorgestelde projek is geleë ongeveer 20 km Noord vanaf Kimberley, op Plase Bulpan 51 res van gedeelte, Witpan 52 res van gedeelte, Eerste Aan Leg 50 gedeelte 2, en Droogfontein 62, 'n afdeling van gedeelte 16, in die Sol Plaatje Plaaslike Munisipaliteit, Frances Baard Distriksmunisipaliteit, Noord-Kaapprovinsie. .</p>

EIMS sal die prosedures volg soos omskryf in die Omgewingsimpakbepaling (OIE) Regulasies (GRN982 van 2014, soos gewysig) vir die onderneem van 'n Omvang- en Omgewingsimpakstudie (OIE) en Watergebruiklisensie Aansoek (WULA) proses. In ooreenstemming met Hoofstuk 6 van die OIB-regulasies, sal 'n openbare deelnameproses onderneem word. U word hiermee uitgenooi om te registreer en kommentaar te lewer op die voorgestelde projek en aansoek/s. Deur te registreer as 'n belanghebbende en geaffekteerde party stem jy in tot die versameling en verwerking van jou persoonlike inligting soos per die EIMS Privaatheidskennisgewing beskikbaar by [www.eims.co.za/public-participation](http://www.eims.co.za/public-participation). Om te verhoed dat geleenthede vir publieke deelname misgeloop word, dien asseblief B&GP-registrasies, of enige navrae, kommentaar of bekommernisse met betrekking tot hierdie aansoek, so gou moontlik in by EIMS by:

Kontak persoon: Alex Msipa  
 EIMS Verwysingsnommer: 1680  
 Posadres: Posbus 2083; Pinegowrie; 2123  
 Telefoon: (011) 789 7170/ Fax: (086) 571 9047  
 E-pos: [aqua@eims.co.za](mailto:aqua@eims.co.za)



Skandeer Hier



Sluit asseblief die projekverwysingsnommer 1680 by alle korrespondensie in.

Verdere inligting sal beskikbaar wees by [www.eims.co.za/public-participation/](http://www.eims.co.za/public-participation/). Neem asseblief kennis dat in die geval dat jy weens databeperkings nie toegang tot die webwerf kan kry nie, kontak asseblief EIMS vir alternatiewe reëlings.

**KITSISO: TSAMAIISO YA KOPO YA TETEELELO YA TIKOLOGO**

Aqua Farming (Pty) Ltd (e morago ga fa e bidiwang mokopi) e tlhomile Ditirelo tsa Taolo ya Diphelelo tsa Tikologo (Pty) Ltd (EIMS) jaaka Modiri wa Tlathlholo ya Tikologo (EAP) go thusa ka go dira dithulaganyo tse di tlhokegang tsa tetla (go akaretsa le go kokoanya ditokomane tse di tlhokegang tsa semolao le go tsaya karolo ga setšhaba.

**Moikopedi:** Aqua Farming (Pty)

**Dikopo:**

- Tumelelo ya Tikologo (EA) go ya ka Molao wa Bosetšhaba wa Taolo ya Tikologo, NEMA (Molao 107 wa 1998- jaaka o baakantswe), GNR984, 2014 (Kitsiso ya Lenaane 2) le GNR985, 2014 (Kitsiso ya Lenaane 3).
- Laesense ya Tiriso ya Metsi (WUL) ya tiriso e e farologaneng ya metsi e e maleba go ya ka Molao wa Bosetšhaba wa Metsi – NWA (Molao 36 wa 1998).

Ditiro tse dingwe tse di tshwanetseng go kopiwa di ka tlhagisiwa mme di tla netefadiwa ka nako ya thulaganyo.

**Tirwana:**

Moikopedi o eletsa go dira dithulaganyo tsa go nosetsa tsa pivot tsa go jala ditapole tsa peo, ditapole, dieiye, le dijalo tse di farologaneng tse di fepiwang ka bojang. Tlhabololo ya dipivot tse e tla diragala ka dikgato/dipaka mo tsamaong ya dingwaga di le (supa) 7yrs. Ka legato/paka nngwe le nngwe, go tlaa tlholwa di-pivot di ka nna 175 Ha. Palogotlhe ya kgaolo e e tlaa phimolwang mo tsamaong ya dingwaga di le 7 e tlaa nna 1050 Ha. Palogotlhe ya kgaolo e e tla tlhokang go sekasekwa go tshhegetsa kopo ya Thebolo ya Tikologo ya porojeke ke diheketara di le 1800. Mo godimo ga moo, Aqua Farming e batla go aga letamo le le tla bolokang metsi a a dirisediwa go nosetsa ka selekanyo sa metsi a le 50 000 m3. Metsi ano a tla tswa mo Nokeng ya Vaal. Dilaesense tse di leng teng tsa go dirisa metsi di tla tlhoka go fetolwa go ya ka seemo.

**Lefelo:**

Porojeke e e tshitshintsweng e fitlhelwa mo e ka nnang dikhilomitara di le 20 kwa Bokone go tswa kwa Kimberley, mo Dipolaseng Bulpan 51 masalela a karolo, Witpan 52 masalela a karolo, Eerste Aan Leg 50 karolo 2, le Droogfontein 62 dikarolo 16, mo Mmassepaling wa Selegae wa Sol Plaatje Fora, Porofense ya Kapa Bokone.

EIMS e tla latela ditsamaiso tse di tlhalositsweng mo Melawaneng ya Tlathlholo ya Ditlamorago mo Tikologong (EIA) (GRN982 ya 2014, jaaka e tlhabolotswe) go dira Tlathlholo ya Ditlamorago mo Tikologong (EIA) le Tsamaiso ya Kopo ya Laesense ya Tiriso ya Metsi (WULA). Go ya ka Kgaolo 6 ya Melawana ya EIA, go tla dirwa thulaganyo ya go nna le seabe ga setšhaba. O lalediwa go ikwadisa le go akgela ka porojeke e e tshisintsweng le dikopo. Ka go ikwadisa jaaka motho yo o nang le kgatlhego le yo o amegang o dumela go kokoanngwa le go dirisiwa ga tshedimosetso ya gago ya poraefete go ya ka Kitsiso ya Sephiri ya EIMS e e leng teng mo go [www.eims.co.za/public-participation](http://www.eims.co.za/public-participation). Go tla go latlhegelwa ke ditšhono tsa go tsaya karolo ga setšhaba tsweetswee romela ikwadiso ya I&AP, kgotsa dipotso dipe, ditshwaelo, kgotsa matshwenyego mabapi le kopo eno, ka bonako jo bo kgonegang kwa EIMS mo go:

Motho yo o ka ikgolaganyang le ene: Alex Msipa  
 Nomoro ya Tshupetso ya EIMS: 1680  
 Aterese ya Poso: P.O. Box 2083; Pinetown; 2123  
 Mogala: (011) 789 7170/ Fax: (086) 571 9047  
 Imeile: [aqua@eims.co.za](mailto:aqua@eims.co.za)



Sekena Fa



Tsweetswee akaretsa nomoro ya tshupetso ya porojeke ya **1680** mo makwalong otlhe.

Tshedimosetso e nngwe e tla nna teng mo go [www.eims.co.za/public-participation/](http://www.eims.co.za/public-participation/). Tsweetswee ela tlhoko gore mo tiragalong ya fa o sa kgone go tsena mo webosaeteng ka ntlha ya mathata a tshedimosetso tsweetswee ikgolaganye le EIMS go bona dithulaganyo tse dingwe





Itumeleng Bendow Machabe was convicted in the Northern Cape High Court this week on multiple charges, including rape, murder, child pornography, fraud, extortion and crimen injuria.

Community members and GBVF groups are calling for a harsh sentence for murder accused Itumeleng Machabe.



Pictures: Sandi Kwon Hoo

# Cyberbully guilty of child rape, murder

SANDI KWON HOO  
SANDI.KWONHOO@AMC.CO.ZA

CYBERBULLY Itumeleng Bendow Machabe, 37, was found guilty of the rape and murder of 11-year-old Relebogile Segami, as well as enticing young girls to share naked pictures that were exchanged on WhatsApp and Facebook.

Machabe was convicted on 18 out of a total of 19 charges in the Northern Cape High Court on February 12, including raping three minors between the ages of 13-15 years old, extortion, fraud, crimen injuria and child pornography.

Relebogile had followed the accused after he promised to give her R20. She was strangled to death, and her body was discarded in the veld behind the Northern Cape Provincial Legislature in March 2022.

Machabe lured his victims through a fake Facebook account and posted explicit videos and their nude full-body pictures. He also blackmailed his victims by threatening to post their naked images on social media.

He pretended to be a 16-year-old, gay female who purported to be attending Christian Brothers College or Northern Cape Technical High School.

Machabe maintained that he had consensual sexual intercourse with his victims and claimed that someone had changed his password on Facebook.

He stated that his cellphone was damaged after it fell into the water and blamed his girlfriend for refusing to return his cellphone after discovering that he was communicating with his "other girlfriends".

State advocate Elmari Kruger told the court on Wednesday this week that Segami's family was left devastated and heartbroken.

"Her sister Refilwe was the last family member to see Relebogile alive. Their mother is suffering from depression and is taking medication. She indicated that she does not have the mental strength to deal with Refilwe's angry outbursts. Her family is still struggling to deal with her death," said Kruger.

She stated that the court had a responsibility to deal harshly with acts of gender-based violence and femicide.

"Relebogile was killed in a heinous manner, where her body was dumped in the veld. Society is outraged over what happened."

Kruger pointed out that Machabe had inflicted deep psychological scars on traumatised teenagers, who became suicidal and depressed.

"The 13-year-old girl was familiar with the accused and was a virgin prior to being raped. The case dragged on for two years and she failed her grades. The traumatic incident stole two years of her life. She was still very emotional when she testified, even though the incident happened 11 years ago.

"They (the young victims) were embarrassed and hid themselves from the rest of the world, out of fear that people would recognise them from their naked pictures. They related that they would never have befriended the accused on Facebook had they known that he was an adult male."

She added that Machabe threatened to expose a 15-year-old girl's naked pictures to her friends – who had abandoned her and treated her like an outcast.

"Her identity was used to lure more victims. She cries every day and tried to take her own life by overdosing on her mother's diabetes medication. She harmed herself by cutting herself with razor blades. She was bullied on social media and was afraid that the accused would target more girls through the use of her identity."

Kruger said a 15-year-old complainant felt ashamed after the accused threatened to make her naked pictures "go viral" if she failed to send him a lewd video of herself inserting a pencil into her anus.

"The complainant was not able to go through with it. She felt like a failure and was worried that someone would see the video."

Kruger stated that another complainant, who was 14 years old at the time of the incident, had also tried to commit suicide.

"She failed matric as she was not able to attend classes for three years and lost her self-confidence. She feared that people would recognise her from the naked pictures. She took Allergex pills in order to sleep at night. After she fell pregnant, she was worried that her daughter would suffer the same fate. She questions the motives of anyone who professes their love for her."

Kruger revealed that another 15-year-old girl was "slapped into submission" by Machabe, who threatened to kill her if she told anyone that he had forced her to have oral and anal sex with him.

"She suffered painful injuries and was assaulted when she refused to co-operate when he urinated in her mouth."

Kruger pointed out that many of the offences carried minimum sentences of life imprisonment.

Machabe's legal representative, advocate Sakkie Nel, requested the court to consider that his client was young and was capable of being rehabilitated.

"Since 2013, there have been no convictions against him. He is a first-offender and is too young to spend his life in prison," said Nel.

Judge Cecile Williams believed that Machabe was a "dishonest and unreliable" witness who fabricated evidence.

"There is a pattern in the manner in which he approached his young victims," she noted.

She also pointed out that Machabe had raped and murdered Relebogile after he had been released on bail. "She knew the accused and trusted him."

Williams noted that the post-mortem results indicated that Relebogile was a virgin before she was raped.

She also indicated that the injuries suffered by the complainants were not consistent with consensual sexual intercourse.

"The family of one of the complainants decided to withdraw the charges of rape as the case was dragging on. The complainant did not wish to be subjected to the trauma of testifying. Her teachers were also complaining that she was missing classes as she had to frequently attend court," Williams said.

Sentencing is expected to be handed down on February 18.

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**Applicant:** Aqua Farming (Pty)

- Application/s:**
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**Activity:** The applicant wishes to develop pivot irrigation systems for the cultivation of seed potatoes, potatoes, onions, and various grass-feed crops. The development of these pivots will occur in phases/seasons over the course of 7 years. With each phase/season, approximately 175 Ha will be cleared for the pivots. Therefore, after approximately 7 years a total of 1050 Ha will have been cleared. The total area that will need to be assessed in support of the Environmental Authorisation application for the project is 1800 ha. Additionally, Aqua Farming wishes to build a buffer dam as a reservoir for irrigation water with a capacity of approximately 50 000 m3 of water. This water will be sourced from the Vaal River. The current existing water use license will need to be amended accordingly.

**Location:** The proposed project is located approximately 20 km North from Kimberley, on the Remainder of the Farm Bulpán 51, the Remainder of the Farm Witpan 52, Portion 2 of the Farm Eerste Aan Leg 50 and a section of Portion 16 of the Farm Droogfontein 62, in the Sol Plaatje Local Municipality, Frances Baard District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

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ACM/410892



# Justice served: Conviction brings some closure in child rape, murder case

"We are deeply grateful for the fair and just judgment rendered by the honourable court,

"The overwhelming support shown for the victims and the public uproar, demonstrate how evil deeds disturb the lives of victims as well as the wider community," he concluded.



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## KITSISO: TSAMAIISO YA KOPO YA TETELELO YA TIKOLOGO

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**Moikopedi: Aqua Farming (Pty)**

Dikopo:

- Tumelelo ya Tikologo (EA) go ya ka Molao wa Bosetšhaba wa Taolo ya Tikologo, NEMA (Molao 107 wa 1998- jaaka o baakantswe), GNR984,2014 (Kitsiso ya Lenaane 2) le GNR985, 2014 (Kitsiso ya Lenaane 3).
- Laesense ya Tiriso ya Metsi (WUL) ya tiriso e e farologaneng ya metsi e e maleba go ya ka Molao wa Bosetšhaba wa Metsi – NWA (Molao 36 wa 1998).

Di tiro tse dingwe tse di tshwanetseng go kopiwa di ka tlhagisiwa mme di tla netefadiwa ka nako ya thulaganyo.

**Tirwana:**

Moikopedi o eletsa go dira dithulaganyo tsa go nosetsa tsa pivot tsa go jala ditapole tsa peo, ditapole, dieiye, le dijalo tse di farologaneng tse di fepiwang ka bojang. Tlhabololo ya dipivot tse e tla diragala ka dikgato/dipaka mo tsamaong ya dingwaga di le (supa) 7yrs. Ka legato/paka nngwe le nngwe, go tlaa tlholwa di-pivot di ka nna 175 Ha. Palogotlhe ya kgaolo e e tlaa phimolwang mo tsamaong ya dingwaga di le 7 e tlaa nna 1050 Ha. Palogotlhe ya kgaolo e e tla tlhokang go sekasekwa go tshegetsatsa kopo ya Thebolo ya Tikologo ya porojeke ke diheketera di le 1800. Mo godimo ga moo, Aqua Farming e batla go aga letamo le le tla bolokang metsi a a dirisediwa go nosetsa ka selekanyo sa metsi a le 50 000 m3. Metsi ano a tla tswa mo Nokeng ya Vaal. Dilaesense tse di leng teng tsa go dirisa metsi di tla tlhoka go fetolwa go ya ka seemo.

**Lefelo:**

Porojeke e e tshitshintsweng e fitlhelwa mo e ka nnang dikhilomitara di le 20 kwa Bokone go tswa kwa Kimberley, mo Dipolaseng Bulpan 51 masalela a karolo, Witpan 52 masalela a karolo, Eerste Aan Leg 50 karolo 2, le Droogfontein 62 dikarolo 16, mo Mmasepaleng wa Selegae wa Sol Plaatje Fora, Porofense ya Kapa Bokone.

EIMS e tla latela ditsamaiso tse di tihalositsweng mo Melawaneng ya Tlathlthobo ya Ditlamorago mo Tikologong (EIA) (GRN982 ya 2014, jaaka e tihabolotswe) go dira Tlathlthobo ya Ditlamorago mo Tikologong (EIA) le Tsamaiso ya Kopo ya Laesense ya Tiriso ya Metsi (WULA). Go ya ka Kgaolo 6 ya Melawana ya EIA, go tla dirwa thulaganyo ya go nna le seabe ga setshaba. O lalediswa go ikwadisa le go akgela ka poroje e e tshisintsweng le dikopo. **Ka go ikwadisa jaaka motho yo o nang le kgatlhego le yo o amegang o dumela go kokoanngwa le go dirisiwa ga tshedimosetso ya gago ya poraefete go ya ka Kitsiso ya Sephiri ya EIMS e e leng teng mo go [www.eims.co.za/public-participation](http://www.eims.co.za/public-participation).** Go tla go latlhegelwa ke ditshono tsa go tsaya karolo ga setshaba tseweetswee romela ikwadiso ya l&AP, kgotsa dipotso dipe, ditshwaelo, kgotsa matshwenyego mabapi le kopo eno, ka bonako jo bo kgonegang kwa EIMS mo go:

Motho yo o ka ikgolaganyang le ene: Alex Msipa  
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## Sekena Fa



Tsweetswee akaretsa nomoro ya tshupetso ya porojeke ya **1680** mo makwalong otlhe.

Tshedimosetso e nngwe e tla nna teng mo go [www.eims.co.za/public-participation/](http://www.eims.co.za/public-participation/). Tsweetswee ela tlhoko gore mo tiragalong ya fa o sa kgone go tsena mo webosaeteng ka ntlha ya mathata a tshedimosetso tsweetswee ikgolaganye le EIMS go bona dithulaganyo tse dingwe



# Victory and vengeance at the red light

GREY MUTTER BY  
LANCE FREDERICKS

LAST week I came to realise how much I love to break the law. Oh, for the record, the word “love” above is the only tribute there will be to Valentine’s Day, so you’re welcome.

Back to my life of crime: I was on my lunch break from work and at a supermarket to get a few things. I was in a bit of a hurry and, as a result, I decided to venture into a life of crime.

I deliberately pushed my shopping cart with 11 items to the express checkout, fully aware that what I was doing was downright evil!

Pulse racing, I eyed the exits and formulated my escape plan for the coming pursuit, sizing up the security guard and making a note that he seemed athletic, but was wearing formal shoes ... I was wearing my running shoes, and had done two squats earlier that morning. This was going to be an easy getaway.

Imagine my disappointment when the young lady at the till scanned my items without protest. I was especially disappointed in the people behind me in the queue who never shamed me for breaking protocol.

I was also miffed at the store’s management, because they never even set up their tills to sound an alarm, or buzzer with flashing lights when the 11th item was



South African drivers frequently express their frustration at the way some minibus taxi drivers conduct themselves on our cities’ and country’s roads. File Picture: Armand Hough, Independent Newspapers

scanned, just to shame transgressors.

They made crime easy ... and now I am wondering what my next caper should be.

As an aside, I once witnessed a woman, here in Kimberley, who pushed an overflowing shopping cart to the 10-item till. On that occasion the cashier did protest, saying that it’s unfair to the other customers.

The woman didn’t flinch. “You can scan my items 10 at a time, and I will pay for each batch,” she said matter-of-factly, as the rest of us in the queue fumed silently.

We tend to do that in South Africa – be silently frustrated.

However, seeing as I had earned outlaw status, I took a different approach, when I had a hostile confrontation with none other than one of those dreaded ‘law-unto-themselves’ minibus-taxi drivers.

Here’s my version of how it unfolded: On this day, I came up behind two minibuses at a red traffic light. One taxi opened its doors and five people disembarked just as the light turned green. The passengers then walked over to the second taxi and started boarding.

I was behind this second taxi, and I rolled my eyes as I remarked to my passengers, “Gee whizz, they don’t even use their ‘hazards’ any more.”

Now it happened that the passengers took so long to board that by the time they were all seated, the light had turned red again. Finally, the light turned green and the taxi door opened and a few passengers started to disembark. I shook my head in disbelief.

Now I wasn’t in a hurry, frustrated or angry at this. I had good music playing on my sound system, my aircon made the car rather pleasant and I had loads of time on my hands. But I decided to have some fun.

I hooted. But not just a ‘beep’. I laid on the hooter, sending out the longest honk that my car ever emitted – at least 10 seconds long.

The disembarking passengers angrily gesticulated at me, but I was in good spirits. I winked, smiled and waved at them.

Then the driver inched forward, and waited just across the barrier line, waiting for the light to turn red, so that he could punish me for my impudence.

What he did not know is that I have been driving for 40 years, and have owned my car for over a decade, so I know a few tricks ... I wiggled free from the spite trap and easily zoomed past him.

Now I was ahead of him.

There was another traffic light just ahead, and revenge was on the menu.

Relax ... the revenge I meted out was showing this young, immature, proud person that our city’s roads are not a battlefield where we compete for ascendancy, but a common area where we need to learn to co-operate, be kind, courteous and accommodating so that everyone feels valued and, above all, safe.

When the light turned green, I proceeded on my way without the slightest delay, knowing that in his vehicle were at least 20 people who were depending on him to get them to their destination safely and quickly.

The point of me just letting his inconsiderate, rude, bad behaviour slide – and I can only pray that the driver somehow got the message – is that I believe that if someone offends you, and you retaliate in like manner, this probably means that you find their behaviour acceptable and worth emulating.

After all, if you didn’t, you would react differently, in a way that YOU believe is acceptable.

So by just driving on and getting on with my day, I was trying to demonstrate a better way of human interaction to that young man. After all, though we can do nothing to change someone else’s character and attitude, our choices are solely within our control.

## SPU students protest as unpaid fees soar to nearly R80 million

SOL PLAATJE University (SPU) said it was not in a position to offer free tertiary education, while students owe nearly R80 million in unpaid fees.

Students set tyres alight outside Sol Plaatje University Square on Wednesday, demanding free tertiary education, more funded student accommodation, fairer debt repayment policies, and increased financial support.

“We are prepared to take a stand and occupy the university premises. We will sleep on the premises if necessary, just like other varsity students did, to highlight the harsh reality that many of us face. We have no accommodation, no financial support and no access to education,” the embattled students stated.

Sol Plaatje University director of institutional advancement Kashini Maistry said about 60 students blocked access points on Wednesday.

“There were no reports of intimidation or damage to university property. The entrances were reopened by the University Campus Security,” said Maistry.

She stated that as of January 31, about 250 students had made payments, including new students who were required to make upfront payments.

Maistry explained that SPU students with historical debt were mainly unfunded students and not National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) beneficiaries.

“Of these, 934 undergraduate students owe a total of R65.2 million in outstanding fees and 435 postgraduate students owe R14.4 million in debt.”

She said that students were demanding to register for the 2025 academic year without making any payment toward their existing debt.

“It is financially unsustainable for higher education institutions to provide free education.”

Maistry said that university man-

agement, together with the student representative council, had agreed to allow indebted students to register for the 2025 academic year.

“Students owing up to R25,000 who were previously registered in 2024 will be required to sign an acknowledgment of debt and proceed with registration.

“Students owing more than R25,001 who were previously registered in 2024 will be expected to reduce their debt to R25,000 and must sign an acknowledgement of debt before registration.”

She added that exceptional cases would be considered by the university on a case-by-case basis through the Financial Aid and Scholarships Appeals Committee.

“The university is committed to assisting students who do not have funding through various initiatives. The university will cover the tuition fees for undergraduate students who pass all subjects on their first attempt. This assistance is designed to ensure that eligible students are not hindered by financial constraints, provided they maintain academic excellence.”

Maistry indicated that postgraduate students who achieved an average pass rate of 65 percent would be assisted with their tuition fees in recognition of their academic performance.

“Postgraduate students can also approach the National Research Foundation for further assistance.

“The Student Graduate Fund assists final-year undergraduate students who meet the eligibility criteria. The fund aims to assist with financial barriers that might prevent them from completing their studies.”

She added that the university was also engaging with donors to assist in clearing the historic debt of final-year undergraduate students or recent graduates within their catchment areas.

SANDI KWON HOO

### KENNISGEWING: OMGEWINGSMAGTIGING AANSOEKPROSES

Aqua Farming (Edms) Bpk (hierna die aansoeker genoem) het Environmental Impact Management Services (Edms) Bpk (EIMS) as die Omgewingevalueringspraktisyn (EAP) aangestel om te help met die onderneem van die vereiste magtigingsprosesse (insluitend die statutêre openbare deelname), en om die vereiste dokumentasie saam te stel en in te dien.

Aansoeker	Aqua Farming (Pty)
Aansoek/s:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Omgewingsmagtiging (EA) in ooreenstemming met die Nasionale Omgewingsbestuurswet, NEMA (Wet 107 van 1998- soos gewysig), GNR984,2014 (Noteringskennisgewing 2) en GNR985, 2014 (Noteringskennisgewing 3).</li><li>Watergebruiklisensie (WUL) vir verskeie relevante watergebruike in ooreenstemming met die Nasionale Waterwet – NWA (Wet 36 van 1998).</li></ul>
Bykomende aktiwiteite waarvoor aansoek gedoen moet word, kan geïdentifiseer word en sal tydens die proses bevestig word.	

**Aktiwiteit:** Die aansoeker wil spilpuntbesproeiingstelsels ontwikkel vir die verbouing van moere, aartappels, uie en verskeie grasvoergewasse. Die ontwikkeling van hierdie spilpunte sal in fases/seisoene oor die loop van 7 jaar plaasvind. Met elke fase/seisoen sal ongeveer 175 Ha vir die spilpunte ontwikkel word. Die totale oppervlakte wat dus verwyder sal word oor die loop van 7 jaar sal 1050 Ha wees. Die totale oppervlakte wat geassesseer sal word ter ondersteuning van die Omgewingsmagtigingsaansoek vir die projek is 1800 ha. Daarbenewens wil Aqua Farming ‘n bufferdam bou as ‘n reservoir vir besproeiingswater met ‘n kapasiteit van ongeveer 50 000 m3 water. Hierdie water sal uit die Vaalrivier verkry word. Die huidige bestaande watergebruiklisensie sal dienoreenkomstig gewysig moet word.

**Liggings:** Die voorgestelde projek is geleë ongeveer 20 km Noord vanaf Kimberley, op Plase Bulpan 51 res van gedeelte, Witpan 52 res van gedeelte, Eerste Aan Leg 50 gedeelte 2, en Droogfontein 62, ‘n afdeling van gedeelte 16, in die Sol Plaatje Plaaslike Munisipaliteit, Frances Baard Distriksmunisipaliteit, Noord-Kaaprovinsie..

EIMS sal die prosedures volg soos omskryf in die Omgewingsimpakbepaling (OIE) Regulasies (GRN982 van 2014, soos gewysig) vir die onderneem van ‘n Omvang- en Omgewingsimpakstudie (OIE) en Watergebruiklisensie Aansoek (WULA) proses. In ooreenstemming met Hoofstuk 6 van die OIB-regulasies, sal ‘n openbare deelnameproses onderneem word. **U word hiermee uitgenooi om te registreer en kommentaar te lewer op die voorgestelde projek en aansoek/s. Deur te registreer as ‘n belanghebbende en geaffekteerde party stem jy in tot die versameling en verwerking van jou persoonlike inligting soos per die EIMS Privaatheidskennisgewing beskikbaar by [www.eims.co.za/public-participation](http://www.eims.co.za/public-participation).** Om te verhoed dat geleenthede vir publieke deelname misgeloop word, dien asseblief B&GP-registrasies, of enige navrae, kommentaar of bekommernisse met betrekking tot hierdie aansoek, so gou moontlik in by EIMS by:

Kontak persoon: Alex Msipa  
EIMS Verwysingsnommer: 1680  
Posadres: Posbus 2083; Pinetown; 2123  
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Skandeer Hier

Sluit asseblief die projekverwysingsnommer 1680 by alle korrespondensie in.

Verdere inligting sal beskikbaar wees by [www.eims.co.za/public-participation/](http://www.eims.co.za/public-participation/). Neem asseblief kennis dat in die geval dat jy weens databeperkings nie toegang tot die webwerf kan kry nie, kontak asseblief EIMS vir alternatiewe reëlings.