

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT BY-LAWS

Be it enacted by the Council of the Ulundi Municipality, and approval of the Member of the Executive Council responsible for local government in terms of section 156 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa Act, 1996 (Act No. 108 of 1996), read with section 11 of the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act, 2000 (Act No. 32 of 2000) as follows:

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CHAPTER 1

DEFINITIONS

Definitions

1. In this bylaw, unless the context indicates otherwise—

"Council" means the Council of the Ulundi Municipality;

"non-stormwater discharge" means any discharge into the stormwater system which is not composed entirely of stormwater;

"occupier", in relation to any premises, means any person –

(a) occupying the premises;

(b) leasing the premises; or

(c) who is not occupying the premises but is entitled to do so;

"owner", in relation to any premises, means –

(a) the person in whose name the title to the premises is registered; or

(b) if the person referred to in (a) is dead, insolvent, mentally ill, a minor or under any legal disability, the executor, guardian or other person who is legally responsible for administering that person's estate;

"premises" means any privately-owned land or land on which buildings or other structures are situated;

"stormwater" means any storm water runoff, surface water runoff, sub-soil or spring water;

"stormwater drain" means any closed or open drain used or intended to be used for carrying stormwater within any premises to the stormwater system; and

"stormwater system" means the system of conduits, the ownership of which is vested in the Council, and which is used or intended to be used for collecting and carrying stormwater, including without limiting the generality of the foregoing, any road with a drainage system and any gutter, curb, inlet, piped storm drain, pumping facility, retention or detention basin, drainage channel, reservoir or other drainage structure.

CHAPTER 2

PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES

Unauthorized discharge

2.(1) Subject to subsection (2), no person shall, without the prior written consent of the Council, which consent may be conditional or unconditional, directly or indirectly lead or discharge any non-stormwater discharge into the stormwater system without the prior authority of the Council.

(2) Nothing prevents the discharge into the stormwater system of flow from -

- (a) potable water sources;
- (b) natural springs or wetlands;
- (c) diverted streams;
- (d) rising groundwater;
- (e) fire fighting activities;
- (f) individual residential car washing;
- (g) swimming pools, provided that the water has been allowed to stand for one week prior to draining and the pool is drained in such a way as not to cause a nuisance; and
- (h) street sweeping.

Unauthorized connection

3. No person shall construct, use, allow, maintain or continue any unauthorized drain or conveyance which allows discharge into the stormwater sewer.

Obstruction of flow

4. No person shall obstruct or interfere with the normal flow of stormwater into, through or out of the stormwater sewer without the prior written approval of the Council.

CHAPTER 3

SUSPENSION OF ACCESS AND NOTIFICATION

Suspension of access

5.(1) The Council may issue a notice suspending access to the stormwater system when such suspension is necessary to stop an actual or threatened discharge of any pollutants that presents imminent risk of harm to the public health, safety, welfare or the environment.

(2) In the event that any owner or occupier fails to comply with a suspension notice, the Council may, at the cost of the owner or occupier of the premises, as the case may be, take all reasonable steps required to prevent or minimize harm to the public health, safety or the environment.

Notification of spills

6. As soon as the owner or occupier of any premises becomes aware of any discharge of any pollutants into the stormwater system, the owner or occupier shall -

(1) take all immediate steps necessary to ensure containment and cleanup of the discharge;

(2) notify the Council as soon as reasonably possible of the discharge.

CHAPTER 4

CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE

Construction and maintenance of storm water drains and connections

7. The owner or occupier, as the case may be, of any premises shall be responsible for the construction and maintenance, at his or her expense of any stormwater drains on the premises and any connection between such drains and the stormwater system.

CHAPTER 5

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Offences

8. Any person who -

- (a) contravenes or fails to comply with any provisions of these by-laws;
- (b) fails to comply with any notice issued in terms of these by-laws;
- (c) fails to comply with any lawful instruction given in terms of these by-laws; or
- (d) obstructs or hinders any authorized official in the execution of his or her duties under these by-laws –

shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding R5 000 or imprisonment for a period not exceeding 3 months or both.

Repeal of existing by-laws

9. The Council's existing Stormwater Management by-laws are hereby repealed.

Short title and commencement

10. These by-laws shall be called the Stormwater Management By-laws, 2010/2011 and shall come into operation on 01 January 2010