

# Stephanie Gopaul

Principal Consultant

Stephanie Gopaul is a Principal Consultant within ERM, based in Durban, South Africa. Upon obtaining a science degree in engineering and environmental geology, and Masters in Environmental Management, she was employed by the eThekweni Municipality in the air pollution division. Thereafter, Stephanie served at GCS (Pty) LTD as an Environmental Scientist before joining ERM.

Her fields of expertise include environmental authorisation processes (i.e. Basic Assessments, Environmental Impact Assessments, Environmental Management Plans, Integrated Water Use License, Integrated Water and Waste Management Plans in terms of South African environmental legislation and IFC performance standards). Additionally, Stephanie has experience in closure planning and costing, environmental auditing, due diligence, feasibility studies and environmental risk assessments.

Stephanie has managed projects for a number of public and private sector clients in the oil and gas, power utilities, renewable energy, industrial, mining and transport sectors. Her particular focus and area of expertise is in the South African market where she has managed various large-scale, multi-disciplinary and complex projects for companies including Shell, Sasol, Afrox, De Beers, Kangra Coal, Forbes Coal, Bidvest Tank Terminals, Vopak, etc.



**Experience:** 13 years' experience in environmental permitting, environmental management and project management

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## Education

- Masters in Environmental Management, University of the Free State, South Africa, 2012
- BSc Environmental and Engineering Geology, University of KwaZulu Natal, South Africa, 2005

## Professional Affiliations and Registrations

- IAIA SA

## Languages

- English, native speaker

## Fields of Competence

- Environmental Impact Assessments/ Basic Assessments,
- Environmental Management Programmes,
- Environmental audits and due diligence
- Waste Management Licenses
- Integrated Water Use License Applications
- Integrated Water and Waste Management Plans (IWWMP)
- Environmental legal assessments
- Environmental compliance monitoring
- Mining and prospecting right applications
- Public/ stakeholder consultation and participation
- Mine closure and closure cost estimations

## Key Industry Sectors

- Oil and Gas
- Manufacturing
- Chemicals
- Mining

### Other Education

- Water Quality Monitoring Short Course – GCS
- Environmental Impact Assessment Training 3-day Course – Metamorphosis Environmental Consultants
- Intermediate/ Advanced Excel – ExecuTrain
- Conflict resolution (Elsie Van Der Merwe)
- Project Management – University of the Free State
- Hazardous Waste Course – Institute of Waste Management of Southern Africa (IWMSA)
- Environmental Managers as Leaders, Managers and Change Masters – University of the Free State
- First Aid – Titan Medical
- Defensive Driving Course – MasterDrive

## Key Projects

### **Project Caterpillar Audit, Arista Environmental Audit, 2018**

Review of the formal and informal management systems, mechanisms, policies and procedures in place for the management of EHS issues at the Sites, including organization, objectives, targets, training, performance monitoring and auditing, and staffing, including use of contractors.

- Review of EHS capital expenditure (CapEx) plans.
- Review of sustainability issues in the Supply Chain.
- A review of integrated environmental permitting requirements, conditions and improvement programmes, as applicable.
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- A review of emissions to air (both point-source and fugitive) from the site, focusing on demonstration of compliance with the permit and abatement measures required to achieve compliance with current or anticipated future permit/ license/ consent conditions.
- A review of direct risks in relation to climate change regulation, such as emissions trading programmes and other climate change related regulations and taxes.
- Review of wastewater sources, treatment and discharge (including storm water, process wastewater and domestic / sanitary wastewater) together with a demonstration of compliance with permit/ consent conditions.
- Review of processes for the handling and storage of liquid and solid hazardous raw materials, intermediates and products.
- Review of principal waste types (hazardous and non-hazardous, liquid and solid), storage, handling and disposal practices (current and former, on-site and off-site), and a review of waste documentation and permitting.
- Summary of the results of the most recent external audits or inspections (e.g. by regulatory agencies, fire authorities, customers/clients, insurers etc) and

status of outstanding recommendations and their associated cost implications.

### **Jwaneng Mine Cut 9 Feasibility, Debswana, 2018**

*Project Co-ordinator/ Manager*

Responsibilities included managing the project from a schedule and financial perspective. Additional tasks included updating the Mine Closure (including rehabilitation) Plan as well as the Closure Cost Valuation and associated report.

### **Polihali Reservoir and Associated Infrastructure, (Lesotho), Lesotho Highlands Development Agency, 2018**

*Assistant Project Manager*

Responsibilities include input into the Inception Report, co-ordination of specialists in terms of field visits and their reporting, compilation of the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment and Environmental Management Plan.

### **Venetia Mine Waste Management Licence, De Beers, 2015-2017**

*Project Manager*

Responsibilities included managing the Waste Management Licence in terms of specialists' co-ordination, public consultation, client liaison, report compilation and all financial aspects.

### **Voorspoed Mine Closure SIA, De Beers, 2017**

*Project Manager*

Responsibilities included managing the project from a schedule and financial perspective. Additional tasks included compiling the environmental baseline and impact assessment.

### **On-Land Early Power Project, Department of Energy, South Africa, 2016**

*Project Consultant*

Responsibilities include compilation of the application form, Scoping Reports, EIA and EMPs for this Gas to Power Project, located in Richards Bay, KwaZulu Natal.

**Floating Power Plant Project, Department of Energy, South Africa, 2016**

*Project Consultant*

Responsibilities include compilation of the application form, Scoping Reports, EIA and EMPs for this Gas to Power Project, located in Richards Bay, KwaZulu Natal.

**Terminal Screening/ Scoping and EIA, Globeleq, South Africa, 2016 - ongoing**

*Project Consultant*

Responsibilities include compilation of the application form, Scoping Reports, EIA and EMPs for this Gas to Power Project, located in Richards Bay, KwaZulu Natal.

**Environmental Compliance Audit, Leggett and Platt Inc., 2018**

*Project Consultant*

I conducted an environmental compliance assessment at the L&P Springs Stanger facility, which included an evaluation of the facility's compliance with the national and local environmental requirements and practices. Environmental topics reviewed included environmental permitting, air quality, waste materials management, water management (supply, storage release), wastewater management, storage tank systems, PCBs, asbestos; and ozone depleting substances.

**Shell Gess Programme, Shell, South Africa, 2013 - ongoing**

*Project Manager*

Responsibilities included managing various (ERM has been awarded over 400 to date) Shell Gess projects including Environmental Licensing, Environmental Audits and Waste Management Licenses in terms of specialists co-ordination, public consultation, client liaison, report compilation and all financial aspects. List of selected Projects include:

- Alberton Water Use License;
- Assegai Motors Environmental Audit and EMP;
- Bailey and Maile EMP;
- Bargain Wholesalers EMP;
- Bayhead Road Compliance Motivation;
- Beverly Service Station Basic Assessment Process;

- Breede Valley Decommissioning Basic Assessment and ECO Audits;
- Caledon Depot Basic Assessment;
- Combined Transport Section 30 Application;
- Cosmo City Basic Assessment Process;
- Davenport Service Station Compliance Audit;
- Diepsloot Basic Assessment Process;
- Five Star Service Station Compliance Audit;
- Glebe Service Station Compliance Audit and ECO;
- Key Delta Basic Assessment Process and ECO;
- Mondi Basic Assessment Process and ECO;
- Montrose Service Station ECO;
- Masakhane Basic Assessment Process and ECO;
- Ntokozweni EMP and ECO;
- Philani Valley EMP and ECO;
- Quatro EMP;
- Summit Road Basic Assessment Process;
- Willie Street Basic Assessment Process;
- Witbank WULA;
- Mvoti Service Station WULA;
- Umfula Motors Basic Assessment Process.

**Vopak Growth 4 Basic Assessment, Vopak terminal, South Africa, 2017**

*Project Manager*

Responsibilities included managing the project in terms of processes co-ordination, authority and public consultation, specialist's co-ordination, report compilation and financial aspects.

**Kroonstad Terminal ECO, Chevron, South Africa, 2015**

*Project Manager*

Responsibilities included coordinating the monthly ECO site visits, reviewing the monthly environmental compliance audits and overseeing the compilation and submission of the annual compliance report.

**Alrode Terminal ECO, Chevron, South Africa, 2015**

*Project Manager*

Responsibilities included coordinating the monthly ECO site visits, reviewing the monthly environmental

compliance audits and overseeing the compilation and submission of the annual compliance report.

**Alrode Depot Basic Assessment, Chevron, South Africa, 2015**

*Project Manager*

Responsibilities included coordinating the project, reviewing the reports and overseeing the compilation and submission of the reports.

**Bakubung Platinum Mine Conceptual Closure Plan, Wesizwe Platinum Limited, 2015**

*Project Consultant*

Compiled the Closure Plan for the Bakubung Platinum Mine located on the Western Limb of the Bushveld Igneous Complex, north of Rustenburg in the North West Province of South Africa. This Closure Plan has been defined to meet South Africa's regulatory requirements for mine closure.

**Marampa 9 ESIA, Sierra Leone, London Mining Plc., 2013- 2014**

*Project Consultant*

Responsibilities included managing the project in terms of specialist's co-ordination, and financial aspects.

**IPP Floating Power Plant, Department of Energy, South Africa, 2016 - ongoing**

*Project Consultant*

Responsibilities include compilation of the application form, Scoping Reports, EIA and EMPs for this Gas to Power Project, located in the Port of Richards Bay, KwaZulu Natal.

**On-Land Early Power Project, Department of Energy, South Africa, 2016**

*Project Consultant*

Responsibilities include compilation of the application form, Scoping Reports, EIA and EMPs for this Gas to Power Project, located in Richards Bay, KwaZulu Natal.

**Floating Power Plant Project, Department of Energy, South Africa, 2016**

*Project Consultant*

Responsibilities include compilation of the application form, Scoping Reports, EIA and EMPs for this Gas to Power Project, located in Richards Bay, KwaZulu Natal.

**Terminal Screening/ Scoping and EIA, Globeleq, South Africa, 2016 - ongoing**

*Project Consultant*

Responsibilities include compilation of the application form, Scoping Reports, EIA and EMPs for this Gas to Power Project, located in Richards Bay, KwaZulu Natal.

**Mageza Feasibility and Conceptual Remedial Design, Sasol Oil, South Africa, 2014**

*Project Manager*

Responsibilities included managing and compiling a feasibility assessment and conceptual remedial design for the Mageza Filling Station based on the concept and associated costs of using wetlands for the removal of contamination.

**AFROX CIBE, AFROX, South Africa, 2013- 2014**

*Project Manager*

Responsibilities included managing the project in terms of coordinating specialists, holding public consultation, acting as client liaison, report compilation and managing all financial aspects.

**Teranga Mine Closure Plan, Teranga Gold Corporation, 2015**

*Project Consultant*

Assisted in the compilation of the Mine Closure Framework and Mine Closure Plan in English for the Sabodala Gold Mine and regional exploration located in Senegal. The final documents were translated to French and submitted to the Government of the Republic of Senegal. This Closure Plan has been defined to meet Senegal's regulatory requirements, Teranga's Canadian- based principles and IFC standards for mine closure.

**APPENDIX 6  
DECLARATION OF THE EAP**

I, Stephanie Gopaul, declare that –

- I act as the independent environmental assessment practitioner in this application;
- I have expertise in conducting environmental impact assessments, including knowledge of the Act, Regulations and any guidelines that have relevance to the proposed activity;
- I will comply with the Act, Regulations and all other applicable legislation;
- I will perform the work relating to the application in an objective manner, even if this results in views and findings that are not favourable to the applicant;
- I will take into account, to the extent possible, the matters listed in Regulation 14 of the Regulations when preparing the application and any report relating to the application;
- I undertake to disclose to the applicant and the Competent Authority all material information in my possession that reasonably has or may have the potential of influencing - any decision to be taken with respect to the application by the Competent Authority; and - the objectivity of any report, plan or document to be prepared by myself for submission to the Competent Authority, unless access to that information is protected by law, in which case it will be indicated that such information exists and will be provided to the Competent Authority;
- I will perform all obligations as expected from an environmental assessment practitioner in terms of the Regulations; and
- I am aware of what constitutes an offence in terms of Regulation 48 and that a person convicted of an offence in terms of Regulation 48(1) is liable to the penalties as contemplated in Section 49B of the Act.

**Disclosure of Vested Interest (delete whichever is not applicable)**

- I do not have and will not have any vested interest (either business, financial, personal or other) in the proposed activity proceeding other than remuneration for work performed in terms of the Regulations;
- ~~I have a vested interest in the proposed activity proceeding, such vested interest being:~~



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Signature of the environmental assessment practitioner

Environmental Resource Management