



National Environment Management Authority Popo Road, off Mombasa Road

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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC TO SUBMIT COMMENTS ON AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT STUDY REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED THIKA SANITATION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT IN THIKA (AREA SERVED BY THIKA WATER AND SEWERAGE COMPANY), KIAMBU COUNTY

Pursuant to Regulation 21 of the Environmental Management and Coordination (Impact Assessment and Audit) Regulations, 2003, the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) has received an Environmental Impact Assessment Study Report for the above proposed project.

The Proponent, Athi Water Services Board, is proposing to rehabilitate and expand Thika Sanitation Project. The project will comprise 3No. STPs, 2No. New treatment works, waste water treatment plant, sludge digester, sludge thickener, extension and upgrading of the existing sewer network, 12No. Ablution blocks, water point and water storage facilities and other associated facilities and amenities in the area covered by Thika Water and Sewerage Company in Thika, Kiambu County.

The following are the anticipated impacts and proposed mitigation measures:

IMPACTS	PROPOSED MITIGATION MEASURES
Air Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comply with the provisions of EMCA 2015 (Air Quality Regulations 2014); All construction machinery shall be maintained and serviced in accordance with the contractor's specifications; Water sprays shall be used on all earth-works areas within 200 m of human settlement especially during the dry season; Earth moving be done under dump conditions as much as possible to prevent emission of dust in to the air;
Noise and excessive vibrations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure appropriate covering/ventilation of the pre-treatment unit. Comply with provisions of EMCA 2015 (Noise and Excessive Vibrations Regulations of 2009); The Contractor will keep noise level within acceptable limits Construction activities shall, where possible, be confined to normal working hours in the residential areas; Sensitive receptors, for example shall be notified at least 5 days before construction is due to commence in their vicinity.
Drainage and hydrology disruption	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excavated channels to follow contours to avoid interference with surface drains; Whenever necessary, drains along the construction line are directed towards existing drainage systems to cater for storm water during the rains; However, construction should be carried out during a dry season; Utilize excavated soil to cover the water and sewer lines that will have been laid in the ground;
Increased liquid waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure compliance with environmental laws. Water containing pollutants such as concrete or chemicals should be directed to a conservancy tank for removal from the site where applicable; Potential pollutants of any kind and form shall be kept, stored and used in such a manner that any escape can be contained; Wash areas shall be placed and constructed in such a manner so as to ensure that the surrounding areas including groundwater are not polluted; No grey water runoff or uncontrolled discharges from the site or working areas.
Increased energy demand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sourcing power from the national grid; Having a dedicated sub-station for the plant and quarry areas; Use of waste oils in firing the plant; Use of solar energy for lighting of the plant areas, staff quarters and social amenities.
Solid waste generation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A site waste management plan should be prepared by the Contractor; Designate areas for collection and removal and identification of approved disposal site; Ensure that the solid waste collection, segregation, and disposal system is functioning properly at all times; Recycle and re-use wastes where possible such as scrap metal.
Soil degradation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> THIIVASCO to attend to burst pipes promptly to prevent excessive loss of soil; Provide high risk areas with appropriate drainage for effective channeling of burst sewage spills; Encourage land owners along sewer lines to maintain vegetated belts along the pipeline; Mark clearly the pipeline for ease of identification and protection by the adjacent landowners.
Occupational Health and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a Health and Safety Plan (HASP) for civil works areas; Ensuring the working hours are controlled; Provide workers with PPEs; Provide workers training on safety procedures and emergency response such as fire and sewer pipe bursts.
Public Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure proper and periodic maintenance of sewer lines and treatment plant; Activate a community watch group for information sharing on the status of the sewer line; Regular check, repair and maintenance of the sewer line; Awareness rising among community members not to dump solids in man-holes; Regular cleaning of grit chambers and sewer lines to remove grease, grit, and other debris that may lead to sewer backups.

The full report of the proposed project is available for inspection during working hours at:

1. Principal Secretary,
Ministry of Environment and Natural Resource,
NHIF Building, 12th Floor,
Ragati Road, Upper Hill,
P.O. BOX: 30126-00100,
NAIROBI

2. Director General, NEMA
Popo Road, off Mombasa Road,
P.O. BOX 67839-00200,
NAIROBI

3. County Director of Environment
KIAMBU COUNTY

A copy of the EIA report can be downloaded at www.nema.go.ke

NEMA invites members of the public to submit oral or written comments within thirty (30) days from the date of publication of this notice to the Director General, NEMA, to assist the Authority in the decision making process for this project. Kindly quote Ref. No. **NEMA/EIA/5/2/1581**

Comments can also be e-mailed to dgnema@nema.go.ke

PROF. GEOFFREY WAHUNGU
DIRECTOR GENERAL

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