

6 Form of environmental impact statement

An environmental impact statement must contain the following information:

- (a) the name, address and professional qualifications of the person by whom the statement is prepared,
- (b) the name and address of the responsible person,
- (c) the address of the land:
 - (i) in respect of which the development application is to be made, or
 - (ii) on which the activity or infrastructure to which the statement relates is to be carried out,
- (d) a description of the development, activity or infrastructure to which the statement relates,
- (e) an assessment by the person by whom the statement is prepared of the environmental impact of the development, activity or infrastructure to which the statement relates, dealing with the matters referred to in this Schedule,
- (f) a declaration by the person by whom the statement is prepared to the effect that:
 - (i) the statement has been prepared in accordance with this Schedule, and
 - (ii) the statement contains all available information that is relevant to the environmental assessment of the development, activity or infrastructure to which the statement relates, and
 - (iii) that the information contained in the statement is neither false nor misleading.

7 Content of environmental impact statement

- (1) An environmental impact statement must also include each of the following:
 - (a) a summary of the environmental impact statement,
 - (b) a statement of the objectives of the development, activity or infrastructure,
 - (c) an analysis of any feasible alternatives to the carrying out of the development, activity or infrastructure, having regard to its objectives, including the consequences of not carrying out the development, activity or infrastructure,
 - (d) an analysis of the development, activity or infrastructure, including:
 - (i) a full description of the development, activity or infrastructure, and
 - (ii) a general description of the environment likely to be affected by the development, activity or infrastructure, together with a detailed description of those aspects of the environment that are likely to be significantly affected, and
 - (iii) the likely impact on the environment of the development, activity or infrastructure, and
 - (iv) a full description of the measures proposed to mitigate any adverse effects of the development, activity or infrastructure on the environment, and
 - (v) a list of any approvals that must be obtained under any other Act or law before the development, activity or infrastructure may lawfully be carried out,
 - (e) a compilation (in a single section of the environmental impact statement) of the measures referred to in item (d) (iv),
 - (f) the reasons justifying the carrying out of the development, activity or infrastructure in the manner proposed, having regard to biophysical, economic and social considerations, including the principles of ecologically sustainable development set out in subclause (4).
- (2) Subclause (1) is subject to the environmental assessment requirements that relate to the environmental impact statement.
- (3) Subclause (1) does not apply if:
 - (a) the Director-General has waived (under clause 3 (9)) the need for an application for environmental assessment requirements in relation to an environmental impact statement in respect of State significant development, and
 - (b) the conditions of that waiver specify that the environmental impact statement must instead comply with requirements set out or referred to in those conditions.
- (4) The principles of ecologically sustainable development are as follows:
 - (a) the precautionary principle, namely, that if there are threats of serious or irreversible environmental damage, lack of full scientific certainty should not be used as a reason for postponing measures to prevent environmental degradation. In the application of the precautionary principle, public and private decisions should be guided by:
 - (i) careful evaluation to avoid, wherever practicable, serious or irreversible damage to the environment, and
 - (ii) an assessment of the risk-weighted consequences of various options,
 - (b) inter-generational equity, namely, that the present generation should ensure that the health, diversity and productivity of the environment are maintained or enhanced for the benefit of future generations,
 - (c) conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity, namely, that conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity should be a fundamental consideration,
 - (d) Improved valuation, pricing and incentive mechanisms, namely, that environmental factors should be included in the valuation of assets and services, such as:
 - (i) polluter pays, that is, those who generate pollution and waste should bear the cost of containment, avoidance or abatement,
 - (ii) the users of goods and services should pay prices based on the full life cycle of costs of providing goods and services, including the use of natural resources and assets and the ultimate disposal of any waste,
 - (iii) environmental goals, having been established, should be pursued in the most cost effective way, by establishing incentive structures, including market mechanisms, that enable those best placed to maximise benefits or minimise costs to develop their own solutions and responses to environmental problems.