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The Chair

Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Environmental Affairs

Dear Sir / Madam

Re: Comments on the Marine Spatial Planning Bill

I understand that the Marine Spatial Planning Bill [B 9—2017] is open for public comment to the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Environmental Affairs. I wish to take this opportunity to comment briefly on two areas as follows.

Definitions

1. Within Section 1 Definitions “marine area plan”, the definition seems to me to confuse the concepts of an area, and a plan as a strategy for achieving a result. The current text states:

“**marine area plan**” means a bio-geographic marine area that will serve as a planning unit which is developed by analysing and allocating the spatial and temporal distribution of human activities in the South African waters to achieve ecological, economic and social objectives, taking into account all relevant principles and factors set out in this Act;

I would like to propose that for clarity the above definition be divided as follows

“**marine area**” means a bio-geographic marine area that will serve as a planning unit for a marine area plan

“**marine area plan**” means a plan which is developed within a marine area by analysing and allocating the spatial and temporal distribution of human activities in the South African waters to achieve ecological, economic and social objectives, taking into account all relevant principles and factors set out in this Act;

2. I have concern that estuaries appear to be excluded from the planning process in the definition of South African waters, presumably as their management is regulated under the National Environmental Management: Integrated Coastal Management Act, 2008 (Act No. 24 of 2008). If this is the case, I wish to ask how estuarine spatial planning and management (as a component of the marine environment) will differ from coastal planning and management under NEM: ICMA within the MSP framework.

Appendix 2 – List of Participants

	Name	Organisation
1.	Adnan Awad	International Ocean Institute – Africa (IOI-SA)
2.	Alex Benkenstein	South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA)
3.	Alfons van Craeynest	SA Navy Hydrographic Office
4.	Amanda Lombard	Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University (NMMU)
5.	B.P. Mohasoa	Department of Mineral Resources (DMR)
6.	Ella-Kari Muhl	University of Cape Town (UCT)
7.	Hannah Raven	Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University (NMMU)
8.	Jackie Sunde	University of Cape Town (UCT)
9.	Jodie Reed	Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University (NMMU)
10.	John Duncan	World Wide Fund for Nature - South Africa (WWF-SA)
11.	Kashiefa Parker	International Ocean Institute – Southern Africa (IOI-SA)
12.	Ken Findlay	Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT)
13.	Louis Celliers	Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)
14.	Lusanda Mahlangu	Department of Tourism (DOT)
15.	M. Rangata	Department of Mineral Resources (DMR)
16.	Nicolene Fourie	CSIR Meraka Institute (CSIR)
17.	Patrick Vrancken	Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University (NMMU)
18.	Rachael Chasakara	Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University (NMMU)
19.	Richard Ball	South Coast Rock Lobster Industry Association (SCRLIA)
20.	Rudzani Mudau	Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation (DPME)
21.	Saul Roux	Centre for Environmental Rights (CER)
22.	Shannon Hampton	International Ocean Institute – Southern Africa (IOI-SA)
23.	Sibonelo Ndlovu	Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA)
24.	Sives Govender	CSIR Meraka Institute (CSIR)
25.	Sizo Sibanda	University of Cape Town (UCT)
26.	Steve Kirkman	Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA)
27.	Timothy Walker	Institute of Security Studies (ISS)
28.	Tsamaelo Malebu	South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI)
29.	Tshisikhawe Victor Dowelani	Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA)
30.	Yamkela Mngxe	Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA)
31.	Zipho Tyoda	Department of Science and Technology (DST)