

TEMPERATURES:
MIN 17,5 MAX 30,3

RAINFALL: None of 8 cm

temperatures
FOR THE TRAVELLER

JOHANNESBURG	MIN 15	MAX 19
CAPE TOWN	MIN 15	MAX 18
BLOEMFONTEIN	MIN 15	MAX 25
PRETORIA	MIN 17	MAX 20
DURBAN	MIN 18	MAX 21

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Developers must deliver

PATSY BEANGSTROM
NEWS EDITOR

BEFORE any work can start on the R1,6 billion Northgate development, an alternative sewerage system must be constructed and operational.

This is according to Section 40 of the environmental authorisation granted on Friday by the Department of Tourism, Environment and Conservation, which gives the go-ahead for the controversial housing development.

Lionel Koster from Group 1, the developers involved in the project, said yesterday if the final go-ahead was given timeously by the MEC, who will now consider any objections and appeals to the authorisation, work could start early next

year and the first houses could be completed by October.

It was pointed out yesterday, however, that in terms of the authorisation, no activity (including site preparation) can commence until the alternative sewerage system to be used is approved, constructed and operational and/or the upgrading of the existing Homevale sewerage treatment works, which will improve its capacity to accommodate additional effluent, is completed.

Proof of compliance with this condition must be submitted to the department before the activity commences, failing which the authorisation for the development will be rendered invalid.

According to an interested member of the public, this means that there is no way building on the first phase can start early in the new

year.

He also pointed out that no environmental impact assessment had been done on the developers' plans to pump water into a nearby pan to provide an alternative site for the flamingos.

Alternative

According to Koster, water will be pumped to the pan, while another artificial breeding site will also be built to ensure that the flamingos have an alternative site if necessary.

"We don't want to chase the flamingos away from Kamfers Dam but we felt that if there were two pans and two breeding islands, then it would be all the better."

Watson charges dropped

CORRESPONDENT
IN CAPE TOWN

CHARGES against controversial Springhook loose forward Luke Watson have been dismissed.

Reports said the SA Rugby Union yesterday failed to show that the presiding officer in the matter had the authority to hear the case in the first place.

The issue related to controversial comments the Bok flanker reportedly made at the Uthumbo Rugby Club at UCT last month.

The hearing lasted 90 minutes, with the presiding officer, attorney Nape Dolamo, agreeing with Watson's legal counsel, Jeremy Blum-Gauntlett, SC, and Matthew Blum-

document, including a ban on the construction of a petrol filling station, while construction can only be done during normal working hours. No blasting may take place on site and expanding cements must be used to crack rocks for excavation purposes.

The Kamfers Dam rubbish site must be protected, and no protected tree may be removed, while protected species must be preserved.

In order to ensure protection of the Lesser Flamingos at Kamfers Dam, a two-metre-high solid wall must be built and the wall must be protected with at least three strands of electric wire. The development footprint must be completely walled in with controlled access gates, and 24-hour security monitoring, including a camera covering the island, is recommended.

South African pollution sets a bad example for continent

KATH ROSS
IN CAPE TOWN

SOUTH Africa is responsible for about 60 percent of the African continent's carbon dioxide emissions and almost 1,5 percent of the amount produced worldwide.

The country is, therefore, a meaningful contributor to the level of global warming, which could become "very, very scary indeed" if it goes unchecked.

This warning has been issued by a climatologist, Dr Peter Johnston, of the University of Cape Town. He said South Africa produced such a large proportion of the con-

tinent models is to try to project what is going to happen over the next 100 years if the rate of carbon dioxide and greenhouse gas production stays the same," he said.

"The overall temperature of the planet could rise by two degrees to six degrees. Six is very, very scary," Johnston said such a large rise would cause changes in seasons, natural vegetation, crops grown, ocean currents and fishing. "Whole climatic regions would change."

It would mean changes in biodiversity and alien vegetation would take over whole new areas and trees would replace savannah. He said there was a natural vari-

PHOTO: COURTESY OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT