

ENVIRONMENT AND RESOURCES AUTHORITY
Minutes of Board Meeting held on the 11 October 2024
Hexagon House, Marsa

6305. Continuation of the Environmental Impact Assessment Discussion (EA 00021/20) related to proposed construction of St. Albert the Great Community College, Class2C; consisting of three blocks above ground: Child care/Kinder/Administration block, Early and Middle school block and Senior school block, including also external sports facilities and educational horticultural spaces (retained agricultural land), and underlying car parking (two levels), auditorium, indoor sport facilities, and water reservoirs, Site at, Dawret Ħal-Għaxaq c/w Triq il-Ħareb c/w Unnamed Alley, Il-Ħareb, Għaxaq (PA 01123/20)

At this stage the Board meeting was opened to the public.

Reference is made to the Directorate's Memo dated 30 September 2024.

Chairman opened the meeting in public on the environmental impact assessment process related to the proposed construction of St. Albert the Great Community College, at Ghaxaq.

Chairman addressed Perit Gaston Camilleri and remarked that in September 2023 the ERA Board was requested to defer the decision regarding EA 00021/20 to allow for the preparation of revised plans, where it was agreed to defer the decision for six months, which deadline has elapsed. Chairman further noted that PA 1123/20 has been withdrawn and that a new application PA 6504/24 has been submitted. Perit Camilleri was invited to give an update.

Perit Camilleri informed that the revision of plans took longer than anticipated and that the planning application was timed out and eventually withdrawn. Subsequently a new planning application and revised plans were submitted. Perit Camilleri informed the Board that a revised EIA was prepared, and requested whether the EIA process can be transferred and continued under the new planning application.

In reply, Chairman remarked that since the original application PA1123/20 was withdrawn the decision on the original EIA should be considered as concluded. The revised EIA Report, including revised plans, as submitted in the new application PA6504/24 can be submitted to the ERA for further assessment and the standard procedures for EIA Report processing needs to be followed, including public consultation.

Chairman then addressed the Directorate for feedback, and it was noted that whilst the revised EIA can be submitted for review, the plans as submitted do not address ERA's previous concerns. CEO intervened and noted that since the discussion of the proposal in question was pending at the ERA Board, then it is up to the Board to determine the way forward on the process to be followed.

In this regard, Chairman put the following motion to the vote:

The decision on the original EIA with the previous PA number PA1123/20 should be considered as concluded.

The following Board members voted **in favour** of the recommendation:

Perit Vincent Cassar

Prof. Emmanuel Sinagra

Dr Stephanie Fabri

Mr Kurt Farrugia

Prof. Saviour Formosa

Mr Martin Galea De Giovanni

Ms Charmaine Mangion

Votes **against** the recommendation: NIL

The Board **unanimously approved** the recommendation.

Perit Gaston was then requested to submit the revised documentation for review and assessment by the Directorate, following standard EIA processing procedures including public consultation and decision by ERA board to be taken in public.

LORNA FARRUGIA
ERA BOARD SECRETARY