



EASTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

Member of the Provincial Legislature

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To: The Honourable MEC Zolile Williams
Member of the Executive Council
Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs
Eastern Cape Provincial Government
Bisho

Dear MEC Williams

RE: URGENT CLARIFICATION AND INVESTIGATION INTO THE CENTRAL CEMETERY PROJECT AND CONTRACTUAL EXPENDITURE

The above matter refers.

I write to express our deep concern regarding the apparent mismanagement and lack of progress relating to the development of the new central cemetery project currently underway in the Inxuba Yethemba Local Municipality, and to request whatever clarification or intervention your Department can provide in this matter.

It has come to our attention that, despite several million rands having already been spent on this project, very little tangible progress has been made. The appointed contractor is reportedly no longer on site, and serious concerns have been raised about the suitability of the selected site for burial purposes. In particular, we note with alarm that the land may not be fit for interment, raising questions about whether any proper Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) was conducted prior to construction commencing.

We are further advised that additional funding, potentially amounting to several million rands, is now being allocated to this project, despite its stalled status and the lack of accountability to date.

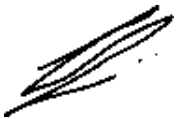
In light of the above, we respectfully request that your office urgently investigates this matter and kindly provides clarity on the following:

1. Whether the required Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) was conducted prior to the commencement of work on the central cemetery site, and if so, please provide a copy of the relevant EIA report;
2. The total budget initially allocated for the development of the central cemetery and the total amount of public funds already expended on the project to date;
3. The name of the main contractor responsible for the project, and whether they are still on site;
4. Whether additional funds have been approved or allocated to this project, and under what justifications; and

This project is of critical importance to the community and any further delays or wasteful expenditure will only serve to deepen the public's distrust in the government's ability to deliver essential services. We therefore urge your Department to act swiftly in investigating the situation and to ensure appropriate oversight and consequence management where required.

We thank you in advance for your attention to this matter and look forward to your kind responses.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'HEINRICH MÜLLER', with a stylized flourish at the end.

HEINRICH MÜLLER, MPL

**Shadow MEC of Rural Development and Agrarian Reform
Constituency Head: Eastern Cape Midlands**