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GOVERNMENT NOTICE

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

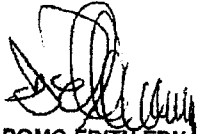
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29 November 2013

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: AIR QUALITY ACT, 2004
(ACT NO. 39 OF 2004)

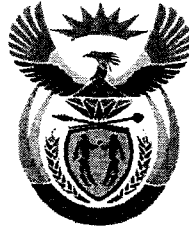
AMENDMENT TO THE 2007 NATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT IN THE REPUBLIC OF
SOUTH AFRICA

I, Bomo Edith Edna Molewa, Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs, hereby amend the 2007 National Framework for Air Quality Management in the Republic of South Africa, in terms of section 7(5) of the National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act, 2004 (Act No. 39 of 2004), set out in the Schedule hereto.



BOMO EDITH EDNA MOLEWA
MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

SCHEDULE



THE 2012

NATIONAL FRAMEWORK

FOR AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

As contemplated in Section 7 of the National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act, 2004 (Act No. 39 of 2004) and serving as the Department of Environmental Affairs' Air Quality Management Plan as contemplated in Section 15(1) of the Act.

December 2012


FOREWORD

It has been seven years since the National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act, 2004 (Act No. 39 of 2004) (The AQA) came into effect. Section 7 of the AQA requires the Minister to establish a National Framework for Air Quality Management. In line with that, the 2007 National Framework for Air Quality Management was established and it was a milestone in government's attempts to introduce a new efficient and effective air quality management regime in South Africa. With its establishment, all interested South Africans contributed to the establishment of the first national plan to clear our skies of pollution and ensure ambient air that is not harmful to health and well-being for the first time.

The year 2012 marks five years since the establishment of the 2007 National Framework and as the AQA stipulates, I reviewed the National Framework at the five year interval following a consultative and participatory process. The 2007 National Framework largely used cautious language as most of the work was envisaged while providing an excellent foundation for future frameworks. Although, there is some caution where new projects still need to be undertaken, the 2012 National Framework is more emphatic and has drawn largely on experiences gained over the years of the implementation of the inaugural 2007 National Framework.

During this five year period of the implementation of the 2007 National Framework, there have been major achievements in air quality management. To mention a few, air quality that is not harmful to health and well-being has been defined through the establishment of national ambient air quality standards; three national priority areas have been declared (Vaal Triangle Airshed, Highveld and Waterberg-Bojanala) and plans to improve and maintain good air quality in these areas are underway; and the South African Air Quality Information System (SAAQIS) continues to provide web-based access to national air quality information. Furthermore, the Atmospheric Pollution Prevention Act (Act No. 45 of 1965) was repealed and the AQA came into full effect on 01 April 2010. With this, atmospheric emission licensing authorities as stipulated in Section 36 of the AQA took up the licensing function. Furthermore, the national department continues to develop and maintain necessary tools for the effective and efficient implementation of the licensing function.

Finally, to provide context and accountability for measuring progress in the implementation of the Act and its National Framework in all the spheres of government, the department continues to publish annual National Air Quality Officer's Reports. The National Frameworks and all the work conducted in air quality management to date are products of the hard work and dedication of all South Africans and I take this opportunity to thank everyone who was involved.



BOMO EDITH EDNA MOLEWA
MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	I
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	II
LIST OF TABLES.....	V
LIST OF FIGURES.....	VI
ABBREVIATIONS.....	VII
GLOSSARY AND DEFINITIONS.....	IX
1. INTRODUCTION.....	11
1.1 BACKGROUND.....	11
1.2 OVERVIEW.....	11
1.3 PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF THE NATIONAL FRAMEWORK.....	11
1.4 GUIDING PRINCIPLES.....	12
1.5 STRUCTURE OF THE DOCUMENT.....	12
2. LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONTEXT.....	14
2.1 INTRODUCTION.....	14
2.2 NATIONAL POLICY.....	14
2.2.1 <i>Background</i>	14
2.2.2 <i>National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (the NEMA)</i>	14
2.2.3 <i>National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act, 2004 (the AQA)</i>	15
2.2.4 <i>Other related national legislation</i>	15
2.3 MUNICIPAL BY-LAWS.....	18
2.4 INTERNATIONAL POLICY.....	19
2.4.1 <i>Greenhouse gases and climate change</i>	19
2.4.1.1 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).....	19
2.4.1.2 Kyoto Protocol.....	19
2.4.1.3 Obligations for South Africa according to the UNFCCC related to air quality.....	19
2.4.1.4 National Climate Change Response White Paper.....	19
2.4.2 <i>Stratospheric ozone depletion</i>	20
2.4.2.1 The Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer.....	20
2.4.2.2 The Montreal Protocol on Substances that deplete the Ozone Layer.....	20
2.4.3 <i>Persistent pollutants</i>	21
2.4.3.1 The Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs).....	21
2.4.3.2 International concerns around Mercury, Lead and Cadmium.....	21
2.4.4 <i>Regional policy</i>	22
2.4.5 <i>The AQA and International Policy</i>	22
3. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT.....	24
3.1 INTRODUCTION.....	24
3.2 GOVERNMENT'S ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.....	24
3.2.1 <i>The National Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA)</i>	24
3.2.2 <i>Provincial environmental departments</i>	25
3.2.3 <i>Municipalities</i>	26
3.2.4 <i>Other national departments</i>	27
3.3 INDUSTRY.....	28
3.4 LABOUR.....	29
3.5 THE GENERAL PUBLIC.....	29
4. APPROACH TO AIR QUALITY GOVERNANCE.....	30
4.1 INTRODUCTION.....	30
4.2 THE ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE CYCLE.....	30
4.2.1 <i>Information management</i>	30
4.2.2 <i>Problem identification and prioritisation</i>	31
4.2.3 <i>Strategy development</i>	32
4.2.4 <i>Standard setting</i>	32
4.2.5 <i>Policy and regulation development</i>	34

4.2.6	<i>Environmental impact management</i>	34
4.2.7	<i>Authorisations</i>	35
4.2.8	<i>Compliance monitoring</i>	35
4.2.9	<i>Enforcement</i>	36
4.3	THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FUNCTIONS BY THE THREE SPHERES OF GOVERNMENT.....	36
4.4	THE NEED FOR VERTICAL AND HORIZONTAL INTEGRATION.....	37
4.4.1	<i>MINMEC: Environment</i>	38
4.4.2	<i>MINTEC: Environment</i>	38
4.4.3	<i>The Committee for Environmental Coordination (CEC)</i>	38
4.4.4	<i>The National-Provincial Air Quality Officers' Forum</i>	38
4.4.5	<i>The Provincial-Municipal Air Quality Officers' Forum</i>	39
4.4.6	<i>The Annual Air Quality Management Governance Lekgotla</i>	39
4.5	3D GOVERNANCE MODEL.....	39
4.6	CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES.....	39
5.	TOOLS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL FRAMEWORK	41
5.1	INTRODUCTION.....	41
5.2	AIR QUALITY INFORMATION MANAGEMENT.....	41
5.2.1	<i>The South African Air Quality Information System (SAAQIS)</i>	41
5.2.1.1	The national department's SAAQIS Phases Development.....	42
5.2.1.2	Ambient air quality information.....	43
5.2.1.3	Ambient air quality monitoring.....	43
5.2.1.4	The National Air Quality Indicator.....	45
5.2.1.5	Emission inventory information.....	47
5.2.1.6	Listed Activities and compliance monitoring.....	48
5.2.1.7	Policy, legislation and regulations.....	48
5.2.1.8	South African air quality research reference database.....	48
5.2.1.9	Air Quality Management Plans.....	48
5.2.1.10	Additional aspects of the SAAQIS.....	48
5.2.2	<i>Air quality publications</i>	48
5.2.3	<i>Air quality reporting</i>	49
5.2.3.1	Atmospheric impact reports.....	49
5.2.3.2	State of air reporting.....	49
5.2.3.3	The Air Quality Officers' annual reports.....	49
5.3	PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION AND PRIORITISATION.....	49
5.3.1	<i>Introduction</i>	49
5.3.2	<i>Identifying and prioritising pollutants of concern</i>	50
5.3.3	<i>Identifying and prioritising emitters of concern</i>	51
5.3.4	<i>Identifying and prioritising areas of concern</i>	51
5.3.4.1	National and Provincial Priority Areas of Concern.....	52
5.3.4.2	Municipal Areas of Concern.....	53
5.4	STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT.....	55
5.4.1	<i>Introduction</i>	55
5.4.2	<i>Awareness-raising</i>	55
5.4.3	<i>Standard setting</i>	56
5.4.3.1	The generic standard setting process.....	56
5.4.3.2	South African national ambient air quality standards.....	58
5.4.3.3	Listed activities and related emission standards.....	62
5.4.3.4	Controlled Emitters.....	68
5.4.3.5	Controlled Fuels.....	69
5.4.3.6	Noise and odour.....	70
5.4.3.7	Dust.....	70
5.4.4	<i>Regulations</i>	70
5.4.5	<i>Economic instruments</i>	72
5.4.6	<i>Air Quality Management Plans</i>	72
5.4.6.1	The AQMP development process.....	73
5.4.6.2	The national air quality support programme.....	74
5.4.6.3	The National Air Quality Management Plan.....	74
5.4.6.4	AQMPs for other National Government Departments.....	74
5.4.6.5	Priority Area AQMPs.....	75
5.4.6.6	Provincial AQMPs.....	75
5.4.6.7	Municipal AQMPs.....	76
5.4.6.8	Atmospheric Pollution Prevention Plans.....	76

5.4.6.9	AQMP reporting requirements	76
5.4.6.10	Human health impact assessments	77
5.4.7	National Air Quality Management Strategies	77
5.5	IMPACT MANAGEMENT	77
5.5.1	<i>Environmental Impact Assessments</i>	77
5.5.2	<i>EIA-AEL procedural relationship</i>	78
5.5.3	<i>Specialist Air Quality Impact Assessment Reports</i>	79
5.5.3.1	Human health impacts	79
5.5.3.2	Ambient air quality standards	79
5.5.3.3	Point source emission standards	79
5.5.3.4	Mitigation measures	80
5.5.3.5	Atmospheric Emission Licence (AEL) requirements	80
5.5.3.6	Odour, noise and dust	80
5.5.3.7	International obligations	80
5.5.4	<i>Atmospheric Impact Reports</i>	80
5.6	AUTHORISATIONS	81
5.7	COMPLIANCE MONITORING	82
5.7.1	<i>Introduction</i>	82
5.7.2	<i>National measures</i>	83
5.7.3	<i>Provincial measures</i>	83
5.7.4	<i>Municipal measures</i>	83
5.8	ENFORCEMENT	83
5.8.1	<i>Offences</i>	83
5.8.2	<i>By-laws</i>	84
5.8.2.1	Local government competence	84
5.8.2.2	Schedule 4 functional areas	84
5.8.2.3	Model air pollution control by-laws	84
5.9	CROSS-CUTTING PRINCIPLES	85
5.9.1	<i>Public Participation</i>	85
5.9.1.1	The importance of public participation in air quality decision-making	85
5.9.1.2	Promoting best practices for effective and equitable public participation	85
5.9.1.3	Establishment of a national air quality reference group	86
5.9.1.4	Issues relevant for specific air quality decision-processes	87
5.9.1.5	Raising awareness and engaging the public in air quality decision-processes	87
5.9.2	<i>Capacity development</i>	87
5.9.2.1	Introduction	87
5.9.2.2	Definition of capacity building	88
5.9.2.3	Strategies for capacity building	88
5.9.2.4	Technical capacity development	89
5.9.3	<i>Information dissemination</i>	90
5.9.4	<i>National Air Quality Officer's (NAQO) Report</i>	91
6.	THE NATIONAL FRAMEWORK REVIEW PROCESS	92
6.1	BACKGROUND TO THE NATIONAL FRAMEWORK REVIEW PROCESS	92
6.2	THE NATIONAL AIR QUALITY OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT	93
6.3	INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF THE NATIONAL FRAMEWORK	94
6.4	THE FUTURE	94
6.4.1	<i>Horizon Scanning</i>	94
6.4.2	<i>Potential Issues for Future Development</i>	95
7.	REPEAL OF THE 2007 NATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA	95
8.	SHORT TITLE AND COMMENCEMENT	95
	REFERENCES	96
	APPENDIX 1: DEA'S AIR AND ATMOSPHERIC QUALITY PUBLICATIONS	97
	APPENDIX 2: INDICATORS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL AQO'S ANNUAL REPORT	100

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1: National legislation directly or indirectly linked to the management of air quality	15
Table 2: National departments, other than DEA, that have an interest or responsibilities in respect of managing atmospheric emissions within their jurisdictions.....	27
Table 3: Typical AQA governance functions relating to information management.....	30
Table 4: Typical AQA governance functions relating to problem identification and prioritisation	31
Table 5: Typical AQA governance functions relating to strategy development	32
Table 6: Typical AQA governance functions relating to standard setting	32
Table 7: Typical AQA governance functions relating to policy and regulation development	34
Table 9: Typical AQA governance functions relating to compliance monitoring.....	35
Table 14: SAAQIS Phase II: Emissions Inventory Modules development targets.....	43
Table 10: SAAQIS ambient air quality related implementation targets.....	43
Table 11: SAAQIS ambient air quality monitoring related implementation targets.....	44
Table 12: Recommended minimum number of sampling points for fixed measurements to assess compliance with national ambient standards for SO ₂ , NO ₂ , PM ₁₀ , CO, C ₆ H ₆ and Pb (adapted from SANS 1929).....	45
Table 13: Recommended minimum number of sampling points for fixed measurements to assess compliance with ozone limits values for the protection of human health in zones and agglomerations where fixed measurement is the sole source of information (adapted from SANS 1929).....	45
Table 15: SAAQIS listed activity related implementation targets	48
Table 16: SAAQIS policy and legislation related implementation targets.....	48
Table 17: Pollutants of Concern	51
Table 18: Declared national priority areas.....	53
Table 19: Metropolitan and District Municipalities initially rated as having Poor or Potentially Poor Air Quality.....	53
Table 20: The 2013 list of activities and associated emissions standards	62
Table 21: Schedule of Government notices and regulations in terms of the AQA	70
Table 22: Human health impacts assessments projects implementation targets.....	77
Table 23: Air quality management strategies implementation targets.....	77
Table 24: Atmospheric impact reporting implementation targets	81
Table 25: Atmospheric emission licensing implementation targets	82
Table 26: Capacity development implementation targets	90
Table 27: The National Air Quality Officer's Annual Report related implementation targets	91

THE 2012 NATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

- Making application for an Atmospheric Emission Licence (AEL) and complying with its provisions.
- Compliance with any minimum emission standards in respect of a substance or mixture of substances identified as resulting from a listed activity.
- Designate an Emission Control Officer if required to do so.

3.4 Labour

Workers tend to be in the frontline of pollution problems and exposure to hazardous environments. Recognising this, the NEMA protects workers refusing to do environmentally hazardous work by providing that no person is civilly or criminally liable or may be dismissed, disciplined, prejudiced or harassed on account of having refused to perform any work if the person in good faith and reasonably believed at the time of the refusal that the performance of the work would result in an imminent and serious threat to the environment. Furthermore, the NEMA also protects 'whistleblowers' by providing that no person is civilly or criminally liable or may be dismissed, disciplined, prejudiced or harassed on account of having disclosed any information, if the person in good faith reasonably believed at the time of the disclosure that he or she was disclosing evidence of an environmental risk and the disclosure was made in accordance with certain provisions.

3.5 The General Public

As mentioned in the introduction, everyone, to a greater or lesser extent, is responsible for some form of atmospheric emission that has an impact on air quality. Hence, everyone has a role and social responsibility in respect of air quality management. As private individuals, we all have a responsibility not to impinge on everyone's right to air that is not harmful to health and well-being. As with industries, in terms of section 28 of the NEMA, persons that cause, have caused or may cause significant pollution or degradation of the environment must take reasonable measures to prevent such pollution or degradation from occurring, continuing or recurring, or, in so far as such harm to the environment is authorised by law or cannot reasonably be avoided or stopped, to minimise and rectify such pollution or degradation of the environment.

Notwithstanding the above, it can be argued that there is a social responsibility for everyone to actively participate in air quality governance by participating in the development of the regulatory framework for air quality management. In this regard, the AQA provides numerous opportunities to submit to the Minister or MEC written or oral representations on or objections in respect of, for example:

- The National Framework or any amendment to the framework.
- Ambient air quality standards.
- The declaration of priority areas
- Priority area air quality management plans
- The listing of activities that require and Atmospheric Emission Licence to operate
- The declaration of controlled emitters.
- The declaration of controlled fuels.
- Any regulation.

Finally, the public may be directly affected by air pollution. The public and civil society groups therefore contribute local perspectives and also have an important watchdog role to play in bringing to the attention of the authorities through their municipal AQO, matters of concern or of non-compliance.

THE 2012 NATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

5. TOOLS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL FRAMEWORK

5.1 Introduction

The implementation of the National Framework is dependent on a combination of both process/governance and technical mechanisms/measures. The process issues are overarching and integrated throughout the National Framework and include among others cooperative governance and enforcement. The technical mechanisms and measures are more specific and include norms and standards for matters relating to air quality management and meeting the requirements of the AQA.

5.2 Air quality information management

Informed decision-making is fundamental to good governance and decisions can only be informed if decision-shapers and decision-makers have ready access to accurate, relevant, current and complete information. Constructive participation in, and implementation of, air quality management matters are also dependent on the same information. Section 32 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996, states that all South Africans have the right of access to any information held by the state, and any information that is held by another person and that is required for the exercise or protection of any rights. Section 32 further states that national legislation must be enacted to give effect to this right. In this regard, the Promotion of Access of Information Act, 2000 was enacted to give effect to the constitutional right of access to information. For example, Section 31(1)(a) of the NEMA provides that "every person is entitled to have access to information held by the State and organs of state which relates to the implementation of the NEMA and any other law affecting the environment, and to the state of the environment and actual and future threats to the environment, including any emissions to water, air or soil and the production, handling, transportation, treatment, storage and disposal of hazardous waste and substances".

Implicit in this right is that all South Africans shall have access to air quality information and that access shall be facilitated by the AQA and through the National Framework. In order to uphold this right and effectively address the air quality information requirements contained in the AQA, the national department, in partnership with the South African Weather Service (SAWS), have established the South African Air Quality Information System (the SAAQIS), and developed guidance manuals and publications to provide support to AQOs and air quality information to a wider audience. Air quality information management is discussed in this paragraph, considering the requirements of the SAAQIS (5.2.1), the DEA publication series (5.2.2) and air quality reporting (5.2.3).

Management of air quality information in this paragraph includes the following:

- Ambient air quality information;
- Norms and standards for air quality monitoring;
- Emission inventories (including GHG inventory);
- Listed Activities and compliance monitoring;
- Air quality related legislation and regulations;
- Norms and standards for air quality information management;
- Air Quality Management Plans;
- Air quality publications; and
- Technical and scientific air quality reports.

5.2.1 The South African Air Quality Information System (SAAQIS)

The SAAQIS (www.saaqis.org.za) makes air information available to stakeholders, provide a common system for managing air quality in South Africa and provide uniformity in the way data; information and reporting are managed in South Africa. A central aim of the SAAQIS is that it allows the public access to air quality information. Improving the availability of information facilitates transparency in processes, informs decision making, and builds capacity. The SAAQIS streamlines the flow of relevant information; provides a tool to assist in managing air quality and builds awareness about air quality among stakeholders in general. Where appropriate air quality information is geographically referenced through a GIS interface. The SAAQIS is built in such a way as to assist providers and users of information

THE 2012 NATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

and, thereby, motivate the maintenance and updating of information by users. In achieving the objectives of the SAAQIS, the South African Weather Service (SAWS) as the custodian of the SAAQIS and performs air quality information functions stipulated in the South African Weather Service Act.

The SAAQIS aims to:

- Ensure that air quality information management and reporting requirements directed or implied by the AQA are met efficiently and effectively;
- Ensure that air quality management decisions, interventions, activities and actions are informed by accurate, current and complete information;
- Ensure that accurate, current, complete and relevant air quality information is available to all stakeholders and the public;
- And provide all South African's with information on the state of their air quality and the status of efforts to progressively ensure their right to air that is not harmful to health and well-being.

5.2.1.1 The national department's SAAQIS Phases Development

The SAAQIS is a dynamic information management system that will continue to grow in scope, complexity, utility and sophistication over time. The development of the SAAQIS is being carried out in phases to achieve the completion of the full system, allowing for modification and separate tendering at each phase. The suitability and user requirements of the each module are assessed and clarified before the implementation of each phase and adjusted where necessary. In this regard, a three-phase approach has been followed as:

SAAQIS Phase I – general air quality information, web landing page, document management module and the ambient air quality monitoring.

The national department's SAAQIS Phase I Development Project was initiated in July 2007 and was completed in September 2009. At the end of this project a number of tools were developed. The tools comprise different kinds of modules and components, services that can be accessed from a user-friendly interface. A variety of stakeholders can contribute with data and information, and in return, they benefit by having access to other information and a range of services. SAAQIS contains three main modules:

- Information input modules;
- Information extraction modules; and
- Application tools.

Each one of these modules has a number of different sub-modules that are designed for the different tasks needed by the system's users.

SAAQIS Phase II – the National Atmospheric Emission Inventory System (NAEIS)

At this stage, it is envisaged that the National Air Quality Officer will establish the internet-based National Atmospheric Emission Inventory System (NAEIS) as a component of SAAQIS. Once the NAEIS is established, AEL holders shall submit annual emissions inventory reports in the form necessary for the compilation of the national emission inventory profile. The system will also provide an emission inventory reporting platform for non-listed activities, including all sector categories from the Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change (IPCC) such as Energy; Industrial Processes and Product Use (IPPU); Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) and Waste. Emissions will be estimated inside NAEIS or outside the system depending on the emission sources types. The NAEIS will provide guidance and methodologies for the compilation both air pollutants and greenhouse gases emission inventories following best international practices. These tools will be available for emission inventory compilation by all spheres of government. The NAEIS will also serve as a platform for current and future emissions estimations. Section 5.2.1.5 gives more detail regarding the atmospheric emission inventory information management plans for the near future. The NAEIS will include the following:

- Details of emissions from all source types (e.g. point, mobile, area, line, volume).
- Details of emissions by pollutant and greenhouse gas type.

THE 2012 NATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

- Norms and standards for emission inventories compilation.
- Examples of emission inventories compiled in South Africa.
- Search tools to interrogate the inventories.
- Details of licensed emissions.
- A database of emission factors for various activities.
- Documentation on Best Available Techniques (BAT).
- The NAEIS has been under development since April 2011 and will be finalised in 2014.

Table 9: Emissions Inventory Modules development targets

Key Milestone, Product or Output	Timeframe
Emission Inventory tools to be developed in the SAAQIS	
Emission inventory compilation tool	2014/15
Top-down and bottom-up Greenhouse Gas Inventory compilation tool	
Emission data reporting facilitation tool	
Emission data report/view generating tool	
Emission data import facility component	
Emission data assessment tool	
Emission data export tool	
Emission inventory guidelines, manuals and reporting regulations	2015/16

SAAQIS Phase III – the air quality real time reporting and forecasting

- This component of SAAQIS will provide air quality forecasting information to the general public. The forecasting will communicate to the public how polluted the air is at a point in time or how polluted it is forecast to become. It is envisaged that a National Air Quality Index will be developed to assign health related warning messages to pollution forecasts as part of the SAAQIS phase III. With this, SAAQIS will be able to advise the public on the possible precautionary actions to take in order to reduce adverse air quality effects.

5.2.1.2 Ambient air quality information

The SAAQIS provides information on how to produce and present ambient air quality data. Ambient air quality information is achieved by deploying monitoring equipment (e.g. passive and/or continuous monitoring equipment) and analysing the results. The SAAQIS also provides the users with quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC) systems, data storage and presentation/reporting routines to assist users in meeting their monitoring and reporting requirements. The SAAQIS provides assistance with the importing of raw data into the system and associated reporting requirements, validation, assessment and exporting of the data, as well as the reporting and viewing of processed data. Currently the SAAQIS ambient air quality information management module (SAAQIS Phase I) is undergoing major revisions to improve its functionality and data manipulation capabilities. This upgrade is expected to be complete by 2014.

Table 10: SAAQIS ambient air quality related implementation targets

Key Milestone, Product or Output	Timeframe
SAAQIS Phase I upgrade	2013/14
Reporting of all government-owned air quality monitoring stations into SAAQIS	Ongoing Quarterly reporting
National Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Strategy	2013/14
Live reporting of air quality monitoring stations into SAAQIS (at least 30%)	2015/16

5.2.1.3 Ambient air quality monitoring

In order to ensure integrity, quality and representativeness of the ambient monitoring data, ambient air quality monitoring needs to be conducted according to accepted norms and standards. The SAAQIS will make national norms and

THE 2012 NATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

standards for ambient air quality monitoring available. The norms and standards for air quality monitoring will include the following:

- Procedures on ambient monitoring programme design, pollutants to monitor, considerations on siting of stations and monitoring station classifications.
- Procedures on the use of verified monitoring equipment, reference and equivalence monitoring methods in accordance with appropriate norms.
- Procedures on how ambient air quality data will be recorded, analysed, processed, reported and archived following best-practice principles.
- Guidance on monitoring station operation, maintenance and calibration following best- practice principles.
- Quality control and quality assurance procedures fit for ambient air quality monitoring and reporting.
- Guidance concerning air quality measurements by passive sampling.
- Systems for transferring data in SAAQIS.
- National Air Quality Index for simplified reporting of daily air quality to the general public.

Table 11: SAAQIS ambient air quality monitoring related implementation targets

Key Milestone, Product or Output	Timeframe
National norms and standards for air quality monitoring	2013/14

Notwithstanding the monitoring standards underway, the following should be taken into account when siting monitoring equipment:

Location

In respect of the macro-scale siting of SO₂, NO₂, PM₁₀, CO, C₆H₆ and Pb sampling points, sampling points directed at the protection of human health shall be sited to provide:

- data on the areas within zones and agglomerations where the highest concentrations of pollutants occur to which the highest density of the population is likely to be directly or indirectly exposed for a period which is significant in relation to the period used to derive averages in the case of limit value(s), and
- data on levels in other areas within the zones and agglomerations which are representative of the exposure of the general population.

The following factors can also be taken into account:

- interfering sources affecting the airflow in the vicinity of the sampler, e.g. overhanging trees, etc;
- security;
- access;
- availability of electrical power and telephone communications;
- visibility of the site in relation to its surroundings;
- safety of the public and operators;
- desirability of co-locating sampling points for different pollutants;
- educational awareness opportunity associated with the siting; and
- planning requirements.

Criteria for determining the recommended minimum number of sampling sites

The number of sampling sites will vary according to the class of air quality experienced in a given area (See Figure 7, page 61). Monitoring in areas where class 1 or class 2 is experienced does not need to be as intensive as that in class 3, 4 or 5 air quality areas. The intensity refers to the type of monitoring required and the recommended number of monitoring sites required.

The recommended minimum number of sampling points for fixed measurements to assess compliance with SO₂, NO₂, PM₁₀, CO, C₆H₆ and Pb limit values for the protection of human health and alert thresholds in zones and agglomerations

THE 2012 NATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

where fixed measurement is the sole source of information is presented in Table 12. The recommended minimum number of sampling points for O₃ measurement is presented in Table 13.

In the case of areas polluted by NO₂, particulate matter, benzene and carbon monoxide, in class 4 and 5 air quality areas, at least one urban background station and one traffic-orientated station will be included, provided this does not increase the number of sampling points.

For the assessment of pollution in the vicinity of point sources, the number of sampling points for fixed measurements will be calculated taking into account emission densities, the likely distribution patterns of ambient air pollution and potential exposure of the population.

Sampling points for fixed measurements shall be sited so as to ensure that the samples taken will be representative of the exposure of the sampled population.

Table 12: Recommended minimum number of sampling points for fixed measurements to assess compliance with national ambient standards for SO₂, NO₂, PM₁₀, CO, C₆H₆ and Pb (adapted from SANS 1929)

Population density in agglomeration or zone (thousands)	Recommended minimum number of sampling points		
	Class 4 and 5 air quality areas	Class 3 air quality areas	Class 1 and 2 air quality areas
0 – 249	1	1	Not applicable
250 – 499	2	1	1
500 – 749	2	1	1
750 – 999	3	1	1
1000 – 1499	4	2	1
1500 – 1999	5	2	1
2000 – 2749	6	3	2
2750 – 3749	7	3	2
3750 – 4749	8	4	2
4750 – 5999	9	4	2
> 6000	10	5	3

Table 13: Recommended minimum number of sampling points for fixed measurements to assess compliance with ozone limits values for the protection of human health in zones and agglomerations where fixed measurement is the sole source of information (adapted from SANS 1929).

Population density in agglomeration or zone (thousands)	Recommended minimum number of sampling points		
	Agglomerations (urban and suburban) ^a	Other zones (suburban and rural) ^a	Rural background
0 – 249	-	1	One station per 50 000 km ² as an average density over all zones within the country ^b
250 – 499	1	2	
500 – 999	2	2	
1000 – 1499	3	3	
1500 – 1999	3	4	
2000 – 2749	4	5	
2750 – 3749	5	6	
> 3750	One additional station per two million inhabitants	One additional station per two million inhabitants	

^a least one station in suburban areas, where the highest exposure of the population is likely to occur. In agglomerations, at least 50% of the stations will be located in suburban areas.

^b One station per 25 000 km² for complex terrain is recommended.

Requirements for meteorological monitoring

Meteorological monitoring is an important aspect of air quality management. Monitoring and analysis of meteorological conditions should be part of air quality monitoring programme.

5.2.1.4 The National Air Quality Indicator

The national department has developed a methodology for calculating and ascertaining an indicator to monitor the state and trend of air ambient quality in South Africa, the National Air Quality Indicator (NAQI). The methodology will be

THE 2012 NATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

published as part of the revised National Framework for Air Quality Management in South Africa in the National Norms and Standards for Air Quality Monitoring during 2014.

Identifying pollutants to be considered in the national indicator is relatively easy as the pollutants must include those for which the National Ambient Air Quality Standards have been set - the criteria pollutants. However, although all monitoring stations are measuring some of the criteria pollutants, they may not be measuring all of the pollutants. At least for the immediate future, the pollutants chosen for the indicator are those:-

- That are considered to be problems at the majority of measurement points, i.e. problem pollutants at a national scale; and
- That are measured at the majority of stations; and where historical data sets are available to measure progress since, at least, 2005.

From these criteria, particulate matter (PM₁₀ of aerodynamic diameter equal or less than 10 µm) is the first obvious choice with sulphur dioxide (SO₂) second. There is really no benefit in considering an indicator in respect of pollutants that seldom, if at all, exceed national standards such as carbon monoxide.

The NAQI has been developed to weigh, balance and manipulate data in such a way as to provide a verifiable and reportable measure of air quality at the national scale that is broadly accepted as being an adequate indicator, much like the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) are broadly accepted as a proxy for air that is not harmful to health and well-being. The NAQI will be used by a range of stakeholders from air quality managers to the general public. The main purposes of a NAQI are to:

- Inform the objectives of the AQA (enhancement, protection, governance).
- Monitor national progress in implementing AQA policy targets – towards national compliance by 2020.
- Provide an overall picture on the efficacy of air quality interventions.
- Provide a monitoring tool to measure the effects of policy responses.
- Serve as an environmental air quality indicator in order to assess the condition and reflect air quality trends nationally.
- Provide a tool to support policy-makers in air quality management, policy development, prioritisation and evaluation; and
- Serve as a communication tool on air quality matters by simplifying complex atmospheric observations to plots and figures easily understood by the public.

The indicator has been developed on the following basic principles:

THE 2012 NATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

- *Simple, but not simplistic* - As the indicator is meant to provide all South Africans with an indication of the quality of their air as well as whether this quality is improving or getting worse, the indicator must be simple enough for anyone to understand. However, it should not attempt to over-simplify what is actually a very complex concept, i.e. the indicator should not end up being regarded as simplistic and of little value by air quality managers.
- *Credibility* - Everyone should have confidence that the indicator provides a fair indication of the quality of their air as well as whether this quality is improving or getting worse.
- *Transparency and complexity* - In order to ensure the credibility of the indicator, methodologies of defining the indicator and the types and sources of data must be fully transparent, i.e. anyone should theoretically be able to generate the indicator.
- *Accuracy and reproducibility* - In order to reinforce the credibility of the indicator, the data used in the generation thereof must be accurate, complete and current. Furthermore, the use of the agreed methodologies must render the same result every time.
- *Sensitivity* - The indicator must be sensitive enough to demonstrate significant changes over time, but must not be so sensitive as to allow dramatic changes resulting from once-off or isolated events.
- *Balance* - As discussed above, the indicator must provide a balanced measure, for e.g. if one solitary measurement reflects non-compliance it would be unfair for the indicator to reflect that the entire nation is non-compliant.

The number of monitoring stations reporting to SAAQIS changes over the years as more monitoring stations begin to report to the SAAQIS. Also, the NAAQS annual average of PM₁₀ is getting stricter from 01 January 2015. These changes would impact the credibility of the NAQI as the value will be derived from a continuously moving baseline and target. For these reasons, the NAQI will be defined over specified reporting phases/periods during which the number of stations and the NAAQS are constant:

- **NAQI Reporting Phase I - 2008 to 2014**
 - In this phase, the NAQI will be based on the monitoring stations that have been operating since 2008.
 - The annual average NAAQS of PM₁₀ will be 50 µg/m³.
 - The NAQI from 2008 annual averages of PM₁₀ and SO₂ will serve as the baseline for this reporting phase.
 - It is envisaged that, once more networks start reporting to the SAAQIS, particularly with the increase in historical observations, a better picture on the trends will emerge.
- **NAQI Reporting Phase II – from January 2015 to 2020**
 - In this second phase, all stations measuring PM₁₀ and SO₂ from 2014 will be incorporated into the development of the NAQI.
 - The annual average NAAQS of 40 µg/m³ of PM₁₀ will also apply.
 - The NAQI from 2014 annual averages of PM₁₀ and SO₂ will serve as the baseline for this reporting phase.
 - It is also envisaged that by 2014, all government stations will be reporting to SAAQIS.
 -
- **NAQI Reporting Phase III and future phases**
 - To be defined in the future and specified in future National Frameworks.

5.2.1.5 Atmospheric emission inventory information management

Emission inventory information for air pollutants and greenhouse gases from all source sector types will be accessible from the National Atmospheric Emission Inventory System (NAEIS), which is described in Section 5.2.1.1. A National Atmospheric Emission Inventory System Data Management Policy will be developed to specify the protocols for data management and levels of accessibility for all users including stakeholders/general public. This data management policy and associated work packages will also give guidance with regard to the specific location of the NAEIS according to legal mandates, objectives of and the desired integrity of the system.

THE 2012 NATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

5.2.1.6 Listed Activities and compliance monitoring

Databases for Listed Activities and compliance monitoring will be accessible from the SAAQIS. Norms and standards for the production of information from operators of Listed Activities will be provided through the SAAQIS. Within the context of stack and other emitter-based monitoring data, protocols may be included in the SAAQIS to incorporate emissions data in a more significant manner. Further policy development will be necessary to establish strict parameters within which emitter-based monitoring data will be used, in order to maintain impartiality within the system.

Table 14: SAAQIS listed activity related implementation targets

Key Milestone, Product or Output	Timeframe
Database of Listed Activities	2014/2015

5.2.1.7 Policy, legislation and regulations

SAAQIS provides current legislation, regulations and by-laws through a user-friendly interface. The interface helps the user find relevant parts of the legislation and regulations. The SAAQIS provides search facilities in the documents, general advice to stakeholders and guidance as to roles and responsibilities of different actors and agencies within the various regulations that are available.

Table 15: SAAQIS policy and legislation related implementation targets

Key Milestone, Product or Output	Timeframe
All current policy and legislation	Ongoing

5.2.1.8 South African air quality research reference database

A large body of scientific literature that has been generated by the South Africa air quality scientific community over the years has been drawn together into the *South African Air Quality Research Reference Database*. This includes information on publications in the formal peer reviewed literature, presentations at international and national scientific conferences, 'grey literature' i.e. institutional research reports and post graduate theses. The database is searchable by fields that include details of the publication, and where this information is housed and available. The database has a facility for authors to record new material as it is published. This database is made publicly available via a link from the SAAQIS.

5.2.1.9 Air Quality Management Plans

Methodological approaches and guidance on the standards expected for development of the Air Quality Management Plans (AQMP manual) are available via the SAAQIS. AQMPs that have been developed at national, provincial and municipal spheres, and for Priority Areas are also made available.

5.2.1.10 Additional aspects of the SAAQIS

The SAAQIS is intended to provide a complete solution to the management of air quality information in South Africa, therefore the components discussed are expanded on and enhanced through mechanisms for education and skills development and accessing support on air quality issues and management. Provisions may also be included in the SAAQIS for:

- Interactive training using e-learning techniques;
- A support centre or helpdesk for assistance on air quality information related queries;
- A national website for updates on air quality status;
- A media library containing air quality information from media sources;
- A database of key stakeholders;
- A library of relevant links to relevant national and international air quality information.

5.2.2 Air quality publications

A series of information booklets are being developed by the national department with the objective of advancing the science and understanding of air quality management and to address the responsibility regarding the provision of air quality information to the public. The information series is also aimed at providing air quality management practitioners

THE 2012 NATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

with technical guidance. The completed publications are available from the national department and will be available for downloading on SAAQIS. The titles of the booklets and their publication status are presented in Appendix 1.

The publications are structured in series that are aimed at specific target groups:

Series A: the general information series. This series are aimed at a general readership.

Series B: the specialist information series. The series is targeted at undergraduate students and practising professionals. It comprises booklets covering topics such as air pollution meteorology, air pollution dispersion modelling, pollution control approaches, impacts of air pollution and international agreements and climate change.

Series C: the governance information series. This series provides detailed information on the implementation of air quality management, aimed at practitioners.

Series D: the cleaner production series. The series is aimed at cleaner production and various booklets book will be developed for sectors that have been identified as priorities (see relevant prioritisation Paragraph 5.3.3, page 46).

5.2.3 Air quality reporting

The main objective of reporting on air quality is to convey information to a target user group, with variation in the purpose and content of air quality reports according to user groups. The following sections outline different types of air quality reports that may be required. Reporting on international commitments is governed by the stipulations in the Climate Change White Paper

5.2.3.1 Atmospheric impact reports

An AQO may require any person to submit an Atmospheric Impact Report, in accordance with Section 30 of the AQA, provided that there is reasonable suspicion that the person has on one, or more, occasions contravened or failed to comply with the AQA or any condition of their AEL. The contents and compliance requirements of an Atmospheric Impact Report are detailed in Paragraph 5.5.4.

5.2.3.2 State of air reporting

State of environment report is necessary to describe baseline environmental conditions against which changes or trends may be measured. These reports are important in prioritising and setting goals for environmental management and will include a chapter on the state of the air. This chapter will be reviewed every 5 years and include the following:

- A set of defined indicators to measure ambient air quality;
- Information on:
 - Air quality standards and objectives;
 - Ambient air quality monitoring activities;
 - Listed Activities and their related emissions;
 - Status of ambient air quality and trends;
- Air quality management initiatives.

5.2.3.3 The Air Quality Officers' annual reports

In order to meet the progress reporting requirements in respect of air quality management plans, all municipal AQOs will be required to submit a Municipal Air Quality Officer's Annual Report to the provincial AQO at least 1 month prior to the Annual National Air Quality Governance Lekgotla (see Paragraph 4.4.6, page 39). The provincial AQOs will then use these reports to inform the compilation of a Provincial Air Quality Officer's Annual Report to be submitted to the National AQO at least 2 weeks prior to the Lekgotla. The National AQO will then compile the draft National Air Quality Officer's Annual Report for presentation to the Lekgotla for ratification and submission for publication. Details on the structure and content of the National Air Quality Officer's Annual Report can be found in Paragraph 6.2 of this document.

5.3 Problem identification and prioritisation

5.3.1 Introduction

There are a number of areas in South Africa that have recognised air quality problems (see Paragraph 5.3.4). These are areas where there are industrial activities resulting in emissions at various levels depending on quantities emitted and