



“A Place of Excellence”

## MEDIA RELEASE

### Drakenstein Municipality responds to protest organised by activist group

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

30 March 2017

*On Wednesday, 29 March 2017, an activist group, which included Drakenstein Environmental Watch (DEW) took to the streets of Wellington and expressed their concerns surrounding the municipality's Waste-to-Energy project. The group has been persistent in publicising points surrounding the environmental and health impacts associated with incineration, which is based on outdated and incorrect information. Given the advanced technology to be used for this project, the recent information published by various groups is not a correct representation of the facts surrounding the project's technology. Realising that this project is an environmentally sound solution to the ever depleting landfill airspace at Wellington Landfill, the municipality responded to the group with accurate facts following numerous environmental specialist studies, which are also available on the municipality's website for public viewing.*

The group started to gather behind BP garage on Wednesday morning with their placards presenting concerns. The concerns raised by the group include emissions and fine ash, contamination of the Berg River and agricultural land as well as various health concerns. At the end of the march, citizens were greeted by the Executive Mayor and members of the Mayoral Committee, who listened to the concerns of the individuals and engaged in a discussion with them. The representatives presented the facts to settle these concerns.

“As the Municipality, we thank our residents for their engagement, however would like to encourage them not to follow false information which is being circulated by other parties. The municipality of Drakenstein is a responsible government that will not allow anything detrimental to affect our community. Once all the statutory requirements have been fulfilled by August 2018, Council will consider all the facts and will make the final decision, until then we aim to keep our community informed and up-to-date regarding the progress. We have always and will continue to act in the best interest of our communities. We govern according to the laws of this country and we are handling this proposed Waste-to-Energy project, as specific legislation requires us to do. Drakenstein Municipality has a track record of listening to its community and we intend to live up to this reputation. This country is well regulated when it comes to environmental matters as well as project processes of this magnitude and as a responsible government we adhere to these legal requirements,” concludes Leibbrandt.

For more information about the proposed Drakenstein Waste Recovery, Beneficiation and Energy project please visit our [website](#).

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Released by Reputation Matters

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