

Date: 19 July 2018

Dear Interested and Affected Party,

NOTICE OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA), WATER USE LICENSE APPLICATION AND BORROW PIT APPLICATION FOR THE PROPOSED NEW LEPHALALE RAILWAY YARD, AT STEENBOKPAN, LEPHALALE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, WATERBERG DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

Notice is hereby given that the Transnet SOC Limited intends to apply for an Environmental Authorisation (EA) in terms of the National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998 (NEMA), and a Water Use License (WUL) in terms of the National Water Act 36 of 1998 (NWA), and a Mining Permit (Borrow Pit Application) for the development of its new Lephale Railway Yard.

Transnet intends to develop a new railway yard along the existing single track Thabazimbi-Lephale railway line on Portion 1 (remaining extent) of the farm Geelhoutkloof 359LQ, farm Geelhoutkloof 717LQ, Enkeldraai 319LQ and Kringgatspruit 318LQ. The study site is situated approximately 30km west of Lephale town (Ellisras) in the game farming area of Steenbokpan. It falls within the jurisdiction of Lephale Local Municipality in the Waterberg District of Limpopo Province.

The proposal requires the next authorisations before it can be commissioned:

- Environmental Authorisation under the provisions of the National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998 and its promulgated EIA Regulations of 2014 which is to be obtained from the National Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA);
- A Water Use License (WUL) for Section 21 triggered water uses under the National Water Act 36 of 1998 (NWA) from the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS);
- A Mining Permit for establishment of Borrow Pits in terms of Section 27 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act 28 of 2002 and Environmental Authorisation in terms of NEMA EIA Regulations of 2014 from the Department of Mineral Resources (DMR).

Naledzi Environmental Consultants CC has been appointed as the independent environmental assessment practitioners to obtain the relevant authorisations and facilitate the EIA Study. The Environmental Authorisation application is subject to a Full Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process which would be integrated with a Water Use License Application (WULA) procedure and Borrow Pit Application. The applications are subject to public participation and we are required to inform Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) about the project to solicit their views, comments and recommendations on the applications.

This letter serves as notification of the development and we draw your attention to the following:

- An invitation to register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP)
- The availability of a Background Information Document (BID) for comment

Register as an I&AP

You are hereby invited to register as an I&AP on the project and to participate in the process by completing the enclosed Comments and Registration Form sheet included with the attached BID.

Background Information Document (BID) available for public review

The enclosed BID provides an overview of the EIA Process, WUL Procedure and Borrow Pit Application and invites I&APs to participate and register on the process. A period of 30 day from **23 July 2018 until 28 August 2018** is provided to review the BID and submit comments and concerns regarding the applications.

The BID and associated Comment and Registration Form, are available for public comment on the Naledzi website at www.naledzi.co.za. Copies of the BID are also available at the following public venues:

- Lephhalale Public Library at c/o Joe Slovo & Doewater Streets, Lephhalale. Contact the Chief Librarian Johanna Ndoweni (014) 762 1453;
- Marapong Public Library at 916 Phukubye Street, Marapong, Lephhalale. Contact the Librarian Mr Sophonia Petje at 073 210 8954

If you wish to comment on the BID, you can:

- complete the enclosed Comment and Registration Form and submit it to the contact person at the below given details;
- submit your name, contact information and interest telephonically; and or
- submit written comment by email or fax within the provided public registration and review period.

Please submit your name, contact information and interest in the matter to Ms. Marissa Botha / Aluwani Nembahe at the following details; Tel: 015 296 3988 / 084 226 5584 or send us your comments by email to botham@naledzi.co.za / aluwani@naledzi.co.za or either by fax number to 015 296 4021 within the stipulated timeframe.

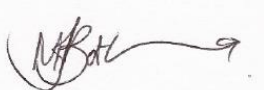
What's next?

The public participation process for the applications will be undertaken in three phases.

1. The first phase of consultation provides I&APs with an opportunity to review the Background Information Document (BID) and to comment on the process. Once the review period lapses on the BID, comments and issues received during the public registration and review period would be recorded in an Issues and Response Report (IRR) and responded to.
2. During the second phase of consultation we will prepare a draft Scoping Report (DSR). The DSR will be made available for public review for 30 calendar days at public venues and on the Naledzi website. A public meeting will also be scheduled in the project area to facilitate comments. These details will however still be communicated to I&APs at a later stage.
3. During the third phase of consultation we will prepare a draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and Environmental Management Programme (EMPR). The DEIR & EMPR would also be made available for public review for 30 calendar days at public venues and on the Naledzi website. A public meeting will again be scheduled in the project area, at the same public venue as the second round, to facilitate comments. These details will be communicated to I&APs at a later stage.

Thank you for your participation.

Regards,



Marissa Botha (*Pr.Sci.Nat*)

Naledzi Environmental Consultants CC

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