



Background Information Document and Invitation to Comment

BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED SHELL PROTEA BOULEVARD SERVICE STATION, SOWETO, GAUTENG PROVINCE

GDARD Ref Number: Gaut: 002/14-15/0145

ERM Ref Number: 0255362

OVERVIEW OF THE PROJECT

Shell South Africa Marketing (Pty) Ltd (Shell) is proposing to construct and operate a new service station located on Portion 134 of Erf 14466, Protea Glen Extension 12 in Soweto, Gauteng Province. The proposed project site for the service station is an undeveloped (vacant) piece of land surrounded by cultivated land and low density residential areas (see locality map on the next page). The service station will consist of four Underground Storage Tanks (USTs) with a capacity of 46m³ each, with associated fuel infrastructure and further facilities including a shop, restrooms, parking and access routes.

The Basic Assessment Report (BAR) will discuss the potential impacts associated with this activity, assess the likelihood and significance of the potential impacts, as well as identify appropriate mitigation measures that should be implemented in order to minimise the potential impacts.

PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

The purpose of this Background Information Document (BID) is to provide Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) with background information about the proposed project and to outline the Environmental Basic Assessment (BA) process to be undertaken. Further this document intends to inform I&APs on how to participate in the process. You are encouraged to register as an I&AP so that you can be kept informed about the project throughout the BA process.

WHY A BASIC ASSESSMENT?

Prior to the construction of the USTs, a Basic Assessment process must be undertaken in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), in order to obtain the necessary environmental authorisation from the competent authority, the Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (GDARD)

This process is further outlined on the following page.



Typical Shell Service Station at night

ERM's Role

Environmental Resources Management Southern Africa (Pty) Ltd (ERM) has been appointed by Shell to undertake the Basic Assessment (BA) and associated Public Participation Process.

You are invited to register as an I&AP and comment on this project .

Please complete the enclosed registration/comment sheet and/or contact:

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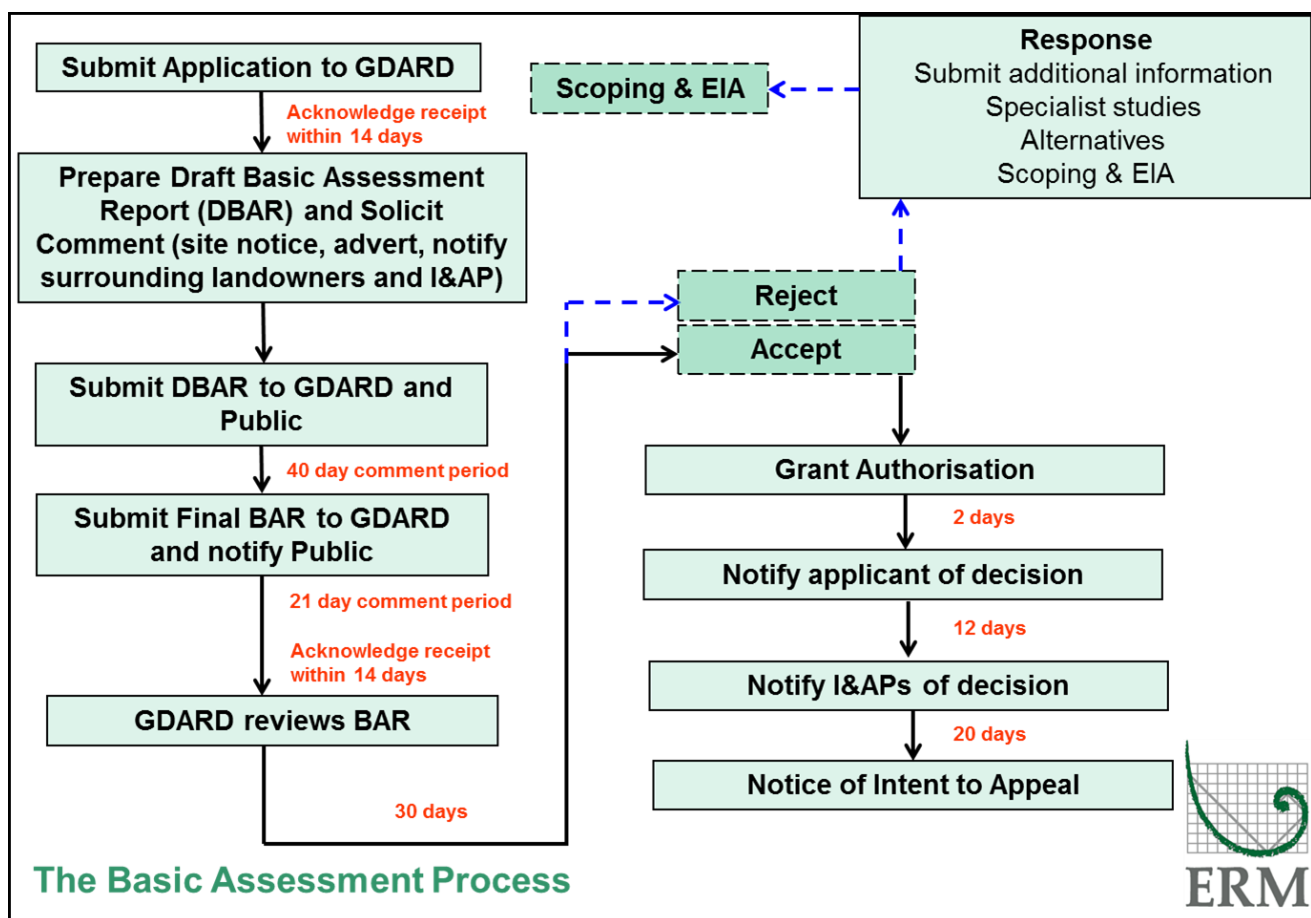


THE BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS

The BA for the proposed service station is being conducted in terms of the NEMA. The construction of the service station's USTs with a combined capacity of 184m³ has been identified as a listed activity in terms of the EIA Regulations GN R544.

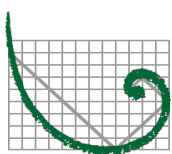
"The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the storage, or storage and handling of a dangerous goods, where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity of 80 cubic metres but not exceeding 500 cubic metres." Activity 13, GN R544.

Activities listed in GN R544 require Environmental Authorisation through a BA process. The BA process is a simplified Environmental Impact Assessment and involves concise identification and assessment of potential impacts that the proposed project may have on the biophysical and socio-economic environment, supported by input from specialists, where required. The Basic Assessment Report (BAR) and Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) will be made available for your comment.



HAVE YOUR SAY

As an I & AP you are invited to identify issues and raise concerns that you have about the proposed project. There will be opportunities to comment on the project including the 30 day public notification period (October 2014). The project team will provide a response to the questions, and all comments and responses will be included in the Final BAR that will be submitted to the GDARD for their consideration.



ERM

October 2014



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