

Project Reference: 720.21015.00014

File Ref. 2019-07-01_Dannhauser RWSS

30 August 2019

ATTENTION: INTERESTED AND/OR AFFECTED PARTIES

Dear Sir/Madam

AMAJUBA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY: NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOR THE DANNHAUSER REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY SCHEME**1. INTRODUCTION**

SLR Consulting (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd (SLR) has been appointed by the Amajuba District Municipality as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner for the proposed Dannhauser Regional Water Supply Scheme in northern KwaZulu-Natal.

As part of this appointment, SLR is to compile applications for Environmental Authorisation in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (No. 107 of 1998) and to register the water uses in terms of the General Authorisation gazetted in terms of Section 39 of the National Water Act, 1998 (No. 36 of 1998).

2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Currently the water supply to the areas of Skombaren, Hilltop and Hattingspruit (including nearby Ramaphosa) are under capacitated and not able to meet future water supply demands. In response to these demands the Amajuba DM has proposed connecting these areas to the recently upgraded Durnacol Water Treatment Works through the implementation of the following Phases:

- Phase 1-1 Skombaren comprising:
 - 2.5 Ml reservoir at Skombaren;
 - 200 and 355 mm uPVC gravity main 8 700 m long from Dannhauser command reservoir to Skombaren via new concrete reservoir;
- Phase 1-2 Hilltop comprising:
 - 450 mm NB and 400 mm ductile iron rising main 19 700 m long from Durnacol to existing Hilltop reservoirs;
 - Pumping station at Durnacol (2x 250 kw pumps);
 - 5 Ml clear water reservoir at Durnacol;
- Phase 1-3 Hattingspruit and Ramaphosa comprising:
 - 200 mm to 315 mm uPVC gravity main 4 200 m long to new Hattingspruit break pressure tank;
 - 200 mm to 315 mm uPVC gravity main 6 500 m long to existing Hattingspruit clear water reservoirs;
 - 2.5 Ml break pressure tank / reservoir;



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- 110 mm NB uPVC gravity main 4 200m to Ramaphosa Settlement; and
- 200 kℓ elevated reservoir at Ramaphosa.

3. LEGISLATION

Notice is hereby given of the Amajuba District Municipality's intention to apply for Environmental Authorisation in terms of Chapter 5 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (No. 107 of 1998) for the abovementioned project and to register the associated water use activities in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (No. 36 of 1998) and the General Authorisation for Section 21 (c) and (i) activities (GN. 509 of 2016).

As the appointed independent environmental assessment practitioner, SLR is responsible for undertaking the environmental regulatory processes and conducting public participation. Given that the project triggers activities listed in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulation Listing Notice 1 and 3 (as amended by GN. R 327 and 324 of 2017), the application will be subject to a Basic Assessment (BA) process as stipulated in the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (as amended by GN R 325 of 2017). Listed activities that this project would trigger include the following:

Table 3-1: NEMA listed activities applied for as part of the proposed project

No.	Activity description	Description of activity in relation to the proposed project
Listing Notice 1		
9	The development of infrastructure exceeding 1 000 metres in length for the bulk transportation of water or storm water— (i) with an internal diameter of 0,36 metres or more; or (ii) with a peak throughput of 120 litres per second or more; excluding where - (a) such infrastructure is for bulk transportation of water or storm water or storm water drainage inside a road reserve or railway line reserve; or (b) where such development will occur within an urban area.	The pipeline lengths and diameters will exceed the stipulated thresholds of 1000 metres in length for the bulk transport of water with an internal diameter of >0.3m metres. See Section 2 which details the lengths and pipeline diameters
12	The development of - (i) dams or weirs, where the dam or weir, including infrastructure and water surface area, exceeds 100 square metres; or (ii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more; where such development occurs - (a) within a watercourse ; (b) in front of a development setback ; or (c) if no development setback exists, within 32 metres of a watercourse , measured from the edge of a watercourse.	Numerous water reticulation pipelines will be constructed with a total footprint exceeding 100 square meters. Certain to be determined sections of the pipelines are likely to cross watercourses or come in close proximity to water courses, namely within 32m of a watercourse. No water reservoirs are planned to be constructed within watercourses or within 32 m of a watercourse.
19	The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 10 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock of more than 10 cubic metres from a watercourse; but excluding where such infilling, depositing, dredging, excavation, removal or moving - (a) will occur behind a development setback ; (b) is for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan ;	The proposed project pipelines will intersect watercourses. Excavation and infilling activities to lay down the pipeline will likely exceed 10 cubic meters.

No.	Activity description	Description of activity in relation to the proposed project
	(c) falls within the ambit of activity 21 in this Notice, in which case that activity applies; (d) occurs within existing ports or harbours that will not increase the development footprint of the port or harbour; or (e) where such development is related to the development of a port or harbour, in which case activity 26 in Listing Notice 2 of 2014 applies.	
Listing Notice 3		
12	The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.	The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation is highly likely due to the 43.3 km of proposed pipeline that is proposed to be built. This is due to the pipeline routes passing through three critical biodiversity areas near Dannhauser.

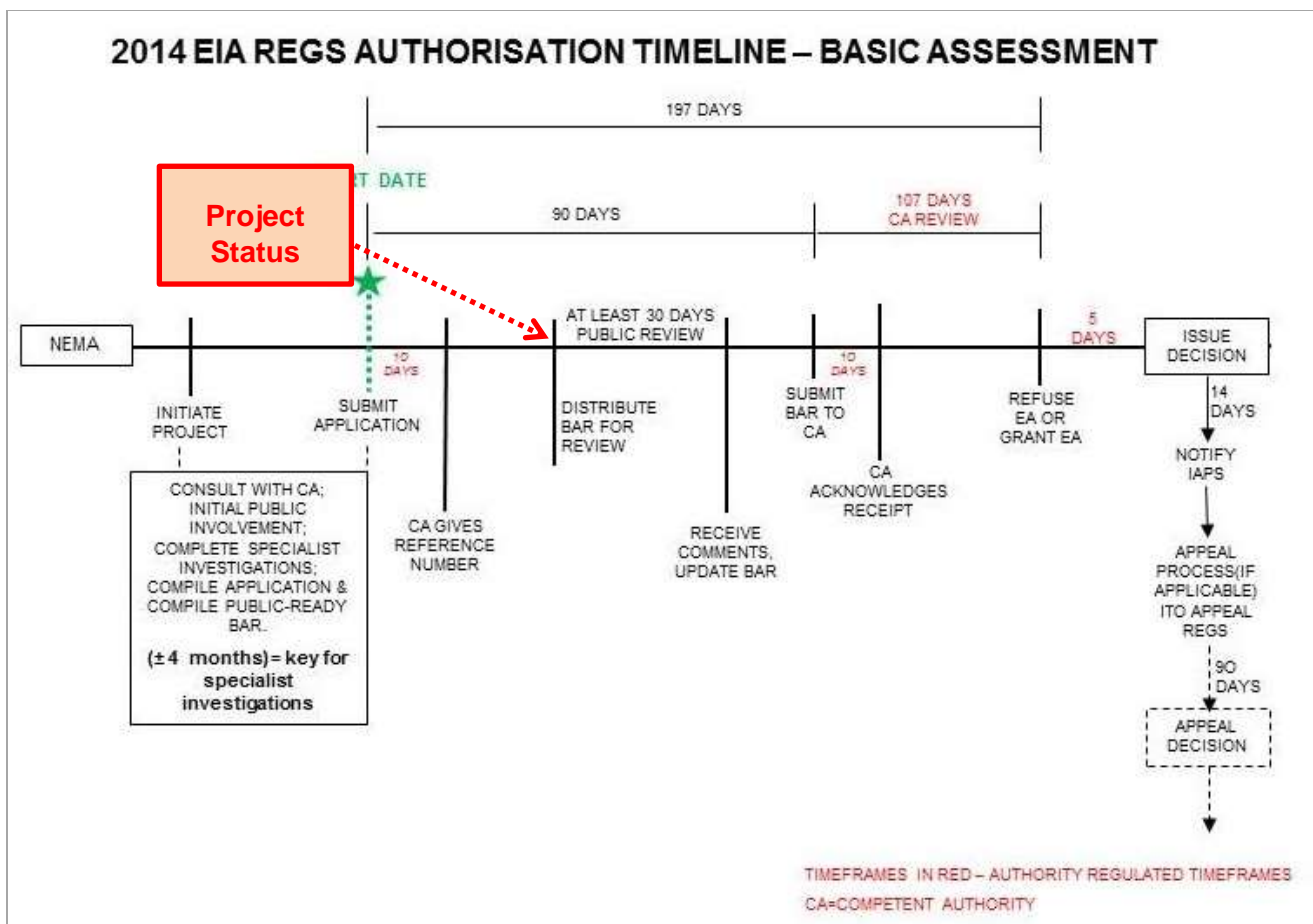


Figure 1: Schematic of the Basic Assessment process (red arrow illustrates the status of the project currently).

4. OPPORTUNITIES FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A public participation process is being conducted as an integral part of the Basic Assessment process. As part of this process, the Basic Assessment Report will be made available for public review from **30 August** to **31 September 2019**. Should you wish to review the assessment, copies are available at the Dannhauser Water Treatment Works and on SLR's website (<https://slrconsulting.com/za/slr-documents>).

Should you wish to register and an Interested and affected party (I&AP) and provide comment on the proposed development, please provide your contacts details and comments to SLR by **31 September 2019** (Contact details as per attached registration form). Thereafter, the Basic Assessment Report will be updated based on any comments received and submit for to the Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs for decision-making.

Yours faithfully

Unsigned electronic copy

Theo Wicks
BSc (Hons) MPhil (Env Management)
Environmental Assessment Practitioner

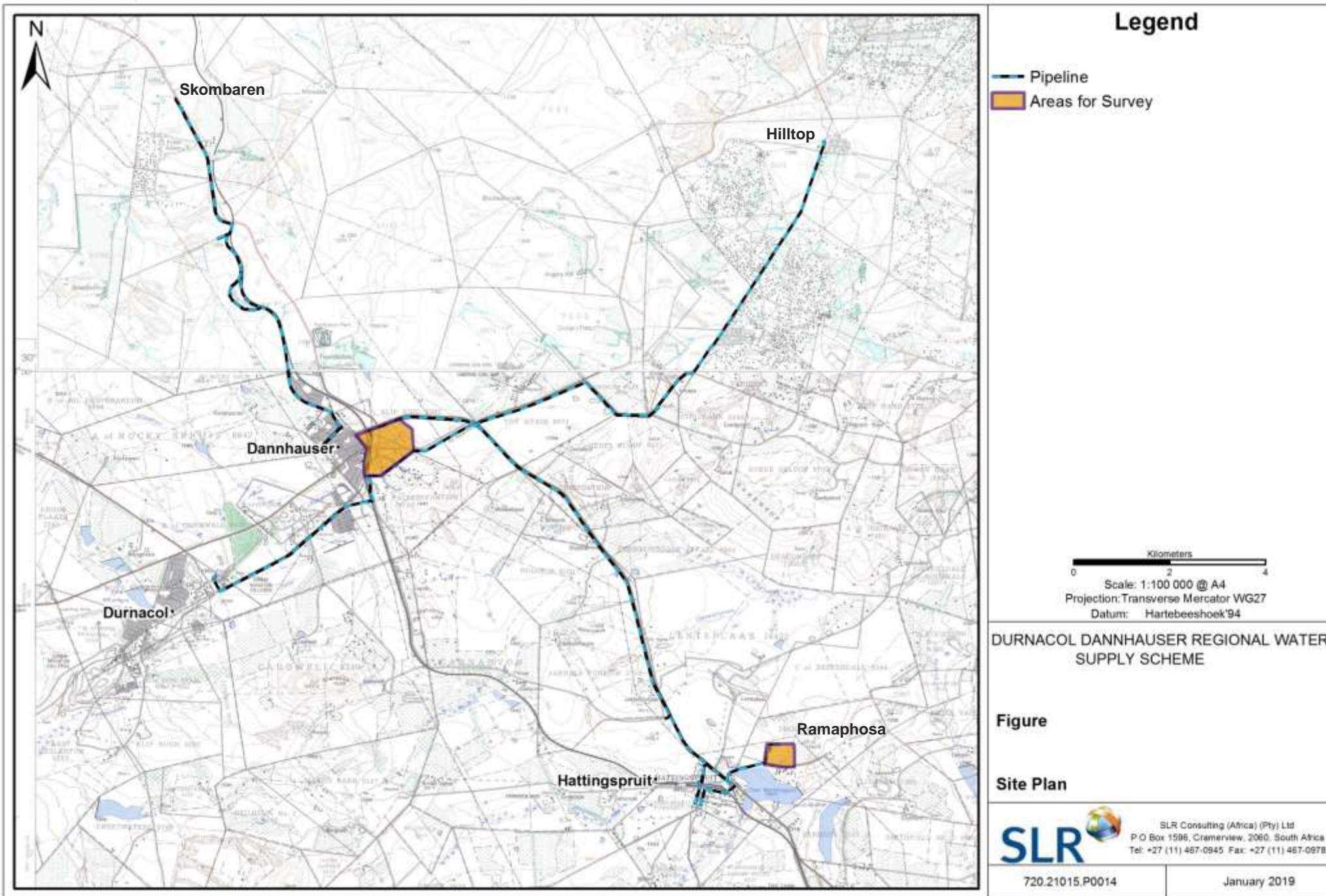


Figure 1: Local Setting and Layout

Amajuba District Municipality
Dannhauser Regional Water Supply Scheme

REGISTRATION AND RESPONSE FORM FOR INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES

DATE		TIME	
PARTICULARS OF THE INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTY			
NAME			
POSTAL ADDRESS			
		POSTAL CODE	
STREET ADDRESS			
		POSTAL CODE	
WORK/ DAY TELEPHONE NUMBER		WORK/ DAY FAX NUMBER	
CELL PHONE NUMBER		E-MAIL ADDRESS	

PLEASE IDENTIFY YOUR INTEREST IN THE PROPOSED PROJECT

PLEASE WRITE YOUR COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS HERE

Please return completed forms to:
SLR Consulting (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd
Att: Theo Wicks
Tel: (033) 347 1820 Fax: (011) 467 0978
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Please submit your comments to SLR by 31 September 2019, in order for these to be included in the Basic Assessment.

