

# PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF THE HAMMARSDALE WATER PIPELINE IN eTHEKWINI MUNICIPALITY, KWAZULU- NATAL

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

MAY 2017

PREPARED FOR: eTHEKWINI MUNICIPALITY WATER AND SANITATION



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## 1 INTRODUCTION

Notice is hereby given, in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 07 April 2017, published in Government Notice (GN) No. R324 and R327 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA), of the intent to carry out a Basic Assessment Report (BAR) Process for the Hammarsdale Pipeline; and in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) (NWA), of the intent to lodge a Water Use Licence Application (WULA).

## 2 PURPOSE OF THE BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

The key objective of the of the Background Information Document (BID) revolves around conveying relevant and key information regarding the project to all those parties who are likely to be affected by the proposed Hammarsdale Pipeline, thereby also fostering public involvement. The BID provides an overview of the following:

- The various aspects of the environmental processes that is required for the implementation of the proposed project;
- An understanding of the proposed project; and
- A locality map indicating the position of the development.

Furthermore, the BID also provides stakeholders with the opportunity to register as Interested and Affected Parties (IAPs) and to raise their issues and concerns with regards to the proposed Hammarsdale Pipeline.

Please see the end of this document for details as to how to register as an IAP.

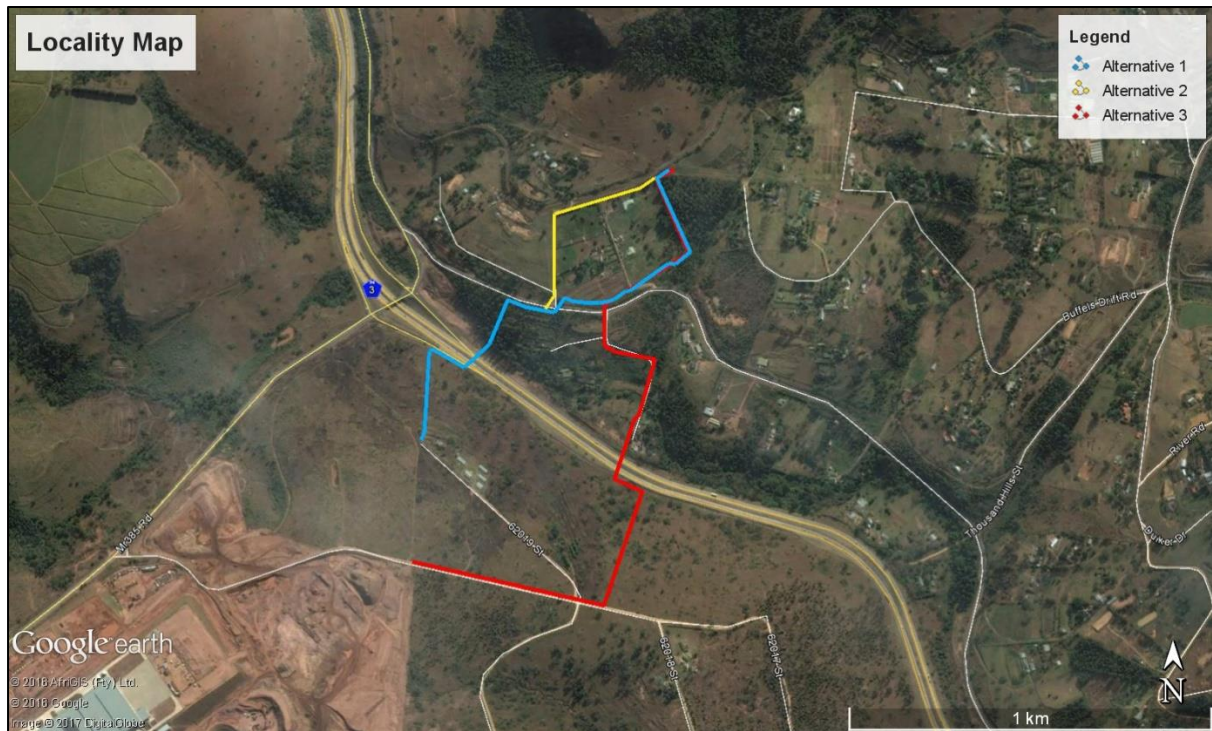
## 3 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Hammarsdale High Level Reservoir is currently supplied from Georgedale Reservoir (771.4 msl) (mean sea level) via a 225mm diameter and 400mm diameter pipeline respectively. The demands at Hammarsdale Reservoir are projected to increase from 7.7 MI/day presently to 13.9 MI/day in 2036.

The eThekweni Municipality therefore propose that, in order to meet the projected demand, a 500mm diameter water pipeline be constructed that will come off the Western Aqueduct system to supply the Hammarsdale Reservoir with a more direct supply.

The Western aqueduct system is supplied from the Umlaas Road Reservoir which has an elevation of 844msl which is higher than Georgedale Reservoir (771.4msl), thus allowing more flexibility in water infrastructure designs as there will be more pressure to work within the system. It is also proposed that Hammarisdale Elevated Tower (ET) will eventually be directly supplied by the new pipeline but this falls outside the scope of this project.

The proposed Hammarisdale Pipeline is located in Drummond, Outer West Durban (**Figures 1 and 2**). Alternative 1, Alternative 2 and Alternative 3 of the pipeline route is 1.4km, 1.3km and 2km, respectively.



*Figure 1: Google Earth Map of the proposed water pipeline route alternatives*



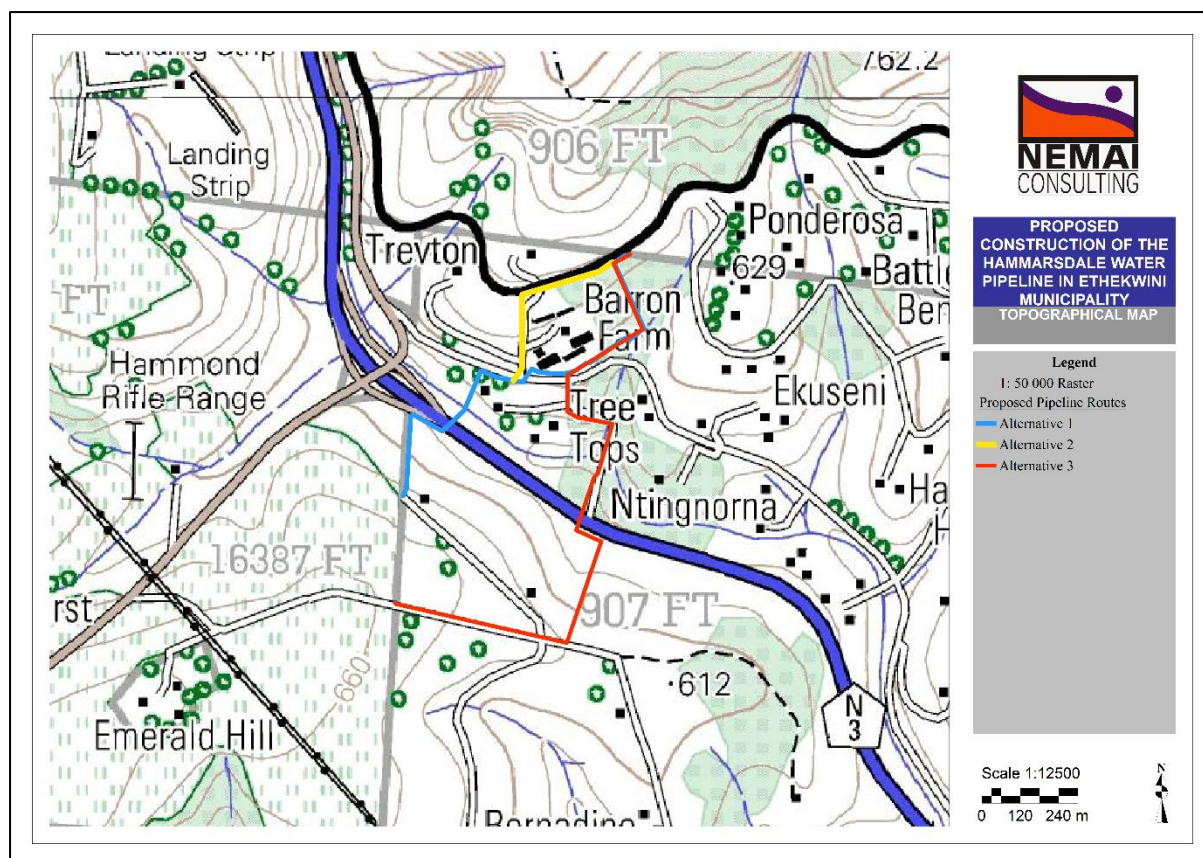


Figure 2: 1:50 000 Topographical Map

## 4 REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

The proposed Hammarisdale Pipeline falls within the ambit of the NEMA and NWA.

### 4.1 Basic Assessment (BA) Process

In terms of GN No. R324 and R327 of 07 April 2017 of the NEMA, a specific list of activities were identified which could have a detrimental impact on the receiving environment.

The KwaZulu-Natal Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (KZN DEDTEA) will be the regulatory authority and an application has been submitted to them which has been accepted by the Department.

Table 1: Listed Activities for the proposed pipeline development

Notice No.	Activity No.	Activity description
GN 327	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,

Notice No.	Activity No.	Activity description
		shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock of more than 10 cubic metres from a watercourse.
<b>GN 324</b>	<b>12 (d)(iv and xi)</b>	<p>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.</p> <p>(d) In Kwazulu-Natal:</p> <p>(iv) Within any critically endangered or endangered ecosystem listed in terms of section 52 of the NEMBA or prior to the publication of such a list, within an area that has been identified as critically endangered in the National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment 2004;</p> <p>(xi) Areas designated for conservation use in Spatial Development Frameworks adopted by the competent authority or zoned for a conservation purpose.</p>
<b>GN 324</b>	<b>14 (ii)(a and c)(d)(vii)</b>	<p>The development of –</p> <p>(ii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 10 square meters or more;</p> <p>where such development occurs –</p> <p>(a) within a watercourse,</p> <p>(b) if no development setback has been adopted within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse;</p> <p>(d) In Kwazulu-Natal:</p> <p>(vii) Critical biodiversity areas or ecosystem service areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans.</p>

The Basic Assessment Report (BAR) will contain the details of the assessment conducted and include all comments from IAPs, specialist investigations, project design and impacts that have been identified and proposed mitigation measures to counter potential impacts.

A copy of the draft BAR will be made available for public review, prior to finalisation and submission of the BAR to KZN DEDTEA. Only **registered** IAPs will continue to be notified of the BA process.

Please see the end of this document for details as to how to register as an IAP.

## **4.2 Water Use Licence Application (WULA)**

Further notice is hereby given in terms of the NWA to lodge a WULA as the proposed Hammarisdale Pipeline crosses a watercourse. This triggers the following water uses in terms of the NWA for:

- Section 21 (c) – Impeding or diverting the flow of water in a water course; and
- Section 21 (i) – Altering the bed, banks, course or characteristics of a watercourse.

A WULA is thus required. A copy of the draft WULA Report will be made available for public review, prior to finalisation and submission to the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS). Only **registered** IAPs will continue to be notified of the WULA process.

Please see the end of this document for details as to how to register as an IAP.

## 5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A Public Participation Process will be conducted in terms of Chapter 6 of GN No. 326 of 07 April 2017, of the NEMA.

The Public Participation Process will involve the following:

1. Site notices will be erected at prominent points along the pipeline route alternatives and around the study area.
2. BIDs will be distributed to the landowners, neighbouring properties and companies/developments that may be affected by the proposed development.
3. BIDs will be emailed to all relevant stakeholders, including authorities, ward councillors, and state departments.
4. An advertisement will be placed in a local newspaper.

IAPs are encouraged to participate in the process in order for concerns to be addressed and included in the BAR and WULA. This notice serves to notify all IAPs of the proposed development.

The final date to register as an IAP by is **22 June 2017**.

In order to ensure that you are identified as an IAP, please submit your name, contact information and comment regarding the proposed development, by means of e-mail, fax or post as soon as possible to the EAP below at Nema Consulting:



**Contact Person:** Samantha Gerber  
**Tel:** (011) 781 1730  
**Fax:** (011) 781 1731  
**Email:** [samanthag@nema.co.za](mailto:samanthag@nema.co.za)  
**Postal Address:** PO Box 1673, Sunninghill, 2157

Only **registered** IAPs will continue to be notified of the process as it unfolds such as the dates of public meetings and review periods of the BAR and WULA process. All comments (issues and concerns) will be incorporated into a Comments and Responses Report which will be included in the final BAR to be submitted to the KZN DEDTEA.

## REPLY FORM

## Proposed Hammarsdale Pipeline in eThekweni Municipality, KwaZulu-Natal.

(Complete and return to: **Samantha Gerber**. This form should be returned no later than **22 June 2017**)

<b>Date:</b>		
<b>Name of organisation:</b>		
<b>Name of Interested and Affected Party (IAP):</b>		
<b>Address:</b>	<b>Postal:</b>	<b>Physical:</b>
<b>Tel No:</b>		
<b>Fax No:</b>		
<b>E-mail:</b>		
<b>Registration as an IAP:</b>	<i>YES</i>	<i>NO</i>
<b>Comments:</b>		