

# **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION REPORT**

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

The public participation process was conducted along the in terms of Regulation 56 of the GN R327 of 2017. The public participation process was adhered to in order to:

- notify I&AP of the application and informing them of all relevant facts
- keep a register of the names and contact details of all I&APs;
- provide all I&APs with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the application.
- report the comments made by I&APs and the applicant's responses to those comments to the competent authority.

Before the application for the proposed activity was submitted KwaZuluNatal Economic Development, Tourism & Environmental Affairs (kznedtea) a pre-application meeting was held at the site on 11 march 2019. The pre application meeting is mandatory for the purpose of streamlining procedure to be adhered to and identification of parameters to be considered in the application process. After the pre application site meeting community consultation ensured, technical studies were conducted and a draft BA has been compiled. Public Participation has been a c core component of the BA process. The Public Participation process carried out so far entails the following:

## **2. ADVERTISEMNT**

### **2.1 CONTENT OF ADVERTISEMENTS AND NOTICES**

Advertisements and notices were circulated indicating that an application has been submitted to the KwaZuluNatal Economic Development, Tourism & Environmental Affairs in terms of the EIA Regulations. These notices stated the nature and location of the proposed activity, where further information on the proposed activity can be obtained and the manner in which representations in respect of the application can be made.

## **2.2 PLACEMENT OF ADVERTISEMENTS AND NOTICES**

### ***2.2.1 Newspaper advertisement***

A newspaper advertisement according to the above-mentioned regulation was placed on the Isolezwe Newspaper Publication dated 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2019 notifying I&AP that: an application for a Basic Assessment application has been submitted to the KwaZuluNatal Economic Development, Tourism & Environmental Affairs to be considered. The Advert also contained the nature and location of the activity, details of who can be contacted and for further information and time frame for comment. See Appendix: C 1

### ***2.2.2 Site notices***

Site notices were fixed at conspicuous places on all access points to the property where the development is intended to be undertaken. The format of the notice stated that an application will be submitted to the KwaZuluNatal Economic Development, Tourism & Environmental Affairs. The notice provided information on the proposed, nature and location of the activity, where further information on the proposed activity can be obtained and the manner in which representations on the application may be made. See Appendix: C 2

## **3. Adjacent land owners**

Landowners and occupiers of adjacent land were notified of the applicants of the intention to submit an application to the competent authority and a Background Information Document (BID) was distributed to the Interested and Affected Parties. Most of the household were met physical during a door to door BID distribution and notification about the public meeting. See Appendix: C 3

## **4. The ward councillor**

The ward councillor was notified of the development she also participated in the Public Participation meeting.

## **5. Public meeting**

The adjacent property owners were physically visited and telephonically notified about the public Participation meeting. The assistance of the Ward Committee was solicited with distribution of notices of the Public Participation meeting. A meeting was held on the 19 June 2019. The purpose of the meeting was to enable I&APs to get more information about the project and to share ideas. The meeting also provided the community an opportunity to interact with the consultants and allow the community to share their views about the development. See Appendix: C 4

## **6. Consultation with stakeholders**

Other stake holders and specific interest groups who consulted the EAP were registered and those who requested a copy of the Draft BA document were sent the copy and their comments were received and responded to.

## EZAKHENI PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING MINUTES

<b>Date</b>	:	<b>19 June 2019</b>
<b>Time</b>	:	<b>10;00 (but started at 13;00)</b>
<b>Venue</b>	:	<b>The meeting was held at the proposed site</b>
<b>Introduction</b>	:	<b>See attendance register</b>
<b>Agenda</b>	:	<b>Presentation of EIA process for development of housing</b>

### Background and Introduction

The meeting was chaired by the Ward Councillor. The Ward Councillor introduced the NEDA to the community and Mr. E Sithole of NEDA was then given an opportunity to explain to the community the purpose of the visit stating that Municipality intend to build 150 houses the community of Ezakheni C on the open space where the meeting was held. Uthando Lezwe was then appointed by the Municipality to undertake necessary studies, design and package the proposed development. NEDA has been appointed by Uthando Lezwe to conduct an EIA for the proposed development. Mr Sithole further explained that Public Participation is a cornerstone of any EIA process and the Public participation meeting has been convened as part of the EIA process. The objective of the Public Participation meeting is to make the community aware about the proposed development and to solicit comment from the community about their views or feelings about the proposed project. The Public Participation enable the community to be become part of the project if it is allowed to continue.

### Discussions

After Mr Sithole's presentation, the floor was opened for discussions. Community members to raise clarity seeking question and comments. The questions and associated comments are presented in table 1 below. After discussions were exhausted the meeting was closed and the community dispersed.

**Table 1: Comments, questions and answers**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Questions and Comments</b>	<b>Response</b>
1. Thabiso Sithole	Is Nkululeko environmental here to build RDP'S ?	No we are not here to build RDP houses, but to conduct environmental studies before the construction of RDPs can go ahead as we are the environmental consultants.
2. LUCKY MKHONZA	How come is the study conducted in ward 3 but the beneficiaries are from ward 5. and why are you saying as the project kick start you will not remove or chase the gardeners?	It is because this is the only opened space we have for the proposed activity, moreover there are 2 proposed sites, 1 in ward 3 and the other 1 in ward 5, so both wards will benefit.

		<p>Gardeners will not be removed because government has taken into consideration that all on going activities in an area that has to do with local empowerment should not be demolished or disturbed by new development depending on the proposed land. But if it comes to the push that they should be removed due to the nature of the proposed development, the affected parties should be given alternative space to continue with their activities.</p>
<p>3. Mr Sizwe ward comitee</p>	<p>First I would like to take this opportunity to thank government that at last has also considered us as human beings, as it has been long since were waiting for this RDP project and we would like government to identify beneficiaries before the houses are built.</p> <p>2. We have a list of community members who have registered for these houses, it would be better if this meeting was conducted only with the beneficiaries so they put their own input than us commenting whiles we are not the benefetiaries.</p> <p>3. We also would a concrete or written agreement stating that the community members feeding their families with the garden next to the proposed site will not be removed as per the agreement.</p>	

4. This proposed site belongs to ward 3 not ward 2 as it is in the center of both wards

5. We also urge the government to talk to department of education for the vacant space believed to be owned by department of education that the space should be utilised for building of RDP'S, because it has been vacant for too long and it's a good space for human settlement.

6. We also would like municipality to provide us with Apollo lights here as it is not safe at night, particularly in this proposed site reserved for the construction of RDP's.

**QUESTION:**

Are these proposed houses only catered or to only benefit ward 2 as we heard that 150 blocks of RDP houses are to be built in this space?

What if the beneficiary of the house is currently staying in ward 3, would he/she be kicked out because he/she is not from ward 2?

The councillor has proposed to answer the question raised.

		<p>She has stated that according to the recent demarcation, the proposed site or space belongs to ward 2 not ward 3, and stated that as per the recent demarcation ward 5 has been moved to ward 2.</p> <p>In response to the beneficiaries or who will benefit in this proposed RDP's as this is only ward 2. she has stated that beneficiaries of the houses are for all the wards and houses will be allocated as per the list of beneficiaries registered with the human settlement, the demarcation of wards doesn't affect the beneficiaries</p>
<p>PHARANYANA MAZIBUKO</p>	<p>Do the RDP houses to be built here belongs to the previous community members who registered long ago and not being taken into consideration before or there will be a new list as per the demarcation and the proposed site of the RDP's ?</p>	<p>That is not a relevant question for this current meeting, we will engage with municipality to explain to us if who are the beneficiaries of this proposed houses.</p>
<p>. KUNENE</p>	<p>I would like to thank the community to avail themselves and respond to the call of this public meeting. taking this opportunity as a member of the community to further explain to our fellow community members the duties and responsibilities of the company called us to this meeting.</p>	

	<p>Nkululeko environmental and development is not here to build RDP houses but to conduct environmental study, so I would like to request the community to ask relevant questions and comment based on the activity of environmental study not any other questions not related to this activity.</p>	
Sizwe	<p>We want to thank NEDA for visiting us and do the study, though we were expecting municipality to come and present NEDA to the community, however as the community we don't have any problem with NEDA, we will give them support they need as much as we can.</p> <p>As part of the environmental investigation we would like NEDA to employ 1 or 2 members of the community as they busy with their study.</p>	
Thabiso	<p>I would like NEDA to further elaborate more and give detailed explanation of the environmental study meaning, as our mothers and grands gathered here can't understand all these terms.</p> <p>In this case the environmental study we talking about, is to conduct studies or research of the proposed site if its suitable for pupil to live in and also suitable for construction activities.</p>	

END

# **Appendix: C 1**

# **Appendix: C 2**

# **Appendix: C 3**

# **Appendix: C 4**