



**FINAL MINUTES FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AND UPGRADE OF QHOZO ACCESS ROAD, BERGVILLE.**

<b>Client</b>	Okhahlamba Local Municipality through Bii Consultants
<b>Project Title</b>	The proposed Development and Upgrade of Qhozo Access Road.
<b>Venue</b>	Ward 05 Community Hall (Kokwane A/A)
<b>Date</b>	28 November 2018
<b>Time</b>	13:00 pm
<b>Attendees</b>	<p>The meeting was attended by the Ward Councillor; Mr. S.R Mlambo, Ms. N. Moloi of Okhahlamba Local Municipality, Mr O. Jiba and Ms L. Fada both from Isolendalo Environmental Consulting and the Interested and Affected Parties, I &amp; APs (Being the community members).</p> <p>All the attendants names were recorded on the Register attached here within the public participation section.</p>

**ABBREVIATIONS**

**EDTEA:** Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs

**BAR:** Basic Assessment Report

**EMPr:** Environmental Management Programme

**EA:** Environmental Authorisation

**BID:** Background Information Document

**I & APs:** Interested and Affected Parties

This meeting was presented in IsiZulu so as to accommodate all attendants.



### **1. BACKGROUND**

Mr. Mlambo who is the Ward Councillor Welcomed and thanked the I & APs, the Environmental Consultants and the Municipality for attending the meeting for the proposed development and upgrade of Qhozo access road. The Ward Councillor further requested everyone to participate during the meeting and he gave the background of how the community had suffered in the past due to lack of proper infrastructure i.e. the access roads and thus how grateful the community is: to have finally been in the process of getting assistance from the municipality in connection with construction of access roads.

### **2. PURPOSE OF THE MEETING**

The main objective of the meeting was to present the proposed development, introduce the project to the I & APs and increase the awareness of the proposed activity in order for Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs to make an informed decision as to the need and desirability of the project. Also, this meeting was conducted to engage the public so as to have the public inputs and engage in the formal process as per the National Environmental Management Act (Act no. 107 of 1998).

### **3. PRESENTATION OF THE PROJECT**

Mr. Jiba, the EAP for the proposed activity presented the project, he gave a description of the project, gave the specification of the proposed activity, how the project will benefit the community and further highlighted the reasons as to why the activity had to undergo a Basic assessment in so doing, he made it known that the proposed activity falls within the threshold of the EIA Regulation 2014 (As Amended). As such, the access road is located in a very sensitive area: the access road is located at a close proximity of the watercourses and the proposed activity entails installation of drainage structures and also, the project's being located at a close range to the Okhahlamba Drakensberg National Park falls within the threshold of Listed Activities with the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended).

Other Public Participation processes that will be undertaken include:

- Advertisement through local Newspaper.
- Placement of site notices in areas accessible to the community members.
- Circulate the Draft BAR to all interested and Affected Parties.

The municipality solely represented by Ms Moloi emphasized that the application is for the areas with water crossings, hence the construction has commenced in other sections of the road which are not sensitive. However, the scope of works includes construction within of structures within a 10 km radius from a national park.



#### **4. DISCUSSION**

The points below were raised by I &APs after the presentation of the project:

Ms Victoria enquired whether the watercourses within the proximity of the road will be affected.

Mr. Hlongwana mentioned how grateful the community is to have the road and as the community they approve the project.

Mrs. Sibongile also, mentioned how grateful the community is to have finally been having the development and upgrade of Qhozo access road because this road will help school kids, the road will assist Ward 05 community to reach health facilities easily. She further, mentioned that she wishes for everyone to really see how bad the road can be during rainy season as such they are grateful as Ward 05.

#### **5. CONCLUSION AND CLOSURE**

- All the issues raised during the meeting were clarified.
- All I &APs had no objections and thus approved the project.
- The EAP mentioned that site notices were to be placed on the date of the meeting and asked the permission from the Ward Councillor to place some of the site notices within Ward 05 community hall gates.
- The ward Councillor thanked everyone who attended the meeting.
- Meeting adjourned with no objections from the I &APs.