

09 May 2016

Dear Stakeholder,

**NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS
PROPOSED GAS TO POWER PLANT ON A SITE WITHIN THE RICHARDS BAY INDUSTRIAL
DEVELOPMENT ZONE, KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE
(DEA REF. NO. 14/12/16/3/3/2/867)**

NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF EIA REPORT AND PUBLIC MEETING

Richards Bay Gas Power 2 (Pty) Ltd proposes the establishment of a gas to power plant and associated infrastructure on Erven 17455, 17443 and 17442 within the Richards Bay Industrial Development Zone 1F, located within the Umthlathuze Municipality, Kwazulu-Natal Province. The project is to be developed in response to the Department of Energy's request for projects to be developed by Independent Power Producers in order to provide alternative power generation technologies as part of the technology mix for the country.

The gas to power plant will have a maximum capacity of 400MW, to be developed in 2 phases to operate with liquid fuel such as diesel and/ or Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) in Phase 1 and ultimately Liquid Natural Gas (LNG) or Natura Gas in Phase 2 of the development. It is anticipated that 300MW will be fuel/ gas generated energy and 100MW will be heat/ steam generated energy.

The main infrastructure associated with the facility includes the following:

- » Up to six (6) Gas Turbines (GT)
- » 1-2 steam turbines utilising the heat from all the engines for power production in a steam cycle.
- » The power plant will comprise multiple engine halls, each of ~50MW. Each engine hall will typically comprise one engine. Stacks associated with engine halls will be up to 20m in height.
- » Access roads within project locality boundaries.

- » Three (3) fuel tanks with a capacity of 2000m³ each which will be used as an interim fuel storage facility until the gas infrastructure is constructed by the DoE and Transnet. Two (2) fuel unloading stations will be associated with these tanks.
- » Water storage facilities for process water and fire-fighting purposes.
- » An HV-Yard and Substation, adjacent to the power plant.
- » A new 132kV power line to connect into the Municipal grid, connecting directly to the Indus Substation bordering the site.
- » Guard house, admin building, workshops and a warehouse.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS

In terms of sections 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) (Act 107 of 1998), as read with Government Notices R982 - R985, Richards Bay Gas Power 2 (Pty) Ltd requires environmental authorisation from the National Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA), in consultation with the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs for the construction and operation of the undertaking of the proposed project. In order to obtain authorisation, comprehensive, independent environmental studies must be undertaken in accordance with the EIA Regulations, 2014. The DEA accepted the Scoping Report and Plan of Study for the project in February 2016. The DEA reference number allocated for this project is: 14/12/16/3/3/2/867.

Richards Bay Gas Power 2 (Pty) Ltd has appointed Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd, as the independent environmental consultants, to undertake the required EIA process as required in terms of the EIA Regulations. As part of these environmental studies, I&APs will be actively involved through the public participation process.

AVAILABILITY OF EIA REPORT FOR REVIEW

An EIA Report for the proposed project has been prepared by Savannah Environmental and is available for public review. The review period is from **10 May 2016 – 9 June 2016**. The report can be viewed at the Richards Bay Public Library (Richards Bay Civic Centre, 5 Mark Strasse, Richards Bay). The report can also be downloaded from the website www.savannahSA.com.

Please could you kindly submit your formal comments by sending written correspondence in this regard. All comments received will be included in the final EIA Report which will be submitted to the DEA. Comments can be made as written submission of fax, post or email.

PUBLIC MEETING

In order to facilitate comments on the EIA Report, a public meeting will be held during the public review period as follows:

Date: Tuesday 17 May 2016
Time: 17:30
Venue: Richards Bay Community Church, 70 Disa Dives, Veld-en-Vlei, Richards Bay

The aim of the public meeting is to provide you with more information regarding the proposed projects (including technical details, project process and timeframes etc.), to provide a summary of the findings of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report, to invite comment on the proposed projects, and to further discuss possible issues of specific concern to you which may need to be addressed.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the proposed project. Our team welcomes your participation and looks forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind regards

MRS GABRIELE WOOD
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND SOCIAL CONSULTANT
SAVANNAH ENVIRONMENTAL