



Registration no. 2003/0890358/23

**TRANSNET'S PROPOSED NEW LEPHALALE RAILWAY YARD,
STEENBOKPAN, LEPHALALE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, WATERBERG
DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE**

**In support of an EIA process, Water Use License Application Procedure and
Mining Permit Application (Borrow Pits)**

ISSUES AND RESPONSE REPORT

Version 1

- Appendix to Public Participation Process Report-

PREPARED BY:

Naledzi Environmental Consultants CC (NEC)
Postnet Suite # 320, Private Bag X 9307, Polokwane, 0700
145 Thabo Mbeki Street, Fauna Park, Polokwane, 0699
Tel: 015 296 3988
Fax: 015 296 4021
Email: botham@naledzi.co.za

Prepared for: Transnet SOC Ltd
Transnet Ref: Lephalale Railway Yard Environmental Assessment: 3424302.023S
Date: September 2018
Revisions: Version 1



Naledzi Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd has prepared this Issues and Response Report (IRR) for the sole use of Transnet SOC Ltd. The report is also privy to review by the public, interested and Affected Parties as well as relevant competent authorities as part of a public participation process. No part of the report may be reproduced in any manner without written permission from Naledzi Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd representing Transnet SOC Ltd. No other warranty, expressed or implied, is made as to the professional advice included in this report.

Report prepared for:

Transnet SOC Ltd Reg No 1990/000900/30
Carlton Centre, 150 Commissioner Street, Johannesburg, 2001
Lephalale Railway Yard Environmental Assessment: 3424302.023S

TRANSNET

**Report Author:**

Naledzi Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd (NEC)
145 Thabo Mbeki Street,
Fauna Park, Polokwane, 0700
Suite 320, Postnet Library Gardens, Private Bag X9307, Polokwane, 0700
South Africa

**Contact:**

Marissa Ilse Botha (*Pr.Sci.Nat*)
Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Registered Environmental Scientist (SACNASP Registration number: 117526)
Tel: 015 296 3988
Cell: 084 226 5584
Email: botham@naledzi.co.za



1. INTRODUCTION

This Issues and Response Report (IRR) presents comments from Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs), stakeholders and organs of state received during the public registration period on the Background Information Document (BID) from 23 July to 28 August 2018.

The IRR provides a summary of the issues received and offers a response to the issues raised. As indicated, the public is consulted in two stages during the Scoping and EIA Phase and thus the IRR consists of versions. These versions include:

- **Version 1 – IRR appended to the draft Scoping Report available for public review**
- Version 2 - IRR appended to the draft EIR for public review
- Version 3 – IRR appended to the final EIR submitted to DEA for approval

Version 1 of the IRR is appended to the draft Scoping Report made available for public review and comment for a period of 30 calendar days from 8 October to 7 November 2018.

2. ISSUES AND RESPONSE REPORT

Please refer to page 5 for the summary of issues raised by I&APs, stakeholders and organs of state during the Scoping& EIA Phase on the project and responses provided thereto. Refer to page 11 *Annexure A* for *copies of the written comments as well as completed Comments & Response forms received during the Public Participation Process* to date.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Contents of Issues and Response Table

1. APPLICATION PROCESS	5
2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS	5
3. SCOPE OF WORKS.....	5
4. ECOLOGICAL IMPACT	6
5. NOISE IMPACT.....	7
6. SAFETY IMPACTS	9
7. SOCIO ECONOMIC IMPACTS	9



LIST OF ACRONYMS

I&AP	Interested and Affected Party
BID	Background Information Document
IRR	Issues and Response Report
PPP	Public Participation Process
PPP Report	Public Participation Process Report
DEA	Department of Environmental Affairs
NEC	Naledzi Environmental Consultants CC
Transnet	Transnet SOC Ltd
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
dBA	Decibels
SOC	State Owned Company

Table 1: Issues and Responses recorded from written submissions during the public registration period on the Background Information Document (Scoping Phase)

Number	Issue raised	By whom and when	Response by Project Team
1. APPLICATION PROCESS			
1.1	None recorded to date.		
2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS			
2.1	I hereby confirm receipt of the BID and notification letter. Please make sure that no correspondence for the project is sent to me via registered post. I don't have the time to collect it during office hours at the Post Office.	Prof. Jan Meiring Taaiboschpan Landgoed BK 23 July 2018 Email	23 July 2018 Response via email: NEC will communicate with I&APs via telephone and through email. <i>(Marissa Botha, NEC)</i>
2.2	Lesedi Location at Steenbokpan has the Lesedi Tshukudu Thusong Centre whereby one BID can be placed. We fall in Ward 3 and would like to receive more information for us to consider the social impact the project may have on us.	Ezekiel Mochambi Lesedi Location Steenbokpan 23 July 2018 Email	26 July 2018 09:27am telephonic response: NEC contacted Mr Mochambi and emailed the BID on 26 July 2018. <i>(Marissa Botha, NEC)</i>
3. SCOPE OF WORKS			
3.1	Provide the capacity and the position of the proposed water reservoir to confirm whether it is listed in terms of Listing Notice 3 Activity 2 of the NEMA EIA Regulations.	ME Molepo LEDET – Environmental Impact Management 23 August 2018	The water reservoir/steel tank will have a volume of 260m ³ (260 000 litres). The dimension of the steel tank will be 7.32m x 7.32m x 4.8m. It will be located at 23°45'41.75"S 27°27'6.52"E. NEC has verified that the development of the water reservoir as part of the yard infrastructure does



Number	Issue raised	By whom and when	Response by Project Team
		Official Comment	trigger Listing Notice 3 Activity 2 due to its volume (more than 250m ³) and the reservoir would be positioned in a geographical area namely a protected area known as Koedoe Nature Reserve (Remainder of farm Geelhoutkloof 359LQ). It is also situated within a CBA (Ecological Support Area 1). <i>(Marissa Botha, Naledzi)</i>
4. ECOLOGICAL IMPACT			
4.1	Part of the site is classified as a CBA2 where loss of natural habitat should be minimized, i.e. land in this category should be maintained as natural vegetation cover as far as possible. These areas of land can act as possible biodiversity offset receiving areas. Degraded and disturbed CBA's should be prioritized for rehabilitation.	ME Molepo LEDET – Environmental Impact Management 23 August 2018 Official Comment	The Limpopo Conservation Plan of 2013 has been consulted through NEC's Environmental Screening exercise for the project site. The important biodiversity areas corresponding to the project site have been noted. It will be addressed in the Scoping Report and Environmental Impact Report for the project. An Ecological Impact Assessment Study will form part of the EIA Study which will assess the impact of the development on the ecology and important biodiversity areas. <i>(Marissa Botha, Naledzi)</i>
4.2	Based on the Waterberg Environmental Management Framework part of the site is classified as Zone 2 (Nature and cultural tourism focus area with high quality natural setting). This zone represents areas with high, natural visual and cultural quality with the	ME Molepo LEDET – Environmental Impact Management	In terms of the Waterberg Environmental Management Framework, the project site falls within two Environmental Management Zones, namely Zone 11 set out as a major infrastructure corridor and to a lesser extent in Zone 2 set out for nature and cultural tourism activities. (Refer to Annexure B of



Number	Issue raised	By whom and when	Response by Project Team
	potential for development of nature and/or cultural based tourism.	23 August 2018 Official Comment	<p>the IRR)</p> <p>The new Lephalale Railway Yard would be built along the existing Thabazimbi/Lephalale single railway line identified as a major infrastructure corridor. The land required to build the yard is privately owned and used for game and hunting activities.</p> <p>The potential visual impact, cultural and heritage impact, ecological impact as well as the socio economic impacts that may arise from the project has been identified as significant impacts to be assessed through specialist investigations during the EIA Study.</p> <p>The impact on the sense of place and the visual landscape are crucial components of the hunting and eco-tourism sectors. Inputs in this regard will be obtained from current landowners. It will need to be taken into consideration in the planning and design of the project. <i>(Marissa Botha, Naledzi)</i></p>
5. NOISE IMPACT			
5.1	The noise from the trains along the existing railway line is excessive during day and night at my residence at Geelhoutkloof. The noise survey must ensure to measure noise levels generated by loaded trains, not only empty trains, in order to consider the actual	Gavin Cronk Farm Manager Portion 1 & remainder Geelhoutkloof 359LQ	<p>Noise and vibration has been identified as a significant impact to be assessed through a specialist investigation during the EIA Study.</p> <p>Individual farmsteads have been identified as noise receptors in the project area. Preliminary</p>



Number	Issue raised	By whom and when	Response by Project Team
	<p>increase that is experienced. Loaded trains generate higher noise levels than empty trains.</p>	<p>Verbal comment 26 July 2018</p>	<p>measurements indicate the ambient noise level at Geelhoutkloof is below 30.0dBA and when trains pass the rail corridor the noise levels increase at the residence to above 50.0dBA (measurement taken 900m from railway line). This noise increase lasts for 4 minutes and is finite.</p> <p>The Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment will be conducted at all the identified noise receptors. The noise study will determine the prevailing environmental ambient noise levels within and adjacent to the proposed rail yard area and this information will be used to determine the possible noise intrusion at the different noise receptors. This will assist in the management of the project in terms of noise mitigatory measures and management principles for implementation during the construction and operational phases of the project.</p> <p>The noise survey will be done:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • during the day and the night time periods; • Will measure increased noise levels from loaded and empty trains along the existing corridor as requested. <p>Identified activities from the proposed project that may result in an increase in noise levels include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction Phase: preparation and provision of infrastructure; • Operation phase: Shunting, train activities,



Number	Issue raised	By whom and when	Response by Project Team
			hooting; (<i>Marissa Botha, Naledzi</i>)
6. SAFETY IMPACTS			
6.1	<p>We conduct hunting activities on the farm Geelhoutkloof, next to the existing rail corridor. Transnet wants to build the new railway yard on the farm Geelhoutkloof. Transnet will need to consider building a boundary wall between the new railway yard and Geelhoutkloof to address the safety issue of human activity at the yard in such close proximity to the hunting farm.</p> <p>Currently activities at the existing railway line are limited to trains passing by. The new railway yard will include administration buildings and movement of people/employees.</p>	<p>Hendri Hills Landowner Portion 1 & remainder Geelhoutkloof 359LQ Verbal comment 19 July 2018</p>	<p>Transnet will consider building a pre-cast concrete wall along the high risk perimeter of the Lephalale Railway Yard. (<i>Marissa Botha, Naledzi</i>)</p>
7. SOCIO ECONOMIC IMPACTS			
7.1	<p>We are concerned about impact the increased noise levels from the rail yard will have on our game breeding and hunting activities at Geelhoutkloof.</p>	<p>Gavin Cronk Farm Manager, Portion 1 & remainder Geelhoutkloof 359LQ Verbal comment 26 July 2018</p>	<p>Please refer to response given under point 5.1.</p> <p>Further the potential impact of the project on the social and economic environment of the study area has been identified as a significant impact to be assessed through a specialist investigation during the EIA Study.</p> <p>The Social and Economic Impact Assessment will be conducted to identify and assess the significance of the social and economic impacts for the proposed</p>



Number	Issue raised	By whom and when	Response by Project Team
			<p>Lephalale Railway Yard.</p> <p>The impact on the sense of place and the visual landscape are crucial components of the hunting and eco-tourism sectors. Inputs in this regard will be obtained from current landowners. It will need to be taken into consideration in the planning and design of the project. <i>(Marissa Botha, Naledzi)</i></p>
7.2	I am opposed to this project. The area is a used to farm game and for hunting activities. This industrial activity would impact on our land uses. We have spent significant capital on our farms for hunting and tourism activities.	Prof. Jan Meiring Taaiboschpan Landgoed BK 21 July 2018 Verbal comment	The objection is noted. Please refer to response provided under point 7.1. <i>(Marissa Botha, Naledzi)</i>

ANNEXURE A

**WRITTEN COMMENTS RECEIVED FROM I&APS DURING
PUBLIC REGISTRATION PERIOD ON THE BID**

Project Site for new Lephalale Railway Yard

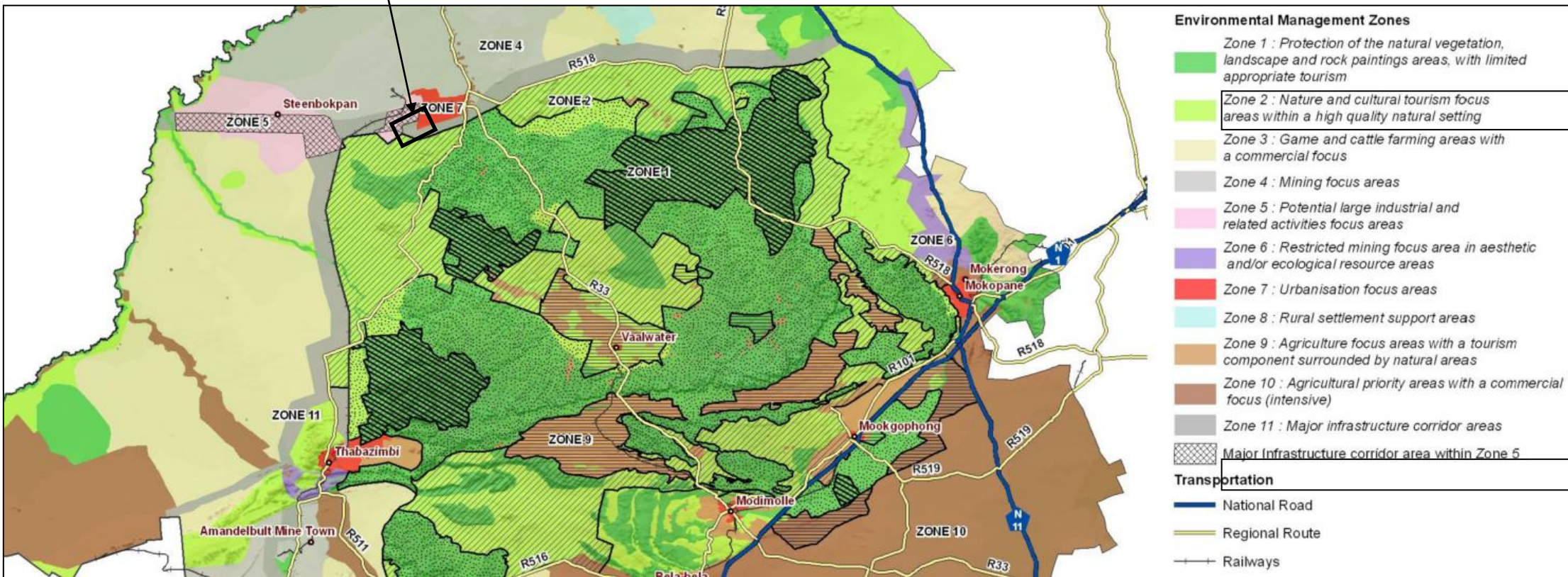
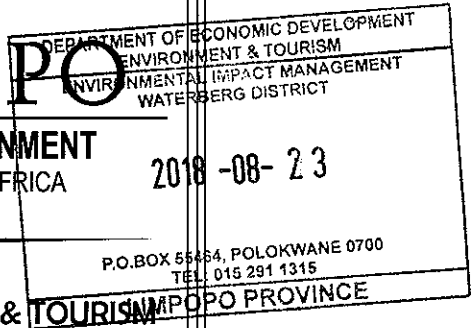


Figure 1: Location of project site (black polygon) in terms of Waterberg District Environmental Management Framework - Environmental Management Zones



LIMPOPO

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



DEPARTMENT OF
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT & TOURISM

Enq: Mr Molepo ME Tel: 015 290 7164 Fax: 015 295 5015 E-mail: MolepoME@ledet.gov.za Ref: 12/1/9/CR-W97

Naledzi Environmental Consultants CC
Private Bag X9307
POLOKWANE
0700

Fax: 015 296 3988

Email: botham@naledzi.co.za / aluwani@naledzi.co.za

RE: NOTICE OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT, WATER USE LICENSE APPLICATION AND BORROW PIT APPLICATION FOR THE PROPOSED NEW LEPHALALE RAILWAY YARD AT STEENBOKPAN WITHIN LEPHALALE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

The above mentioned refers.


1. The Department acknowledges receipt of the notice for the above mentioned development on 23 July 2018 and brings the following comments for consideration during the application process:
2. Part of the the site is classified as Critical Biodiversity Area 2 (CBA 2) whereby loss of natural habitat should be minimized, i.e. land in this category should be maintained as natural vegetation cover as far as possible; These areas of land can act as possible biodiversity offset receiving areas. Furthermore, degraded or disturbed CBAs should be prioritized for rehabilitation.

Waterberg Environmental Management Framework:

3. In terms of Environmental Management Zones the part of the site is classified as Zone 2 (Nature and cultural tourism focus areas within a high quality natural setting). This zone represents areas with a generally high, natural, visual and cultural quality that has significant potential for the development of nature and/or culture based tourism.
4. Kindly provide the capacity and the position of the proposed water reservoir in order to confirm whether it is listed in terms of Listing Notice 3 activity 2.

Please do not hesitate to contact this Department should have any queries in this respect.

Yours faithfully


**DEPUTY DIRECTOR
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT MANAGEMENT
DATE: 23/8/18**

HEAD OFFICE

20 Hans Van Rensburg Street / 19 Biccard Street, Polokwane, 0700, Private Bag X 9484, Polokwane, 0700
(Switchboard) Tel: +2715 293 8300 Website: www.ledet.gov.za



@LimpopoLEDET



www.Facebook.com/pages/LEDET



@LimpopoLEDET

The heartland of southern Africa - development is about people!

Interested and Affected Party

Ditlhoriso Ezekiel [ditlhoriso134@gmail.com]

Sent: 23 July 2018 01:23 PM**To:** Marissa Botha

Hey.As a community of Steenbokpan (Lesedi Location) I could like too show something that affected us as the projects 80 percent work is at Steenbokpan but it seems as if we have to travel 60 km to access the information about the project.As the community of Steenbokpan we have Lesedi Tshukudu Thusong Centre whereby one Bid document can be place at.As Ward three we need more info on all issue that will affected ur social life.I also register as I &AP.Contact no 076 535 8026/0738204486.Yours faithful Ditlhoriso134 Ezekiel Mochambi.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) PROCESS AND WATER USE LICENSE (WULA) APPLICATION FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF LEPHALALE RAILWAY YARD, TRANSNET'S PROPOSED NEW LEPHALALE RAILWAY YARD, STEENBOKPAN, LEPHALALE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, WATERBERG DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Naledzi Environmental Consultants
Suite #320, Postnet Library Gardens, Library Gardens, P/Bag X 9307, Polokwane, 0700
145 Thabo Mbeki Street, Fauna Park, Polokwane
Tel: 015 296 3988 Fax: 015 296 4021
Cell: 084 226 5584
Email: botham@naledzi.co.za or aluwani@naledzi.co.za

TITLE (Prof/Mr/Mrs)	MR	FIRST NAME	Kruger
SURNAME	Pretorius		
CAPACITY (eg. Director/Secretary)	Manager		
ORGINASATION	SAS Matrolab		
POSTAL ADDRESS	PO Box 912 -387 Silverton	POSTAL CODE	0127
TEL NO:	012 8001299	CELL NO:	0722539285
FAX NO:	012 800 3601	EMAIL ADDRESS:	Kruger.Pretorius@sas.com
COMMENTS/ISSUES / CONCERNS (Please use separate sheet, if required)			

Please add the following of my colleagues/friends/neighbours on your mailing list:

Name:	Organisation:	
Contact details		
Address:		
Tel:	Fax:	Cell:
Email:		

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) PROCESS AND WATER USE LICENSE (WULA) APPLICATION FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF LEPHALALE RAILWAY YARD, TRANSNET'S PROPOSED NEW LEPHALALE RAILWAY YARD, STEENBOKPAN, LEPHALALE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, WATERBERG DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Naledzi Environmental Consultants
 Suite #320, Postnet Library Gardens, Library Gardens, P/Bag X 9307, Polokwane, 0700
 145 Thabo Mbeki Street, Fauna Park, Polokwane
Tel: 015 296 3988 Fax: 015 296 4021
Cell: 084 226 5584
 Email: botham@naledzi.co.za or aluwani@naledzi.co.za

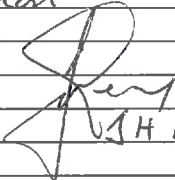
TITLE (Prof/Mr/Mrs)	Mrs	FIRST NAME	Susanna
SURNAME	Sauer		
CAPACITY (eg. Director/Secretary)	Trustee		
ORGINASATION	Enkeldraai trust.		
POSTAL ADDRESS	Enkeldraai 60314 Postbus 5038 Onverwacht 0557	POSTAL CODE	0557.
TEL NO:		CELL NO:	0827874168.
FAX NO:		EMAIL ADDRESS:	
COMMENTS/ISSUES / CONCERNS (Please use separate sheet, if required)			

Please add the following of my colleagues/friends/neighbours on your mailing list:

Name: Frans Sauer	Organisation: Enkeldraai trust
Contact details	
Address: Umhlanga str 734 Wingatepark Pretoria.	
Tel:	Fax:
Cell: 0833040204	
Email: Frans.sauer@gmail.com	

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) PROCESS AND WATER USE LICENSE (WULA) APPLICATION FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF LEPHALALE RAILWAY YARD, TRANSNET'S PROPOSED NEW LEPHALALE RAILWAY YARD, STEENBOKPAN, LEPHALALE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, WATERBERG DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Naledzi Environmental Consultants
 Suite #320, Postnet Library Gardens, Library Gardens, P/Bag X 9307, Polokwane, 0700
 145 Thabo Mbeki Street, Fauna Park, Polokwane
 Tel: 015 296 3988 Fax: 015 296 4021
 Cell: 084 226 5584
 Email: botham@naledzi.co.za or aluwani@naledzi.co.za

TITLE (Prof/Mr/Mrs)	Prof	FIRST NAME	Jan (J.H.)
SURNAME	Meiring		
CAPACITY (eg. Director/Secretary)	Public officer of Taai Boschpan Landgoed BK		
ORGINASATION	Taai Boschpan Landgoed BK 320LQ Steenbok pan		
POSTAL ADDRESS	460 Flinders lane Lynnwood	POSTAL CODE	0081
TEL NO:	012 818 9045	CELL NO:	082 565 5916
FAX NO:	086 572 9044	EMAIL ADDRESS:	meiring.jan@gmail.com janm@bestmed.co.za
COMMENTS/ISSUES / CONCERNS (Please use separate sheet, if required)			
will engage at the forums to be set up for interaction			
 J.H. MEIRING 23.07.2018			

Please add the following of my colleagues/friends/neighbours on your mailing list:

Name:	Organisation:		
Contact details			
Address:			
Tel:	Fax:	Cell:	
Email:			