

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT (BID)

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) FOR THE PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT SHAPHAT CASH CROP FARMING SITUATED ON REMAINDER OF PORTION OF THE FARM NIEUW ENGELAND 60 LT WITHIN COLLINS CHABANE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY UNDER VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

### INVITATION TO REGISTER AND COMMENT.



### PURPOSE OF DOCUMENT

This Background Information Document (BID) briefs Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) about the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process to be undertaken for the proposed Establishment Shaphat cash crop farming. The authorisation processes are subject to a public participation process. The BID supplies project information and indicates how you can become actively involved in the project, and raise issues that may concern and / or interest you. You can achieve this by:

Registering as an I&AP by completing the attached Comment & Registration Form, contacting us / by sending us an email; Reviewing of the BID giving comments, raising concerns and / or issues about the project

The EIA decision making authority is Department: Economic Development, Environment, and Tourism (LEDET). Register, complete a response form, write a letter, call or email our office if you wish to register on our stakeholder database.

### INTRODUCTION

Plantago Lanceolata Pty Ltd has been appointed by Shaphat Property Pty Ltd to undertake the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process in an effort to obtain environmental authorisation for the proposed Establishment of cash crop farming with situated on portion of the Farm Nieuw Engeland 60 LS within Collins Chabane Local Municipality under Vhembe District, Limpopo Province. The development triggers listed activities under the National Environmental Management Act (107 of 1998) (NEMA) EIA Regulations of 2014 (as amended in April 2017). As a result, Shaphat Property Pty Ltd requires Environmental Authorisation from the LEDET and is required to undertake environmental authorisation before it can commission the project. Triggered listed activities forming part of the application include Activities under GNR 327: Activity 27 (The clearance of an area of 1 hectares or more).

#### ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANT CONTACT DETAILS

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## DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

Shaphat Property proposed a clearance of indigenous vegetation for approximately 2.9 ha on portion of Farm Nieuw Engeland 60 LT, within the Jurisdiction of the Collins Chabane Local Municipality under Vhembe District. Agriculture is identified as one of the sectors with high potential for development in Limpopo and The livelihood of the individuals is therefore impacted positively by agricultural activities. Therefore the proposed development align itself with the Provincial Development Plan. Local communities will benefit from the new employment opportunities which will become available during the site clearance and, more importantly, the operational phases of the project. The proposed development will provide opportunities for unskilled workers to develop new skills and have an additional contribution towards the economy.

## PROJECT LOCATION

**Table 1: Locality of the proposed Shaphat Cash Crop Establishment**

MUNICIPALITY		FARM NAME	COORDINATES		DEVELOPMENT FOOTPRINT (Ha)
District	Vhembe	Nieuw Engeland 60 LT	Latitude	23° 12' 19" S	2.9 Hectares
Local	Collins Chabane Local Municipality		Longitude	30° 20' 45' E	



## Figure 1: Location of site

### LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

This project entails the alteration of undeveloped land (which totals 2.9 ha) to provide cash crop farming establishment. The project is subject to compliance with, inter alia, the following pieces of legislation:

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS - NEMA EIA Regulations of 2014 (as amended in 07 April 2017)

In terms of the NEMA EIA Regulations of 2014 (as amended in April 2017), the project requires an Environmental Authorisation (EA). GNR 327 of the regulations schedules listed activities which require EA. The project triggers activities under the above mentioned relevant notices and is subject to Basic Assessment Process. The following listed activities are triggered in terms of the NEMA EIA Regulations of 2014:

**Table 2: Listed activities triggered by proposed housing development**

LISTING NOTICE NUMBER	ACTIVITY NUMBER	ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION
GNR 327, 27 April 2017	27 (i)(ii)	The clearance of an area of 20 hectares or more of indigenous vegetation, excluding where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for— (i) The undertaking of a linear activity; or (ii) maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.

Specialist studies have been proposed to assess the abovementioned activities/impacts, and will be incorporated into the EIA reporting.

Specialist studies:

- Ecological Report

### WHAT ARE THE POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROPOSED PROJECT?

The following potential environmental impacts have been identified for the project:

- Impacts on surface and groundwater resources
- Impacts on ecology including flora, fauna, avifauna and water features including wetlands and other hydrological features
- Impacts on heritage resources (i.e. archaeology and palaeontology)
- Impacts on the socio-economic environment and traffic
- Impacts on soil and land capability

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS**

The sharing of information forms the basis of the public participation process, and offers I&APs (Interested & Affected Parties) the opportunity to become involved in the EIA process from the outset. Comments and inputs from I&APs are encouraged during the EIA phases to ensure that all potential impacts are considered throughout the EIA process. The public participation process aims to ensure that:

- Information containing all relevant facts in respect of the application is made available to I&APs for review.
- I&APs participation is facilitated such that they are provided with reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed project.
- Adequate review periods are provided for I&APs to comment on the findings of the EIA Reports.

## **YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES AS AN I&AP**

In terms of the 2014 EIA Regulations, as amended, your attention is drawn to your responsibilities as an I&AP:

- In order to participate in the EIA process you must register yourself on the project database.
- You must ensure that any comments regarding the proposed project are submitted within the stipulated timeframes.
- You are required to disclose any direct business, financial, personal or other interest you may have in the approval or refusal of the application for the proposed project.



**REGISTRATION & COMMENT SHEET**

**EIA PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF SHAPHAHT CASH CROP FARMING**

I wish to register as an Interested and Affected Party and/or bring to the attention of Plantago Lanceolata Consulting the following comments.

Attention: Makatu Mulweli

Email: mulwelimakatu33@gmail.com

(In order for your contact details to be captured on our database - Please fill out the sheet below)

Name of Respondent:	Title:
Organisation / Company:	
Nature of Interest:	
Postal Address:	
Postal Code:	
Telephone Number:	
Facsimile Number:	
Mobile Number:	
Email:	
Comments:	
Signed:	Date: