



ETHEKWINI WATER AND SANITATION BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF A 500MM STEEL WATERMAIN INLET TO WESTRIDING RESERVOIR, KZN PROVINCE



Purpose of this Document

The purpose of this Background Information Document (BID) is to provide Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) with background information about the proposed project and introduce the Basic Assessment (BA) process to be followed. It also aims to inform I&APs on how to fully participate in the BA process and encourages a response to documents distributed for review and active attendance at meetings.

WHAT IS PROPOSED AND WHERE?

eThekweni Water and Sanitation propose to install approximately 4 km of 500mm diameter of continuously welded steel pipe which will be constructed in residential roads, including pipe jacking across Old Main road and new reticulation water mains to service the high level zone of Westriding Reservoir.

The proposed pipe will be constructed along the following residential roads:

- Assagay Road to Old Main Road
- The pipe will then be pipe jacked in a sleeve of a minimum diameter of 900mm across Old Main Road (refer to **Figure 1** adjacent).
- A section of the pipe then runs within the Transnet owned reserve, this section of pipe has already been laid and completed.
- The pipe will then enter Galloway Road and turn into Ashley Drive and then enter Elizabeth Road, which is where it will cross a small stream.
- The pipeline will then continue into Marion Road where it will then tie into the existing Westriding Reservoir.

Note: Refer to the Locality Map on Page 2 for further clarity on the pipeline route.

eThekweni Water and Sanitation has appointed GIBB (Pty) Ltd as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP), to undertake the necessary environmental authorisation, licensing and associated public participation processes in support of the above application.

MOTIVATION FOR THE PROJECT

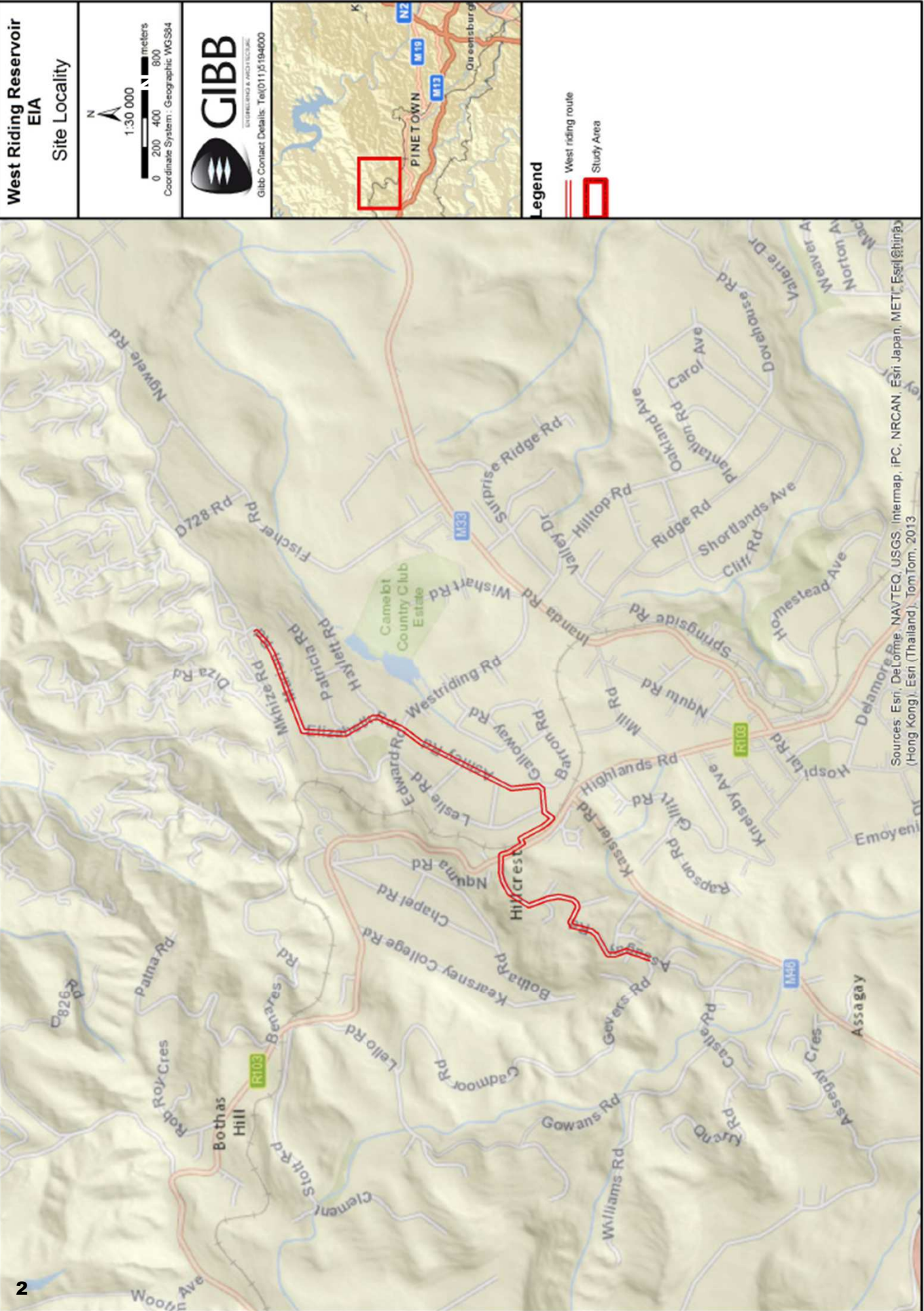
The main motivation behind the project is to provide a long term solution to water supply challenges experienced in the West Riding area.



Figure 1: Showing what a typical pipe jacking pit will look like.



Site Location Map



WHY IS A BASIC ASSESSMENT REQUIRED?

In terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (No.107 of 1998) [NEMA] and associated Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations published in August 2010, an Environmental Authorisation must be obtained from the relevant decision-making authority, prior to the commencement of certain listed activities that may result in potential negative impacts on the environment. The proposed project involves, inter alia, the following listed activities, as per Government Notice No. R. 544 of NEMA:

GN R544 Activity 9	The construction of facilities or infrastructure exceeding 1000m in length for the bulk transportation of water, sewage or stormwater- (i) With an internal diameter of 0.36 metres or more
GN R544 Activity 11	The construction of (xi) infrastructure or structures covering 50m ² or more where such construction occurs within a watercourse, measured from the edge of the watercourse.
GN R544 Activity 18	The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 5m ³ into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil... from a watercourse.

Based on the proximity to an adjacent small stream, a Water Use License (WUL) is required prior to any construction. GIBB and eThekweni will consult with the Department of Water Affairs (DWA) to discuss these requirements.

BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS

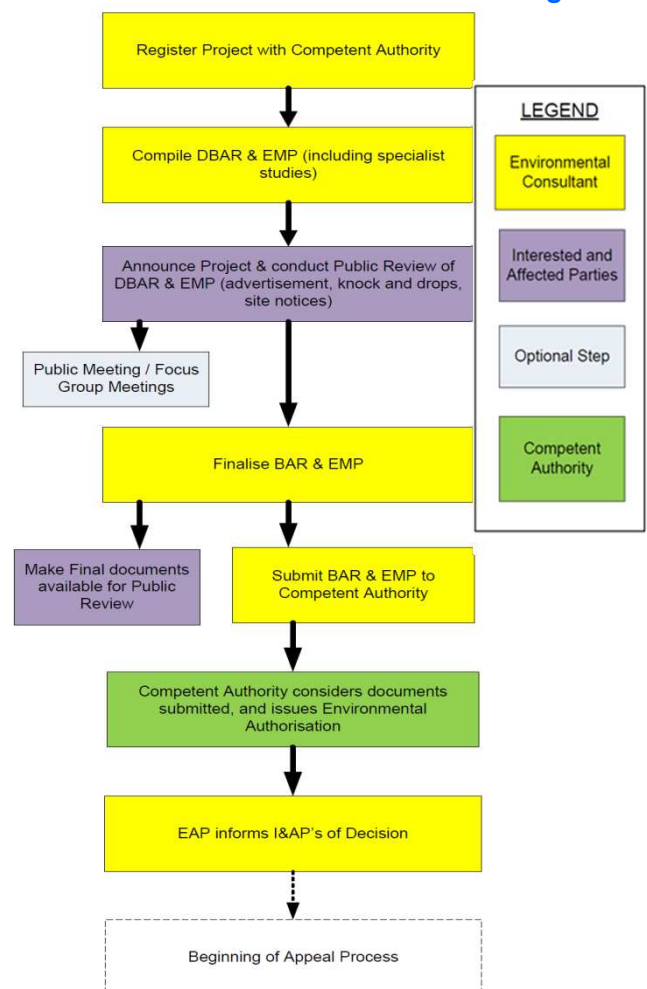
Basic Assessment Process

The Basic Assessment process (BA) is a legislative tool used to ensure that the potential environmental impacts that may occur due to the proposed development are avoided or mitigated if environmental authorisation is granted.

The the proposed construction of a 500mm steel watermain inlet to Westriding Reservoir is listed in terms of GNR. 544 activity which requires a BA to be submitted with the application for Environmental Authorisation.

- ❑ The BA aims to investigate and gather information on the proposed site, in order to establish an understanding of the area.
- ❑ Identify Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) and relevant authorities by conducting a Public Participation Process (PPP) (Refer to Page 5).
- ❑ Establish how the proposed development activities will potentially impact on the environment.
- ❑ Identify potential environmental impacts through investigation and PPP.
- ❑ Describe proposed & potential alternatives
- ❑ Describe the environment in which the proposed activity will take place.
- ❑ Assess all issues & proposed alternatives identified during the PPP in terms of their significance.
- ❑ Recommend, where necessary, mitigation measures to reduce the significance of potential impacts.
- ❑ Compile an Environmental Management Programme Report (EMPr) that will advise environmental specifications to be adhered to during the construction and operation phase of the project.

Basic Assessment Process Flow Diagram



NOTE: An **Interested & Affected Party (I&AP)** includes any person, group of persons or organisation interested in or affected by an activity and any organ of state that may have jurisdiction over any aspect of activity.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Activities of the PPP

The public will be invited to register as an I&AP and take part in the PPP through the following:

- Newspaper advert to be placed in The Mercury;
- Site display notice boards around the project site ;
- Distribution of the BID and comments form;
- A public meeting will be held on a date still to be determined;
- A Comment and Response Report (CRR) will be compiled which will outline identified issues and concerns and proposed mitigation measures;
- Distribution of the Draft and Final Basic Assessment Report (BAR) for public comment.

Note: All information is available on request

The Purpose of PPP

PPP forms an integral part of the environmental authorisations for this project. GIBB will facilitate a public participation process (PPP) as required in terms of the Regulation 54, 55 and 56 of the NEMA.

PPP aims to provide Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) with an opportunity to participate in a meaningful and constructive manner providing a platform for raising issues, comments and concerns in respect of the proposed project.

I&AP comments are important to ensure an informed decision-making process.

POTENTIAL IMPACTS

Potential impacts that may occur due to the proposed West Riding Pipeline Project includes;

- Wetland impacts (impacts on fauna and flora)
- Noise and dust impacts
- Traffic impacts
- Cumulative impacts
- Construction related impacts:
 - Noise
 - Dust
 - Visual & aesthetic
- Job creation, capacity building & skills transfer

Note: The following Specialist Studies will be undertaken for the proposed project:

- A Wetland Assessment ,
- Botanical Survey, and
- Heritage Assessment.

Registration as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP)

The public are hereby invited to register as an I&AP and participate in the PPP. I&APs must submit their written comments on the application by **31 July 2014**, along with their name, contact details and an indication of any direct business, financial, personal or other interest which they have in the application by post, fax or email to:

Ms Katherine de Jong

Email: kdejong@gibb.co.za
Tel: (031) 267 8560
Fax: (031) 266 3310

Post: GIBB (Pty) Ltd
P O Box 1365
Westville, 3630



Registration and Comment Form
Proposed construction of a 500mm steel watermain inlet to Westriding reservoir, KwaZulu-Natal Province



Name	
Organisation or Resident	
Telephone Number	
Physical	
Postal	
Fax	
Email	

Please state your interest (i.e. direct business, financial, personal or other interest) within respect to the approval or refusal of the application for the Proposed construction of a 500mm steel watermain inlet to Westriding Reservoir, KwaZulu-Natal Province.

Please state any concerns, suggestions and/or potential impacts that should be investigated during the BA.

Do you know of anyone who should be informed about the project please provide their contact details.

Comments must be submitted to GIBB by no later than 31 July 2014.

GIBB Pty Ltd
 Attention: Ms Katherine de Jong
 Tel: (031) 267 8560
 Fax: (031) 266 3310
 Post: P O Box 1365, Westville, 3630
 Email: kdejong@gibb.co.za