

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

PROPOSED ESHOWE INDUSTRIAL TOWNSHIP, KWAZULU-NATAL

DAEA REF NO: DC28/0005/2014



13 MARCH 2014

Prepared by:

triplo4
sustainable solutions

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this Background Information Document (BID) is to provide information to interested and affected parties (I&APs) regarding the Proposed Eshowe Industrial Township, Kwa-Zulu Natal.

Based on the meeting and guidance from the KZN Department of Agriculture and Environmental Affairs (DAEA), a Basic Assessment for environmental authorisation must be completed. The listed activities in Listing Notice 1 of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA)EIA Regulations, 2010 are being applied for as per the project description.

The application is made and the Basic Assessment Process will be undertaken by Triplo4 Sustainable Solutions, as Independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner, on behalf of Umlalazi Municipality.

This document describes the proposed Eshowe Industrial Township and provides an overview of the environmental authorisation processes. It also provides I&APs with an initial opportunity to comment on the proposed project and to register as a stakeholder.

The Basic Assessment Report with relevant attachments will be available for public review for a period of 40 days as part of the environmental authorisation processes, from **04 April 2014 to 17 May 2014** to provide stakeholders with additional information and further opportunities to raise issues of concern and suggestions for enhanced benefits. Thereafter, the final Basic Assessment Report will be submitted to the KZN DAEA for consideration.

Your comments, issues, concerns and suggestions on any aspect of the proposed project, including the technical and public participation processes, will help to focus the application, and will ultimately assist the authorities to make a decision.

Please complete the enclosed comment and registration sheet or contact Triplo4 Sustainable Solutions by mailing or faxing a letter, or by telephone or e-mail, should you wish to receive further information about the proposed project and the BA.

Return address for comments and to register as an Interested and Affected Party:

Attention: Melissa Padayachee / Hantie Plomp

Triplo4 Sustainable Solutions

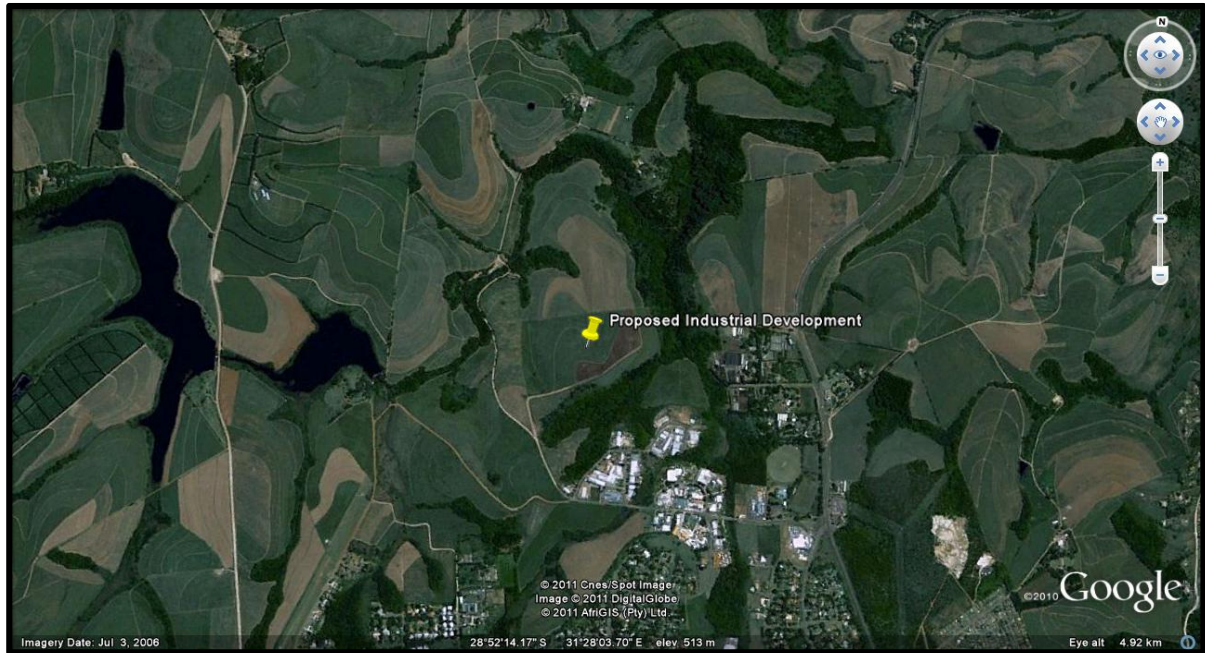
P.O. Box 6595, Zimbali, 4418

Office: 032 946 3213 Cell: 083 308 8003 Fax: 032 946 0826

E-Mail: melissa@triplo4.com / hantie@triplo4.com

LOCATION OF PROPOSED PROJECT

The Eshowe Industrial Park site is situated within the outskirts of the Eshowe Township which falls under the Umlalazi Local Municipality. The site is situated approximately 2 km to the north of Eshowe commercial centre and is accessed via the R66 and Butcher Street.



PROJECT MOTIVATION & DETAIL

The project will entail the construction of a mixed use development covering a total area of approximately 14.3 ha. The development will consist of the following components: services and infrastructure (roads, electricity and water, from existing infrastructure and bulk supply) as well as individual erven.

It will contribute towards positioning Eshowe as an industrial / logistics and business hub. It will establish a range of new business and economic opportunities. Create values by maximizing the potential of the land through development and help to create temporary / permanent employment opportunities in the Umlalazi / uThungulu Municipality areas.

SITE PHOTOGRAPHS





SPECIALIST EVALUATION

An Ecological and Wetland Assessment has been conducted by the Specialist and findings and recommendations will be discussed in the Basic Assessment Report.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROCESSES

Relevant Environmental Legislation

The below mentioned environmental activities are potentially being triggered by the proposed development, requiring a Basic Assessment Process to be conducted and thus Environmental Authorisation from KZN DAEA:

Indicate the number and date of the relevant notice:	Activity No (s) (in terms of the relevant or notice) :	Describe each listed activity as per the project description (and not as per wording of the relevant Government Notice) ¹ :
GNR 544, 2010	Activity 23	The transformation of undeveloped, vacant or derelict land to (ii) residential, retail, commercial, recreational, industrial or institutional use, outside an urban area and where the total area to be transformed is bigger than 1 hectare but less than 20 hectares. The construction of a mixed use development will be covering a total area of approximately 14.3 ha.
	Activity 11	The construction of: (vi) bulk storm water outlet structures; (x) buildings exceeding 50 square metres in size; or (xi) infrastructure or structures covering 50 square metres or more where such construction occurs within a watercourse or within 32 metres of a Watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse, excluding where such construction will occur behind the development setback line. As per ecological study, the eastern corner of the property might be within 32 metres of the Mlalazi River. This will be determined during the Basic Assessment process.
	Activity 13	The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the storage, or for the storage and handling, of a dangerous good, where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity of 80 but not exceeding 500 cubic metres.

¹ Please note that this description should not be a repetition of the listed activity as contained in the relevant Government Notice, but should be a brief description of activities to be undertaken as per the project description, i.e. describe the components of the desired development



		It might be anticipated that there will be handling or storage of dangerous goods due to the development consisting of light industrial.
	Activity 29	The expansion of facilities for the generation of electricity where: (i) the electricity output will be increased by 10 megawatts or more, excluding where such expansion takes place on the original development footprint; or (ii) regardless the increased output of the facility, the development footprint will be expanded by 1 hectare or more; Electricity connection will be integrated with the adjoining networks and no additional distribution exceeding 275kV will be required for the proposed development.

Basic Assessment Process

The basic assessment process being followed comprises of the following:

- Submission of an Application for Authorization to DAEA;
- Public participation Process:
 - Submission of a Background Information Document (this document) to identified stakeholders;
 - An advertisement in the local newspaper – Zululand Fever Newspaper in English
 - Placement of a site notification at the site notifying I&AP's of the proposed activity and inviting them to register;
 - Obtaining initial comment;
 - Capturing all comments in a Comment and Response Report / Issues Trial;
 - Availability of the draft BA report to the public, registered I&AP's and the Authorities providing a comment period of 40 days (excluding public holidays);and;
 - Relevant I&AP's consultation to address issues and concerns raised;
- Compilation of Draft Basic Assessment Report for I&AP's review and comments, which will be available for review and comment for a period of 40 days;
- Submitting the final BA report to registered I&AP's for a period of 7 to 21 days depending on significance of amendments made to the final report; and to DAEA for consideration and issuing of the Environmental Authorisation;
- Communication to I&AP's regarding the Environmental Authorisation.

Your contributions are important

You can get involved in the process:

1. By responding (by phone, fax or e-mail) to our invitation for your involvement in the process;
2. By completing the attached comment form and e-mailing, posting or faxing it to Triplo4 Sustainable Solutions;
3. In writing contacting or telephoning consultants if you have a query, comment or require further project information; and
4. By reviewing and commenting on the BA Report within the allowed 40-day review period.

In terms of the NEMA Regulations (GN 543) you are invited to formally register as an I&AP.

Please note that in terms of Regulation 56 (c), I&AP's need to disclose any direct business, financial, personal or other interest which they may have in the approval or refusal of the application.

Please register by **28 March 2014** by completing the enclosed registration and comment sheet and please declare the interest with regard to the project with your comments.

REGISTRATION FORM:
PROPOSED ESHOWE INDUSTRIAL TOWNSHIP, KWAZULU-NATAL

Attention: Melissa Padayachee / Hantie Plomp Cell: 083 308 8003
E-mail: melissa@triplo4.com / hantie@triplo4.com Fax: 032 946 0826

Title (Mr/Mrs/Ms)		Phone	
Name		Fax	
Organisation / Interes		E-mail	
Signature			

Please tick the appropriate circle and confirm your contact details above:

Registration

- I would like to register as an Interested and Affected Party for the BA process for this Project
- Non stakeholder: I would like you to take me off your distribution sheet for the Proposed project. I would not like to receive any further information regarding this process.

Other

If you know of any other individual or organisation that would be interested in registering as an Interested and Affected Party please provide their contact details:

Title (Mr/Mrs/Ms)		Phone	
Name		Fax	
Organisation / Interes		E-mail	
Signature			

I have the following queries/comments:

