

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT (BID)



**BID for the Proposed Fuel Station and Convenience Store
in Ottawa, eThekweni Municipality, KZN**



A Project of Indels Cartage CC

June 2022

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION

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Report name:	BID for the Proposed Fuel Station and Convenience Store in Ottawa, eThekweni Municipality, KZN
Report type:	Background Information Document (BID)
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INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the Background Information Document (BID) is to provide information to Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) regarding the proposed Fuel Station and Convenience Store in Ottawa. Wallace and Green (Pty) Ltd. has been appointed by Indels Cartage CC to provide Independent Environmental Consulting Services for the proposed development.

LOCATION OF PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

The proposed development will be undertaken on Portion 14 of Erf 110 Ottawa, which is located at 59 Old Main Road, within Ward 102 of the eThekweni Municipality. The project area is located approximately 3km south of the town of Verulam and approximately 1.5km north of Phoenix. The project area is situated within a residential area and is surrounded by residential dwellings and small commercial businesses.

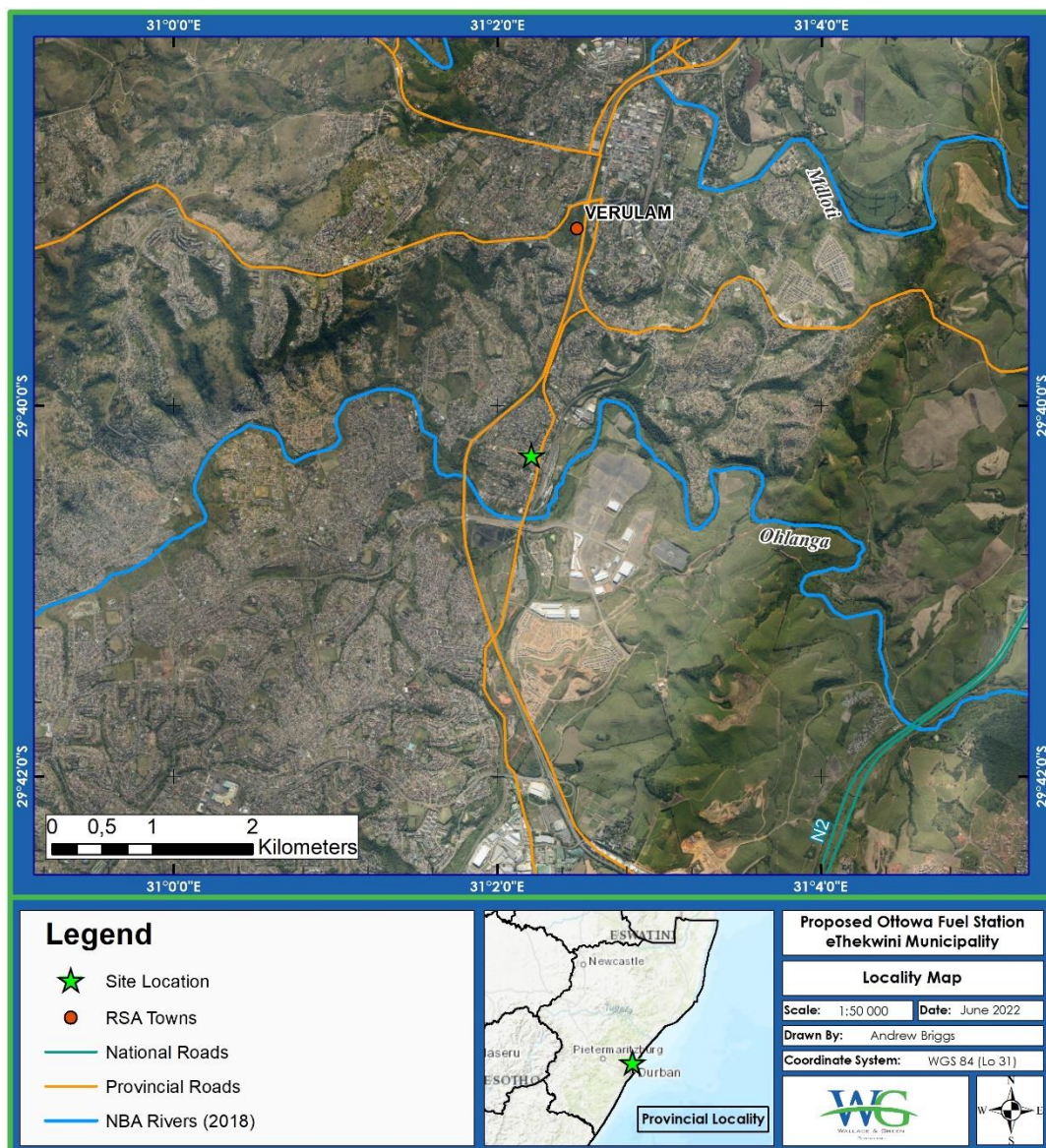


Figure 1: Locality Map illustrating the location of the Proposed Fuel Station

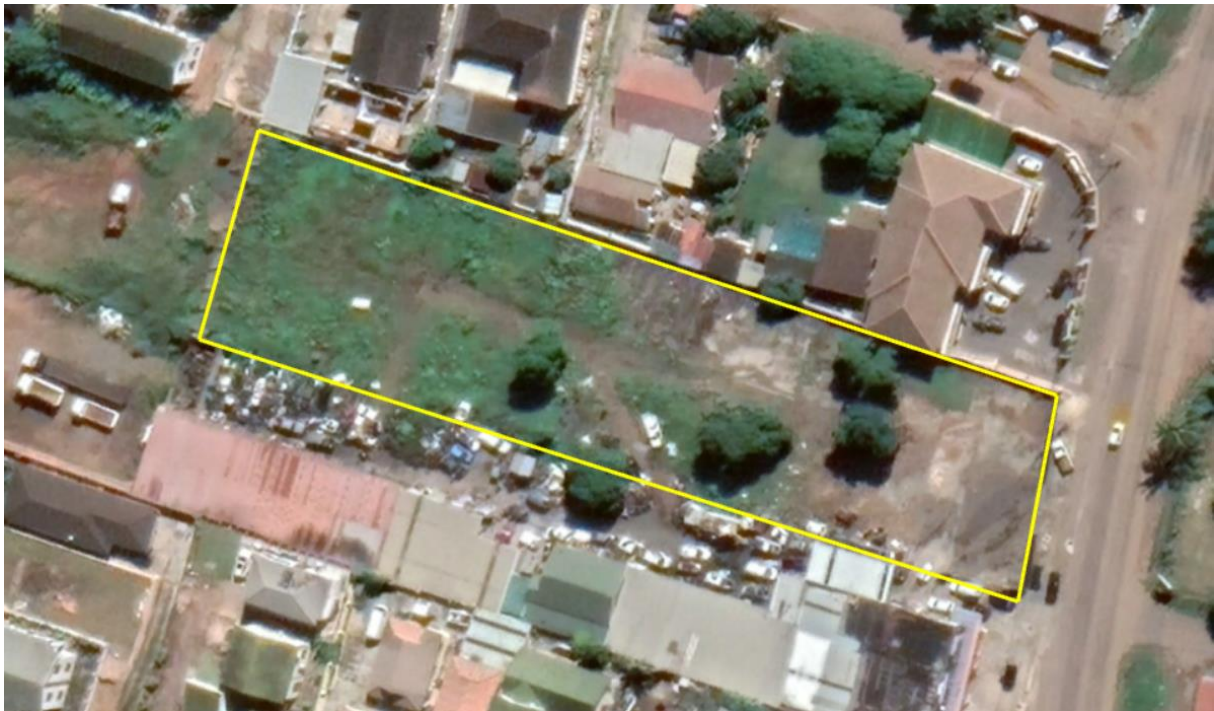


Figure 2: Overview of the Project Area

Table 1: Centre Co-ordinates of the Proposed Development

Latitude /Longitude	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
South	29	40	16.98
East	31	2	14.85

PROJECT DETAIL

Indels Cartage CC intends on establishing a Fuel Station and Convenience Store on Portion 14 of Erf 110 Ottawa which is approximately 4764m² in extent. The site has been rezoned to Limited Commercial which permits the development of a fuel station. The proposed development includes construction of the following:

- Five underground storage tanks (USTs) each with a capacity of 23 000 litres. Three USTs will be utilised for petrol and two will be utilised for diesel. The total capacity of the USTs will be 115 000 litres.
- Three pump islands;
- A canopy;
- Parking areas; and
- A convenience store.

ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

The proposed project triggers the following listed activities, thus requiring an Environmental Authorisation from KZN EDTEA **(to be confirmed)** in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA).

GNR	Activity Number	Activity as per legislation	Activity applicability
(GNR) No. 327	Activity 14	The development and related operation 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 cubic metres or more but not exceeding 500 cubic metres.	There will be 3 x 23 000 litres USTs for petrol and 2 x 23 000 litres USTs for diesel. The total capacity will be 115 cubic metres.

A person who wishes to commence with a Listing Notice 1 or 3 activity must conduct a Basic Assessment according to the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended). This process, inclusive of public participation, is described below.

OUTLINE OF THE BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS, INCLUDING PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Basic assessment process being followed comprises of the following:

- Submission of an Application for Authorisation to EDTEA;
- Public Participation Process;
 - Notification and distribution of the Background Information Document (this document) to identified stakeholders and I&AP's to announce the project and inviting stakeholders to register as an I&AP and participate in the public participation process;
 - An advertisement in the local newspaper;
 - Placement of a site notification at the site notifying I&AP's of the proposed activity and inviting them to register; and;
 - Relevant I&AP's consultation to address issues and concerns raised;
- Compilation of a Draft Basic Assessment Report for I&APs to review and comment.
- Submission of a Final Basic Assessment Report and details of I&AP consultation to the EDTEA, for a decision;
- Communication to I&APs regarding the decision made by EDTEA on the application for Environmental Authorisation.

SPECIALIST EVALUATION

To inform the Basic Assessment Report, specialist studies have to be undertaken. The Ecological Assessment, Geotechnical Assessment and Desktop Heritage Assessment have been undertaken and the key findings have been summarised below. **The full specialist reports will be made available for public comment as part of the Draft Basic Assessment Report.**

Ecological Assessment:

An Ecological Statement was undertaken by the Biodiversity Company in May 2022. The project area was found to be critically modified from its historical state, and the current habitat may be classified as completely transformed as it does not support any functional plant populations. The project area is therefore not representative of either Critical Biodiversity Area or Ecological Support Area, and as such it has been correctly classified by the provincial conservation plan. The extensive and long-term impacts from dumping, land clearing, and alien plant and weed invasion have degraded the project area to the point that new

development activities will not result in the destruction of any valuable natural resources. As such the project may be favourably considered from a terrestrial biodiversity perspective.

Geotechnical Assessment:

A Geotechnical Investigation was undertaken by Peter Allen and Associates in June 2022. As per the report, it will be possible to excavate the siltstone to depth of 4m approximately below ground level using a payloader or backacter, and there should thus not be any untoward problems associated with the installation of the tanks. It is unlikely that the “true” water table will be reached. There may, however, be some seepage from the sides of the excavation, particularly if the work is carried out in the wet season, and some dewatering may be necessary to facilitate the installation of the tanks. From a Geotechnical point of view, the proposed development is supported, and the location of the product tanks is considered to be satisfactory.

Heritage Impact Assessment:

A Desktop Heritage Assessment was undertaken by Umlando: Archaeological Surveys and Heritage Management in April 2022. As per the Heritage Assessment, the site has no heritage value and should be exempt from further heritage mitigation.

Your contributions are important

You can get involved in the process:

1. By responding (by phone or e-mail) to our invitation for your involvement in the process;
2. By completing the attached comment form and e-mailing it to Wallace and Green;
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 30-day review period.

In terms of the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended) you are invited to formally register as an I&AP. Please note that in terms of Regulation 56 (c), I&APs need to disclose any direct business, financial, personal or other interest which they may have in the approval or refusal of the application.

Please note that by providing comments to this project, you voluntary consent to your personal information being processed, collected, used and disclosed in compliance with the Protection of Personal Information Act, 4 of 2013. You furthermore agree that your personal information may be disclosed to a third party, used for the lawful and reasonable purposes in as far as Wallace & Green (Pty) Ltd (responsible party) must use your information in the performance of its contractual duties.

Please register by the 29th July 2022 by completing the enclosed registration and comment sheet and please declare the interest with regard to the project with your comments.

**REGISTRATION FORM:
Proposed Fuel Station and Convenience Store in Ottawa, eThekweni
Municipality, KZN**

Attention: Mrs. Simitha Koobair
Office No: 031 563 4466
E-mail: simitha@wallaceandgreen.co.za
Fax No: 086 613 8535

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

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

Registration

<input type="radio"/>	I would like to register as an Interested and Affected Party for the BA process for this Project. By completing this document, I voluntary consent that my personal information may be processed, collected, used and disclosed in compliance with the Protection of Personal Information Act, 4 of 2013.
<input type="radio"/>	Non stakeholder: I would like you to take me off your distribution sheet for the Proposed. 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 / Interest		E-mail	
Signature			

