

**PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF MATERIAL SOURCES FOR THE UPGRADING
OF NATIONAL ROUTE R335 BETWEEN MOTHERWELL (KM 5.600) AND ADDO
(KM 37.600), WITHIN THE NELSON MANDELA BAY MUNICIPALITY AND
SUNDAYS RIVER VALLEY LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

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BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS

Prepared by:

*Terratest (Pty) Ltd
PO Box 27308
Greenacres
Port Elizabeth
6057*

*Tel: 041 390 8730
Fax: 041 363 1922*

Email: coetzeec@terratest.co.za

*Contact Person:
Ms Cherize Coetzee*

Prepared for:

*GIBB (Pty) Ltd (on behalf of SANRAL)
PO Box 19844
Tecoma
East London
5214*

*Tel: 043 706 3600
Fax: 043 721 0141*

Email: sschroeder@gibb.co.za

*Contact Person:
Mr Steve Schroeder*



1. INTRODUCTION

The South African National Roads Agency SOC Limited (SANRAL) has appointed GIBB (Pty) Ltd as the project managers and consulting engineers for the 'Improvement of National Route R335 between Motherwell (km 5.600) and Addo (km 37.600)' within the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality (NMBM) and Sundays River Valley Local Municipality (SRVLM).

Terratest (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by GIBB (Pty) Ltd, on behalf of SANRAL, to undertake the application process for an Environmental Authorisation of these material sources, as required in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA).

Table 1: Project role players

APPLICANT	SANRAL
PROJECT MANAGER	GIBB (Pty) Ltd
PROJECT ENGINEERS	GIBB (Pty) Ltd and LA Consulting Engineers (Pty) Ltd
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER	Terratest (Pty) Ltd
COMPETENT AUTHORITY	Department of Mineral Resources (DMR)

2. SCOPE OF THE PROJECT

The proposed road improvement works will include re-alignment and widening of the road, drainage infrastructure upgrades, widening and/or replacement of bridges and culverts and all associated road furniture.

Such works require the sourcing of material (rock and gravel) from the surrounding areas, for use in construction as bedding, backfill and layer works material.

In order to supply the material required for the proposed road upgrade, it is proposed to make use of two (2) material sources, as follows:

MATERIAL SOURCE NAME	STATUS	MATERIAL TYPE	MATERIAL QUALITY
Borrow Pit 2	New	Sandstone, shale and mudstone	G6 – G10
Borrow Pit 3	New	Calcrete and silty sands	G6 – G10

A two-stage crusher may be required at Borrow Pit 2 and 3. Table 2 below provides a breakdown of the approximate material requirements from each of the proposed material sources. Any additional material which cannot be obtained in sufficient quantity from the proposed material sources will be purchased from a commercial source.

Table 2: Material sources and material quantities

MATERIAL SOURCE	BORROW PIT 2	BORROW PIT 3
Area	15 000 m ²	15 000 m ²
Intended use	Bedding, backfill and layerworks for deviations	Bedding, backfill and layerworks for deviations
Depth	15 m	3 m
Quantity	225 000 m ³	45 000 m ³

3. SITE LOCATION

An overview of the location of the two (2) proposed material sources is provided in Figure 1.

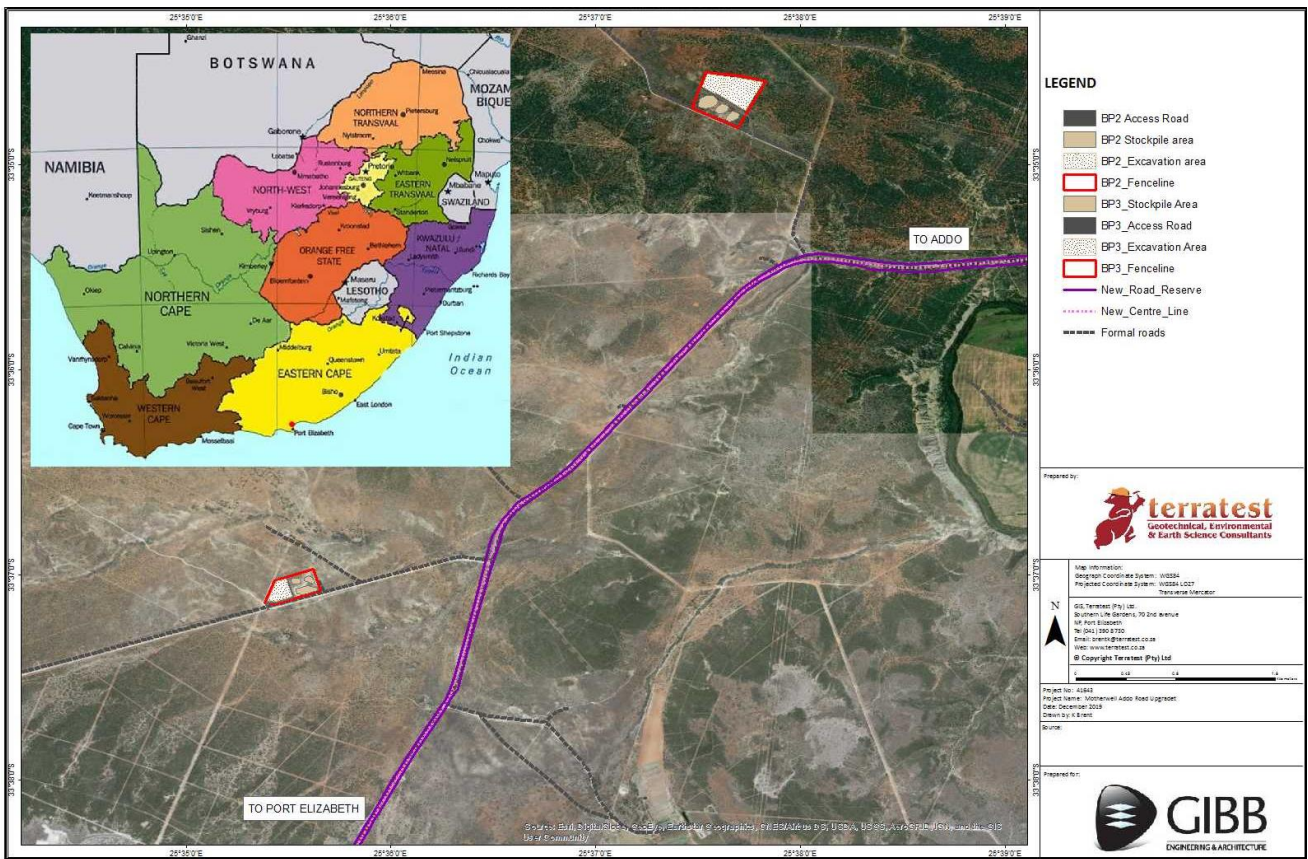


Figure 1: Locality map illustrating the location of the study area.

3.1 Borrow Pit 2

Borrow Pit 2 is located on Portion 2 (remaining extent) and Portion 4 of the Farm Coega Kammas Kloof No. 191, situated approximately 1 km west of the R335. The borrow pit is accessible off the P1958, which connects to the R335 at km27.

Figure 2 overleaf shows the location and proposed layout of Borrow Pit 2.

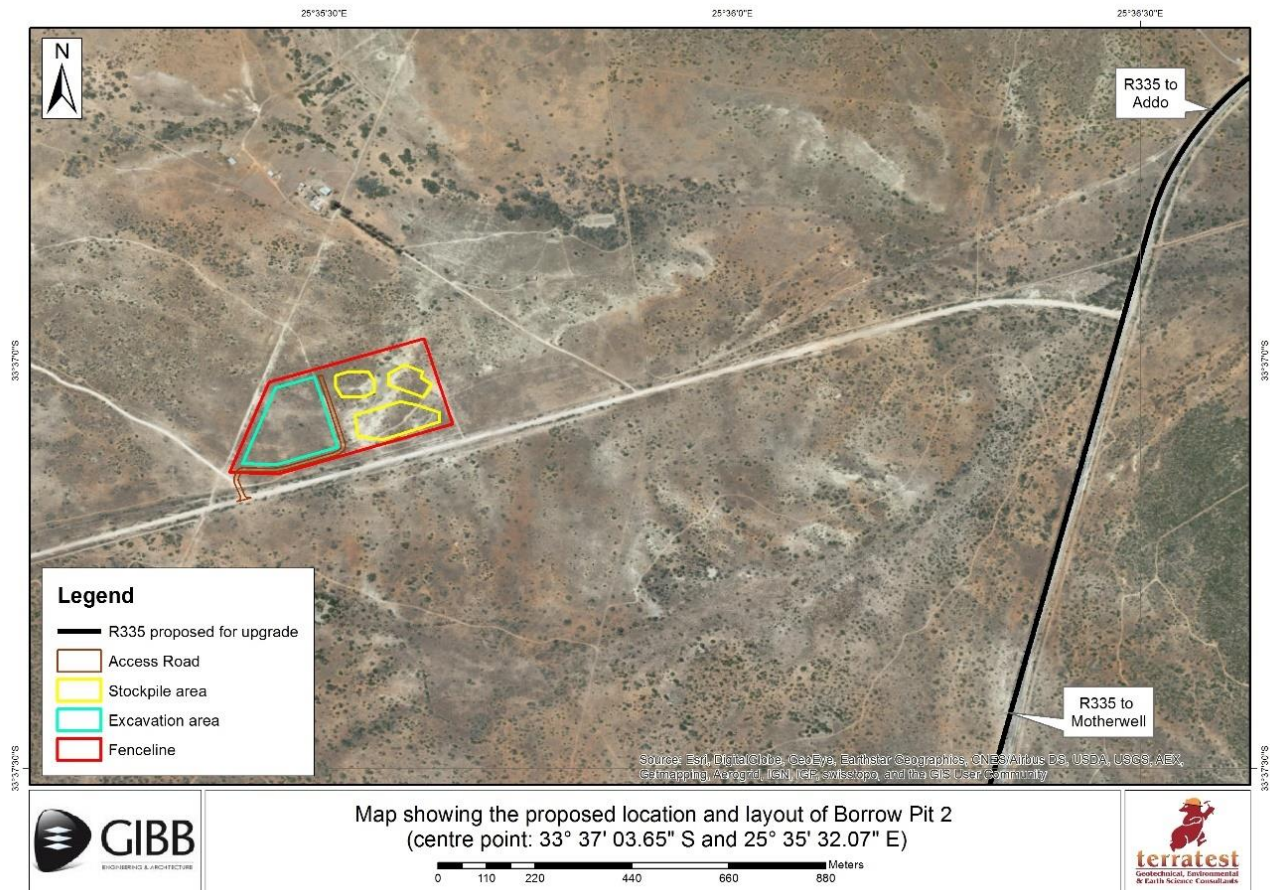


Figure 2: Map showing the proposed location and layout of Borrow Pit 2.

3.2 Borrow Pit 3

Borrow Pit 3 is located on Portion 1 (remaining extent) of the Farm Alkham No. 132, situated approximately 1.3 km north-west of the R335. The borrow pit is accessible off an existing gravel road, which connects to the R335 at km31.

Figure 3 overleaf shows the location and proposed layout of Borrow Pit 3.

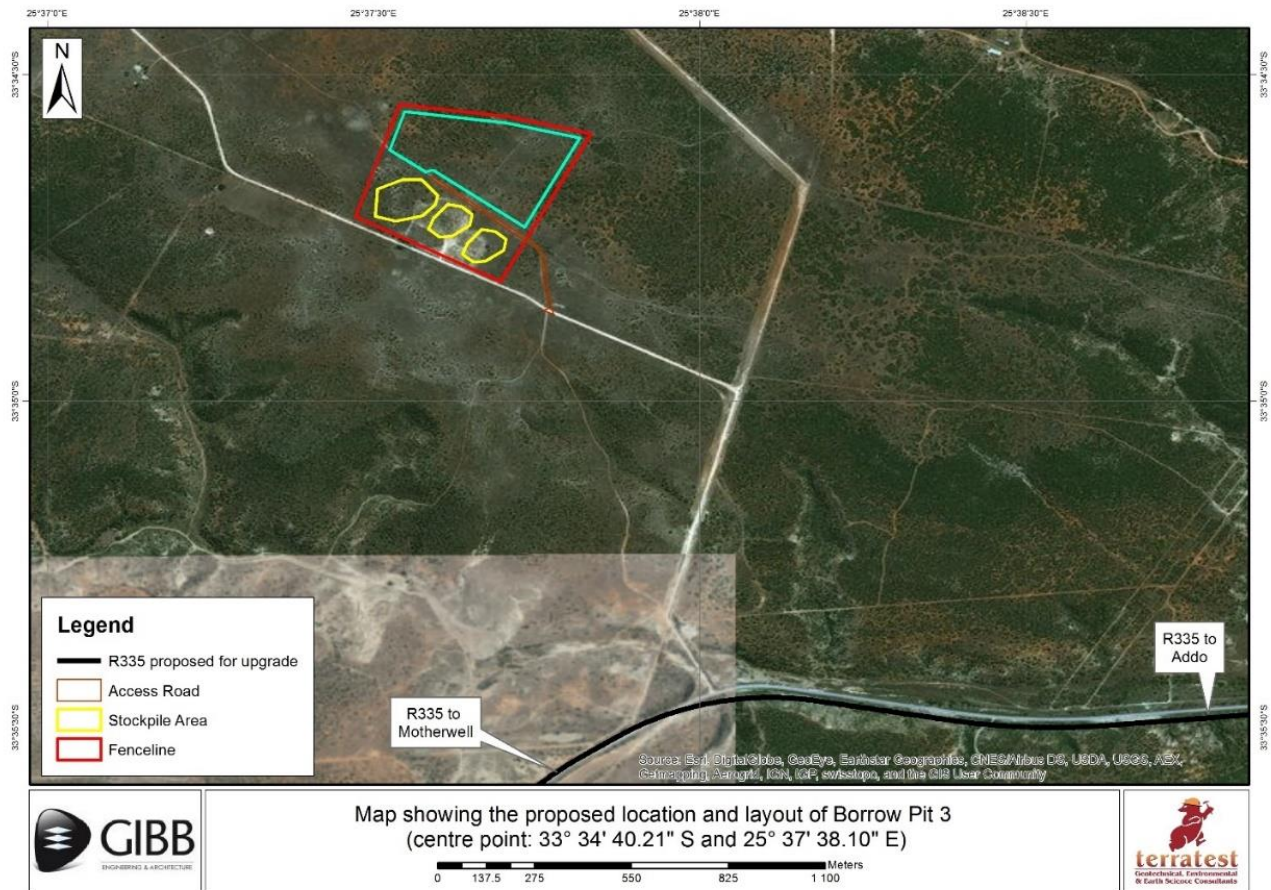


Figure 3: Map showing the proposed location and layout of Borrow Pit 3.

4. AUTHORISATION REQUIREMENTS

5.1 National Environmental Management Act, 1998

The proposed development triggers activities listed in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (2014), as amended, published in terms of the NEMA. A summary of the activities triggered is contained in Table 3.

Table 3: Summary of Listed Activities triggered by the proposed development.

Notice	Activity No:	Description of the Listed Activity:	Comment:
GN. R 327 (Listing Notice 1)	27	<i>The clearance of an area of 1 hectares or more, but less than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation.</i>	The establishment of Borrow Pit 2 and Borrow Pit 3 will require the clearance of approximately 19 ha of indigenous vegetation.
GN. R 324 (Listing Notice 3)	4(a)(i)(ee)	<i>The development of a road wider than 4 meters with a reserve less than 13.5 meters, [in] Eastern Cape, outside urban areas, [in] critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans.</i>	All of the borrow pits will require access roads in excess of 4 m on width. The relevant GIS databases indicate that Borrow Pit 2 is located within a Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA) as identified in the NMBM Bioregional Plan (2014), whilst Borrow Pit 3 is located within a CBA as identified in the Eastern Cape Biodiversity Conservation Plan (2007).

Notice	Activity No:	Description of the Listed Activity:	Comment:
GN. R 324 (Listing Notice 3)	12(a)(ii)	<i>The clearance of an area of 300 square meters or more of indigenous vegetation...[in] Eastern Cape, within critical biodiversity areas identified in bioregional plans.</i>	Borrow Pit 2 is located within a CBA as identified in the NMBM BRP. Establishment of this material source will require the clearance of in excess of 300 m ² of indigenous vegetation.

As the activities triggered are contained in Listing Notices 1 and 3, the proposed development requires **Environmental Authorisation** subject to a **Basic Assessment** process.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPE OF WORK

The required Basic Assessment process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of NEMA and the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended). The Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) is required to conduct the environmental application process and manage the public participation process, which is currently underway. As part of this process, Terratest (Pty) Ltd will perform the following:

1. Identify and notify key stakeholders, authorities and municipalities, environmental groups and interested or affected parties, hereafter referred to as Interested & Affected Parties (IAPs);
2. Compile a detailed Background Information Document (BID) for the proposed development (this document), providing details to IAPs of:
 - a. The listed activities that trigger the Environmental Authorisation process;
 - b. The scope of work;
 - c. The locality and current land use at the site;
 - d. A detailed site description;
 - e. The Basic Assessment process to be followed; and
 - f. The opportunity for IAPs to comment on the project.
3. Advertise the environmental application in a newspaper applicable to the region;
4. Place a notification poster/posters on and surrounding the site;
5. Obtain consent from the landowner to undertake the application process (if necessary);
6. Attend Public Liaison Committee (PLC) meetings and workshops, where necessary;
7. Host a Public meeting, if necessary, providing details of issues identified by the EAP, stakeholders and IAPs;
8. Record all comments of IAPs and present such comments, as well as responses provided by Terratest (Pty) Ltd, in a full Comments and Responses Report, for inclusion into the Basic Assessment Report which will be submitted to DMR for decision-making; and
9. Circulate all IAP comments to the project team.

The Basic Assessment Report will be made available to all relevant stakeholders and registered IAPs for comment, before being submitted to the DMR.

6. HOW DO I PARTICIPATE?

Every proposed development has the potential to significantly affect the natural, social and economic environments, both at, as well as surrounding the proposed site. For this reason, it is imperative that you as a stakeholder or an IAP comment on the proposed project and **highlight any issues or concerns** that you feel need to be considered during the proposed planning and implementation process.

Should you wish to register as an IAP or should you have any comments regarding the proposed development, please **state your interest** in the proposed development along with any **comments or queries** you may, on the form provided.

Please return these comments, via email, fax or post to details provided. Alternatively, the EAP listed below can be contacted directly.

Registered IAPs will be included in our database which will ensure that you are directly informed of any important dates, availability of documents, etc.

Please do extend this invitation to comment to others whom you believe may also be affected by, or would be interested in this project.

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REGISTRATION FORM
<p>Name: Surname Postal Address:</p> <p>Postal Code:</p> <p>Tel No: Fax No: Cell No:</p> <p>E-mail:</p>
<p>Please state your interest in the proposed project:</p>
<p>Comments: (add extra pages should you need)</p>
<p>Do you require any additional information?</p>
<p>Other parties which you think should be included in the process:</p>
<p><i>Your comments are highly appreciated and will be included in the final report to be submitted to the decision-making authorities.</i></p>
<p><u>PLEASE RETURN TO:</u> Cherize Coetzee c/o TERRATEST (PTY) LTD PO Box 27308 Greenacres Port Elizabeth 6057 Tel: 041 390 8730 Fax: 041 363 1922 E-mail: coetzeec@terratest.co.za</p>