

ecoleges

Environmental Consultants

NOTIFICATION AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT (BID)

The proposed construction of a 500mm diameter rising- and an 800mm diameter gravity potable water pipelines from the Bospoort WTW to tie into the existing pipeline to Rustenburg town, a reservoir and associated access roads currently under the jurisdiction of the Rustenburg Local Municipality, North West Province

PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

The purpose of this document is to provide notification of and background information to the proposed project whilst obtaining comments, contributions and appeals from stakeholders with regards to potential environmental and water resource impacts – which includes (but is not limited to): ecological, social, economic, physical, aesthetic and heritage.

Ecoleges, as the independent Environmental Consultant, has been appointed to manage the Public Participation Process (PPP) as part of the application for an Environmental Authorisation (EA), in accordance with Chapter 6 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (GG No. 40772, GN No. 326, 07 April 2017) and section 47D of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) as amended, respectively; and taking into consideration the Public Participation Guideline Document (DEA, 2017).

The EA application will be submitted for consideration to the North West Department of Rural, Environment and Agricultural Development (DREAD).

The aim of the report is to ensure that the environmental impacts are taken into consideration, to ensure stakeholder engagement, and to provide decision makers with enough information to make an informed decision on the proposed activities.

The Department's decision whether to grant or refuse an Environmental Authorisation will be based on information provided in the report.

APPLICABLE LEGISLATION

In terms of the EIA Regulations (2014) as amended (GG No. 40772, GN No. 326 & 327, 7 April 2017) and Section 24 of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA, Act 107 of 1998), the application for the construction the of a raw water pipeline and reservoirs is subject to an application for Environmental Authorisation.

The proposed pipeline and reservoirs construction trigger the following listed activities, which is subject to a Basic Assessment process:

GN No. R.983 of 4 December 2014 (LN1), as amended in GN No. 327 of 7 April 2017:

- Listed Activity 9

The development of infrastructure exceeding 1000 metres in length for the bulk transportation of water or storm water-

- (i) with an internal diameter of 0.36 metres or more; or
- (ii) with a peak throughput of 120 litres or more; excluding where –
 - (a) such infrastructure is for the bulk transportation of water or storm water or storm water drainage inside a road reserve or railway line reserve; or
 - (b) where such development will occur within an urban area.

- Listed Activity 12

The development of-

- (i) dams or weirs, where the dam or weir, including infrastructure and water surface area, exceed 100 square metres; or
- (ii) **infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more;**

where such development occurs-

- (a) within a watercourse;
- (b) in front of a development setback; or
- (c) **if no development setback exists, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measures from the edge of a watercourse;**

excluding-

- (aa) the development of infrastructure or structures within existing ports or harbours that will not increase the development footprint of the port or harbour;
- (bb) where such development activities are related to the development of a port or harbour, in which case activity 26 in Listing Notice 2 of 2014 applies;
- (cc) activities listed in activity 14 in Listing Notice 2 of 2014 or activity 14 in Listing Notice 3 of 2014, in which case that activity applies;
- (dd) where such development occurs within an urban area;
- (ee) where such development occurs within existing roads, road reserves or railway line reserves; or
- (ff) the development of temporary infrastructure or structures where such infrastructure or structures will be removed within 6 weeks of the commencement of development and where indigenous vegetation will not be cleared.

- Listed Activity 13

The development of facilities or infrastructure for the off-stream storage of water, including dams and reservoirs, with a combined capacity of 50 000 cubic metres or more, unless such storage falls within the ambit of activity 16 in Listing Notice 2 of 2014.

- Listed Activity 19

The infilling or depositing of any material or more than 10 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock of more than 10 cubic metres from a watercourse; but excluding where such infilling, depositing, dredging, excavation, removal or moving-

(a) will occur behind a development setback;

(b) is for the maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan;

(c) falls within the ambit of activity 21 in this Notice, in which case that activity applies;

(d) occurs within existing ports or harbours that will not increase the development footprint of the port or harbour; or

(e) where such development is related to the development of a port or harbour, in which case activity 26 in Listing Notice 2 of 2014 applies.

GN No. R.985 of 4 December 2014 (LN3), as amended in GN No. 324 of 7 April 2017:

- Listed Activity 4

The development of a road wider than 4 metres with a reserve less than 13.5 metres.

h. North West

i. A protected area including municipal or provincial nature reserves as contemplated by NEMPAA or other legislation;

ii. Sensitive areas as identified in an environmental management framework as contemplated in chapter 5 of the Act and as adopted by the competent authority;

iii. Sites or areas identified in terms of an international convention;

iv. Critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority;

v. Core areas in biosphere reserves;

vi. Areas within 5 kilometres from protected areas identified in terms of NEMPAA or from a biosphere reserve;

vii. Areas designated for conservation use in Spatial Development Frameworks adopted by the competent authority or zoned for a conservation purpose; or

viii. All Heritage Sites proclaimed in terms of National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999).

- Listed Activity 12

The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.

h. North West

i. World Heritage Sites; core of biosphere reserve; or sites or areas identified in terms of an international convention;

ii. A protected area including municipal or provincial nature reserves as contemplated by NEMPAA or other legislation;

iii. All Heritage Sites proclaimed in terms of National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999);

iv. Critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority;

v. Sensitive area as identified in an environmental management framework as contemplated in chapter 5 of the Act and as adopted by the competent authority; or

vi. Areas within a watercourse or wetland, or within 100 metres from the edge of a watercourse or wetland.

- Listed Activity 14

The development of-

(i) dams or weirs, where the dam or weir, including infrastructure and water surface area exceeds 10 square metres; or

(ii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 10 square metres or more;

where such development occurs-

(a) within a watercourse;

(b) in front of a development setback; or

(c) if no development setback has been adopted within 32 metres of a watercourse, measures from the edge of a watercourse;

excluding the development of infrastructure or structures within existing ports or harbours that will not increase the development footprint of the port or harbour.

The BA process is a planning and decision-making tool that is used to identify, predict and evaluate the potential and actual environmental impacts of a proposed development or project. It is conducted in compliance with Chapter 5 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) as amended. The EIA regulations, 2014 as amended, identify a list of activities for which a BA must be conducted.

PURPOSE OF THE PROJECT

The overall objective is to undertake and complete a robust and defensible Basic Assessment process that will serve to inform the North West Department of Rural, Environment and Agricultural Development (DREAD), and allow for a decision on the environmental acceptability of the proposed development.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Following the upgrading of the 12Mℓ/d Bospoort Water Treatment Works to 24Mℓ/d, a new 500mm diameter rising main is required to convey potable water from the Treatment Works to the new reservoir. An 800mm diameter pipe will supply the water from the reservoir to Rustenburg town. Both these lines will be steel pipelines and will convey approximately 300ℓ per second between the Treatment Works and Rustenburg Municipality. The pipelines will augment the current Vaalkop supply system and provide much needed potable water to the communities in the area as well as Rustenburg Town.

DESCRIPTION OF TASKS

- An advertisement will be placed in the Platinum Weekly, a local newspaper, on the 1st of February 2019.
- Stakeholders, including adjacent landowners and occupiers, neighbours within a 100m radius, and the relevant authorities will be notified of the proposed development in writing.
- Notice boards advertising the applications were placed at the site on the 31st of January 2019.
- Should a public meeting be held, all registered I&APs will be notified timeously.

LOCATION

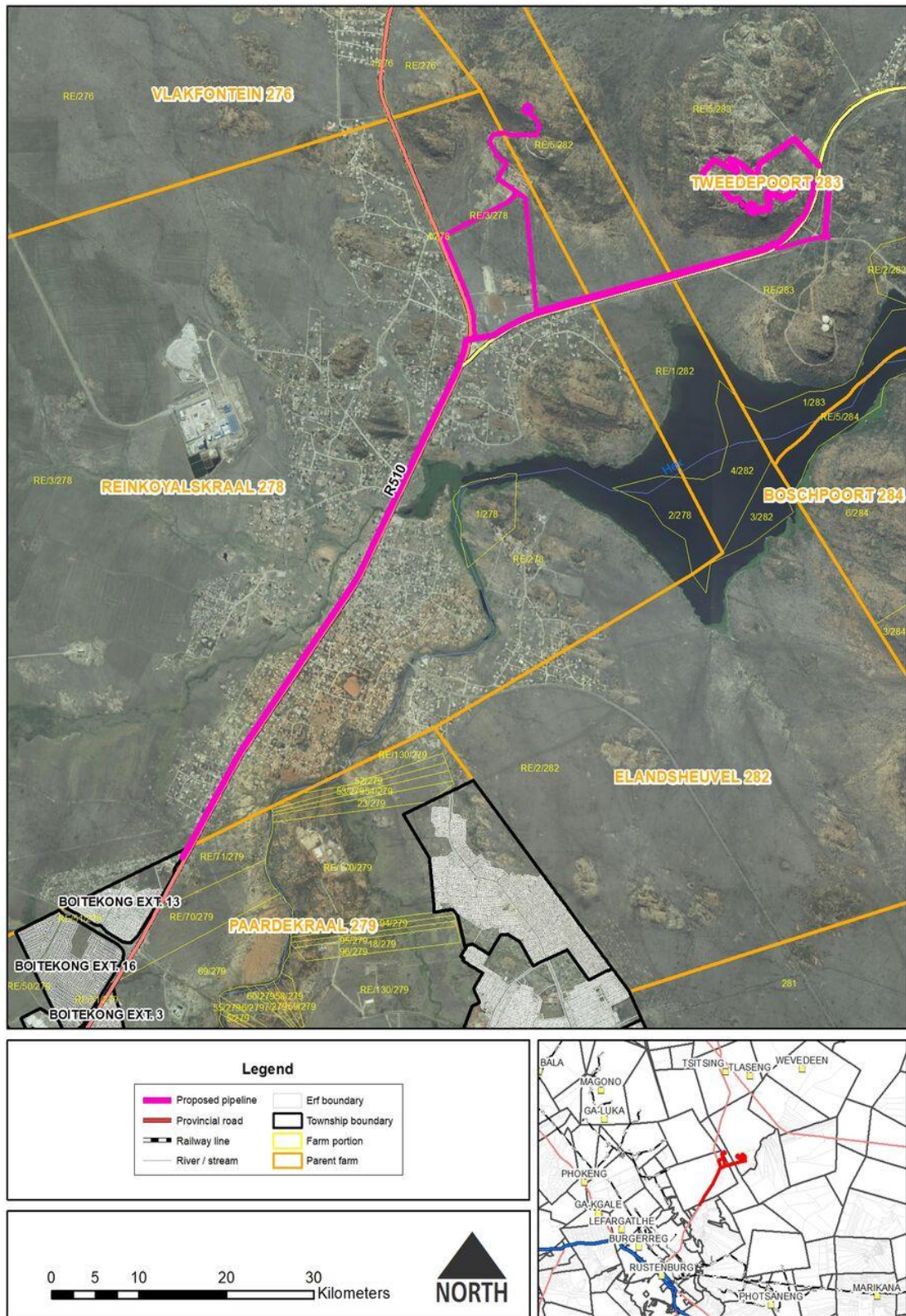


Figure 1: Layout map of the pipeline alignment, which varies fundamentally in its position on the opposite side of the R510 provincial tar road from the original alignment.

ANTICIPATED ISSUES

The environmental concerns that may be addressed in the reports could include the following:

- Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment;
- Heritage Impact Assessment;
- 1:100yr flood line & riparian zone determination;
- Aquatic Assessment & wetland determination;
- Land capability assessment; and
- Geotechnical investigation.

You are invited to register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) and to assist us in:

- identifying possible impacts of the proposed developments on the environment,
- making suggestions for mitigation and/or alternatives, and
- considering the “need” and “desirability”.

Mitigations

Mitigation measures will be developed for the anticipated issues. Stakeholders are however welcome to comment on these issues and provide additional observations.

Alternatives

Consideration of Alternatives is a critical element of the assessment process. Its role is to provide a framework for sound decision-making based on the principle of sustainable development.

Alternatives should be identified as early as possible in the project cycle.

Ecoleges not only welcomes stakeholders' input/suggestions, but also encourages the public to submit possible alternatives.

It is important to note that an alternative is defined as a different means of meeting the general purpose and requirements of the activity, which may include alternatives to-

- (a) the property on which or location where it is proposed to undertake the activity;
- (b) the type of activity to be undertaken;
- (c) the design or layout of the activity;
- (d) the technology to be used in the activity;
- (e) the operational aspects of the activity; and
- (f) the option of not implementing the activity.

When submitting alternatives, the recommended alternative must be:

- Practicable,
- **Feasible**,
- Relevant,
- **Reasonable** and
- Viable.

Need and Desirability

'Need and desirability' is determined by considering the broader societal/community needs and interests. Need and desirability refers to time and place, respectively, i.e. is this the right time and is it the right place for locating the proposed activity.

In order to ensure that you are registered as an interested and/or affected party, kindly complete the enclosed REGISTRATION AND COMMENT SHEET and forward it to the address, fax or emails provided below, within 30 days from the date of this notification.

REGISTRATION AND COMMENT SHEET

**CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW PIPELINE & A RESERVOIR FROM THE BOSPOORT WTW
TO RUSTENBURG TOWN, CURRENTLY UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE
RUSTENBURG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, NORTH WEST PROVINCE**

ECOLEGES REFERENCE: 2018_006P

Title: _____ Name: _____

Surname: _____

Company Name / Interest Group: _____

Postal and / or Residential Address: _____

Town / City: _____

Postal Code: _____

Tel: (_____) _____

Cell: _____

Fax: (_____) _____

E-mail address: _____

In accordance with EIA Regulations, 2014 – Regulation 43 (1) - A registered interested and affected party is entitled to comment, in writing, on all written submissions including draft reports made to the competent authority provided that the interested and affected party discloses any direct business, financial, personal or other interest which that party may have in the approval or refusal of the application. Please supply such information in the space provided below.

Please indicate with an **X** whether you would like to be kept informed of the BA process

YES, I would like to be kept informed	
NO, I am not interested	

If "YES", how would you like to be informed? (please mark the appropriate block with an "X")

E-mail	
Fax	

COMMENTS: (If you require more space than that which is provided, please attach additional pages)

Submission details:

Machadodorp office

2 Generaal Street
Machadodorp
P.O. Box 516
Machadodorp
1170
083 644-7179

White River office

Office 8, Macadamia Offices
Impala Street, White River
P.O. Box 9005
Nelspruit
1200
083 984-9936

Fax: 086 697 9316

E-mail: justin@ecoleges.co.za OR info@ecoleges.co.za

Thank you for your participation

Please be assured that your comments will form part of the final document to be submitted to the decision-making authority.