

PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

The purpose of this Background Information Document (BID) is to provide Interested and Affected Parties (IAPs) with background information regarding the proposed project. The aim is to inform IAPs on how to participate in the EIA Process and to obtain initial comments from IAPs on the issues relating to the proposed development.

1. INTRODUCTION

The Alfred Duma Municipality has, through its IDP process, and extensive consultation with respective communities residing within the local municipality, identified the need to provide an integrated mix of housing units within in its area of jurisdiction. This process was initiated as a means to address the municipality's housing need due to urbanization and the growth of the population.

2. LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

In accordance with the 2014 Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (as amended in 2017), published in terms of sections 24(2) and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No. 107 of 1998), the developer is required to carry out a Scoping and Environmental Impact Report as the following activities are applicable to the development:

Listing Notice 1

Activity 9: The development of infrastructure exceeding 1 000 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 per second or more;**

Background:

The proposed development will entail the construction of pipelines for the purpose of transporting water and storm water.

Activity 10: The development and related operation of infrastructure exceeding 1 000 metres in length for the bulk transportation of sewage, effluent, process water, waste water, return water, industrial discharge or slimes –

- (i) with an internal diameter of 0,36 metres or more; or**
- (ii) with a peak throughput of 120 litres per second or more;**

Background:

The proposed development will entail the construction of pipelines for the purpose of transporting sewage from each erf to the municipal WWTW.

Activity 11: The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity-
(i) outside urban areas with a capacity of more than 33 but less than 275 kilovolts

Background:

The proposed development will entail the construction of infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity. This activity will be confirmed in the Environmental Impact Report.

Activity 12: The development of –

- (ii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more; where such development occurs –**
 - (a) within a watercourse;**

Background:

The proposed development will entail constructing structures with a combined physical footprint of 100 square metres within a watercourse and within 32m of a watercourse.

Activity 19: The infilling or depositing of any material of 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- (i) a watercourse;

Background:

The proposed development will entail the infilling and depositing of material as well as the removal and excavation of sand for the purpose of constructing roads and bridges within a watercourse.

Activity 24: The development of a road—

- (ii) a road with a reserve wider than 13,5 meters, or where no reserve exists where the road is wider than 8 metres;**

Background:

The proposed development will entail the construction of roads that are wider than 8m.

Listing Notice 2

Activity 15: The clearance of an area of 20 hectares or more of indigenous vegetation, excluding where such clearance of indigenous vegetation.

Background:

The proposed development will entail the removal of more than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation.

Listing Notice 3

Activity 4: The development of a road wider than 4m with a reserve less than 13.5m within

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

Background:

The proposed development will entail the development of a road wider than 4 metres with a reserve less than 13.5 metres within an area set aside for Passive Open Space.

Activity 12: The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation within

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

Background:

The proposed development will entail the clearance of more than 300 square metres of indigenous vegetation within an area set aside for Passive Open Space.

Activity 14: The development of –

(ii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more; where such development occurs –

(a) within a watercourse; within

(bb) Areas designated for conservation use in Spatial Development Frameworks adopted by the competent authority, zoned for a conservation purpose;

Background:

The proposed development entails the construction of roads/bridges within a watercourse in an area set aside as Passive Open Space.

3. ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER

K2M Environmental has been appointed by the applicant as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) responsible for undertaking the Environmental Impact Assessment.

4. SITE DESCRIPTION

4.1 Location and Direction to the site

The total extent of the project area is approximately 37 hectares and is situated on a portion of Wards 1 and 4 of the Alfred Duma Municipality. Access to the site is via Ndlanzi Road. Travel north on the N11 from the Ladysmith CBD and then turn right on the P32. Drive for approximately 12km before turning right into eZakheni. Drive for 4.7km, turn left and then drive a 1.2km before turning right onto Ndlanzi Road. The site will be on the left.

Figure 1: Proposed Project Area



4.2 Project Co-ordinates

Latitudinal Extent: 28° 37' 9.427" S

Longitudinal Extent: 29° 56' 16.501" E

5. CURRENT AND SURROUNDING LAND USE

The site is vacant, however, the surrounding land uses is that of residential, the eZakheni Plaza, vacant land on the western side of the project area and the Kliprivier.

6. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTIVITY

The proposed development entails the establishment of a Township together with supporting infrastructure, which includes construction of the following:

- Approximately 262 RDP/subsidised housing units
- Approximately 100 FLISP housing units
- Approximately 59 GAP housing units
- Internal roads as well as stormwater infrastructure.
- Internal and bulk pipelines for waterborne sewerage and water supply.
- It should be noted that erven will be set aside for schools, parks/sports field and community facilities.

6. POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Geophysical and biophysical (including biodiversity) issues include:

- The proposed development will have an impact upon the natural environment, as it entails the clearance of natural vegetation. A Biodiversity Assessment and Wetland Assessment will be undertaken to identify sensitive areas within the site and will provide adequate mitigation measures for the proposed development.
- A Geotechnical Assessment will be undertaken to determine the stability of the soil.
- An Environmental Management Programme will be developed with which to monitor and mitigate any environmental impacts before they occur, during the construction and operational phase of the proposed development

Socio-economic issues:

- The increased traffic volumes along the road networks during the construction phase of the proposed development may impact on other road users.
- The construction phase of development will result in a number of temporary employment opportunities for unemployed members of the surrounding community.

Cultural-historic issues

A Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) will be undertaken and submitted to AMAFA.

8. COMMENT ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT:

Stakeholders are invited to register as Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) as well as comment on the Draft Scoping Report within 30 days of this notice. A copy of the Draft Scoping Report is available at the eZakheni Public Library located at the corner of Shaka Street and Idube Street, Lot 1103, eZakheni, Section A.

Alternatively, the Scoping Report may be made available electronically to the I&AP upon request. Representations with respect to this application may be made by fax or mail to Mrs Simitha Koobair (contact details below) and must reach K2M Environmental offices on or before the **9th December 2019**.

Further information regarding this project can be obtained from:

Contact person: Simitha Koobair

Tel: (031) 764 6743

Fax: (031) 764 2354

E-mail: simitha@k2m.co.za

You are invited as an interested and affected party to register and comment on the Proposed eZakheni Stimela D Integrated Housing Development in terms of the 2014 EIA Regulations. Please return the completed registration form to Mrs Simitha Koobair on or before **9th December 2019**. **PLEASE NOTE – IF YOU DO NOT REGISTER AS AN I&AP, YOU WILL NOT AUTOMATICALLY RECEIVE FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE PROJECT.**

Title:	First Name:	Surname:	Initials:
Organization:		Designation:	
Postal Address:			
Tel no:		Cell no:	
Fax no:		Email:	

Comment:
