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**“PROPOSED UPGRADE TO THE RISING MAIN, EFFLUENT GRAVITY MAIN AND PUMPSTATION”
BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT (BID)**

Our Ref: En12.09.248

EIA Ref. No:

BASIC ASSESSMENT (BA)

INFORMATION SHEET NO.1

SEPTEMBER 2012

INTRODUCTION AND TERMS OF REFERENCE:

In order to comply with South Africa’s environmental legislation, EnAq Consulting cc was appointed by Dartingo Consulting Engineers in March 2012 to carry out the basic assessment for the above-cited proposed project. The main aim of this assessment would be to identify any limitations that the environment may impose on the proposed project and the receiving biophysical, cultural and socio-economic environments.

The proposed project should ultimately be acceptable and sustainable from a biophysical, social, cultural, technical, sustainable and financial point of view. The proposed project lies within the Ugu District Municipality.

PURPOSE OF THE BID DOCUMENT:

The general purpose of the Background Information Document (BID) is as follows:

- *The BID serves to inform Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) and relevant authorities of the “PROPOSED UPGRADE TO THE RISING MAIN, EFFLUENT GRAVITY MAIN AND PUMPSTATION” and invite them to participate;*
- *Provide a brief background to the proposed project; and*
- *To explain the aim, objectives and key activities of the Basic Assessment (BA).*

THE HIBISCUS COAST MUNICIPAL AREA:

The Hibiscus Coast Local Municipality is a local authority/third sphere of government. The Hibiscus Coast Local Municipality is located in the south coast of the KZN province. The neighbouring local municipalities include: Vulamehlo Local Municipality, Umdoni Local Municipality and Umzube Local Municipality.

Hibiscus Coast Local Municipality according to the 2012/2013 Hibiscus Coast Local Municipality Integrated Development Plan (IDP) ,is approximately 837 square kilometers in extent with a current population estimated to be approximately 302 783. As a third sphere of government Hibiscus Coast Local Municipality has functions it is legally required to perform.

The population is dominated by the African community which constitutes 83% of total population, followed by the Indian community (10%), White community (6%) and the Coloured community (1%). Individuals within the 15-34 year age group comprise the majority of the population. Roads/transport/taxis, poverty/cost of living/food, electricity, crime/safety/corruption, cleanliness, water and unemployment are some of the issues that the people of Hibiscus Coast Local Municipality face on a day to day basis.

In terms of figures generated by the DBSA for the Ugu Region (2003) the economy of the district is growing at an average growth rate of 2 % per annum for the period 2000 to 2003 (according to DBSA). Ugu contributed about 3.3% to the KwaZulu-Natal economy and 0.5% to the South African economy in 2005. More than 60% of all economic activity in Ugu in 2005 took place in the Hibiscus Coast Municipality.

According to the Hibiscus Coast Municipality 2012/2013 IDP Report, Hibiscus Coast Local Municipality is the most concentrated economic hub within the Ugu District Municipality; with the main economic sectors being tourism and agriculture with some manufacturing occurring in Port Shepstone. The economic activity in the local municipality is dominated by 6 main economic sectors namely: (1) wholesale and retail, (2) finance and business services, (3) manufacturing (4) general government services (5) agriculture and forestry and (6) transport and communication with finance and business services making the largest contribution of 21.5% to the total economy activity.

The Hibiscus Local Municipality is situated in the south coast of KwaZulu Natal Province. To the south, it borders the Eastern Cape across the Umtamvuna River. The municipality's coastline runs from Hibberdene to Port Edward.

LOCATION:

The site is situated within the Hibiscus Coast Local Municipality in the KwaZulu Natal Province. (Refer to Locality Plan, Annexure A)

GEOGRAPHICAL CO-ORDINATES: (CO-ORDINATES FOR POINTS ALONG/CLOSE TO RIVER i.e. THE TRIGGERED ACTIVITY)

	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
A	30	51	23.50 S
	30	22	25.94 E
B	30	51	23.29 S
	30	22	25.18 E

GEOGRAPHICAL COORDINATES: (CENTRE OF SITE AS PER BUSINESS PLAN)

Centre of Site	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
	30	51.287 S	-
	30	21.953 E	-

PROJECT DETAILS:

The objective of the project is to replace and upgrade the rising main, to divert the current pumping main away from Lots 250; 267 and 269 and to duplicate the effluent gravity main. The proposed works are categorised into the following phases (refer to layout plan, Annexure B) :

- Replacement of the 450mm existing pumping main on a new route with a 500mm Diameter steel pipeline, 2450m long.
- Upgrade to the pumps station mechanical and electrical works at Pump Station 3A located at Marine Drive (30 ° 51' 21.32" S, 30 ° 22' 22.51"E).

- *Take-over of 1km of the existing 450mm diameter pumping main from Pump Stations 3A to 4A after the construction of the new pumping main as part of the new effluent gravity main.*
- *Construction of 520m of new duplicate 400mm diameter gravity main from the Waste Water Treatment Works outlet to connect with the above new effluent gravity main.*
- *Construction of the balance of the duplication from Marine Drive to Lucien Beach being approximately 1250m of 400 diameter pipeline which includes a culvert road crossing and two other pipe bridges.*

SCOPE OF WORK

The scope of work involves national environmental management act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998): list of activities and competent authorities identified in terms of section 24(2) and 24D, Environment Impact Assessment Regulations Listing Notice 1 of 2010; A Basic Assessment study is required for the following listed activities:

- *Listing Notice 1 : 16(vi) Construction or earth moving activities in the sea, an estuary, or within the littoral active zone or a distance of 100 metres inland of the high-water mark of the sea or an estuary, whichever is greater, in respect of infrastructure covering 50 square metres or more..*
- *Listing Notice 1: 18(iv): The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 5 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock from the littoral active zone, an estuary or a distance of 100 metres inland of the high-water mark of the sea or an estuary, whichever distance is the greater.*

BIOPHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF SITE:

MARGATE AREA:

The key income generator for the Margate area is the tourism sector. According to KZN landcover 20m 2008, Margate predominantly consists of built up dense settlements, a significant amount is dedicated to the hospitality sector for providing products and services to the mostly upcountry domestic tourists.

The land is moderately steep to relatively flat and is complimented by lush coastal vegetation. The area falls within "moist coast, forest, thorn and palm veld" bioresource group (Camp, 1997). Margate generally receives approximately 864mm of rain per annum, most of which is received during midsummer.

The R620 (Marine Drive) is the main access road to the Margate area. Water and sanitation services are provided for by Ugu District Municipality. Margate is an established town, the required amenities viz lightning and water are readily available.

There are no holes, burrows, or signs of erosion on or within proximity of the site. The Inkongweni River will be crossed at some locations.

According to the Ugu District Municipality 2011/2012 IDP, there are extensive deposits of Gneiss along the entire coast with cretaceous marine sediment deposits which make up the geology of the Margate area.

SPECIALIST STUDIES

The following specialist studies viz. Geotechnical study, Biophysical Study, Wetland Assessment and Stormwater Management Plan will be commissioned during the BA phase.

PROJECT MOTIVATION AND BENEFITS:

- The proposed project will address the backlog in sewerage infrastructure that the Margate area is experiencing.
- The existing pumping main is inadequately sized to cope with the peak flows leaving opportunities for sewerage leakages, the proposed upgrade of the existing pipelines will ensure that such leakages are avoided.
- The rerouting of the current pumping main away from Lots 250, 267 and 269, which are private residences, will have financial benefits to the municipality in future i.e. should the pumping main burst in private property and cause damage the municipality would be liable for the damage of private property.

APPROACH TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

BA PHASES:

PHASE 1: This phase will comprise of the following: Environmental issues, concerns, development constraints, and possible development alternatives will be identified using professional judgment, project information, experience of similar projects, a review of available literature, site visits and consultation with authorities and the public. A detailed description of impacts, assessment of alternatives, details of the public participation process and the draft environmental management Programme Report (EMPR) will be included as part of the Basic assessment.

Specialist studies will be commissioned, and these include Geotechnical study and Stormwater Management Plan. This report will be made available for authority review and public viewing,

PHASE 2: Drafting of the final BAR (if need be) and the EMPR, and submission to DEA for environmental authorization.

APPLICABLE LEGISLATION:

In terms sections 24(2) and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act 1998 (Act 107 of 1998), as per Government Notice No R544 of June 2010, Listing Notice 1, A Basic Assessment Study is required for the following listed activities:

- *Listing Notice 1: 16(vi) Construction or earth moving activities in the sea, an estuary, or within the littoral active zone or a distance of 100 metres inland of the high-water mark of the sea or an estuary, whichever is greater, in respect of infrastructure covering 50 square metres or more.*
- *Listing Notice 1: 18(iv) The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 5 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock from the littoral active zone, an estuary or a distance of 100 metres inland of the high-water mark of the sea or an estuary, whichever distance is the greater*

BIOPHYSICAL ATTRIBUTES OF THE PROJECT AREA:

Bioresource groups	BRG 1 – Moist coast, forest, thorn and palm veld
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<p>Percentage of area still as natural vegetation, and current land use of development footprint</p>	<p>Approximately 50% of the area is natural Vegetation (to be confirmed)</p>	<p><u>Land use zonings:</u> Residential, Road Reserve, pump station</p>
<p>Does the proposed area and its surrounds support any fauna of conservation significance?</p> <p>To be further confirmed by Biodiversity specialist.</p>	<p>Fauna will not be impacted upon by the project.</p>	<p>Other (List)</p>
	<p>Oribi</p>	
	<p>Otter spp</p>	
	<p>Striped weasel</p>	
	<p>Serval</p>	
	<p>Aardvark</p>	
	<p>Stanley's Bustard</p>	
	<p>Wattled crane</p>	
	<p>Blue crane</p>	
	<p>Grey crowned crane</p>	
	<p>Striped flufftail</p>	
	<p>Whitewinged Flufftail</p>	
	<p>Grass Owl</p>	
<p>Long toed frog</p>		
<p>Dwarf chameleon</p>		
<p>Are any holes/animal burrows situated within the proposed development area?</p>	<p>■</p>	<p>NO</p>
<p>Does the proposed development footprint display any hydromorphic soil characteristics i.e. any signs of seasonal, permanent or temporary wetness?</p>	<p>Yes</p>	
<p>Proximity of a proposed site to a river/stream/drainage channel.</p>	<p>Some portion of the proposed project will cross a river. The Inkongweni River</p>	
<p>Dominant alien plant species</p> <p>Comment on the extent of the alien plant infestation. (High, Low, Moderate)</p>	<p>Bugweed, Syringa and balloon vine</p> <p>EXTENT: Low</p>	
<p>Soil erosion on, or near close proximity to proposed site. If Yes, indicate the type, severity and extent.</p>	<p>■</p>	<p>NO</p>

Catchment Location: Mtamvuna River Catchment

ANTICIPATED ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS:

ACTIVITY	OUTPUTS
PLANNING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aesthetics • Noise/dust • Socio-economic • Surface water • geotechnical
CONSTRUCTION PHASE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geotechnical considerations • Erosion/sedimentation • Surface/groundwater • Stormwater • Waste production • Safety and security • Access • Erosion • Dust, noise
POST CONSTRUCTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rehabilitation • Alien vegetation • Site restoration
OPERATIONAL PHASE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spill contingency

All of these issues will be awarded mitigation measures within and EMPr (Environmental Management Plan Report) that will be prepared as part of the BA (Basic Assessment).

YOUR INVITATION TO COMMENT

The need for public input and involvement is of critical importance and all interested persons and/or organizations are invited to comment on the proposed development and on the information presented here. You can do this by sending your comments in writing to the address shown below. All comments received will be addressed and incorporated in the BA/EMPR that will be made available for public review. Following this, the final report will be submitted to KZN Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs and Rural Development for its consideration.

Please ensure that all comments have been sent to us by the **21 SEPTEMBER 2012**.

Contact Name and Address for Comments:

**Urvassi Hurburun
224 Kies Avenue, Reservoir Hills, 4091
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Fax: (031) 262 2279/086 559 9797
E-mail: enaq@vodamail.co.za**

Title:	First Name:	Surname:
Organization:	Designation:	
Address:		
Postal Code:		
Tel No:	Cell No:	
Fax No:	E-mail:	

COMMENTS:

1. The following issues must be addressed in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA/EMPr) for the proposed development:

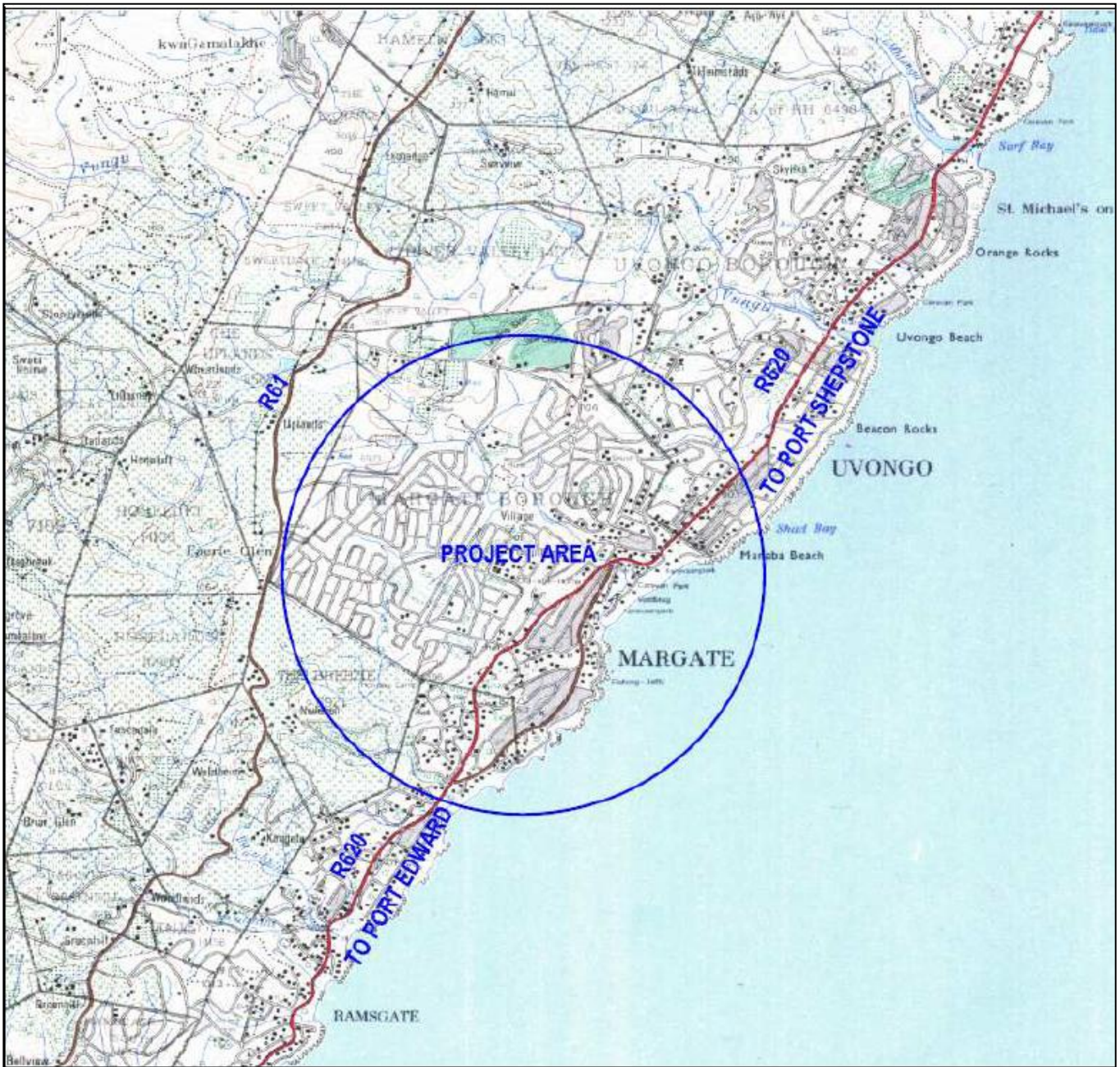
2. Please add the following persons to your list of interested and affected parties:

Name:	Organization:
Telephone:	
Address:	
Name:	Organization:
Telephone:	
Address:	

3. Any other comments/issues of concerns/suggestions:

Thank you for your participation!

ANNEXURE A: LOCALITY PLAN



ANNEXURE B: LAYOUT PLAN

