



PROPOSED BULK WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE
AUGMENTATION OF BULK WATER SUPPLY TO THE IBIKA
RESERVOIRS, BUTTERWORTH, EASTERN CAPE

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT



4 OCTOBER 2019

1. BACKGROUND

The Amathole District Municipality (ADM) proposes to implement emergency bulk water supply projects that will augment the bulk water supply to the Ibika reservoirs that supply Butterworth and the surrounding villages. The proposed project includes the construction of bulk water supply pipelines, internal village reticulation and a reservoir as part of the larger scheme. It also includes the equipping of boreholes to supply water to the scheme. The proposed activities include the construction of a new reservoir within a critical biodiversity area as well as four watercourse crossings. Terreco Environmental cc has been appointed by ADM to undertake the legally required application process for Environmental Authorisation (EA) - see Section 3 below.

This Background Information Document (BID) serves as notice of the proposed activity, of the environmental impact assessment processes that will take place, and as a request for any comments regarding the proposals and EIA processes. Should you be interested in registering as a 'Registered Interested and Affected Party' and/or in submitting comments or information on the proposals, please use page 3 and 4 of this document to register your interest.

2. THE PROPOSALS

The purpose of the Project is to improve the supply of fresh water within the area of Butterworth through the augmentation of the bulk water supply to the Ibika reservoirs. The pipeline will predominantly be constructed within the road reserve of the local gravel road network. However it will be necessary to extend the pipeline into some grassland areas for a distance of approximately 1 750m to reach the project boreholes. In doing so it will also be necessary to cross watercourses at four (4) locations. The reservoir will be built within the village of Lower Quoro on an open grassland area.

The project alignment is illustrated on Figure 1 below.

3. THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS

The Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEDEAT) (Amathole Region) has confirmed the proposal triggers 'listed activities' in terms of Government Notice 324 and 327, and there is a need for prior Environmental Authorisation in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) and in accordance with Government Notice R326, EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended). The site on which it is proposed to construct the reservoir lies within a terrestrial critical biodiversity area. This is one of the geographical areas as contemplated in Listing Notice 3 of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations as amended. Furthermore, the construction of the bulk water supply pipeline will require that material exceeding a total of 10 cubic metres is removed from four watercourses thereby triggering the need for authorisation in terms of Activity 19 of Listing Notice 1 of the 2014 EIA Regulations as amended. A Basic Assessment Report (BAR) process will be required in support of the application. The application process is now underway, starting with public participation activities.

Key tasks to be undertaken during the preparation of the BAR include: submission of an application form to DEDEAT (Amathole); notification and call for interested and affected parties to register; holding a public meeting; conducting a site visit, data collection and specialist studies; preparation of a draft BAR for public review; finalisation and submission of the BAR to DEDEAT for consideration for approval; and notification of the decision made by DEDEAT.

4. THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

An integral and mandatory component of the EIA is **Public Participation**, whereby interested and affected persons and the public at large are informed of the Project and afforded the opportunity to participate in the EIA process. The EIA Regulations describe the minimum level of public involvement, including the posting of newspaper advertisements, the placing of a notice board(s) on site and arranging a public meeting(s).

If you have any concerns, comments, opinions or issues regarding the proposals and EIA process, please use pages 3 and 4 of this document to register your interest and return as per the details provided.

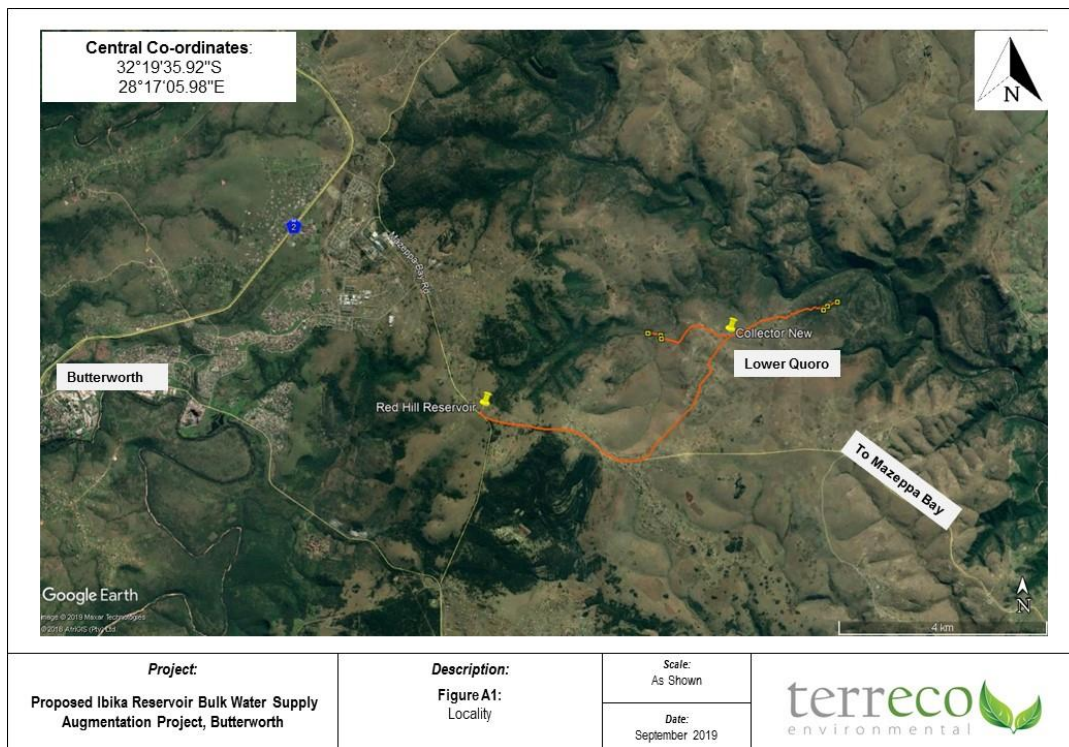


FIGURE 1: Location of the proposed Ibika Reservoir Bulk Water Supply Augmentation project.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS

PROPOSED BULK WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE AUGMENTATION OF BULK WATER SUPPLY TO THE IBIKA RESERVOIRS, BUTTERWORTH, EASTERN CAPE

Comments on the Proposed EIA Process, Concerns and Issues

Your comments on this questionnaire will contribute towards ensuring that the process which is applied to direct the Environmental Impact Assessment is sound and will permit an informed project decision to be taken. **The deadline for the receipt of comments is the 5th of November 2019.**

Name:	
Community/Organisation:	
Phone & Email details:	

1. Do you wish to be registered as an 'Interested and Affected Party for the Environmental Impact Assessment process?'

As a 'Registered Interested and Affected Party' you will be specifically invited at key stages of the Environmental Impact Assessment process to review documents produced and/or provide any additional comment or opinion on the proposals and the results of the environmental Impact Assessment Process.

Please tick the box that applies:

YES	NO
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2. Do you have any specific opinions regarding the proposal to construct the bulk water supply infrastructure to augment the supply of bulk water to the Ibika reservoirs near Butterworth?

Do you have any specific opinions regarding the potential impacts of the proposals on the natural environment or the local communities? Do you support or oppose the proposals? Do you believe the proposals will benefit the local communities?

<i>(Please use additional pages to record your comments as necessary)</i>

3. Are there any parties or individuals that you feel should be consulted in the course of the Environmental Impact Assessment process?

If yes, please provide any contact details so that we may contact this person or organisation.

4. Is there any other information that you feel we could or should use for the Environmental Impact Assessment related to the construction of the bulk water supply infrastructure to augment the supply of bulk water to the Ibika reservoirs near Butterworth?

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION

Mr Duncan Scott

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