

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT (BID) FOR THE PROPOSED ULUNDI BULK WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT, ZULULAND DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY-KZN

### INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this Background Information Document (BID) is to provide information to interested and affected parties (I&APs) regarding the proposed Ulundi Bulk Water Main Replacement Project located within the Zululand District Municipality-KZN. Any person, company, authority or other entities that might be directly or indirectly affected by the proposed activity can register as an Interested or Affected Party (I&AP). This includes, but is not limited to landowners, tenants, municipal and provincial authorities, interest groups, NGOs and conservation groups. This document further indicates how you can become involved in the project, receive information, or raise issues which may concern and/or interest you. Green-Scene Environmental was appointed as Independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner for the proposed project.

### STUDY AREA

The proposed bulk water supply pipeline is located within the Zululand District Municipality, in northern KwaZulu-Natal. The vegetation in the areas surrounding the site has undergone transformation by the existing communal agricultural practices, grazing pressures by communal livestock and the historic implementation of civil infrastructure (railway, roads, pipeline, etc.). No threatened or endangered ecosystems in terms of the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (Act No. 10 of 2004) were identified within or in close proximity to the proposed pipeline alignment. No wetland areas were identified along the proposed pipeline alignment. However, a number of small seasonal watercourses are present. These watercourses show signs severe erosion due to the highly erodible soils in the area as well impacts to the vegetation communities on the banks of these watercourses.

Location	Latitude /Longitude	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
Start- (Ulundi WTW)	South	28	16	53.38
	East	31	20	24.40
End- (Command reservoir near the town of Ulundi)	South	28	17	12.32
	East	31	24	25.48

Figure 1: Google Image showing the proposed pipeline route.



## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed project is located within the Zululand District Municipality, in northern KZN. The proposed project activities include the replacement of the existing bulk water pipeline with a new pipeline (rising main and a gravity main). The following activities will form part of the scope of works:

**Rising main:** The replacement of the existing 600 mm diameter steel rising main from the waterworks to the Ulundi terminal reservoirs with a new 850 mm diameter steel rising main approximately 1700 m in length installed parallel to the existing pipeline. There is a 250 m long section above ground on the rising main. The rising main takes place in the road reserve and therefore does not require Environmental Authorisation.

**Gravity Main:** The replacement of the existing 600 mm diameter NB steel gravity main from the Ulundi terminal reservoirs to the Site 1 valve house with a new 650 mm diameter NB steel gravity main approximately 6100 m in length installed parallel to the existing pipeline. There is a 10 m pipe bridge and a 34 m pipe through the existing culvert on the gravity main

The proposed project will include the installation of scour, air and isolation valve chambers. The new pipeline will be laid approximately 5 m of and parallel to the existing pipeline. Excavation will be by mechanical means as the trench will be too deep for hand excavation. Details of the proposed pipeline layout is described below:

- **Rising Main Layout:** The first 95 m the pipe will run below ground within the waterworks. The next 250 m the pipe will run above ground on concrete plinths. The remaining 1355 m of the pipe will run below ground. The pipe will cross the waterworks access road at the terminal reservoir where it will be laid with 1.2 m cover minimum.
- **Gravity main Layout:** The first 74 m and the last 20 m where the pipe connects to existing facilities will be uplifted and placed on the same alignment. The pipe will cross a water course where the pipe will be laid well below the stream bed and protected with the 10 m x 0.3 m reno mattress. The reno mattress will be covered with approximately 800 mm topsoil and re-sodded with grass sods harvested from elsewhere on the stream bed. The pipe will cross the railway line and will be laid above ground in the southern invert of the existing culvert and encased in concrete.

The proposed pipeline will be approximately 7800 m (7.8 km) in length and will be approximately 117000 m<sup>2</sup> (11.7 Hectares) in extent.

***The proposed project triggers at least Listing Notice 1(GNR 327) Activity 9, Activity 12. Activity 19 and Activity 27 as per the NEMA 2017 EIA Regulations. Listing Notice 3 (GNR 324) Activity 12 and Activity 14 is triggered by the proposed project. As per Section 21 of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act no. 36 of 1998) the following water uses will be triggered by the proposed project: 21 (c): Impeding or Diverting the Flow of Water in a Watercourse, 21 (i): Altering the Bed, Banks, Course or Characteristics of a Watercourse.***

# GREEN-SCENE ENVIRONMENTAL

## YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS ARE IMPORTANT

You can get involved in the process by:

1. Responding (by phone, fax or e-mail) to our invitation for your involvement in the process;
2. Completing the attached comment form and e-mailing, posting or faxing it to Green-Scene Environmental;
3. In writing contacting or telephoning consultants if you have a query, comment or require further project information
4. Reviewing and commenting on the Draft BA Report within the allowed 30-day review period.

*In terms of the NEMA Regulations (GN 549), you are invited to formally register as an I&AP.*

### REGISTRATION AND COMMENT FORM

KINDLY COMPLETE THIS FORM IN DETAIL AND RETURN IT TO:

**Attention: Felicity Swanepoel**

**Cell: 071 355 0266**

**E-mail: [felicity@green-scene.co.za](mailto:felicity@green-scene.co.za)**

#### PERSONAL DETAILS

<b>Title (Mr/Mrs/Ms)</b>		<b>Phone</b>	
<b>Name</b>		<b>Fax</b>	
<b>Organisation / Interest</b>		<b>E-mail</b>	
<b>Signature</b>			

Please tick the appropriate circle and confirm your contact details above:

I would like to register as an Interested and Affected Party for the Environmental process for this project.	YES	NO
Non-stakeholder: I would like you to take me off your distribution sheet for the Proposed. I would not like to receive any further information regarding this process.	YES	NO

If Yes. Please answer the questions below.

What is your main area of interest with regards to the proposed project?
Do you have any points of concern regarding the proposed project? If "yes", please describe below
Are there any additional stakeholders who you feel should be consulted with regards to the proposed project? If "yes" please list their names and contact details below:

*Please note that in terms of Regulation 56 (c), I&AP's need to disclose any direct business, financial, personal or other interest which they may have in the approval or refusal of the application. Please register by completing the enclosed registration and comment sheet and please declare the interest with regard to the project with your comments.*

**Please add more pages or supporting documentation if necessary**