

# BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT & INVITATION TO COMMENT:

## Proposed upgrading of Phase 2 of the DR08017 from Mt. Frere to Cedarville, Eastern Cape

### AIM OF THIS DOCUMENT

The aim of this Background Information Document is to provide people affected by and interested in the proposed project with information about this project, the process being followed and to provide them with an opportunity to be involved in the EIA process.

Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) may raise issues of concern. These will be examined and included in the Reports.

The findings of the EIA will be provided to DEDEA (Provincial, Kokstad) for final decision making, as to whether or not the project should go ahead and if so under what conditions.

Return address for comments:

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Submit comments by:  
31 June 2012

**Your involvement in this process is critical, and will help ensure that all relevant issues are raised and assessed in the EIA process**



### BACKGROUND

Notice is hereby given in terms of Regulation 54(2) published in Government Notice No. R543 under Chapter 5 of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMA), of the intent to submit an application for an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to the Department of Economic Development and Environmental Affairs (DEDEA). The process will also include a Water Use License application as regulated by the National Water Act (No. 36 of 1998) and a mining application as regulated by the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act (No. 28 of 2002).

Coastal & Environmental Services has been commissioned to undertake the Environmental Impact Assessment. This is in fulfilment of the requirements of South Africa's environmental legislation, details of which, together with an overview of the environmental impact assessment process, are provided in this document.

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Inzame Engineering and Management is proposing the roads infrastructure development, including maintenance and upgrades of Phase 2 of the DR08017 from Mt. Frere to Cedarville joining the N2, Eastern Cape. The project includes a borrow pit required to supply road fill and roadbed material.

### RELEVANT LEGISLATION

The Government Notice R.543 in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No 107 of 1998) identifies activities in terms of 24(2) (a) and (d) which may not commence without an authorisation from the competent authority Department of Economic Development and Environmental Affairs (DEDEA). In order to apply for authorisation for the investigation, assessment and communication of potential impacts of the activities must follow the procedure as described in regulations 27 to 36 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, (2010), promulgated in terms of section 24(5) of the Act.

The proposed project is subject to a Basic Impact Assessment in terms of the following listed activities:

GN R 544: 20	Any activity requiring a mining permit in terms of section 27 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002) or renewal thereof
GN R 544: 39	The expansion of canals, channels, bridges, weirs, bulk storm water outlet structures within a watercourse or within 32 meters of a water course, measured from the edge of a watercourse, where such expansion will result in an increased development footprint

### POTENTIAL IMPACTS

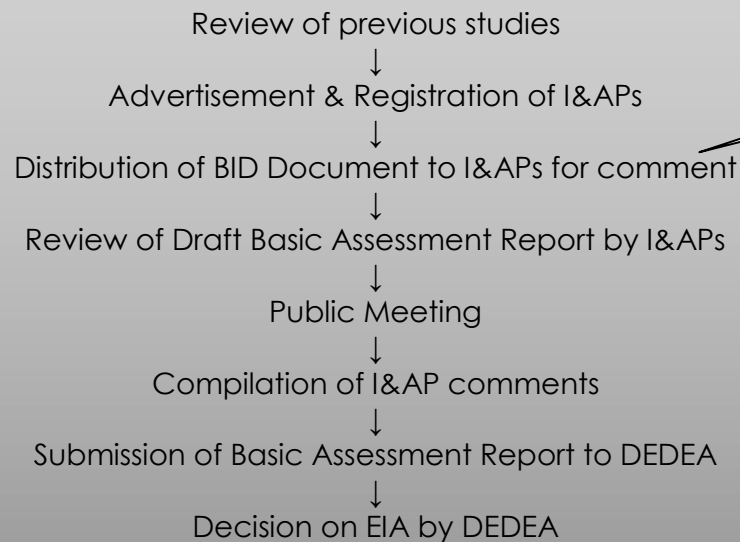
The following specialist studies will be conducted as part of the EIA:

- Heritage/Archaeological Impact Assessment
  - Potential impacts on South African heritage, archaeological and palaeontological features will be assessed.

## APPROACH TO THIS BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

The process required for the proposed project is a Basic Environmental Assessment. This process serves primarily to inform the public and relevant authorities about the proposed project and to determine any impacts. Should all impacts and issues be adequately addressed in the report, it will serve as the final document. However, if not, the process will proceed into the next stage which is a full Environmental Impact Assessment.

### Basic Assessment Process



### **HOW CAN YOU BE INVOLVED?**

A Public Participation Process (PPP) is being conducted as part of the environmental process. The aim of the PPP is to allow everyone who is interested in, or likely to be affected by the proposed development to provide input into the process.

The Public Participation Process will include:

- Advertisement in the local newspaper
- Notice board on site
- Circulation of the BID (this document) to all identified I&APs
- Comments period
- Review of the report by all registered I&APs and DEDEA (Kokstad)
- A public meeting

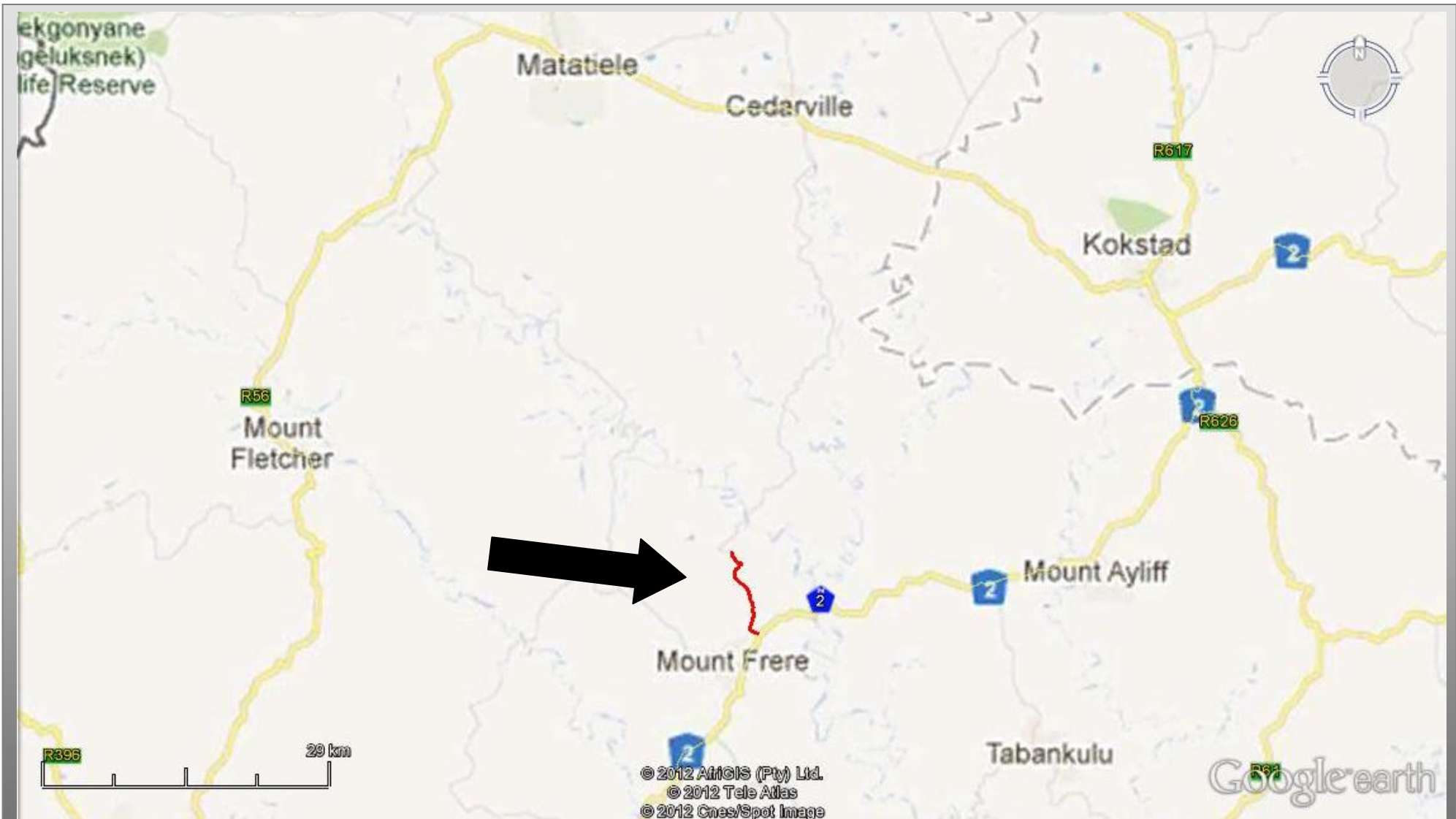


Figure 1: A map illustrating the route of the proposed Phase 2 upgrade from Mt. Frere to Cedarville.