

**PROPOSED COPEVILLE PETROL FILLING
STATION AND TRUCK STOP, REMAINDER
OF THE FARM THANDISIZWE NO. 16691,
UMSHWATHI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY,
KWAZULU-NATAL**

NOTIFICATION SHEET



EDTEA Ref: DC22/0020/2020
Terratest Ref No. 41788

1. INTRODUCTION

Terratest (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by Sapphire West Investments to undertake the environmental services required for the proposed Copesville Petrol Filling Station and Truck Stop on Remainder of the Farm Thandisizwe No. 16691, Umshwathi Local Municipality, Kwazulu-Natal. This Notification Sheet aims to inform Interested and Affected Parties (IAPs) of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Water Use Licence Application (WULA) processes that are being conducted for this development. All issues and comments raised by IAPs during this process will be documented in a Basic Assessment Report. This will assist in the identification of environmental issues that could have a negative and/or positive impact on the site and the community.

According to the EIA Regulations (2014, as amended), it is necessary for the Applicant to appoint an independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner who will adhere to the Environmental Regulations and complete the applicable environmental process on behalf of the Applicant. Terratest (Pty) Ltd is the appointed EAP in this regard. Terratest (Pty) Ltd have also been appointed to undertake the necessary WULA process for the proposed development. The relevant role-players for both processes are detailed in Table 1:

TABLE 1: Role-players for development

ROLE-PLAYER	EIA	WULA
APPLICANT	Sapphire West Investments	Sapphire West Investments
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER	Terratest (Pty) Ltd	Terratest (Pty) Ltd
COMPETENT AUTHORITY	KwaZulu-Natal Department of Economic Development, Tourism & Environmental Affairs (EDTEA)	Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)

2. SCOPE OF WORKS

The proposed development consists of the construction of a petrol filling station, convenience store and truck stop on the Remainder of Farm Thandisizwe 16691.

Six (6) tanks will be located on site:

- 2 x 23m³ for ULP 95;
- 2 x 23m³ tanks for Diesel; and,
- 2 x 23m³ tanks for low Sulphur Diesel.

The site is zoned as Commercial Agricultural. The total property size is 245.8ha. The land development area will transform approximately 0.6% (1.54ha) of the farm to accommodate this development. Alternative layout options have previously been examined in the draft Basic Assessment Report.

Access to the site will be via the D173. Both access points will be utilised for the development. Movement within the development will be via one-way traffic i.e. one entrance point to the site only and one exit point for the site only along the D173. The D173 is currently a gravel access road. Approximately 100m of the D173 will be upgraded from gravel to asphalt surfacing with associated infrastructure within the existing footprint.

The site is located on the intersection of the R33 and D173, approximately 10km (as the crow flies) north east of Pietermaritzburg, in Umshwathi Local Municipality, KwaZulu-Natal. The co-ordinates are: 29°30'40.69"S, 30°25'52.04"E. A Locality Map is attached as Appendix 1.

3. THE ENVIRONMENTAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK

3.1 EIA REGULATIONS (2014, AS AMENDED)

In accordance with the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) and the EIA Regulations (2014, as amended), the following Listed Activities are triggered:

- **GNR 327, Activity 14:** *“The development and related operation of facilities or infrastructure, for the storage, or for the storage and handling, of a dangerous good, where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity of 80 cubic metres or more, but not exceeding 500 cubic metres”.*
 - Petroleum products are defined as ‘dangerous goods’ in the EIA Regulations (2014, as amended) and as the proposal includes for the cumulative storage of 115m³ of petroleum products (i.e. 5 USTs each with a capacity of 23m³) this Listing Activity is triggered
- **GNR 327, Activity 14:** *“Residential, mixed, retail, commercial, industrial or institutional developments where such land was used for agriculture, game farming, equestrian purposes or afforestation on or after 01 April 1998 and where such development: (ii) will occur outside an urban area, where the total land to be developed is bigger than 1 hectare.”*
 - The land is currently zoned as agriculture. The proposed Petrol Filling Station is considered a commercial development which will transform more than 1 hectare of agricultural land, located outside of an urban area.

Based on the above noted Listed Activities, an Application for Environmental Authorisation will be made.

3.2 NATIONAL WATER ACT (ACT 39 OF 1998)

In accordance with the National Water Act (Act 39 of 1998), the following Water Uses are triggered:

- **Section 21 (c)** - Impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse; and
- **Section 21 (i)** - Altering the bed, banks, course or characteristics of a watercourse.

Based on the above noted legislation, an Application for a Water Use Licence will be made.

4. HOW DO I PARTICIPATE?

The Public Participation Process, as promulgated in terms of Chapter 6 of the NEMA: EIA Regulations (2014, as amended) is a fundamental process whereby the proponent, technical team, government authorities, key stakeholders and IAPs can engage in an informed decision-making process.

Key activities to be undertaken as part of Public Participation Process include:

- Identification of key stakeholders, authorities and municipalities, environmental groups and members of the public who may be interested in, or may be affected by the proposed development;
- Giving written notice to IAPs (this document);
- Placement of an advertisement in a newspaper applicable to the region notifying the public of the proposed activity;
- Placement of on-site posters detailing the activity and contact details of the Environmental Assessment Practitioner; and
- Recording all IAP comments and presenting such comments, as well as responses provided by the Environmental Assessment Practitioner, in a full Comment and Response Report to accompany all relevant documentation submitted for public review and Competent Authority consideration.

Further, specific to the Basic Assessment Process, a Draft Basic Assessment Report will be circulated to all registered IAPs for a 30-day review and comment period. Thereafter, a Final Basic Assessment Report will be submitted to the EDTEA for a decision on Environmental Authorisation.

In terms of the WULA, Regulation 17 (2) of Notice No. R. 267 of the National Water Act (Act No. 36 of 1998) notes that any Public Participation Process undertaken in support of an EIA may be submitted in terms of the requirements for a WULA Public Participation Process, as long as the Public Participation Process undertaken contains and covers all issues pertaining to water use activities. The necessary WULA Public Participation Process will therefore be conducted under the EIA Application Process.

5. IAP REGISTRATION

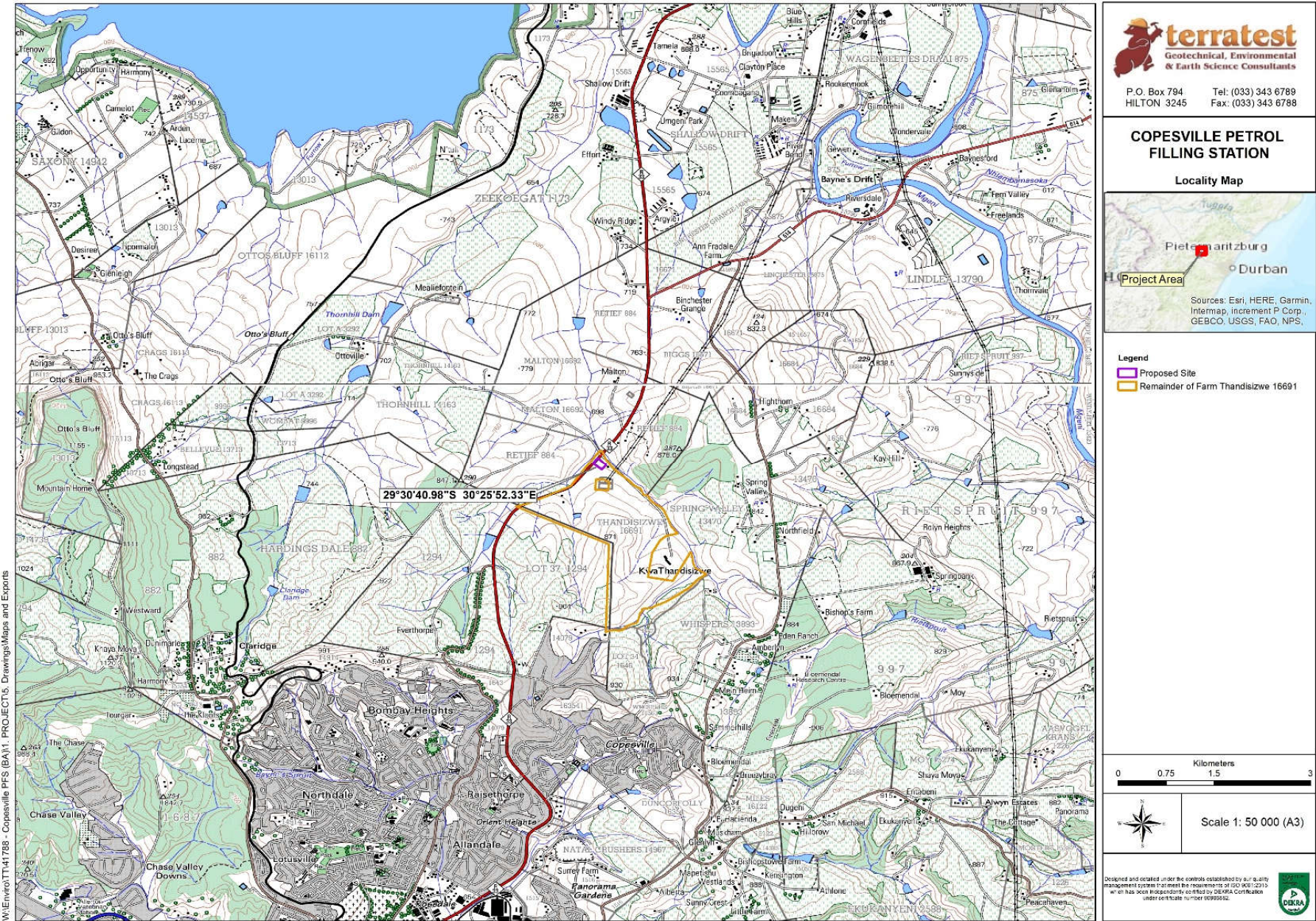
IAPs are invited to participate by providing comments and raising issues of concern regarding the proposed project. In order to register in the EIA Process and to be kept informed of progress, please complete the Registration Form attached as Appendix 2 and forward onto Terratest (Pty) Ltd as per the details provided.

Lastly, all key stakeholders and IAPs registered in this Application are hereby informed of Section 3(4) of GNR 326 of the EIA Regulation (2014), as amended, which states, *“When a State Department is requested to comment in terms of these Regulations, such State Department must submit its comments in writing within 30 days from the date on which it was requested to submit comments, and if such State Department fails to submit comments within such 30 days, it will be regarded that such State Department has no comments.”* This regulation will be enforced when the draft Basic Assessment Report is submitted to any identified State Department for comment. Further, all IAPs are notified of Section 3(8) of GNR 326 of the EIA Regulations (2014), as amended, which states, *“Any public participation process must be conducted for a period of at*


least 30 days." In this regard, all registered IAPs will be afforded the opportunity to comment on the Draft Basic Assessment Report for a period of 30 days.

IAPs may forward their comments or queries in the form provided below. Comments or queries may be returned via email, fax or post to details provided.

APPENDIX 2: LOCALITY MAP



APPENDIX 2: IAP REGISTRATION FORM

PROPOSED COPEVILLE PETROL FILLING STATION AND TRUCK STOP, REMAINDER OF THE FARM THANDISIZWE NO 16691, UMSHWATHI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, KWAZULU-NATAL		 EDTEA Ref: Pending Terratest Ref No. 41788	
COMPLETE AND RETURN TO THE DESIGNATED EAP:	Ms Riona Patak Terratest (Pty) Ltd PO Box 794, Hilton, 3245 Fax: (033) 343 6788 Tel: (033) 343 6789 Email: patakr@terratest.co.za		
NAME OF IAP:			
CONTACT NUMBER:			
FAX NUMBER:			
EMAIL ADDRESS:			
POSTAL ADDRESS:			
Reason for interest in the proposed project: 			
OTHER IAPS THAT SHOULD BE CONTACTED WITH REGARDS TO THIS PROJECT:			
Name:		Name:	
Contact Number:		Contact Number:	
Email Address:		Email Address:	