

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORIZATION

FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF IMBALI STUDENT ACCOMMODATION AND RETAIL SHOPS, UNDER UMSUNDUZI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

JANUARY 2021

WHAT DOES THIS DOCUMENT TELL YOU?

This document aims to provide you, as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP), with background information regarding the proposed construction of the Imbali Student accommodation and Retail Shops on Erf 2218 along FJ Sithole Road, Pietermaritzburg. This project is located in Edendale under uMsunduzi Local Municipality.

The document also provides information regarding the Basic Assessment (BA) process and Water Use Licence to be undertaken for the project. Furthermore, the document advises how you can become involved in the project, receive information and/or raise issues, which may concern and/or be of interest to you. The sharing of information forms the basis of the public participation process and offers you the opportunity to become actively involved in the project from the outset. Public participation plays an important role in the undertaking of a BA as input from I&APs ensures that all potential issues are considered within the study.

WHAT DOES THE PROJECT ENTAIL?

The ZMM Investment Pty (Ltd) proposes to construct Imbali student accommodation and retail shops under UMgungundlovu District.

The proposed development consists of a student accommodation and retail shops, as well as pool area, combo court, volley ball court and an outdoor gym.

The filling station will be located at approximately: **29°38' 59.25"S 30°21'4.07"E**.

WHAT ARE THE POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROPOSED PROJECT?

The following issues are identified and will be assessed in the EIA: Ecological impacts (biodiversity/vegetation impacts due to the potential removal/damaging of indigenous vegetation of more than 1 hectares) and socio-economic, pollution control.

Specialist studies that have been conducted are stipulated below:

- Terrestrial Biodiversity assessment, Aquatic biodiversity Assessment and heritage Assessment.

Input from the public through the public participation process provides valuable input in the identification of issues requiring investigation within this BA process. The study will highlight areas that should be avoided in order to minimise potential impacts and evaluate the project alternatives.

The assessment will aim to achieve the following:

- to provide an overall assessment of the social and biophysical environment of the affected area by the proposed construction of the project;
- to undertake a detailed assessment of the project in terms of environmental criteria including the rating and significance of impacts;
- to identify and recommend appropriate mitigation measures for significant environmental impacts; and

- to undertake a fully inclusive public participation process to ensure that I&AP issues and concerns are recorded and commented on.

WHY ARE ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES NEEDED?

In terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations Government Notice Regulation (GNR) No. 324 to 327 of 2017 (as amended), published in terms of Section 24(5), and read with Section 44, of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) (Act No. 107 of 1998), the ZMM Investment Pty (Ltd) requires environmental authorisation (EA) from the Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (EDTEA) for undertaking the proposed project as it includes activities listed under Regulation of NEMA EIA.

The following activities of GNR 327 under Listing Notice 1 of 2014 are being applied for the EA:

- **Activity 27** : The clearance of an area of 1 hectares or more, but less than 20 hectares of
- indigenous vegetation, except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is
- required for—
 - (i) the undertaking of a linear activity; or
 - (ii) maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.

The clearance of indigenous vegetation will be 2.0658 hectares of indigenous vegetation

The ZMM Investment Pty (Ltd) has appointed Vukanih Consultants and Contractors as independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to undertake the required environmental studies. As part of these environmental studies, all Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) will be actively involved through a public participation process (PPP).

HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

1. Contacting the consultants in writing/Email if you have a query, comment or require further project information;
2. By responding (by phone, fax or e-mail) to our invitation for your involvement in the process;
3. By completing the attached comment form, emailing, posting or faxing it to Vukanih Consultants and Contractors.
4. By reviewing and commenting on the draft Assessment Reports.

REGISTRATION, COMMENTS AND QUERIES

As a potential IAP for this proposed project, you are urged to become involved in the Public participation process and provide comment, or raise those issues and concerns which affect and/or interest you, or about which you would like more information. Your input into this process forms a key part of the environmental studies and we would like to hear from you to obtain your views on the proposed project.

By completing and returning the accompanying response form (see Appendix B), within **14 DAYS** of receipt of this document, you automatically register yourself as an I&AP for this project, and ensure that your comments, concerns or queries raised regarding the project will be noted and that you will receive an opportunity to review all the draft environmental reports. All interested I&AP's are invited to register by submitting their name, contact information and interest in the project to the Environmental, WULA and Public Participation consultant before the

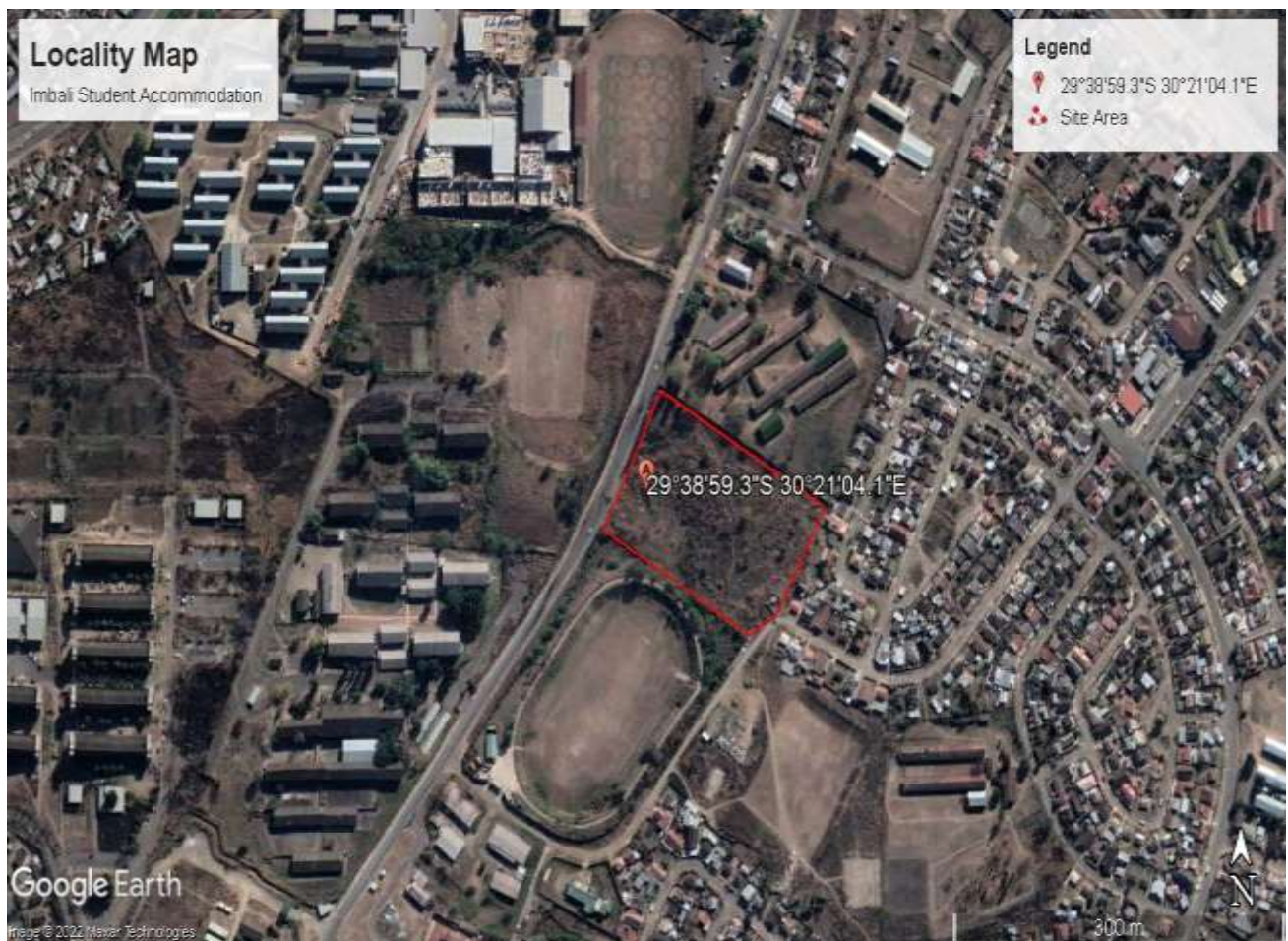
ALL COMMENTS ON THE BID, AND REGISTRATION AS AN IAP, CAN BE SENT TO:

Mr Vukani Ngwabi : Vukanih Consultants and Contractors
27 Ngcobo Street, Klaarwater, 3609

Cell:0733685731
E-mail: vukanih@yahoo.com

Please note that comments on the BID, and registration as an IAP, must be done within 14 days of receipt of this BID. Thereafter, all registered IAPs will be given a copy of the draft EIA report for 30 day review and comment period.

APPENDIX A: LOCALITY PLAN



APPENDIX B: IAP REGISTRATION AND COMMENT FORM
BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF IMBALI FILLING STATION UNDER MSUNDUZI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

YOUR COMMENTS AND QUERIES ARE WELCOME

Please **complete** this Form **in full**, and return to:

Mr Vukani Ngwabi

Vukanih Consultants and Contractors, 27 Ngcobo Street, Klaarwater, 3609

Phone: 073 3685 731 /

E-mail: vukanih@yahoo.com (EIA)

TITLE (Prof/Mr/Mrs)		FIRST NAME	
SURNAME			
CAPACITY (e.g. Secretary/Director)			
ORGANISATION			
POSTAL ADDRESS		POSTAL CODE	
TEL. NO.: ()		CELL NO.:	
FAX NO: ()		E-MAIL ADDRES:	

What comments / concerns would you like to rise regarding this proposed project? (Please use additional pages, if required)

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PLEASE REGISTER THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) ON THE PROJECT DATABASE:

Name:		Organisation:	
Contact details:			
Address:			
Tel.:	Fax:	Cell:	
E-mail:			

IF YOU WOULD NOT LIKE TO RECEIVE ANY FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING THIS PROPOSED PROJECT AND WOULD PREFER TO BE REMOVED FROM THE PROJECT DATABASE, PLEASE TICK THE BOX BELOW AND RETURN THE FORM TO THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION CONSULTANTS WHO'S CONTACT DETAILS ARE PROVIDED ABOVE.

YES, Please remove me from the project database	SIGNATURE:		
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