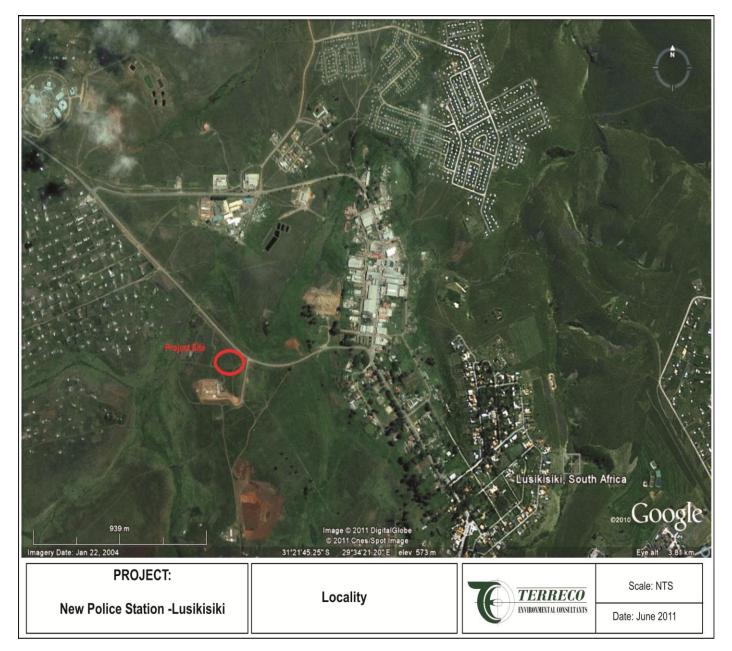
BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

1. INTRODUCTION

The National Department of Public Works (the Applicant) proposes to establish a new police station in the Lusikisiki/Flagstaff area. The project site is situated between Lusikisiki and Flagstaff on the R61 approximately 1 km west of the Lusikisiki Central Business District. The project falls within the O.R. Tambo District Municipality and under the local Ingquza Municipality.

Terreco Consulting were appointed by Ron Beard and Associates to undertake a Basic Environmental Assessment for the development as required under Section 24 of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No 107 of 1998.

The purpose of this document is to inform all relevant stakeholders and members of the public of the proposed development and the environmental processes which will be followed.



2. PROJECT LOCATION AND GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The project site is situated between Lusikisiki and Flagstaff on the R61 approximately 1 km west of the Lusikisiki Central Business District. The project falls within the O.R. Tambo District Municipality and under the local Ingquza Municipality. The site boundary covers an area of approximately 7.1m x 141m and is offset by 13 metres of the provincial road R61.

The proposed new police station consists of several single and double storey buildings linked together by means of ramps with the cell block positioned in the centre of the facility. Surfaced parking area for 50 vehicles is proposed adjacent to the main entrance of the facility while a staff parking bay is proposed at the bottom end of the facility. The two parking bays will be connected by a surfaced road which will also lead to the cell block. The entire site will be fenced using normal palisade fence with brick piers infill low full brick walls. The surfaced area will be finished with concrete interlocking block pavers set between precast kerbing and channels to route stormwater runoff into stromwater service lines. A new intersection off the provincial road incorporating a 300 metre turning lane will be constructed to allow safe access to the site.

An elevated steel tank situated in the south west corner of the site will provide the facility with a gravity fed water supply. An on-site package plant sewer treatment works will be installed on the south east corner of the site. Treated effluent from the package plant treatment works will be released into the wetland area approximately 300 metres to the north of the site. The treatment works will incorporate drying beds for sludge.