

**MINUTES OF THE FOCUS GROUP MEETING FOR THE PROPOSED NONOTI MOUTH HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, AS PART OF THE EIA PHASE**

**VENUE: NONOTI MOUTH COMMUNITY HALL**

**DATE: 22 SEPTEMBER 2021**

**TIME: 11H00 – 12H00**

<b>Present</b>	
Inqaba Community Trust Members	B.M Nzima (BMN), BZ Mdletshe (BZM), B.F Mpanza (BFM), B Mbambo (BM)
Triplo4 Sustainable Solutions	Melissa Gopaul (MG), Shanice Singh (SS) and Sinobuhle Khanyile (SK)
SMA Consulting	Kuben Pillay (KP)
Beneficiary	S. Sibiya (SS-B)
<b>Apologies</b>	
Inqaba Community Trust Members	Mandla Smith (MS), Hilton Morris (HM)
SMA Consulting	Guy Nicholson (GN)
Councillor	James van Whye (JW)

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>PURPOSE OF THE MEETING</b>
	The meeting was conducted by Triplo4 Sustainable Solutions, the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) appointed by Inqaba Community Trust (the proponent), to primarily provide all Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) with the information and environmental procedures that are underway, regarding the Nonoti Mouth Housing Development and Associated Infrastructure. The meeting attendees were encouraged to ask and seek clarity during the discussions session, whereby they were asked to introduce themselves and the organisation they are representing prior to asking the question, for minute taking purposes.
1.1	MG proceeded to introduce everyone to the meeting and thanked them all for making the time to attend the meeting. She proceeded to go through the agenda, apologies and courtesies (i.e. switching off of cell phones for the duration of the meeting; to focus on environmental-related issues relating to the EIA phase), as well as reminded all attendees to fill in the attendance register for minute-circulation purposes. MG notified the attendees that the meeting was being recorded for the accurate capturing of minutes that would be distributed to the attendees. The Stakeholders and I&AP's were informed that SK was available if they required any aspect of the presentation to be translated to isiZulu for better understanding.








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	<p>MG stated that the main purpose of the meeting was provide the attendees with information of the project and an overview of the Environmental Impact Assessment Phase and the Public Participation Process. To provide the attendees with an opportunity to seek clarity and voice any concerns they may have regarding the project and its scope to be included in the final report to be submitted to the EDTEA. MG requested that SK translate this information to isiZulu.</p> <p>SK translated the above information into isiZulu and follows:  <i>Inhloso yomhlangano wanamhlanje ukuthi sinikeze amalungu omphakathi kanye nabahlanganele nathi kule nkundla imininingwano ngalePhrojekthi kanye nokuthi amalungu omphakathi athole ithuba lokubuza imibuzo futhi asinike imibono nezikhalazo ofisa ukuthi kufakwe kumbiko ozohanjiswa kumnango i-EDTEA. Kuzochazwa kabanzi ngenqubo elandelwayo kulesi sigaba soHlelo Lwemvelo Lokuhlolwa komthelela (i-EIA) kanye nenqubo yokubandakanywa Komphakathi (i-PPP).</i></p>
	<p>Thereafter, MG gave a brief introduction of Triplo4 Sustainable Solutions, as well as the EAP's expertise.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Triplo4 Sustainable Solutions is a Level 1 BBB-EE Company which is 51% black-owned and 100% woman-owned.</li> <li>• The company is also ISO 9001:2015 and 14001:2015 certified.</li> <li>• Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) expertise <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Melissa Gopaul is a senior sustainability consultant with 8 years of experience in the field of environmental management.</li> <li>○ She is EAPASA and SACNASP Accredited.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<p>MG proceeded to inform the attendees of the public participation engagement process and the importance of registering as an I&amp;AP. It was noted that all the attendees were registered I&amp;AP's. MG informed the stakeholders and I&amp;AP's that the public hardcopy was available for viewing and that those wishing to view it were welcome to contact Mr. Mpanza (BFM) to make the necessary arrangements. MG stated that emails had been circulated, to I&amp;AP's and stakeholders, containing the links to the electronic copies of the report and appendices. The stakeholders were also welcome to contact Melissa on 032 946 3212 / <a href="mailto:melissa@triplo4.com">melissa@triplo4.com</a> or to contact Shanice on <a href="mailto:shanice@triplo4.com">shanice@triplo4.com</a>.</p>
2	<b>PROJECT OVERVIEW</b>
2.1	<p>MG shared the proposed location of the project as well as the various locations being investigated for the proposed WWTW. The footprint of the proposed project was indicated in yellow on the image and the various WWTW positions that have been investigated as shown as pins in the slide. The preferred option being located at the top of the polygon, labelled "<i>Preferred Location – WWTW</i>".</p> <p>MG gave a brief description of the preferred layout submitted to EDTEA and the various landuses being proposed for the development. The layout indicates the mixed use residential, agricultural, worship sites, community areas and the sensitivities identified by the specialists. The alternative layout (not preferred) was also shared with the attendees and MG informed them that this layout did not consider the community needs and the sensitive areas indicated as per the specialist studies.</p>

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	<p>MG gave a description of the project overview as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In-situ upgrade (brownfields – 80%) and greenfields site (primarily grasslands)</li> <li>• Provision of 500 residential opportunities, school and community facility</li> <li>• Associated bulk infrastructure and services</li> <li>• Roads and electricity (already provided) as part existing brownfields; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ New: water, sanitation (brownfield) and all services greenfields</li> <li>○ Potable water – Offtake 5A (preferred) to boreholes or JoJo's</li> <li>○ Waste Water Treatment Package Plant as preferred sanitation option (waterborne sewage disposal).Associated bulk infrastructure and services</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Current Status: Scoping &amp; PoS was accepted – 17 August 2021</li> <li>• EIA Phase has commenced</li> </ul> <p>SK translated this information into IsiZulu:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Ukuthuthukiswa kwezindlu sikamazakhele- 80%) kanye nesiza samadlelo</i></li> <li>• <i>Ukuhlinzekwa kwamathuba okuhlala angama-500, indawo yesikole neyomphakathi</i></li> <li>• <i>Ingqalasizinda ehlanganisiwe nezinsizakalo</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Imigwaqo nogesi (osekuhlinzekiwe) njengengxenye yezinkundla ezinsundu ezikhona;</i></li> <li>○ <i>Okusha: amanzi, ukuthuthwa kwendle (brownfield) nazo zonke izinsiza eziluhlaza</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <i>Amanzi aphuzwayo - I-Offtake 5A (encanyelwayo) kuma-boreholes noma e-JoJo's</i></li> <li>• <i>Indawo Yokuhlanza Amanzi Angcolile njengenketho ekhethiwe yokuthuthwa kwendle (ukulahlwa kwendle okusuka emanzini).</i></li> <li>• <i>Isimo Samanje: umbiko wokukala nePoS wamukelwe i-EDTEA- 17 Agasti 2021</i></li> <li>• <i>Isigaba se-EIA sesiqalile.</i></li> </ul>
3	<b>SPECIALIST STUDIES</b>
	<p>MG informed the stakeholders that there were specialist studies that were previously conducted namely the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heritage Impact Assessment, Socio-economic Assessment</li> <li>• Preliminary Bio Physical Review and the Soil</li> <li>• Agricultural Assessment Report.</li> </ul> <p>MG stated that the following updated specialist studies were updated and conducted more recently:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wetland Delineation and Functional Assessment (2015)</li> <li>• Wetland Rehabilitation (2015)</li> <li>• Geotechnical Assessment (2015 and comment in 2019)</li> <li>• Geohydrological Assessment (2015)</li> <li>• Biodiversity Assessment (2018)</li> <li>• Groundwater Comment (2019), and</li> <li>• Estuarine Assessment (2015 and 2020).</li> </ul> <p>Specialist studies key findings were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heritage</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Identified a Shembe place of worship to be preserved.</li> <li>• Socio-economic               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A suitable need and desirability is associated to the proposed development and is believed that the socio economic aspects of such an upgrade are hugely beneficial to the community.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Ecological               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Sensitive coastal grassland.</li> <li>○ Impacts mitigated or can be mitigated via the EMPr included in the EIA Phase.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>MG proceeded to describe each of the recent specialist studies that were included in the EIA phase and their key findings.</p>
4	<b>DISCUSSIONS</b>
4.1	MG gave the Stakeholders and I&AP's an opportunity to ask questions regarding what had been discussed.
	<p><b>Q:</b> BFM if the findings of the specialist studies were focused on one area and if there were cases where certain areas were found to be more suitable than others by different studies.</p> <p><b>A:</b> MG referred back to the slide with the "Proposed location of the housing development and various locations being investigated for the proposed WWTW". She stated that the area shaded in orange was the area in which investigations were conducted by the specialists and the finding were made taking this and the WWTW proposed locations into consideration.</p>
	<p><b>Q:</b> BFM enquired on the various considerations (cost, location) made when deciding on the location for the WWTW Packaging Plant and which alternative was found to be a better option in terms of cost.</p> <p><b>A:</b> MG stated that the financial cost was not the final determining factor because when you look at the preferred alternative, additional costs were added because of the need for the construction of additional infrastructure for transporting the treated effluent to the reservoir. Alternative two required the construction of an artificial wetland for the water to be filtered through before it is allowed to flow into the estuary and this option also requires additional monitoring to be done on a continuous basis. This option was not supported by several specialists due to the additional contamination this will cause to the estuary as the estuary is already in a bad state regardless of the fact that the water will be treated.</p>
	<p><b>Q:</b> BMN enquired on the timeframes and the work that still needs to be done before the project construction can commence.</p> <p><b>A:</b> MG responded by explaining that we are currently in the PPP phase where various stakeholders and registered I&amp;AP's are given an opportunity to comment. The PPP is from the 20<sup>th</sup> September – 25 October 2021. Following the closure of the PPP is due for submission to EDTEA by the 04<sup>th</sup> December however the Triplo4 internal deadline is to submit the final EIA Report to EDTEA by the end of October 2021 as a means of expediting the process. Once submitted the Department has 107 days to make a decision on the application which will ultimately be in March 2021. However, Triplo4 will liaise with the Department to try and get the decision as quickly as possible.</p> <p>KP stated that all engineering designs and service drawings have been completed. Once the</p>

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	<p>environmental process has been approved these will be submitted to the Municipality for approval and commencement of construction. From an engineering point of view we are at 90%.</p> <p>MG stated there was still the townplanning aspect to be completed and the registration at the deeds office as previously explained by GN, MG stated that this was out of her scope and therefore she was unable to confirm those timeframes.</p>
	<p><b>Q:</b> BFM enquired on what was stopping the submission from being conducted sooner than the time stated by MG.</p> <p><b>A:</b> MG answered by saying that additional requirements from the public or commenting stakeholders may result in delays as adequate responses would need to be provided before submission of the final EIA report. The trust and the relevant role players will be informed should there be any delays and requirements that may delay the final submission as per the internal timeframes.</p>
	<p>No further questions or comments were raised by the stakeholders.</p>
<b>6</b>	<b>CLOSURE</b>
	<p>MG informed the stakeholders of a way forward where she stated that draft EIA Report is currently out for public review until the 25<sup>th</sup> October 2021. All comments and queries were welcome to be sent to MG. Once the commenting period is concluded the final EIA Report will be submitted to the Department and the decision awaited. Once a decision is received from the Department all Stakeholders and registered I&amp;AP's will be notified.</p>
	<p>MG thanked everyone for attending the meeting and stated that the meeting minutes and a copy of the presentation would be sent to all the attendees. The meeting was adjourned.</p>

**ATTENDANCE REGISTER  
 FOCUS GROUP MEETING FOR THE NONOTI MOUTH HOUSING DEVELOPMENT  
 DATE: 22 SEPTEMBER 2021  
 VENUE: NONOTI MOUTH COMMUNITY HALL**

NAME:	COMPANY/ ORGANISATION:	EMAIL ADDRESS:	CONTACT NO.:	SIGNATURE:	TEMPERATURE:
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