THE PROPOSED GUNJANA COMMUNITY WATER SUPPLY SCHEME: PHASE 2, UMZINYATHI DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, KWAZULU-NATAL



## **NOTIFICATION SHEET**

Terratest Ref No. 41820 August 2020

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

Terratest (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by JG Afrika (Pty) Ltd, on behalf the Umzinyathi District Municipality, to undertake the environmental services required for the proposed Gunjana Community Water Supply Scheme, Umzinyathi District 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	Umzinyathi District Municipality	Umzinyathi District Municipality		
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER	Terratest (Pty) Ltd	Terratest (Pty) Ltd		
COMPETENT AUTHORITY	COMPETENT AUTHORITY  KwaZulu-Natal Department of Economic Development, Tourism & Environmental Affairs (EDTEA)			

#### 2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND LOCALITY

The project is located in the Msinga Local Municipality, within the Umzinyathi District Municipality's area of jurisdiction. The project involves supplying water to the community of Gunjana via communal standpipes and includes the following components:

- Drilling and equipping of two boreholes;
- Construction of two reservoirs (50 Kl and 350 Kl);
- 8.5km of 110mm diameter steel bulk rising main with a flow rate of approximately 5.5 l/s;
- 38km of uPVC and HDPE reticulation network with diameters ranging from 50mm to 200mm;
- Standpipes;
- Break pressure tanks;
- Air, scour and isolating valves; and
- Road and donga crossings.

A 40m wide corridor of assessment has been implemented for the entire alignment, including both bulk rising main and reticulation pipelines, to allow for unforeseen construction deviations if required. The construction corridor is limited to 10m wide in which all machinery and soil stockpiles are to be located in during construction activities.

The co-ordinates for various components of the project are as follows:

- Start of bulk pipeline 28°38'3.41"S; 30°18'19.42"E
- End of bulk pipeline 28°37'35.09"S; 30°22'4.86"E
- Reticulation centre co-ordinates 28°37'7.27"S; 30°22'31.72"E

A Locality Map is appended as Appendix 1 for reference purposes.

## 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 12: "The development of (ii) Infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more; where such development occurs (a) within a watercourse (c) or within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse."
  - Construction of pipelines will cross several watercourses<sup>1</sup>, including erosion gullies (dongas).
     The construction of pipelines will occur in watercourses, including the associated 32m buffer, which will exceed the threshold of 100m<sup>2</sup>. As such, this Listed Activity is triggered.
- **GNR 327, Activity 19:** "The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 10 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock of more than 10 cubic metres from a watercourse."
  - Construction through watercourses will result in the movement or deposition of 10m<sup>3</sup> or more
    of material into or out of a watercourse. This Listed Activity is therefore triggered.

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. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

The Public Participation Process, as promulgated in terms of Chapter 6 of the EIA Regulations (GNR 326, 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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The EIA Regulations (2014, as amended) define a watercourse as, "(a) a river or spring; (b) a natural channel in which water flows regularly or intermittently; (c) a wetland, pan, lake or dam into which, or from which, water flows; and any collection of water which the Minister may, by notice in the Gazette, declare to be a watercourse as defined in the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998)".

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;
- Compilation of a Notification Letter for distribution 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;
- 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 which will accompany the Basic Assessment Report;
- Circulating the Draft Basic Assessment Report to all registered IAPs for a 30-day review and comment period; and
- Submitting the Final Basic Assessment Report to the EDTEA for a decision on Environmental Authorisation.

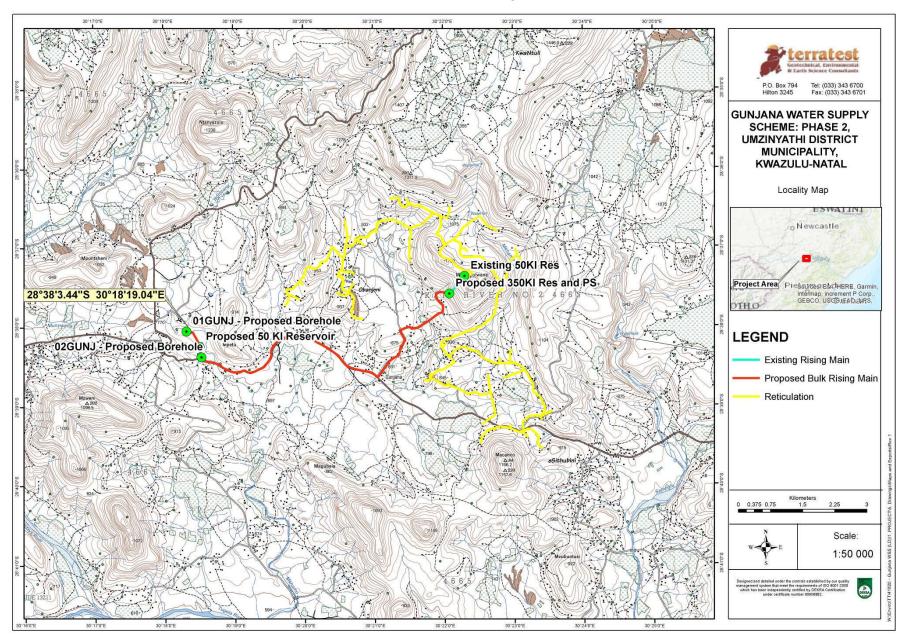
In terms of the WULA, Regulation 17 (2) of Notice No. R. 267 of the National Water Act (Act No. 36 of 1998) notes that any Public Participation Process undertaken in support of an EIA may be submitted in terms of the requirements for a WULA Public Participation Process, as long as the Public Participation 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. HOW DO I PARTICIPATE

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.

**APPENDIX 1: MAPS** 



## **APPENDIX 2: IAP REGISTRATION FORM**

# THE PROPOSED GUNJANA COMMUNITY WATER SUPPLY SCHEME: PHASE 2, UMZINYATHI DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, KWAZULU-NATAL



MUNICIPALITY, KI	WAZU	JLU-NATAL		DIE.	& Earth Science Consultants		
COMPLETE AND RETURN TO THE DESIGNATED EAP:		Ms Liz Dralle					
		Terratest (Pty) Ltd					
		PO Box 794, Hilton, 32	245				
		Fax: (033) 343 6788					
		Email: drallel@terrates	st.co.za				
NAME OF IAP:							
CONTACT NUMBER:							
FAX NUMBER:							
EMAIL ADDRESS:							
POSTAL ADDRESS:							
Reason for interest in the proposed project:							
OTHER IAP'S THAT SHOULD BE CONTACTED WITH REGARDS TO THIS PROJECT:							
Name:		Na	ame:				
Contact Number:		Co	ontact Number:				
Email Address:		Er	mail Address:				