

# ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED PHIWO'S PIGGERY LOCATED IN NOMAKHANZANA, KWAZULU NATAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT



OCTOBER 2020



## PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

The purpose of this Background Information Document (BID) is to provide a brief description of the proposed development and the EIA Process that will be followed. The aim is to inform Interested and Affected Parties (IAPs) on how to participate in the EIA Process and to obtain comments from IAPs on the issues pertaining to the proposed development. Findings of the EIA Process, including concerns raised by IAPs will be submitted to the Kwazulu Natal Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs.

## INTRODUCTION

A farming enterprise known as Phiwo's Investment Primary Cooperative Limited wishes to construct a piggery. The aim of constructing the proposed piggery is to breed Pigs, produce and sell them to other local enterprises in the meat market. K2M Environmental (Pty) Ltd was appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to undertake the Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed development.

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

### LOCATION AND DIRECTION TO THE SITE

The site of the proposed piggery development, which is currently vacant, has a total extent of approximately 1.53 ha and a development footprint of approximately 0.892 ha. The project area is located on the Remaining Extent of farm Alexandra Native Location No. 3 - Farm Number 16459, within Ward 15 of the Umzumbe Local Municipality.

To access the site, take the N2 towards Port Shepstone, travel for 670km and take Exit 84 towards Ifafa/Elysium and then turn right. After 1.7km turn left onto the R102, travel for 2.5km and turn right. After 550m turn left, and then left again after 400m. Travel for approximately 1.7km and the site will be on the right.

### PROJECT CO-ORDINATES

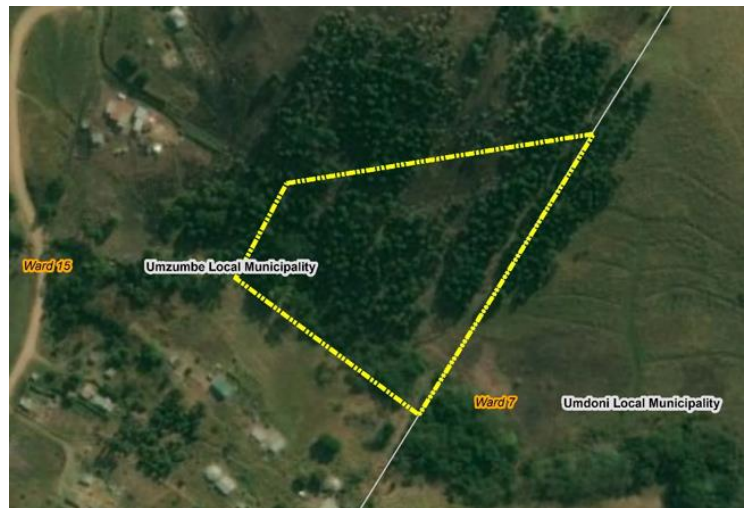
Latitudinal Extent: 30° 29' 7.66" S

Longitudinal Extent: 30° 35' 35.07" E

## CURRENT LAND USE

There is a channelled valley bottom wetland that traverses the southern section of the proposed site. The site has been classified as a CBA: Irreplaceable area however according to the Biodiversity Assessment that was undertaken, the on-site vegetation has a low sensitivity as it has been modified from its original state by an *Eucalyptus species* thicket and no longer supports Species of Conservation Concern.

Figure 1: Proposed Project Area



## DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTIVITY

The proposed infrastructure of the piggery upon completion will entail the following:

- 6 sow housing units (100 sows will be kept collectively). The dimensions of each sow unit will be 30m x 15m.
- an office/storeroom/ablution/cold-room
- a slurry pit of 12m x 12m with an additional overflow catchment area
- an onsite jojo tank will be utilised for the collection of water. This tank will be supplied through the existing municipal water network
- the ablution facility will make use of a septic tank and soakaway system located outside the 32m wetland buffer
- Access to the proposed development site will be obtained via an existing single local tract that connects to the main road to the proposed development site. The tract will be graded to a width of 3 metres.

## LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The EIA process for this proposed development will be conducted in accordance with the 2014 Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (as amended in 2017), published in terms of sections 24(2) and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No. 107 of 1998).

The National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) 2014 EIA Regulations lists activities that may have a significant impact on the environment, and which consequently require environmental authorization from the competent authority. The regulations also specify the environmental assessment process, and information that is required to enable DEDTEA to make a decision regarding the proposed activity.

The Basic Assessment Process is required to be followed with accordance to the 2014 EIA Regulations (as amended in 2017), as the following activities have the potential to be triggered by the proposed development:

**Activity 12:** The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.

d. Kwazulu Natal

v. Critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans;

### Background:

The proposed piggery development entails the removal of more than 300 square metres of indigenous vegetation within a CBA: Irreplaceable area.

**Activity 14:** The development of -

(ii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 10 square metres or more;

where such development occurs -

(c) if no development setback has been adopted, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse;

excluding the development of infrastructure or structures within existing ports or harbours that will not increase the development footprint of the port or harbour.

d. Kwazulu Natal

vii. Critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans;

### Background:

The proposed piggery development entails construction of structures and infrastructure with a physical footprint of more than 10 square metres within a CBA: Irreplaceable area.

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## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS

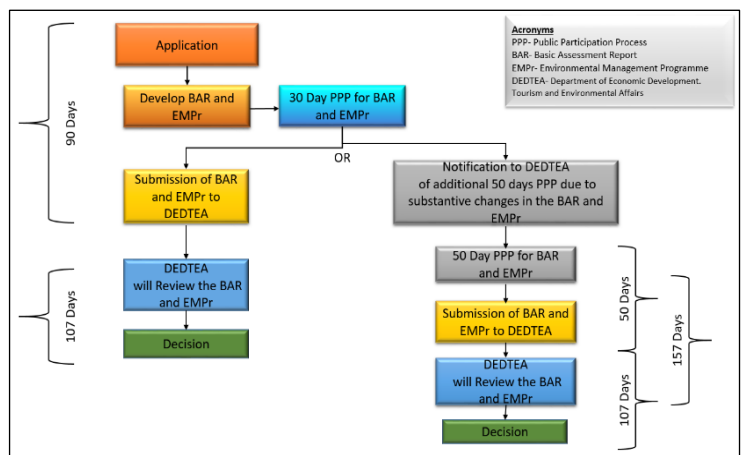
### ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER

K2M Environmental (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by the applicant as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) responsible for undertaking the Environmental Impact Assessment

### THE BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS

The project methodology involved with the required Environmental Authorization Process is illustrated in Figure 2.

**Figure 2: Illustration of the Basic Assessment Process**



## POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

### GEOPHYSICAL AND BIOPHYSICAL:

- Removal of vegetation. However, the onsite vegetation is classified as having a low sensitivity.
- Soil pollution and soil erosion.
- Potential pollution and contamination from the septic tank.
- Quality of the wetland system may be reduced during the construction phase.
- Invasion of alien plants as they are attracted to disturbed environments.
- An Environmental Management Programme will be developed with which to monitor and mitigate any environmental impacts before they occur, during the construction and operational phase of the proposed development.

#### SOCIO-ECONOMIC ISSUES:

- Odours associated with the piggery may be a nuisance to the surrounding households.
- The construction phase of development will result in a number of temporary employment opportunities for unemployed members of the surrounding community.
- The operational phase of the proposed piggery will create employment opportunities for the surrounding community.

#### CULTURAL-HISTORIC ISSUES:

Documentation will be submitted to KZN Amafa for their comments.

#### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS**

Public participation is the foundation of the Environmental Impact Assessment process. The principles of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) guide various aspects of the EIA process, including public participation which involves provision of sufficient information, in a transparent manner, to IAPs. During the Public Participation Process input from the proponent, specialists, government, and non-government organizations as well as all other potential IAPs are gathered to enable more informed decision-making.

Public Participation during the Basic Assessment Process will entail the EAP notifying all IAPs about the draft Basic Assessment Report. IAPs will then be given the opportunity of at least 30 days to comment and raise issues and/or concerns of the draft BAR. Once the 30-day commenting period is over, the EAP will then compile the Final BAR which will be inclusive of comments and responses and submit to DEDTEA for assessment. IAPs will then be notified in writing of the decision taken by DEDTEA pertaining to the project.

Stakeholders are invited to register as Interested and Affected Parties (IAPs) as well as comment on the Draft Basic Assessment Report within 30 days of this notice. A copy of the Draft Basic Assessment Report is available at the Umzumbe Local Municipality located on Sipofu Road, Mathulini Traditional Council, Nyangwini from the **23 October 2020**. Alternatively, the Draft Basic Assessment Report may be made available electronically to the IAP upon request.

Representations with respect to this application may be made by fax or mail to Mr Gert Watson (contact details below) and must reach K2M Environmental offices on or before the **23 November 2020**.

Further information pertaining to this project can be obtained from:

**Contact Person:** Mr Gert Watson

**Tel:** 031 7646 743

**Fax:** 031 7642 354

**Email:** [gert@k2m.co.za](mailto:gert@k2m.co.za) or  
[prisantha@k2m.co.za](mailto:prisantha@k2m.co.za)



**K2M Environmental (Pty) Ltd.**

Company Registration Number: 2008/016461/07

**DIRECTOR** Gert Watson | Pr. Pln (A/1818/2014)  
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## REGISTRATION AND COMMENT SHEET

### ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED PHIWO'S PIGGERY DEVELOPMENT LOCATED IN NOMAKHANZANA, KWAZULU NATAL

I wish to register as an Interested and Affected Party (IAP) and/or bring to the attention of K2M Environmental the following comments.

<b>Title:</b>	<b>First Name:</b>	<b>Surname:</b>	<b>Initials:</b>
<b>Organization:</b>		<b>Designation:</b>	
<b>Postal Address:</b>			
<b>Tel no:</b>		<b>Cell no:</b>	
<b>Fax no:</b>		<b>Email:</b>	

**Comment:**

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