

LEBOMBO GARDEN BUILDING
36 LEBOMBO ROAD
ASHLEA GARDENS
0081

P.O. BOX 11375
MAROELANA
0161

Tel: (012) 346 3810
Fax: 086 570 5659
E-mail: lizelleg@mweb.co.za
Website: www.bokamoso.biz



Background Information Document for a SCOPING/EIA PROCESS

Application for the **Scoping/Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process** Authorization
for the proposed **Q4 City Filling Stations**

October 2014

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Notice is given, in terms of the new 2010 EIA Regulations published in Government Notice No. R544, R545, and R546 of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No. 107 of 1998), of intent to carry out a **Scoping/EIA Process (i.t.o. Listing Notice 1, 2 & 3 – G.N. R544, R545 & R546)**.

Bokamoso Environmental Consultants were appointed by **Q4 Chemicals (Pty) Ltd** to undertake a **Scoping/EIA Process** for the proposed **Q4 City Filling Stations**.

THE PROPOSED PROJECT

The proposed project will consist of the following:

The establishment of the Q4 City Filling Stations, this will require the transformation of agricultural land. Approximately seven hectares in the south-eastern corner of Portion 22 and approximately 7 hectares in the north-western corner of Portion 41 is planned to be developed into a filling station with associated uses on both sides of the N4 highway. The infrastructure associated with the proposed development (i.e. Roads, Storm water, Sewer, Water) will also be addressed as part of this application.

THE PROPOSED SITE

Part of Portion 22 of the farm Schietfontein 437 JQ, Schietfontein.
Part of Portion 41 of the farm Schietfontein 437 JQ, Schietfontein.

LOCATION

The study area lies at the crossing of the N4 Highway and road M21 (Lucas Mangope Drive) on the farm Schietfontein 437 JQ with portion 22 located in the north-western quadrant of the crossing and portion 41 located diagonally opposite the south-eastern quadrant of the crossing.

LEGAL ASPECT OF PROJECT

In terms of Regulation No. R543 published in the Government Notice No. 33306 of 18 June 2010 of the National Environment Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) a specific list of activities was identified which could have a detrimental impact on the receiving environment. These listed activities require Environmental Authorization from the Competent Authority, i.e. the North West Province Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism (DEDECT).

The application was submitted for the following activities in terms of the Government Listing Notice 1 and 3 (R544, R545 & R546), 18 June 2010:

Indicate the number and date of the relevant notice:	Activity No (s) (in terms of the relevant notice) :	Describe each listed activity as per project description!:
--	---	--

Listing Notice 1, R544, 18 June 2010	9	<p>The construction of facilities or infrastructure exceeding 1000 meters in length for the bulk transportation of water, sewage or storm water –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) With an internal diameter of 0,36 meters or more;or(ii) With a peak throughput of 120 liters per second or more; <p>excluding where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Such facilities or infrastructure are for bulk transportation of water, sewage or storm water drainage inside a road reserve; or <p>Where such construction will occur within urban areas but further than 32 meters from a watercourse, measured</p>
---	----------	---

		from the edge of the watercourse.
R544, (Listing Notice 1), 18 June 2010	11	<p>The construction of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Canals; ii. Channels; iii. Bridges; iv. Dams; v. Weirs; vi. Bulk storm water outlet structures; vii. Marinas; viii. Jetties exceeding 50 square metres in size; ix. Slipways exceeding 50 square metres in size; x. Buildings exceeding 50 square metres in size; or xi. Infrastructure or structures covering 50 square metres or more <p>Where such construction occurs within a watercourse or within 32 metres of a watercourse, excluding where such construction will occur behind the development set back line.</p>
R544, (Listing Notice 1), 18 June 2010	18	<p>The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 5 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock of more than 5 cubic metres from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. A watercourse; ii. The sea; iii. The seashore; iv. The littoral active zone, an estuary or a distance of 100 metres inland of the high-water mark of the sea or an estuary, whichever distance is the greater – <p>But excluding where such infilling, depositing, dredging, excavation, removal or moving:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Is for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a management plan agreed to by the relevant environmental authority; or b. Occurs behind the development setback line.
R544, (Listing Notice 1), 18 June 2010	22	<p>The construction of a road, outside urban areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. With a reserve wider than 13, 5 metres; or ii. Where no reserve exists where the road is wider than 8 metres; or iii. For which an environmental authorization was obtained for the route determination in terms of activity 5 in Government Notice 387 of 2006 or activity 18 in Notice 545 of 2010.
R544, (Listing Notice 1), 18 June 2010	23	<p>The transformation of undeveloped, vacant or derelict land to –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Residential, retail, commercial, recreational, industrial or institutional use, inside an urban area, and where the total area to be transformed is 5

		<p>ii. hectares or more, but less than 20 hectares; or Residential, retail, commercial, recreational, industrial or institutional use, outside an urban area and where the total area to be transformed is bigger than 1 hectare but less than 20 hectares; -</p> <p>Except where such transformation takes place –</p> <p>a. For linear activities; or</p> <p>b. For purpose of agriculture or afforestation, in which case Activity 16 of Notice No. R545 applies</p>
R545, (Listing Notice 2), 18 June 2010	3	The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the storage, or for the storage and handling, of a dangerous good, where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity of more than 500 cubic metres.
GNR 546, (Listing Notice 3), 18 June 2010	4	<p>The construction of a road wider than 4 metres with a reserve less than 13.5 metres.</p> <p>(c) In North-West:</p> <p>i. Outside urban areas, in:</p> <p>(aa) ...</p> <p>(bb) ...</p> <p>(cc) ...</p> <p>(dd) ...</p> <p>(ee) Critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional reserves;</p> <p>(ff) ...</p> <p>(gg) ...</p> <p>(hh) ...</p>
GNR 546, (Listing Notice 3), 18 June 2010	13	<p>The clearance of an area of 1 hectare or more of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetative cover constitutes indigenous vegetation.</p> <p>(e) In North-West:</p> <p>i. Outside urban areas in:</p> <p>(aa) ...</p> <p>(bb) ...</p> <p>(cc) ...</p> <p>(dd) ...</p> <p>(ee) Critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional reserves;</p> <p>(ff) ...</p> <p>(gg) ...</p> <p>(hh) ...</p>
GNR 546, (Listing Notice 3), 18 June 2010	16	<p>The construction of:</p> <p>i. ...</p> <p>ii. ...</p> <p>iii. Buildings with a footprint exceeding 10 square metres in size; or</p>

		<p>iv. Infrastructure covering 10 square metres or more</p> <p>Where such construction occurs within a watercourse, measured or within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse, excluding where such construction will occur behind the development setback line.</p> <p>(c) In North-West:</p> <p>i. Outside urban areas, in:</p> <p>(aa) ...</p> <p>(bb) ...</p> <p>(cc) ...</p> <p>(dd) ...</p> <p>(ee) ...</p> <p>(ff) Critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional reserves;</p> <p>(gg) ...</p> <p>(hh) ...</p>
--	--	---

Accordingly, the proposed project requires authorisation from DEDECT via the Scoping/EIA process outlined in Regulation 543 published in the Government Notice No. 33306 of 18 June 2010 of NEMA.

After DEDECT have issued the decision, Interested and Affected Parties (I&AP's) will be notified of the decision and of the opportunity to appeal to the MEC of DEDECT.

THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

A Public Participation Process was conducted in terms of Chapter 6 in Regulation 543, published in the Government Gazette No. 33306 of 18 June 2010, of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No 107 of 1998). The Public Participation Guideline in the Integrated Environmental Management Guideline Series (Guideline 7) is also used, as published in Government Gazette No. 35769 on 10 October 2012.

1. Site notices were erected (21 May 2014) at prominent points on and around the study area.
2. Flyers were distributed (21 May 2014) to the neighboring properties and estates/developments that may be affected by the proposed development. Not all these properties could be reached due to a lack of sufficient access to them and therefore these flyers, together with this Background Information Document will be sent via email to a preset list of possible interested an/or affected parties and surrounding landowners via email & registered mail.

3. Registered mail was sent to all surrounding land owners within a 100m radius of the study area.
4. Notices regarding the project was e-mailed or faxed to the councilors in the area and possible stakeholders (including authorities, SANRAL, PRAF, Eskom, etc.) in the area.
5. An advertisement was placed in "Beeld and Kormorant" newspapers on 22 May 2014.
6. Additionally, all filling stations within a radius of 20km were notified via email or hand-delivered notices on 7 July 2014.

THE ENVIRONMENT

Topography

Portion 41 has a gentle slope towards the southern side and it drains by means of sheetwash and along the river which runs northerly along the terrain. In general, the topography of both Portion 22 and 41 of the site is flat terrain in the valley north of the Magaliesberg Mountain range.

Vegetation

There are five vegetation study units which were identified on site namely: *Peltophorum – Dichrostachys* thicket; *Acacia robusta – Clerodendrum* savanna; Mixed alien and indigenous vegetation; *Eragrostis – Digitaria* fields; and Drainage line vegetation.

The *Peltophorum – Dichrostachys* thicket study unit on portion 22 of the study site and the Drainage line vegetation are considered sensitive and should be excluded from development and where possible, corridors must be created to other natural vegetation areas on the neighbouring properties to facilitate connectivity.

The Marula trees and the *Harpagophytum zeyheri* subsp. *zeyheri* should be conserved in situ and the damaged Marula trees treated by a tree surgeon to ensure their survival

Wetlands

The only wetland feature that could be identified on site is the drainage depression on the eastern boundary of the site in Portion 41. No sign of lateral feeding mechanisms through the soils could be observed and it is therefore it is concluded that the main driver of the wetland/watercourse feature is surface runoff water from the site as well as upslope in the feature's catchment.

A buffer was not included as the best buffer concept on the site is adequate storm water management measures for any developments to take place on the site. An ecological buffer can be included and this should be the outcome of any ecological assessment of the site.

It is therefore concluded that there is no wetland on site.

Soil conditions

A Geological Site Investigation has been done by Holland-Muter Associate cc. for the proposed fuel station. The site is situated in the area that is underlined between sedimentary rocks of Pretoria group which are located on the south of the terrain and the igneous rocks of the Bushveld located to the north of terrain.

The sites' terrain mainly consists of transported material containing thick horizons of colluvium and residual soils comprising of decomposed highly weathered sandstone. These materials are underlain by residual soils or in-situ rocks at depth.

The general soil profile is mainly of thick horizons of transported soils have been derived from the nearby Magaliesburg mountain ridge and they varying between sand clay and clayey sand. The site's terrain has a fairly good internal drainage.

ISSUES AND CONCERNS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC

Possible concerns to be addressed:

- Visibility
- Noise
- Dust
- Safety and Security
- Maintenance of road
- Increase in traffic
- Socio-economic
- Ecological Surroundings
- "Sense of place"
- Impacts on Surrounding Filling Stations
- Availability of Services

PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

The purpose of this document is to provide information regarding proposed **Q4 Filling Station** and to provide possible Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) and Stakeholders with an opportunity to register and to add their comments and issues to our final reports that will be submitted to the North West Province Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism (DEDECT).

In order to ensure that you are identified as an Interested and/or Affected Party (I&AP) please submit your name, contact information and concerns regarding the proposed development.

Figure 1: Locality Map

Figure 2: Aerial Map

Figure 1: Locality Map

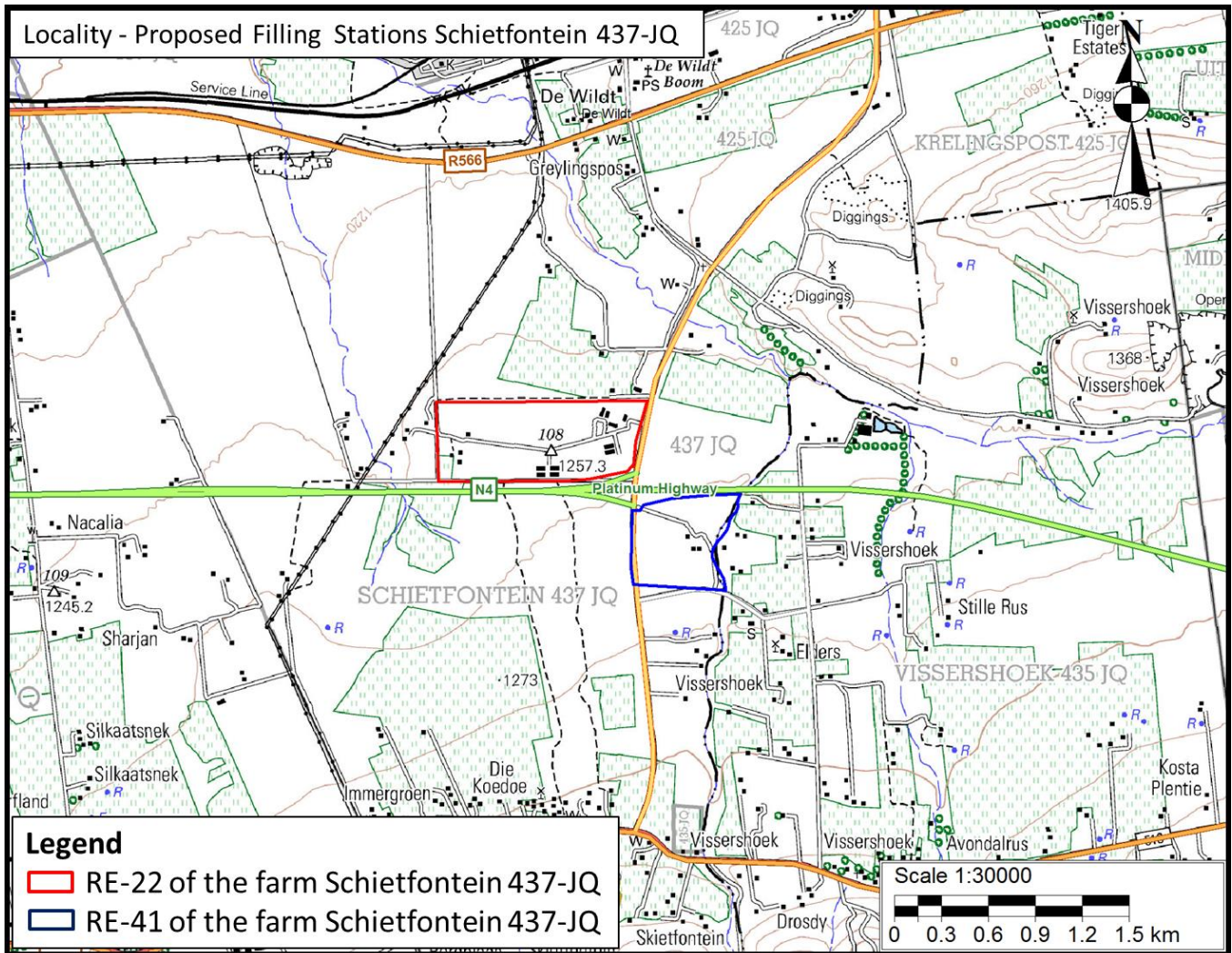


Figure 2: Aerial Map

