

Proposed Richards Bay Industrial Development Zone – Phase 1F – Installation of bulk infrastructure services



BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA)

Ref No: 14/12/16/3/3/2/665

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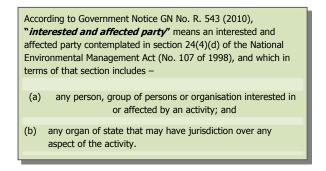
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PURPOSE OF BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT (BID)

The purpose of this document is as follows:

- It serves as an introduction and provides a description of proposed project.
- It provides an overview of the Environmental Impact Assessment Process (EIA).
- It provides notice to potential stakeholders to register as Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) regarding the development of the proposed development.
- To obtain the initial comments and contributions by I&APs.



The purpose of this process is to identify and evaluate potential impacts and to recommend measures to mitigate negative impacts, and enhance positive impacts.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION, BACKGROUND AND INTRODUCTION

The applicant proposes to commence with phase 1F of the Industrial Development Zone (IDZ). The RBIDZ is a purpose built and secure industrial estate on the North-Eastern South African coast. It is an integral part of Government's macro-economic policy to develop South Africa's manufacturing sector by encouraging investment in export-orientated manufacturing industries, centered on beneficiation of the country's natural resources and thereby creating opportunities for employment.

Phase 1F is located in the Richards Bay industrial area known as Alton North and is to the extent of a total of 121 hectares. The land is currently vacant, borders Tata Steel on the South and zoned as general industrial. In preparation for investment attraction, RBIDZ seeks to install all the necessary infrastructural services to make this precinct attractive to the investors. Recent amendments to the layout to IDZ 1F, which incorporate road closures and engineering servitudes are being attended to in terms of the KZN Planning and Development Act.

Services to be installed will include the following:

- Internal roads;
- Sewer infrastructure;
- Railway infrastructure;

- Internal electrical and ICT infrastructure;
- Water mains;
- Gas network;
- Stormwater infrastructure; and
- Other service infrastructure.

Nemai Consulting was appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to complete all requisite environmental processes and seek environmental authorisation, on behalf of the applicant.

PROJECT LOCATION

Phase 1F is located in the Richards Bay industrial area known as Alton North (Coordinates: 28° 44′ 41.92" S / 32° 02′ 00.67"E). The land is currently vacant, borders Tata Steel on the South and zoned as general industrial.



Figure 1: Google image of proposed site.

ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESS

In terms of Government Notice No. 543, of 18 June 2010, promulgated in terms of Section 24 of the National Environmental Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), the applicant is required to undertake a Scoping and EIA process, as the following activities may be triggered (Table 1).

Table 1: Listed Activity

^{*}Detailed descriptions of listed activity can be provided on request. Please note that these activities may change during the process.

Authority	Legal Reference	Listed Activity*
Department of Environmental Affairs,	GN No. R544 of 18 June 2010	9, 11,13, 18
Department of Environmental Affairs,	GN No. R545 of 18 June 2010	6, 15
Department of Environmental Affairs,	GN No. R546 of 18 June 2010	13

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The notification process for the Environmental Impact Assessment involves the following:

- Placement of notice boards;
- Distributing the Background Information Document (BID) to all landowners within 100m of the proposed site);
- Provide written notices to:
 - Landowners:
 - Ward councillors;
 - Municipalities;
 - Organisations such as Rate Payers associations, NGOs etc;
 - Provincial Departments having jurisdiction.

In accordance with Regulation 56 (1) of Government Notice No. R. 543 of 18 June 2010, Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are granted an opportunity to review and comment on the Draft scoping and the draft Environmental Impact Assessment report for the proposed development.

Copies of the draft Scoping and EIA report will be made available for review to all registered I &APs.

REGISTRATION AS I&AP

In order to ensure that you are registered as an I&AP, please submit your name, contact information and interest in the project by completing the attached Reply Form. You can also provide your comments on the Reply Form.

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Proposed Construction of RBIDZ Development

DEA Ref No: <u>14/12/16/3/3/2/665</u>

Reply Form Registration as an Interested and Affected Party

(Complete and return to Rivani Maharaj)

Date:						Official use
Name of org	janisation:					Date received:
(if applicabl	(e)					
Name & Sur	name:					Our reference:
Address	ddress Postal:		Physical:			Status
Tel No:						
Cell No						
Fax No:						
Email:		· ·				
Registration	as an I&AP:					
			Yes	No		
Please inclu	ide the contact detai	Is of any poss	sible other I&APs yo	ou might be aw	are of:	
				-		

comments: (note	- additional pages n	nay be included if the	e space provided is	s insufficient)		
						