

**REMAINDER PORTION 4 AND PORTION 8, RIETVLEY 28 KU,
PROPOSED EXTENSION SHARE BLOCK PRIVATE RESORT DEVELOPMENT**

DEDET Reference *17/2/3/E-240*

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

November 2013

In terms of the EIA Regulations published in terms of Section 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA, Act No. 107 of 1998), Ndlopfu Share Block (Pty) Ltd requires authorization from the Mpumalanga Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (DEDET), for the undertaking of the proposed development of 6 holiday homes on the property Remainder of Portion 4 and Portion 8, Rietvley 28KU. In order to obtain authorization, a Basic Assessment Process must be undertaken together with independent environmental studies, in accordance with the EIA Regulations. This project has been registered with the DEDET under the application reference number *17/2/3/E-240*.

Rietvley 28KU is situated approximately 40km north-east of the town of Hoedspruit, and 30km south east of Phalaborwa. By virtue of location, you have been identified as a potential Interested and / or Affected Party to this process, and are hereby invited to participate.

WHAT THIS DOCUMENT TELLS YOU

This Background Information Document (BID), provides you, as a potential Interested and/or Affected Party (I&AP), with background information on the proposed project, as well as information regarding the Basic Assessment Process (BA) and specialist studies that are currently underway to assess the potential impacts (i.e. positive and negative; as well as direct, indirect, and cumulative) of the proposed project;

It further indicates how you can become involved in the project, receive information and raise issues that may concern and/or interest you. The sharing of information forms an important component of the Public Participation Process and not only provides you with the opportunity to become actively involved, but also to provide information that may be of value for the proposed development.

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

The six proposed development sites are located on Remainder of Portion 4 and Portion 8 of the farm Rietvley 28KU. Rietvley 28KU is situated in Mpumalanga Province, bordering the Kruger National Park to the north. The farm shares a common boundary with the Umbabat Nature Reserve to the south and east, the Klaserie Nature Reserve to the west. The Timbavati Nature Reserve is located 5 km south of the farm. The Olifants is the main perennial river in the area, passing the farm less than 4km to the north.

The Remainder of Portion 4 and Portion 8 of Rietvley 28KU cover approximately 1331 ha of land, largely devoid of infrastructure, with the exception of a farmhouse and various outbuildings, sheds and stores. Game drive tracks criss-cross the farm. See Figures 1 and 2.

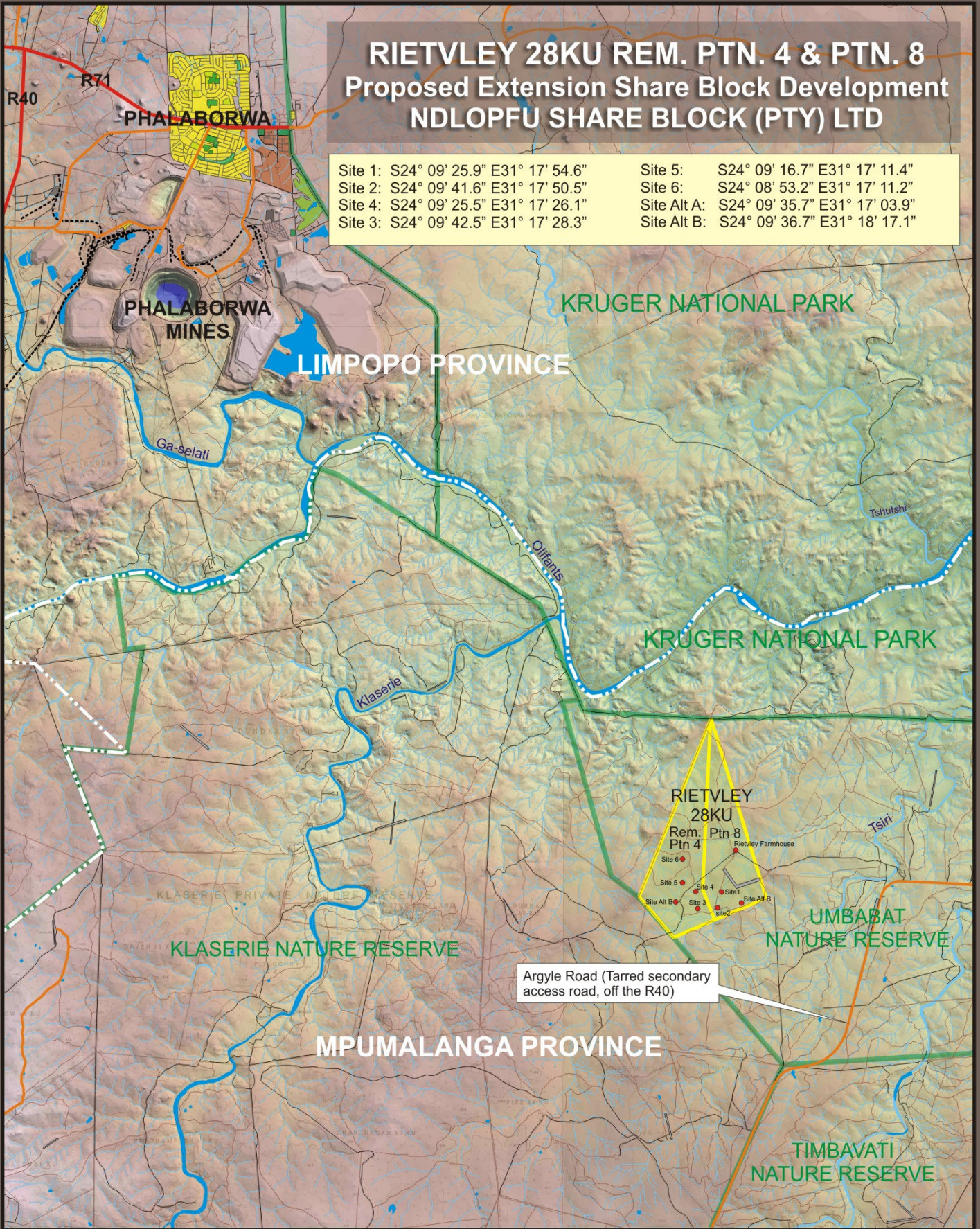
RIETVLEY 28KU REM. PTN. 4 & PTN. 8

Proposed Extension Share Block Development

NDLOPFU SHARE BLOCK (PTY) LTD

Site 1: S24° 09' 25.9" E31° 17' 54.6"
 Site 2: S24° 09' 41.6" E31° 17' 50.5"
 Site 4: S24° 09' 25.5" E31° 17' 26.1"
 Site 3: S24° 09' 42.5" E31° 17' 28.3"

Site 5: S24° 09' 16.7" E31° 17' 11.4"
 Site 6: S24° 08' 53.2" E31° 17' 11.2"
 Site Alt A: S24° 09' 35.7" E31° 17' 03.9"
 Site Alt B: S24° 09' 36.7" E31° 18' 17.1"



Argyle Road (Tarred secondary access road, off the R40)

- Arterial roads
- Secondary roads
- Streets
- Other access roads
- Tracks
- Railway line
- Perennial rivers
- Non perennial rivers
- Waterbodies

- Rietvley 28KU Rem Ptn 4 & Ptn 8 Boundary.
- Proposed development sites and alternatives.
- Provincial boundary
- Boundary - protected areas
- High urban density
- Military base
- Landing strips

Fig. 1: Locality Map
October 2013



PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND MOTIVATION

The proposed project, for which Environmental Authorization is required, includes the following basic activities

- Six new holiday homes, with a maximum of 12 beds per home. Two alternative sites have been considered together with the six selected sites.
- Short (100-200m) access tracks to each site. These will be 2-spoor all-weather tracks.
- A short 100m link providing access from the neighboring share block development, Ndolpfu Share Block Pty Ltd. This will be a 2-spoor all-weather track.
- Underground water reticulation from the closest source (existing boreholes).
- Underground power reticulation from the closest source, the adjacent Ndolpfu Private Game Reserve.
- Appropriate sewage treatment on-site.

The development is in effect an extension of Ndolpfu Private Game Reserve (share block development) and is deemed necessary to raise the necessary capital to secure the land for conservation and ecotourism in perpetuity. The primary intention is to prevent high density development or other non-compatible activities occurring on the properties. It is also the intention to incorporate the properties into the Umbabat Nature Reserve.

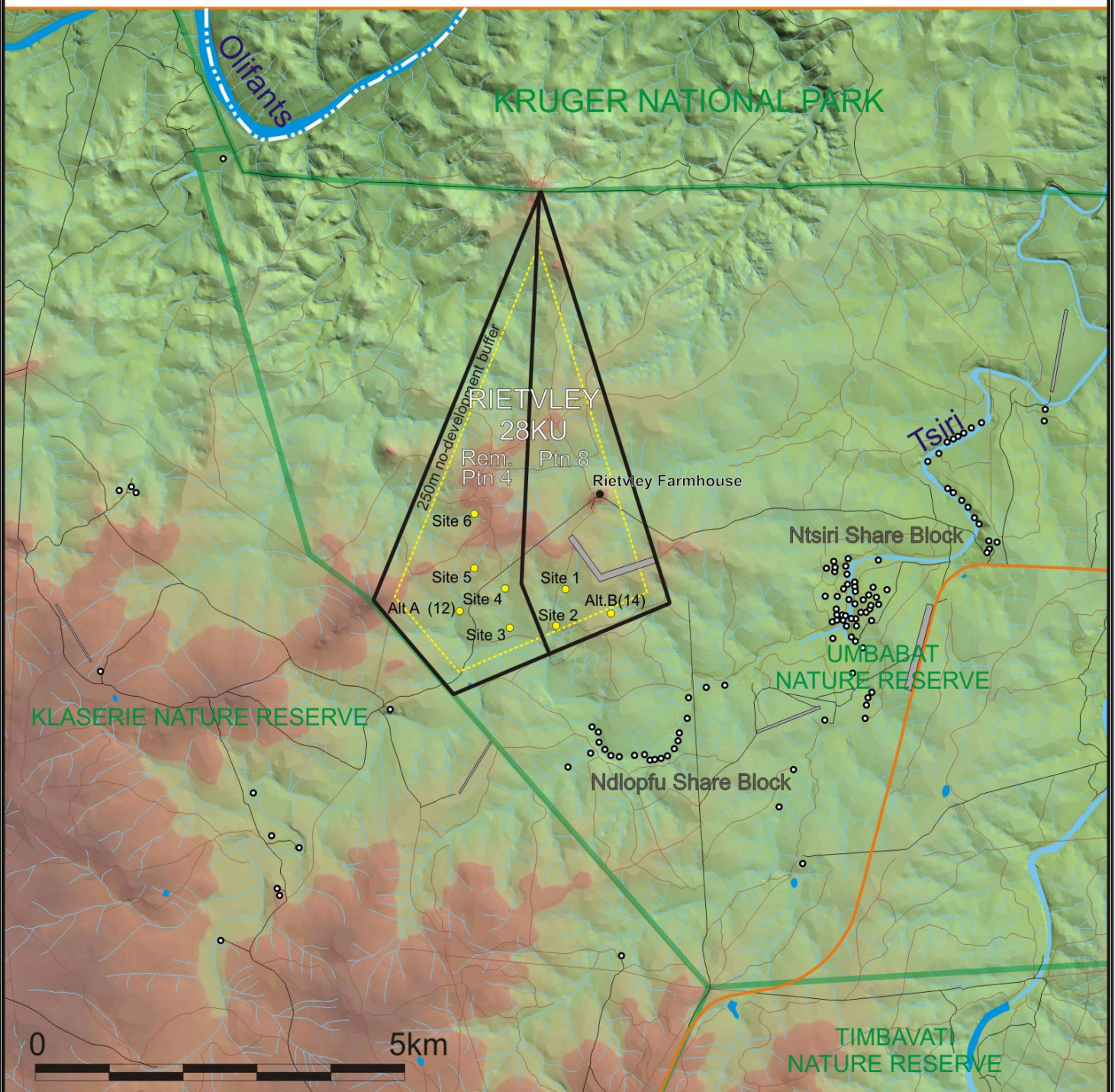
All Ndolpfu Private Game Reserve rules will apply to the new development, including building, electrical and contractor's regulations. These regulations will be detailed in the Basic Assessment Report.

The proponent is further committed to softening the impact of existing infrastructure on the properties, including the farmhouse, stores and sheds. Such measures may include removal of infrastructure, camouflaging, and screening. These measures will be detailed in the Basic Assessment Report.

RIETVLEY 28KU REM. PTN. 4 & PTN. 8

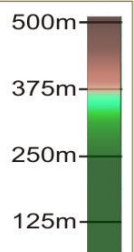
Proposed Extension Share Block Development for
NDLOPFU SHARE BLOCK (PTY) LTD

Fig. 2: Development Sites
November 2013



- Secondary roads
- Other access roads
- Tracks
- Contour line
- Perennial rivers
- Non perennial rivers
- Water bodies

- Rietvley 28KU Rem. Ptn. 4 & Ptn 8 Boundary
- Proposed development sites & alternatives
- Provincial boundary
- Boundary - protected areas
- Landing strips
- Adjacent residential / lodge sites (6km radius)
- 250m no-development buffer



THE BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS

Nuleaf Planning and Environmental Pty Ltd was appointed to undertake the Basic Assessment (BA) Process for the proposed activities. The BA works as follows

- When an applicant proposes to undertake a listed activity (i.e. those listed in Government Notice No 544, 545 and 546 of 18 June 2010), an application must be made for environmental authorization. Depending on the scale and nature of the activity, either a Basic Assessment or a Full Scoping and EIA Procedure must be followed.
- The activity as proposed, triggers the following activities and as such requires that a Basic Assessment Process be undertaken.

Number and date of the relevant notice:	Activity No (s) (in terms of the relevant notice) :	Description of each listed activity as per the detailed project description
No R546 of 2010	4(ii)(bb)	Construction of a 100m long link road between the neighbouring property and Rietvley, as well as 6 x 200 to 300m access 2 spoor tracks to proposed 6 camps. (outside of an urban area, within a National Protected Areas Expansion Strategy (NPAES) focus area)
No R546 of 2010	4(ii)(gg)	Construction of a 100m long link road between the neighbouring property and Rietvley, as well as 6 x 200 to 300m access 2 spoor tracks to proposed 6 camps. (outside of an urban area, within 10km of a National Park or within 5km of a protected area)
No R546 of 2010	6(ii)(bb)	The construction of 6 x 12 bed lodges / camps (72 beds total) outside of an urban area, within an NPAES focus area
No R546 of 2010	6(ii)(gg)	The construction of 6 x 12 bed lodges / camps (72 beds total) outside of an urban area, within 10km of a National Park or within 5km of a protected area.
No. R544 of 2010	24	The transformation of undeveloped land bigger than 1000 square meters in size to residential (6 holiday homes or camps), such land currently zoned 'agriculture'.
No. R544 of 2010	23 (ii)	The transformation of undeveloped land of 1 hectare to residential (6 holiday homes or camps), outside an urban area.
No R546 of 2010	13(c)(ii)(gg)	The clearance of a total area of 1 hectare of indigenous vegetation for the construction of the road, tracks, camps and service trenches.(outside of an urban area, within 10km of a National Park or within 5km of a protected area).
No R546 of 2010	19(ii)(bb)	Development of 2-spoor access tracks to the six camps, total combined length potentially 1km. (outside of an urban area, within an NPAES focus area)
No R546 of 2010	19(ii)(gg)	Development of 2-spoor access tracks to the six camps, total combined length potentially 1km. (outside of an urban area, within 10km of a National Park or within 5km of a protected area)

- An independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) must undertake the process on behalf of the applicant to ensure objectivity.
- The first step is to submit an application to the competent authority (in this case the Mpumalanga Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (DEDET).
- Upon acknowledgement of the application, the EAP must undertake a public participation process, and afford any and all persons interested and /or affected by the proposed development to register and participate in the process. A 30 day registration period is allowed for, as well as opportunity to ask questions, submit concerns etc.
- The EAP must then produce a Draft Basic Assessment Report (BAR), which describes both the project and the environment, assesses the anticipated impact of the project on the environment, and makes recommendations in terms of mitigation and management.
- Various specialist studies are undertaken to support the BAR. These include a Biodiversity Assessment and a Heritage Opinion.
- Once complete, this Draft Basic Assessment Report is circulated to all registered interested and affected parties who would like to deliver comment. A 40 day comment period is allowed for.
- Once all comments from registered interested and affected parties have been addressed, the EAP will submit the Final Basic Assessment Report to the competent authority for consideration.
- The competent authority is then required to make a decision on the application (i.e. either positive or negative). This is called a Record of Decision (RoD).
- Once this decision has been made, the EAP must communicate the outcome to all Interested and Affected Parties who registered during the public participation process.
- I&AP's have the right to appeal against the decision should they feel the need to do so, in which case the competent authority will review and reconsider the application.

ROLE OF INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES

You have been identified as a potential Stakeholder or Interested and Affected Party, and are hereby invited to participate in this EIA Process. If you would like to be involved in this process, comment on draft reports, provide input, raise concerns, or simply remain informed of the project process, please register as a Stakeholder via a return email, fax or post.

Registration as a Stakeholder must reach the Environmental Assessment Practitioner listed below by no later than Monday 13th January 2014

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