

Date: 28 June 2019

Dear Interested and Affected Party,

**NOTICE OF THE RESUBMISSION OF TRANSNET'S LEPHALALE RAILWAY YARD EXPANSION
APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION**

EIA PROCESS, WATER USE LICENSE APPLICATION AND BORROW PIT APPLICATION FOR THE PROPOSED LEPHALALE RAILWAY YARD EXPANSION, AT STEENBOKPAN, LEPHALALE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, WATERBERG DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

Notice is hereby given that Transnet SOC Limited (herein after Transnet) will resubmit its application for environmental authorisation for the above mentioned project to the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) in July 2019 since its original application has lapsed on 6 June 2019.

Transnet first submitted its application for environmental authorisation for the project, to DEA on 5 November 2018 and was issued with a project reference number DEA Ref. 14/12/16/3/3/2/1116. The Scoping Report was approved by DEA on 20 February 2019 and the EIA Process progressed to the EIA Phase, after which the application lapsed on 6 June 2019. The final EIR and EMPr could not be submitted within 106 days from Scoping Report approval to DEA since the draft EIR and EMPr documents were still in the public domain for review and comment. Consequently all the public engagements on the draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) had to be cancelled /withdrawn.

Transnet will now resubmit its application for environmental authorisation to DEA in July 2019, after which DEA will issue the project with a new reference number. The EIA Process will just resume from the Impact Phase as per the original application process, wherein the draft EIR and EMPr is made available for public review and comment to I&APs for 30 calendar days. The draft EIR and EMPR will include the findings of the recently completed Ecological Winter Survey Report.

Please note that the Scoping Phase will not be repeated under the new application since the Scoping Report was approved by DEA on 20 February 2019 under the former application and its findings are still valid also the environmental context described therein has not changed.

The tasks to be conducted under the new application submission will include the following:

	Activity	Time Frame
1	Ecological Winter Survey	Completed 14 June 2019
2	Notify I&APs of intention to resubmit application for EA	28 June 2019
3	Submit new Application for EA to DEA	Beginning of July 2019
4	Notify I&APs of availability of the draft EIR and EMPr for public review and comment	July 2019
5	Draft EIR and EMPr available for 30 days public review and comment	July to August 2019
6	PUBLIC MEETING at Komunati Lodge to talk over EIA findings	End of July 2019
7	Submit EIR and EMPR to DEA for decision making	End of August 2019
8	Decision on application from DEA	December 2019

WHAT'S NEXT?

A notification of the availability of the draft EIR and EMPr for public review and comment will be sent to Interested and Affected Parties during July 2019. The draft reports will be made available for public review under the new application. The reports will be placed at the Lephalale Public Library, Marapong Public Library and at the Steenbokpan Lesedi Thusong Centre and on the Naledzi website for review and comment. Naledzi will reschedule the public meeting for the project for the end of July 2019. Details thereof will be included on the draft EIR and EMPr availability notification letter.

Thank you for your participation.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Botha', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Marissa Botha (*Pr.Sci.Nat*)

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