



## **environmental affairs**

Department:  
Environmental Affairs  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

Private Bag X 447· PRETORIA · 0001· Environment House 473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia · PRETORIA

**DEA Reference:** 14/12/16/3/3/2/1116

**Enquiries:** Ms. Mmamohale Kabasa

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Ms M Botha  
Naledzi Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd.  
Private Bag X 9307  
**POLOKWANE**  
0700

**Telephone Number:** (015) 296 3988  
**Email Address:** botham@naledzi.co.za

### **PER MAIL / E-MAIL**

Dear Ms Botha

### **ACCEPTANCE OF THE SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE LEPHALALE RAILWAY YARD WEST OF THE TOWN OF LEPHALALE WITHIN THE LEPHALALE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY IN THE LIMPOPO PROVINCE**

The Final Scoping Report (FSR) and Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment (PoSEIA) dated December 2018 and received by the Department on 10 January 2019, refer.

The Department has evaluated the submitted FSR and the PoSEIA dated December 2018 and is satisfied that the documents comply with the minimum requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended. The FSR is hereby accepted by the Department in terms of Regulation 22(1)(a) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

You may proceed with the environmental impact assessment process in accordance with the tasks contemplated in the PoSEIA as required in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

All comments and recommendations made by all stakeholders and interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) in the draft SR and submitted as part of the final SR must be taken into consideration when preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment report (EIAR) in respect of the proposed development. Please ensure that all mitigation measures and recommendations in the specialist studies are addressed and included in the final EIAR and Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

Please ensure that comments from all relevant stakeholders are submitted to the Department with the final EIAR. Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the final EIAR. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof should be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.

You are also required to address all issues raised by Organs of State and I&APs prior to the submission of the EIAR to the Department.

The EAP must, in order to give effect to Regulation 8, give registered I&APs access to, and an opportunity to comment on the report in writing within 30 days before submitting the final EIAr to the Department. In addition, the following additional information is required for the EIAr:

**(a) Listed Activities:**

- (i) The EIAr must provide an assessment of the impacts and mitigation measures for each of the listed activities applied for.
- (ii) The EAP must ensure that the listed activities that are applied for are the same in both the EIAr and the application form. Should some applied for activities no longer become relevant, the application form and EIAr must be updated.

**(b) Public participation:**

- (i) Comments from I&APs must not be split and arranged into categories. Comments from each submission must be responded to individually.

**(c) Layout & Sensitivity Maps**

- (i) It is mentioned that the Resgen Boikarabelo Coal Mine is presently constructing its 36km rail link next to and from the existing Lephalale -Thabazimbi railway track to its Resgen Plant towards the farm Kruishout 271LQ. The rail link was approved in 2012 by LEDET as part of the Boikarabelo Coal Mine EIA. The EIAr must show the approved layout of this area against the proposed development.
- (ii) The EIAr must identify the main access road and service roads.

**(d) Specialist assessments**

- (i) The cumulative impacts recommendations from the specialist studies must incorporate the area referred to in C (i) above.
- (ii) The draft EIAr must investigate the possibility of a construction camp that includes accommodation for workers and clearly assess the associated impacts. All appointed specialists must provide recommendations to the suitability of this area. This area must be clearly show on the site layout.
- (iii) Should the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must clearly indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with defensible reasons; and were necessary, include further expertise advice.
- (iv) The following specialist studies will be conducted as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report:

<b>Specialist study</b>	<b>Responsible Specialist</b>
Biodiversity Impact Assessment	Renier Terblanche of Holistic Environmental Services
Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment	Barend van der Merwe of dBAcoustics
Visual Impact Assessment	Still to be appointed
Hydrological Impact Assessment	Duncan Munyai of Naledzi Waterworks
Socio-Economic Impact Assessment	Equispectives Research and Consulting Services
Waste Management Plan	Pieter De Coning of GCS Environmental Engineering
Traffic Impact Assessment	Still to be appointed

**(e) General**

- (i) The final EIAr must include details of the plans for the site and infrastructure after decommissioning in 20-30 years and the possibility of upgrading the proposed infrastructure to more advanced technologies.
- (ii) The total footprint of the proposed development must be indicated. Exact locations of all associated infrastructure must be mapped at an appropriate scale.

- (iii) The final EIAR must include a construction and operational phase EMPr which include mitigation and monitoring measures.
- (iv) Should blasting be required, appropriate mitigation measures should be provided.
- (v) The applicant must comply with the recommendations of this acceptance letter and the comments on the draft Scoping Report signed 04 December 2018.
- (vi) The applicant is hereby reminded to comply with the requirements of Regulation 45 of GN R982 of 04 December 2014, as amendment, with regard to the time period allowed for complying with the requirements of the Regulations.
- (vii) Please ensure that the final EIAR includes at least one A3 regional map of the area and the locality maps included in the final EIAR illustrate the different proposed alignments and above ground storage of fuel. The maps must be of acceptable quality and as a minimum, have the following attributes:
  - Maps are relatable to one another;
  - Cardinal points;
  - Co-ordinates;
  - Legible legends;
  - Indicate alternatives;
  - Latest land cover;
  - Vegetation types of the study area; and
  - A3 size locality map.

Further, it must be reiterated that, should an application for Environmental Authorisation be subject to the provisions of Chapter II, Section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act No. 25 of 1999, then this Department will not be able to make nor issue a decision in terms of your application for Environmental Authorisation pending a letter from the pertinent heritage authority categorically stating that the application fulfils the requirements of the relevant heritage resources authority as described in Chapter II, Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act No. 25 of 1999.

You are requested to submit one (1) hard copy of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) to the Department and at least two (2) electronic copies (CD/USB) of the complete final report with the hard copy documents.

You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, that no activity may commence prior to an environmental authorisation being granted by the Department.

Yours sincerely



**Mr Sabelo Malaza**  
**Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations**  
**Department of Environmental Affairs**  
**Signed by: Mr Coenrad Agenbach**  
**Designation: Deputy Director: Strategic Infrastructure Developments**  
**Date: 19/02/2019**

cc:	Mr A van Ross	Transnet SOC Ltd	Email: Andries.VanRoss@transnet.net
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