

## The Proposed Establishment of a Filling Station, Located on Zamazama No. 16924, within the Umhlabuyalingana Local and Umkhanyakude District Municipality, Ephondweni Reserve, KwaZulu-Natal

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT**

April 2021



#### **WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT?**

The purpose of this document is to:

- ◆ Inform Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) about the proposed project, and to invite them to participate;
- ◆ Provide a brief background on the proposed project; and
- ◆ Explain the aims and objectives of the Basic Assessment Process.



#### **WHAT IS THE BACKGROUND TO THIS PROJECT?**

The Applicant, Sukamani Multiserve, wish to apply for Environmental Authorisation for the proposed establishment of a filling station, located on Zamazama No. 16924, within the Umhlabuyalingana Local and Umkhanyakude District Municipality, Ephondweni Reserve, KwaZulu-Natal.

In terms of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA, Act No. 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 (as amended – 2017), published in Government Notices No. R. (GNR) 324, 325 and 327 of 2017, certain Listed Activities require either a Basic Assessment Process (GNR 324 and GNR 327) or a Scoping and EIA Process (GNR 325) to be conducted for Environmental Authorisation. The proposed project triggers the following Listed Activities, thus a Basic Assessment Process is required to be undertaken:

Listing Notice	Part	Description
<b>GNR 327</b>	<b>Part 14</b>	<p><i>“The development and related operation 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 80 cubic metres or more but not exceeding 500 cubic metres.”</i></p> <p><b>Applicable as the filling station is proposed to comprise fuel tanks for the storage of a maximum of 500 m<sup>3</sup> of petrol, diesel, liquid, as well as compressed natural gas.</b></p>

The Applicant, Sukamani Multiserve, has appointed Green Door Environmental to conduct the Basic Assessment Process.



## WHAT IS PROPOSED?

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The Applicant, Sukamani Multiserve, is proposing the establishment of a filling station, located on Zamazama No. 16924, within the Umhlabuyalingana Local and Umkhanyakude District Municipality, Ephondweni Reserve, KwaZulu-Natal.

The filling station is proposed to be located on a 0.4 ha area at GPS coordinates 27°02'32.80" S and 32°16'34.82" E. This area is currently disturbed and comprises small buildings which are utilised by the local community.

The filling station is proposed to comprise the following components:

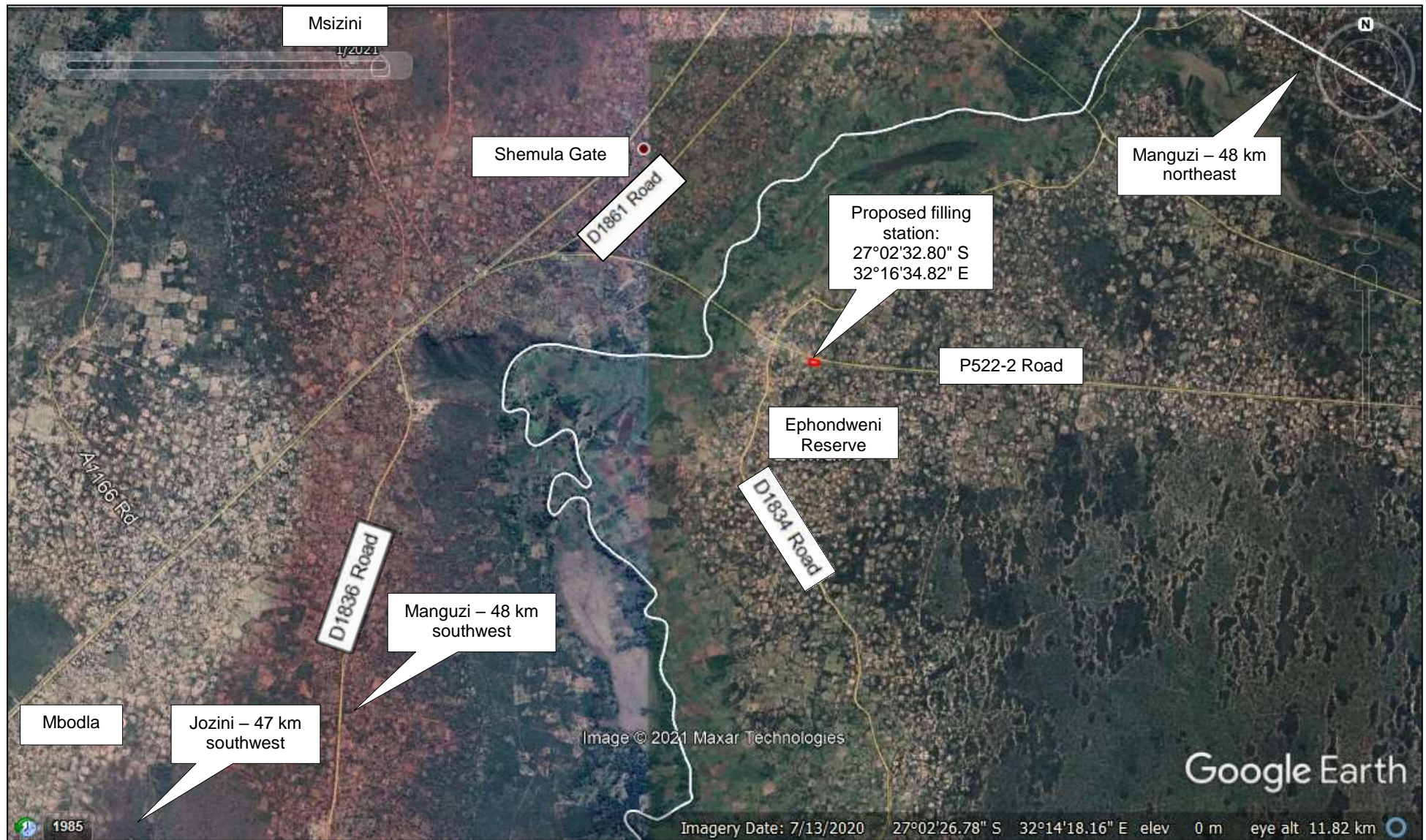
- ◆ Four underground fuel tanks for the storage of a maximum of 500 m<sup>3</sup> of fuel;
- ◆ Three undercover pump islands;
- ◆ One exposed pump;
- ◆ Seven line shops;
- ◆ A small kiosk; and
- ◆ Ablution facilities.

The Applicant wishes to store both petrol and diesel, as well as liquid and compressed natural gas.

Refer to Figure 1, 2 and 3 for maps of the proposed project.



## WHERE IS THE PROPOSED PROJECT?



**Figure 1:** Locality map showing the proposed project and surrounding area, Ephondweni Reserve, KwaZulu-Natal (Source: Google Earth).





**Figure 2:** Map showing the proposed project, Ephondweni Reserve, KwaZulu-Natal (Source: Google Earth).





**Figure 3:** Map showing the proposed project, Ephondweni Reserve, KwaZulu-Natal (Source: Google Earth).



## **WHAT IS THE AIM OF A BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS ?**

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The Basic Assessment Process aims to:

- ◆ Inform and involve all potentially I&APs of the proposed project;
- ◆ Identify the potential impacts (positive and negative) that the proposed project may have on the ecological and socio-economic environment;
- ◆ Provide recommendations based on the identified impacts and conduct further specialist studies if necessary; and
- ◆ Provide the Competent Authority with enough information to make an informed decision regarding the proposed development.



## **WHAT IS INVOLVED IN THE BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS?**

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### 1. Application Form:

An official Application Form is required to be completed and submitted to the Competent Authority. This form provides information on the property, a description of the activities and lists the relevant Listed Activities which are triggered.

### 2. Public Participation:

The general public and relevant authorities are notified of the proposed project through newspaper adverts, site posters and direct consultation. Alternative methods will be employed to inform those I&APs who may be illiterate, disabled or otherwise disadvantaged. Should you be aware of anyone who might be interested in the proposed project, but have not been notified, please send the relevant contact details to Green Door Environmental. This Background Information Document will be circulated to neighbouring landowners, relevant authorities and any other persons registered as I&APs following the newspaper adverts and site posters.

### 3. Identification of Impacts and Alternatives

Environmental issues, concerns, development constraints and possible alternatives will be identified using professional judgement, project information, experience of similar projects, a review of available literature, site visits, and consultation with authorities and the public.

### 4. Impact Evaluation

The significance of environmental issues will be evaluated in terms of their expected extent, intensity, duration and probability of occurrence.

### 5. Mitigation and Management Measures

Measures to manage and minimise impacts to within acceptable levels, as well as measures to maximise the socio-economic benefits associated with the proposed project, will be identified and recorded in the Basic Assessment Report. An Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) will be compiled to facilitate the implementation of mitigation measures, if the proposed project is approved.

### 6. Reporting

The Draft Basic Assessment Report and EMPr will be made available for review and comment by all I&APs and relevant authorities. A Final Basic Assessment Report and EMPr will be compiled and will include comments received on the circulated Draft Basic Assessment Report.

## 7. Authority Decision

The Final Basic Assessment Report will be used by the Competent Authority as the basis for the decision on whether the proposed project must be approved or not. All I&APs will be informed of the decision.



### **WHAT POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS HAVE INITIALLY BEEN IDENTIFIED?**

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The following issues have been identified as potentially problematic and will, amongst other issues, be investigated during the Basic Assessment Process:

- ◆ Vehicle movement and access points;
- ◆ Demand for fuel;
- ◆ Management of fuel tanks; and
- ◆ Increased traffic volumes.



### **HOW CAN I&APs COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED PROJECT?**

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The need for public input and involvement is of critical importance. All I&APs (neighbours, authorities, organisations etc.) are invited to comment on the proposed project. Comments can be communicated to us by post, telephone or email (contact details are provided below).

In order to ensure that your comments are addressed and incorporated, please ensure that we have received all comments by **21 May 2021**.



**Postal:** PO Box 1170 Hilton, 3245  
**Physical:** Block H, Quarry Office Park,  
 400 Old Howick Road, Hilton, 3245  
**Phone:** 033 343 4176 **Fax:** 033 343 4201  
**Email:** kerryn@greendoorgroup.co.za  
**Website:** www.greendoorgroup.co.za

Title:	First Name:	Surname:	Initials:
Organisation / Property Name:			
Interest in project (e.g. authority, neighbour, competitor, supplier):			
Postal Address:			
		Post Code:	
Tel Number:		Cell Number:	
Fax Number:		Email:	

1. The following issues must be noted regarding the proposed establishment of a filling station, located on Zamazama No. 16924, within the Umhlabuyalingana Local and Umkhanyakude District Municipality, Ephondweni Reserve, KwaZulu-Natal.

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2. The following potential I&APs should also be contacted:

Name:	Organisation:
Tel Number:	
Address:	
Name:	Organisation:
Tel Number:	
Address:	

3. Additional comments?

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Should you be aware of anyone who might be interested in this project, but may be illiterate, disabled or otherwise disadvantaged, please send the relevant contact details to Green Door Environmental.

*Thank you*