

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS

PROPOSED EMERGENCY NONDABULA WATER RETICULATION PROJECT IN THE ILEMBE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY



BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

(June 2015)

EDTEA REF NO: Emergency Nondabula Water Reticulation Project (Number to be provided post formal application)

What Does This Document Tell You?

This document aims to provide you, as an **Interested and Affected Party (I&AP)**, with background information regarding the proposed **construction of the Emergency Nondabula Water Reticulation Project** being undertaken by the **Ilembe District Municipality**.

The document also provides information regarding the **Basic Environmental Impact Assessment (BA)** process and **Water Use Licence Application (WULA)** to be undertaken. The document advises you on how you can become involved in the project – by reviewing information, and making inputs thereon, including raising any possible issues. This sharing of information forms the basis of the **public participation process** and offers you the opportunity to become actively involved in the project from the outset. Public participation allows for local knowledge to be integrated into the BA as generated.

What Does The Project Entail?

The project can be summarised as follows:

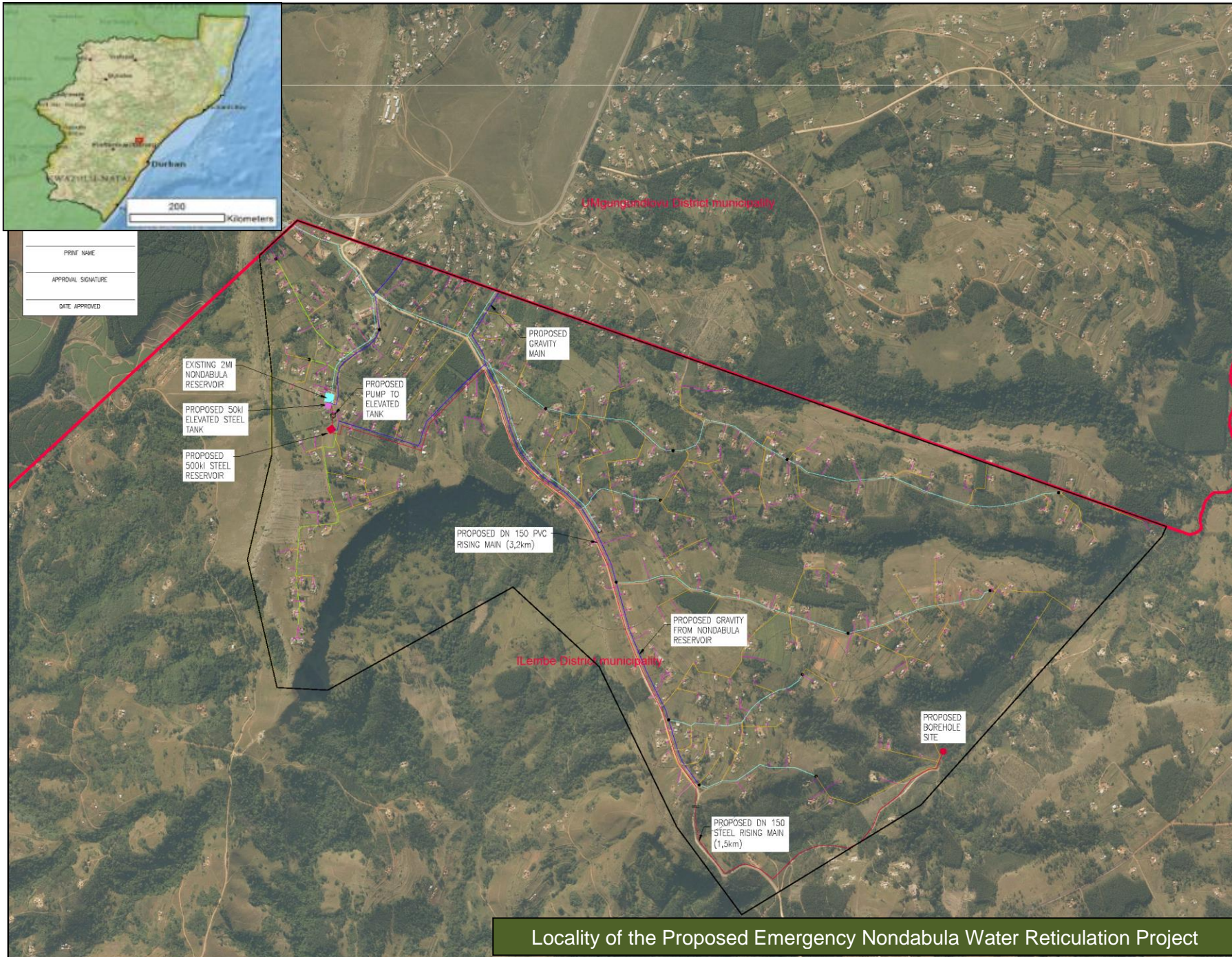
Project name	Basic Assessment for the Proposed Emergency Nondabula Water Reticulation Project			
Local authority	Ndwedwe Local Municipality – KwaZulu-Natal			
Landowner(s)	Ingonyama Trust			
Location	Located on Portion 0 (Remaining Extent) Farm 4675 Inanda Location and Portion 0 (Remaining Extent) Farm 4667 Umvoti Location. Access is via the R614 from Tongaat travelling towards Wartburg.			
Co-ordinates	NORTHERN EXTENT OF SITE			
	Latitude / Longitude	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
	South	29 ^o	24'	14.30"
	East	30 ^o	50'	59.92"
	SOUTHERN EXTENT OF SITE			
	Latitude / Longitude	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
	South	29 ^o	25'	43.05"
	East	30 ^o	52'	13.57"
	WESTERN EXTENT OF SITE			
	Latitude / Longitude	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
	South	29 ^o	24'	59.13"
	East	30 ^o	50'	56.58"
	EASTERN EXTENT OF SITE			
	Latitude / Longitude	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
	South	29 ^o	24'	55.37"
	East	30 ^o	53'	12.17"

Description Of The Proposed Project

It is proposed that a network of pipelines is constructed within the Nondabula rural community located in Ward 9 of the Nodwengu Traditional Council in the Ilembe Municipality, KwaZulu-Natal, to link into the existing pipeline network and provide potable water to the community.



PRINT NAME
APPROVAL SIGNATURE
DATE APPROVED



DATE	REFERENCE

REV	DESCRIPTION	DATE	BY	CHKD
DESIGNED	T. GIBAN	OCTOBER 2014		
DRAWN	B. NANS	OCTOBER 2014		
CHECKED	S. DRUCE	OCTOBER 2014		

APPROVED
 PROJ. PRINCIPAL: G. ORICE
 SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

Royal HaskoningDHV
 Enhancing Society Together
 PO Box 55
 FORT BEAR
 3602
 Tel: (021) 718000
 Fax: (021) 718000
 Email: info@rhdhv.co.za

CLIENT

 ILEMBE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY
 Local Government
 ILembe, KwaZulu-Natal

PROJECT/DRAWING TITLE
EMERGENCY NONDABULA PROJECT
 RETICULATION LAYOUT

SCALE 1 : 5000	SHEET 1 OF 1
CONTRACT No. W01.PZB.000180	PROJECT No. W01.PZB.000180
DRAWING No. W01.PZB.000180-104	REV

Locality of the Proposed Emergency Nondabula Water Reticulation Project

The project will consist of the construction of:

- a DN150 Steel / PVC rising main of 4.7 km;
- a borehole with a yield capacity of 15 m³/h at 292 m;
- a 500 kℓ prefabricated steel reservoir;
- a secondary booster pump;
- a 50 kℓ elevated prefabricated steel tank; and
- reticulation pipelines of various diameters (ranging from 110 mm to 32 mm) approximately 38 km in total length and 568 m in length for yard taps.

The proposed infrastructure capacities and dimensions are as follows:

- Borehole with a throughput of 15 m³/h; and
- 50 kℓ tank (5 m square x 2 m height).
- a DN150 Steel / PVC rising main of 4.7 km with a throughput of 15 m³/h;
- a borehole with a yield capacity of 15 m³/h at an altitude of 292 m;
- a 500 kℓ prefabricated steel reservoir (16 m diameter x 3.1 m height);
- a secondary booster pump;
- a 50 kℓ elevated prefabricated steel tank (5 m square x 2 m height); and
- reticulation pipelines of various diameters (ranging from 110 mm to 32 mm) approximately 38 km in total length and 568 m in length for yard taps / connections.

Site and activity alternatives are not an option as this is enhancement and upgrading of existing water infrastructure in a community that requires the provision of piped water supply.

It appears that the proposed line may be situated within 32 m of a watercourse, which thus triggers the need for an Environmental Authorisation *via* a Basic Assessment Process. Furthermore, the area is classified as a Critical Biodiversity Priority Area 1 (CBA).

What Are The Potential Environmental Impacts Associated With The Proposed Project?

A number of potential environmental impacts associated with the project have been identified. As part of the BA, these potential impacts will be assessed through the following specialist studies:

Specialist Study	Organisation
Freshwater Habitat Assessment	Scientific Aquatic Services
Ecological Assessment (Fauna and Flora)	Clayton Cook
Heritage Assessment	Active Heritage

Input from the public through the public participation process provides valuable input in the identification of issues requiring investigation within this BA process. The study will highlight areas that should be avoided in order to minimise potential impacts, and evaluate the project alternatives.

The Basic Assessment will aim to achieve the following:


- Provide an overall assessment of the social and biophysical environments of the affected area by the proposed construction of the project;
- Undertake a detailed assessment of the preferred route/s in terms of environmental criteria including the rating of significant impacts;
- Identify and recommend appropriate mitigation measures for potentially significant environmental impacts; and
- Undertake a fully inclusive public participation process to ensure that I&AP issues and concerns are recorded and commented on.






Why Are Environmental Studies Needed?

In terms of the **Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations** Government Notice Regulation (GNR) No. 983 to 985 of 2014 (as amended), published in terms of Section 24(5), and read with Section 44, of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) (Act No. 107 of 1998), the **Ilembe District Municipality** requires **environmental authorisation** (EA) from the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (KZN EDTEA) for undertaking the proposed project as it includes activities listed under Regulation 983 and 985 of the NEMA EIA.





The following activities of GNR 983 and 985 are being applied for the EA:

GNR 983

-  Activity 9 – The development of infrastructure exceeding 1 000 m in length for the bulk transportation of water or stormwater- (i) with an internal diameter of 0.36 m or more; or, (ii) with a peak throughput of 120 ℓ/s or more;




-  Activity 12 – The development of infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 m² or more; where such development occurs (a) within a watercourse; or (c) if no development setback exists, within 32 m of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse.
-  Activity 19 – The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 5 m³ into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock of more than 5 m³- (i) a watercourse;
-  Activity 30 – Any process or activity identified in terms of Section 53(1) of the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (NEM:BA), 2004 (Act 10 of 2004);
-  Activity 45 – The expansion of infrastructure for the bulk transportation of water or stormwater where the existing infrastructure- (i) has an internal diameter of 0.36 m or more; or, (ii) has a peak throughput of 120 l/s or more; and (a) where the facility or infrastructure is expanded by more than 1 000 m in length; or (b) where the throughput capacity of the facility or infrastructure will be increased by 10% or more; and
-  Activity 49 – The expansion of- (iv) infrastructure or structures where the physical footprint is expanded by 100 m² or more; where such expansion or expansion and related operation occurs – (a) within a watercourse; or (c) if no development setback exists, within 32 m of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse.

GNR 985

-  Activity 2 – The construction of reservoirs for bulk water supply with a capacity of more than 250 m³, (d) in KwaZulu-Natal, where (viii) critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans;
-  Activity 12 – The clearance of an area of 300 m² or more of indigenous vegetation (b) in KwaZulu-Natal, (iv) within any critically endangered or endangered ecosystem listed in terms of section 52 of the NEM:BA or prior to the publication of such a list, within an area that has been identified as critically endangered in the National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment 2004, and within (v) critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans;
-  Activity 14 – The development of (xii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 10 m² or more, where such development occurs (a) within a watercourse; or (c) if no development setback has been adopted, within 32 m of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse, (c) in KwaZulu-Natal in: (v) in a protected area identified in the NEM:PAA, or where (ix) critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans.
-  Activity 16 – The expansion of reservoirs for bulk water supply where the capacity will be increased by more than 250 m³, (c) in KwaZulu-Natal in: (i) Outside urban areas in: (ff) critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans, and (hh) areas within 5 km from any other protected area identified in terms of NEM:PAA or from the core area of a biosphere reserve.

Additionally, as the project involves the crossing of watercourses, a WULA will be submitted to the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) as per Sections 21 (a), (c) and (i) of the National Water Act (Act No. 36 of 1998).

The following water uses of Section 21 of the NWA are being applied for the WUL:

-  (a) Abstraction of water from a watercourse (2 x boreholes);
-  (c) Impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse; and
-  (i) Altering the bed, banks, course or characteristics of a watercourse

Activities under these listings may have an effect on the environment, hence a BA process and WUL Application, as prescribed in Regulations 16 to 20 and Appendix 1 of the EIA Regulations (GNR 982), will have to be undertaken. A BA is an effective planning and decision-making tool, which allows for the identification of potential environmental consequences of a proposed project, and its management through the planning process.





The Ilembe District Municipality has appointed **Royal HaskoningDHV** as independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to undertake the required environmental studies.

As part of these environmental studies, all Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) will be actively involved through a public participation process (PPP).

Public Participation Process

It is important that relevant I&APs are identified and involved in the PPP from the outset of the project.

To ensure effective public participation, the process includes the following steps during the BA Process:

-  STEP 1: Create awareness of the BA process (by way of advertisement in local newspaper, circulation of BID [this document] and erection of site notices);
-  STEP 2: Register I&APs and key stakeholders on the database (on-going);
-  STEP3: Consultation with, and transfer of information to, I&APs through consultation and stakeholder engagement;
-  STEP 4: Invite I&AP comment and input on the draft BA report (BAR) (30-day comment period); and



STEP 5: Record all comments, issues and concerns raised by I&APs within an issues trail, which will form an integral part of the BAR.

How Can You Get Involved?

If you consider yourself an I&AP for this proposed project, we urge you to become involved.

- By responding (by phone, fax or e-mail) to our invitation for your involvement in the process;
- By completing the attached comment form and mailing or faxing it to Bjorn Hoffmann at Royal HaskoningDHV;
- In writing contacting consultants if you have a query, comment or require further project information; and
- By reviewing and commenting on the draft Basic Assessment Reports within the allowed 30-day and 60-day review periods.

If you consider yourself an I&AP for this proposed project, we urge you to become involved.

Please make use of the opportunities created by the public participation process to become involved in the process and provide comment. If you have issues and/or concerns which affect and/or interest you, please raise them. Or, if you would simply like more information, let us know.

Your input into this process forms a key part of the environmental studies and we would like to hear from you to obtain your views on the proposed project.

By completing and submitting the accompanying response form, you automatically register yourself as an I&AP for this project, and ensure that your comments, concerns and/or queries raised regarding the project will be noted.

Comments And Queries On The Project Can Be Directed To

Mr Bjorn Hoffmann	PO Box 55, Pinetown, 3600		 Royal HaskoningDHV <i>Enhancing Society Together</i>
	Tel	031 719 5571	
Royal HaskoningDHV	Fax	031 719 5505	
	Email	bjorn.hoffmann@rhdhv.com	

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IN THE ILEMBE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY**



**BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT
(June 2015)**

YOUR COMMENTS AND QUERIES ARE WELCOME

Please **complete** this Comment Form **in full before** and return to:

Mr Bjorn Hoffmann	PO Box 55, Pinetown, 3600		
	Tel	031 719 5571	
Royal HaskoningDHV	Fax	031 719 5505	
	Email	bjorn.hoffmann@rhdhv.com	

Title (Prof/Mr/Mrs)		First name	
Surname			
Capacity (e.g. Secretary / Director)			
Organisation			
Postal address		Postal code	
Tel No. ()		Cell No.	
Fax No. ()		Email address	

What comments / concerns would you like to raise regarding this proposed project? (Please use additional pages, if required)

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PLEASE REGISTER THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) ON THE PROJECT DATABASE:

Title (Prof/Mr/Mrs)		First name	
Surname			
Capacity (e.g. Secretary / Director)			
Organisation			
Postal address		Postal code	
Tel No. ()		Cell No.	
Fax No. ()		Email address	

Signature	
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IF YOU PREFER NOT TO RECEIVE ANY FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING THIS PROPOSED PROJECT, AND, WOULD PREFER TO BE REMOVED FROM THE PROJECT DATABASE, PLEASE TICK THE BOX BELOW AND RETURN THE FORM TO THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION CONSULTANTS (CONTACT DETAILS AS PROVIDED ABOVE).

Yes, remove my name
