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AMENDED

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE MHLANA SOMOPHO PHASE 3C WATER PROJECT AT SOMOPHO AREA, WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE MFOLOZI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, KING CETSHWAYO DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY; KWA-ZULU NATAL.

05 APRIL 2018

Prepared by: Emvelo Quality and Environmental Consultant (PTY) Ltd

On Behalf of

King Cetshwayo District Municipality

INTRODUCTION

King Cetshwayo District Municipality (KCDM) intends to construct the Mhlana-Somopho Phase 3C Water Project. The project is in UMfolozi Local Municipality within KCDM. The development will be divided into three (3) categories for the implementation of the project to be a success. It will consist of construction of a bulk water supply infrastructure; water reticulations supply infrastructures and water resource infrastructures.

NEEDS AND DESIRABILITY

The proposed project will benefit the existing facilities in the area such as schools, hospitals and clinics; and the growing human settlement patterns in the area.

The five villages to be supplied with water are Ematholeni, northern part of Mfolozane, north-east of Ngwebu, northern half of Nozambula, Eksayeni and Ehlobosini. These communities can be classified as rural and scattered with certain areas being denser than others. An average of 59 percent of the people residing here are unemployed.

The majority of the employed population is primarily involved in the agricultural sector

where people work long hours for minimum wages. The place also forms part of a tribal authority area which still needs access to basic services e.g. running water, electricity and employment opportunities.

Running water will decrease time and resources it takes to collect water on a daily basis. The project will provide employment opportunities in operational and construction phase of the project. The communities will also be uplifted through infrastructure and service provision.

WHAT DOES THIS DOCUMENT TELL YOU?

This document aims to provide you, as an Interested or Affected Party (I&AP), with information regarding this Basic Assessment Report (BAR). It aims to obtain comments and contributions from I&AP's with regards to potential impacts to the environment.

Any person, company, authority or other entity that might be directly or indirectly affected by the proposed activity is invited to register as an I&AP, in order to assist the EAP in identifying possible impacts and to make suggestions for mitigations. These comments will be included as part of the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) which will be submitted to the Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (EDTEA).

I&APs include, but not limited to landowners, tenants, Municipal and provincial authorities, interest groups, Non-Government Organization's and conservation groups.

This document details how you can become involved in the project, receive information and raise any issues of concern or interest regarding the proposed project. The sharing of information forms the basis of the Public Participation Process (PPP) and offers the opportunity to become actively involved in the project from the outset. Input from I&APs ensures that all potential environmental issues are considered within the context of the proposed project.

STUDY AREA

The project area is identified as Sub-Supply Area 17 (SSA 17) in the Upper Nseleni-Mhlana Supply Area with the following project coordinates: S28°31'47.6", E32°02'38.5"

The site can be accessed via N2 and P511 roads. The proposed bulk water supply system will be supplied by the existing Nseleni Town reservoir. From this source, water will be pumped from pumping station (PS 10) into reservoir one (R17-1), which in turn will supply water to the proposed five

reservoirs (R17-2 – R17-6) in the above mentioned villages by gravity.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project entails construction of Reservoirs, pipelines (P34 & P35) Gravity Mains and Reticulation and Rehabilitation of existing systems within the Sub-Supply Area 17 (SSA 17). The scope of work for Phase 3 will comprise of the following: Installation of 5 reservoirs with a total capacity of 2.65 ML; Installation of 20km (1.3km – 110mm, 2.2km – 160mm, 7.3km – 250mm, 9km – 315mm) bulk pipeline; Installation of 37km (10km – 32mm, 1km - 40mm, 17.5km – 50mm, 2.4km – 63mm, 2.5km – 75mm, 2.4km – 90mm, 1.25km – 110mm) of reticulation main; Installation of 3 173 metered connections and yard tap; The upgrading of the existing 20 x boreholes with associated infrastructure; 0.5 ML/day Package Plant; Auxiliary repair infrastructure.

WHAT IS A BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT?

A Basic Assessment Report (BAR) 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.

WHY IS BASIC ASSESSMENT REQUIRED?

In terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No.107 of 1998), as read with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 04 December 2014, an Environmental Authorization must be obtained from the relevant decision-making authority, the Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (DEDTEA), prior to the commencement of certain listed activities that may result in potential negative impacts on the environment.

The proposed project triggers the following listed activities in Listing Notice 1 (GNR 983 and Listing

Table 1: Listed Activities

LISTING NOTICE	ACTIVITIES	DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY
1	Activity 12	The development of-xii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more; where such

		development occurs (a) within a watercourse; (c) if no development setback exists, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse;
1	Activity 19	'The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 5 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock of more than 5 cubic metres from- (i)a watercourse

WHAT IS A PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

Public participation is the process by which an organization consults with interested or affected individuals, organizations, and government entities before making a decision. Public participation is two-way communication and collaborative problem solving tool with the goal of achieving better and more acceptable decisions. Public participation prevents or minimizes disputes by creating a process for resolving issues before they become polarized.

WHAT ARE THE OBJECTIVES OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS?

- To inform the community and stakeholders about the construction of Mhlana – Somopho Phase 3C Water Project.
- To identify and address community and or stakeholders concerns regarding this development.

WHAT IS YOUR ROLE AS AN I&AP?

I&AP are encouraged to make use of the opportunities created by the Public Participation Process to become involved and raise any issues or concerns which affect and/or interest them. The public is invited to register as an I&AP and take part in the PPP through:

- Our contact details (phone, fax or e-mail).
- Media Notices placed in local newspapers (iLanga Newspaper).
- Distribution of the BIDs.
- Notice on sites and notice boards.

COMMENTS AND QUERIES

I&APs may forward their written comments along with their contacts details within 14 days from receiving the document to:

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