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BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

**BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT
OF PETROL FILLING STATION AT THE NGWELEZANE AREA, ERF NO.
9398 WITHIN THE CITY OF UMHLATHUZE, KWAZULU-NATAL
PROVINCE.**

May 2017

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

On Behalf of

Omshini Projects

INTRODUCTION

Omshini Projects intends to construct a Petrol Filling Station at the Ngwelezane area within The City of uMhlathuze. This development has a high degree of significance at the local level and it will boost the local economic growth of The City of uMhlathuze by adding another Filling Station amongst others that are in existence within the Municipality.

Emvelo Consultant is appointed as an independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) by Omshini Projects (PTY) Ltd, to assess the possible impacts to the environment by the proposed development of a Petrol Filling Station. This will allow the identification of all the negative impacts at an early stage of the project, the mitigation measures to be implemented to reduce the impacts and to ensure that the proposed project is shaped to suit the local environment.

NEEDS AND DESIRABILITY

The addition of a new Petrol Filling Station will increase consumer choice in the Ngwelwzane area, this also includes 24/7 consumer access to convenience items. The land value of the Ngwelezane area will increase as developments make the area to be more attractive to live and work in. The

employment level will increase both permanent and short term employment. The local traffic will also be reduced as Ngwelezane residents will be accessing a Petrol Filling Station which is closer to their residents and it will reduce their cost since they will be traveling short distances.

WHAT DOES THIS DOCUMENT TELL YOU?

This document aims to provide you, as an Interested or Affected Party (I&AP), with information regarding the Basic Assessment Report for the proposed development of a Petrol Filling Station. It aims to obtain comments and contributions from I&AP's with regard to potential impacts on 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 mitigation. These comments will be included as part of the BAR which will be submitted to the Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (EDTEA).

The 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 and offers you 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 site is located at the Ngwelezane area (Dumisani Makhaye, Ward 9). The construction site is located at S 28° 46' 40.641" and E 31° 03' 52.914" to S 28° 46' 654" and E 31° 02' 52.919".

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project entails the construction of a Petrol Filling Station at the Ngwelwzane area.

The development footprint is approximately 2652.144 m². The capacity of the tanks will be 4 x 40 000 liters which will be 160 000 liters in total. The tanks will include 1 x diesel, 1 x super and 1 x unleaded.

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 to 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 activity triggers the following listed activity in Listing Notice 1 (GNR 983, 04 December 2014).

Table 1: Listed Activities

LISTING NOTICE	ACTIVITIES	DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY
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1	Activity 14	'The development 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'.
1	Activity 12	'The development of – infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more. c) within a watercourse , Measured from the edge of water course.

WHAT IS 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 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 and involve the community and the stakeholders about the construction of a Petrol Filling Station. To identify and address community and the stakeholders concerns regarding this construction.
- ✓ To provide opportunities for the community & stakeholders to identify priorities and determine alternative solutions to any concerns that might arise from stakeholders, community, relevant government departments, farmers and political parties.

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(Zululand Observer)
- Distribution of the BID
- Notice on sites and notice boards

We will ensure that you are registered as an I&AP for the project, and that your concerns or queries regarding the project will be noted. We will also ensure that you are provided with future information pertaining to the project as well as the availability of the BAR for review purposes.



COMMENTS AND QUIRIES

I&APs may forward their written comments along with their contacts details by email to Ms **Phumzile Lembede** at the above-mentioned contact details: