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BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

**BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT
OF FUEL FILLING STATION AT EMPMBENI AREA, WITHIN THE
JURISDICTION OF THE BIG 5 HLABISA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY
UNDER UMKHANYAKUDE DISTRICT, NORTHERN KWAZULU-NATAL.**

27 March 2018

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

On Behalf of

Amangotsha Transport and Trading (PTY) LTD

INTRODUCTION

Amangotsha Transport and Trading (PTY) Ltd intends to construct a Fuel Filling Station at the Mpembeni area, within Hlabisa Local Municipality. This development will be of great convenience to people travelling along the Provincial Road P451 as well as people visiting the Hluhluwe-Umfolozi Game Park as it will capture the increasing number of road users passing through.

Emvelo Consultant is appointed as an independent Environmental Assessing Practitioner (EAP) by Amangotsha Transport and Trading (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

Hlabisa is a small town with a population of approximately 39 400. The municipality is generally characterized by the isolated rural communities with high levels of poverty. The most significant land use is subsistence agriculture and dispersed settlements, plantations. Therefore, this kind of development will also bring diverse job opportunities and will increase the local municipalities' economy.

Hlabisa is the linking town between the Nongoma and Hluhluwe. Both these towns are using Highway which passes through Empembeni Area. The road users sustain a number of road side businesses on the highway and they have to travel several km to the edge of town to fill up their vehicles with petrol/diesel. Therefore, location of the proposed Filling Station Development is coming to bring convenience to this target market.

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 proposed site is located nearby intersections of Provincial Road P451 and District Road D1905 at Empembeni under Hlabisa Local Municipality. The site is located at the following coordinates: S 28°08'00.11", E31°56'07.7". The site is located 2, 4 km away from the closest boundary of the Hluhluwe-Umfolozi Game Park.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The total area of the site is approximately 1453m². The petrol filling station will also have a convenience store (e.g. steers or KFC) and a carwash. The total tank capacity below the ground will be 100 000L (100m³), with 2x 25 000 L petrol; 2 x 25 000 L diesel; and 1 x 5 000L paraffin above the ground. A 10m long x 4m wide access road will be constructed

as an access route to the side from District Road D1905.

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 activity triggers the following listed activity in

Listing Notice 3 (GNR 983, 04 December 2014).

Table 1: Listed Activities

LISTING NOTICE	ACTIVITIES	DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY
1	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 combined capacity of 80 cubic metres or more but not exceeding 500 cubic metres.

Table 2: description and analysis of potential listed activity

Listed Activities as described in GN R.983	Description of project activity
Listing 3, Activity 10: “The development and related	The storage capacity of the dangerous goods for the proposed project will be 100

<p>operation of facilities or infrastructure for the storage, or storage and handling of a dangerous good, where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity of 30 but not exceeding 80 cubic metres. (d) KwaZulu-Natal :</p> <p>(xiii) Outside urban areas:</p> <p>(aa) Areas within 10 kilometres from national parks or world heritage sites or 5 kilometres from any terrestrial protected area identified in terms of NEMPA or from the core areas of a</p>	<p>cubic metres, which exceeds 80 cubic metres.</p>
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biosphere”	
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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 development.

- ✓ 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.

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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)
- Distribution of the BID
- Notice on sites and notice boards
- Public meetings

COMMENTS AND QUIRIES

I&APs may forward their written comments along with their contacts details by email to: