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Final Scoping Report

Transnet National Ports Authority (TNPA) 22MW Dual Fuel Generator at the Port of Richards Bay, KwaZulu-Natal

Version – Final

23 April 2024

Applicant: Transnet National Ports Authority

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2525

GCS Project Number: 23-0807

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Final Scoping Report
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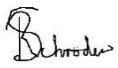
Author	Rona Schröder *EAPASA: Reg. 2020/1149* *Pri.Sci.Nat.: 120605*		23 April 2024
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Background and Project Description

The Transnet National Ports Authority (TNPA) is a division of Transnet SOC Ltd and manages all eight of the Transnet commercial Ports on the South African coastline. The Port of Richards Bay (PoRB) is one of the country's largest ports in size, with total land and water surfaces of 2 174 hectares and 1 443 hectares, respectively. TNPA is responsible for ensuring that the ports are economic hubs for the country while ensuring that they also comply with the South African Laws and Regulations which is governed by the National Ports Act (Act No. 12 of 2005) (NPA) which directs the TNPA to facilitate the provision of water, lighting, power, sewerage, and telecommunications within the ports. The PoRB is still developing and constantly upgrading to ensure that the port provides the best possible service and attracts business activities for importing and exporting. A large area of the PoRB has been developed. Mining activities and commodities are currently the largest contributor to the imports and exports at the port, with coal being the largest exported commodity.

This project is needed to generate backup electricity which will ensure continuous operations at the port during power outages and prevent revenue and operational time loss due to power outages or loadshedding.

This Project entails the construction of the following infrastructure within the existing port areas:

- A dual fuel generator for the electricity generation of 22MW output which can be operated with diesel or liquid natural gas;
- The installation of diesel fuel tank(s) storage of the total capacity of 600m^3;
- The installation of a 200m^3 tank storage of demineralised water;
- Evacuation lines to the substations;
- Fencing for the site;
- An auxiliary pit;
- A drain facility for the used diesel and sludge;
- A transmission line from the generator to the Harbour West Substation, Sorting Yard substation, Liquid Pitch Substation, Arrivals Yard Substation, Eastern Intake Substation, Carina Substation and Admin Quay Substation will be installed in order to allow for power distribution from the generator to the rest of the port; and
- LNG pipeline from the Gas hub to the Generator site.

Scoping and Environmental Impact Report (S&EIR) Process

A S&EIR process has two distinct phases: The Scoping Phase and the Environmental Impact Reporting Phase. This report, the Final Scoping Report (FSR) identifies potential biophysical, social and health aspects and impacts of the proposed development on the receiving environment. The main objectives of the Scoping Phase are as follows:

- Describe the proposed project, including the legislative context and project motivation;
- Identify and describe applicable alternatives for the proposed project;
- Identify and describe the anticipated environmental, social, economic and cultural impacts, including cumulative impacts, associated with the proposed development and outline key issues and specialist studies, included within the S&EIR process to assess these issues in further detail;
- Identify suitable measures to avoid, manage or mitigate identified impacts and determine the extent of the residual risks that need to be managed and monitored;
- Describe the methodology applied to conduct the scoping phase;
- Describe the process of engagement with identified stakeholders, including their views and concerns; and
- Describe the Plan of Study for the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) Process (second phase of the S&EIR process), which outlines the nature and extent of further investigations required in the EIR phase.

The Scoping phase concludes with the submission of a Final Scoping Report to the Competent Authority (CA) for acceptance. If accepted, the CA will instruct GCS to commence the EIR phase. This report is the Final Scoping Report for submission to the Competent Authority for review and approval.

As per the requirements of the Regulation 43 of the NEMA EIA Regulations (2014, as amended), the Draft Scoping Report (DSR) was issued for public comment. The DSR was available for 30 days from 08 March 2024 until 11 April 2024 at the Richards Bay Public Library and on the GCS website.

All comments received during the Scoping PPP has been recorded and addressed within the Scoping Public Participation Report (PPR); and will be further addressed as needed during the EIA phase of the project.

In summary, the Final Scoping Report includes the following:

- Details of the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP);
- Location of the proposed development;

- Plan which locates the proposed activity or activities applied for at an appropriate scale;
- Description of the scope of the proposed activity;
- Description of the policy and legislative context applicable to the proposed development;
- Description of the need and desirability for the proposed development;
- Description of the potential environmental issues and impacts which have been identified to date;
- Full description of the process followed to reach the proposed preferred activity, site and location within the site;
- A Plan of Study (POS) detailing the tasks and specialist studies that will be undertaken during the Impact Assessment Phase; and
- Undertakings under oath or affirmation by the EAP.

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ABBREVIATIONS

Applicant	Transnet National Ports Authority (TNPA)
AQIA	Air Quality Impact Assessment
BID	Background Information Document
BPEO	Best Practical Environmental Option
BSP	Biodiversity Sector Plan
CA	Competent Authority
CBA	Critical Biodiversity Area
CMP	Coastal Management Programme
CVI	Coastal Vulnerability Index
CRR	Comments and Responses Report
DEIR	Draft Environmental Impact Report
DFFE	Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Environment
DFO	Dust Fallout
DSR	Draft Scoping Report
EA	Environmental Authorisation
EAP	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
EFZ	Estuarine Functional Zone
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
EKZNW	Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife
EMF	Environmental Management Framework
EMPr	Environmental Management Programme
FEIR	Final Environmental Impact Report
FSR	Final Scoping Report
GCS	GCS Environment South Africa (Pty) Ltd
GNR	Government Notice Regulation
GPS	Global Positioning System
ha	hectares
I&APs	Interested and Affected Parties
IDA	Infrastructure Development Act
km	kilometre
kV	Kilo volt
KZN	Kwa-Zulu Natal Province
LNG	Liquefied Natural Gas
m	meter
MAE	Mean Annual Evaporation
MAP	Mean Annual Precipitation

masl	Meters above sea level
mm/a	millimetres per annum
MW	Mega watt
NEM:BA	National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004 (Act No. 10 of 2004)
NEM: PAA	National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act (Act No. 57 of 2003)
NEM: WA	National Environmental Management: Waste Act (Act No. 59 of 2008)
NEMA	National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998)
NFEPA	National Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Areas
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NHRA	National Heritage Resources Act, (Act No. 25 of 1999)
NWA	National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998)
PoRB	Port of Richards Bay
PPP	Public Participation Process
RBIDZ	Richards Bay Industrial Development Zone
S&EIR	Scoping and Environmental Impact
SIA	Social Impact Assessment
SIP	Strategic Integrate Projects
SOE	State Owned Enterprise
SoW	Scope of Work
TFR	Transnet Freight Rail
TNPA	Transnet National Ports Authority
TPT.	Transnet Port Terminal
WMA	Water Management Area
WUL	Water Use License

STRUCTURE AND CONTENT OF THIS REPORT

This Final Scoping Report has been prepared in compliance with Appendix 3 of the EIA Regulations (2014, as amended) and is divided into various chapters and appendices, the contents of which are outlined below.

CONTENTS OF THE SCOPING REPORT	RELEVANT SECTION IN THE REPORT
Details of – i. The EAP who prepared the report; and ii. The expertise of the EAP, including a curriculum vitae	Section 1.3 and Appendix B
The location of the activity, including – i. The 21-digit Surveyor General code for each cadastral land parcel; ii. Where available, the physical address and farm name; iii. Where the required information in terms of (i) and (ii) is not available, the coordinates of the boundary of the property or properties;	Section 1.2
A plan which locates the proposed activity or activities applied for at an appropriate scale, or, if it is – i. A linear activity, a description and coordinates of the corridor in which the proposed activity or activities is to be undertaken; or ii. On land where the property has not been defined, the coordinates within which the activity is to be undertaken	Section 1.2
A description of the scope of the proposed activity, including – i. All listed and specified activities triggered; ii. A description of the activities to be undertaken, including associated structures and infrastructure;	Section 1.7
A description of the policy and legislative context within which the development is proposed including an identification of all legislation, policies, plans, guidelines, spatial tools, municipal development planning frameworks and instruments that are applicable to this activity and are to be considered in the assessment process	Section 1.4
A motivation for the need and desirability for the proposed development including the need and desirability of the activity in the context of the preferred location	Section 1.8
A full description of the process followed to reach the proposed preferred activity, site and location within the site, including – i. Details of all alternatives to be considered; ii. Details of the public participation process undertaken in terms of regulation 41 of the Regulations, including copies of the supporting documents and inputs; iii. A summary of the issues raised by interested and affected parties, and an indication of the manner in which the issues were incorporated, or the reasons for not including them; iv. The environmental attributes associated with the alternatives focusing on geographical, physical, biological, social, economic, heritage and cultural aspects; v. The impacts and risks identified for each alternative, including the nature, significance, consequence, extent, duration and probability of the impacts, including the degree to which these impacts - aa. can be reversed; bb. may cause irreplaceable loss of resources; and cc. can be avoided, managed or mitigated; vi. The methodology used in determining and ranking the nature, significance, consequences, extent, duration and probability of potential environmental impacts and risks associated with the alternatives; vii. Positive and negative impacts that the proposed activity and alternatives will have on the environment and on the community	Section 3, Section 5 and Section 7

that may be affected focusing on the geographical, physical, biological, social, economic, heritage and cultural aspects; viii. The possible mitigation measures that could be applied and level of residual risk; ix. The outcome of the site selection matrix; x. If no alternatives, including alternative locations for the activity were investigated, the motivation for not considering such; and xi. A concluding statement indicating the preferred alternatives, including preferred location of the activity	
A plan of study for undertaking the environmental impact assessment process to be undertaken, including – i. A description of the alternatives to be considered and assessed with the preferred site, including the option of not proceeding with the activity; ii. A description of the aspects to be assessed as part of the environmental impact assessment process; iii. Aspects to be assessed by specialists; iv. A description of the proposed method of assessing the environmental aspects, including aspects to be assessed by specialists; v. A description of the proposed method of assessing duration and significance; vi. An indication of the stages at which the competent authority will be consulted; vii. Particulars of the public participation process that will be conducted during the environmental impact assessment process; and viii. A description of the tasks that will be undertaken as part of the environmental impact assessment process; ix. Identify suitable measures to avoid, reverse, mitigate or manage identified impacts and to determine the extent of the residual risks that need to be managed and monitored	Section 6
An undertaking oath or affirmation by the EAP in relation to – i. The correctness of the information provided in the report; ii. The inclusion of comments and inputs from stakeholders and interested and affected parties; and iii. Any information provided by the EAP to interested and affected parties and any responses by the EAP to comments or inputs made by interested and affected parties;	Section 10
An undertaking under oath or affirmation by the EAP in relation to the level of agreement between the EAP and interested and affected parties on the plan of study for undertaking the environmental impact assessment;	Section 10
Where applicable, any specific information required by the competent authority; and	N/A
Any other matter required in terms of section 24(4)(a) and (b) of the Act.	N/A

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction to the Proposed TNPA 22 MW Generator Project

The Transnet National Ports Authority (TNPA) is a division of Transnet SOC Ltd and manages all eight of the Transnet commercial Ports on the South African coastline. The Port of Richards Bay (PoRB) is one of the country's largest ports in size, with total land and water surfaces of 2 174 hectares and 1 443 hectares, respectively. TNPA is responsible for ensure that the ports are economic hubs for the country while ensuring that it also complies with the South African Laws and Regulations which is governed by the National Ports Act (Act No. 12 of 2005) (NPA) which directs the TNPA to facilitate the provision of water, lighting, power, sewerage, and telecommunications within the ports. The PoRB is still developing and constantly upgrading to ensure that the port provides the best possible service and attracts business activities for importing and exporting. Approximately half of the PoRB has been developed. Mining activities and commodities are currently the largest contributor to the imports and exports at the port, with coal being the largest exported commodity.

This project is needed to generate backup electricity which will ensure continuous operations at the port during power outages and prevent revenue and operational time loss due to power outages or loadshedding.

This Projects entails the construction of the following infrastructure within the existing port areas:

- A dual fuel generator for the electricity generation of 22MW output which can be operated with diesel or liquid natural gas;
- The installation of diesel fuel tank(s) storage of the total capacity of 600m^3;
- The installation of a 200m^3 tank storage of demineralised water;
- Evacuation lines to the substations;
- Fencing for the site;
- An auxiliary pit;
- A drain facility for the used diesel and sludge;
- A transmission line from the generator to the Harbour West Substation, Sorting Yard substation, Liquid Pitch Substation, Arrivals Yard Substation, Eastern Intake Substation, Carina Substation and Admin Quay Substation will be installed in order to allow for power distribution from the generator to the rest of the port; and
- LNG pipeline from the Gas hub to the Generator site.

In terms of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998, as amended) (NEMA) and the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (2014, as amended), a full Scoping and Environmental Impact Report (S&EIR) Process is required for the construction of the Genset 22MW Generation Plant, fuel storage areas, the connecting powerline and the connecting LNG pipeline Project. GCS Environment South Africa (Pty) Ltd (GCS SA) was appointed to undertake the environmental assessment process to determine the biophysical, social and economic impacts associated with undertaking the proposed activities.

1.2 Project Location

The proposed project is located in the Port of Richards Bay within the City of uMhlathuze (CoM) Local Municipality and King Cetshwayo District Municipality (KCDM)KwaZulu Natal some 160 km north-east of Durban and 465 km south of Maputo. The project site location falls within the main Port entrance and the Employee Care Centre in the Bayvue Precinct. The GPS coordinates for the site are 28°47'8.42"S and 32° 1'54.45"E. (refer to Figure 1-1 for the Locality Map)

Table 1-1: Property Details

PROPERTY	EXTENT	TITLE DEED	REGISTERED OWNER
Erf 397 of Township Richards Bay	800.0000DUM	T3484/972	Government of the Republic of South Africa

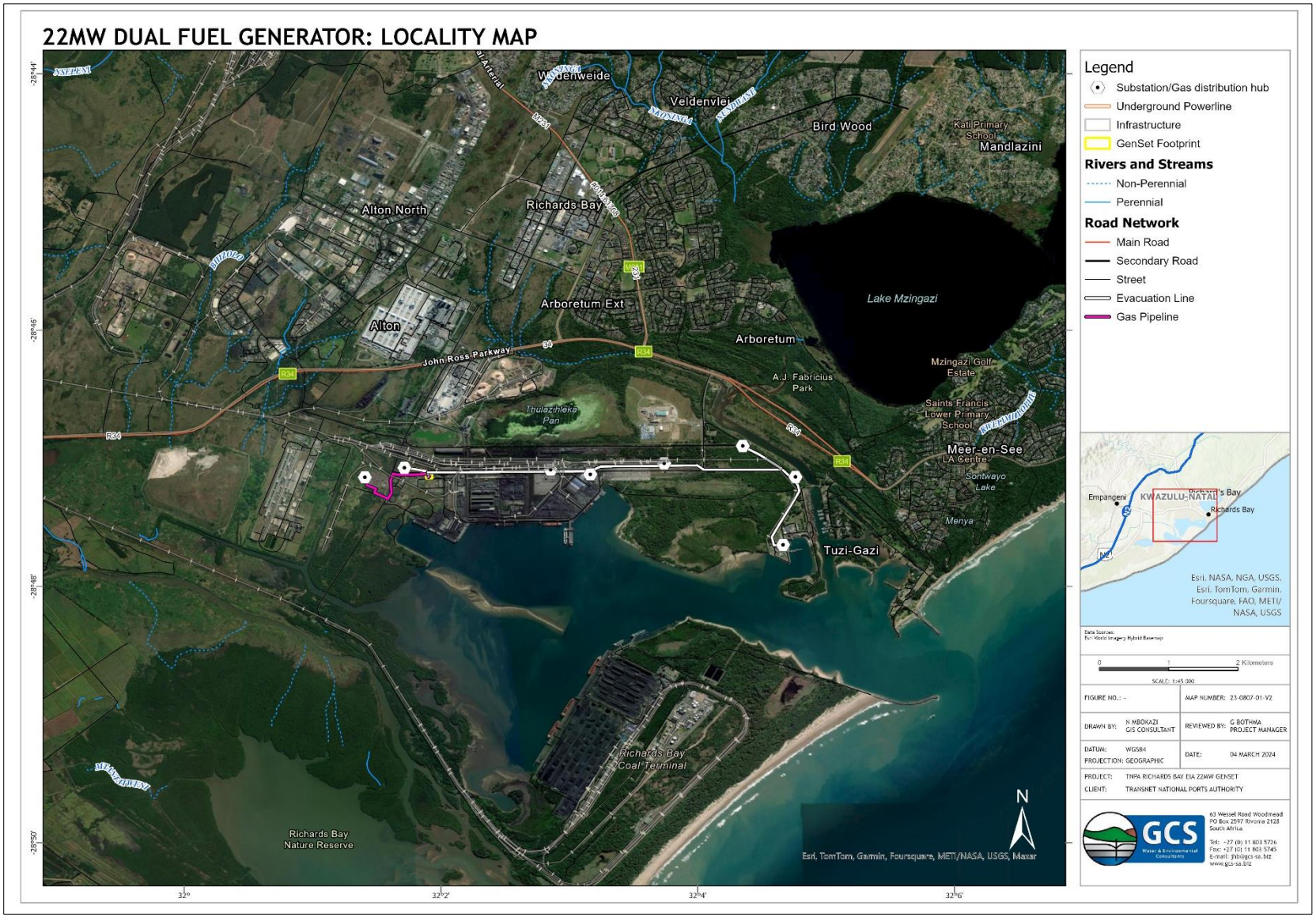

Figure 1-1: Locality of the Genset Property with the existing substations and new powerline.

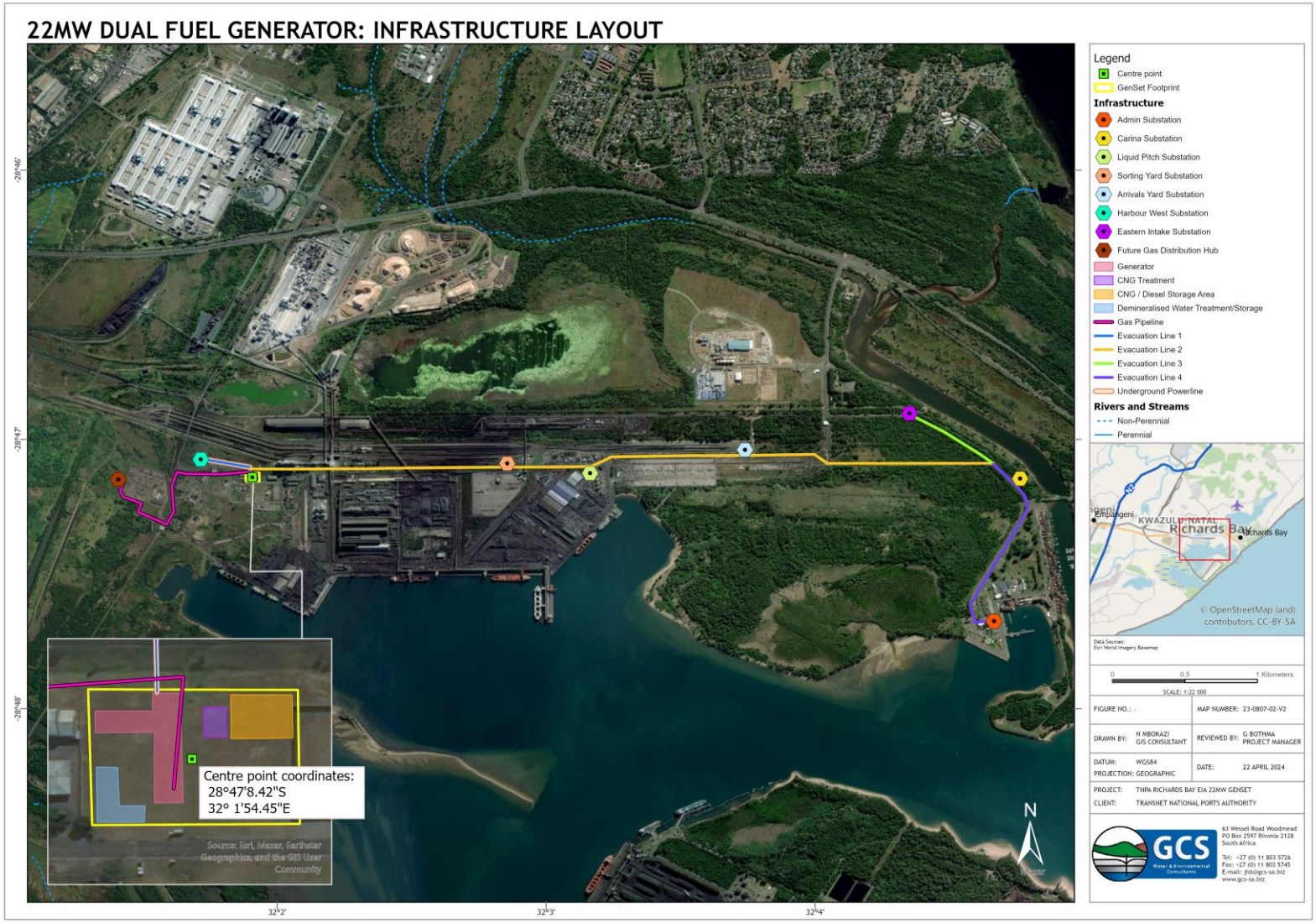

Figure 1-2: Infrastructure Layout

1.3 Details of the Applicant and EAP

1.3.1 Applicant

The applicant is Transnet National Ports Authority (hereafter referred to as "TNPA"). TNPA is a subsidiary of Transnet SOC Limited which is responsible for the operations of the eight National Ports located in South Africa. The details of the applicant are provided in Table 1-2.

Table 1-2: Name and Address of Applicant

ITEM	COMPANY CONTACT DETAILS
Applicant Name:	Transnet SOC Ltd
Company/ Trading name (if any)	Transnet National Ports Authority (TNPA)
Company Registration Number	1990/000900/30
Company Representative:	Nosicelo Biyana
Telephone No.:	067 367 0110
Facsimile No.:	N/A
E-mail Address:	Nosicelo.Biyana@transnet.net
Postal Address:	TNPA Administration Building Port of Richards Bay, Alton, Richards Bay.

1.3.2 Environmental Assessment Practitioner

GCS Environment SA (Pty) Ltd (GCS) have been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioners (EAP) to undertake the environmental processes required to obtain approval for the proposed listed activities. The contact details of the EAP are provided in Table 1-3.

Table 1-3: Name and address of environmental assessment practitioner.

ITEM	COMPANY CONTACT DETAILS
Company Name:	GCS Environment SA (Pty) Ltd
Company Representative	Gerda Bothma
EAP:	Rona Schröder EAPASA (Reg. 2020/1149) SACNASP (Pri.Sci.Nat. 120605)
Telephone No.:	+27 (0)11 803 5726
Facsimile No.:	+27 (0)11 803 5745
E-mail Address:	gerdab@gcs-sa.biz / ronas@gcs-sa.biz
Postal Address:	PO Box 2597, Rivonia, 2128

Mrs. Bothma has been the Environmental Unit Manager at GCS since 2019 and has over 25 years of experience within the environmental and waste management field. Mrs Bothma has been involved in several engineering projects as the EAP as well as the Environmental Control Officer during construction, working closely with the Occupational Health and Safety Officer.

She also has been involved in projects where waste licensing and water use licensing processes formed an integral part of the services offered and has extensive experience in environmental auditing and compliance monitoring. Mrs Bothma is the Project Manager overseeing the quality control for the application processes.

Rona Schröder is an Environmental Scientist, registered as a Professional Natural Scientist (Pri. Sci. Nat. 120605) with the South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions (SACNASP). Rona is registered EAP (Reg. No. 2020/1149) with the Environmental Assessment Practitioners Association of South Africa (EAPSA).

Ms Schröder has over 10 years' experience as an EAP and environmental manager. Rona has been involved in a wide range of environmental-related projects, including environmental impact assessments; mining rights, mining permits, prospecting permit applications; water use licence applications; environmental performance auditing and working as an environmental manager in the mining sector.

GCS has no conflict of interest related to the contents of this Report. GCS has no personal financial interests in the property and/or activity being assessed in this report. GCS has no personal or financial connections to the relevant property owners, developers, planners, financiers or consultants of the property or activity, other than fair remuneration for professional services rendered for this Report to the CA. GCS declares that the opinions expressed in this Report are independent and a true reflection of their professional expertise. As such, GCS meets the requirements of an independent EAP as per the EIA Regulations 2014.

1.4 Legislative Context

The policy and legislative context applicable to the TNPA 22MW Generator project is summarised in Table 1-4 and penalties applicable to non-compliance to the legislation are detailed in **Error! Reference source not found.**.

Table 1-4: Legislation and guidelines applicable to the TNPA 22MW Generator project

LEGISLATION/ GUIDELINE	OBJECTIVE & RELEVANCE
LEGISLATION	
Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (Act 108 of 1996)	The Constitution is the supreme law governing all other legislation. Environmental legislation is shaped by the Bill of Rights set out in the Constitution. It sets out the rights for every citizen of South Africa and aims to address past social injustices. With respect to the environment, section 24 of the Constitution states that: "*Everyone has the right:* *a) To an environment that is not harmful to their health or well-being;* *b) To have the environment protected, for the benefit of present and future generations, through reasonable legislative and other measures that:*

LEGISLATION/ GUIDELINE	OBJECTIVE & RELEVANCE
	i. Prevent pollution and ecological degradation; *ii. Promote conservation; and* *iii. Secure ecologically sustainable development and use of natural resources while promoting justifiable economic and social development".* In fulfilment of its constitutional mandate to take reasonable legislative measures that give effect to Section 24, the government has promulgated several environmental laws. These laws provide a legal framework that embodies internationally recognised legal principles. The principal act governing activities that affect the environment is NEMA. The Constitution itself has no permitting requirements. However, the way the environmental right is applied implies that environmental impacts associated with developments should be considered separately and cumulatively. Furthermore, Section 24 includes the notion that justifiable economic and social development should be promoted, through using natural resources and ecologically sustainable development. ***TNPA must ensure that significant environmental impacts are avoided; and where impacts cannot altogether avoided, they must be minimised and mitigated throughout the lifecycle of the TNPA 22MW Generator Project.***
Environmental Conservation Act (73 of 1989) (ECA), as amended	The ECA has now largely been replaced by the NEMA but certain provisions remain in force. The national Noise Control Regulations[1] (NCR) were promulgated in terms of Section 25 of the ECA, relating to noise, vibration and shock. The NCRs were revised[2] to make it obligatory for all authorities to apply the regulations. Under the ECA, the following SANS for assessing and controlling noise include: • 10328:2008 "Methods for environmental noise impact assessments"; and • 10103:2004 "The measurement and rating of environmental noise with respect to annoyance and speech communication". ***The TNPA 22MW Generator Project is likely to increase ambient noise levels during the construction (temporary) and operational phases. Noise impacts are closely related to construction activities and increase traffic volumes and the generator noise during operation. The SANS published under ECA will be considered during the assessment phase and the EMPr will include mitigation measures relating to the mitigation of potential noise impacts.***
National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMA), as amended.	NEMA is the framework law giving effect to the constitutional environmental right and for regulatory tools in respect of environmental impacts. Section 28(1) includes a statutory duty of care, providing that *"Every person who causes, has caused or may cause significant pollution or degradation of the environment must take reasonable measures to prevent such pollution or degradation from occurring, continuing or recurring, or, in so far as such harm to the environment is authorised by law or cannot reasonably be avoided or stopped, to minimise and rectify such pollution or degradation of the environment".* In terms of sections 24(2) and 24D of NEMA, the then Minister of Environmental Affairs promulgated certain listed activities that may not commence without an EA. Activities promulgated in terms of GN983 and GN9835 require a basic assessment process, while activities promulgated in terms of GN984 require that a full scoping and EIA process be conducted[3]. ***Please refer to Table 1-7 for identified listed activities applicable to the TNPA 22MW Generator Project.***

[1] GNR 154 in Government Gazette No. 13717 dated 10 January 1992
[2] Under GN155 of 10 January 1992
[3] GNs 983, 984 and 985 are promulgated under NEMA in GG 38282 of 4 December 2014 (as amended).

LEGISLATION/ GUIDELINE	OBJECTIVE & RELEVANCE
NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (GNR 326, as amended)	Chapter 6 of the 2014 EIA Regulations provides for the requirements for public participation, which must be carried out as part of the EA and WML application process. In terms of Regulations 21 and 23, the outcome of the PPP must be reported in the FSR and EIR submitted to the CA. The PPP, "*must give all potential or registered parties (I&APs), including the CA, a period of at least 30 days to submit comments on each of the EMPR, S&EIRs, and where applicable the closure plan, as well as the report contemplated in regulation 32, if such reports or plans are submitted at different times*" (Regulation 40 (1)). PPP will be undertaken in accordance with chapter 6 of the EIA Regulations, 2014. It must: • provide access to all information that reasonably has or may have the potential to influence any decision regarding an application; • involve consultation with the CA, every state department that administers a law relating to the environment relevant to the application, all relevant organs of state, and all I&APs; and • provide opportunity for I&APs to comment on reports and plans prior to submission of an application and once an application has been submitted to the CA. The process must include: • notification of the application to all I&APs, as stipulated in Regulation 41; • registration of all I&APs, as required in Regulations 42 and 43; and • a CRR and records of meetings of and with I&APs, as outlined in Regulation 44.
DFFE Web-Based Screening Tool	In terms of Regulation 16(1)(b)(v), read with Regulation 21 of the 2014 EIA Regulations, it is compulsory for an EIA application to include a sensitivity report generated by the national web based environmental screening tool[4] (DFFE Screening Tool). The content of specialist reports for certain of the themes is prescribed in the Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on Identified Environmental Themes[5] (Assessment Protocols); and Appendix 4 of the EIA Regulations will not be applicable to such themes. Two Assessment Protocols have been gazetted, in March and October 2020. ***Specialist studies are being undertaken to verify the sensitivity themes as identified in the DFFE Screening Tool. Specific requirements for the content of the EIA specialists reports for the agricultural; aquatic and terrestrial biodiversity; plant and animal species themes are included in the Assessment Protocols and these specialist reports will comply with the aforesaid for purposes of the EIA.***
National Environmental Management: Waste Act (Act	The NEMWA's purpose is to: assist in regulating waste management; ensure the protection of human health; and prevent pollution and environmental degradation through sound waste management principles and guidelines. The NEMWA defines waste broadly.[6]

[4] GN R960 of GG 42561, dated 5 July 2019

[5] In terms of in terms of sections 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of NEMA and GN R320 of GG 43110 on 20 March 2020 and GN R1150 of GG 43855 on 30 October 2020

[6] *(a) any substance, material or object, that is unwanted, rejected, abandoned, discarded or disposed of, or that is intended or required to be discarded or disposed of, by the holder of that substance, material or object, whether or not such substance, material or object can be re-used, recycled or recovered and includes all wastes as defined in Schedule 3 to this Act; or*
(b) any other substance, material or object that is not included in Schedule 3 that may be defined as a waste by the Minister by notice in the Gazette but any waste or portion of waste, referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b), ceases to be a waste—
(i) once an application for its re-use, recycling or recovery has been approved or, after such approval, once it is, or has been re-used, recycled or recovered;
(ii) where approval is not required, once a waste is, or has been re-used, recycled or recovered;

LEGISLATION/ GUIDELINE	OBJECTIVE & RELEVANCE
59 of 2008) (NEMWA), as amended	It furthermore provides for: • national norms and standards for regulating waste management by all spheres of government; • licensing and control of waste management activities; • remediation of contaminated land; • a national waste information system; and • provision for compliance and enforcement. The NEMWA imposes a general duty upon waste holders to take reasonable measures to avoid waste generation and, where this is impossible, to: minimise the toxicity and quantities of waste generated; reuse, reduce, recycle and recover waste; and ensure that it is treated and disposed of in an environmentally sound way. Failure to do so is a criminal offence, with a maximum fine of R10 million or imprisonment of up to 10 years, or both. ***The TNPA 22MW Generator Project will not require a Waste Management Licence under Category C storage of waste at a facility that has the capacity to store in excess of 80 m³ of hazardous waste at any one time, excluding the storage of hazardous waste in lagoons or temporary storage of such waste, but will have to comply with the norm and standards.***
Regulations published under NEMWA in GN 921 of Government Gazette 37083 on 29 November 2013 (2013 WML Regulations)	It is necessary to hold a WML for defined waste management activities. The 2013 WML Regulations, provides that a WML is required for undertaking certain waste management activities ("Waste Listed Activities"). The Waste Listed Activities are separated into three categories, namely Category A, B and C. Category A and B Waste Listed Activities require a WML, for which either a basic assessment or an EIA process needs to be undertaken that complies with the 2014 EIA Regulations. Category C activities do not require a WML but must comply with *inter alia* the Norms and Standards for Storage of Waste, 2013.[7] ***The TNPA 22MW Generator Project will not require a Waste Management Licence under Category C storage of waste at a facility that has the capacity to store in excess of 80 m³ of hazardous waste at any one time, excluding the storage of hazardous waste in lagoons or temporary storage of such waste, but will have to comply with the norm and standards.***
National Waste Information Regulations[8]	These Regulations regulate the collection of data and information to fulfil the objectives of the national waste information system, as set out in section 61 of the NEMWA, and includes reporting obligations. A registered person must keep a record of the information submitted to the SAWIS or the DFFE. ***TNPA will comply with these regulations.***
National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act (Act 39 of 2004) (NEM:AQA)	NEMAQA was promulgated to ensure the protection and regulation of air quality and provide measures that will prevent pollution and sustainability. Under NEMAQA, the Minister of Environmental Affairs, Forestry and Fisheries must identify substances in ambient air which present a threat to health, wellbeing or the environment and establish national standards for ambient air quality, including the permissible quantity or concentration of each substance in ambient air. The "Listed Activities and Associated Minimum Emission Standards"[9], list activities that could result in atmospheric emissions requiring an atmospheric emissions licence (AEL) before being undertaken. The "National Dust Control Regulations"[10], provide that an acceptable dust fallout rate for a non-residential area is considered more than 600mg/m2/day but less than 1200mg/m2/day (30-day average), with maximum allowable two exceedances per

(iii) where the Minister has, in terms of section 74, exempted any waste or a portion of waste generated by a particular process from the definition of waste; or
(iv) where the Minister has, in the prescribed manner, excluded any waste stream or a portion of a waste stream from the definition of waste.

[7] Published in GN 926 of GG 37088 on 29 November 2013
[8] Published in GN 625 of GG 35583 on 13 August 2012
[9] Published in GN 893 of GG 37054 on 22 November 2013
[10] Published in GN 827 of GG 36974 on 1 November 2013

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	year, provided these exceedances do not take place in consecutive months. Where the dust fallout rate is exceeded, a prescribed dust fallout monitoring programme must be developed and include: • the establishment of a network of dust monitoring points, using method ASTM D1739:1970 (or an equivalent standard), sufficient in number to: establish the contribution to dust fallout in residential and non-residential areas near the premises; monitor identified or likely sensitive receptor locations; and establish the baseline dust fall for the district; and • a schedule for submitting to the air quality officer dust fallout monitoring reports annually or at more frequent intervals, if requested by the air quality officer. Greenhouse gases have been declared priority pollutants under the "Declaration of Greenhouse Gases as Priority Air Pollutants"[11]. ***An AEL may be required for the TNPA 22MW Generator Project. The air quality specialist will undertake the necessary investigations and submit an AEL application with the relevant competent authority, should it be required.***
National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (Act 10 of 2004) (NEM:BA)	In line with the Convention on Biological Diversity, NEMBA aims to legally provide for biodiversity conservation, sustainable use and equitable access and benefit sharing. NEMBA creates a basic legal framework for the formation of a national biodiversity strategy and action plan and identification of biodiversity hotspots and bioregions, which may then be given legal recognition. It imposes obligations on landowners (state or private) regarding alien invasive species (AIS). NEMBA requires that provision be made by a site developer to remove any aliens which have been introduced to the site or are present on the site. The NEMBA also provides for listing of threatened or protected ecosystems in one of four categories: critically endangered, endangered, vulnerable or protected. Threatened ecosystems are listed to reduce the rate of ecosystem and species extinction, by preventing further degradation and loss of structure, function and composition of threatened ecosystems. The purpose of listing protected ecosystems is primarily to conserve sites of exceptionally high conservation value. Section 53 of NEM:BA provides that: *"(1) The Minister may, by notice in the Gazette, identify any process or activity in a listed ecosystem as a threatening process.* *(2) A threatening process identified in terms of subsection (1) must be regarded as a specified activity contemplated in section 24(2)(b) of the NEMA and a listed ecosystem must be regarded as an area identified for the purpose of that section."* No notices have been published yet under this section. Picking parts of, or cutting, chopping off, uprooting, damaging or destroying, any specimen of a listed threatened or protected species is a restricted activity under NEMBA. A permit is required for a restricted activity involving a listed threatened or protected (TOPS) species without a permit. Chapter 7 of the NEMBA regulates the process for application of a permit under NEMBA. The following notices have been published in terms of section 56(1) of NEMBA: • National List of Ecosystems that are Threatened and in need of protection (TOPS List),[12] which contains the National List of Ecosystems that are threatened and in need of protection. This includes preventing further degradation and loss of structure, function and composition of threatened ecosystems and preserving witness sites of exceptionally high conservation value. The purpose of listing threatened ecosystems is primarily to reduce the rate of ecosystem and species extinction. • Lists of Critically Endangered, Endangered, Vulnerable and Protected Species;[13] and

[11] Published in GN 710 of GG 40996 on 21 July 2017
[12] Published under GN1002 in GG34809 of 9 December 2012
[13] Published under GNR151 in GG 29567 of 23 February 2007

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	• Threatened and Protected Species Regulations.[14] Chapter 5 of NEMBA pertains to AIS and provides that a person may not carry out a restricted activity involving a specimen of an AIS without a permit issued in terms of Chapter 7 of NEMBA. Such permit can only be issued after a prescribed assessment of risks and potential impacts on biodiversity is carried out. Applicable, and exempted AIS are contained within the Alien and Invasive Species List 2020.[15] The NEMBA Alien and Invasive Species Regulations[16] categorises the different types of alien and invasive plant and animal species and how they should be managed. The Revised National Biodiversity Framework 2019 – 2024 was recently published.[17] ***The TNPA 22MW Generator Project is located within a CBA. However, the generator infrastructure area is within an already disturbed area and care will be taken when vegetation is removed for the pipelines*** ***TNPA must control and eradicate AIS in line with the NEMBA Alien and Invasive Species Regulations.***
Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act (Act 43 of 1983) (CARA)	In terms of CARA, landowners are legally responsible for the control of weeds and alien vegetation. CARA makes provision for three categories of AIP: • Category 1a: must immediately be removed and destroyed; • Category 1b: need to be immediately removed and contained; • Category 2: requires a permit to retain the species on site and it must be ensured that they do not spread. All category 2 plants in riparian zones need to be removed; and • Category 3: require a permit to retain these species. All category 3 plants in the riparian zone need to be removed. CARA also regulates the conservation of soil and states that degradation of the agricultural potential is illegal. It furthermore requires the protection of land against soil erosion and the prevention of water logging and associated salinization. Permissions / permits are required under CARA for the 'cultivation' of 'virgin soil'; cultivation and/or draining vlei(s), marshes or water sponges; and cultivation of an area within a watercourse's flood area. ***TNPA will comply with CARA in relation to AIP control and soil conservation.*** ***No permit under CARA is required for the TNPA 22MW Generator Project.***
National Forests Act, No 84 of 1998 (NFA)	In terms of section 15(3) of the NFA, the Minister published a list of protected tree species.[18] The effect thereof is that no person may cut, disturb, damage or destroy any protected tree or possess, collect, remove, transport, export, purchase, sell, donate or in any other manner acquire or dispose of any protected tree or any product derived from a protected tree, except under a licence or exemption granted by the Minister to an applicant and subject to such period and conditions as may be stipulated. ***Should TNPA require any licence to disturb a protected tree, it will be duly applied for.***
National Heritage Resources Act (Act No. 25 of 1999) (NHRA)	The protection and management of South Africa's heritage resources are controlled by the NHRA. The national enforcing authority for the NHRA is the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA). In terms of the NHRA, historically important features, such as graves, archaeology and fossil beds, are protected. Similarly, culturally significant symbols, spaces and landscapes are also afforded protection. In terms of section 38 of the NHRA, a permit is required for certain categories of development as follows: *"(1) (a): The construction of a road, wall, power line, pipeline, canal or other similar form of linear development or barrier exceeding 300m in length;*

[14] Published under GNR152 in GG 29657 of 23 February 2007
[15] Published under GNR 1003 in GG 43726 of 18 September 2020
[16] Published under GNR1020 dated 25 September 2020
[17] In terms of GN 2423 of 26 August 2022,
[18] GN 536 of GG 41887 on of 7 September 2018

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	(c): Any development or other activity which will change the character of a site - *i. exceeding 5 000 m² in extent;* *ii. involving three or more existing erven or subdivisions thereof;* *iii. involving three or more erven or divisions thereof which have been consolidated within the past 5 years; or* *iv. the costs of which will exceed a sum in terms of regulations by SAHRA or a provincial heritage resource authority."* In terms of Section 38(8) of the NHRA, section 38(1) approval from SAHRA is not required where an environmental impact assessment is undertaken under NEMA, including a HIA, and SAHRA's requirements are considered by the CA when granting the EA. Section 38(8) of the NHRA provides that: *"The provisions of this section do not apply to a development as described in subsection (1) if an evaluation of the impact of such development on heritage resources is required in terms of the ECA, or the integrated environmental management guidelines issued by the Department of Environment Affairs and Tourism, or the Minerals Act, 1991 (Act No. 50 of 1991), or any other legislation: Provided that the consenting authority must ensure that the evaluation fulfils the requirements of the relevant heritage resources authority in terms of subsection (3), and any comments and recommendations of the relevant heritage resources authority with regard to such development have been taken into account prior to the granting of the consent."* Accordingly, provision is made for the assessment of heritage impacts as part of an environmental assessment process and, if such an assessment complies with the NHRA and SAHRA's requirements and the CA considers heritage impacts when granting the EA, a separate application for consent under the NHRA is not required. ***A heritage investigation is being undertaken as part of the EIA process, which will be submitted to SAHRA for consideration and comment, which comments will be incorporated in the FEIR.***
Hazardous Substance Act (Act No. 15 of 1973) (HSA)	The HSA aims to control the production, import, use, handling and disposal of hazardous substances. Under the HSA, hazardous substances are defined as substances that are toxic, corrosive, irritant, strongly sensitising, flammable and pressure generating under certain circumstances and may injure, cause ill-health or even death in humans. Where hazardous substances from any of the 4 groups below are to be used, (see below) care must be taken that they are sourced, transported, handled and disposed of in compliance with HSA. • Group I: industrial chemicals (IA) and pesticides (IB); • Group II: 9 classes of wastes excluding Class 1: explosives and class 7: radioactive substances; • Group III: electronic products and group; and • Group IV: radioactive substances. The HSA provides for the: • Control of certain electronic products; • Division of such substances or products into the groups above in relation to the degree of danger, with licensing requirements for certain activities undertaken in respect of Groups I and III; • Prohibition and control of the importation, manufacture, sale, use, operation, application, modification, disposal or dumping of such substances and products; and • Matters connected therewith. ***Hazardous substances may be stored, handled or transported as part of the proposed projects and include diesel and other liquid fuel, oil and hydraulic fluid, cement, etc. TNPA will comply with the HSA, as required.***
National Water Act 36 of 1998 (NWA)	The NWA is the primary legislation controlling and managing the use of water resources and pollution thereof. It provides for fundamental reformation of legislation relating to water resource use. The NWA's preamble recognises that the

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	ultimate aim of water resource management is to achieve sustainable use of water for the benefit of all users and that water resources quality protection is necessary to ensure sustainability of the nation's water resources in the interests of all water users. The NWA's purpose is stated in section 2 and enforced by the DWS. The NWA presents strategies to facilitate sound management of water resources; provides for the protection of water resources; and regulates use of water by means of Catchment Management Agencies (CMA), Water User Associations, Advisory Committees and International Water Management. As the NWA is founded on the principle of trusteeship, the government has overall responsibility for and authority over water resource management, including the equitable allocation and beneficial use of water in the public interest. Industry (including mines) can therefore only be entitled to use water if the use is permissible under the NWA. Section 19 of the NWA provides for pollution prevention and requires that a person who owns, controls, occupies or uses the land in question, is responsible for taking reasonable measures to prevent pollution of water resources. A CMA may take action to prevent or remedy the pollution and recover all reasonable costs from the responsible party. Under Section 21 of the NWA, certain consumptive and non-consumptive water uses are identified and can only commence once authorised. Water use is broadly defined in the NWA and includes taking and storing water; activities which reduce stream flow; waste discharges and disposals; controlled activities; altering a watercourse; removing water found underground for certain purposes; and recreation. Consumptive water uses include taking water from a water resource (section 21(a) of NWA) and storing water (section 21(b)). Non-consumptive water uses include impeding or diverting a watercourse's flow (section 21(c)); altering a watercourse's bed, banks, course or characteristic or impeding the flow of a watercourse (sections 21 (c) and (i)); and disposal of waste in a matter that may detrimentally impact on a watercourse (section 21(g)). Where a water use constitutes a Scheduled 1 Use (permissible use without an authorisation requirement); permissible water uses in terms of section 22 of the NWA; or is authorised in terms of a General Authorisation (GA), a WUL is not required.[19] ***The TNPA 22MW Generator Project will include sections 21 (c), (i) and (j) water uses. A WULA will be submitted to the DWS to authorises these water uses.***
Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993 (Act No. 85 of 1993) (OHSA)	TNPA is committed to comply with the OHSA on their sites.
Compensation for Occupational Injuries and Diseases Act (Act No. 130 of 1993) (COIDA)	Under COIDA, employers are not held liable for compensation for injuries sustained by employees or compensation to dependants due to the death of an employee which occurred during the course and scope of their employment. Compensation is paid out of a statutory fund, administered by the Compensation Commissioner ("CC") (appointed under COIDA), which is set in accordance with a tariff prescribed in COIDA. The fund is a trust fund that is controlled by the CC, which the employer contributes to. The CC is appointed to administer the fund and approve claims lodged by employees or their dependants. The CC compensates the employee or their dependants directly. ***TNPA will take cognisance of the requirements of the COIDA as part of daily operations should incidents occur.***
Marine Living Resources Act	The Marine Living Resources Act 18 of 1998 intends to provide for the conservation of the marine ecosystem, the long-term sustainable utilisation of marine living

[19] Various GAs have been published under the NWA, including for Sections 21(c),(i),(g), and (a) water uses. In respect of sections 21(c) and (i) water uses, activities can be conducted within 100m of a watercourse and 500m of a wetland without a WUL if the impacts to the watercourse / wetland are low. Water uses that will be conducted under a GA need to be registered with the DWS.

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(Act No. 18 of 1989) (MLRA)	resources and the orderly access to exploitation, utilisation and protection of certain marine living resources; and for these purposes to provide for the exercise of control over marine living resources in a fair and equitable manner to the benefit of all the citizens of South Africa; and to provide for matters connected therewith.
National Estuarine Management Protocol (GN No. 341 of 10 May 2013)	This document presents guidelines for the development and implementation of individual Estuarine Management Plans as required by the National Environmental Management: Integrated Coastal Management Act (Act No. 24 of 2008), as amended by the National Environmental Management: Integrated Coastal Management Amendment Act (Act No. 36 of 2014) (hereafter referred to as the ICMA) and in accordance with the National Estuarine Management Protocol (Protocol). An estuarine management framework is provided, based on the minimum requirements stipulated in the Protocol, structured in term of the three main phases, namely the Scoping phase, Objective setting phase and the Implementation phase.
KZN Heritage Act (Act No. 04 of 2008) (KZN HA)	To provide for the conservation, protection and administration of both the physical and the living or intangible heritage resources of the Province of KwaZulu-Natal;
KZN Nature Conservation Management Act (Act No. 9 of 1997) (KZN NCMA)	To provide institutional structures for nature conservation in KwaZulu Natal and to establish control and monitoring bodies and mechanisms, and to provide for matters incidental thereto.
Other National Legislation and Policy	Other policies, legislation and associated regulations (where applicable) considered as part of the application process include: • National Ports Act (Act No. 12 of 2005). • Disaster Management Act (Act No. 57 of 2002). • Integrated Resource Plan 2019. • Local Government: Municipal Systems Act, No 32 of 2000. • National Development Plan 2030. • Protection of Personal Information Act, No. 4 of 2013. • Water Services Act 108 of 1997. • Promotion of Access to Information Act 2 of 2000 • Promotion of Access to Justice Act 3 of 2000 • Basic Conditions of Employment Act 75 of 1997; • Labour Relations Act 66 of 1995
Provincial / Municipal Legislation and Policy	Provincial / Municipal policies, legislation and associated regulations (where applicable) considered as part of the application process include: • KZN Heritage Act (Act No. 04 of 2008) (KZN HA) • KZN Nature Conservation Management Act (Act No. 9 of 1997) (KZN NCMA) • King Cetshwayo District Municipality (KCDM) Environmental Management Framework (EMF) • CoM Integrated Development Plan (IDP) for 2022/2027 • CoM Spatial Development Framework (SDF) for 2022/2023 – 2026/2027 • Strategic Infrastructure Projects (SIPs)
OTHER STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES	
Standards and Guidelines	In addition to the abovementioned Acts and their associated Regulations, the following guidelines and reports have been taken cognisance of during the application process: • Guidelines for consultation with communities and interested and affected parties issued by the DMRE.

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	• NEMA Implementation Guidelines: Sector Guidelines for EIA Regulation[20]
	• Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) (2011): A user friendly guide to the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008. South Africa, Pretoria.
	• Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (2004): Criteria for determining Alternatives in EIA, Integrated Environmental Management, Information Series 11.
	• DFFE Integrated Environmental Management Guideline on Need and Desirability, 2017.
	• Guideline for Implementation: Public Participation in the EIA Process.[21]
	• Publication of Public Participation Guideline (GN 807 of 10 October 2012 GG No. 35769).
	• Mining and Biodiversity Guideline: mainstreaming biodiversity into the mining sector
	• Department of Water and Forestry ("DWAF"), 2006. Groundwater Assessment II
	• DWS, 2011 The Groundwater Dictionary – A comprehensive reference of groundwater related terminology, 2nd ed
	• DWS, 2016 New Water management Areas, South Africa: Government Gazette No 40279
	• South African Water Quality Guidelines (DWAF):
	  ○ South African Water Quality Guidelines (2nd Edition). Volume 4: Agricultural Use: Irrigation (1996a);
	  ○ Water Quality Guidelines - Volume 1: Domestic Use (1996b);
	  ○ South African Water Quality Guidelines (2nd Edition). Volume 5: Livestock Watering (1996c);
	  ○ Water Quality Guidelines Volume 7: Aquatic Ecosystems (1996d);
	  ○ Water Quality Guidelines Volume 2: Recreational Use (1996e); and
	  ○ Water Quality Guidelines Volume 3: Industrial Use (1996f).
	• Best Practice Guidelines (DWAF):
	  ○ G3: Water Monitoring Systems (2007);
	  ○ A5: Water Management for Surface Mines (2008b); and
	  ○ G4: Impact Prediction (2008)
	• SANS 10103 of 2008: The measurement and rating of environmental noise with respect to annoyance and to speech communication[22]
	• SANS 10210 of 2004: Calculating and predicting road traffic noise.
	• SANS 10357: 2004: The calculation of sound propagation by the Concave method.

1.5 The S&EIR Process

An S&EIR process has two distinct phases: The Scoping Phase and the Environmental Impact Reporting Phase. This report, the Final Scoping Report (FSR) identifies potential biophysical, social and health aspects and impacts of the proposed development on the receiving environment and was the first invite for comments from stakeholders in the identification of key issues and areas of concern, to inform the S&EIR process. The main objectives of the Scoping Phase are as follows:

[20] Published under GN 654 in GG 3333 of 29 June 2010
[21] Published in under GN 807 in GG 35769 of 10 October 2012
[22] Published under GN 718 in Government Gazette No. 18022

- Identify the relevant policies and legislation relevant to the activity;
- Motivate the need and desirability of the proposed activity, including the need and desirability of the activity in the context of the preferred location and layout;
- Identify and confirm the preferred activity and technology alternative through an impact and risk assessment and ranking processes;
- Identify and confirm the preferred site, through a detailed site selection process, which includes an identification of impacts and risks inclusive of identification of cumulative impacts and a ranking process of all the identified alternatives focusing on the geographical, physical, biological, social, economic, and cultural aspects of the environment;
- Identify the key issues to be addressed in the EIR phase;
- Agree on the level of assessment to be undertaken; and
- Identify suitable measures to avoid, manage or mitigate identified impacts and determine the extent of the residual risks that need to be managed and monitored.

1.6 Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Environment Screening Tool

1.6.1 Purpose of the Screening Tool

The Department of Fisheries, Forestry, and Environment (DFFE) Screening Tool allows the applicant to identify potential environmental sensitivities of a proposed development site, identify specific zones or plans such as industrial development zones or Environmental Management Frameworks that may apply to the proposed development site, and it acts as a guideline as to which specialist assessments may need to be undertaken as part of the environmental assessment process.

The selection of the specialist investigations that were undertaken as part of this environmental assessment process was determined with the assistance of this tool as well as a desktop environmental assessment.

1.6.2 DFFE Screening Tool Results

1.6.2.1 Environmental Sensitivities

The DFFE Screening Tool has identified the following environmental sensitivities for the development site (refer to the Screening Assessment Report attached under Appendix C):

Table 1-5: DFFE Screening - Environmental Sensitivities

Development Area Themes	Environmental Sensitivity
Agricultural Theme	Very High
Animal Species Theme	High
Aquatic Biodiversity Theme	Very High
Archaeological and Cultural Sensitivity	Low
Civil Aviation Theme	High
Defense Theme	Low
Palaeontology Theme	Medium
Plant Species Theme	Low
Terrestrial Biodiversity Theme	Very High

1.6.2.2 Specialist Investigations

Based on the above, and following the project team's initial investigations, the following specialist investigations were identified to be undertaken for this project:

- Ecological- & Estuarine Investigations (including flora, fauna, aquatic & wetlands).
- Soil, Land-Use- & Agricultural Impact Assessment.
- Surface- & Groundwater Baseline Investigation.
- Air Quality Assessment.
- Heritage & Paleontological Assessment.

1.7 Listed Activities Triggered

The proposed TNPA 22MW Generator project triggers listed activities in terms of the NEMA, as contained in the amended 2014 EIA Regulations (as amended). The identified listed activities are presented in Table 1-6 and require that a S&EIR process is followed to obtain the necessary EA in terms of the NEMA.

Table 1-6: NEMA Listed Activities triggered by the TNPA 22 MW Generator Project

LISTING NOTICE	ACTIVITY NO	ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION	PROJECT ACTIVITY WHICH TRIGGERS THE LISTED ACTIVITY:
2	2	The development and related operation of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity from a non-renewable resource where the electricity output is 20 megawatts or more.	For the installation of the 22MW energy output generator for electricity generation.
2	4	The development and related 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 more than 500 cubic metres.	For the installation of fuel tanks with a storage capacity of 600m^3 which will be the fuel used for the generator.
2	6	The development of facilities or infrastructure for any process or activity which requires a permit or licence or an amended permit or licence in terms of national or provincial legislation governing the generation or release of emissions, pollution or effluent	The 22MW generator will require an Atmospheric Emissions Licence (AEL) under the National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act 39 of 2004 for the emissions from the generator.
3	10	The development and related 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 (vi) within 500m of an estuarine functional zone; (ix) Critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans;	For the installation of fuel tanks with a storage capacity of 600m^3 used for the generator within a CBA area and located approximately 400m from the estuarine functional zone.
3	12	The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan. (d) KwaZulu-Natal (v) Critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans;	For the construction of the LNG pipeline supply to the generator which will exceed 2km and the clearance for the linear activity will result in over 300m^2 of vegetation removal within areas that has been identified in an irreplaceable Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA).

1.8 Need and Desirability

Eskom has a nominal generation capacity of over 45 000 Megawatt (MW); however, the power utility is challenged to supply the country's contracted demand of 22 500 MW. The ever-growing electricity demand with the lower generation capabilities has resulted in rolling power cuts that have severely affected business and port operations. It becomes imperative for TNPA to provide reliable utility services such as electricity in a cost-effective and consistent manner.

The current electricity crisis could result in TNPA not fulfilling its responsibility of ensuring that the regulated services are provided and the shortage of electricity supply in the port can affect other basic services such as water supply and sewer. The Port of Richards Bay shows a significant future electricity demand requirement and in alignment with the Port Regulator's assertion that TNPA shall build capacity before demand, this would be necessary for guaranteed business continuity. Thus, it is appropriate that an interim solution be implemented to reduce the impact caused by load shedding and power shortages.

The current electricity demand for the Port of Richards Bay is 11 MW and in line with short term port planning it is anticipated that the future demand will be 17.9 MW. The Port of Richard's Bay has approximately 10% of current available back-up and/or standby supply for current electricity demand, which is mainly used for offices and not operations, leaving a shortage of 90% of unsecured power and exposure of operational stand still during load shedding. The South African power utility's strategy of increased levels of planned maintenance to improve reliability is putting additional strain on plants availability and this strategy has not yielded visible benefits to date. The loss over a period of load shedding when the port is on a stand still have ripple effects on the Chrome, Ferro alloys, Magnetite, Alumina, Export Coal, Woodchips, Sulphur, and import Coal lines. Thus, this will have an impact on both internal and external stakeholders such as leasing tenants, Transnet Freight Rail (TFR) and Transnet Port Terminal (TPT). TNPA needs to secure electricity supply to its operations and stakeholders in the face of escalating scheduled power outages due to declining supply availability as well as the increasing unreliability from both Eskom and the Municipal electricity supply networks.

TNPA is accelerating the introduction of renewable energy into the port systems, however there is a need for an immediate solution to be deployed within the 2023/24 Financial Year to avert the current Eskom risks and crisis that could cost TNPA billions of in income per annum. The crisis does not only affect the business revenue but has a negative reputational impact and poses a safety concern due to lack of visibility as the ports' operations are 24-hour. Due to the electricity challenges faced by the port, the strategic interim solution implemented by TNPA is to procure and install a 22MW output generator to necessitate port operations. The Installation of the generator in the Port of Richards Bay project is registered under the Strategic Integrate Projects (SIP) of the Infrastructure Development Act (IDA), Act 23 of 2014. The SIP's Oil & Gas National Program 20f is comprised of two mobile dual fuel diesel and Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) generators with a capacity of 22 MW energy output for Port of Richards Bay.

2 DETAILED PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.1 Key Components of the proposed development

The proposed development will entail the construction of the following infrastructure within the existing port areas. The project will comprise the following main components (which are discussed in more detail below):

- A dual fuel generator for the electricity generation of 22MW output which can be operated with diesel or liquid natural gas;
- The installation of diesel fuel tank(s) storage of the total capacity of 600m3;
- The installation of a 200m3 tank storage of demineralised water;
- Evacuation lines to the substations;
- Fencing for the site;
- An auxiliary pit;
- A drain facility for the used diesel and sludge;
- A transmission line from the generator to the Harbour West Substation, Sorting Yard substation, Liquid Pitch Substation, Arrivals Yard Substation, Eastern Intake Substation, Carina Substation and Admin Quay Substation will be installed in order to allow for power distribution from the generator to the rest of the port; and
- LNG pipeline from the Gas hub to the Generator site.

2.2 22 MW Generator

A generator is designed by General Electric (GE Gas Power) who are the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM). The generator is dual fuel and can operate on either Diesel fuel or Liquified Natural Gas (LNG). The generator model is TM2500+ GEN 4, the newest generation of one of the world's most experienced, reliable gas turbine solutions.

The gas turbine is a General Electric Model TM2500 that is ISO rated for continuous duty and configured for operation on either natural gas or liquid fuel (diesel 50 ppm). Altitude, humidity and inlet and exhaust losses will affect power output, heat rate and fuel efficiency. In addition to the inlet air filter, the engine is equipped with a stainless-steel mesh screen in the inlet air stream for "last chance" protection against foreign object damage.

An illustration of the generator can be seen below in Figure 2-1.

Figure 2-1: Generator model is TM2500+ GEN 4.

2.3 Diesel Storage Tanks

Diesel storage tanks(s) with a combined 600m^3 capacity will be installed to store the diesel used for the generator. The tanks will be in a bunded facility and drains will be in in place for possible spills.

2.4 Demineralised Water Storage

A water storage container for demineralised water will be installed to be able to store up to 200m^3 of water on site. The water is used for the generator and therefore requires demineralised water to prevent build-up of impurities and reduce the lifetime of the generator.

2.5 Substation Transmission Lines

The underground cables from the generator to the Harbour West Substation, Sorting Yard substation, Liquid Pitch Substation, Arrivals Yard Substation, Eastern Intake Substation, Carina Substation and Admin Quay Substation will be installed within the existing cable servitude in order to allow for backup power distribution within the port.

2.6 Auxiliary Pit

An auxiliary pit will be constructed to manage the noise emanating from the generator to mitigate the noise impacts from the generator.

2.7 Fencing

The generator area will be fenced off. There is already access control to the PoBR and the generator fence will be solely for the protection of the generator infrastructure, diesel and is required when working with high voltage equipment for safety.

2.8 Installation of the Liquid Natural Gas (LNG) Pipeline

Pipelines for Liquid Natural Gas (LNG) will be installed as a supporting fuel source for the generator. The generator can be fuel with diesel or LNG. The LNG pipeline will be installed from the planned future distribution hub and would reduce the need for diesel which is a non-renewable fuel source. The pipelines would be buried where possible to prevent vandalism and theft. The installation of the pipeline will require vegetation removal which will be allow for revegetation of the disturbed areas.

3 PROJECT ALTERNATIVES

Under the principles stipulated in NEMA, it is required that various alternatives be investigated when considering a development which may impact significantly on the environment, to implement the best practicable environmental option. This means that the options will be assessed in such a manner that the alternative which has the most benefit or causes the least environmental damage to the natural environment is chosen. This option also needs to be of such a nature that the capital and social costs incurred will be acceptable to society. Biophysical and socio-economic aspects are considered when investigating alternatives.

An alternative can be defined as an option that will meet the general purpose and requirements of the activity, which may include alternatives to:

a) The property on which, or location where it is proposed to undertake the activity;

b) The type of activity to be undertaken;

c) The design or layout to be used in the activity;

d) The technology to be used in the activity; and

e) The operational aspects of the activity.

The “No-Go” alternative must also be assessed.

For this project, a Scoping level assessment was undertaken by the Professional Team, and following on from the above, the alternatives identified as applicable to assess in this Project are as follows:

1. Property/Site Alternatives
2. Activity Alternative
3. Design and/or Layout Alternatives
4. Technology/Operational Alternatives
5. “No-Go” Alternative (this is a mandatory option)

Based on the contextual information presented above, and described in detail below, there is no evidence to suggest that other alternatives should be investigated for the proposed activity.

3.1 The "Property/Site" Alternative

Since the PoRB footprint area has already been determined and approved, and large portions of the surrounding areas are undisturbed areas, the placement of a generator complex would be required to fall within the existing PoRB. The locations of the existing substations is also taken into consideration as the generated power needs to feed into existing distribution line. The proposed location is therefore considered ideal as the generator complex will connect to the nearby substation, the area belongs to Transnet, in close proximity of the offices and already within the PoRB footprint.

3.2 The "Activity" Alternative

Where the "activity" is the generation of electricity, possible reasonable and feasible activity alternatives for the proposed site are extremely limited. Due to the small footprint area the possibility of renewable power generation is not feasible. The footprint area is too small to erect a sufficient amounts of solar panels to generate the amount electricity required for the PoRB. The size of the available area along with the fact that the airspace is often utilised, excludes the possibility of wind turbine energy generation. And the surrounding water bodies are considered as critical biodiversity areas and sensitive habitats which also rules out the possible of hydropower generation.

3.3 The "Design/Layout" Alternative

The design or layout is only due to be assessed during the EIA Phase of this Project. The Scoping Phase for this Project will be used to ensure that the site is well-suited to the activity.

The aim of the EIR Phase (in terms of the layout of the proposed facility), will be to determine the extent of the proposed properties which are most suitable for development, which will be assessed by the specialists and considered during the EIR Phase. No layout alternatives were therefore assessed during this phase of the application process.

3.4 The "Technology" Alternative

A generator is designed by General Electric (GE Gas Power) who are the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM). The generator is dual fuel and can operate on either Diesel fuel or Liquified Natural Gas (LNG). The generator model is TM2500+ GEN 4, the newest generation of one of the world's most experienced, reliable gas turbine solutions.

The gas turbine is a General Electric Model TM2500 that is ISO rated for continuous duty and configured for operation on either natural gas or liquid fuel (diesel 50 ppm). Altitude, humidity and inlet and exhaust losses will affect power output, heat rate and fuel efficiency. In addition to the inlet air filter, the engine is equipped with a stainless-steel mesh screen in the inlet air stream for "last chance" protection against foreign object damage.

The possibility to use LNG as well as diesel ensures that there will be available resources to generate power even when there is a delay or problem sourcing one of the materials. There is an existing LNG distribution line situated in the Richards Bay Industrial Development Zone (RBIDZ) to which a pipeline will be connected.

Based on the above, and the requirements associated with this particular power generation project, the use of dual fuel generator is the preferred option for the project and, **no other technology alternatives will be investigated for this impact assessment.**

3.5 No-Go Option

The NEMA EIA Regulations (2014, as amended) require that all development alternatives be included in the investigation process. The no-go option will be comparatively assessed against the above-mentioned alternatives during the environmental impact assessment phase and will act as a baseline against which all the other development alternatives are measured.

The “no-go” option would result in the proposed activity not being implemented and the status quo on the property remaining. Due to the current strain of the National Energy Provider which has not been able to provide constant and reliable energy it is critical to have an alternative power supply to ensure that the power disruptions and loadshedding does not affect the functioning and operations of the PoRB. The PoRB is an economic hub for the country and loss of power prevents the PoRB from operating optimally. Power outages is also a security risk as security systems could go down and communication is also affected. Power is also required to ensure that the logistical aspects are managed sufficiently and that activities at the Port are not disrupted resulting in huge costing delays for ships and owners and the PoRB. This Project is also a Strategic Infrastructure Project (SIP) as identified by the Government of South Africa. Therefore, the “no-go” alternative is not currently the preferred alternative.

3.6 Concluding Statement of Preferred Alternatives

This chapter has been compiled in the above sections under Appendix 2 of GNR 326, of the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014 (as amended). The Scoping Phase of the project is to enable the specialists and the EAP to identify the Best Practical Environmental Option (BPEO) for the development footprint and to identify studies required during the EIA Phase of the project.

Appendix 2 of GNR 326, NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) states the following in respect of the assessment of alternatives:

1. The objective of the scoping process is to, through a consultative process –

b) Motivate, the need and desirability of the proposed activity, including the need and desirability of the activity in the context of the preferred location;

c) Identify and confirm the preferred activity and technology alternative through an identification of impacts and risks and ranking process of such impacts and risks;

d) Identify and confirm the preferred site, through a detailed site selection process, which includes an identification of impacts and risks inclusive of identification of cumulative impacts and a ranking process of all the identified alternatives focusing on the geographic, physical, biological, social, economic and cultural aspects of the environment;

Considering the above, the following will be taken forward into the EIR Phase:

- No-go Alternative
  - The no-go alternative assumes that the proposed development will not go ahead. This alternative would result in no environmental impacts on the site or surrounding local area, as a result of the facility. It will provide a baseline against which other alternatives will be compared and considered during the EIR Phase.
- Property/Site Alternative
  - The location of the preferred alternative is located within close proximity of the existing substation, is within the port boundary and conveniently locates next to administration buildings.
- Activity Alternative
  - No other activity alternatives were deemed to be appropriate for the site and therefore they will not be further assessed during the EIR Phase. The development of a generator complex at the proposed project site is crucial for the functioning, managing and development of the PoRB.

- Design/Layout Alternative
    - Layout alternatives for the project will be determined following the input from the various specialists. The studies will aim to identify various environmental sensitivities within the development footprint of the site that should be avoided, which will be taken into account during the determination of the proposed layout of the Generation Complex.
- Technology Alternative
    - Making use of a dual fuel system optimised the functioning and availability of fuel for the generator and is therefore the preferred option at this stage. The final technology that will be used will however be determined during the detailed engineering phase after receipt of an EA.

4 BASELINE ENVIRONMENTAL DESCRIPTION

This chapter presents the environmental baseline conditions based on the available information. Detailed specialist investigations will be undertaken as set out in Chapter 6 of this report and more detailed information about the site will be provided in the EIR.

4.1 Geology

The underlying physical geological foundation of the area gives rise to specific landscape features. It also controls the occurrence, distribution and type of water resources in the area, including the groundwater. The Richards Bay area lies on-top of the unconsolidated Cenzonic Era sediments of the Maputaland Lithological Group that stretch along the Maputaland coastal plain into Mozambique.

4.2 Topography

The Richards Bay Port are characterised by three distinct topographical features namely the flood plain consisting mainly of water bodies (lakes, estuary, river channels), sand plains rising above the flood plain and coastal dunes. At least 75% of the port area is already transformed and the remaining surface area is outside of the operations area.

4.3 Climate

4.3.1 Regional Climate

Richards Bay is characterised by a subtropical climate with warm wet summers and mild moist to dry winters, which are frost-free. The town has an average annual rainfall of 1,228 millimetres. The average annual temperature is 21.5 °C, with daytime maxima peaking from January to March at 29 °C, and the minimum is 21 °C , dropping to daytime highs from June to August of 23 °C and a minimum of 12 °C.

4.3.2 Rainfall

The Mean Annual Precipitation (MAP) is 1 228 mm and most of the rainfall occurs in the summer months (from October to March)(Figure 4-1). Early summer rainfall is derived mainly from deep convective showers and thunderstorm with occasional hailstorms. Late summer rainfall is less severe with more widespread convective activity associated with sub-tropical easterly circulation patterns. The annual average rainfall for the region is 1228 mm per year. Rain peaks in late to mid-summer, in January and February, but is also likely to receive rain all year round.

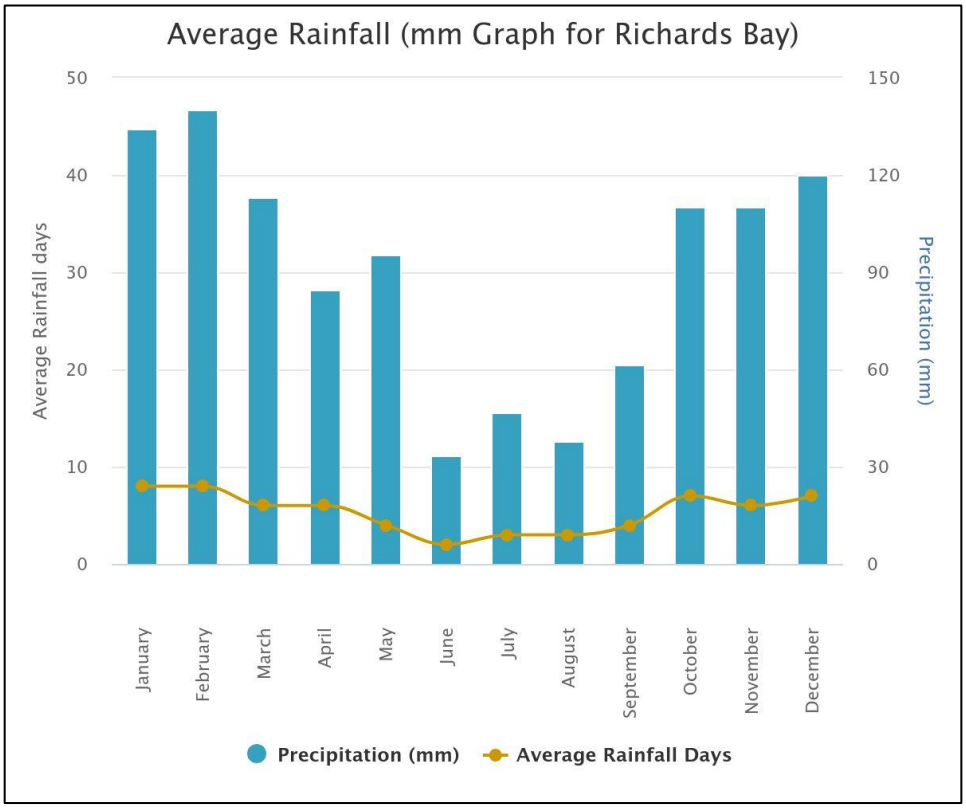


Figure 4-1: Richards Bay monthly rainfall (World Weather Online, 2024)

4.3.3 Evaporation

The Mean Annual Evaporation (MAE) for the Richards Bay area is 1 459mm/a. This is around 400mm/a more than the MAP of 1 228 mm, indicating that this is a subtropical region.

4.3.4 Wind

Winds are predominantly north easterly or south westerly during the day with a combined frequency of occurrence of 24%. The north easterly (thermal) wind is associated with high pressure systems and fine weather and the south westerly winds that are associated with westerly waves are cold, frontal weather. There is a decrease in the frequency of north easterly winds at night when the southerly winds increase in frequency and occurring 19% of the time as part of the land-sea. More calm conditions (winds less than 1 m/s) occur at night than during the day. The diurnal variation in airflow over the region is influenced by the land sea breeze circulation and topographically induced effects winds.

4.4 Soils, Land Use and Land Capability

The project area is situated within a Critical Biodiversity (CBA) as indicated in the national database, see Figure 4-2. Investigations into the sensitivity of the project area will be completed during the EIA Phase He site is within the existing PoRB footprint area.

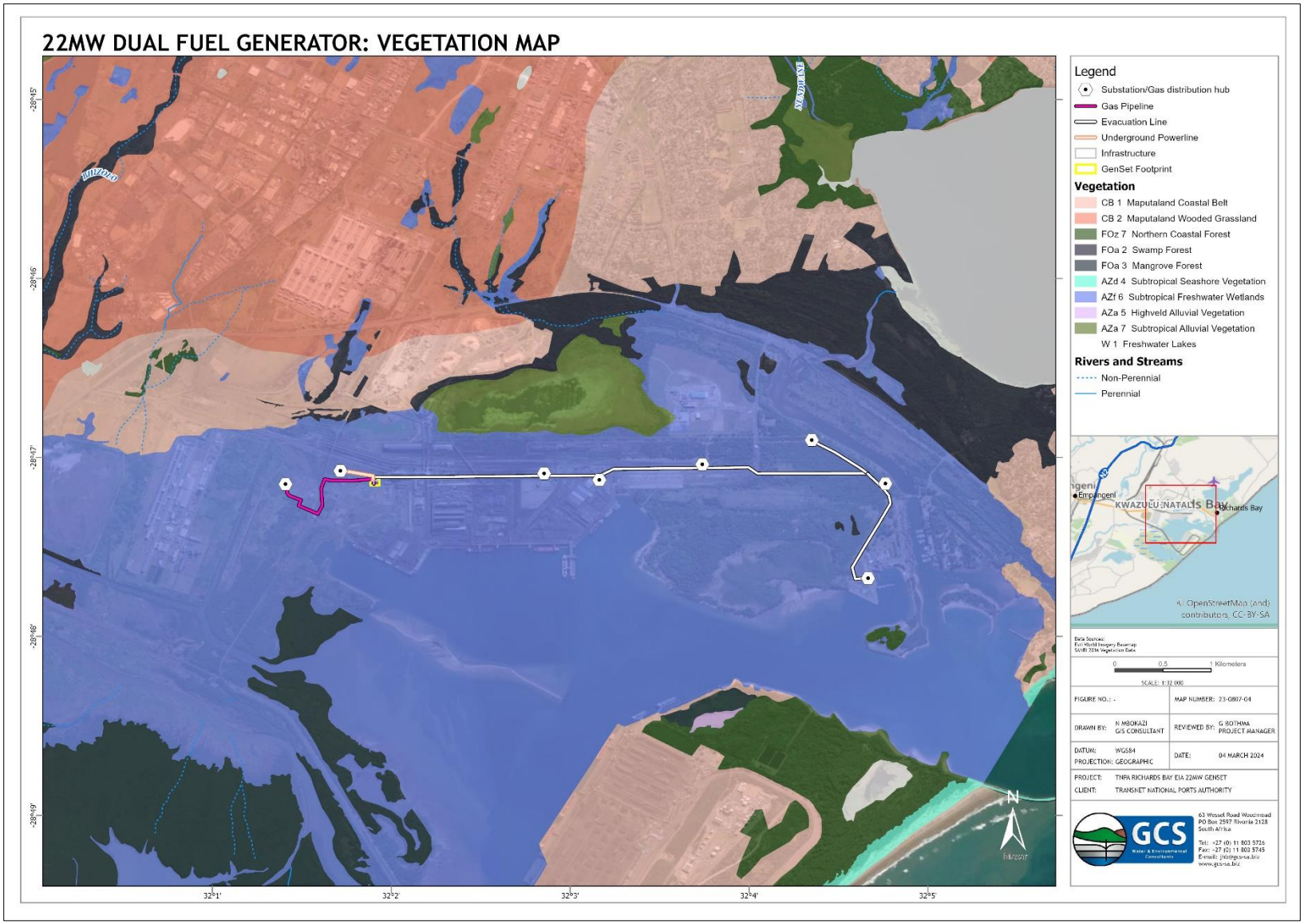


Figure 4-2: Vegetation Cover in the project area

4.5 Hydrology

4.5.1 Water Management Area

The site falls within quaternary catchment W12F in the Pongola-Mtamvuna Water Management Area (WMA) (South Africa. Dept. of Water and Sanitation, 2016).

4.5.2 Estuary, Streams and Wetlands

The uMhlathuze Estuary is situated within a flood plain and is consequently the recipient of rivers, streams, canals and diffuse seepage zones of freshwater that drain towards the estuary and harbour (Figure 4-3. Surrounding lakes, swamps and wetlands are hydrologically and ecologically linked to these streams.

Also, groundwater is tied in with the aforementioned water resources and also forms the primary flow component in many of these resources. This hydrological network forms a crucial component in these water resources, as it provides the hydraulic and ecological link between the different resources.

The uMhlathuze River is the largest river system within the uMhlathuze Estuary. It is characterised by a large flood plain that is exposed to intense exploitation and impacts upstream. The Nseleni stream feeds the uMhlathuze in the north-west through Lake Nsezi; the Nsezi stream is the freshwater link between Lake Nsezi and the uMhlathuze River.

The uMhlathuze River and its catchment have been extensively re-engineered over past decades. As a result of this re-engineering, it has reduced water inputs from the river to surrounding water features, which has consequently affected hydrological corridors and ecosystem maintenance.

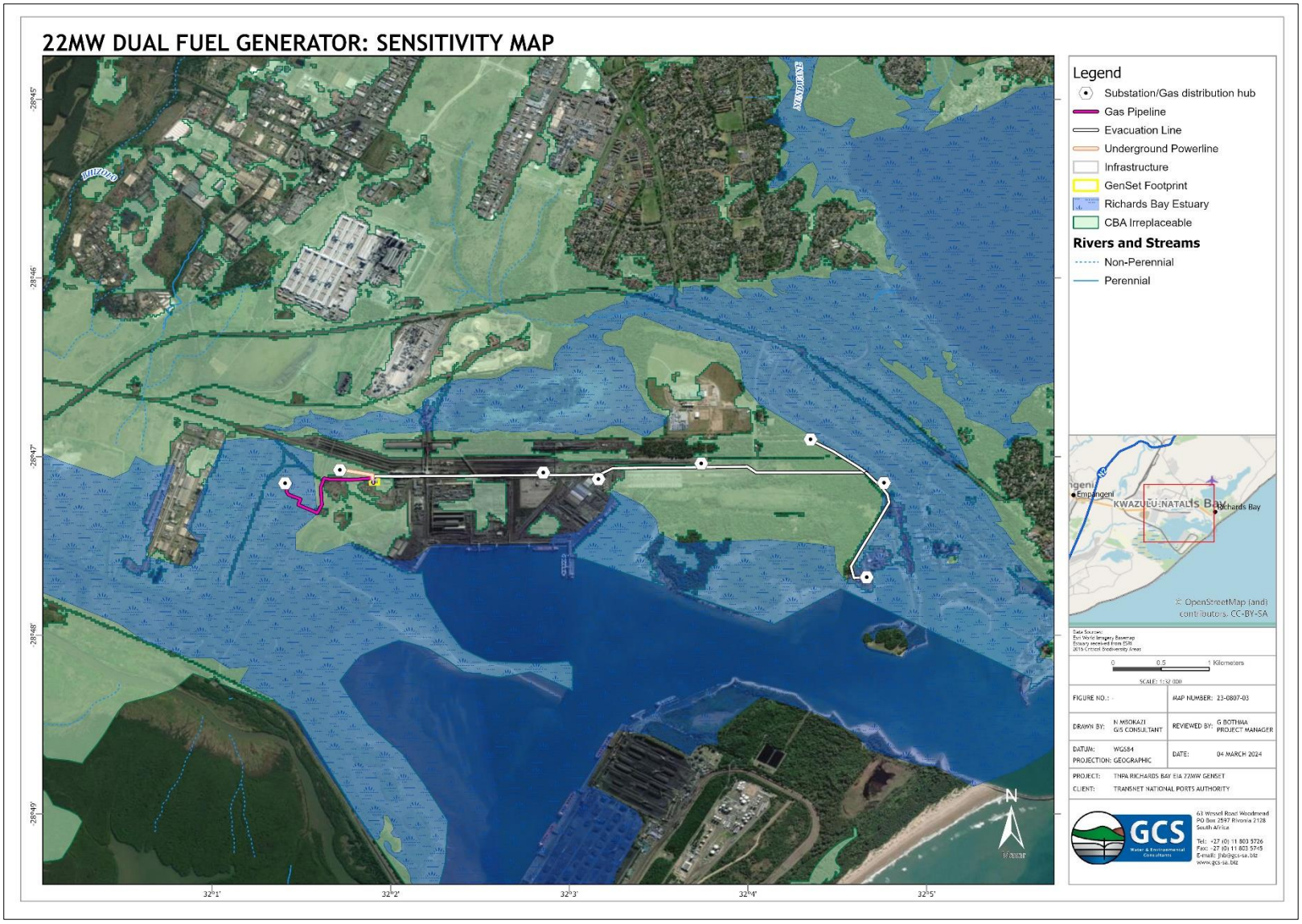


Figure 4-3: Sensitivity Map of the proposed site

4.6 Ecology

4.6.1 Eco Region

According to DWS (previously DWA), the proposed development falls into the Natal Coastal Plain (13) Level 1 Eco-region (Kleynhans et al., 2005). Level 1 eco-regions are derived primarily from terrain and vegetation, along with altitude, rainfall, runoff variability, air temperature, geology and soil. This region can predominantly be broken down into the following characteristics:

- Mean annual precipitation: Moderate to high.
- Coefficient of variation of annual precipitation: Low to moderate.
- Drainage density: Low.
- Stream frequency: Low to medium.
- Slopes <5%: >80%.
- Median annual simulated runoff: Moderate to high.
- Mean annual temperature: High to very high.

4.6.2 Flora

The Port of Richards Bay and surrounds are situated within the Maputaland Coastal Belt vegetation type as described by Mucina and Rutherford 2006. The majority of the port areas have been transformed and degraded by human activity. The areas around the port are being preserved as far as possible.

4.6.3 Fauna

Mammals

Extensive loss and fragmentation of wetlands and other habitat types in the study area has restricted population of species. Nineteen species of mammal occur in the municipal area in special habitats.

Avifauna

Richards Bay is an important habitat for birds along the Kwa-Zulu Natal Coastline. There are some 350 bird species identified around the area. The bird uses the tital flats, wetlands, grass panes and forests to nest.

Reptiles

Eleven species of reptiles are of significance have been identified in the area before, occurring in wetlands, forests and grasslands.

Amphibians

Previous surveys around Richards Bay have identified some 48 species of frogs that may occur in the surrounding area. The species applicable to the specific site will be determined during the specialist investigations.

4.7 Air Quality

The current air quality in the study area is mostly influenced by the industrial activities within the PoRB as well as farming activities, domestic fires, residential fuel burning, vehicle exhaust emissions and dust entrained by vehicles. These emission sources vary from activities that generate relatively course airborne particulates (such as farmland preparation dust from paved and unpaved roads) to fine particulate matter such as that emitted by vehicle exhausts, power generators (at industrial operations). Other sources of particulate matter include occasional fires in the residential areas of Brackenham, etc. and farm activities. Emissions from unpaved roads constitute another major source. Combustion gases (CO, SO2, NO2 and HC) are typically released from industrial areas, power generators, vehicle exhausts, and burning activities, and represent the main contributors to poor air quality. Air quality assessment will be done during the EIA phase.

4.8 Heritage Sites and Paleontological Importance

No national monuments, battlefields, or historical cemeteries are known to occur within the vicinity of the study area. The site will be assessed during the specialist study, as described under Section 6.6.1 of this report.

4.9 Socio-Economic Conditions

The City of uMhlathuze is the third most important primary manufacturing area in KwaZulu-Natal in terms of economic production. Several of the world's industrial giants are located in uMhlathuze. The significant industrial concentrations are supported by the output and activities of several important development nodes. Most of the industrial and commercial activities are vested in Richards Bay, Empangeni and Felixton (specifically the industrial development nodes of the City of uMhlathuze).

The area is the third most important in KwaZulu-Natal in terms of economic production, contributing 7.6% of the total gross geographic product and 5.5% of total formal employment. Development of the port facilities through the years has initiated and promoted the development of manufacturing activity. The area's port and RBIDZ are important assets that can successfully exploit opportunities to export produce to the vast markets of the world. Policies have been designed to promote industrial growth and encourage investment, with projects prioritised on the basis on the contribution made to job creation.

4.10 Traffic

The proposed facility is located in between the existing port access roads. Additional traffic will only be applicable during the construction phase of the project.

4.11 Visual Aspects

The surrounding area has been developed with large silos, large administration building, cranes and other infrastructure surrounding the site. The visual impact from the generator complex will be investigated during the EIA phase.

5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

This section of the report describes the process that was and will be followed for consultation of Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs)/stakeholders and government authorities. The evidence of public consultation undertaken is provided in the Public Participation Report (PPR), attached under Appendix C.

5.1 Purpose of Public Participation

The main objective of public participation is to provide sufficient and accessible information to potential Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) in an objective manner and to provide a platform for constructive participation in the application process, thereby assisting I&APs to:

- Gain an understanding of the project, the various components and the potential impacts (positive and negative);
- Raise issues of concern and suggestions for enhanced benefits;
- Comment on reasonable alternatives;
- Verify that their issues have been recorded in the Comments and Responses Report (CRR) and considered in investigations; and
- Contribute relevant local information and traditional knowledge to the process.

5.2 Public Consultation Process

This section provides a summary of the various activities of the public consultation process to be undertaken in support of the application process.

5.2.1 Stakeholder database

A stakeholder database or list of I&APs was compiled and will be updated as the process unfolds and as more I&APs register. The database was compiled using lists of contact details of previous applications in the area, the Development Zone contacts, commenting authorities and other possible stakeholders identified.

The current I&AP database is attached as Appendix C-4 to this Report (this excludes contact details). The I&AP database is the means through which information will be conveyed to stakeholders as part of the announcement of the applications and the availability of the consultation and final reports as these become available for public review. For this project, I&APs typically include the following:

- Owners or persons in control of the land where the proposed project activities are to be undertaken (Project Area);
- Occupiers of the property where the activities are to be undertaken;

- Owners and occupiers of land adjacent to the project area;
- Provincial (Kwa-Zulu Natal) and local government (City of uMhlathuze (CoM) Local Municipality and King Cetshwayo District Municipality (KCDM));
- Organs of state, other than the competent authorities having jurisdiction over any aspect of the proposed activities, including the Kwa-Zulu Natal Department of Economic Development, Tourism, and Environmental Affairs (EDTEA), the Department of Water and Sanitation, etc.;
- Relevant residents' associations, agricultural unions, community-based organisations, water user associations, and any catchment management authority and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs);
- Environmental organisations, forums, groups and associations; and
- Private sector organisations (businesses, industries) in the vicinity.

5.2.2 Announcement of the application process

The application process was announced to I&APs through the following:

- An advertisement was placed in the Zululand Observer on the 8th of March and in Isolezwe on the 6th / 7th of March 2024;
- A Background Information Document (BID) was compiled and distributed to all I&APs on the stakeholder database on the 8th of March 2024;
- Site Notices were placed all around the project area on the 8th of March 2024;
- Placement of all notices and the BIDs on the GCS website (https://www.gcs-sa.biz/public-documents/). The GCS website is used to make documents electronically available to stakeholders. The website address was published in the advertisement, BIDs, site notices and all other communication; and
- A Registration and Comment Sheet was included with every BID, inviting stakeholders to register as I&APs and to provide their comments on the proposed application.

5.2.3 Comments and Responses Report

All comments received during the application process will be captured in a Comments and Responses (CRR) table in the Public Participation Process Report. The CRR will be updated continuously and will be presented to the authorities and other I&APs together with the consultation and final reports as a full record of issues raised, including responses on how the issues were considered during the application process.

5.2.4 Review of the Draft Scoping Report

The DSR was available for public review from **8 March 2024 until 11 April 2024** (30 days) at the following public venues:

- Richard's Bay Public Library (Physical Address: Kruger Road CBD, Richard's Bay).

The report was also available electronically via the GCS Website (link provided above) or a CD/USB was made available upon request.

The availability of the DSR for review and comment was announced to stakeholders during the application announcement process (refer to section 5.2.2 above). An additional notification was sent to all I&APs via email on 04 April 2024 reminding I&APs of the closing date for the submission of comments.

6 PLAN OF STUDY FOR EIA

The Plan of Study (POS) for the Impact Assessment Phase describes the approach to the Assessment, as required in terms of Section 2(1)(h) of Appendix 2 to Regulation GNR 326 promulgated in terms of the NEMA. In accordance with Section 2(1)(h) of Appendix 2, this POS includes:

- A description of the aspects to be assessed as part of the environmental impact assessment process as well as aspects to be assessed by specialists.
- A description of the proposed method of assessing the environmental aspects, including aspects to be assessed by specialists.
- A description of the proposed method of assessing duration and significance.
- An indication of the stages at which the competent authority will be consulted.
- Particulars of the public participation process will be conducted during the environmental impact assessment process.
- A description of the tasks that will be undertaken as part of the environmental impact assessment process.
- Identify suitable measures to avoid, reverse, mitigate or manage identified impacts and determine the extent of the residual risks that need to be managed and monitored.

6.1 Impact Assessment Phase Tasks

The objectives of the EIA Phase are to:

- Address the issues and concerns expressed by the environmental authorities and I&APs in the response to the Scoping Study.
- Assess the potential significant impacts imposed by the project and assess alternatives and mitigation measures to minimise potential impacts.
- Assess layout and design alternatives to minimise potential impacts.
- Document findings into an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the authorities and the I&APs to issue an environmental authorisation.

The following tasks are required to be undertaken during the EIA process:

- Appoint specialists to undertake further specialist investigations, if required.
- Review of the specialist reports and amendments where necessary.
- Discuss the specialist report results and conclusions with I&APs and authorities.
- Incorporate the assessments in the Draft EIR (DEIR).

- Distribute the DEIR to I&APs and authorities for review.
- Convene Public Open Day(s) or public meetings, as appropriate.
- Collate and address any comments/concerns documented by I&APs.
- Incorporate issues and responses into the Final EIR (FEIR).
- Submit the FEIR to the CA for consideration.
- Inform I&APs of the submission of the FEIR to the CA and make copies available for review.

The EIA process involves the compilation of an EIR that provides a formal assessment of the significance of all of the potential impacts identified for assessment in the Scoping Phase. The impact assessment will be based on the findings and assessments of the various specialist reports listed and described below.

Once the EIR has been drafted according to the findings of the specialist reports and their recommended mitigation measures, the DEIR will be made available to all registered I&APs for public comment. The aim of this public comment period is to allow the public to review the findings of the specialist reports and the findings of the significance assessment, the revised development proposal, and the mitigation measures proposed to minimise the impacts of the proposed development. All registered I&APs will be requested to comment on these aspects and confirm and/or reject the findings or assessments based on reasonable and substantiated arguments. Thereafter, reasonable and substantiated comments will be incorporated into the assessment and a final draft of the development proposal and the EIR produced.

6.2 Competent Authority Consultation

The CA will be consulted at the following key stages:

- Continuous consultation with the CA will be undertaken as part of the application process.
- The DSR and Application Form will be submitted to the CA for their consideration, after which the Final Scoping Report (FSR) will be submitted to the CA within the legislated timeframe;
- The FEIR will be submitted to the CA once all outstanding issues have been resolved; and
- The CA may convene a meeting post-submission of the FEIR should it be deemed necessary.

6.3 Impact Assessment Methodology

Potential impacts will be identified through comments from I&APs, specialist reports, and from the EAP's experience. To ensure uniformity, the assessment of potential impacts derived from each activity associated with the proposed development is addressed in a standard manner so that a wide range of impacts are comparable. For this reason, a clearly defined rating methodology will be used to assess the impacts identified in each specialist study.

The assessment of potential impacts will be addressed in a standard manner, to ensure that a wide range of impacts are comparable. The ranking criteria and rating scales will be applied to all specialist studies for the TNPA Generator Project. To enable a scientific approach to the determination of the environmental significance (importance), a numerical value is linked to each rating scale.

Clearly defined rating and rankings scales (**Table 6-1 - Table 6-7**) will be used to assess the impacts associated with the TNPA Genset Generator Project. The impacts identified by each specialist study and through PPP will be combined into a single impact rating table for ease of assessment.

Table 6-1: Severity or magnitude of impact

Not applicable/none/negligible	0
Minor/insignificant/non-harmful (no loss of species/habitat)	2
Low/small/potentially harmful (replaceable loss with minimal effort)	4
Moderate/significant/slightly harmful (replaceable loss of species/habitat with great effort and investment)	6
High/highly Significant/harmful (impact to human health or welfare/loss of species/habitat)	8
Very High/extremely significant/extremely harmful/within a regulated sensitive area (loss of human life/irreplaceable loss of Red Data species/conservation habitat)	10

Table 6-2: Spatial Scale of activity

Not applicable/none/negligible	0
Site only	1
Local (within 5km)	2
Regional/neighbouring areas (5 km to 50 km)	3
National	4
International	5

Table 6-3: Duration of activity

Not applicable/none/negligible	0
Immediate (immediately reversible with minimal effort)	1
Short-term (0-5 years - reversible)	2
Medium-term (5 to 15 years – difficult to reverse with effort)	3
Long-term/life of the activity (very difficult to reverse with extensive effort)	4
Permanent/beyond life of the activity (not reversible)	5

Table 6-4: Frequency of activity (how often activity is undertaken)

Not applicable/none/negligible	0
Improbable /almost never/annually or less	1
Low probability/very seldom/6 monthly	2
Medium probability/infrequent/temporary/monthly	3
Highly probable/often/semi-permanent/weekly	4
Definite/always/permanent/daily	5

Table 6-5: Frequency of incident/impact (how often activity impacts environment)

Almost never/almost impossible/>20%	1
Very seldom/highly unlikely/>40%	2
Infrequent/unlikely/seldom/>60%	3
Often/regularly/likely/possible/>80%	4
Daily/highly likely/definitely/>100%	5

Table 6-6: Legal Issues – governance of activity by legislation.

No legislation	1
Fully covered by legislation	5

Table 6-7: Detection (how quickly/easily impacts/risks of activity on environment, people and property are detected)

Immediately (easier to mitigate)	1
Without much effort	2
Need some effort	3
Remote and difficult to observe	4
Covered (more difficult to mitigate)	5

Each impact identified must be assessed in terms of probability (likelihood of occurring); the consequence of the impact (spatial scale, severity and duration); and the associated risk (impact significance).

Consequence was then determined as follows:

CONSEQUENCE = Severity + Spatial Scale + Duration

The probability or likelihood of occurrence of the activity was then calculated based on frequencies of the activity and impact, whether the activity is governed by legislation and how easily it can be detected:

LIKELIHOOD = Frequency of Activity + Frequency of Impact + Legal issues + Detection

The significance or risk of each identified impact was then based on the product of consequence and likelihood:

Environmental Significance/Risk = Consequence x Likelihood

Impacts will be rated as either of high, medium or low significance on the basis provided in Table 6-8. Each impact will also be assessed in terms of the level to which there is an irreplaceable loss of resources (Table 6-9) and its degree of reversibility (Table 6-10).

Table 6-8: Impact significance ratings.

SIGNIFICANCE	ENVIRONMENTAL RISK RATING	COLOUR CODE
High (positive)	>240	H
Medium (positive)	120 to 240	M
Low (positive)	<120	L
Neutral	0	N
Low (negative)	>-120	L
Medium (negative)	-120 to -240	M
High (negative)	<-240 (max = 400)	H

Table 6-9: Irreplaceability of resource caused by impacts

No irreplaceable resources will be impacted (the affected resource is easy to replace/rehabilitate)	**Low**
Resources that will be impacted can be replaced, with effort	**Medium**
Project will destroy unique resources that cannot be replaced	**High**

Table 6-10: Reversibility of impacts

Low reversibility to non-reversible	**Low**
Moderate reversibility of impacts	**Medium**
High reversibility of impacts	**High**

The significance of an impact gives one indication of the level of mitigation measures required to minimise negative impacts and reduce environmental damage during the construction, operational and decommissioning phases. Suitable and appropriate mitigation measures, to ensure avoidance, management and mitigation of impacts, will be identified for each of the potential impacts based on specialist recommendations and GCS expertise.

6.4 Impact Management

Each specialist identifies means of avoiding, mitigating and/or managing the negative impacts in their particular aspect of the investigation. The recommended management strategies will be synthesized by GCS to formulate the EMP for the proposed project.

6.5 Environmental Management Programme (EMPr)

GCS will prepare a Draft EMPr, which is required as part of the EIR submission. The purpose of the EMPr is to control the impacts of construction and operational activities. The effective implementation of an EMPr will ensure that the required works are conducted in an environmentally sound manner and that the potential negative impacts of construction and operational activities are minimised and/or prevented.

The Draft EMPr details the responsibilities and authority of the various parties involved in the project and contains environmental specifications to which the contractor and operator are required to adhere throughout the duration of the construction and operational phases. The Draft EMPr will cover impacts that have been identified in the EIA Process and which could potentially arise during the construction and/or operation of the road. The EMPr will cover the following aspects:

- Project background information.
- Identification/listing of project and operational activities.
- Instruction and mitigation during the planning and design, construction, operational and decommissioning and closure phases.
- Roles and responsibilities of parties concerning environmental management.
- Environmental training and awareness material for construction staff.
- Environmental specifications e.g. protection of biodiversity and sensitive environments, rehabilitation, public safety and perceptions, traffic control, material and waste management, litter, containment, and disposal of hazardous substances (e.g. paints, waste oils) etc.
- Measurement of compliance with the EMPr.

6.6 Terms of reference for the specialist studies

The following terms of reference (ToR) were utilised in appointing specialist consultants to undertake detailed investigations to assess the significance of potential impacts on the receiving environment.

6.6.1 Cultural Heritage & Paleontological Assessment

The Cultural Heritage & Paleontological Assessment will entail the following tasks, culminating in the compilation of a specialist report:

- A desktop and field assessment to gather information on heritage resources, including archaeological and paleontological deposits/sites, within the proposed development area;
- Identify possible archaeological, cultural and historic sites within the proposed development area;
- Evaluate the potential impacts of construction, operation and maintenance of the proposed development on archaeological, cultural and historical resources;
- Recommend mitigation measures to ameliorate any negative impacts on areas of archaeological, cultural or historical importance; and
- Identifying key uncertainties and risks.

6.6.2 Air Quality Assessment

The Air Quality Impact Assessment (AQIA) will comprise the following:

Baseline Assessment

- Review of applicable air quality legislation;
- Review of the potential pollutants and associated human health effects;
- Review of available meteorological data for the area;
- Identification of neighbouring sensitive receptors, including adjacent communities and farmers;
- Residential areas within the proposed development area; and
- Identification of any neighbouring sources.

Emissions Inventory and Dispersion Modelling

- Compilation of an emissions inventory for activities undertaken during construction;
- Undertake dispersion modelling simulations (AERMOD, Level Two) to determine the air quality impacts associated with the construction of the generator facility; and
- Comparison of predicted model concentrations to air quality standards.

Air Quality Impact Assessment

- Compilation of an Air Quality Impact Assessment.

6.6.3 Estuarine Compliance Statement

The Estuarine Assessment will include an assessment of the estuarine environment and verify whether the project would impact the Estuary Functional Zone (EFZ).

6.6.4 Wetland Statement

The Wetland Statement will involve the following tasks and outcomes:

- Wetland verification and state and functioning of the wetland should there be any wetlands within the study area.

6.6.5 Soil, Land Use and Agricultural Impact Assessment

Firstly, a review of historic and current land uses and their impacts within the study site will be undertaken utilising aerial imagery from the site, as well as the property description. Furthermore, climatic data, vegetation type, and water resources within and adjacent to the site will be identified and utilised together with the land type data and Bioresources data for the area to determine the sensitivity of the site with regards to agricultural production.

A field assessment of the study site will be undertaken. Soils will be mapped using a hand-held soil auger to 1.5 m depth or refusal. The soil form and family level will be recorded according to the South African Soil Classification System (Soil Classification Working Group, 2018). Soil properties of survey points will be recorded on a Global Positioning System (GPS).

- Field assessment data will include a description of the physical soil characteristics at each auger sampling point. These characteristics will include:
- Diagnostic soil horizons and their respective sequence.
- Depth of the identified soil horizons.
- Soil field texture.
- Colour.
- Effective rooting depth.
- Surface crusting.
- Depth to saturation (water table), if encountered.
- Terrain morphological units/Landscape position (slope %); and
- Rockiness.
- Where applicable, the vegetation composition, available water sources as well as agroclimatic information.

The field data will be utilised to determine the agricultural land capability of the study site which considers the terrain, soil properties, climatic, water, vegetation data, and existing impacts on the site, (e.g., erosion, alien vegetation, non-agricultural infrastructure, waste, etc.).

An impact assessment will be undertaken to determine the significance of impacts to the agricultural potential and land capability of the site from the proposed development. Significance scoring both assesses and predicts the significance of environmental impacts through evaluation of the following factors: probability of the impact; duration of the impact; extent of the impact; and magnitude of the impact. The significance of environmental impacts is then assessed considering any proposed mitigations. The significance of the impact "without mitigation" is the prime determinant of the nature and degree of the mitigation measures and remediation that will be required. Each of the above impact factors will be used to assess each potential impact using ranking scales. The impact assessment will highlight any sensitive areas to be avoided, and/or buffer recommendations.

- The assessment will furthermore include:
- The change in productivity for any/all agricultural activities, that the project will cause.
- The change in any/all employment figures (both permanent and casual) that the project will cause.
- Any alternative development footprints within the preferred site which would be of "medium" or "low" sensitivity for agricultural resources as identified by the screening tool and verified through the site sensitivity verification.

6.6.6 Hydrogeology Assessment

The Hydrogeological Assessment will involve the following:

- A detailed desktop study of the project area.
- Drilling supervision and hydrogeological logging of the hard rock conditions;
- Aquifer testing of the newly drilled boreholes;
- Groundwater quality sampling of the newly installed boreholes;
- Pump specification recommendations and recommended abstraction schedule; and
- Compilation of a hydrogeological report with the findings of the study as well as detailed recommendations for resource development, management and monitoring with relevant information required for the Water Use License Application (WULA).

6.6.7 Hydrology Assessment

The Scope of Work (SoW) is comprised of the following tasks:

- Desktop study and project initiation: review previous studies done on the site, review client information and identify applicable legislation.
- Catchment characterisation and baseline hydrology assessment.
- Conceptual stormwater management plan for the site.

- Water balance for proposed infrastructure.
- Surface water monitoring program is to be specified if deemed necessary.
- Surface water impact assessment of all infrastructure including run-off impacts. The Department of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation (DHSW&S) risk assessment matrix as per Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) 2015 publication: Section 21 c) and i) water use Risk Assessment Protocol was adapted to be used for hydrological impacts.

6.6.8 Terrestrial Ecology Assessment

The Scope of Work (SoW) is comprised of the following tasks:

- Description of the baseline receiving environment specific to the field of expertise (general surrounding area as well as site specific environment);
- Identification and description of any sensitive receptors in terms of relevant specialist disciplines (biodiversity and wetland) that occur in the project area, and the manner in which these sensitive receptors may be affected by the activity;
- Identify 'significant' ecological, botanical and faunal features within the proposed project areas;
- Identification of conservation significant habitats around the project area which might be impacted;
- Screening to identify any critical issues (potential fatal flaws) that may result in project delays or rejection of the application;
- Provide a map to identify sensitive receptors in the project area, based on available maps and database information;
- Impact assessment, mitigation and rehabilitation measures to prevent or reduce the possible impacts.

6.7 EIA Phase Public Participation

The PPP for the remainder of the Project will involve the following tasks:

6.7.1 Announcement of the Availability of the Draft EIR and Draft EMPr

At this point, the specialist studies would have been completed and the Draft EIR and Draft EMPr would be ready for public review. A letter will be circulated to all registered I&APs, informing them of progress made with the study and the availability of the Draft EIR and Draft EMP for a 30-day comment period. The Draft EIR will be made available similarly to the DSR during the Scoping Phase.

6.7.2 Public Review of the DEIR and DEMPr

The EIA Guidelines specify that stakeholders must have the opportunity to verify that their issues have been captured and assessed before the EIR will be approved by the competent authority. The Draft EIR provides this opportunity and will be written in a way that makes it accessible to stakeholders in terms of language level and general coherence.

As part of the process of reviewing the Draft EIR and Draft EMPr, various contact sessions will be scheduled to allow the public to obtain first-hand information from the project team members and also to discuss their issues and concerns. These contact sessions will be determined during the scoping phase and will potentially include either a public meeting, a public open day or various focus group meetings. Contributions at this meeting will be considered in the Final EIR.

6.7.3 Announcement of the Availability of the Final EIR and Draft EMPr

After comments from I&APs have been incorporated into the CRR and the Draft EIR revised accordingly, all stakeholders on the database will receive a letter informing them that the Final EIR and Draft EMP have been submitted to the CA for consideration. Electronic copies of the Final EIR will be available should the I&APs wish to review the documents submitted to the CA. The I&APs will be informed that should they wish to submit comments on the Final EIR; these must be submitted directly to the CA and copied to the EAP.

6.7.4 Announcement of Authorities' Decision

Based on the contributions of the stakeholders, the decision of the authorities may be advertised through the following methods:

- Letters to individuals and organisations on the database.
- Advert in local or regional newspapers.

7 POTENTIAL IMPACTS

Based on the investigation of the receiving environment, as well as the understanding of activities to be carried out for the construction and operation phases of the project, the potential impacts during the various phases of the operation will be identified and addressed in detail during the EIA phase. Potential impacts that have been identified at this stage are presented in Table 7-1.

Table 7-1: Preliminary impacts identified

POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT	SPECIALIST STUDY TO INVESTIGATE POTENTIAL IMPACT
Impacts of air emissions on surrounding users	Air Quality Impact Assessment
Affecting the groundwater and impacts during construction and operation	Geohydrological Assessment
Surface water contamination and sedimentation	Surface Water/Hydrological Assessment
Increased runoff altering flow regimes of receiving watercourses	
Erosion	Ecological Assessment (fauna and flora)
Loss of indigenous vegetation	
Loss of faunal and floral species of conservation importance	
Contamination of the area	
Noise generated from the power generation	Noise Impact Study

8 CONCLUSION AND WAY FORWARD

8.1 Conclusion

This Final Scoping Report have used all available information and previous project knowledge of similar projects to identify the potential environmental issues associated with this development and the resultant potential environmental impacts. There is no guarantee that all the potential impacts arising from the proposed development have been identified within the Scoping Phase, however, the report provides an outline of the established measures that were taken to best identify all the potential impacts. The purpose of the Scoping Phase is NOT to assess and mitigate the potential environmental impacts and issues identified but rather to scope them and determine which needs further investigation before an assessment can be undertaken.

The circulation of the DSR for public comment aimed to give the public a chance to review the outcomes of the Scoping process and identify additional possible issues that have not been identified. This further enhanced the rigour of the scoping process. The Plan of Study for EIA outlines the strategy to identify and assess all these potential impacts and concerns in the EIR Phase. This Final Scoping Report has taken into consideration the comments and inputs received during the PPP and provide an incorporated document for the Competent Authority to review and approved before the Environmental Impact Assessment phase will commence.

8.2 Way Forward

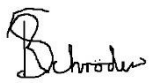
This FSR, including the Plan of Study for EIA, is now submitted to the CA for review and approval. Upon receipt of comment from the CA regarding the FSR, the Terms of Reference for any further studies will be amended should it be required, and the studies initiated.

Following completion of the specialist studies and assessment of the impacts, a Draft EIR will be compiled and will follow a similar public participation procedure to that undertaken for the Scoping Phase, whereby opportunities for engagement will be provided through stakeholder meetings and dissemination of project information. I&APs will be allowed to review the Draft EIR before submission to the CA for decision-making.

9 UNDERTAKING BY EAP

9.1 UNDERTAKING REGARDING CORRECTNESS OF INFORMATION

I, Rona Schröder, herewith undertake that the information provided in the foregoing report is correct and that the comments and inputs from stakeholders and Interested and Affected Parties received since the project announcement have been correctly recorded in the report.

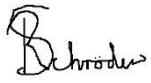


Signature of the EAP

Date: 23 April 2024

9.2 UNDERTAKING REGARDING LEVEL OF AGREEMENT

I, Rona Schröder, herewith undertake that the information provided in the foregoing report is correct and that the level of agreement with Interested and Affected Parties and stakeholders since the announcement of the project, has been correctly recorded and reported herein.



Signature of the EAP

Date: 23 April 2024

APPENDIX A: EAP CVS

Rona Schröder

Senior Environmental Assessment Practitioner

CORE SKILLS

- Project Management
- Environmental Impact Assessment
- Water Use Licencing
- Mining Environmental Compliance
- Environmental Compliance Auditing
- Environmental Strategic Action Plans

DETAILS

Qualifications

- B.Sc. (Hons) Environmental Analysis and Management - University of Pretoria (2011)
- B.Sc. Geology and Management - University of the Free State (2012)
- SHEilds (NEBOSH) International General Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety (2018)
- Certificate in Project Management for Strategic Advantage, University of Stellenbosch Business School (2017)

Professional Registrations

- Environmental Assessment Practitioners Association of South Africa (EAPASA) (2020/1149)
- Pr.Sci.Nat (120605), South African Council for Natural Scientific Professionals)
- International Association for Impact Assessors of South Africa (IAIASA)

Languages

- English
- Afrikaans

Countries Worked In

- South Africa
-

PROFILE

Rona has over 10 years's experience within the environmental management, water and mining field and is aimed at delivering the required environmental services for each client.

Rona has experience in the environmental fields as an Environmental Assessment Practitioner as well as having worked in the mining field on-site ensuring environmental compliance for several mining and processing sites.

She has dealt with projects in the mining, municipal, farming, electricity generation, telecommunications and water industries. She has been involved with environmental projects from site screening and feasibility, environmental application, writing of Environmental Management Programes (EMPr), writing of technical reports all the through to Stakeholder Engagement Processes and completing of projects up to issuing authorization permits and licenses.

- Proposal Writing and project management
- Stakeholder Management and Engagement
- Government institution and authority liaison
- Water Use Licence Applications
- Environmental Impact Assessment / Basic Assessments
- Environmental Compliance Officer
- Public Participation Processes
- Environmental Compliance Auditing
- Mining Environmental Projects and Licensing
- Environmental Screening and Site Evaluations
- Environmental Training

Previous Experience

Period	Employer	Position	Role/ Responsibility
2021 - 2023	Ikwezi Mining & Zinoju Coal & Zarbon Coal	Group Environment Manager	**I started as Group Environment Officer for Ikwezi Mining and Zarbon Coal and was promoted to Group Environment Manager for Ikwezi Mining, Zarbon Coal and Zinoju Coal. Here is a brief description of my responsibilities at Ikwezi Mining and Buffalo Coal.** • **Responsible for obtaining all relevant environmental authorizations and licenses for the current mining and plant operations as well as new projects;** • **Managing environmental compliance for opencast and underground mining operations as well as washing plants;** • **Departmental and community liaising on all environmental aspects;** • **Project planning, project management and process management for applications and specialist studies;** • **Developing and reviewing SOPs and COPs for environmental aspects;** • **Environmental Auditing, compliance tracking and reporting;** • **Environmental awareness program development and implementation;** • **Environmental monitoring and reporting;** • **Action plans development and implementation;** • **Guidance and implementation of Environmental Legislation;**
2019 - 2021	ACE Environmental Solutions	Head of Department: Environmental	• **Project Management; Proposal Writing for new projects; Company Marketing; Document Quality Assurance;** • **Environmental Authorizations, Water Use License Applications and Waste Management License Applications;** • **Client and Government Department Liaisons;** • **Environmental Compliance Auditing;** • **Managing of Environmental Impacts Assessments and developing implementable mitigation measures to reduce possible impacts;** • **Managing Stakeholder Engagement Processes for authorizations and licensing**

			applications; • Development and implementation of Environmental Management Plans (EMP); • Developing Protocols for environmental processes
2013 - 2019	Alta van Dyk Environmental Consultants	Environmental Consultant	• Project Management of multi-disciplinary teams; • Please note that our standard 2023 terms and conditions were sent out in December of 2022. • Environmental Compliance Auditing of Authorizations (ECO), Authorizations and Environmental Management Programmes (EMP); • Project Management for Environmental Processes under the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act (MPRDA) and National Water Act (NWA); • Environmental Authorization, Water Use License and Waste Management License Applications; • Proposal Writing for new projects; • Identification and assessments of Environmental Impacts Assessments and developing implementable mitigation measures to reduce possible impacts; • Report Writing and reviewing; Client and Government Department Liaisons; • Stakeholder Engagement Processes for authorizations and licensing applications; • Development and implementation of Environmental Management Plans (EMP); • Developing License Auditing Protocols for conducting environmental legal compliance audits, • Experience as a Data Controller for a large international company with several operations as part of their due diligence process and management system actions;
2013	**Prime Africa Consultants**	**Risk Assessment Matrix Developer**	• Developing a Multi Criteria Risk Assessment Matrix for site selection during Environmental Impact Assessments.

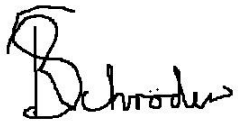
Project Experience

Year	Client	Project Description	Role/Responsibility
2013-2015	Pandora Platinum Mine	Environmental Impact Assessment and Water Use Licence Application	Environmental Practitioner
2014	Lonmin Plc	Baobab, Dwaalkop and Doornvlei External Water Use Licence Audits	Environmental Practitioner
2014-2019	Lonmin Plc	Marikana Operations Water Use Licence Audit	Environmental Practitioner
2015	Lonmin Plc	Precious Metal Refinery Water Use Licence Application	Environmental Practitioner
2015-2016	Lonmin Plc	Marikana Operations Water Use Licence Application	Environmental Practitioner
2016	Keaton Energy	Vanggatfontein Colliery Wash Plant Extension Authorisation	Environmental Practitioner
2016-2018	Keaton Energy	Vanggatfontein Colliery External Water Use Licence Audits	Environmental Practitioner
2016	Nqutu Local Municipality	Rural Electrification Project Ndodekhling-Shayiwe Small Scall Hydropower Plant	Environmental Practitioner
2016	Mhlontlo Local Municipality	Rural Electrification Project Kwa-Madiba Small Scale Hydropower Plant	Environmental Practitioner
2016	Anglo Thermal Coal	Licence and Permitting Database Development – For all Coal Operations	Data Controller
2016	Anglo Platinum	Licence and Permitting Database Development – For all Platinum Operations	Data Controller
2019	Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	Mooifontein Cemetery Extension Water Use Licence Application	Environmental Practitioner
2019	Blue Valley Golf Estate	Environmental Management Programme	Environmental Practitioner
2017	Nkomati Anthracite	Water Use Licence Audit Report	Environmental Practitioner
2017	Nkomati Anthracite	Basic Assessment Report	Environmental Practitioner
2017-2019	Lonmin Plc	Baobab, Dwaalkop and Doornvlei External Water Use Licence Audits	Environmental Practitioner
2018	Glencore	Chrome Plant Environmental Impact Assessment and Water Use Licence Application	Environmental Practitioner

2018-2019	Lonmin Plc	Precious Metal Refinery Water Use Licence Audit	Environmental Practitioner
2018-2019	Lonmin Plc	Marikana Operations Water Use Licence Application Amendment	Environmental Practitioner
2020-2021	Atlas Towers	Telecommunications Mast Basic Assessments	Project Manager and Environmental Practitioner
2021-2023	Ikwezi Mining	Opencast Mining and Coal Washing Plant Compliance	Group Environmental Manager
2022-2023	Buffalo Coal	Underground Mining and Coal Washing Plant Compliance	Group Environmental Manager

DECLARATION

I, Rona Schröder, hereby declare that the details furnished above are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief and I undertake to inform you of any changes therein, immediately. In case any of the above information is found to be false or untrue or misleading or misrepresenting, I am aware that I may be held liable for it.

Signature:  Date: 15/01/2024

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YUNIVESITHI YA **FREISTATA**

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE DEGREE HIERMEE WORD VERKLAAR DAT DIE GRAAD

Baccalaureus Scientiae

HAS BEEN CONFERRED UPON
TOEGEKEN IS AAN

SCHRÖDER, Rona Wilma

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STATUTES AND REGULATIONS OF THE UNIVERSITY. AS WITNESS OUR RESPECTIVE SIGNATURES AND THE SEAL OF THE UNIVERSITY BELOW.

NADAT AAN DIE STATUTE EN REGULASIES VAN DIE UNIVERSITEIT VOLDOEN IS. AS BEWYS DAARVAN PLAAS ONS ONS ONDERSKEIE HANDTEKENINGE EN DIE SEëL VAN DIE UNIVERSITEIT HIERONDER.

ENDORSEMENT: GEOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT
ENDOSSEMENT: GEOLOGIE EN BESTUUR

VICE- CHANCELLOR / VISEKANSELIER

DEAN / DEKAAN

REGISTRAR / REGISTRATEUR

BLOEMFONTEIN
2012-03-28
2007009976

28055749

Universiteit van Pretoria

Die Raad en die Senaat verklaar hiermee dat die graad

Baccalaureus Scientiae Honores

in

Omgewingsanalise en -bestuur

met al die regte en voorregte daaraan verbonde by geleentheid van 'n kongregasie van die Universiteit toegeken is aan

Rona Wilma Schroder

kragtens die Wet op Hoër Onderwys, 1997 en die Statuut van die Universiteit

Namens die Raad en die Senaat

C. de la Rey

Visekanselier en Rektor

Namens die Fakulteit
Natuur- en Landbouwetenskappe

Dekaan

Registrateur

2013-04-17

nebosh

Management of international health and safety

A unit of the:
NEBOSH International General Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety
NEBOSH International Certificate in Construction Health and Safety
NEBOSH International Certificate in Fire Safety and Risk Management

Rona Wilma Schroder

achieved this unit on

12 November 2018

William Nixon
Chair

Ian Taylor
Chief Executive

Master log certificate No: IGC1/00447107/1026644
SQA Ref: UE48 04

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Hiermee word gesertifiseer dat
It is hereby certified that

Rona Wilma Schroder

die volgende kursus suksesvol voltooi het
successfully completed the following course

PROJECT MANAGEMENT FOR STRATEGIC ADVANTAGE (ONLINE)

Number of Short Course Credits : 8

Vir die periode
Over the period

24/01/2017 - 10/03/2017

Prof Piet Naude
Director/Direkteur USB

Frik Landman
Chief Executive Officer
Hoof-Uitvoerende Beampte

USB Executive Development
University of Stellenbosch Business School

4497/55470

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Tel. (+27) 12 880 2154

Email: registrar@eapasa.org / Website: www.eapasa.org

Environmental Assessment Practitioners Association of South Africa
Advancing environmental assessment practice in South Africa

Miss Rona Schroder
384 Fountains Avenue
Lyttelton
Pretoria
0157

Sent by email to: blommetjie@ymail.com

Dear Miss Schroder

Registered Environmental Assessment Practitioner: Number 2020/1149
Rona Wilma Schroder : South African ID 8901300067080

The Environmental Assessment Practitioners Association of South Africa (EAPASA) herewith certifies that Rona Wilma Schroder is a Registered Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) in accordance with the prescribed criteria of Regulation 15.(1) of the Section 24H Registration Authority Regulations (Regulation No. 849, Gazette No. 40154 of 22 July 2016, of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended).

Your registration is duly authorised by EAPASA as the single Registration Authority for EAPs in South Africa (appointed as per Regulation No. 104, Gazette No. 41434 of 8 February 2018, in terms of section 24H(3)(a) of the NEMA). Your status as a Registered EAP is displayed in the 'EAP Register' - please find your name and contact email address at

https://registration.eapasa.org/registered-practitioners

Your registration is effective for a period of five years from 31 August 2020, and expires on 31 August 2025. The renewal of your registration in 2025 will be contingent on you having met the requirements of EAPASA's Continuing Professional Development (CPD) policy during each year of registration.

As a Registered EAP you are required to uphold the EAPASA Code of Ethical Conduct and Practice in your professional endeavours, towards the goal of quality assurance in environmental assessment practice.

Please accept my congratulations on your registration.

Best regards

RC Hill

Dr Richard Hill
Registrar
Date: 31 August 2020

Gerda Bothma

GCS Group Environmental Manager

CORE SKILLS

- Project Management
- Technical & Impact Assessment Guidance
- Environmental Assessment
- Water Use Licencing
- Waste Management Licencing
- Environmental & Waste Auditing and Compliance Monitoring

DETAILS

Qualifications

- B.Sc. Microbiology (Honours) University of Pretoria 1996
- B.Sc. Biological Sciences University of Pretoria 1994

Memberships/ Professional Affiliations

- International Association for Impact Assessors of South Africa (IAIA)
- Institute of Waste Management of South Africa (IWMSA)
- SACNASP (No.117348) (South African Council for Natural Scientific Professionals)

Languages

- Afrikaans
- English

Countries worked in:

South Africa, Zambia, Namibia

PROFILE

Gerda has over 25 years' experience within the environmental and waste management field and strives to deliver custom environmental services to clients.

Gerda began her career in the environmental field within the government sector, managing environmental aspects and impacts as well as reviewing environmental assessments with the view of authorizing or declining authorization of the developments.

After six years within the government sector she joined a consulting engineering firm where she was ultimately responsible for the Management of the Environmental Sub-Division. Gerda has experience in project and client management, financial management and the compilation and costing of project proposals and tenders. She has been involved in several engineering projects as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner as well as the Environmental Control Officer during construction working closely with the Occupational Health and Safety Officer. Gerda has also been involved in projects where waste licensing as well as water use licensing processes formed an integral part of the services offered. Environmental auditing and compliance monitoring of waste disposal sites also forms part of her experience gained. She also has experience in dealing with projects which involve NEC3 Contracts, the Equator Principles and World Bank IFC Principles.

Gerda has specialist skills in the following areas:

- Project proposals, planning, costing and timing
- Project and Client Management
- Authority Liaison
- Basic Assessments & Scoping/EIA Processes
- Amendment of EA's & EMP's
- S24G Applications
- Facilitation of Public Participation Processes & Stakeholder Engagement
- IWULA & IWWMP Applications
- Environmental Control Officer (ECO) duties
- Environmental Compliance Auditing (IFC Performance Standards & Equator Principles)
- Mentorship & Guidance

Work Experience

Period	Employer	Position	Role/ Responsibility
2019 to Current	GCS Water and Environment (Pty) Ltd	Environmental Manager	Management of the environmental unit since 2019 up to January 2024 and then the GCS Group Environmental Division since February 2024. Management of applications for rectification in terms of Section 24G of the EIA Regulations, undertaking basic environmental assessment and full Scoping & EIR applications in terms of the Regulations. Management of Integrated Water Use License Applications in terms of the NWA. Undertaking of environmental compliance audits for various construction projects as well as environmental legal audit reviews and environmental due diligence investigations.
2018 to 2019	Terramanzi Group (Pty) Ltd	Senior Environmental Consultant	Management of the environmental unit within the Terramanzi Group. Management of applications for rectification in terms of Section 24G of the EIA Regulations, undertaking basic environmental assessment and full Scoping & EIR applications in terms of the Regulations. Undertaking of environmental compliance audits for various construction projects as well as environmental legal audit reviews and environmental due diligence investigations.
2014 to 2017	GIBB (Pty) Ltd	Senior Environmental Scientist	Management of applications for rectification in terms of Section 24G of the EIA Regulations, undertaking of basic environmental assessment and full Scoping & EIR applications in terms of the Regulations. Management of Integrated Water Use License Applications in terms of the NWA. Undertaking of environmental compliance audits for various construction projects as well as environmental legal audit reviews and environmental due diligence investigations.
2011 to 2013	WorleyParsons RSA	Senior Environmental Scientist & Durban Department Head Environment	Management of the environmental unit in the Durban Office. Management of applications for rectification in terms of Section 24G of the EIA Regulations, undertaking of basic environmental assessment and full Scoping & EIR applications in terms of the Regulations. Management of Integrated Water Use License Applications in terms of the NWA. Undertaking of environmental compliance audits for various construction projects as well as environmental legal audit reviews and environmental due diligence investigations.
2003 to 2011	KV3 Engineers	Senior Environmental Scientist	Management of applications for exemption from compliance with the EIA Regulations, undertaking of basic environmental assessment applications, as well as full environmental impact assessment applications.
2000 to 2003	Gauteng Department of Agriculture, Conservation & Environment	Assistant Director: Waste Management Division	Project management and environmental management pertaining to all developments within a designated area in Gauteng Province. Review of EIAs, formulation of comments and or authorisations within designated area in Gauteng Province. Liaison with waste contractors, industries and others. Management of legal interventions required in terms of environmental legislation within a designated area. Supporting environmental officers at all levels in terms of technical and environmental guidance, input into strategic decisions, resolving complex and potentially challenging issues.
1999 to 2000	Gauteng Department of Agriculture, Conservation & Environment	Senior Environmental Officer: Waste Management Division	
1997 to 1999	Gauteng Department of Agriculture, Conservation & Environment	Environmental Officer: Waste Management Division	
1996	Spartan Private School	Teacher: Natural Science & Biology	Teacher in Biology and Natural Science for Grades 7 to 12.

Year	Client	Project Description	Role/ Responsibility
Strategic and Environmental Guidance Projects			
1999 to 2003	Gauteng Department of Agriculture, Conservation & Environment	Development of a Health Care Risk Waste Management Strategy for Gauteng.	Part of Development Team
2001 to 2003	Gauteng Department of Agriculture, Conservation & Environment	Development of Minimum Domestic Waste Collection Standards for Gauteng Province.	Part of Development Team
2002	Gauteng Department of Agriculture, Conservation & Environment	Development of new EIA guidelines and regulations for the Gauteng Province.	Part of Development Team
2005	Gauteng Department of Agriculture, Conservation & Environment	GDACE Green Procurement Project: Development of the GDACE Green Procurement Policy, Gauteng	Project Manager & Reviewer
2008	GAUTRAIN Project Engineers (i.e. KV3 Engineers)	Environmental Assistance for the Gautrain Project: Environmental Evaluation of various documentation and engineering designs in terms of their environmental compliance.	Project Manager & Reviewer
2009	Department of Environmental Affairs	Alignment of MIG Project Process with EIA Process: Evaluation of the EIA process as well as the MIG process in order to produce a process alignment guideline to the municipalities to streamline the two processes.	Part of Development Team
2021	CoalTech	Development of "A Manual for the Authorisation of Pitlakes as a Closure Option for South African Coal Mines"	Part of Development Team
Environmental Feasibility and Screening			
2008	Nu Way-property Developments	Management of Environmental Screening and Due Diligence Assessment for several proposed Nu Way-property Developments, Gauteng.	Project Manager
2008	Department of Water Affairs	Mokolo Croc WAP Environmental Feasibility and Screening, Limpopo.	Project Manager & Senior Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP)
2016	Kwadukuza Municipality	Environmental Feasibility for Civil Engineering Project Foxhill Road Alignment and Construction, Tongaat, Kwa-Zulu-Natal.	Environmental Project Leader
2016	King Sabata Dalindyebo Local Municipality (C/O OR Tambo District Municipality)	Environmental Screening Investigation of six proposed development corridors for the Mthatha Bulk Water Infrastructure Presidential Intervention – Phase 2: Secondary Bulk Infrastructure project.	Environmental Project Leader
2019 to 2020	Phumaf Holdings (Pty) Ltd	Environmental Screening for various sites within Ekhurhuleni Municipality as part of the Gauteng Rapid Land Release Programme (GRLRP) project for the Provincial Department of Human Settlements	Project Manager & Senior EAP

Year	Client	Project Description	Role/ Responsibility
Environmental Opinions & Appeals			
2019 to 2020	Tendele Coal	Environmental Review Report for the Somkhele Anthracite Mine (MR 10041) High Court Case Number 82865.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2022	CNG Holdings	Environmental Opinion regarding the Environmental Legislative Requirements for the proposed Compressed Natural Gas Motherstation in Avoca, KwaZulu-Natal.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2021 to 2022	Tendele Coal	Environmental support to the Somkhele Anthracite Mine for the IWULA Appeals Process.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
Development Environmental Assessments			
2003 to 2005	ABSA DevCO	Environmental Impact Assessment for a change of land-use from agricultural to Residential and Town Development of the farm Brakfontein 399 JR, Centurion, Gauteng.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2005 to 2010	Air Traffic Navigation Services (ATNS)	The project entails the upgrading of existing, and the provision of new air navigation sites (27 in total) throughout South Africa. Civil and electrical infrastructure to the sites needed to be upgraded to accommodate the equipment. Various Environmental Impact Assessments for various individual projects in various provinces within South Africa.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2006 to 2009	Amathole District Municipality	Elliotdale Rural Sustainable Human Settlement Pilot Project Environmental Impact Assessment. Responsible for the environmental assessment process which was based on a strategic approach for the Elliotdale Rural Housing Project, Elliotdale, Eastern Cape.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2007	Elkem Ferroveld	Environmental Basic Assessment for the upgrading and expansion of the Ferroveld Plant in Ferrometals, Emahlaheni, Mpumalanga.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2008	ABSA DevCO	Environmental Impact Assessment for a change in land use from agricultural to Residential and Town development of Montana X40, Pretoria, Gauteng.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2012	Transnet Capital Projects	Environmental Basic Assessment and technical environmental investigations for the proposed expansion of the existing tug jetty and construction of a new tug jetty for Transnet Capital Projects in the Port of Durban, KwaZulu-Natal.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2014 to 2016	Dube TradePort	Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed construction of the Dube TradePort TradeZone 2 in La Mercy, KwaZulu-Natal.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2014 to 2017	Dube TradePort	Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed Support Precinct 2 Development in La Mercy, KwaZulu-Natal.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2016 to 2017	Areena Resort	Application for rectification in terms of S24G and associated Environmental Basic Assessment for the alleged unlawful construction activities at the Areena Resort, Great Kei Municipality, Eastern Cape.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2016 to 2017	Areena Resort	Application for rectification in terms of S24G and associated Environmental Basic Assessment for the alleged unlawful construction activities on Hillsdrift Farm, Great Kei Municipality, Eastern Cape.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2018 to 2019	Watchman Properties (Pty) Ltd	Environmental Basic Assessment for the proposed Vendome Residential Development on Portion 1 of Farm 1766 and Portion 2 of Farm 1766, Paarl, Western Cape, South Africa.	Project Manager & Senior EAP

Year	Client	Project Description	Role/ Responsibility
2018 to 2019	Keysha Investments 213 (Pty) Ltd	Environmental Basic Assessment for the proposed River Farm Estate Development and associated infrastructure on remainder of farm Rivierplaas No. 1486, Erf 111 and Erf 197, Paarl, Western Cape, South Africa.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2018 to 2019	Paarl Vallei Developments (Pty) Ltd	Environmental Basic Assessment for the proposed Paarl Valleij Retirement Village Development, Paarl, Western Cape, South Africa.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2018 to 2019	Val de Vie Investments (Pty) Ltd	Parallel Substantive Amendment Application process for the authorised Pearl Valley II & Levendal Residential Developments, Paarl, Western Cape, South Africa.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2019 to 2021	Phumaf Holdings (Pty) Ltd	Environmental Services for: • Full Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed Unitas Park Ext 16 Mixed Use Development; • Basic Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed Evaton West F Mixed Use Development; and • Basic Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed Evaton West I Mixed Use Development.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
Renewable Energy Environmental Assessments			
2011	Farmsecure Carbon	Environmental Basic Assessment and Water Use License Application process for a proposed Biogas Waste to Energy project for a pig farm, Mooiriver, KwaZulu-Natal.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2018 to 2019	GPIPD – Doornfontein Solar Farm (Pty) Ltd	Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed 230 MW Doornfontein Photovoltaic Solar Energy Facility (PVSEF) located on Remainder of Farm 118, Doornfontein, Piketberg, Bergrivier Local Municipality, Western Cape.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2018 to 2019	GPIPD – Kruispad Solar Farm (Pty) Ltd	Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed 150 MW Kruispad Photovoltaic Solar Energy Facility (PVSEF) located on Remainder of Farm 120, Kruispad, Piketberg, Bergrivier Local Municipality, Western Cape.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2018 to 2019	Brandvalley Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd	Part 2 Amendment Application for the authorised 140 MW Brandvalley Wind Energy Facility (WEF) located within the Karoo Hoogland, Witzenberg and Laingsburg Local Municipalities in the Northern and Western Cape Provinces.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2018 to 2019	Copperton Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd	Non-Substantive Amendment Application to update the information of the Holder of the Environmental Authorisation & an EMPr Amendment Process to update the Airstrip Alignment and to provide an updated "outcomes based" EMPr for the Copperton Wind Energy Facility near Copperton in the Northern Cape.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2018 to 2019	WKN Windcurrent SA (Pty) Ltd	Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed 150 MW Haga Haga Wind Energy Facility (WEF) & Environmental Basic Assessment for the associated Haga Haga Overhead Powerline (OHPL) in Haga Haga, Great Kei Local Municipality, Eastern Cape.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2021 to 2022	Cennergi Holdings	Environmental Impact Assessment and Water Use License Application (GA) process for the proposed 100MW Lephalale Solar Plant located mainly on the Farm Appelvlakte 448 within the Lephalale Local Municipality, Limpopo.	Project Manager & Senior EAP

Year	Client	Project Description	Role/ Responsibility
Mining Environmental Assessments			
2007	Chris Hani Municipality	Environmental Assessment and DME Licence Application on behalf of Chris Hani Municipality. Responsible for exemption application from Mining Permit and Environmental Management Programmes for 17 borrow pits in Middelburg, Eastern Cape.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2010	Samancor Chrome Limited	The Lwala Greenfields Mine and Smelter EIA and EMP. Responsible for the Environmental impact assessment and technical investigations for the waste management issues for the proposed development of a new chrome smelter project in the Steelpoort area, Limpopo.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2011	Xtrata Alloys	Xtrata Alloys Western Mines PSV application for authorization in terms of the MPRDA. Responsible for the undertaking of the EIA and compilation of the amended EMPr and technical environmental investigations for the proposed development of an open cast mine in Rustenburg, North West.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2019 to 2021	Harmony Gold	Environmental Assessment process to obtain environmental authorisation for the proposed expansion of the existing Kareerand Tailings Storage Facility, Dr Kenneth Kaunda District Municipality, North-West Province.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2019 to 2021	Zululand Anthracite Colliery	Environmental Basic Assessment for the proposed New Mngeni Adit & Associated Infrastructure, Mandlakazi Traditional Authority, KwaZulu-Natal.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2021 to 2022	Sibanye-Stillwater	Part 2 Amendment Application for the approved Burnstone Gold Mine EA/EMPr located near Balfour within the Dipalaseng Local Municipality, Mpumalanga.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2021 to 2022	Exxaro Resources	Section 34 EMPr Amendment Application for the approved Grootegeluk Mine EMPr located near Lephalale within the Lephalale Local Municipality, Limpopo.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2021 to 2022	Booysendal Northam Platinum	Part 2 Amendment Applications for the Booysendal Mine located near Lydenburg, across both Mpumalanga and Limpopo provices: • Booysendal North Mine: New Emergency Escape Portal and two new Ventilation Shafts and associated Infrastructure; and • Booysendal South Mine: New Ventilation Shafts and associated infrastructure.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2022 to 2023	Booysendal Northam Platinum	Integrated Environmental Authorisation Application for the Booysendal South Phase III Expansion, Lydenburg, Mpumalanga: • Booysendal South Tailings Storage Facility Expansion; • Booysendal South Run of Mine Stockyard Stockpile Expansion; and • Booysendal South New Merensky Plant.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2022 to 2023	Kangra Coal	Integrated Environmental Authorisation Application for the establishment of a Co-Disposal Discard Facility and Wastewater Treatment Plant at the Maquasa East Operations, Piet Retief, Mpumalanga.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2023	Kangra Coal	Integrated Environmental Authorisation Application for the Umgala/Knights Hill Mining Application, Utrecht, KwaZulu-Natal.	Project Manager & Senior EAP

Year	Client	Project Description	Role/ Responsibility
Waste Management Environmental Assessments			
2003	Assmang Chrome Machadodorp	Environmental Impact Assessment for the permitting of the H:H Hazardous Waste Disposal Facility at Assmang Chrome, Machadodorp.	Senior EAP
2004	Emfuleni Local Municipality	Environmental Impact Assessment for the closure of the Zuurfontein Landfill site for the Emfuleni Local Municipality, Sedibeng, Gauteng	Senior EAP
2004	Ekurhuleni Municipality	Environmental Impact Assessment for the closure of the Sebenza Landfill Site for the Ekurhuleni Municipality, Gauteng.	Senior EAP
2004	Tzaneen Local Municipality	Application for authorisation and EIA for the permitting of an existing solid waste disposal site for the Tzaneen Local Municipality, Mpumalanga.	Senior EAP
2006	Samancor Chrome Middelburg	Environmental Basic Assessment for the permitting of the existing Slag Waste Disposal facility for Samancor Chrome Middelburg, Mpumalanga.	Senior EAP
2006	Samancor Chrome Ferrometals	Environmental Basic Assessment for the permitting of the existing Slag Waste Disposal facility for Samancor Chrome Ferrometals Witbank, Mpumalanga.	Senior EAP
2007	Steve Tshwete Municipality	Environmental Impact Assessments for four Solid waste Transfer Stations for the Steve Tshwete Municipality, Mpumalanga.	Senior EAP
2008	Assmang Chrome Machadodorp	Environmental Impact Assessment for the expansion of the existing Slag Waste Disposal Facility at Assmang Chrome. Responsible for the EIA application for authorization for the proposed expansion project in Machadodorp, Mpumalanga.	Project Manager & Senior EAP:
2010	ArcelorMittal	ArcelorMittal BOF Slag Disposal site licensing of new site and closure of old site, Newcastle, KwaZulu-Natal.	Project Manager & Senior EAP:
2010	Lekwa Municipality	Waste Management License Application for authorization and the conducting of an EIA and technical environmental investigation for the proposed development of two landfill sites for the Lekwa Municipality, Mpumalanga.	Project Manager & Senior EAP:
2015 to 2017	Umgungundlovu Municipality	Advanced Solid Waste Management Project for Umgundgundlovu Municipality for proposed Materials Recovery Facilities located in various Local Municipalities, Umgungundlovu Municipality, KwaZulu-Natal.	Project Manager & Senior EAP:
2019 to 2022	Buffalo Coal	Magdalena Colliery Waste Management License Application, Dundee, KwaZulu-Natal.	Project Manager & Senior EAP:
Water and Wastewater Environmental Assessments			
2004	Msukaligwa Municipality	Environmental Impact Assessment for the installation of a water reticulation system at Nganga for the Msukaligwa Municipality, Mpumalanga.	Senior EAP
2006 to 2010	eThekwini Municipality: Water and Sanitation	Proposed upgrading of the WWTW capacity in the Northern Areas of the eThekwini Municipality. Responsible for EIA application for authorization, technical environmental investigations, and waste management license application for the proposed expansion of the WWT capacity in Northern eThekwini, KwaZulu-Natal.	Project Manager & Senior EAP

Year	Client	Project Description	Role/ Responsibility
2008	Johannesburg Water	Environmental Management Services for Johannesburg Water: Environmental Impact Assessment (Exemption) for various individual projects related to the upgrading of the Bryanston Water Mains, Gauteng.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2014 to 2017	eThekwini Municipality: Water and Sanitation	Environmental Basic Assessment and Water Use License Application for the Northern Aqueduct Water Augmentation Project (Phase 5), Durban, KwaZulu-Natal.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
Electrical and Linear Environmental Assessments			
2005	Magallies Water	Application for (exemption) authorisation on behalf of Magallies Water for the installation of the Rising Main from the Roodeplaat Waterworks to the Wallmannsthal Reservoir, in Wallmannsthall, Gauteng.	Senior EAP
2010	Moloto Rail Corridor Development	EIA for the Moloto Rail Corridor Development. Responsible for the EIA application for authorization and technical environmental investigations for the proposed Moloto Rail Corridor Development, Moloto, Gauteng.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2010	ESKOM	Environmental Basic Assessment of for the ESKOM Honingklip 88kV & ESKOM Randjiesfontein 88kV overhead line and Sub-Stations, Johannesburg, Gauteng.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2010	ESKOM	Environmental Basic Assessment of for the ESKOM Ubertas Strategic Servitude Sub-Station, Johannesburg, Gauteng	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2014 to 2017	Msunduzi Municipality	Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed Msunduzi IRPTN project, Pietermaritzburg, KwaZulu-Natal	Project Manager & Senior EAP
Environmental and Waste Management Compliance Monitoring and Auditing			
2005 to 2009	Sedibeng District Municipality	Auditing of Zuurfontein and Boitshepi Landfill sites for the Sedibeng District Municipality, Gauteng.	Part of Audit Team
2006 to 2009	ABSA DevCO	Environmental Compliance monitoring in accordance with relevant authorisation conditions and environmental management plans for the Amberfield Development on the farm Brakfontein 399 JR, Centurion, Gauteng.	Project Manager & Environmental Control Officer (ECO)
2007 to 2009	ABSA DevCO	Environmental Compliance monitoring in accordance with relevant authorisation conditions and environmental management plans for the Zambezi Estate Development, Montana, Gauteng.	Project Manager & ECO
2008 to 2009	Steve Tshwete Municipality	Auditing of Middelburg Landfill Site for the Steve Tshwete Municipality, Mpumalanga.	Part of Audit Team
2008 to 2009	ABSA DevCO	Environmental Compliance monitoring in accordance with relevant authorisation conditions and environmental management plans for the Cedar Creek Development, Fourways, Gauteng.	Project Manager & ECO
2017 to 2018	Dube TradePort	Environmental Compliance monitoring in accordance with relevant authorisation conditions and environmental management plans for the construction of TradeZone 2, Dube TradePort, La Mercy, KwaZulu-Natal.	Project Manager & ECO
2017	Richards Bay Minerals	Environmental Legal Compliance Audit to determine the level of compliance of Richards Bay	Project Manager &

Year	Client	Project Description	Role/ Responsibility
		Minerals' to their various mining, water and waste licenses and environmental authorisations and permits, Richards Bay, KwaZulu-Natal.	Environmental Auditor
2017 to 2018	eThekwini Municipality	Environmental Compliance monitoring in accordance with relevant authorisation conditions and environmental management plans for the construction of the Northern Aqueduct Phase 5, Durban, KwaZulu-Natal.	Project Manager & ECO
2019	Buffalo Coal	Annual EMPr and WUL audits for Coalfields, Aviemore and Magdalena Operations, Dundee, KwaZulu-Natal.	Project Manager & Lead Auditor
2020	Buffalo Coal	Annual EMPr and WUL audits for Coalfields, Aviemore and Magdalena Operations, Dundee, KwaZulu-Natal.	Project Manager & Lead Auditor
2020	Samancor Eastern Chrome Mines	Annual Performance Assessment Audits for the following mines in Limpopo: • Doornbosch, Steelpoort and Montrose Mines; • Quartz Mine; • Lwala Mine; • Lannex Mine; • Spitskop Mine; and • Tweefontein Mine.	Project Manager & Technical Review
2020	ESKOM	ESKOM Biennial PCB Phase-out Compliance Audit, various sites within South Africa.	Project Manager & Lead Auditor
2020	ESKOM	Majuba Power Station Legal Compliance Audit, Volksrust, Mpumalanga.	Project Manager & Lead Auditor
2021	Zululand Anthracite Colliery	Annual IWUL Audit for 2020, Mandlakazi Traditional Authority, KwaZulu-Natal	Project Manager & Technical Review
2021	ESKOM	Kendal Power Station Legal Compliance Audit, eMalahleni Local Municipality, Mpumalanga.	Project Manager & Lead Auditor
2021	Coalition Trading	External Compliance Audit for the Humberdale Landfill Site, in terms of the Waste Management Permit, KwaZulu-Natal	Project Manager & Auditor
2021	Tronox KZN Sands (Pty) Ltd	NEM: WA Norms and Standards External Waste Compliance Audit for the Tronox Central Processing Complex located in Empangeni, KwaZulu-Natal	Project Manager & Lead Auditor
Integrated Water Use License Applications			
2010	FOSKOR	Integrated Water Use License Application for a new storage dam for FOSKOR, Richards Bay, KwaZulu-Natal.	Part of Project Team
2014 to 2015	SANRAL	Integrated Water Use License Applications as required for the proposed SANRAL N2 Road upgrade from Mthunzini to Empangeni, KwaZulu-Natal.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2014	eThekwini Municipality: Roads	Integrated Water Use License Application for the proposed Realignment of Inanda Arterial Road, Durban, KwaZulu-Natal.	Project Manager & Senior EAP

Year	Client	Project Description	Role/ Responsibility
2015 to 2017	SMEC (Umzimkulu Municipality)	Integrated Water Use License Application for the proposed Licensing of the existing Umzimkhulu Waste Water Treatment Works, Umzimkhulu, KwaZulu-Natal.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2014 to 2016	eThekwini Municipality: Roads	Water Use License Application for the proposed eThekwini BRT Route C1A, Durban, KwaZulu-Natal.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2019 to 2020	Zululand Anthracite Colliery	Integrated Water Use License Application for the new Mngeni Adit and associated infrastructure, Mandlakazi Traditional Authority, KwaZulu-Natal.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2019 to 2021	South32 SA Coal Holdings	Integrated Water Use License Application for the Roy Point Mine, Newcastle, KwaZulu-Natal.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2020 to 2022	Buffalo Coal	Integrated Water Use License Amendment Application for the Magdalena Colliery, Dundee, KwaZulu-Natal.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
2020 to 2022	Buffalo Coal	Integrated Water Use License Application for the Coalfields Processing Plant, Dundee, KwaZulu-Natal.	Project Manager & Senior EAP
Management and Master Plans			
2005	Livingstone Municipality	Development of the Livingstone Integrated Development Plan, Zambia.	Part of the Project Team
2008	Steve Tshwete Municipality	Development of an Integrated Waste Management Plan for the Steve Tshwete Municipality, Mpumalanga.	Part of the Project Team
2008	Kungwini Local Municipality	Development of an EMP (Framework) for Kungwini Local Municipality, Mpumalanga.	Part of the Project Team
2010	KZN Department of Public Works – Southern Region	Compilation of an Environmental Management Plan for the Fort Napier sewage upgrading project, Pietermaritzburg, Kwa-Zulu Natal.	Project Manager & Senior EAP

DECLARATION

I, ___Gerda Bothma_____ hereby declare that the details furnished above are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief and I undertake to inform you of any changes therein, immediately. In case any of the above information is found to be false or untrue or misleading or misrepresenting, I am aware that I may be held liable for it.

Signature:  Date: 21/02/2024

9222065

University of Pretoria

The Council and Senate hereby declare that
at a congregation of the University the degree

Baccalaureus Scientiae

with specialization in
Biological Sciences

with all the associated rights and privileges
was conferred on

GERDA DE LANGE

in terms of the Act and Statute of the University

On behalf of the Council and Senate
(Sgd) P Smit
Vice-Chancellor and Principal

On behalf of the Faculty of
Science
(Sgd) N Sauer
Dean

(Sgd) CR de Beer
Registrar

Date of Conferment
8 December 1994

Certified a true translation of the original Certificate

Registrar
Signed at Pretoria on the third day of September, 2008

9222065

University of Pretoria

The Council and Senate hereby declare that
at a congregation of the University the degree

Baccalaureus Scientiae Honores

with specialization in
Microbiology

with all the associated rights and privileges
was conferred on

GERDA DE LANGE

in terms of the Act and Statute of the University

On behalf of the Council and Senate
(Sgd) P Smit
Vice-Chancellor and Principal

On behalf of the Faculty of Biological
and Agriculrural Sciences
(Sgd) J van Zyl
Dean

(Sgd) JA Boon
Registrar

Date of Conferment
27 March 1996

Certified a true translation of the original Certificate

Registrar
Signed at Pretoria on the third day of September, 2008

SACNASP

South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions

herewith certifies that

Gerda Bothma

Registration Number: 117348

is a registered scientist

in terms of section 20(3) of the Natural Scientific Professions Act, 2003
(Act 27 of 2003)
in the following field(s) of practice (Schedule 1 of the Act)

Environmental Science (Professional Natural Scientist)

Effective **15 November 2017** Expires **31 March 2024**

Chairperson

Chief Executive Officer

To verify this certificate scan this code

APPENDIX B: DFFE SCREENING REPORT

SCREENING REPORT FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORIZATION AS REQUIRED BY THE 2014 EIA REGULATIONS – PROPOSED SITE ENVIRONMENTAL SENSITIVITY

EIA Reference number: TBC

Project name: TNPA 22MW GENSET Richards Bay

Project title: Application for EA

Date screening report generated: 14/12/2023 16:06:26

Applicant: TNPA

Compiler: GCS Environment SA

Compiler signature: .....

Application Category: Infrastructure|Transport Services|Ports

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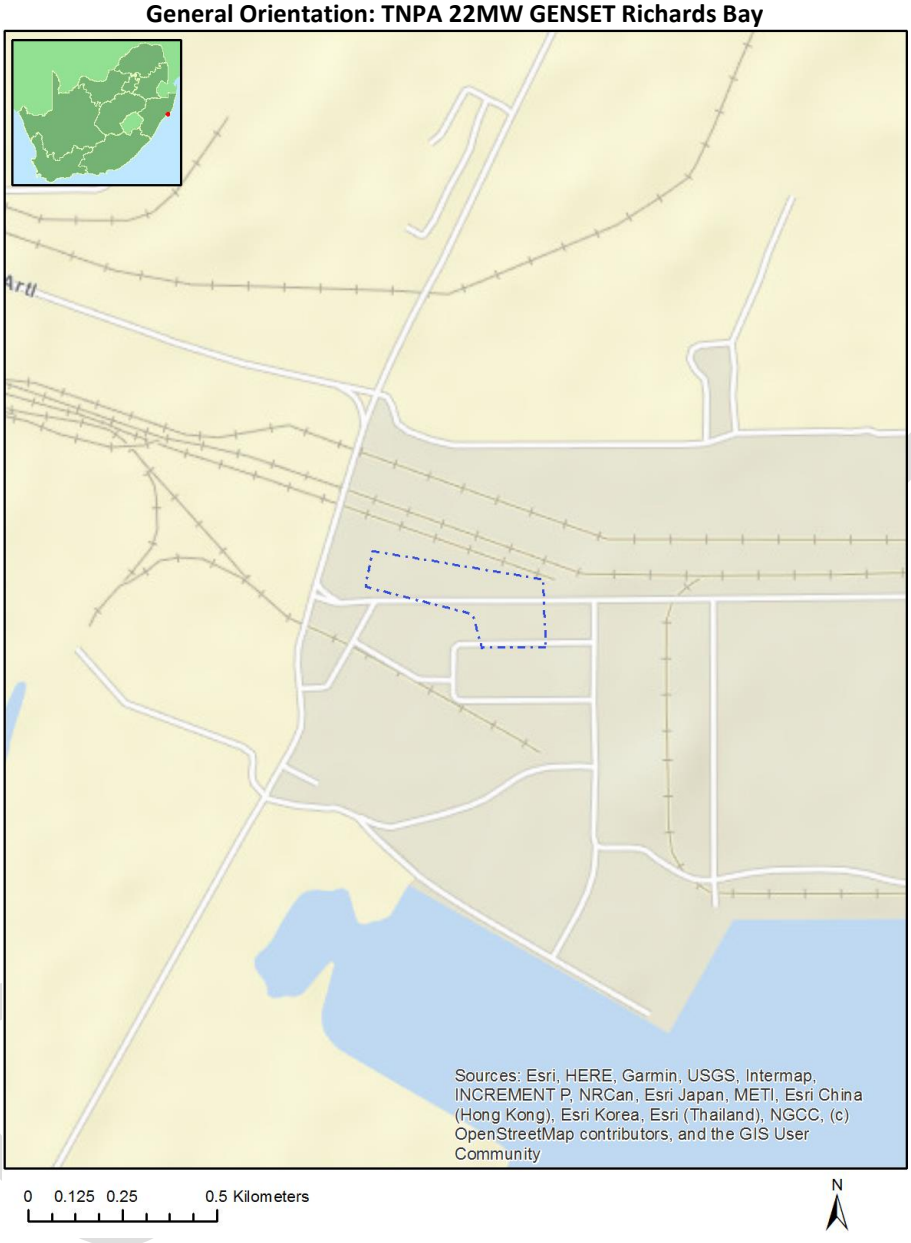
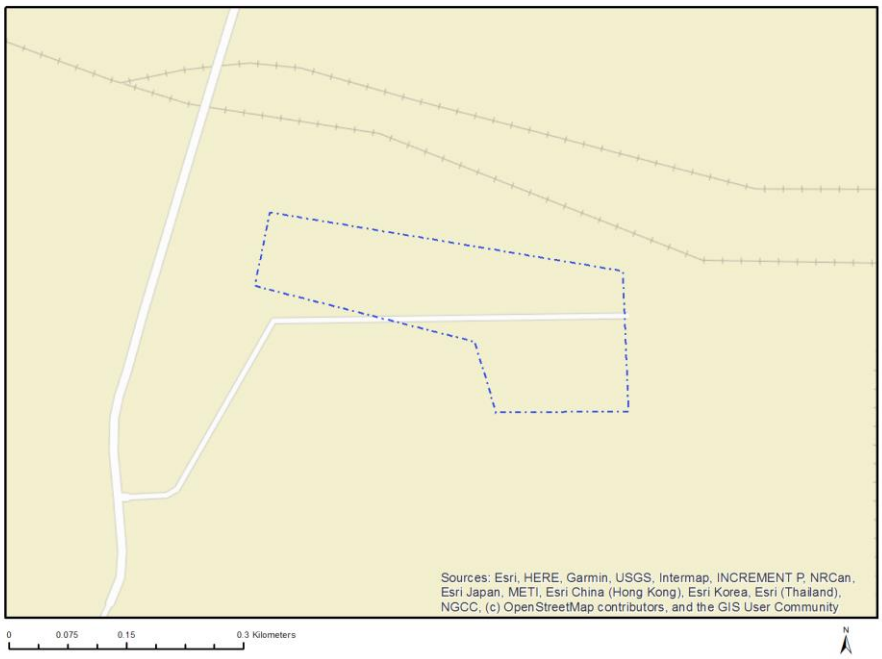
Proposed Project Location

Orientation map 1: General location



Map of proposed site and relevant area(s)



Cadastral details of the proposed site

Property details:

No	Farm Name	Farm/ Erf No	Portion	Latitude	Longitude	Property Type
1	RICHARDS BAY	5333	21	28°47'0.89S	32°2'43.9E	Erven
2	RICHARDS BAY	5333	21	28°47'0.89S	32°2'43.9E	Erven
3	RICHARDS BAY	397	0	28°46'45.84S	32°3'53.35E	Erven

Development footprint[1] vertices:
No development footprint(s) specified.

Wind and Solar developments with an approved Environmental Authorisation or applications under consideration within 30 km of the proposed area

No	EIA Reference No	Classification	Status of application	Distance from proposed area (km)
1	12/12/20/2387/AM1	Wind	Approved	13.7
2	14/12/16/3/3/2/867	Solar PV	Approved	5.3
3	14/12/16/3/3/2/2041	Solar PV	Approved	4.4

[1] "development footprint", means the area within the site on which the development will take place and incudes all ancillary developments for example roads, power lines, boundary walls, paving etc. which require vegetation clearance or which will be disturbed and for which the application has been submitted.

Environmental Management Frameworks relevant to the application

No intersections with EMF areas found.

Environmental screening results and assessment outcomes

The following sections contain a summary of any development incentives, restrictions, exclusions or prohibitions that apply to the proposed development site as well as the most environmental sensitive features on the site based on the site sensitivity screening results for the application classification that was selected. The application classification selected for this report is: **Infrastructure|Transport Services|Ports**.

Relevant development incentives, restrictions, exclusions or prohibitions

The following development incentives, restrictions, exclusions or prohibitions and their implications that apply to this site are indicated below.

Incentive, restriction or prohibition	Implication
Strategic Transmission Corridor-Expanded Eastern Corridor	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/DevelopmentZones/Combined_EGI.pdf
Strategic Gas Pipeline Corridors-Phase 7: Coega to Richards Bay	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/DevelopmentZones/Combined_GAS.pdf
Main Electricity Transmission Substation	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/DevelopmentZones/Distribution_Transmission.pdf

Proposed Development Area Environmental Sensitivity

The following summary of the development site environmental sensitivities is identified. Only the highest environmental sensitivity is indicated. The footprint environmental sensitivities for the proposed development footprint as identified, are indicative only and must be verified on site by a suitably qualified person before the specialist assessments identified below can be confirmed.

Theme	Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
Agriculture Theme	X			
Animal Species Theme		X		
Aquatic Biodiversity Theme	X			
Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Theme				X
Civil Aviation Theme		X		
Defence Theme				X
Paleontology Theme			X	
Plant Species Theme				X
Terrestrial Biodiversity Theme	X			

Specialist assessments identified

Based on the selected classification, and the known impacts associated with the proposed development, the following list of specialist assessments have been identified for inclusion in the assessment report. It is the responsibility of the EAP to confirm this list and to motivate in the assessment report, the reason for not including any of the identified specialist study including the provision of photographic evidence of the site situation.

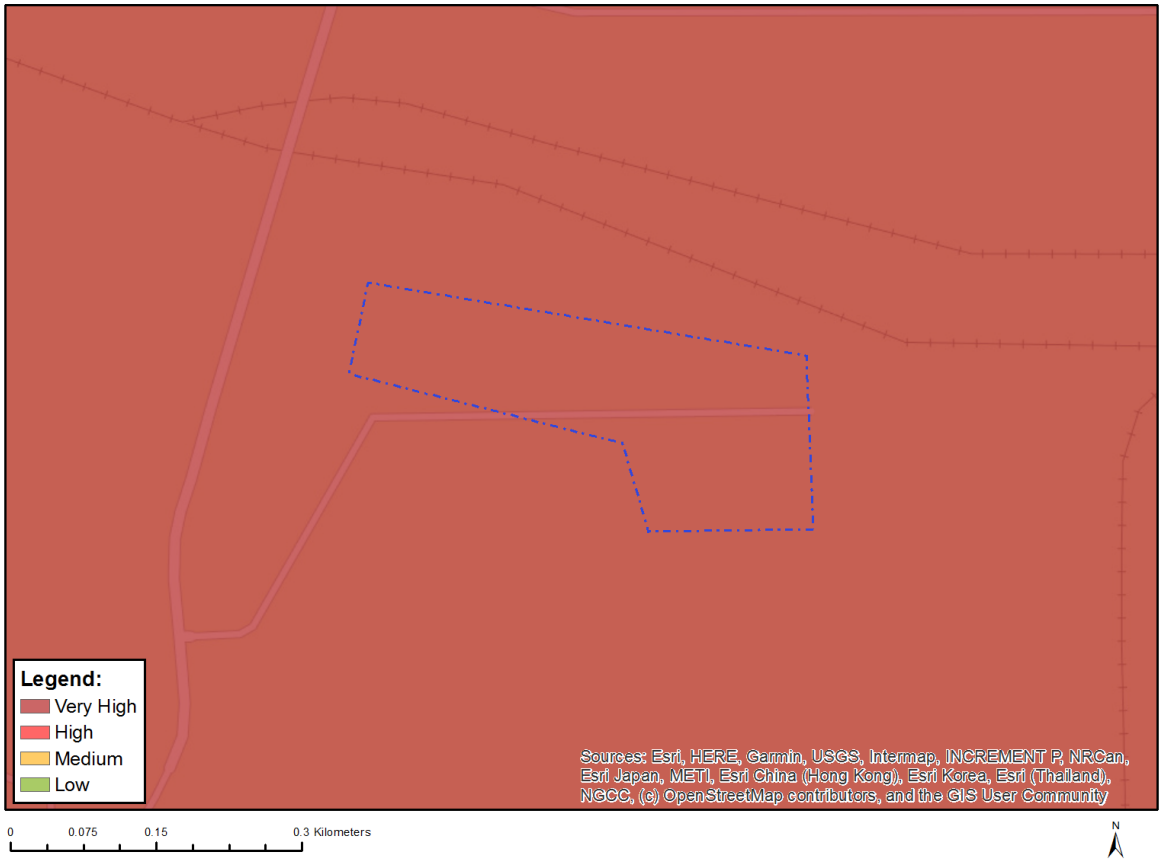
No	Specialist assessment	Assessment Protocol
1	Agricultural Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_General_Agriculture_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
2	Landscape/Visual Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_General_Requirement_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
3	Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_General_Requirement_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
4	Palaeontology Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_General_Requirement_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
5	Terrestrial Biodiversity Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_Terrestrial_Biodiversity_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
6	Aquatic Biodiversity Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_Aquatic_Biodiversity_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
7	Marine Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_General_Requirement_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
8	Avian Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_Avifauna_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
9	Defense Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_Defence_Installations_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
10	Noise Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_Noise_Impacts_Assessment_Protocol.pdf
11	Traffic Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_General_Requirement_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
12	Geotechnical Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_General_Requirement_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
13	Socio-Economic Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_General_Requirement_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
14	Ambient Air Quality Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_General_Requirement_Assessment_P

		rotocols.pdf
15	Plant Species Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_Plant_Species_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
16	Animal Species Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_Animal_Species_Assessment_Protocols.pdf

Results of the environmental sensitivity of the proposed area.

The following section represents the results of the screening for environmental sensitivity of the proposed site for relevant environmental themes associated with the project classification. It is the duty of the EAP to ensure that the environmental themes provided by the screening tool are comprehensive and complete for the project. Refer to the disclaimer.

MAP OF RELATIVE AGRICULTURE THEME SENSITIVITY

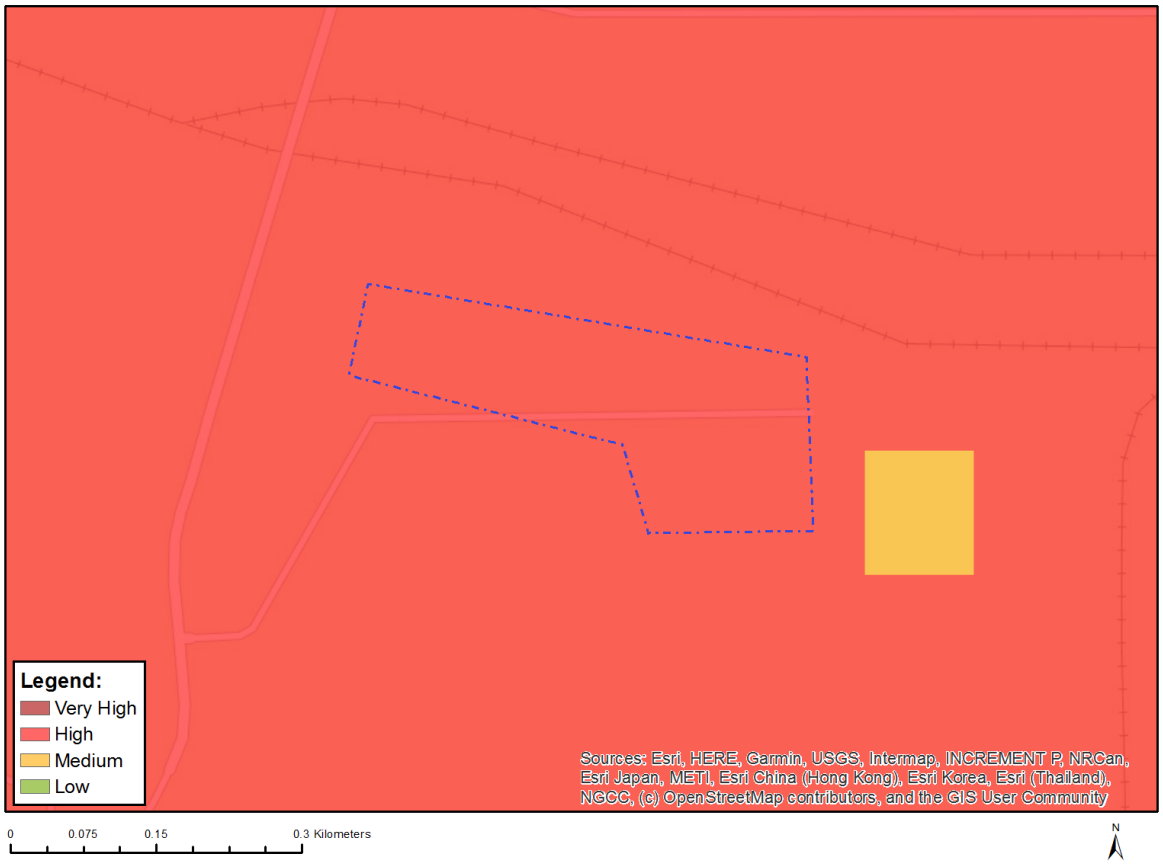


Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
X			

Sensitivity Features:

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Very High	Land capability;11. High/12. High-Very high/13. High-Very high/14. Very high/15. Very high

MAP OF RELATIVE ANIMAL SPECIES THEME SENSITIVITY



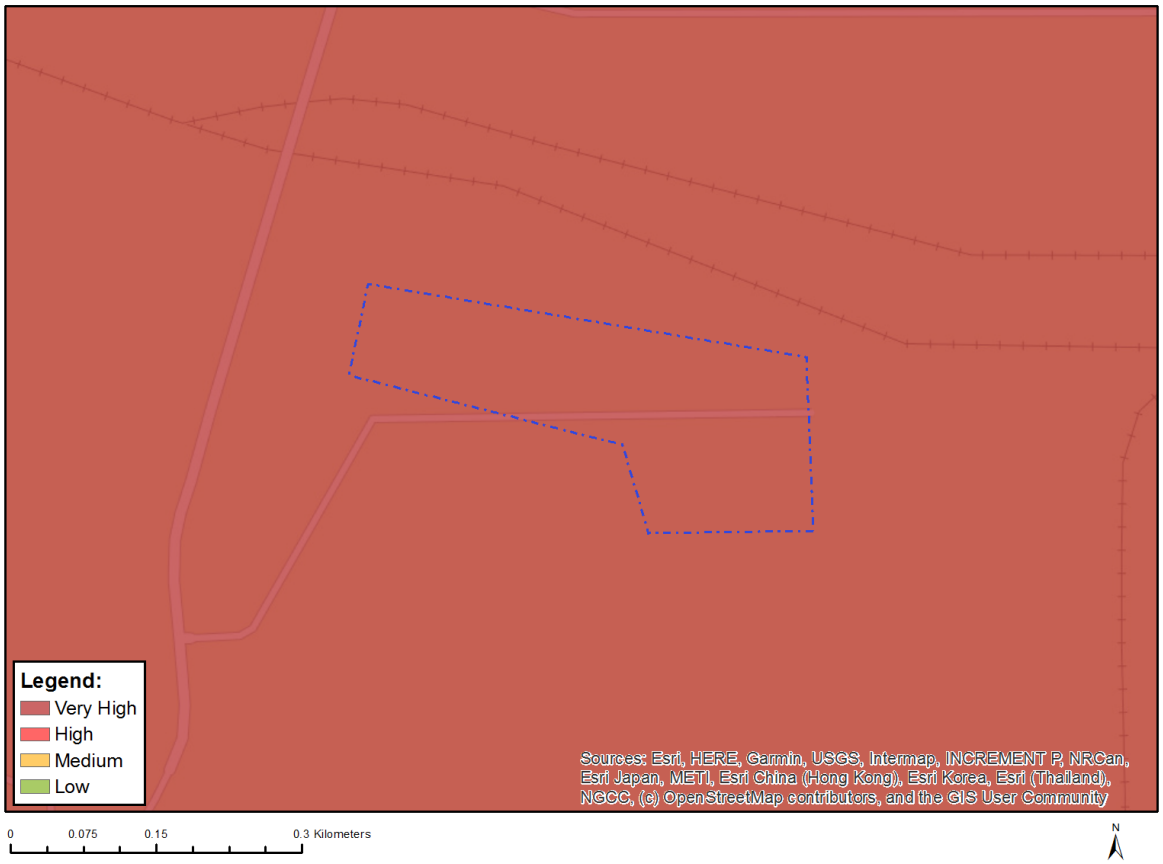
Where only a sensitive plant unique number or sensitive animal unique number is provided in the screening report and an assessment is required, the environmental assessment practitioner (EAP) or specialist is required to email SANBI at eiadatarequests@sanbi.org.za listing all sensitive species with their unique identifiers for which information is required. The name has been withheld as the species may be prone to illegal harvesting and must be protected. SANBI will release the actual species name after the details of the EAP or specialist have been documented.

Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
	X		

Sensitivity Features:

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
High	Aves-Circus ranivorus
High	Aves-Stephanoaetus coronatus
High	Aves-Balearica regulorum
High	Aves-Halcyon senegaloides
High	Aves-Circaetus fasciolatus
Medium	Amphibia-Hyperolius pickersgilli
Medium	Sensitive species 8
Medium	Reptilia-Crocodylus niloticus
Medium	Reptilia-Pelusios rhodesianus
Medium	Invertebrate-Arytropteris basalis
Medium	Invertebrate-Pomatonota dregii

MAP OF RELATIVE AQUATIC BIODIVERSITY THEME SENSITIVITY

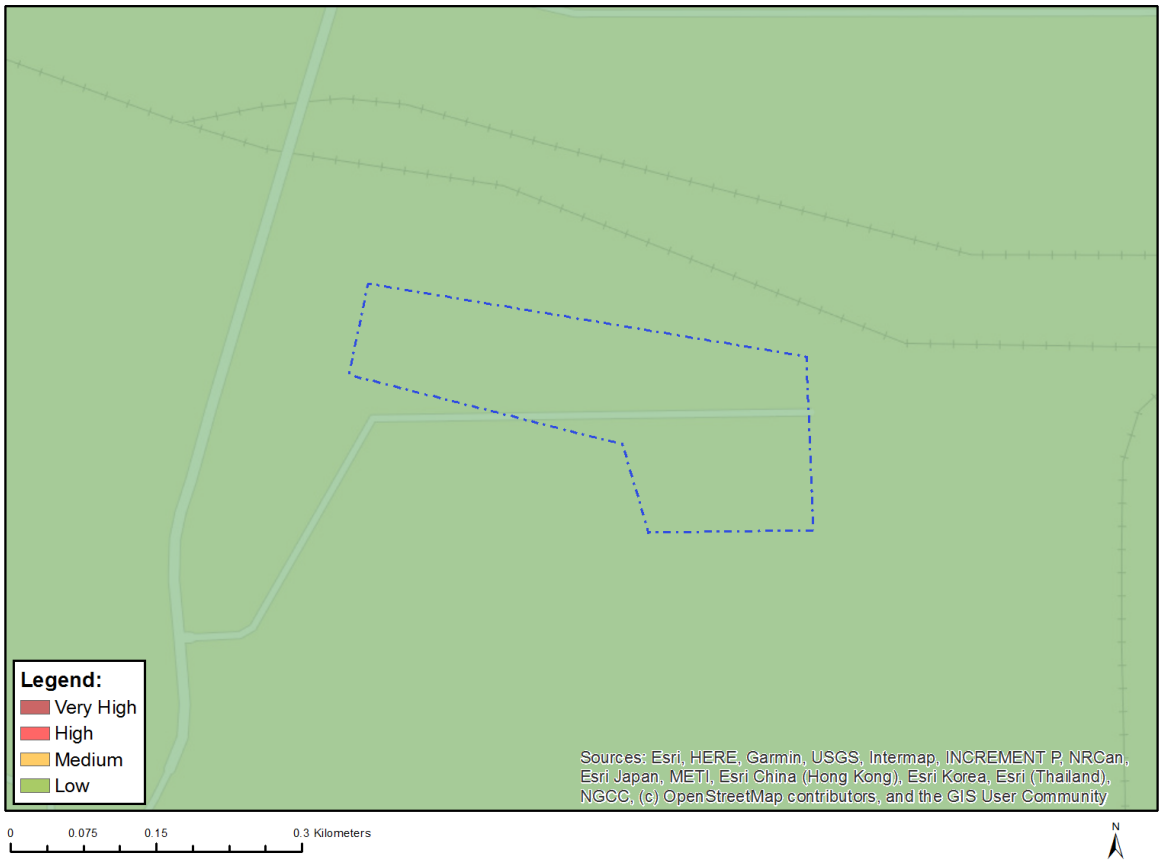


Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
X			

Sensitivity Features:

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Very High	Estuary_Richards Bay
Very High	Wetlands_(Estuary)

MAP OF RELATIVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE THEME SENSITIVITY

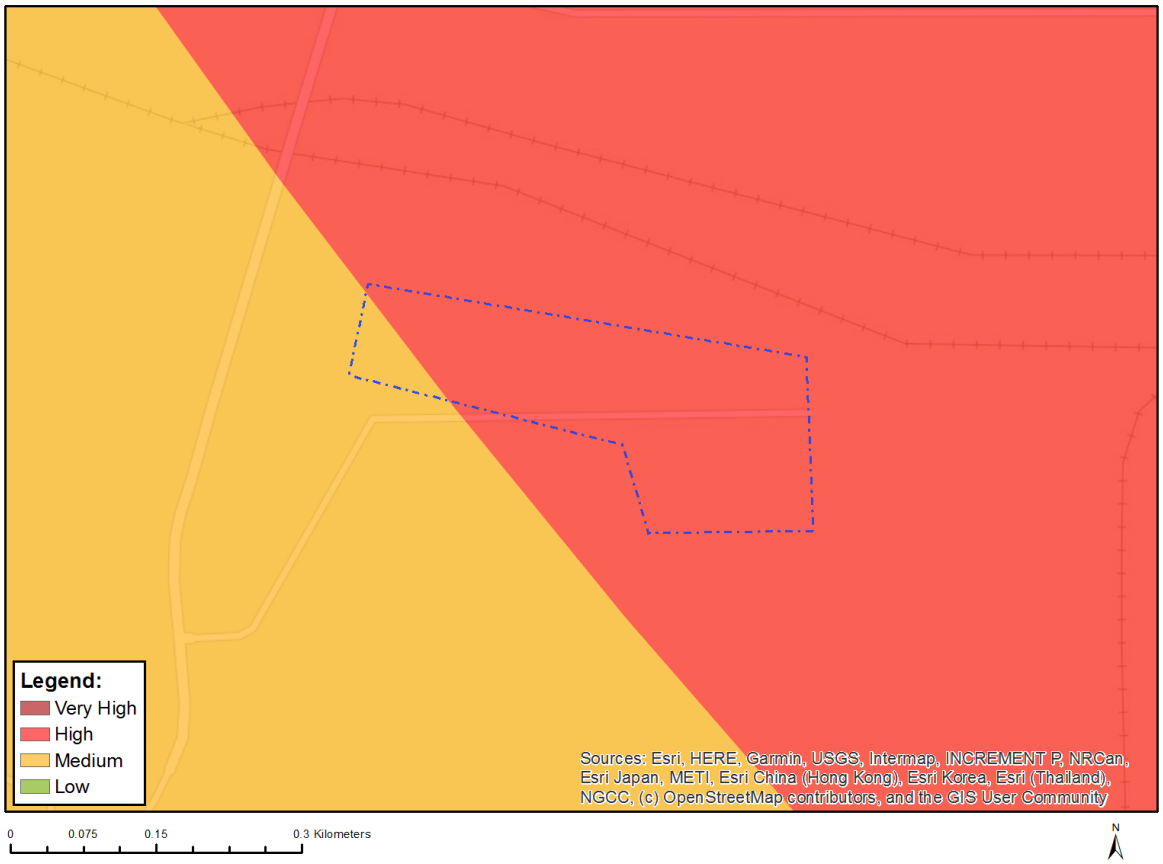


Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
			X

Sensitivity Features:

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Low	Low sensitivity

MAP OF RELATIVE CIVIL AVIATION THEME SENSITIVITY

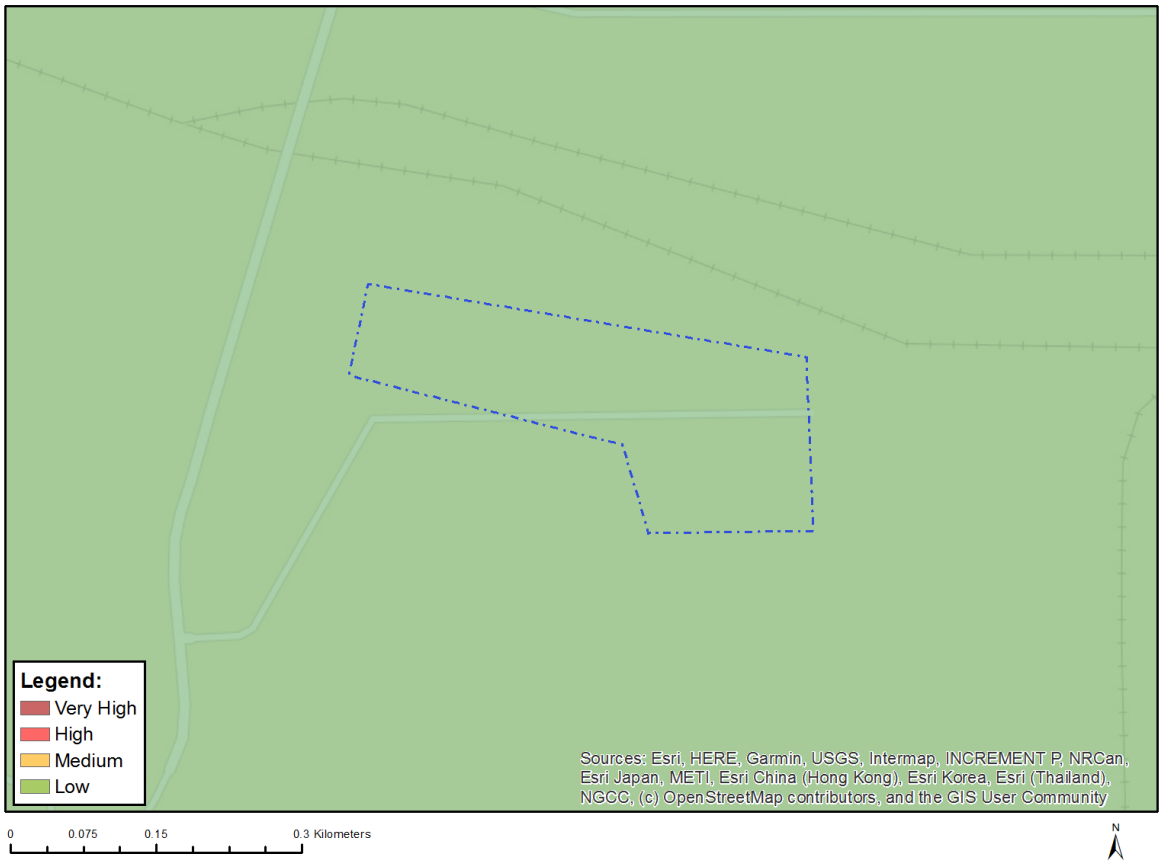


Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
	X		

Sensitivity Features:

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
High	Within 8 km of other civil aviation aerodrome
Medium	Between 8 and 15 km of other civil aviation aerodrome

MAP OF RELATIVE DEFENCE THEME SENSITIVITY

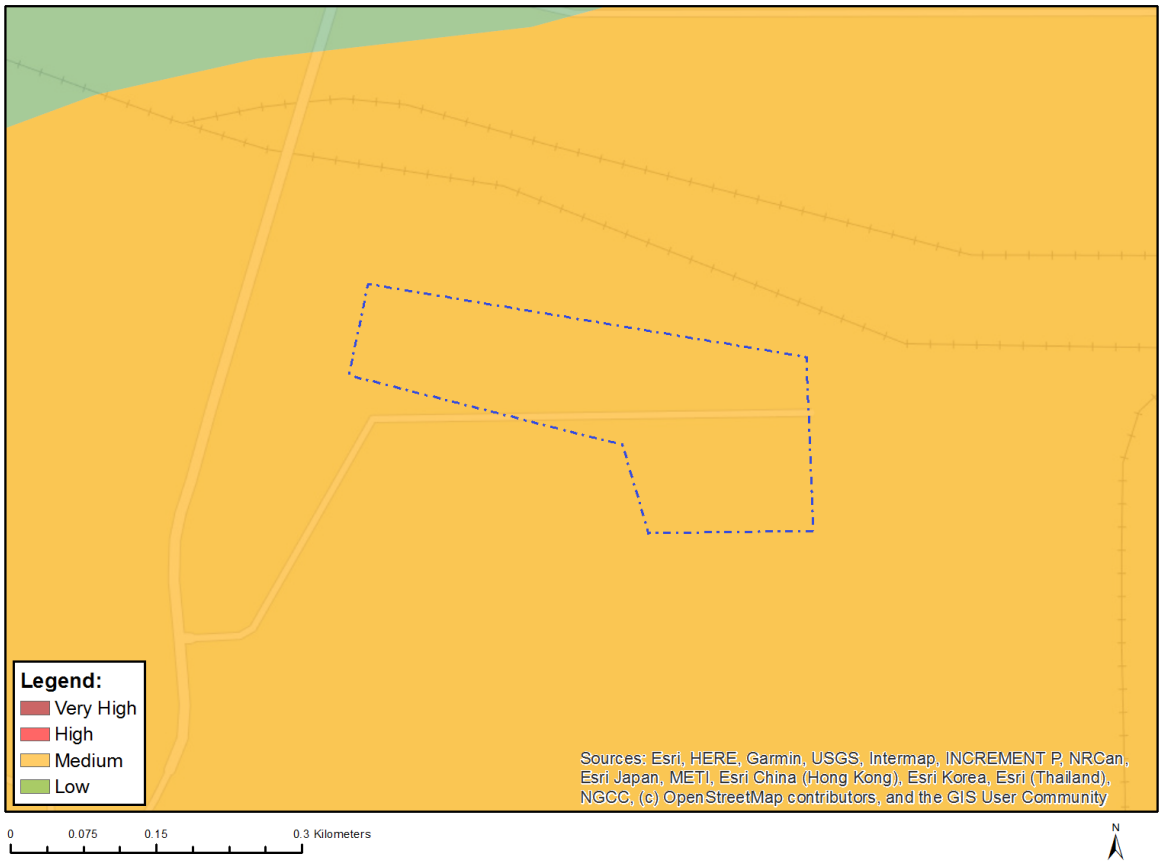


Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
			X

Sensitivity Features:

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Low	Low Sensitivity

MAP OF RELATIVE PALEONTOLOGY THEME SENSITIVITY

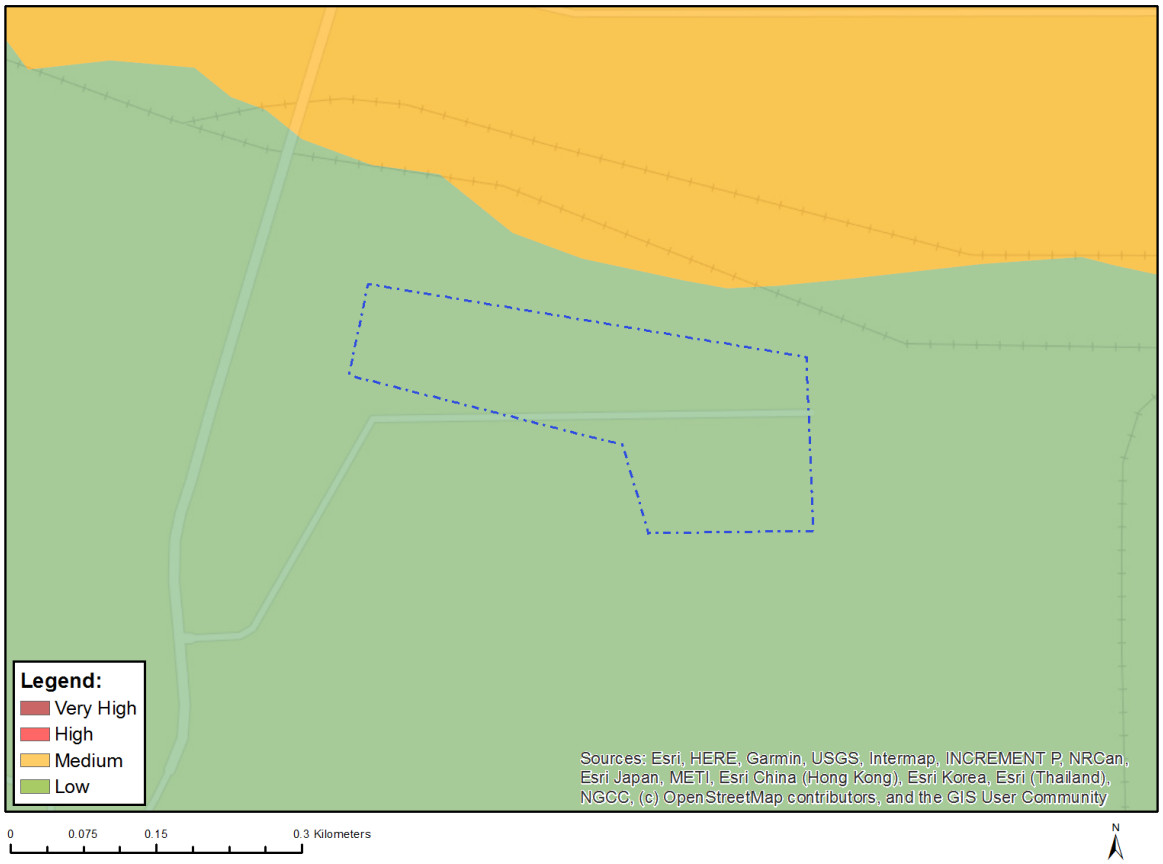


Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
		X	

Sensitivity Features:

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Medium	Features with a Medium paleontological sensitivity

MAP OF RELATIVE PLANT SPECIES THEME SENSITIVITY



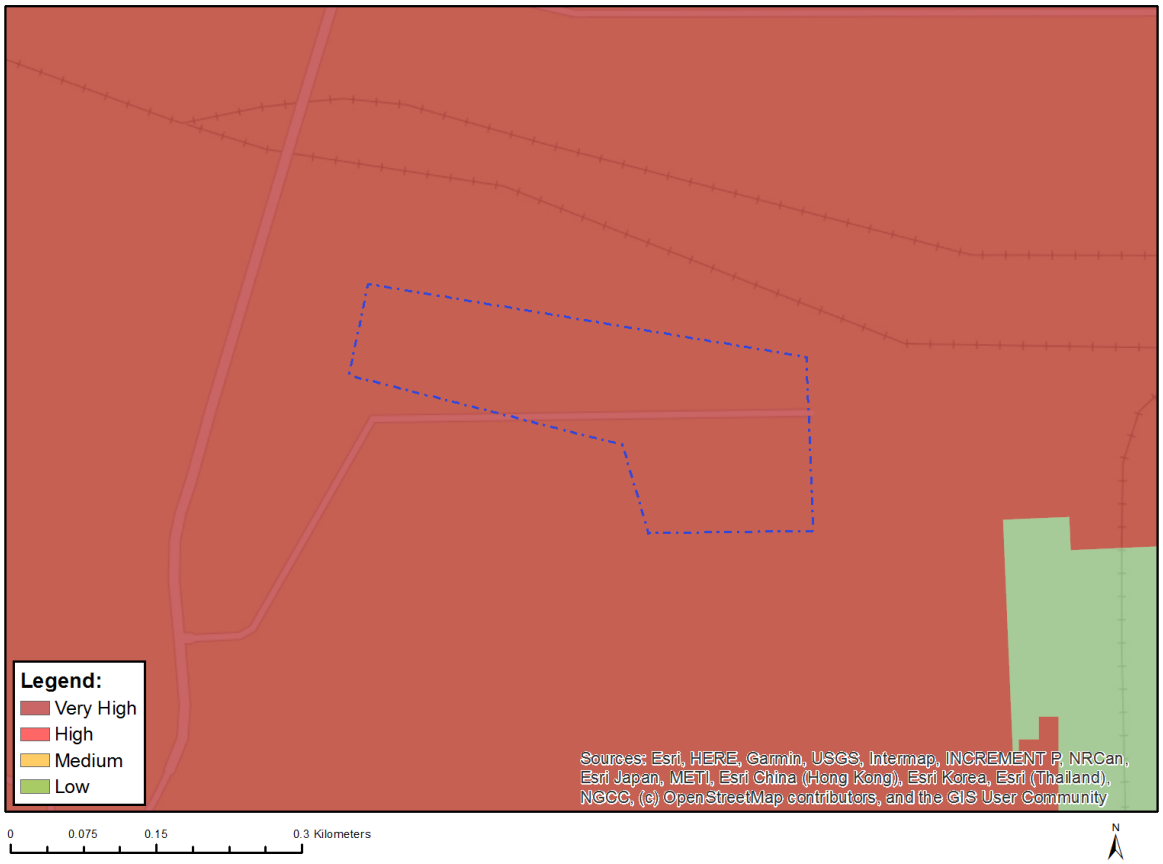
Where only a sensitive plant unique number or sensitive animal unique number is provided in the screening report and an assessment is required, the environmental assessment practitioner (EAP) or specialist is required to email SANBI at eiadatarequests@sanbi.org.za listing all sensitive species with their unique identifiers for which information is required. The name has been withheld as the species may be prone to illegal harvesting and must be protected. SANBI will release the actual species name after the details of the EAP or specialist have been documented.

Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
			X

Sensitivity Features:

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Low	Low Sensitivity

MAP OF RELATIVE TERRESTRIAL BIODIVERSITY THEME SENSITIVITY



Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
X			

Sensitivity Features:

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Very High	CBA: Irreplaceable
Very High	National Protected Area Expansion Strategy (NPAES)

APPENDIX C: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION REPORT

63 Wessel Road, Rivonia, 2128 PO Box 2597, Rivonia, 2128 South Africa
Tel: +27 (0) 11 803 5726 **Fax:** +27 (0) 11 803 5745 **Web:** www.gcs-sa.biz

Public Participation Report:

Application for Environmental Authorisation:

Transnet National Port Authority (TNPA) 22MW Dual Fuel Generator at the Port of Richards Bay, KwaZulu-Natal

Version: Final

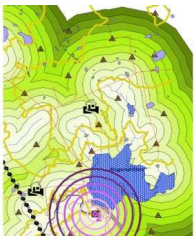
April 2024

Applicant: Transnet National Port Authority

GCS Project Number: 23-0807

Client Reference: TNPA/2023/06/0023/33545/RFP

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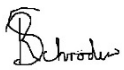
Directors: AC Johnstone | W Sherriff

Public Participation Report
Environmental Authorisation Application:
Transnet National Port Authority (TNPA) 22MW Dual Fuel Generator at the Port of Richards Bay, KwaZulu-Natal

April 2024

DOCUMENT ISSUE STATUS

Report Issue	Final		
GCS Reference Number	23-0807		
Client Reference	TNPA/2023/06/0023/33545/RFP		
Title	Public Participation Report: Environmental Authorisation Application: Transnet National Port Authority (TNPA) 22MW Dual Fuel Generator at the Port of Richards Bay, KwaZulu-Natal		
	Name	**Signature**	**Date**
Author **Stakeholder Engagement Specialist**	Anelle Lötter		20 April 2024
Environmental Assessment Practitioner	Rona Schröder *EAPASA: Reg. 2020/1149* *Pri.Sci.Nat.: 120605*		22 April 2024
Environmental Manager	Gerda Bothma *Pr. Sci. Nat: 117348*		23 April 2024

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is the Scoping Public Participation Report (PPR), for the Transnet National Port Authority (TNPA) 22MW Dual Fuel Generator environmental authorisation application processes; and it provides a summary of the public participation activities undertaken in support of the application process. It further includes all comments, issues raised and responses provided during the consultation process, as well as proof of participation activities undertaken. What follows is a summary of the main comments raised during the public participation process, and responses provided. Further details are provided within the report.

CONTENTS PAGE

LIST OF APPENDICES

1 INTRODUCTION

The Transnet National Ports Authority (TNPA) is a division of Transnet SOC Ltd and manages all eight of the Transnet commercial Ports on the South African coastline, including the Port of Richards Bay (PoRB). TNPA is responsible for the facilitation of the provision of water, lighting, power, sewerage, and telecommunications within the ports.

The TNPA is therefore proposing to install of a dual fuel (diesel/Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG)/Compressed Natural Gas (CNG)) generator, a Natural Gas supply pipeline within the port, diesel/CNG storage area and ancillary infrastructure for the electricity generation of 22MW output next to their employee care centre offices at the PoRB.

The purpose of this dual fuel generator will be to provide emergency power for the port activities. Due to the current insufficient power supply from the national grid, the port is required to provide alternative emergency power generation to be able to effectively manage the port activities.

This Public Participation Report documents the process which is followed with respect to the public participation activities for the application of an environmental authorisation (EA) and a water use license (WUL). Public Participation activities is conducted according to the requirements as stipulated in the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) (Act 107 of 1998) Chapter 6, Sections 39 to 44 of GNR 38282, 4 December 2014, as amended and per the requirements of the National Water Act (NWA) (Act 36 of 1998) for the application of a WUL. A concurrent public participation process is conducted for the applications.

The most important objective of public participation is to provide sufficient and accessible information to Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) in an objective manner and to provide a platform for constructive participation in the regulatory process, thereby assisting I&APs to:

- Gain an understanding of the proposed activities applied for, the various legislative components, specials studies conducted and the potential impacts (positive and negative);
- Raise issues of concern and suggestions for enhanced benefits;
- Comment on reasonable alternatives and the proposals;
- Verify that their issues have been recorded in the Comments and Responses Report ("CRR") and considered in investigations; and
- Contribute relevant local information and traditional knowledge to the process.

2 SUMMARY OF THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

2.1 Identification of Stakeholders

A stakeholder database or list of Interested and Affected Partis (I&APs) was compiled and is updated as the process unfolds and as more I&APs registered. The database was compiled: a) using lists of contact details of previous application processes in the area; b) using information provided by stakeholders in response to advertisements published, site notices placed and/or emails sent; and c) from information provided by I&APs in response to an invitation to provide contact details of other stakeholders which may have been interested or affected. A list of the stakeholder database is appended (Appendix A).

2.2 Announcement of the regulatory process and proposed application

The regulatory process and TNPA's intent to apply for and EA and a WUL was announced to I&APs by means of the following:

- Advertisements (Appendix B) in English was published on Thursday, 7 March 2024 in the Isolezwe newspaper and on Friday, 8 March 2024 in the Zululand Observer.
- Various notifications (Appendix C), including Background Information Documents (BIDs) were compiled and distributed as follows:
    - To all I&APs on the stakeholder database via email notifications on Friday, 8 March 2024. A reminder email was sent to all on Thursday, 4 April 2024.
    - BIDs were printed and distributed to various I&APs during the placement of site notices and the Draft Scoping Report at public places on Friday, 8 March 2024
- The notifications provided information in respect of the application for the proposed project and included copies of the Background Information Document, information about the availability of the Draft Scoping Report and how stakeholders can comment on the report.
- Placement of the Draft Scoping Report on the GCS website. The website address was published in the advertisements, site notices and notifications, (e.g. email notifications) to I&APs.
- Placement of site notices around the proposed development area (Appendix D records the placement of site notices) on Friday, 8 March 2024.
- Telephonic notification to key I&APs and landowners.
- A Registration and Comment Form was distributed with every notification, inviting stakeholders to register as I&APs and to provide their comments.

2.2.1 Review of the Draft Scoping Report

The Draft Scoping Report was available for review and comment for a period of 30 days from 8 March to 11 April 2024. The availability of the Report for review and comment was announced to stakeholders through the following means:

- Email notifications and a reminder notification were sent to all I&APs on Friday, 8 March 2024 and Thursday, 4 April 2024 (Appendix C) informing them of the availability of the Draft Report for their review between 8 March and 11 April 2024. A comment sheet was distributed with the notification for stakeholders to complete and submit their comments in writing.
- Telephonic notification to key I&APs.
- Advertisements were published (Appendix B) on Thursday, 7 March in the Isolezwe and on 8 March in the Zululand Observer newspapers to inform readers about the regulatory process followed, the opportunity for stakeholder to participate in the process by reviewing the Draft Report and to provide their comments.
- The Draft Report was made available on the GCS web site and an electronic link to download the report was distributed with the notifications.
- Copies of the Draft Report was distributed electronically and in hard copy to the Competent and Commenting authorities (Appendix C provides proof of delivery notices).
- A Hard copy of the Draft Scoping Report was available for review at the Richard's Bay Public Library (2 Krugerrand Grove Richard's Bay – Tel: 035 907 5840)

2.2.2 Review of the Final Scoping Report

The Final Scoping Report was prepared after the comment period of the Draft Report has expired. The availability of the Final Report and where copies of the Final Report can be obtained for review and comment has been communicated in a notification letter to registered I&APs via email.

The Final Scoping Report was published on the GCS website.

3 COMMENTS AND RESPONSES REPORT

All comments received from the announcement in March 2024 and from the public review of the Draft Scoping Report are captured in a Comments and Responses Report (CRR) (Appendix E). The CRR is appended to the Final Scoping Report as a full record of issues raised to date, including responses on how the issues were considered.

4 CONCLUSION

This report forms part of the S&EIR application process for the Transnet National Port Authority (TNPA) 22MW Dual Fuel Generator Project at the Port of Richards Bay. The aim of the report was to record and reflect the issues, concerns and responses raised during the application process undertaken, in line with the legislated requirements of NEMA.

APPENDIX A: STAKEHOLDER DATABASE

23-0807: Stakeholder Database - TNPA

Installation of a 22MW Dual Fuel Generator

Name	Surname	Company / Organisation
National Authorities		
Mmatlala	Rabothata	DFFE: Case Officer - Biodiversity Conservation
Lindiwe Victoria	Dlamini	DFFE: Case Officer - Biodiversity Conservation
Nyiko	Nkosi	DFFE
Seoka	Lekota	DFFE
Thembalakhe	Sibozana	DFFE: PMB
Amkela	Chiya	DFFE
Amanda	Mkhungo	DFFE
Khululiwe	Hlongwane	DFFE: Directorate: Forestry Resource Protection
Constance	Masemburi	DFFE: Directorate: Priority Infrastructure Projects
Provincial Authority		
Karoon	Moodley	DMRE
Mbali	Ndumo	CoGTA
Vhutshilo	Gelebe	CoGTA
Felicia	Mdamba	EDTEA
M	Mdamba	KZN Dept of Economic Development
Muzi	Mdamba	EDTEA - King Cetshwayo
Ann	McDonald	EDTEA
Zama	Mbanjwa	EDTEA - Northern Region
K	Naidoo	DWS KZN
Shaun	Naidoo	DWS
Zama	Hadebe	DWS
Andisa	Msomi	DWS
A	Starkey	DWS
B	Msane	DWS
Lindiwe	Dladla	DWS
Yolanda	Gwele	DWS
Zama	Malibiji	DWS
Makwabasa	Ntombethu	Catchment Management Agency
John	Pakwe	KwaZulu-Natal Amafa and Research Institute
Natasha	Higgitt	SAHRA
Lynn	Boucher	DRDLR
SP	Myeza	KZNDARD - HoD
T	Kunene	Department of Labour
Sibusiso	Gumbi	Department of Transport
Judy	Reddy	Department of Transport
Nolwazi V	Nkosi	EKZNW
Jenny	Longmore	EKZNW
Irene	Hutton	EKZNW
Santosh	Bachoo	EKZNW
Nerissa	Pillay	EKZNW
Dominic	Wieners	EKZNW
Dave	Druce	EKZNW
Richard	Penn Sawers	EKZNW

Andy	Blackmore	EKZNW
Parastatal		
Greg	Botha	Council for Geo-Sciences
John	Geeringh	ESKOM
Lungile	Motsisi	ESKOM
Troy	Govender	ESKOM
Willie	Joubert	Transnet
Eddie	Seaton	Transnet
Brenda	Kali	Telkom
Pynee	Chetty	Telkom
Neil	Sookaloo	Open Serve
Yolisa	Ndima	National Development agency
Nobuhle	Majola	National Development agency
Bhekizenzo	Nxumalo	National Development agency
Municipalities		
uMhlathuze Local Municipality		
Brenda	Strachan	Manager: Spatial and Environmental Planning
Estelle	Naidoo	City Manager
Nokubonga	Khumalo	Environmental Planning
Nokubonga	Duma	Project Manager: Environmental Planning
Kershia Govender		EMI: Economic Development, Tourism & Environmental Affairs
ES Ngcobo		Deputy Municipal Manager: Infrstructure Services
Daniel	Mohapi	
Nokubonga	Duma	
Lindiwe	Zondi	
Sharin	Govender	Project Manager: Environmental Planning
King Cetshwayo DM		
Philani	Sibiya	Municipal Manager - King Cetshwayo DM
Thanda	Mnguni	Municipal Manager - King Cetshwayo DM
Londeka	Ngcobo	Environmental Planning
Smangaliso	Goba	Air Quality
Nozipho	Khathi	
NGOs / CBOs		
Richards Bay Clean Air Association		
Sandy	Camminga	
Candice	Webb	
Franz	Schmidt	
Richards Bay Industrial Development Zone (RBIDZ)		
Joe	Muller	
Theunis	Roux	
Percy	Langa	
GroundWork		
Bobby	Peak	Director
Robbie	Mokgalaka	Groundwork
G	Knott	
Avena	Jacklin	Manager: Climate and Energy Justice Campaign
South Durban Community Environmental Alliance		
Nokwazi	Magubane	South Durban Community Environmental Alliance
Desmond	Dsa	South Durban Community Environmental Alliance

Bradley	Gibbons	Endangered Wildlife Trust
Constant	Hoogstad	Endangered Wildlife Trust
Gareth	T	Endangered Wildlife Trust
Rob	Crankshaw	KZN Conservancies
Tembeka	Dambuza	WESSA
Pieter	Burger	WESSA
Jean	Senogles	WESSA
Morgan	Griffiths	WESSA
Hanneline	Smit-Robinson	Birdlife SA
Mark	Anderson	Birdlife SA
Melissa	Lewis	Birdlife SA
Catherine	Meyer	Groundtruth
M	Mdamba	Umhlathuze Water
Jeremy	Ridl	Umfolozi Big Five Trust
Louise	de Bruin	Game Rangers Association of Africa
Charles John	Forrest	Game Rangers Association of Africa
Janet	Phelan	Game Rangers Association of Africa
Jeremy	Anderson	
Martin	Schofield	
Harold	Thornhill	
Mark	Gerrard	
Chris	Kelly	Wildlife ACT
Peter	JM	
Kirsten	Youens	Youens Attorneys / All Rise
Janice	Tooley	All Rise
Jade	Dafel	Somkhele Environmental Officer
Chris	Wright	Black Rock Environmental
Adrian	Nel	UKZN
DJ	Jones	Dolphin Coast Conservancy
JD	Hugo	Dolphin Coast Conservancy
Anna	Jordan	Conservation KZN
Mary	De Haas	KZN Monitor
Peter	Clarke	Indian Ocean Export Company
Phiwayinkosi	Mungwe	South African Youth Climate Change Coalition
Roderick	Bulman	Phelamange Projects
Matome	Kapa	Centre for Environmental Rights/Mining and Environmental Justice Community Network of South Africa
		Duzi Umngeni Conservation Trust
		Wildlands Conservation Trust
		Environmental and Rural Solutions KZN
		World Wildlife Fund (WWF)
Bernadet	Pawandiwa	AMAFA PMB
Barry	Theunissen	Inprodev (Pty) Ltd / Umfolozi Big 5 Reserve
Melita	Steele	Greenpeace Africa
Johan	Gouws	Activist
MJ	Vermaak	Activist
P Jankap		Activist
Chris	Boshoff	AfriForum

Sandra	Dell	Botanical Society of South Africa - KZN coastal branch
Sandy	Heather	Past Chair of Sustaining the Wild Coast
Ursina	Rusch	WWF South Africa's Black Rhino Range Expansion Pro
Jacques	Flamand	WWF South Africa's Black Rhino Range Expansion Pro
Gilbert	Martin	We Are South Africans
		Climate Justice Charter Movement
Rose	Williams	Biowatch
Lawrence	Mkhaliphi	Biowatch
Vanessa	Black	Biowatch
Media		
Tamlyn	Jolly	Zululand Observer
Elise	Tempelhoff	News24
Khulekani	Khuzwayo	Bay Watch
Tony	Carnie	Freelance Environmental Writer
Applicant		
Siyabonga Gadu		TNPA
Daisy Molamodi		TNPA
Karabo Chuene		TNPA
Motlatso Molapo		TNPA
Fikile Dlamini		TNPA

APPENDIX B: ADVERTISEMENTS

Advertisements were published on Thursday, 7 March in the Isolezwe and on 8 March in the Zululand Observer

606 RECRUITMENT | 606 RECRUITMENT | 606 RECRUITMENT

INDEPENDENT

MULTIMEDIA JOURNALIST x 4

The KZN Stream which encompasses **The Daily News, Independent on Saturday & the Sunday Tribune** has vacancies for **Multimedia Journalists x 4.** The successful incumbents will be located in Durban & be responsible for producing copy for use across multi media, multi platforms and across verticals (print and digital).

Key Responsibilities

- Produces high quality, newsworthy stories that are well researched, accurate, balanced, well-written and features sources that add depth to the content.
- Produce content that is error free, structured well and content needs minimal editing.
- Breaks exclusive stories on regular basis.
- Has thorough understanding of the beat and strong network of sources Generates leads, possesses problem solving skills, and takes initiatives to suggest or make such changes that strengthen Independent's news coverage.
- Producing distinctive stories that define quality.
- Assumes shared responsibility for quality.
- Has well-developed understanding of reader and positioning.
- Has high level of engagement with reader and stories consistently engage reader in print and online
- Follow-up of stories/content.
- All copy and features have strong "news you can use" and community connect element.
- Uses knowledge of readers to suggest content initiatives.
- Produces content for all platforms - Write for the digital title sites.
- Uses social networks to drive readership.
- Tweets and produces unique content for Independent. Post on social media all articles and follow up.
- Contribute ideas for pictures and graphics.
- Writing of opinion pieces and leaders for use across multi-media and multi-platforms across verticals (print and digital).
- Effectively uses social media to break news and to engage with online audience.
- Be attuned to life on the web, and incorporate online / digital tools into story research, information gathering and contact building.
- Finds opportunities in print to drive the reader online and online to drive users to print.

Minimum Requirements

- Must have a tertiary qualification in journalism or equivalent.
- Must have at least 4 to 5 years journalism experience working on multiple platforms.
- Having a formal training qualification in multimedia journalism would be advantageous.
- Must have an excellent understanding of the Daily News, Independent on Saturday and Sunday Tribune content requirements.
- Must have an in-depth understanding of what comprises good local news as well as national and global issues.
- A thorough understanding of issues affecting Durban, KZN and South Africa.
- A good understanding of the legalities affecting journalism and have sound knowledge of media law, the press code and journalistic ethics.
- Have a flair for tackling and writing a wide variety of stories with a good network
- Must have and be able to supply a contactable list of high profile contacts
- Have a strong presence on social media with a number of followers.
- Must have a valid driver's licence.
- Excellent command of English.
- Must be fully computer literate on Naviga, InDesign & InCopy, including the use of all social media applications.

Required Competencies

- Be technologically well advanced on all social network platforms.
- Excellent public speaking and presentation skills in gathering news and presenting news.
- Have excellent interpersonal skills in dealing with high level contacts.
- Must have the ability to think creatively.
- Be a self - starter that shows initiative and ability to work independently.
- Be extremely motivated and driven to work in a highly pressurised fast pace environment.
- Be highly flexible working long, irregular hours, nightshift, weekends and public holidays
- Be prepared to travel long distances across the province and country.
- The ability to work under constant deadlines pressure.

Independent Media is committed to its Employment Equity and Affirmative Action plans. All interested and suitably qualified applicants are required to submit a written motivational letter and detailed CV by no later than 16h30 on Monday , 11th March 2024 to Shamella Naidoo at vacancieskzn@corporateservice.co.za

If you have not heard from us within 2 weeks of submitting your application, please consider you application unsuccessful.

717 TENDERS | 717 TENDERS | 717 TENDERS

Application for an Environmental Authorisation, Water Use Licence and an Atmospheric Emissions Licence for the installation of a 22MW Dual Fuel Generator for the Transnet National Port Authority (TNPA) at the Port of Richards Bay, KwaZulu-Natal

GCS Ref No: 23-0807

The Transnet National Ports Authority (TNPA) has appointed GCS Environment SA (Pty) Ltd (GCS) to assist with the applications for an Environmental Authorisation (EA), Water Use Licence (WUL) and an Atmospheric Emissions Licence (AEL) for the proposed installation of a dual fuel generator for the electricity generation of 22MW output at the Port of Richards Bay. The port is situated within the uMhlathuze Local Municipality and the King Cetshwayo District Municipality, KwaZulu-Natal.

The proposed project site is located at the Port's main entrance and at the Employee Care Centre in the Bayvue Precinct. The project will consist of:

- 22MW generator capable to operate on either diesel fuel or liquified natural gas;
- Start-up generator, switching station(s) and internal reticulation;
- LNG supply pipeline;
- CNG / Diesel fuel tank storage area;
- Demineralised water treatment plant and storage tank area;
- Underground evacuation power lines to various substations;
- Auxiliary pit & drain facility for used diesel and sludge;
- Perimeter fencing and access control.

This notification forms part of the public consultation process for the S&EIR process as required by the National Environmental Management Act,1998 (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMA) EIA Regulations (2014, as amended) and the National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998) (NWA).

The following potential Listed Activities in terms of the NEMA EIA Regulations (2014, as amended) will be applied for from the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE):

- GN R325, 07 April 2017, Listing Notice 2 – Activities 2 and 4
- GN R324, 07 April 2017, Listing Notice 3 – Activities 10 and 12

A WUL application, to be administered by the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) will be lodged for the following potential water uses:

- Section 21 (c); (i) and (j) of the NWA.

An application for an Atmospheric Emissions Licence (AEL) as per the requirements of the National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act (Act No. 39 of 2004) Government Gazette, 24 February 2005 (No. 27318) will be submitted to the District Municipality.

OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE:

Interested and affected parties (I&APs) are invited to register as stakeholders for this project and to obtain more information. The Draft Scoping Report (DSR) is available for review and comment from **8 March to 11 April 2024** as follows:

- Electronic copy at: **https://www.gcs-sa.biz/public-documents/**
- Richard's Bay Public Library (2 Krugerrand Grove Richard's Bay – Tel: 035 907 5840)

To register and to obtain more information contact GCS:
Anelle Lötter / Gerda Bothma, **Tel:** 011 803 5726, **Fax:** 011 803 5745,
E-mail: anellel@gcs-sa.biz / gerdab@gcs-sa.biz or
Mail: P O Box 2597, Rivonia, 2128.

I&APs are invited to participate by providing written comments and raising issues of concern.

717 TENDERS | 717 TENDERS | 717 TENDERS

UMZINYATHI DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

THE FOLLOWING BIDS WERE ADJUDICATED AND WE INTEND TO AWARD AS FOLLOWS

BID NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	SUPPLIER NAME
T-UDA-2024-01	Provision of dedicated internet connection, Email or domain hosting and telephone system for UDDA for a period of three years.	INNOVO NETWORKS (Pty) Ltd
T-UDA-2024-02	Leasing of suitable office accommodation for uMzinyathi Development Agency for the period of three years	RAUBENHEIMER FAMILY TRUST
T-UDA-2024-05	Appointment of a panel of service providers for the provision of Financial Management and Government improvement support program for a period of 36 months	• GM SOLUTIONS (Pty) Ltd • HTB CONSULTING CC • PK FINANCIAL CONSULTANTS CC • SHUMBA INC • IFIX BUSINESS SOLUTIONS • MUNSOFT • HLENGWA BROTHERS INVESTMENT (Pty) Ltd • MNTAMBO FINANCIAL CONSULTING CC

Objections to this award must be made within Fourteen (14) days to uMzinyathi Development Agency starting from **Thursday, 07th March 2024 to Thursday, 21st March 2024.**

Mr. S. Ntombela
Acting Chief Executive Officer

717 TENDERS | 717 TENDERS | 717 TENDERS

ABAQULUSI MUNICIPALITY

TENDER NUMBER	PROJECT NAME	CLOSING DATE AND TIME
7/3/4	LEASING OF MUNICIPAL PLOTS FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES.	22 March 2024 at 12h00.
8/2/1/426	PANEL OF ADVERTISING AGENTS FOR MUNICIPAL NOTICES, VACANCIES AND TENDERS FOR THE PERIOD OF **36 MONTHS.**	05 April 2024 at 12h00.
8/2/1/443	PANEL FOR MUNICIPAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SUPPORT/CONSULTANTS FOR THE PERIOD OF **36 MONTHS.**	05 April 2024 at 12h00.

Abaqulusi Municipality invites service provider to submit a bid as per above bids with specification in different tender documents as per above table.

Bids documents will be self downloaded from E-tender Portal **(www.e-tenders.gov.za)** as from **07 March 2024.**

Sealed bid documents marked with the relevant **"BID NAME AND BID NUMBER"** must be deposited in the bid box at the **Abaqulusi Local Municipality Offices no later than 12h00pm on A SPECIFIED DATE ON THE TABLE,** where after all bids will be opened to the public. Telegraphic, faxed and late tenders **WILL NOT** be accepted and the Municipality shall not be held responsible for any couriered and posted document.

CONDITIONS: • No awards will be made to a person, who is not registered on the Central Supplier Database • No awards will be made to a person, who is in the service of the state • No awards will be made to a person, if that person is not a natural person, of which any director, manager, principal shareholder or stakeholder is a person in the service of the state, and/or • No awards will be made to a person, who is an advisor or consultant contracted with the Municipality or Municipal entity • Fill in all the Municipal Bidding Documents (MBD'S) failure to do so will automatically disqualify • Fully Completed all the MBD'S on the tender document • Fully completed tender document (bidder will be disqualified for incomplete document) • Service Providers should be on Municipal database if not please collect data base forms at **SCM Office** or down load them from Municipal website **(www.abaqulusi.gov.za)** and submit them with your bid document.

Late bids **WILL NOT** be accepted. These tender will be valid for a period of **90 days** after the closing date. These tender must only be submitted on the documentation provided by Abaqulusi Municipality (Original document). Failure to comply with these conditions will result in immediate disqualification of the bid.

The Municipality reserves the right to withdraw any invitation to bid and/or to re-advertise or to reject any bid or to accept a part of it. The Municipality does not bind itself to accept the lowest bid or ward a contract to the bidder scoring the highest number of points.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

The following documents have to be attached: • Central Supplier Database registration report (detailed) to claim special goals • Valid copy of company registration document • If above R10m, an audited three year AFS must be provided • SARS **PIN** or Tax Clearance certificate must be submitted • Certified B-BBEE Certificate from registered accountant is required or original **SWORN** Affidavit from Commissioner of Oath • Relevant experience with reference letter must be provided • A certified current account in terms of water and electricity/rates and taxes obtainable from your local Municipality must be submitted not older than three months or lease agreement • Certified copies of Identity Documents of directors and owners of the company must be submitted.

For more SCM enquiries please contact: Supply Chain Management Office, at e-mail: scm@abaqulusi.gov.za

No bids will be accepted from a person in the service of the state and whose Tax matters are non-compliant.

The Abaqulusi Local Municipality does not bind itself to accepting the lowest, or any bid, either wholly or in part or give any reason for such action.

S.P. DLAMINI: ACTING MUNICIPAL MANAGER **NOTICE NO: 09/2024**

801 SERVICE GUIDE | 801 SERVICE GUIDE

Dream to fly high comes true

Conelia Harry

DESPITE facing serious health challenges, Empangeni pensioner Patsy Labuschagne's zest for life has not been dampened as she ticks off bucketlist items and lives life on the edge. The bubbly and vibrant 76-year-old cancer patient had one of her dreams come true on Tuesday when the Zululand Observer's charity arm Dice (Do I Care Enough?) facilitated a helicopter ride sponsored by Bell Equipment in Richards Bay and supported by Mounties EMS.

Having faced her fair share of setbacks, Patsy has stayed steadfast on her mission to live life to the fullest and hold on to her faith in God.

And the thrill of the 30 minute flight across Richards Bay and up the coast renewed her energy and brought such joy to her and her family, who appreciated local businesses and organisations rallying to make her wish a reality.

With Mounties' Joe Kruger on hand for medical support, and pilot and Bell director: technical services Meltus Badenhorst in the driving seat, the pensioner had a smooth flying experience, soaking in the beautiful scenery from above.

For Patsy, who was involved in a car accident years ago and underwent many back operations, she has endured endless medical challenges and when diagnosed with double breast cancer, the chemotherapy negatively impacted her bone density, adding to her ailments.

Despite these challenges, the retired nurse did not lose hope but continued serving in recreational clubs handling the catering and as an active member in the Dutch Reformed Church in Empangeni.

She is still undergoing cancer treatment and enjoys reading, doing puzzles, knitting and crocheting.

Patsy said she was so overwhelmed with the flight experience and thanked all involved who made it possible for her wish to come true.

She said she was excited to tick this item off her list of things to do.

Joe Kruger, Meltus Badenhorst, Henk Labuschagne, Madeleen van Niekerk, Dirk Venter; (front) Patsy Labushagne, Joecee Kruger, Charlene de Blanche and Linda Venter

Although brown house snakes are drawn to human dwellings, they are harmless to humans

House snake hunt in Bay garden

Tamlyn Head

VELDENVLEI residents got the fright of their lives on Tuesday when they witnessed a brown house snake taking down a bird python-style at their bird feeder.

Dionne' Beneke, who sent in a video of the snake ingesting the small bird after it had killed it, said the bird had been feeding on the ground at their bird feeder.

"We thought the bird was injured but when we got closer, we got a fright. This is a brown house snake that feeds like a python - very interesting!" said Beneke.

In the video, the snake can be seen emerging from what appears to be a hole in the ground to grab the dead bird, and retreating back into the hole once it had swallowed its meal.

Confirming the species, expert snake handler Peter Daniel said brown house snakes are basically 'baby pythons' with the same hunting methods and prey, they just don't grow to the size of pythons.

"There are cases where brown house snakes have been seen eating other snakes," said Daniel.

"The hunting is exactly like the python. They'll eat little birds, mice, rats, lizards.

"I've even seen a photo of a house snake on a wall, eating another snake!"

Brown house snakes are commonly found throughout South Africa and, although they are drawn to human dwellings, they pose no threat to people.

They are considered a useful species of snake owing to their prey.

Bay Hospice house closes its doors

Conelia Harry

ZULULAND Hospice Association's Richards Bay house has closed and will be relocating all operations to the NPO's Empangeni premises.

General manager Christine Samuel confirmed the operational decision to officially close Richards Bay Hospice House at 2 Rhus Lancia in Arboretum was taken after years of operating its nurses' base station at the premises.

"It was not easy, but if we want to continue delivering quality service to all those in need of our palliative care programme, we had to work smarter," she said.

Samuel said the move will maximise human resources, work hours and travel time, while delivering a quality service to those in need of their palliative care programme.

The contact numbers are now 035 7724910 and 035 7724953 for the Empangeni House.

Richards Bay Hospice House closes its doors after years of service

APPENDIX C: NOTIFICATIONS

Email notifications were sent on 8 March 2024 and a reminder notification was sent on 4 April 2024

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

Application for an Environmental Authorisation and Water Use Licence for the installation of a 22MW Dual Fuel Generator for the Transnet National Port Authority (TNPA) at the Port of Richards Bay, KwaZulu-Natal

March 2024

The purpose of this Background Information Document (BID) is to:

a. Invite your participation and registration as an Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs).
b. Provide information pertaining to the Transnet National Port Authority's intention to install a 22MW Dual Fuel Generator and supporting infrastructure for the Transnet National Port Authority (TNPA) at the Port of Richards Bay, KwaZulu-Natal.

YOUR COMMENTS AND PARTICIPATION ARE IMPORTANT

You can participate by:

a. Responding (by phone or email) to our invitation for your participation in this application process.
b. Completing the attached registration and comment form and return it to GCS.
c. Writing, or contacting GCS in a convenient way for you if you have a query, comment or require further project information or assistance with the registration process.
d. Attending meetings as a registered I&AP.
e. Reviewing and commenting on the Draft Scoping Report before 11 April 2024.

Contact the GCS Public Participation Office to register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP)

Anelle Lötter / Gerda Bothma, Tel: 011 803 5726, Email: anellel@gcs-sa.biz / gerdab@gcs-sa.biz,

Postal Address: PO Box 2597, Rivonia, Johannesburg, 2128

Documents for review and comment are available on https://www.gcs-sa.biz/public-documents/ and at the public place(s) listed below.

Where you provide your personal information to be registered as an Interested and Affected Party (IAP), GCS Environment SA (Pty) Ltd (GCS) will retain this information according to the provisions of the Protection of Personal Information Act 4 of 2013 (POPIA). GCS may also provide this information to third parties, such as the applicant and competent and commending authorities. By submitting your information, you consent to GSC processing your personal information in this manner. You are entitled to leave the IAP List, but then your submissions will not be considered as part of the public participation process. You can revoke your consent by contacting the contact persons described above. GCS and its employees will not process your personal information unless they have a lawful basis to do so.

The Draft Scoping Report is available for public review and comment from 08 March to 11 April 2024 as follows:

Printed Copies	
Richard's Bay Public Library (2 Krugerrand Grove Richard's Bay – Tel: 035 907 5840)	
Electronic Copy	
Website download	https://www.gcs-sa.biz/public-documents/

Please send your *written comments* on the Draft Scoping Report to GCS by 11 April 2024.

Introduction and Project Description

Transnet National Port Authority (TNPA) is proposing to install of a dual fuel (diesel/Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG)/Compressed Natural Gas (CNG)) generator, a Natural Gas supply pipeline within the port, diesel/CNG storage area and ancillary infrastructure for the electricity generation of 22MW output next to their employee care centre offices at the Port of Richards Bay.

The purpose of this dual fuel generator will be to provide emergency power for the port activities. Due to the current insufficient power supply from the national grid, the port is required to provide alternative emergency power generation to be able to effectively manage the port activities.

The infrastructure will include:

- A 22MW generator capable to operate on either diesel fuel or natural gas from LNG;
- Startup generator, switching station(s) and internal reticulation;
- LNG supply pipeline;
- CNG storage area;
- Diesel fuel tank storage area;
- Demineralised water treatment plant and storage tank area;
- Underground evacuation power lines to various substations;
- Auxiliary pit and drain facility for used diesel and sludge;
- Perimeter fencing and access control.

The project is Located on the Farm 14217 GV, Portion 0 within the uMhlathuze Local and King Cetshwayo District Municipalities in the KwaZulu-Natal Province.

The project is part of the Strategic Integrated Projects (SIP), project No. 20 which was gazetted on 06 December 2022 (Government Gazette 437658) in line with the provisions of the Infrastructure Development Act (IDA) (Act No.23 of 2014). These projects are classified as Strategic Integrated Projects (SIP) and are required to be managed within the requirements as set out in the IDA.

The area where the generator will be located is within the port boundary and there are existing access roads surrounding the site.

GCS Environment SA (Pty) Ltd (GCS) has been appointed to undertake the environmental authorisation (EA) and a water use license (WUL) application processes. They will also conduct an associated Public Participation Process (PPP) required for the applications for compliance to the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) (Act 107 of 1998, as amended), the National Water Act (NWA) (Act 36 of 1998, as amended), and/or Supporting Environmental Management Acts (SEMA's).

Regulatory Context

National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMA)

Section 24 of NEMA requires that certain listed activities, which may have an impact on the environment, trigger the need for environmental authorization from a relevant authority before commencing with the activities. Such activities are listed under Regulations Listing Notice 1 GNR 324, Listing Notice 2 GNR 325 and Listing Notice 3 GNR 327 (Dated 4 April 2017) of NEMA.

Applicable Listed Activities for this application is:

#	Activity description and its applicability
Listing Notice 2 (GN R325)	
2	The development and related operation of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity from a non-renewable resource where the electricity output is 20 megawatts or more. ***The TNPA proposes the installation of a 22 MW energy output generator and associated infrastructure.***
4	The development and related 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 more than 500 cubic metres. ***The TNPA proposes the installation of fuel tanks with a storage capacity of 600m^3.***

Listing Notice 3 (GN R324)	
10	The development and related 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) in KZN, (vi) within 500m of an estuarine functional zone; (ix) within a Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA). ***The TNPA proposes the installation of fuel tanks with a storage capacity of 600m^3.***
12	The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation….; (d) in KZN, within …(v) a CBA. ***The TNPA proposes the construction of a LNG pipeline***

Considering the above, a full Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (S&EIR) process is to be undertaken.

National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998) (NWA)

A Water Use License Application may need to be compiled and submitted to the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) to ensure the legality of the proposed project's water uses. The Water Use License Application will be conducted for the project in parallel with the EIA and EMP process for any activity in terms of Section 21 of the NWA.

The water uses triggered as part of the project require authorisation in terms of Section 21 of the NWA:

Section 21:	
c	The flow of water in a watercourse may be impeded or diverted by the proposed activities.
i	The bed, banks or characteristics of a watercourse may be altered. The activities may be located within a watercourse or within 500m from a watercourse.
j	Due to the high water table, construction activities my require the removal of water found underground.

In addition, An application for an Atmospheric Emissions Licence (AEL) as per the requirements of the National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act (Act No. 39 of 2004) Government Gazette, 24 February 2005 (No. 27318) will be submitted to the District Municipality, should it be required.

Structure of the Environmental Impact Assessment Process

The EIA is a legislative tool used to ensure that the potential environmental impacts that may occur due to the proposed development are avoided or mitigated, if authorisation is granted. The 'environment' includes social, economic and biophysical aspects which the EIA must assess equitably.

The EIA process is divided into two phases, the Scoping Phase and the Impact Assessment Phase.

Scoping Phase:

The Scoping Phase aims to:

- Investigate and gather information on and around the proposed site, to establish an understanding of the area.
- Establish how the proposed development activities may potentially impact the environment.
- Identify IAPs and relevant authorities by conducting a Public Participation Process.
- Identify potential environmental impacts through investigation and PPP.
- Describe the proposed project and potential Alternatives.

Impact Assessment Phase:

During this phase, all issues/impacts and proposed alternatives identified in the Scoping Phase are assessed and are rated in terms of their significance. Where necessary, recommendations are made for the mitigation of potential negative impacts, or enhancement of potential positive impacts.

An Environmental Management Programme will also be compiled that will prescribe environmental specifications for the planning, pre-construction, construction, operational and decommissioning phases of the project. As with the Scoping phase, a PPP is an integral part of the Assessment Phase.

The following specialist investigations will be undertaken as a minimum to assess potential impacts:

- Ecological- and Estuarine investigation (including aquatic environment and wetlands).
- Soil, Surface- and Groundwater Baseline Investigation.
- Foundation Phase Geotechnical Assessment.
- Air Quality Assessment (air, climate change and acoustic).

Public Participation Process

The Public Participation Process (PPP) aims to inform a wide range of I&APs (any person or organisation that has a direct, business, financial, personal or other interest in, or may be directly or indirectly affected by, the proposed project) about the proposed development and the environmental authorisation process to be followed. It is a tool to allow the public to exchange information and to express their views and concerns on the proposed development for which the EIA is being conducted. The PPP assists in identifying potential issues and concerns that 2need to be addressed in the impact assessment by highlighting relevant information to be included in the assessment. PPP enables more accurate and descriptive analysis and helps to focus and enhance decision-making.

The EIA will be open and transparent to the public through this process with all registered IAPs continuously updated on events throughout the process. All contributions from IAPs will be fully documented, evaluated and responded to in the EIA.

Activities of the Public Participation Process:

Stakeholders are invited to register as an I&AP and take part in the PPP through:

- Media notices placed in newspapers (Zululand Observer and Isolezwe – 8 March 2024)
- Distribution of this Background Information Documents (BIDs).
- Placement of site notice boards.
- Stakeholder meetings (as appropriate).
- Submission of comments on the media notices, BID, Draft Scoping and Impact Assessment Reports.

How you can participate:

Interested and affected parties I&APs may forward their written comments along with their name, contact details and an indication of any direct business, financial, personal or other interest which they have in the application by post or email to GCS – contact details on page 1 of this BID.

Next steps:

You have until the 11 April 2024 to register as an I&AP and to comment on the Draft Scoping Report. The report describes the project, the baseline conditions of the affected area and the issues and concern to be investigated during the impact assessment phase.

Copies of the report is available as follows:

Printed Copies	
Richard's Bay Public Library (2 Krugerrand Grove Richard's Bay – Tel: 035 907 5840)	
Electronic Copy	
Website download	https://www.gcs-sa.biz/public-documents/

Following stakeholder comments, the Scoping Report will be finalised and submitted to the Competent Authority for approval. Stakeholders will be notified as such, and a copy of the Final Scoping Report will be made available.

During the next phase of the EIA, the impact assessment phase, stakeholders will be notified of the availability of the Impact Assessment Report and reports related to the WUL and AEL applications. These reports will be available for review and comment by stakeholders. Specialist assessments conducted as part of these applications will be appended to the reports for review.

It is proposed that the public review of these reports will be during June 2024. Stakeholder meetings will be held to present and discuss the findings of this phase.

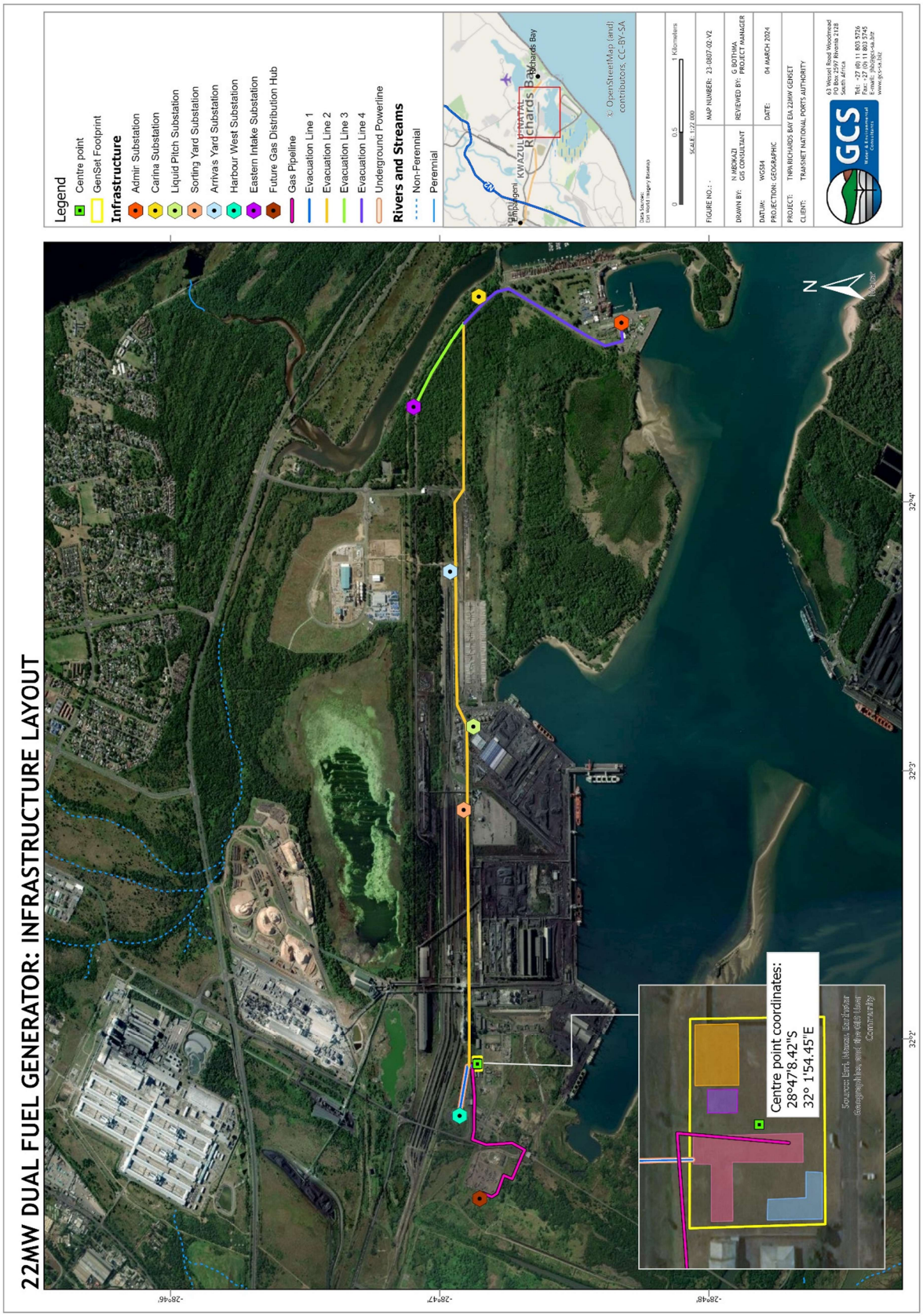


Figure 1: Proposed infrastructure layout

Application for an Environmental Authorisation, and Water Use Licence for the installation of a 22MW Dual Fuel Generator and supporting infrastructure for the Transnet National Port Authority (TNPA) at the Port of Richards Bay, KwaZulu-Natal

Comment and Registration Form

GCS Ref No: 23-0807

Name:		Surname:	
Organisation / interest:			
Postal / Residential address			
		Area:	Code:
Contact details	Tel:	( )	
	Mobile:	( )	
	Email:		

Please mark with an **X** to indicate whether you would like to participate in the process:	
Yes, I would like to participate in this process and receive periodic updates	
No, I am not interested in participating and do not wish to receive further information	
Date commented	(DD / MM / YYYY)

Please indicate any issues, comments and concerns with regards to the proposed project

Please indicate in which aspects you would require more information

Please indicate the contact details of any other I&APs whom you think should be contacted

Name:		Surname:	
Tel:	( )	Fax:	( )
Mobile:	( )		
Email:			

Return the completed comment and registration form to:
Anelle Lötter / Gerda Bothma, Tel: 011 803 5726, Email: anellel@gcs-sa.biz / gerdab@gcs-sa.biz
Postal Address: PO Box 2597, Rivonia, Johannesburg, 2128

From:	Anelle Lotter
Cc:	Gerda Bothma; Anelle Lotter
Bcc:	Bcadmin@dffe.gov.za; karoon.moodley@dmre.gov.za; mbali.ndumo@kzncogta.gov.za; vhutshilo.gelebe@kzncogta.gov.za; Felicia.Mdamba@kznedtea.gov.za; muziwandile.mdamba@kznedtea.gov.za; annmc@telkomsa.net; mbanjwaz@kznded.gov.za; Naidook@dws.gov.za; StarkeyA@dws.gov.za; MsaneB@dwa.gov.za; DladlaL@dws.gov.za; GweleY@dws.gov.za; malibijiz@dws.gov.za; MakwabasaN@dws.gov.za; john.pakwe@amafainstitute.org.za; nhiggitt@sahra.org.za; Lynn.boucher@drdlr.gov.za; hodpa@kzndard.gov.za; thabile.kunene@labour.gov.za; sbusiso.gumbi@kzntransport.gov.za; Judy.reddy@kzntransport.gov.za; jenny.longmore@kznwildlife.com; santosh.bachoo@kznwildlife.com; Nerissa.Pillay@kznwildlife.com; Dominic.Wieners@kznwildlife.com; Dave.Druce@kznwildlife.com; Richard.PennSawers@kznwildlife.com; Andy.Blackmore@kznwildlife.com; gabotha@geoscience.org.za; john.geeringh@eskom.co.za; motsisil@eskom.co.za; troy.govender@eskom.co.za; Willie.Joubert@transnet.net; Eddie.Seaton@transnet.net; kalib@telkom.co.za; ChettPR2@telkom.co.za; WayleaCR@telkom.co.za; YolisaN@nda.org.za; NobuhleM@nda.org.za; BhekizenzoN@nda.org.za; DumaNL@umhlathuze.gov.za; reg@umhlathuze.gov.za; Thringb@umhlathuze.gov.za; mohapimd@umhlathuze.gov.za; dumanl@umhlathuze.gov.za; lindiwe.zondi@umhlathuze.gov.za; rheedersc@kingcetshwayo.gov.za; Mthombenib@kingcetshwayo.gov.za; ngcobolo@kingcetshwayo.gov.za; gobas@kingcetshwayo.gov.za; makhathinisi@kingcetshwayo.gov.za; xabasa@kingcetshwayo.gov.za; buthelezint@kingcetshwayo.gov.za; camminga@iafrica.com; joe.muller@rbidz.co.za; theunis.roux@rbidz.co.za; percy.langa@rbidz.co.za; bobby@groundwork.org.za; robs@groundwork.org.za; avena@groundwork.org.za; janeira@sdceango.co.za; richard@sdceango.co.za; tanica@sdceango.co.za; bradleyg@ewt.org.za; constanth@ewt.org.za; garetht@ewt.org.za; ianl@ewt.org.za; wep@ewt.org.za; rob.crankshaw@amamarketing.co.za; Tembeka.Dambuza@wessa.co.za; Pieter@burgerip.co.za; jeansenogles@gmail.com; morgan.griffiths@wessa.co.za; conservation@birdlife.org.za; ceo@birdlife.org.za; melissa.lewis@birdlife.org.za; catherine@groundtruth.co.za; mmdamba@umhlathuze.co.za; jaridl55@gmail.com; info@gameranger.org; sec.gra@gmail.com; ngweduleforrest@gmail.com; cjforrest@netactive.co.za; mwplanit@mweb.co.za; conserva@global.co.za; schof@sai.co.za; thornhillh@thorn-ex.co.za; mark@wildlifeact.com; chris@wildlifeact.com; peterjm@mweb.co.za; kyouens@youensattorneys.co.za; kyouens@allrise.org.za; jtooley@allrise.org.za; jade@somkhele.co.za; chris@blackrock-env.co.za; nela@ukzn.ac.za; dijones@iafrica.com; rhugo@telkom.net; secretary@kznca.org.za; mary@violencemonitor.com; mary.dehaas@gmail.com; peterc@ioec.co.za; p.mungwe@gmail.com; rod@phelamanga.co.za; mkapa@cer.org.za; info@duct.org.za; info@wildtrust.co.za; admin@enviros.co.za; lbooysen@wwf.org.za; info@amafainstitute.org.za; inprodev@mweb.co.za; melita.steele@greenpeace.org; Chris.boshoff@afriforum.co.za; botsoc-kzn@mweb.co.za; brash@netactive.co.za; urusch@wwf.org.za; jflamand@wwf.org.za; gilbert@wearesouthafricans.com; cjcm@mweb.co.za; rose@biowatch.org.za; lawrence@biowatch.org.za; vanessa@biowatch.org.za; Tamlyn@zob.co.za; dave@zululandobserver.co.za; eliset@24.com; inkanyezi@caxton.co.za; tony.carnie@gmail.com; Siyabonga.Gadu@transnet.net; Daisy.Molamodi@transnet.net; Karabo.Chuene@transnet.net; Motlatso.Molapo@transnet.net; Fikile.Dlamini1@transnet.net; Naidooe@umhlathuze.gov.za; gknott@cer.org.za; bernadetp@amafapmb.co.za; Hadebez@dws.gov.za; msomiA@dws.gov.za; Tsibozana@dffe.gov.za; eia@kznwildlife.com; snaidoo@dws.gov.za; eia@ewt.org.za; archaeology@amafapmb.co.za; johan.gouws1@gmail.com; cmusemburi@dffe.gov.za; Mdambam@kznded.gov.za; ihutton@kznwildlife.com; mjvermaak@worldonline.co.za; jeremy.1953@gmail.com; jankapp@mweb.co.za; sharin.govender@umhlathuze.gov.za; rheedersc@uthungulu.co.za
Subject:	Installation of a 22MW Dual Fuel Generator for the Transnet National Port - Draft Scoping Report available for review
Date:	Friday, 08 March 2024 09:46:00
Attachments:	23-0807 TNPA 22MW Generator RB - BID.pdf Comment and Registration Form.docx

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Dear stakeholders

Transnet National Port Authority (TNPA) is proposing to install of a dual fuel (diesel/Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG)/Compressed Natural Gas (CNG)) generator, a Natural Gas supply pipeline within the port, diesel/CNG storage area and ancillary infrastructure for the electricity generation of 22MW output next to their employee care centre offices at the Port of Richards Bay.

The purpose of this dual fuel generator will be to provide emergency power for the port activities. Due to the current insufficient power supply from the national grid, the port is required to provide alternative emergency power generation to be able to effectively manage the port activities.

GCS Environment SA (Pty) Ltd (GCS) has been appointed to undertake the environmental authorisation (EA) and a water use license (WUL) application process.
Should it be required, an Atmospheric Emissions License (AEL) may also be applied for.

Stakeholders are invited to review the Draft Scoping Report which is available for comment from **8 March to 11 April 2024** as follows:
Printed Copy: Richard's Bay Public Library (2 Krugerrand Grove Richard's Bay – Tel: 035 907 5840)
Electronic Copy: Website download https://www.gcs-sa.biz/public-documents/
Please send your written comments on the Draft Scoping Report to GCS by 11 April 2024.

Stakeholders are also requested to register as Interested and Affected Parties.
Please find attached a Background Information Document and a Comment and Registration form.

Your participation in this process is appreciated.

Kind regards
Anelle Lötter
Stakeholder Engagement
GCS Water & Environmental

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Fax +27 (0) 11 803 5745
Cell
Email anellel@gcs-sa.biz / gerdab@gcs-sa.biz
Web www.gcs-sa.biz
Address 63 Wessel Road, Rivonia, Johannesburg, South Africa

From: Anelle Lotter
Cc: Anelle Lotter; Gerda Bothma
Bcc: "Bcadmin@dffe.gov.za"; "Tsibozana@dffe.gov.za"; "eia@kznwildlife.com"; "cmusemburi@dffe.gov.za"; "karoon.moodley@dmre.gov.za"; "mbali.ndumo@kzncogta.gov.za"; "vhutshilo.gelebe@kzncogta.gov.za"; "Felicia.Mdamba@kznedtea.gov.za"; "Mdambam@kznded.gov.za"; "muziwandile.mdamba@kznedtea.gov.za"; "annmc@telkomsa.net"; "mbanjwaz@kznded.gov.za"; "Naidook@dws.gov.za"; "snaidoo@dws.gov.za"; "Hadebez@dws.gov.za"; "msomiA@dws.gov.za"; "StarkeyA@dws.gov.za"; "MsaneB@dwa.gov.za"; "DladlaL@dws.gov.za"; "GweleY@dws.gov.za"; "malibijiz@dws.gov.za"; "MakwabasaN@dws.gov.za"; "john.pakwe@amafainstitute.org.za"; "Lynn.boucher@drdlr.gov.za"; "hodpa@kzndard.gov.za"; "thabile.kunene@labour.gov.za"; "sbusiso.gumbi@kzntransport.gov.za"; "Judy.reddy@kzntransport.gov.za"; "jenny.longmore@kznwildlife.com"; "ihutton@kznwildlife.com"; "santosh.bachoo@kznwildlife.com"; "Nerissa.Pillay@kznwildlife.com"; "Dominic.Wieners@kznwildlife.com"; "Dave.Druce@kznwildlife.com"; "Richard.PennSawers@kznwildlife.com"; "Andy.Blackmore@kznwildlife.com"; "gabotha@geoscience.org.za"; "john.geeringh@eskom.co.za"; "motsisil@eskom.co.za"; "troy.govender@eskom.co.za"; "Willie.Joubert@transnet.net"; "Eddie.Seaton@transnet.net"; "YolisaN@nda.org.za"; "NobuhleM@nda.org.za"; "BhekizenzoN@nda.org.za"; "Strachanb@umhlathuze.gov.za."; "Naidooe@umhlathuze.gov.za"; "DumaNL@umhlathuze.gov.za"; "reg@umhlathuze.gov.za"; "Thringb@umhlathuze.gov.za"; "mohapimd@umhlathuze.gov.za"; "dumanl@umhlathuze.gov.za"; "lindiwe.zondi@umhlathuze.gov.za"; "sharin.govender@umhlathuze.gov.za"; "rheedersc@kingcetshwayo.gov.za"; "rheedersc@uthungulu.co.za"; "Mthombenib@kingcetshwayo.gov.za"; "ngcobolo@kingcetshwayo.gov.za"; "gobas@kingcetshwayo.gov.za"; "makhathinisi@kingcetshwayo.gov.za"; "xabasa@kingcetshwayo.gov.za"; "buthelezint@kingcetshwayo.gov.za"; "camminga@iafrica.com"; "joe.muller@rbidz.co.za"; "theunis.roux@rbidz.co.za"; "percy.langa@rbidz.co.za"; "bobby@groundwork.org.za"; "robs@groundwork.org.za"; "gknott@cer.org.za"; "avena@groundwork.org.za"; "janeira@sdceango.co.za"; "richard@sdceango.co.za"; "tanica@sdceango.co.za"; "bradleyg@ewt.org.za"; "eia@ewt.org.za"; "constanth@ewt.org.za"; "garetht@ewt.org.za"; "ianl@ewt.org.za"; "wep@ewt.org.za"; "rob.crankshaw@amamarketing.co.za"; "Tembeka.Dambuza@wessa.co.za"; "Pieter@burgerip.co.za"; "jeansenogles@gmail.com"; "morgan.griffiths@wessa.co.za"; "conservation@birdlife.org.za"; "ceo@birdlife.org.za"; "melissa.lewis@birdlife.org.za"; "catherine@groundtruth.co.za"; "mmdamba@umhlathuze.co.za"; "jaridl55@gmail.com"; "info@gameranger.org"; "sec.gra@gmail.com"; "ngweduleforrest@gmail.com"; "cjforrest@netactive.co.za"; "mwplanit@mweb.co.za"; "conserva@global.co.za"; "schof@sai.co.za"; "thornhillh@thorn-ex.co.za"; "mark@wildlifeact.com"; "chris@wildlifeact.com"; "peterjm@mweb.co.za"; "kyouens@youensattorneys.co.za"; "kyouens@allrise.org.za"; "jtooley@allrise.org.za"; "jade@somkhele.co.za"; "chris@blackrock-env.co.za"; "nela@ukzn.ac.za"; "dijones@iafrica.com"; "rhugo@telkom.net"; "secretary@kznca.org.za"; "mary@violencemonitor.com"; "mary.dehaas@gmail.com"; "peterc@ioec.co.za"; "p.mungwe@gmail.com"; "rod@phelamanga.co.za"; "mkapa@cer.org.za"; "info@duct.org.za"; "info@wildtrust.co.za"; "admin@enviros.co.za"; "lbooysen@wwf.org.za"; "info@amafainstitute.org.za"; "bernadetp@amafapmb.co.za"; "archaeology@amafapmb.co.za"; "inprodev@mweb.co.za"; "melita.steele@greenpeace.org"; "johan.gouws1@gmail.com"; "mjvermaak@worldonline.co.za"; "jankapp@mweb.co.za"; "Chris.boshoff@afriforum.co.za"; "botsoc-kzn@mweb.co.za"; "brash@netactive.co.za"; "urusch@wwf.org.za"; "jflamand@wwf.org.za"; "gilbert@weareresouthafricans.com"; "cjcm@mweb.co.za"; "rose@biowatch.org.za"; "lawrence@biowatch.org.za"; "vanessa@biowatch.org.za"; "Tamlyn@zob.co.za"; "dave@zululandobserver.co.za"; "eliset@24.com"; "inkanyezi@caxton.co.za"; "tony.carnie@gmail.com"; "Siyabonga.Gadu@transnet.net"; "Daisy.Molamodi@transnet.net"; "Karabo.Chuene@transnet.net"; "Motlatso.Molapo@transnet.net"; "Fikile.Dlamini1@transnet.net"; "khathin@kingcetshwayo.gov.za"; "nokwazi@sdceango.co.za"; Desmond Dsa
Subject: REMINDER: Installation of a 22MW Dual Fuel Generator for the Transnet National Port - Draft Scoping Report available for review
Date: Thursday, 04 April 2024 12:57:00
Attachments: 23-0807 TNPA 22MW Generator RB - BID.pdf
Comment and Registration Form.docx

Dear stakeholders

We would like to remind you of the availability of the Draft Scoping Report for the application for the proposed Transnet National Port Authority (TNPA) installation of a dual fuel (diesel/Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG)/Compressed Natural Gas (CNG)) generator, a Natural Gas supply pipeline within the port, diesel/CNG storage area and ancillary infrastructure for the electricity generation of 22MW output next to their employee care centre offices at the Port of Richards Bay.

As per the email below, the document is available until 11 April 2024.
Please refer to the information below and attached as a request for your comments.

We appreciate your participation.

Kind regards

Anelle Lötter
Stakeholder Engagement
GCS Water & Environmental

Tel +27 (0) 11 803 5726
Fax +27 (0) 11 803 5745
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Email anellel@gcs-sa.biz / gerdab@gcs-sa.biz
Web www.gcs-sa.biz
Address 63 Wessel Road, Rivonia, Johannesburg, South Africa

From: Anelle Lotter <anellel@gcs-sa.biz>
Sent: Friday, March 8, 2024 9:46 AM
Cc: Gerda Bothma <gerdab@gcs-sa.biz>; Anelle Lotter <anellel@gcs-sa.biz>
Subject: Installation of a 22MW Dual Fuel Generator for the Transnet National Port - Draft Scoping Report available for review

Dear stakeholders

Transnet National Port Authority (TNPA) is proposing to install of a dual fuel (diesel/Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG)/Compressed Natural Gas (CNG)) generator, a Natural Gas supply pipeline within the port, diesel/CNG storage area and ancillary infrastructure for the electricity generation of 22MW output next to their employee care centre offices at the Port of Richards Bay.

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GCS Environment SA (Pty) Ltd (GCS) has been appointed to undertake the environmental authorisation (EA) and a water use license (WUL) application process.
Should it be required, an Atmospheric Emissions License (AEL) may also be applied for.

Stakeholders are invited to review the Draft Scoping Report which is available for comment from **8 March to 11 April 2024** as follows:
Printed Copy: Richard's Bay Public Library (2 Krugerrand Grove Richard's Bay – Tel: 035 907 5840)
Electronic Copy: Website download https://www.gcs-sa.biz/public-documents/
Please send your written comments on the Draft Scoping Report to GCS by 11 April 2024.

Stakeholders are also requested to register as Interested and Affected Parties.
Please find attached a Background Information Document and a Comment and Registration form.

Your participation in this process is appreciated.

Kind regards

Anelle Lötter

Stakeholder Engagement

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Email anellel@gcs-sa.biz / gerdab@gcs-sa.biz
Web www.gcs-sa.biz
Address 63 Wessel Road, Rivonia,
Johannesburg, South Africa

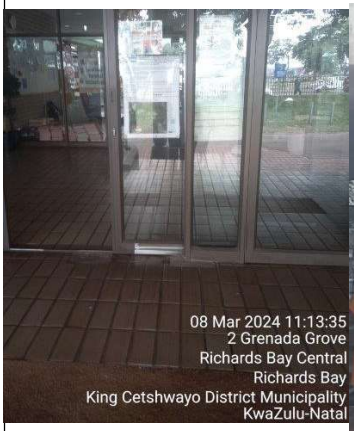
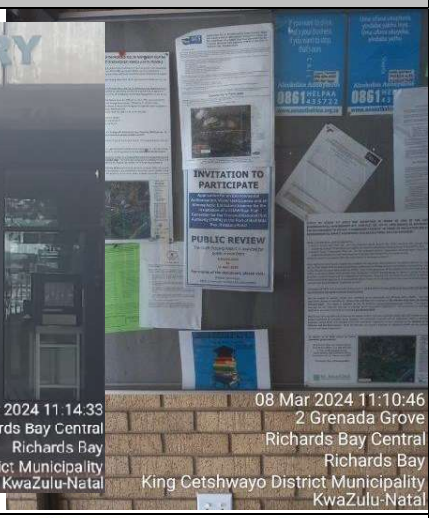
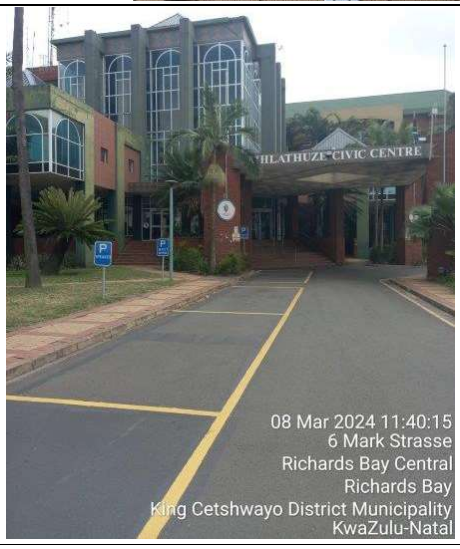
APPENDIX D: SITE NOTICES

Site notices were placed on 8 March 2024.

Application for an Environmental Authorisation and Water Use Licence for the installation of a 22MW Dual Fuel Generator for the Transnet National Port Authority (TNPA) at the Port of Richards Bay, KwaZulu-Natal

Placement of site notices

8 March 2024

	Description	Photo
1.	At the Public Library in Richards Bay at 2 Grenada Grove.	  
2.	At the uMhlathuze municipality, Civic Centre, 6 Mark Strasse in Richards Bay Central	 
3.	On site, at the PoRB Canteen	 

	Description	Photo
4.	On site	
5.	Towards the entrance to the Port and the Richards Bay IDZ building	
6.	On Harbour Arterial Road in Richard Bay	

	Description	Photo
	At the entrance to PoRB	
	At the entrance to PoRB	

APPENDIX E: COMMENTS & RESPONSES REPORT

Application for an Environmental Authorisation, Water Use Licence and an Atmospheric Emissions Licence for the installation of a 22MW Dual Fuel Generator for the Transnet National Port Authority (TNPA) at the Port of Richards Bay, KwaZulu-Natal

GCS Project Number: 23-0807

Comments and Responses Report (CRR)

April 2024

This Comments and Responses Report (CRR) provides a summary of the comments, questions and issues raised by stakeholders since the announcement of the application and the availability of the Draft Scoping Report for comment in March 2024.

Transnet National Port Authority is proposing to install of a dual fuel (diesel/Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG)/Compressed Natural Gas (CNG)) generator, a Natural Gas supply pipeline within the port, diesel/CNG storage area and ancillary infrastructure for the electricity generation of 22MW output next to their employee care centre offices at the Port of Richards Bay.

The purpose of this dual fuel generator will be to provide emergency power for the port activities. Due to the current insufficient power supply from the national grid, the port is required to provide alternative emergency power generation to be able to effectively manage the port activities.

ISSUE OR CONCERN	CONTRIBUTOR	DATE OF CONTRIBUTION	MEANS OF CONTRIBUTION	RESPONSE
COMMENTS RECEIVED ON THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE PROJECT AND OF THE AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT				
Thank you for informing the Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA) of the opportunity to comment on this EIA application. Understanding the necessity of such installations, WESSA wishes to just make three comments/suggestions on this proposal: 1) That the fuel storage area has sufficient bunding to contain an entire fuel spill, with spill clean-up materials available on site. 2) That the generator exhausts have scrubber technology, if available for generators of such size, to limit air pollution. 3) That the generator's noise is suppressed/contained if possible.	Morgan Griffiths WESSA	08/03/2024	Email	WESSA's comments/suggestions is noted thank you. TNPA will ensure that appropriate measures are taken to contain potential spillage from all hazardous substances on site, additionally, construction and operation of the facility will be undertaken in accordance with the EMPr for the site. This EMPr will contain measures on the appropriate management of hazardous substances at the site. The Draft EMPr will be included in the Draft EIR for public review. Similarly, appropriate measures to manage potential air quality and noise pollution will be implemented.
DFFE Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation hereby acknowledge receipt of the invitation to review and comment on the project mentioned on the subject line. Kindly note that the project has been allocated to Mrs M Rabothata and Ms Lindiwe Dlamini (Copied on this email). In addition, kindly share the shapefiles of the development footprints/application site with the Case Officers. Please note: All Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA review and any other Biodiversity EIA queries must be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation at Email: BCAdmin@dffe.gov.za for attention of Mr Seoka Lekota.	Tebego Kgaphola Directorate: Biodiversity Mainstreaming and EIA Branch: Biodiversity and Conservation	08/03/2024	Email	GSC has responded on 22/03/2023, acknowledging receipt of the email and providing the shapefiles of the proposed development.
The Application for Environmental Authorisation and Draft Scoping Report (SR) dated March 2024 and received by the Department (DFFE) on 08 March 2024, refer. This letter serves to inform you that the following information must be included to the Final Scoping Report: DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2525	Sabelo Malaza DFFE Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations	09/04/2024	Email and Letter	

ISSUE OR CONCERN	CONTRIBUTOR	DATE OF CONTRIBUTION	MEANS OF CONTRIBUTION	RESPONSE
Listed Activities • The project description provided for activity 10 of Listing Notice (LN) 3 must be amended to indicate the distance of the proposed project within the estuarine functional zone as required by the sub listing (vi). • Project description provided for activity 12 of LN3 must also be amended to indicate the geographical sensitivity (i.e. CBA), as required by the listed activity. • Please ensure that all relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure as described in the project description. • It is imperative that the relevant authorities are continuously involved throughout the Scoping and EIA process as the development property possibly falls within geographically designated areas in terms of numerous GN R. 985 Activities. Written comments must be obtained from the relevant authorities and submitted to this Department. In addition, a graphical representation of the proposed development within the respective geographical areas must be provided.				The requested amendments to the project description has been affected in the Final Scoping Report and it is confirmed that all potential listed activities has been identified and included in the application process. The Public Participation Project Team will endeavour to elicit participation from all relevant authorities throughout the application process, proof thereof will be included in the submissions to the Department. Project information and description have been provided to possible commenting authorities. Comments have been received from the KZN Department of Economic Development, Tourism, and Environmental Affairs. The project information and request for comments were sent to other entities such as Emzemvelo Wildlife, South African Heritage Resource Agency and KZN Transport, along with several other possible I&APs.
Public Participation Process • The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended. • Please ensure that all issues raised, and comments received during the circulation of the SR from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction (including this Department's Biodiversity Section, Ocean and Coast Section, Air quality Section and Climate Change Section) in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in the Final SR. Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the Final SR. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof should be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments. • A comments and response trail report (C&R) must be submitted with the final SR. The C&R report must incorporate all historical comments for this development. The C&R report must be a separate	Sabelo Malaza DFFE Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations	09/04/2024	Email and Letter	The Public Participation Process underway is conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended. The persons relevant as suggested will be included in the I&AP list and their comments will be obtained. A C&R as per the requirements stated will be compiled and submitted. The final SR (Public Participation Report) provides evidence that all identified and relevant competent authorities have been given an opportunity to comment on the proposed development.

ISSUE OR CONCERN	CONTRIBUTOR	DATE OF CONTRIBUTION	MEANS OF CONTRIBUTION	RESPONSE
document from the main report and the format must be in the table format as indicated in Appendix 1 of this comments letter. Please refrain from summarising comments made by I&APs. All comments from I&APs must be copied verbatim and responded to clearly. Please note that a response such as "Noted" is not regarded as an adequate response to I&AP's comments. • The final SR must provide evidence that all identified and relevant competent authorities have been given an opportunity to comment on the proposed development.				The FSR includes the entire Public Participation Process followed during the Scoping Phase. The report includes all the notifications sent out and the requests to provide comments on the project.
Specialist Assessments Please kindly ensure that the terms of reference for Specialist studies includes the following requirements: • A detailed description of their methodology, as well as indicate the locations and descriptions of all infrastructure positions, and all other associated infrastructures that they have assessed and are recommending for Authorisations. • A detailed description of all limitations to their studies. Please ensure that all specialist studies that are conducted have been commissioned in the right season, and providing that as a limitation will not be accepted. • Please note that the Department considers a 'no-go' area, as an area where no development of any infrastructure is allowed; therefore, no development of associated infrastructure including access roads is allowed in the 'no-go' areas. • If the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with defendable reasons and where necessary, include further expertise advice. • All specialist studies must be final and provide detailed/practical mitigation measures for the preferred alternative and recommendations and must not recommend further studies to be completed post EA. Should a specialist recommend specific mitigation measures; these must be clearly indicated. • Regarding cumulative impacts: - Clearly defined cumulative impacts and where possible the size of the identified impact must be quantified and	Sabelo Malaza DFFE Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations	09/04/2024	Email and Letter	The Department's requirements regarding Specialist Assessments has been noted. The FSR has been updated accordingly and the specialists has been tasked to undertake the studies in accordance with the requirements stipulated.

ISSUE OR CONCERN	CONTRIBUTOR	DATE OF CONTRIBUTION	MEANS OF CONTRIBUTION	RESPONSE
indicated, i.e. hectares of cumulatively transformed land. - A detailed process flow to indicate how the specialist's recommendations, mitigation measures and conclusions from the various similar developments in the area were taken into consideration in the assessment of cumulative impacts and when the conclusion and mitigation measures were drafted for this project. - Identified cumulative impacts associated with the proposed development must be rated with the significance rating methodology used in the process. - The significance rating must also inform the need and desirability of the proposed development. - A cumulative impact environmental statement on whether the proposed development must proceed. • It is further brought to your attention that Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on identified Environmental Themes in terms of Sections 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, when applying for Environmental Authorisation, which were promulgated in Government Notice No. 320 of 20 March 2020 (i.e. "the Protocols"), and in Government Notice No. 1150 of 30 October 2020 (i.e. protocols for terrestrial plant and animal species), have come into effect. • Please ensure that specialist assessments are conducted in accordance with these protocols, except where the applicant provides proof to the competent authority that the specialist assessment affected by these protocols had been commissioned before the date on which the protocols came into effect, in which case Appendix 6 of the Environmental impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, will apply to such applications. Please indicate in the report whether the protocols were applied. • The screening tool report identified fourteen (14) specialist studies to be conducted for the proposed project and the site verification report included only six (06) specialist studies that will be conducted by the EIAr. The site verification report must be amended to				Noted. Protocols for specialists will be followed. Motivations have been included in the Site Verification Report

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include motivation why other studies have not been identified as specialist studies to be conducted for the proposed project. • Kindly ensure to include, as part of the final SR, a table summarising the specialist studies required by the Screening Tool and the sensitivity rating of the Screening Tool (very high, high, medium, low), a column indicating the sensitivity of the site after the EAP/Specialist conducted the Site Verification Assessment and a column indicating whether these studies will be conducted or that compliance statement will be submitted during the EIAr phase. • For the themes that have been identified as low/medium which requires compliance statements, please ensure that these specialists must be identified as specialist to be conducted who compliance statements are to be included in the EIAr. • Please note that the protocols require certain specialists to be SACNASP registered. As such, the Specialist Declaration of Interest forms must also indicate the scientific organization registration/member number and status of registration/membership for each specialist.				The Table is included in the Site Verification Report. Noted. Compliance Statements and specialist studies will be included in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report. Noted. Will ensure that required specialists are SACNASP registered where required.
Cumulative Impacts • Should there be any other similar projects within a 30km radius of the proposed development site, the cumulative impact assessment for all identified and assessed impacts must be refined to indicate the following: - Identified cumulative impacts must be clearly defined, and where possible the size of the identified impact must be quantified and indicated, i.e. hectares of cumulatively transformed land. - Detailed process flow and proof must be provided, to indicate how the specialist's recommendations, mitigation measures and conclusions from the various similar developments in the area were taken into consideration in the assessment of cumulative impacts and when the conclusion and mitigation measures were drafted for this project.	Sabelo Malaza DFFE Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations	09/04/2024	Email and Letter	The Department's requirements regarding Cumulative Impacts has been noted and will be incorporated in the assessment process by the project team. The possible impacts of the project along with the cumulative impacts will be included in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report.

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- The cumulative impacts significance rating must also inform the need and desirability of the proposed development. - A cumulative impact environmental statement on whether the proposed development must proceed.				
Layout and Sensitivity Maps • The SR must include layout map which indicate the following: - Position of all infrastructure (fuel generator, diesel fuel tank storage, transmission line, LNG pipeline, etc), - The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g., CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected. - Buffer areas; and - All "no-go" areas. • The above map must be overlain with a sensitivity map and a cumulative map which shows neighbouring renewable energy developments. All available biodiversity information must be used in the finalisation of the map and infrastructure must not encroach on highly sensitive areas as far as possible. • Ensure that similar colours are not used to differentiate between infrastructures. i.e., items must be easily distinguishable in the Legend. • Google maps will not be accepted for decision-making purposes.	Sabelo Malaza DFFE Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations	09/04/2024	Email and Letter	The Department's requirements regarding sensitivity mapping has been noted and the project team will ensure that the layout & sensitivity mapping for the assessment include all the required parameters. Note that the mapping will only be concluded when specialist studies has been concluded as part of the EIA Phase. Nonetheless, a preliminary Sensitivity Map can be seen as Figure 4-7 on page 34 of the Final Scoping Report. There are no known renewable energy projects neighbouring the TNPA 22MW Generator Project. Figure 4-6 and Figure 4-7 illustrates the sensitive areas that has been identified. The delineations and extent of each aspect will be determined during the specialist investigation being undertaken in the EIA Phase and will be included in the Draft EIA Report. Noted. Different colours have been used for the maps and maps have been generated on a Geoinformatics System.
General The SR must include the technical details of the proposed facility. In addition, please separate the appendices from the main report when submitting the final SR.	Sabelo Malaza DFFE Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations	09/04/2024	Email and Letter	The Department's requirements regarding the content and format of the FSR is noted and the report will be submitted accordingly. The technical details of the facility are included in Section 2 of the Scoping Report.
You are further reminded to comply with Regulation 21(1) of the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, which states that: "If S&EIR must be applied to an application, the applicant must, within 44 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, submit to the competent authority a scoping report which has been subjected to a public participation process of at least 30 days and which reflects the incorporation of comments received, including any comments of the competent authority"	Sabelo Malaza DFFE Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations	09/04/2024	Email and Letter	Cognisance of this requirement has been taken and the FSR is submitted within the calculated timeframe which ends on the 25th of April 2024, taking all public holidays into account.

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You are further reminded that the final SR to be submitted to this Department must comply with all the requirements in terms of the scope of assessment and content of Scoping reports in accordance with Appendix 2 and Regulation 21(1) of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended. Further note that in terms of Regulation 45 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, this application will lapse if the applicant fails to meet any of the timeframes prescribed in terms of these Regulations, unless an extension has been granted in terms of Regulation 3(7). You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, that no activity may commence prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by the Department.				
As no component of the proposed development falls below the high-water mark, SAHRA has no jurisdiction to provide comments on this development application. Please consult with AMAFA for comments in this regard.	Natasha Higgitt SAHRA	11/03/2024	Email	Case ID: 22267 was registered with SAHRA.
Please remove me from your database / contact list. I am no longer involved in EIA's, etc.	Jeremy Smith	11/03/2024	Email	J Smith was removed from the stakeholder database
Thank you for providing Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife (Ezemvelo) with the Background Information Document (BID) regarding the abovementioned project for review and comment. This email serves to acknowledge receipt of the BID, however, please provide Ezemvelo with a Google Earth .kml depicting the exact proposed layout of the project site. Please send it to the official IEM Section email address: IEM.App@kznwildlife.com, as soon as you can for us to finalize the processes required for the project to be tabled tomorrow to Ezemvelo's IEM Planning Committee and thereafter, begin with the review and comment process. Furthermore, for future applications, please note that: 1. To ensure all applications are received and attended to timeously by Ezemvelo's IEM Section, an official dedicated email account has been established. 2. Should you wish to submit digitally; you are kindly requested to send applications/submissions and notifications to IEM.App@kznwildlife.com. Should you have a central database that is used to notify Interested and Affected Parties, please ensure that only the official IEM Section contact email address is	Nolwazi V Nkosi (Miss) EZEMVELO KZN WILDLIFE IEM Technician Conservation and Planning	13/03/2024	Email	GCS has responded on 14/04/2024 and provided the shapefiles as requested. Receipt thereof was acknowledged by Ezemvelo.

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on this central system. You are therefore respectfully requested to replace all individual Ezemvelo planner/staff email addresses from any central emailing database with the IEM.App@kznwildlife.com email account. 3. It should be noted that going forward for all submissions made electronically, it is only submissions made to the official IEM.App@kznwildlife.com email address that will be considered as having been submitted to the IEM Section and that correspondence received by other staff in various divisions, are not considered officially received by the organisation. You are welcome to submit an application as a hardcopy, please refer to the attached interim document to assist you with the Process. However, it is emphasized that the required accompanying information detailed in the attached interim document applies to both digital and hardcopy submissions. The content of the document referred to above is a letter explaining the procedures to be followed when submissions are made to Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife.				
Please see attached, the completed comment & registration form. The draft SR will be downloaded, reviewed and comments provided by 11 April 2024. The following should be noted for further investigation: 1. Storage of large quantities of fuel, containment (or preventative measures) of fuel spillages both at the fuel depot / storage and at the generator itself; possible spills to nearby stormwater drains. 2. Is LN 2 activity 6 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 not applicable on this proposed development? 3. Confirmation on whether an AEL will be required for the project is required. 4. Maintenance programme for the generator is required. 5. Noise impacts and proposed mitigatory measures, including specialist studies to be undertaken. 6. Source of LNG, dimensions of the pipeline, storage of LNG on site, the type of environment that will be traversed by the LNG pipeline from the main LNG source to where the generator will be located / housed.	Felicia Mdamba Environmental Officer Environmental Planning unit KZN- EDTEA King Cetshwayo District	13/03/2024	Email and comment sheet	Response from GCS on 15/03/2024: Please see attached a Copy of the Draft Scoping Report for your information. Please see below the responses to the questions raised. 1. The management and mitigation measures for the storage of the fuel will be determined by the engineers and specialists during the studies currently underway and be included in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report. 2. The air quality specialist is currently conducting the Air Quality Impact Assessment, which will determine the need for an AEL. Should an AEL be required as per the findings of the specialist, an application for an AEL and inclusion of LN2 Activity 6 will be included. 3. The air quality specialist is currently conducting the Air Quality Impact Assessment, which will determine the need for an AEL. Should an AEL be required as per the findings of the specialist, an application for an AEL will be done. Control measures for emission of fuel gases. The control

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				measures and mitigation measures will be determined by the specialists and included in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report. 4. Maintenance program for the generator. This is determined by the manufacturer and the operational team on site and forms part of the engineering and maintenance departments and would be a condition in the Environmental Management Programme. 5. It has been determined that no noise impact study would be required due to the reasons set out below. Mitigation measures will be put in place to manage the noise from the generator, which will be included in the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) in the EIA. The project is proposed in an existing industrial area where existing ambient sound levels are already elevated; SANS 10103:2008 will accept a rating level (noise limits) of up to 70 dBA during the day, and 60 dBA at night at the boundary of an industrial area; The closest receptors are further than 2,000m from the proposed generator location (see blue dots below). SANS 10328:2008 recommend a noise study if an industry are developed within 1,000m from a potential noise-sensitive receptor (clause 5.4(e)), and if a source of potential low frequency noise (such as the cooling fans from power plants) are located within 2,000m from a potential noise-sensitive receptor (clause 5.4(l)). The closest noise-sensitive receptor is well less than 2,000m from the proposed generator. 6. Source of LNG; dimensions of the pipeline, storage of the LNG on site, the type of environment that will be traversed by the LNG pipeline from the main LNG source to where the generator will be located/ housed. The pipeline will run within the port footprint and within the road reserves as far as possible to prevent traversing of sensitive areas. The specialist studies are currently underway to determine the

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				sensitivity of the traversing environment of the pipeline. The storage and pipeline designs will be determined by the specialist and engineers during the specialist studies being undertaken at this point and included in the Environmental Impact Assessment and Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).
Could you kindly, register me as an Interested & Affected Party (I&AP) for this project, as I would like to receive further information and documents for this project. The following are my issues and concerns: a) Risk plan, evacuation plan and risk mitigation – what are the plans? b) How does this project help us to achieve just energy transition away from renewables and towards renewable energies? c) Methane when released causes great damage to ozone layer in a shorter period of time than carbon dioxide. d) Proper public participation: transport, assessable venues, transparency and language e) Community health and how will you prevent corruption of the money needed for this kind of project? More information is required on the following: a) Air quality impacts b) Climate change risk c) Socio-economic assessment d) Alternatives / need desirability e) Vegetation f) Wetlands and aquatic impacts g) Traffic impacts h) Waste management.	Nokwazi Magubane Just Energy Transition & Environmental Justice Project Officer - Richards Bay	14/03/2024	Comment sheet	Responses to issues and concerns: a) Transnet, including the Port of Richards Bay implements International Standardisation Organisation (ISO) 9001, 14001 and 45001 standards as part of its management and governance systems. In order to maintain its certification status, hazards Identification and Risk Assessment have been developed for the port and they updated all the time when there is changes in the processes, introduction of new processes or identification of a new risk. Therefore, the hazards and risk as well as the mitigation measures associated with this project will be of the embedded into the current Risk management plans as well the emergency procedures of the port. b) Renewable energy options for the port have been investigated as part of the alternatives. Taking into consideration that on average, to generate 1MW of power, 1hectare of land is required for the solar panels, a total of 22 Hectares would be required to produce the amount of electricity required for the Port to operate. The surrounding area around the port is estuarine with natural and marine habitats. Removing 22 hectares of estuarine/natural/marine vegetation would have a major impact on the environment. Similarly using wind turbines would affect the birdlife found in the surrounding areas (Critical Biodiversity Area and estuary) located next to the port area. Due to the fluctuating cost of diesel and availability during certain events, it was decided to make use of a dual fuel generator that would also be able to use LNG as a fuel source as

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				a contingency to ensure that the generator would be able to operate throughout, when required. The cost of a dual fuel generator is higher than that of a single fuel generator but the required diesel storage areas are reduced and the operational cost can be reduced by using LNG as well. c) Refer to above. d) Concerns regarding accessibility and participation during the public consultation process has been noted and appropriate, accessible venues will be provided for public meetings. e) Transnet's procurement of consultant, suppliers and service providers is done in fair, equitable and transparent manner, Transnet is underpinned by several Acts and Policies which includes the National Anti-Corrupt Strategy to appraise its suppliers of their behaviour, conduct and expectations. Transnet is committed to its Code of Conduct through prohibition of bribes, kickbacks, unlawful payments and other corrupt practices. Transnet will not participate in any corrupt practices and therefore expects its suppliers to act in a similar manner. Where a consultant, suppliers or any service providers working under authority of Transnet is confronted with fraudulent or corrupt behaviour of Transnet representatives, the service providers are required to use the Transnet's Tip-offs Anonymous Hotline to report such acts. The Transnet Hotline is 0800 003 056. Please be advised that further information as per your request will be available in the Draft EIR Report which will be circulated for public review during June 2024.
Openserve (PTY) LTD has no objection to the proposal in terms of the Electronic Communications Act no. 36 of 2005, however telecommunications infrastructure owned by OPENSERVE may be affected. Once detailed plans of the relevant work are available	Neil Sookaloo Wayleave Officer Network Engineering and Build	15/03/2024	Email and letter	As and when detailed plans of the relevant work are available these will be submitted to Openserve to indicate existing / proposed underground and / or overhead services.

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these need to be submitted to Openserve to indicate existing / proposed underground and / or overhead services. Any existing services that may require to be relocated as a result of this proposal will be undertaken on a repayable basis. Approval is valid for six months. Several plans were submitted to GCS to indicate infrastructure.				
This correspondence serves as a notice of receipt of the documents and notices received on 18 March 2023. Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact Amkela Chiya on (email address was provided).	Amanda Mkhungo Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	19/03/2024	Email	Notice of acknowledgement of receipt is appreciated.
The South Durban Community Environmental Alliance ("SDCEA") is a non-governmental organisation representing 21 community and environmental organisations concerned with environmental justice and sustainable development in South Durban, Richards Bay and KwaZulu-Natal. We refer to the advertisement in the Zululand Observer dated 8th March 2024 by the company representative stating that the Transnet National Port Authority (TNPA) in Richards Bay, will be applying for an environmental authorization in respect to the Water Use License and an Atmospheric Emissions license for the installation of 22MW Dual Fuel Generator at Port of Richards Bay, KwaZulu-Natal. **Legislative Context** a) Our legislative framework on Section 24 of the Constitution and codified in the National Environmental Management Act, emphasises the duty of the state to protect the environment and to ensure when authorising potentially polluting activities, that an environment is not created that will be detrimental to our health and wellbeing. Based on the submissions contained in the Draft scoping report, the public living in the vicinity of the proposed TNPA area (in Richards Bay), anticipated being exposed to the consequences of general emissions, as well as gas leaks or explosions, and society as a whole will suffer from the LNG that is going to be used for this project since it is a fossil fuel (an increase in fossil fuel usage = an increase in climate change and therefore global warming). The question that a decision-maker must answer is whether the stated need and desirability of the activity justifies the risks, or should the project not proceed at	Desmond D'Sa Coordinator of the South Durban Community Environmental Alliance (SDCEA)	09/04/2024	Email and Letter	Your questions and comments are duly noted, and a full response is included within this correspondence. Please note that the generator complex would be located within the existing port boundary and that the project is currently in the Scoping Phase of the EIA Process, where the plan of study for the Environmental Impact Assessment Process is determined. The specific impacts, mitigation measures, management plans and cumulative impacts will be included in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report which will also be made available for public review and will address your concerns raised in question 5 of the letter. The TNPA 22 MW Generator Project for the Richards Bay Port has already been identified by the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure as a Strategic Infrastructure Project in terms of Schedule 2 (Section 17(2)) of the Infrastructure Development Act (Act No. 23 of 2014), which demonstrates the importance of an electricity generating project at the Richards Bay Port to ensure that the country benefits from the importing and exporting activities which take place from and to the port. In response to the first and second questions raised in your letter. Renewable energy options for the port have been investigated as part of the alternatives. Taking into consideration that on average, to generate 1MW of power, 1hectare of land is required

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all due to the fact that complete prevention of such a risk can never be promised. And to say that "TNPA must ensure that significant environmental impacts are avoided; and where impacts cannot altogether avoided, they must be minimised and mitigated throughout the lifecycle of the TNPA 22MW Generator Project". Is unclear, opened and needs to be more specific. b) It is submitted below that not only must the regulator now reject any fossil fuel source for future energy, given the severity of the climate catastrophe, but also that insufficient information about leakage and explosion risks is placed before the regulator to apply the best environmental practice and to make this decision, in a manner compliant with the regulatory scheme. The nature of a worst-case scenario from the TNPA as a profound threat to health and community safety triggers a regulatory duty on the licensing authority to minimise such emissions. This duty requires an assessment of the likely pollution levels, the impact (including socio-economic cost) that a catastrophic incident would have on the immediate environment, and whether there are other methods or activities that achieve what the project hopes to achieve, without these potential risks. The report fails to analyse these issues so as to enable the decision-maker to make a decision that is compliant. c) NEMA Section 23, which seeks to promote the application of appropriate environmental management tools in order to ensure the integrated environmental management of activities, requires that impacts on the environment are identified with a view to minimising negative impacts, maximizing benefits, and promoting compliance with the principles of environmental management set out in section 2. d) Relevant to the NEMA principles applicable to the granting of the environmental authorisation is principle 2(4)(a)(iii): consideration of factors so that pollution and degradation of the environment are avoided or where they cannot be avoided altogether, are minimised and remedied. e) Principle 2(4)(b) requires that the best practicable environmental option must be applied. f) Principle 2(4) (c) requires that the principle of environmental justice be applied to a decision of this nature. g) It follows that in granting the environmental authorisation under NEMA the decision-maker must not only ensure that there is compliance with prevailing legislation. It must also seek to				for the solar panels, a total of 22 Hectares would be required to produce the amount of electricity required for the Port to operate. The surrounding area around the port is estuarine with natural and marine habitats. Removing 22 hectares of estuarine/natural/marine vegetation would have a major impact on the environment. Similarly using wind turbines would affect the birdlife found in the surrounding areas (Critical Biodiversity Area and estuary) located next to the port area. Due to the fluctuating cost of diesel and availability during certain events, it was decided to make use of a dual fuel generator that would also be able to use LNG as a fuel source as a contingency to ensure that the generator would be able to operate throughout, when required. The cost of a dual fuel generator is higher than that of a single fuel generator but the required diesel storage areas are reduced and the operational cost can be reduced by using LNG as well. The TNPA 22MW generator project area is within the existing Richards Bay Port footprint area which would create no disruption in grazing or any other agricultural activities as the area is already cleared and within the security area of the Port. The LNG pipeline would be predominantly buried with crossings and maintenance areas exposed. The pipelines are connected and monitored by using pressure gauges that detect when there are leaks on the line which can then be attended to. The storage of LNG would not be required on site as there is an existing LNG distribution depot at the Richards Bay Industrial Zone next to the Port from where the LNG will be supplied via the pipeline. The LNG pipeline is situated over 400m away from any watercourse, estuary or the ocean which reduces the possibility of gas leaks affecting the marine and estuarine species. There will be no discharge of any water from the generator area.

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understand the level of impact that activity could have on the coastline, the coastal ecosystems, and the socio-economic impacts in a worst-case scenario, establish the cost thereof and then determine whether there is sufficient need and desirability to take on such risk using the best practicable environmental option. A few concern highlights: - Oil spills: gradual or massive spills. The potential consequences, poisoning ground and water, toxic fumes emission causing sickness, death and mental problems. - Pressure leaks disruption of crops and natural vegetation: The potential consequences, would be reduced food sources, disturbed ecosystem, prevent farmers from earning an income. - Disruption of cattle grazing land and destruction of natural vegetation: Fewer lean cattle, preventing farmers from earning a living and the disruption of the natural vegetation, could mean a disturbance of the ecosystem, affects plants that produce fruits, oxygenate the area, prevent animal life erosion – affects animals that depend on the natural vegetation. - Increased risk of disaster: Large explosions/fires led to extreme pollution, devastate air quality, greenhouse gas emission. - Poor Transnet history of monitoring/compensation: Pipelines leaks often discovered by people living in the area after damage has been done, adequate compensation is unlikely. - Land use restriction: Proximity to pipeline limits what landowners can legally do with their property. **Liquified Natural Gas (LNG)** 'Natural gas' has long been advertised by the fossil fuel industry as clean, green, and an answer to our climate woes. But gas is a fossil fuel and we can attain the at this is a form of greenwashing. Wikipedia defines fossil gas or liquid Natural Gas (LNG) as "A natural gas (predominantly methane, CH_4, with some mixture of ethane, C_2H_6) that has been cooled down to liquid form for ease and safety of non-pressurized storage or transport. It takes up about 1/600th the volume of natural gas in the gaseous state (at standard conditions for temperature and pressure). LNG is odourless, colourless, non-toxic, and non-				The "Just Transitioning plan" as mentioned in your letter, for the country is to create jobs and social justice while transitioning to a low-emission economy. Importing and exporting plays an important role in our economy and provide thousands of jobs directly at the Port operations as well as indirectly through businesses that produce products for exporting and from imported goods. With the current loss in operations, due to power outages and loadshedding operational time is lost which reduces the capacity of the port and contributes to financial losses to the Port as well as its clients resulting in possible job losses and loss of income into the country. The proposed generator would also eliminate the need for each operation to operate its own generator to continue with operations, as is currently required. In response to your fourth question, note that there are several specialist studies being undertaken for the project and includes services of an estuarine specialist, biodiversity specialist, soils and land-use specialist, geohydrological specialist, air quality specialist and a heritage specialist. All their findings and recommendations will be included in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report, which will be available for the public to review.

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corrosive. Hazards include flammability after vaporization into a gaseous state, freezing, and asphyxia.Natural gas has long been considered by many to be a “bridge fuel,” a safer, cleaner alternative to coal and oil, and an incremental step to reduce the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions that are driving climate change. It is true that, compared with coal, burning gas emits just half as much carbon dioxide, the GHG that is the primary driver of climate change. However, gas extraction, processing, and transport also emits GHGs, including large amounts of methane from leaks and intentional releases at wells, pipelines, storage, and processing facilities.Methane, which is the principal component of gas, does not persist in the atmosphere as long as carbon dioxide, but its climate impact is more than 80 times stronger in the short-term (20-year) time frame and 28 times stronger over the long-term (100-year) time frame; it is the second-biggest driver of climate change. Gas production systems are already the second-largest emitters of methane in the country.LNG and methane in general are marketed as “clean” fossil fuels, but this is a relative term and applies only when comparing the combustion emissions of methane to the combustion of coal, a notorious polluter.A full assessment of LNG’s pollution impacts must consider the upstream effects of methane extraction, processing, and transport.This fossil gas growth is incompatible with a healthy climate. In order to achieve the Paris Agreement goal of keeping warming under 1.5 degrees Celsius – a goal scientists warn must be achieved to avoid the worst impacts of the climate crisis – gas production and consumption must drop by 40% worldwide over the next decade. Furthermore, the main problem with LNG from a climate perspective is that the liquefaction process uses tremendous amounts of energy which directly or indirectly emits a lot of greenhouse gases. This erases virtually all the climate benefits of natural gas relative to coal and oil. **Natural Gas** Natural gas is a fossil energy source that formed deep beneath the earth's surface. Natural gas contains many different compounds. The largest component of natural gas is methane. It is a highly flammable gas and is used mostly for fuel. **Disadvantages of Natural Gas include:** - Natural Gas is Highly Combustible: Though natural gas is lighter than air, one cannot deny the fact that is it highly				

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combustible. As natural gas is odourless, it is difficult to detect a leakage as well. - Natural Gas is a Non-Renewable Source of Energy: It is a non-renewable source of energy. Experts state that natural gas will be depleted in the future and we will have to import it from other nations. - Natural Gas Emits Carbon Dioxide: One of the biggest disadvantages of natural gas is that it emits carbon dioxide which is bad for our atmosphere. Constant introduction of carbon dioxide into our atmosphere will lead to climate change and also global warming. - Long Processing Process: As natural gas has other components that has to be removed before using it for residential or commercial purposes, it takes a lot of time and manpower to process it. - Leakage: A big danger with natural gas is that since it is colourless, odourless and tasteless, should it start leaking, detection of the leak is very hard. - Storage: Even though natural gas is easier to store and transport, it has one big disadvantage. Its volume happens to be four times that of petrol which makes it more expensive to store since more needs to be spent on additional storage. **Methane** Methane is a fast-acting greenhouse gas with enormous short-term impacts on climate. It leaks at every stage of the natural gas production and transportation process. Methane leakage may make natural gas as bad as coal, but it's not the reason gas has no future. While gas itself is less carbon-intensive than coal, if enough methane leaks during its production, its greenhouse gas advantages are wiped out.The concentration of methane in our atmosphere is steadily increasing, reaching record-high levels in 2019 that were nearly 15 percent higher than in the 1980s. Methane persists in the atmosphere for less time than carbon dioxide but traps much more heat. Will there be gas meters installed at regular intervals on the pipeline? How often will they be checked and monitored? At high exposure levels of LNG, oxygen to the brain is reduced and this can lead to dizziness, fatigue, nausea, and even loss of consciousness or death. The other major health hazard related to natural gas, or methane as it's called, is that it is extremely flammable.The most severe				

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factor increasing the risk of negative socio-environmental development is air pollution. There is evidence that suggests that air contamination has a significant negative effect on people's thoughts and moods, thereby lowering the level of happiness and elevating the danger to a person with depression. The local pollution associated with combustion on the Arboretum will adversely affect Richards Bay, which is an industrial area with many industries already contributing to the poor air quality and air pollution-related health impacts. Particulate matter, especially PM 2.5 and smaller particles, contributes to heart disease and is implicated in strokes, asthma, and cancer. Nitrogen oxides are reactive chemicals that can combine with VOCs to form ground-level ozone, which contributes to lung diseases, and asthma attacks and can aggravate pre-existing heart diseases. Nitrogen oxides also contribute to the formation of nitric acid vapor, acid rain, particulate matter, and other harmful chemicals. Emissions of methane and toxic gases can occur when gas is transported via pipelines, which are subject to leaks and explosions. Leaks can also occur from compressor stations and pipelines. Little public research has been conducted as to where the by-products of the concentration or "purification" process goes. These chemicals may cause serious harm. Mercury is a well-known neurotoxin; exposure in utero can result in lifelong impairments in cognitive thinking, memory, language, and attention. **Air Emission Impacts** We require to know if a cumulative air quality assessment has been done for the current air quality report of Transnet, in terms of air readings – the specific chemicals and dust that is being emitted by Transnet. This is to ensure proper fence line monitoring of all the chemical emissions. We also require the assessment of the increase in the number of vehicle emissions from the development, both land and sea transportation. We also require the current and proposed cumulative emissions, storage tanks, effluent and sludge dams, onsite traffic, fugitive leaks (facility-wide), in-stack monitoring, and flaring emissions. They need to assess what the worst-case scenario is and the risk assessment approach to be done not just on the fence line community but on the inside of the harbour. **Safety and Security Threats**				

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LNG is a volatile and potentially explosive material, so this development poses challenges to safety. There are serious gaps in oversight of LNG. Leaks often go unreported because when it comes into contact with air it evaporates, thus the leaks are never reported as "spills". We also require a functional emergency plan with mitigation measures for all these extreme weather scenarios, and must also include alternative routes, and safety zones. What communication methods will you have to let people know in the event of an emergency and at what radius will there be an evacuation? In the case of an explosion of a certain part of the vessel, what is your first layer of protection, and what is the next step of protection to prevent other parts from exploding? The CO2-equivalent output of LNG depends upon the degree of systemic gas leakage – and again, the origins of this development. There is rising scientific concern regarding the climate-related damage done from methane (CH4), whose global warming potential is more than 100 times that of the same mass of CO2 in a 20-year time frame with aerosol impacts included. The CH4 leakage and other greenhouse gas emissions associated with the development's generation are of crucial importance for South Africa, which has an extremely constrained carbon budget it must stay within to avert global climate catastrophe. It is unacceptable that this development trivialises these concerns when they are urgent to address to avert our and other species' extinction. Rather than confront this reality, this report is simply in denial about the climate crisis, aside from recognizing that South Africa's Indian Ocean Coast has been subject to extreme storms. **Impacts on Marine Ecology** LNG is toxic to fish and shellfish. Many people think that natural gas would just bubble up to the surface and quickly evaporate off but in fact, a significant portion dissolves in the water and is highly toxic to marine life. The gas can rapidly penetrate the bodies of fish, doing direct damage to gills, skin, chemoreceptors, and eyes, and filling up the gas bladder, making the fish unable to control its buoyancy. At concentrations of 0.02 – 0.05 mg/l, gas will be sensed by fish and they will move away. If, however, fish are exposed to concentrations above 1 mg/l they become excited within seconds of contact, then disoriented and unable to flee. Within 15 – 20 minutes fish exposed to such concentrations show signs of acute poisoning,				

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and they die within 1-2 days of exposure. Shellfish are also killed by exposure to gas. Zooplankton and phytoplankton can tolerate higher concentrations of gas than fish or shellfish can (i.e., they die at 2 – 5 mg/l). Accidental gas releases on a migratory route of fish such as salmon, either in the sea or from a pipeline close to a river, can block a spawning migration. A localized release can thus have a regional impact. The discharge of heated water into the environment is unacceptable as it constitutes the discharge of thermal loads into a sensitive ecological system. In the Estuarine and Coastal Impacts report it is "… recommended that key nursery environments are avoided …" but it is only a recommendation and need not be heeded. What would be the environmental impacts if the nursery environments are not avoided? Which marine organisms are most likely to be lost? What would be the impact of the loss on the functioning of the ecosystem and on the entire food web? How can you guarantee that there will be no significant impacts on the marine ecosystem? Will there be monitoring and evaluation of marine ecology? Will it be continuously monitored? We require a comprehensive study of the marine ecosystem of that coastal area, including birds. What would be the impact of a leaking pipeline on the birdlife and other wildlife on the sandspit and adjacent vegetated areas and wetlands? Birds are far more susceptible to toxic gases than humans. **LNG and Climate Change** The booming LNG industry could be as bad for the climate as coal and will play at least as big a role as new coal investments in bringing on a climate crisis. The one-piece of good news is that most of these projects are in the pre-construction stage so there is still time for a moratorium on LNG infrastructure before we lock ourselves into even more irreversible climate damage. LNG is neither clean nor particularly low in emissions. In addition, the massive investments in new infrastructure to support this industry, including pipelines, liquefaction facilities, export terminals, and tankers, lock in fossil fuel dependence, making the transition to actual low-carbon and no-carbon energy even more difficult. In a time when the world aims for zero-carbon emissions and those who move toward a Just Transition, this kind of gas project moves South Africa in the opposite direction. LNG is not an effective climate strategy. Analysis shows that using LNG to replace other, dirtier fossil fuels, is not				

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an effective strategy to reduce climate-warming emissions. In fact, if the LNG export industry expands as projected, it is likely to make it nearly impossible to keep global temperatures from increasing above the 1.5 degrees Celsius threshold for catastrophic climate impacts. - The greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the extraction, transport, liquefaction, and re-gasification of LNG can be almost equal to the emissions produced from the actual burning of the gas, effectively doubling the climate impact of each unit of energy created from gas transported overseas. - The liquefaction, tanker transport, and re-gasification steps required for overseas export can account for up to 21 percent of total life-cycle emissions for LNG. - Leaks and intentional releases of methane, a potent GHG, during the extraction and transport of the LNG can constitute up to 14 percent of LNG's life-cycle emissions. - Methane has a much stronger and more immediate climate impact than coal, the near-term climate effect (over the next 20 years) of LNG is close to that of coal, just 27 to 33 percent lower. This is the same 20-year period during which the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has concluded that emissions must be cut by about 75 percent to avoid catastrophic climate impacts. - Compared with clean, renewable energy sources, LNG falls far short. (Life-cycle GHG emissions for solar power are less than 7 percent of LNG emissions; emissions for wind power are even lower, less than 2 percent of LNG emissions. **Public Participation Process** There is a lack of public consultation, which should have been a priority due to the widespread effect a project like this will have. This is in terms of when it comes to language barrier – the report, public notice on both newspaper were in English, in an area that has a large number of isiZulu speaking. The newspapers should be in any of the free communal newspapers and not the ones where you have to go out and pay for it. This process needs to be more transparent – language, accessible venues and accessible venues. **Questions from the SDCEA:** 1. What are the eco-friendlier alternatives?				

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2. What are the cost differences between this project and the alternatives mentioned above? 3. How will this project help achieve a Just Transition in SA? 4. Has land and biodiversity studies been done? How will you offset damages? 5. How will you guarantee the prevention of gas leaks? Risk plan, evacuation plan and mitigation plan. 6. How will you prevent corruption?				
Please can you send me a detailed to scale layout plan on an A3 size.	Judy Reddy KZN Transport	11/04/2024	Email	A detailed plan in the requested size was sent to J Reddy on 12/04/2024 with the following response: Please find attached an A3 size map of the Layout Plan for the proposed Generator and new pipelines as well as the distribution lines which will be utilised. The detailed layout of the storage and generator orientation is currently being investigated during the specialist stage by the operational and engineering specialist and will be included in the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment which will also be made available to you during the Public Participation Period for EIA Report. Please feel free to contact us should you have any questions or uncertainties.
Please find attached comment from the Richards Bay Clean Air Association. The comments provided below are based on the Richards Bay Clean Air Association (RBCAA) review of the Draft Scoping Report for the proposed TNPA Dual Fuel Generator, prepared by GCS and dated 7 March 2024. **AIR QUALITY SPECIALIST STUDY** The DSR falls short in identifying the current major sources of particulate emissions. Farmland and farming activities appear to be referenced in a way that implies that the area has significant farming activities. The reference to fires in the residential area of Brackenham is not understood. The major source of particulate emissions is from industrial activities, with emissions from Port operations having the most significant impacts on the environment and residential areas. This is well documented and supported by monitoring data.	Sandy Camminga, Director & Founder Member - Richards Bay Clean Air Association [NGO]	11/04/2024	Email and Letter	Please note that further detail regarding air quality will be available in the Draft EIR and the associated specialist investigations. Your comments raised has been provided to the specialists for incorporation into their investigations.

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The Air Quality Impact Assessment must include the following; 1. Dispersion modelling of Cumulative Impacts. 2. The worst-case scenario which would be the use of only diesel as a fuel source. This should be assessed against the impacts of using only LNG. 3. Emissions inventory to include nitrogen oxides (NOx), carbon monoxide (CO) and greenhouse gases. 4. Implementation of emission control devices. Thank you for affording the RBCAA the opportunity to comment.				
Kindly receive the attached BID comments from DFFE-Forestry branch, for the Application for an Environmental Authorisation and Water Use Licence for the Installation of a 22MW Dual Fuel Generator for the Transnet National Port Authority (TNPA) at the Port of Richards Bay, KwaZulu Natal. The Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) appreciates the opportunity given to review and comment on the above-mentioned project. DFFE through the sub-directorate Forest Resource Protection is the authority mandated to implement the National Forests Act No. 84 of 1998 by regulating the use of natural forests1 and protected tree species listed under the said Act. The purpose of this Act is to promote sustainable forest management and the development of forests for the benefit of all. Upon review of the document received the applicant wishes to apply for an Environmental Authorisation and Water Use Authorisation for the installation of a dual fuel generator within the Port, storage area and ancillary infrastructure for the electricity generator output next to their employee care centre offices at the Port of Richards Bay, KwaZulu-Natal. The proposed development will have potential impacts on floral species hence it is brought to your attention that DFFE's concern pertains to the potential of the project impacting upon existing natural forest(s) and protected tree species. Therefore, the Department requests that a biodiversity assessment study be conducted. This study should include the condition and the type of vegetation and species found on the site as well as the extent to which these will be impacted upon. The Department further requests that the study addresses the potential impacts of the proposed project on natural forest(s) and/or protected trees occurring within or in close proximity to	Khululiwe Hlongwane Department of Forestry, Fisheries, & the Environment, KZN: Directorate: Forestry Resource Protection	12/04/2023	Email and Letter	Please note that further detail regarding biodiversity will be available in the Draft EIR and the associated specialist investigations. Your comments raised has been provided to the specialists for incorporation into their investigations.

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the proposed project site. Substantial comments will be issued upon receipt and review of the EIA document inclusive of the vegetation assessment study. This letter does not exempt you from considering other environmental legislations. Should any further information be required, please do not hesitate to contact this office.				
The City of uMhlathuze has reviewed the Draft Scoping Report, dated 08 March 2024, in respect of the application. We accordingly submit the following: **1. General:** • The City of uMhlathuze notes that TNPA needs to generate backup electricity which will assist during power outages and prevent revenue and operational time loss due to power outages as such the proposed project is being explored. • The proposed project is located within an environmentally sensitive area, its location being the estuarine functional zone which consist of sensitive habitats. **2. Land Use Management** • The proposed site is located within the Ports Authority, zoned as Harbour. The proposed 22MW Dual Fuel Generator is freely permitted under this zone. • The applicant is advised to submit building plans to the Municipality for approval prior to commencement of construction activities. • Should there be new servitudes erected, the registration process must be complied with in accordance to relevant legislation. **3. Stormwater** • Additional information regarding the drain facility for the Diesel and sludge storage areas are required. • It is advised that the applicant develop a chemical spillage mitigation plan and stormwater contamination prevention plan. The applicant is reminded that the proposed project is located within a Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA) as such necessary mitigation measures must be implemented to reduce potential impacts on the surrounding environments. Further comments will be provided upon circulation of the Draft Environmental Impact Report and Specialist Studies.	Nontsundu Ndonga Deputy City Manager: City Development	11/04/2024	Email and Letter	Your concern regarding the sensitive nature of the project location is noted and will be thoroughly investigated in the EIA Phase. TNPA commits to provide appropriate building plans to the municipality when they have been finalised, prior to commencement of construction. The Draft EMPr which will form part of the Draft EIR, will be inclusive of management measures for all hazardous substances. These reports will be published for public review and your comment.

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APPLICATION FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION AND WATER USE LICENCE FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A 22MW DUAL FUEL GENERATOR FOR THE TRANSNET NATIONAL PORT RICHARDS BAY 1. Your letter dated 8 March 2024 refers. 2. The application was received 8 March 2024. 3. You are advised that the application is in the process of being investigated and that you will be advised accordingly of this Department's comments. 4. Applications are treated in the order of time they are received to ensure an equitable reviewal process for all applicants. Apologies for any delays caused, we are currently reviewing applications on a first come first serve basis. 5. When communicating with this office, PLEASE QUOTE the abovementioned file reference, T10/2/2/524/181	J Reddy Department of Transport (KZN)	12/04/2024	Email and Letter	Noted thank you, we await your comment and we will ensure that future communication references your file number.