



Transnet National Ports Authority

SCOPING AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTING PROCESS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW BERTH 605 AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE TO SUPPORT THE CONTAINER HANDLING FACILITY, PORT OF RICHARDS BAY, KWAZULU-NATAL

Public Participation Process Report



Transnet National Ports Authority

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SUPPORT THE CONTAINER HANDLING
FACILITY, PORT OF RICHARDS BAY,
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Public Participation Process Report

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ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviation	Description
BCP	Biodiversity Compensation Plan
BID	Background Information Document
BOG	Biodiversity Offset Group
CA	Competent Authority
CBA	Critical Biodiversity Area
CHF	Container Handling Facility
CRR	Comments and Responses Report
DEMP _r	Draft Environmental Management Programme
DEIR	Draft Environmental Impact Report
DFFE	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
DSR	Draft Scoping Report
EA	Environmental Authorisation
EAP	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EIAR	Environmental Impact Assessment Report
EKZNW	Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife
EMPr	Environmental Management Programme
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
ESA	Ecological Support Area
EFZ	Estuarine Functional Zone
I&AP	Interested and Affected Party
IDP	Integrated Development Plan
KBA	Key Biodiversity Area
KZN	KwaZulu-Natal
NEMA	National Environmental Management Act (Act No. 107 of 1998)

Abbreviation	Description
PDFP	Port Development Framework Plan
PPP	Public Participation Process
PoRB	Port of Richards Bay
SAHRA	South African Heritage Resources Agency
SDCEA	South Durban Community Environmental Alliance
SER	Stakeholder Engagement Report
TIA	Traffic Impact Assessment
TNPA	Transnet National Ports Authority
VOC	Volatile Organic Compound
WSP	WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

The Transnet National Ports Authority (TNPA) functions in terms of the National Ports Act (No.12 of 2005) in which TNPA is responsible for the provision of port services and facilities within all ports of South Africa. In its role as the master planner, the TNPA also plans to improve, develop and maintain port infrastructure. Various development opportunities were identified by TNPA across three precincts namely South Dunes, Newark and Bayvue and are reflected in the Port Development Framework Plan (PDFP) and the Port of Richards Bay Master Plan 2021 – 2035.

The Berth 605 project is reflected in the Port Development Framework Plan (PDFP) and the Port of Richards Bay (PoRB) Master Plan, 2021-2035 and forms part of the Bayvue Precinct. The physical extent of the PoRB makes it the largest port in South Africa however, given the location of the port and the proposed expansion, the environmental sensitivities at the site and surrounding the port must be considered. Therefore, as part of the overall appointment, WSP has been commissioned to undertake the Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) process as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP).

The Draft Scoping Report (DSR) was compiled as part of the S&EIR process and was subjected to a public review period from 19 November 2024 to 13 January 2025. Following consideration of comments received and the submission of the Final Scoping Report (FSR), the report was accepted by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE).

Subsequent to acceptance of the FSR, specialist studies and impact assessments were undertaken to inform the Environmental Impact Reporting (EIR) Phase. Draft Environmental Impact Assessment documentation was then released for stakeholder review and comment from 10 April to 12 May 2026.

This Public Participation Process (PPP) Report therefore provides a consolidated record of stakeholder engagement undertaken during both the Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting Phases, with particular emphasis on the public participation activities undertaken during the review of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) and associated specialist studies.

1.1.1 BERTH 605 PROJECT WITHIN THE PORB MASTERPLAN

Various development opportunities were identified by TNPA across three precincts namely South Dunes, Newark and Bayvue and are reflected in the PDFP and the PoRB Master Plan 2021 – 2035.

The Berth 605 project area is located within the Bayvue Precinct of the PoRB. The Bayvue Precinct was identified as a strategic location for the handling and consolidation of general cargo (dry bulk, liquid bulk like Phosphoric acid and liquid Pitch and break bulk including containers) in the PoRB. The precinct is situated on the northern side of the port, between Alusaf aluminium smelter in the west, Thulazihleka pan in the north and Tuzi-gazi in the east. Effectively the precinct accommodates dry bulk, break bulk and liquid bulk terminals which include significant road, rail, building and services infrastructure.

This application pertains only to the proposed Berth 605 project, and associated infrastructure required for its operation.

1.2 REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

Public participation forms an integral component of the EIA process in South Africa and is regulated in terms of the NEMA and the EIA Regulations. The PPP is to ensure that I&APs are afforded a reasonable opportunity to obtain information regarding a proposed development, participate in the decision-making process, and raise issues or concerns that may influence the environmental assessment and decision-making process.

The PPP is underpinned by the environmental management principles contained in Section 2 of NEMA, which promote transparency, accountability, equitable access to environmental information, and meaningful participation by all stakeholders in environmental governance. These principles require that decisions affecting the environment must take into account the interests, needs and values of all affected and interested persons.

Chapter 6 of the EIA Regulations specifically governs public participation and comprises Regulations 39 to 44. Regulation 40 states that the objective of public participation is to provide potential and registered I&APs with sufficient information to enable them to participate meaningfully in the environmental assessment process, to identify issues and alternatives, and to ensure that comments received are considered during the assessment and decision-making process.

Regulation 41 prescribes the minimum requirements for conducting a PPP. These include:

- Providing notice of the application to potential I&APs through site notices;
- Giving written notification to adjacent landowners, lawful occupiers, relevant ward councillors, municipalities, organs of state and other stakeholders identified by the competent authority;
- Advertising the application in local newspapers and, where appropriate, provincial or national newspapers; and
- Implementing reasonable measures to facilitate participation by persons who may be disadvantaged by factors such as illiteracy, disability or language barriers.

Regulation 42 requires the compilation and maintenance of a register of I&APs, while Regulation 43 provides registered I&APs with the right to comment on project documentation made available for public review. Regulation 44 further requires that all comments received be captured, considered and incorporated into the reports submitted to the competent authority, with responses provided by the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) where appropriate.

1.3 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

1.3.1 PURPOSE

The PPP is understood to be a series of inclusive and culturally appropriate interactions aimed at providing stakeholders with opportunities to express their views, so that these can be considered and incorporated into the decision-making process. Effective public participation requires the prior disclosure of relevant and adequate project information to enable stakeholders to understand the risks, impacts, and opportunities of the proposed project.

Basic reasons why the public is involved in the S&EIR process include the following:

- The environment is held in public trust; therefore, use of environmental resources is everyone's concern.
- Public participation is a proper, fair conduct in public decision-making activities. Focuses on vulnerable and disadvantaged person and offer equitable participation due to historical issues.
- It is a way to ensure that projects meet citizens' needs and are suitable to the affected public.
- The project carries more legitimacy, and less hostility, if Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are able to influence the decision-making process.
- Finally, the final decision is informed when local knowledge and values are included and when expert knowledge is publicly examined.

1.3.2 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the PPP can be summarised as follows:

- Identify relevant individuals, organisations and communities who may be interested in or affected by the project.
- Clearly outline the scope of the proposed project, including the scale and nature of the existing and proposed activities.
- Identify viable proposed project alternatives that will assist the relevant authorities in making an informed decision.
- Identify shortcomings and gaps in existing information.
- Identify key concerns, raised by I&APs that should be addressed in the subsequent specialist studies.
- Highlight the potential for environmental impacts, whether positive or negative.
- To inform and provide the public with information and an understanding of the proposed project, issues, and solutions.

1.3.3 WHAT IS AN INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTY?

An I&AP is defined as any person, group of persons or organisations interested in or affected by an activity, and any organ of state that may have jurisdiction over any aspect of the activity.

The difference between an I&AP and a registered I&AP is as follows:

- An I&AP can be directly or indirectly impacted on by a proposed activity.
- A registered I&AP is a person whose name has been placed on the register of registered I&APs. According to the 2017 PPP Guidance document, only registered I&APs will be notified:

- of the availability of reports and other written submissions made to the Competent Authority (CA) by the Applicant, and be entitled to comment on these reports and submissions; and
- of the outcome of the application, the reasons for the decision, and that an appeal may be lodged against a decision.

For the purpose of this report, registered I&APs will be referred to as stakeholders.

1.3.4 RIGHTS, ROLES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE STAKEHOLDER

In terms of Chapter 6, specifically Section 43(1) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations 2014 as amended (EIA Regulations) promulgated under the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA), I&APs have the right to bring to the attention of the CA, any issues that they believe may be of significance to the consideration of the application. The rights of I&APs are qualified by certain obligations, namely:

- I&APs must ensure that their comments are submitted within the timeframes that have been approved by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE), or within any extension of a timeframe agreed by the Applicant, Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) and/or Competent Authority (CA).
- Disclose to the EAP any direct business, financial, personal, or other interest that they might have in the approval or refusal of the application.

The roles of I&APs in a PPP usually include one or more of the following:

- Assisting in the identification and prioritisation of issues that need to be investigated.
- Making suggestions on alternatives and means of preventing, minimising, and managing negative impacts and enhancing benefits of the activities conducted.
- Assisting in or commenting on the development of mutually acceptable criteria for the evaluation of decision options.
- Contributing information on public needs, values, and expectations.
- Contributing local and traditional knowledge.
- Verifying that their issues have been considered.

In order to participate effectively, I&APs should:

- become involved in the process as early as possible;
- register as a stakeholder;
- advise the EAP of other I&APs who should be consulted;
- contribute towards the design of the public participation process (including timeframes) to ensure that it is acceptable to all I&APs;
- follow the process once it has been concluded;
- read the material provided and actively seek to understand the issues involved;
- give timely responses to correspondence;
- be respectful and courteous towards other I&APs;
- refrain from making subjective, unfounded, or ill-informed statements; and
- recognise that the process is confined to issues that are directly relevant to the application.

1.3.5 APPROACH TO THE PPP

The PPP approach is based on the following principles:

- Undertake meaningful and timely participation with I&APs.
- Focus on important issues during the process.
- Undertake due consideration of alternatives.
- Take accountability for information used.
- Encourage co-regulation, shared responsibility, and a sense of ownership over the proposed Project lifecycle.
- Apply “due process” particularly with regard to the PPP as provided for in the EIA Regulations.
- Consider the needs, interests, and values of I&APs.

The public participation guideline in terms of the EIA Regulations tabulates the level of public participation required for various levels of anticipated project impacts.

2 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS TO DATE

2.1 PRE-APPLICATION PHASE PPP

Tasks undertaken during the Pre-Application Phase are detailed in the following Sections.

2.1.1 IDENTIFICATION OF KEY STAKEHOLDERS

The Pre-application Phase commenced with the compilation of an I&AP database to include relevant I&APs, such as Commenting Authorities, landowners/users, and Ward Councillors, as well as members of the general public who may be interested or affected by the project.

Relevant authorities (Organs of State) have been automatically registered as I&APs. In accordance with the EIA Regulations all other persons must request in writing to be placed on the register, submit written comments, or attend meetings in order to be registered as stakeholders and included in future communication regarding the project.

Section 41 of the EIA Regulations states that written notices must be given to identified I&APs as outlined in **Table 2-1**.

Table 2-1 - I&AP Table

NEMA REQUIREMENT	DISCUSSION
<i>(i) the owner or person in control of that land if the applicant is not the owner or person in control of the land</i>	The applicant is the landowner.
<i>(ii) the occupiers of the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken or to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken</i>	The applicant is the landowner and occupant.
<i>(iii) owners and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken or to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken</i>	The applicant is the landowner and occupant.
<i>(iv) the municipal councillor of the ward in which the site or alternative site is situated and any organisation of ratepayers that represent the community in the area</i>	The Ward Councillors from Wards 2 of the City of uMhlathuze Local Municipality has been included in the stakeholder database.
<i>(v) the municipality which has jurisdiction in the area</i>	The King Cetshwayo District as well as the City of uMhlathuze Local Municipalities have been included on the stakeholder database.
<i>(vi) any organ of state having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the activity</i>	The DFFE has been consulted as the CA regarding the application.
<i>(vii) any other party as required by the competent authority.</i>	All tiers of government, namely, national, provincial, local government and parastatals have been included on the stakeholder database. Inclusive of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DWS; • DFFE: Biodiversity Conservation Unit Directorate; • SAHRA • KZN Department of Agriculture and Rural Development • Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs • Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife

The I&APs along with the reference to comments received, where applicable, are included in **Table 3-1**. The stakeholder database has been updated throughout the S&EIR process project.

2.2 SCOPING PHASE

The DSR was placed on public review for a period of 30 days from **19 November 2024** to **13 January 2025** at the Richards Bay Public Library and the Aquadene Public Library. Additionally, electronic versions of the report were placed on the WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) website as well as a Data Free website to be accessed by the public at the following links: <https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents> and <https://wsp-engage.com/>.

Proof of the placement of the DSR in the public domain is included in **Appendix A.1** of this PPP Report.

2.2.1 DIRECT NOTIFICATION

Notification of the proposed project was issued to potential I&APs via direct correspondence (i.e. email and sms) on **18 November 2024**. The purpose of the notification was to offer potential I&APs and stakeholders the opportunity to register on the project database and opportunity to comment on the DSR. Stakeholders were reminded of the projects on **09 January 2025**.

Proof of notification is included in **Appendix A.2** and **Appendix A.3** of this SER.

2.2.2 ADVERTISEMENT

Notification of the proposed project as well as opportunity to comment on the DSR was issued to the general public via an advertisement published in the Zululand Observer and Isolezwe newspapers on **15 November 2024**, in English and isiZulu respectively. As mentioned above, the purpose of the advertisement was to notify the general public of the proposed project and provide an opportunity to register on the project database and provide input into the process through the availability of the draft DSR.

2.2.3 SITE NOTICES

The EIA Regulations require that site notices be fixed at places conspicuous to the public at the boundary or on the fence of the site where the activity (to which the application relates) is to be undertaken, as well as at any alternative sites. Posters (in English and isiZulu), conforming to the size specifications as per the EIA Regulations were placed on Monday, **18 November 2024**, at the following points:

- Aquadene Public Library;
- Richards Bay Library;
- Umhlathuze Municipality;
- Zululand Yacht Club;
- Richards Bay Ski-Boat Club;
- Richards Bay Seafarers Club;
- IDZ Entrance;
- Blackwood's Richards Bay;
- TNPA Entrance;
- Corner of Anglers Road and Krewelkrin Street; and
- Department Home Affairs King Cetswayo District (Richards Bay).

A copy of the site notice and proof of placement are included in **Appendix A.4** of this SER.

2.3 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTING (EIR) PHASE

The Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR), Draft Environmental Management Programme Report (DEMPr), and Background Information Documents (BIDs), in English, were placed on public review for a period of 30 days from **10 April 2026** to **12 May 2026** at the Richards Bay and the Aquadene Public Library. Hard copies were also delivered to the DWS and the uMhlathuze Local Municipality on 9 and 10 April 2026. Additionally, an electronic version of the reports was placed on the WSP Group

Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) website to be accessed by the public at the following link:
<https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>.

Proof of the placement of DEIR and the EMPr in the public domain is included in **Appendix D.1**.

2.3.1 DIRECT NOTIFICATION

Notification of the proposed Project was issued to I&APs, via direct correspondence (i.e. email and SMS) on **09 April 2026**. The purpose of the notification was to offer I&APs the opportunity to register on the Project database and to communicate the details of the Project and how to provide comments on the DEIR and the DEMPr.

Proof of notification is included in **Appendix D.2** and **Appendix D.3** of this PPP Report

3 COMMENTS AND RESPONSES

Following the receipt of comments from I&APs, this Comments and Response Report (CRR) was prepared. All comments received from stakeholders on the DSR have been captured and responded to within **Table 3-1**. The original comments and responses are included in **Appendix C** of this PPP Report.

All comments received from stakeholders during the public comment period for the DEIR have been captured and responded to in **Table 3-2**. Copies of the actual comments received are attached in **Appendix E**.

Table 3-1 – Comments and Responses on the DSR

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
1	Patrick Mthombeni	Private	19 November 2024	I started my business in 2008 as Logistics but never get any opportunities to start as logistics (road freight) due to the fact that I do not have startup capital and no contract that I am getting. I have qualification in this field and experience from Rio Tinto (RBM) in inbound and outbound logistics. When the project is kicking off, can I be considered as a local business from Mambuka Tribal Authority in the area of my birth.	Good Day Thank you for your comment. It will be captured in the project's comments and responses register.	19 November 2024
2	Patrick Mthombeni	Private	19 November 2024	As above.	Good Day Mr Mthombeni Please note that you have commented on the environmental authorisation process. However, please contact TNPA procurement division directly for additional information regarding provision of services for the project.	20 January 2025
3	Matthew Preiss	Grindrod Eyamakhosi	14 November 2024	Good afternoon, We note the advert released this morning regarding the EIA and WULA process for Berth 605 in Richards Bay.	Good day Matthew, Kindly note that you have been added on to the project database.	15 November 2024

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				Please note we would like to register as a Interested and Affected Party (IAP) as Grindrod Eyamakhosi (Pty) Ltd were selected by TNPA as the preferred bidder for the development, construction and operation of the Container Handling Facility at berth 605.	Please confirm if those in copy should also be included.	
4	Louwaine Swarts	Private	19 November 2024	Louwaine filled in the comments sheet and requested to be registered as a stakeholder.	Good day Louwaine, Thank you for your comment form. Kindly note that you have been registered on the project database.	19 November 2024
5	Lyndith Waller	Department of Cooperate Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA)	20 November 2024	Dear Public Participation Office Thank you for your email sent to the Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, the Hon.Mr Velenkosini Hlabisa. Please be advised that your correspondence is being handled by Ms Caroline Mangwane, Deputy Director: Administration in the Ministry. She will be in touch with you to confirm receipt and to direct you to the relevant person to engage with further, as needed.	Good day Lyndith, Thank you for the update. We will await correspondence.	22 November 2024

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				Please feel free to contact Ms Mangwane on [REDACTED]		
6	Thuli Hlongwane	TNPA	20 November 2024	Thuli filled in the comments sheet and requested to be registered as a stakeholder.	Good day Thuli, You have been registered on the project database.	22 November 2024
7	Zandra Lukhele	Private	20 November 2024		Dear Zandra Please be advised that the email received from you on 20 November was blank and did not contain any attachments. Please would you complete the stakeholder registration sheet and return it to WSP if you would like to be registered as a stakeholder.	20 January 2025
8	Cher Lawrence	TNPA	19 November 2024	Dear WSP Kindly register myself as an I&AP for the Berth 605 EIA.	Good day Cher, Kindly note your details have been updated in our database. Kindly confirm if those in copy should also be registered.	22 November 2024
9	Anthony Botha	TPT	19 November 2024	Good Afternoon.	Good day Anthony, You have been added on to the project database.	22 November 2024

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				I hope you are well. Please register me as an I&AP for the above Richards Bay project. With thanks and regards		
10	Lucia Cele	Private	27 November 2024	Good Day I am keen to partake, kindly advise me on how to tackle it.	Good day Lucia. You can go through the report at the following websites: 1. WSP Data Free Website - https://wsp-engage.com/ 2. WSP Website - https://www.wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents and provide comments by the 13th of January 2025.	2 December 2024
11	Lucia Cele	Private	27 November 2024	Good Day I am keen to partake, kindly advise me on how to tackle it.	Good Day Lucia We have registered you as stakeholder. As a registered stakeholder you will also be kept up to date as new project information becomes available to enable your ongoing participation in the process	20 January 2025
12	Lindiwe Dlamini	DFFE: Biodiversity Directorate	6 December 2024	Dear Sir/Madam DFFE Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation hereby acknowledge receipt of the invitation on the 18 November 2024 to review and	Good day Lindiwe. Please see the kmz file attached.	10 December 2024

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				<p>comment on the project mentioned on the subject line. Kindly note that the project has been allocated to Mrs P Makitla and Ms Nompumelelo Lekalakala (Copied on this email). In addition, kindly share the shapefiles of the development footprints/application site with the Case Officers.</p> <p>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@dfre.gov.za for attention of Mr Seoka Lekota</p>		
13	Thandekile Nxumalo	KZN Department of Agriculture and Rural Development	10 December 2024	<p>Dear Sir/Madam</p> <p>This serves as a notice of receipt and confirms that your application has been captured in our electronic Land Use Database Details of your application as captured.</p> <p>Type: DEVELOPMENT</p> <p>Your reference number:</p> <p>Property description: PORT OF RICHARDS BAY</p> <p>Please quote this reference number in all queries:</p>	Good day Thandekile, Received, Thank you.	10 December 2024

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				Land Use Management Reference Number: 2022/11/6033		
14	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: Case Officer	6 December 2024	<p>1 Application Form and Listed Activities</p> <p>a)</p> <p>The Application Form indicates that “Infilling of wetlands potentially identified in the project area and will be confirmed during the specialist investigation”. It is further noted that there is use of the words “may, potentially, etc”, when describing the project activity that triggers the listed activities applied for.</p> <p>Please ensure that you refrain from using words such as, “it is anticipated, potentially,” etc. Listed Activities are not based on a precautionary approach. The EAP/Applicant must be certain why listed activities are being triggered to enable the competent authority to apply its mind to all the assessed listed activities during decision making. Only applicable listed activities must be applied for, and the project description must be specific on what is being proposed in the final SR.</p>	The application form and Final Scoping Report have been updated to include only the listed activities that will be applicable.	20 January 2025

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
15	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: Case Officer	6 December 2024	b) Please ensure that the relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and that it can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure as described in the project description. As such an amended application form must be submitted together with the final SR.	The listed activities being applied for are linked to specific project activities, the application form and Final Scoping Report have been amended accordingly.	20 January 2025
16	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: Case Officer	6 December 2024	c) Please clarify and confirm the applicability of Listing notice 2, Activity 26. Also highlight sub-listings triggered by this activity. The SR must assess the correct sub-listed activity for each listed activity applied for and include thresholds. Will the proposed development increase the development footprint of the port or harbour?	Activity 26 is applicable as it is development (ii) in an estuary in respect of (a) facilities associated with the arrival and departure of vessels and the handling of cargo and (f) in respect of coastal harbours or ports. The dredging activities will result in that area of the port being widened and deepened which will inevitably result in the development footprint of the port being increased (please refer to Appendix D for the pre-application meeting minutes which confirmed the applicability of this activity and the increase in the development footprint of the port).	20 January 2025

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
17	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: Case Officer	6 December 2024	d) Please ensure that the relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure as described in the project description. Please provide a full description of how the listed activity is triggered by the proposed development, including the threshold where necessary. Only activities applicable to the development must be applied for and assessed.	The listed activities being applied for are linked to specific project activities, the application form and Final Scoping Report have been amended to only include the applicable listed activities.	20 January 2025
18	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: Case Officer	6 December 2024	e) Carefully consider the triggers for Listing notice 3 activities. Please ensure that the provincial department confirms that the systematic biodiversity plans/bioregional plan have been adopted by the competent authority and confirms the development is within these areas. This information must be included in the amended application form and final SR to be submitted.	WSP obtained confirmation from the KZN EDTEA and Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife that the provincial department has not yet adopted any systematic biodiversity or bioregional plans. The application form and scoping report has been updated to reflect the revised listing notice 3 activities.	20 January 2025
19	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: Case Officer	6 December 2024	f) You are required to confirm whether systematic biodiversity plans or	WSP obtained confirmation from the KZN EDTEA and Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife that the	20 January 2025

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				bioregional plans are adopted by the competent authority. There are certain activities in Listing Notice 3 that requires that Bioregional Plans to be adopted.	provincial department has not yet adopted any systematic biodiversity or bioregional plans. The application form and scoping report has been updated to reflect the revised listing notice 3 activities.	
20	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: Case Officer	6 December 2024	g) If the activities applied for in the application form differ from those mentioned in the final SR, an amended application form must be submitted for final review and decision making. Please note that the Department's templates can be downloaded from the following link https://www.dffe.gov.za/forms .	The application form and Final Scoping Report have been amended to only include the applicable listed activities.	20 January 2025
21	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: Case Officer	6 December 2024	2 Alternatives a) A description of the process followed to reach the preferred alternative within the site as per Appendix 2(1)(g) of the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, must be incorporated into the final SR.	Appendix 2(1)(g) has been considered and included in the Final Scoping Report as follows: a full description of the process followed to reach the proposed preferred activity, site and location of the development footprint within the site, including— (i) details of all the alternatives considered – Section 2.3.	20 January 2025

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
					<p>(ii) details of the public participation process undertaken in terms of regulation 41 of the Regulations, including copies of the supporting documents and inputs – Appendix E.</p> <p>(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 – Appendix E.</p> <p>(iv) the environmental attributes associated with the alternatives focusing on the geographical, physical, biological, social, economic, heritage and cultural aspects – Section 6</p> <p>(v) the impacts and risks which have informed the identification of each alternative, including the nature, significance, consequence, extent, duration and probability of such identified impacts, including the degree to which these impacts can be reversed, cause irreplaceable damage or loss</p>	

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
					<p>and can be mitigated – Section 7</p> <p>(vi) the methodology used in identifying and ranking the nature, significance, consequences, extent, duration and probability of potential environmental impacts and risks associated with the alternatives – Section 5.3</p> <p>(vii) positive and negative impacts that the proposed activity and alternatives will have on the environment and on the community that may be affected focusing on the geographical, physical, biological, social, economic, heritage and cultural aspects – Section 7</p> <p>(viii) the possible mitigation measures that could be applied and level of residual risk – Section 7</p> <p>(ix) the outcome of the site selection matrix – No alternative sites have been considered for the Berth 605 project, please refer to Section 3 of the Final Scoping Report</p>	

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
					<p>for the motivation of the project at the preferred site.</p> <p>(x) if no alternatives, including alternative locations for the activity were investigated, the motivation for not considering such – Section 2.3 and Section 3 of the Final Scoping Report</p> <p>(xi) a concluding statement indicating the preferred alternatives, including preferred location of the activity – Section 2.4</p>	
22	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: Case Officer	6 December 2024	<p>b)</p> <p>b) Please note that Appendix 2(2)(1)(g)(x) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, requires that “if no alternatives, including alternative locations for the activity were investigated, the motivation for not considering such” must be included in the SR. You are therefore required to provide motivation should other alternative sites, routes, layouts, and technologies not be considered.</p>	Section 2.3 of the Final Scoping Report contains detailed information on all alternatives considered.	20 January 2025
23	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: Case Officer	6 December 2024	c)	Section 2.3 of the Final Scoping Report contains detailed information on all alternatives	20 January 2025

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				Please ensure that through the description and assessment of alternatives in the final SR, the decision maker must be in a position to follow the argument as to which alternatives will be further evaluated and which alternatives were scoped out of the process. Apart from evaluating the impact of the proposed development against baseline conditions, a clear indication (i.e. reasoned opinion) must be provided by the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) on the sustainability of the proposed development and the preferred alternative.	considered however Section 2.4 provides a summary of the alternatives and those alternatives to be further evaluated.	
24	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: Case Officer	6 December 2024	<p>3 Layout and Sensitivity Maps</p> <p>a)</p> <p>The final layout map must indicate the following (but not limited to the below):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed development area. • Final position of all infrastructure e.g., new berth pocket and quay wall, dredging areas, dredge disposal areas, new rail siding, footprint of the Container Handling Facility (CHF) and apron area, access roads, etc. • Permanent laydown area footprint. 	The layout and sensitivity of the project and the project site were illustrated on separate maps in the Draft Scoping Report. Please refer to Appendix C. Separate maps were created because the all the required information could not be presented on a single map due to the visibility of certain layers. In addition, the specialist studies are currently underway and the buffer and no-go areas can only be made available in the Draft EIR.	20 January 2025

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All supporting onsite infrastructure e.g., laydown areas, sewer network, storm water network, electrical infrastructure (existing and proposed). • All existing infrastructure on the site. • The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g., CBAs, ESAs, visually sensitive areas, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected. • Buffer areas recommended by specialists; and • All “no-go” areas. 		
25	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: Case Officer	6 December 2024	b) Please ensure that the above map has a clear legend that communicates with details of the map.	A legend is included on all layout and sensitivity maps that accompany the Final Scoping Report.	20 January 2025
26	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: Case Officer	6 December 2024	c) The above map must be overlain with a sensitivity map and a cumulative map.	Refer to Appendix C for the layout and sensitivity maps.	20 January 2025
27	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: Case Officer	6 December 2024	d) Images and Google maps will not be accepted for decision-making purposes.	The layout and sensitivity maps included in the Draft and Final Scoping Reports were created on ARC GIS, however images and Google Earth maps were	20 January 2025

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
					also included in the reports as supplementary information.	
28	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: Case Officer	6 December 2024	e) It must be emphasised that the final EIAR must include a final layout map which adheres to specialist recommendations as well as the identified no-go areas and buffer zones.	The Final EIAR will include a final layout and sensitivity map including no go and buffer zones.	20 January 2025
29	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: Case Officer	6 December 2024	f) Include a description of the process to determine the finalised layout i.e. specialist considerations, site sensitivities etc.	Section 8 of the Final Scoping Report is the Plan of Study for the EIA Phase. This section provides detailed information on the EIA process including specialist studies and the impact assessment methodology. Section 8 also details the process to be followed in the EIA phase.	20 January 2025
30	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: Case Officer	6 December 2024	g) Please include a separate appendix which contains all relevant mapping information. Ensure that clear, legible maps of high resolution are provided.	The Draft and Final Scoping Reports included A3 maps of high resolution in Appendix C.	20 January 2025
31	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: Case Officer	6 December 2024	4 Specialist Studies to be conducted in the EIA Phase a)	The specialist studies and associated methodology for each study was included in	20 January 2025

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				Specialist studies to be conducted must provide a detailed description of their methodology, as well as indicate the locations and descriptions of turbines, and all other associated infrastructures that they have assessed and are recommending for authorisations.	Section 8 of the Draft and Final Scoping Reports. It must be noted that there are no turbines associated with the proposed project.	
32	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: Case Officer	6 December 2024	b) The specialist studies must also provide a detailed description of all limitations to their studies. All specialist studies must be conducted in the right season and providing that as a limitation, will not be accepted.	An assumptions and limitations section will be included in all specialist reports. Specialist studies that are season sensitive will be conducted in the favourable season.	20 January 2025
33	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: Case Officer	6 December 2024	c) Should the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must clearly indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with defensible reasons; and where necessary, include further expertise advice.	Specialist recommendations will be reviewed by WSP for overlap or contradictions prior to inclusion into the Draft EIR.	20 January 2025
34	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: Case Officer	6 December 2024	d) It is further brought to your attention that Procedures for the Assessment	The specialist studies will be conducted according to the protocols. In addition, where required, SACNASP	20 January 2025

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				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 note that specialist assessments must be conducted in accordance with these protocols. Please note further that the protocols require the specialists’ to be registered with SACNASP in their respective field.	Registered specialists or specialists with certification in the respective field have been appointed.	
35	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: Case Officer	6 December 2024	e) Please include a table in the report, summarising the specialist studies required by the Department’s Screening Tool, a column indicating whether these studies were conducted or not, and a column with motivation for any studies not conducted. Please note that if any of the specialists’ studies and requirements/protocols recommended in the Department’s	Table 5-3 of the Draft and Final Scoping Reports provides the details of the sensitivities according to the screening tool and the required specialist studies. It also includes information on the level of studies that will be undertaken and studies that will not be undertaken.	20 January 2025

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				Screening Tool are not commissioned, motivation for such must be provided in the report per the requirements of the Protocols.		
36	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: Case Officer	6 December 2024	<p>f)</p> <p>The screening tool output:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The screening tool and the gazetted protocols (GN R320 of 20 March 2020 and GN R 1150 of 30 October 2020) require a site sensitivity verification to be completed to either confirm or dispute the findings and sensitivity ratings of the screening tool. • Site sensitivity verifications for all the identified specialist studies (according to the screening tool) must be provided. • It is the responsibility of the EAP to confirm the list of specialist assessments provided by the screening tool 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. The site sensitivity verification for each of the recommended studies, as per the protocols, must be compiled and 	<p>Table 5-3 of the Draft and Final Scoping Reports provides the details of the sensitivities according to the screening tool and the required specialist studies. It also includes information on the level of studies that will be undertaken and studies that will not be undertaken.</p> <p>This information will also be presented in the EIR along with the site sensitivity verifications for each study.</p> <p>The proposed specialist studies were also presented and accepted by the DFFE in a meeting on 19 September 2024.</p>	20 January 2025

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				attached. If the findings of the site verification differed from the screening tool and was found to be of a different sensitivity level, then a compliance statement would be acceptable.		
37	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: Case Officer	6 December 2024	g) Should the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must clearly indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with defensible reasons; and were necessary, include further expertise advice.	Specialist recommendations will be reviewed by WSP for overlap or contradictions prior to inclusion into the Draft EIR.	20 January 2025
38	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: Case Officer	6 December 2024	h) It is the responsibility of the EAP to confirm the list of identified specialist studies 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. The draft SR on page 141 of 152 states that "The site is considered very high sensitivity due to the very high land capability rating. However, based on the location of the site within the port, the very high sensitivity is	Section 5.2.1 and Table 5-3 of the Final Scoping Report have been revised to include the outcome of the site verification. Based on desktop and site verification investigations, the list of specialist studies as included in Table 8-2 of the Final Scoping Report have been revised. An agricultural Compliance Statement will be included in the Draft EIR.	20 January 2025

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				<p>refuted. As such a specialist study will not be undertaken”.</p> <p>In this regard, the site sensitivity verification report and a compliance statement for the Agricultural Theme is required in order to confirm the abovementioned statement.</p> <p>The site sensitivity verification for each of the recommended studies, as per the protocols, must be compiled and submitted together with the final SR.</p> <p>“An applicant intending to undertake an activity identified in the scope of this protocol, on a site identified on the screening tool as being of "very high sensitivity" for terrestrial biodiversity, must submit a Terrestrial Biodiversity Specialist Assessment.” If the findings of the site verification differed from the screening tool and was found to be of a different sensitivity level, then a compliance statement would be accepted.</p>		
39	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: Case Officer	6 December 2024	<p>5 PPP</p> <p>a)</p> <p>Please ensure that comments from all relevant stakeholders are submitted to the Department with the final SR. This includes but not limited to the</p>	All comments received at the time of this report have been included, these have also been responded to. A stakeholder engagement report is included in Appendix E.	20 January 2025

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment (DFFE): Biodiversity Planning and Conservation (BCAdmin@dfre.gov.za); Provincial Departments, South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA), DFFE: Oceans and Coast, DFFE: Water Sources and Wetlands Conservation Directorate () for attention Mr Stanley Tshitwamulomoni); Department of Water and Sanitation, as well as the affected district and local municipalities.		
40	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: Case Officer	6 December 2024	b) Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the final SR. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof must be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.	Proof of correspondence with stakeholders have been included in Appendix E.	20 January 2025
41	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: Case Officer	6 December 2024	c) The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulations 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.	The PPP was undertaken in accordance with Regulations 39,40,41,42,43 and 44 of the EIA Regulations.	20 January 2025

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
42	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: Case Officer	6 December 2024	d) The comments and response trail report (C&R) must be submitted with the final SR and subsequent documentation. The C&R report must incorporate all comments for this development. The C&R report must be a separate document from the main report and the format must be in the table format as indicated in Annexure 1 of this comments letter. Where necessary, comment received for specific projects must be clearly depicted.	Refer to Appendix E of the Final Scoping Report for the Stakeholder Engagement Report including the Comments and Responses Report.	20 January 2025
43	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: Case Officer	6 December 2024	e) 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 comments) in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed. Comments made by I&APs must be comprehensively captured (copy verbatim if required) and responded to clearly and fully. Please note that a response such as "Noted" is not regarded as an adequate response to I&AP's comments.	All comments received have been recorded and responded to. The Comments and Responses Report is included in the Stakeholder Engagement Report in Appendix E of the Final Scoping Report.	20 January 2025

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44	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: Case Officer	6 December 2024	<p>6) Cumulative Assessment to be conducted in the EIA Phase</p> <p>a)</p> <p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. The cumulative impacts significance rating must also inform the need and desirability of the proposed development. 	Cumulative impacts of similar projects within a 30km radius will be assessed during the EIA Phase by the EAP and respective specialists. The outcome of the cumulative impact assessment will be included in the Draft EIR.	20 January 2025

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A cumulative impact environmental statement on whether the proposed development must proceed. 		
45	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: Case Officer	6 December 2024	<p>7 EMPr</p> <p>a)</p> <p>The EMPr must include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You are required to comply with the content of the EMPr in terms of Appendix 4 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended. 	The EMPr will be compiled in accordance with Appendix 4 of the EIA Regulations.	20 January 2025
46	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: Case Officer	6 December 2024	<p>b)</p> <p>The EMPr must consider the following, and where possible, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An alien invasive management plan to be implemented during construction and operation of the facility. The plan must include mitigation measures to reduce the invasion of alien species and ensure that the continuous monitoring and removal of alien species is undertaken. A plant rescue and protection plan which allows for the maximum transplant of conservation important species from areas to be transformed. This plan must be compiled by a 	The recommendations for the EMPr will be considered during the EIA phase and will be included where possible.	20 January 2025

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				<p>vegetation specialist familiar with the site and be implemented prior to commencement of the construction phase.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A re-vegetation and habitat rehabilitation plan to be implemented during the construction and operation of the facility. Restoration must be undertaken as soon as possible after completion of construction activities to reduce the amount of habitat converted at any one time and to speed up the recovery to natural habitats. • An open space management plan to be implemented during the construction and operation of the facility. • A transportation plan for the transport of components, main assembly cranes and other large pieces of equipment. • A storm water management plan to be implemented during the construction and operation of the facility. The plan must ensure compliance with applicable regulations and prevent off-site migration of contaminated storm water or increased soil erosion. The plan must include the construction of appropriate design measures that 		

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				<p>allow surface and subsurface movement of water along drainage lines so as not to impede natural surface and subsurface flows. Drainage measures must promote the dissipation of storm water run-off.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An erosion management plan for monitoring and rehabilitating erosion events associated with the facility. Appropriate erosion mitigation must form part of this plan to prevent and reduce the risk of any potential erosion. • An effective monitoring system to detect any leakage or spillage of all hazardous substances during their transportation, handling, use and storage. This must include precautionary measures to limit the possibility of oil and other toxic liquids from entering the soil or storm water systems. • Measures to protect hydrological features such as streams, rivers, pans, wetlands, dams and their catchments, and other environmental sensitive areas from construction impacts including the direct or indirect spillage of pollutants. 		

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
47	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: Case Officer	6 December 2024	c) The EAP must provide detailed motivation if any of the above requirements is not required by the proposed development and not included in the EMPr.	A detailed motivation will be provided if any of the requirements as listed in b) above is not included in the EMPr.	20 January 2025
48	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: Case Officer	6 December 2024	General The EAP is requested to contact the Department to make the necessary arrangements to conduct a site inspection prior to the submission of the final EIARs.	The EAP will arrange a site visit with the DFFE prior to the submission of the Final EIR.	20 January 2025
49	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: Case Officer	6 December 2024	You are 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 SR 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”	The Draft Scoping Report has been subjected to a 30-day comment period. The Final Scoping Report has been submitted to the DFFE within 44 days of the submission of the application.	20 January 2025

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
50	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: Case Officer	6 December 2024	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 SRs in accordance with Appendix 2 and Regulation 21(1) of the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.	The Draft and Final Scoping Reports were compiled in compliance with Appendix 2 of the EIA Regulations.	20 January 2025
51	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: Case Officer	6 December 2024	Further note that in terms of Regulation 45 of the NEMA 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).	The Final Scoping Report has been submitted to the DFFE within 44 days of the submission of the application.	20 January 2025
52	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: Case Officer	6 December 2024	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.	The Berth 605 project will not commence until environmental authorisation is granted by the DFFE.	20 January 2025
53	Portia Makitla	DFFE: Biodiversity Conservation Directorate	8 January 2025	The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation has reviewed and evaluated the reports and does not have any objection to the Draft	The EAP acknowledges that the Biodiversity Conservation Directorate has no objections to the proposed project. WSP has will comply with all relevant	20 January 2025

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				<p>Scoping Report. The EIA report must comply with the following:</p> <p>The procedures for the assessment and minimum criteria for reporting on identified environmental themes in terms of sections 24(5) (A)(H) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998.</p>	sections of the NEMA during the S&EIR process.	
54	E Naidoo	City of uMhlathuze	10 January 2025	The city of uMhlathuze has reviewed the Draft Scoping and Environmental Impact Report dated 19 November 2024 in respect of the above application. We submit the following comments:	WSP acknowledges the comments made by the City of Umhlathuze.	20 January 2025
55	E Naidoo	City of uMhlathuze	10 January 2025	<p>1 Land Use Management</p> <p>The site is zone as Harbour and falls within the jurisdiction of the Port Authority permitting such activities.</p> <p>Building Plans must be submitted to the Municipality for approval before the development of any new structures.</p>	TNPA will submit the relevant building plans to the Umhlathuze Municipality prior to the commencement of construction.	20 January 2025
56	E Naidoo	City of uMhlathuze	10 January 2025	<p>2 Air Quality Management</p> <p>The facility is required to ensure the following is monitored to determine impacts on the environment:</p>	The proposed site is located within the Port of Richards Bay associated with existing port related activities and traffic. Therefore, dust, SO ₂ and VOCs will be limited to the	20 January 2025

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				<p>Dust fallout monitoring should be conducted in accordance with the National Dust Control Regulations, 2013.</p> <p>Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂) as it can have detrimental effects on both human health and the environment.</p> <p>Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) due to their potential to contribute to air pollution and pose health risks.</p>	<p>construction phase therefore the impacts on the receiving environment will not be long term and will be managed with the site specific EMPr.</p> <p>In addition, there are no sensitive receptors within a 1.5km radius from the site therefore dust, SO₂ and VOCs are unlikely to pose a risk to human health.</p> <p>It is the professional opinion of the Air Quality Specialist that Air Quality Monitoring will not be required.</p>	
57	E Naidoo	City of uMhlathuze	10 January 2025	<p>3 Transport Planning</p> <p>The City of Umhlathuze notes that the access and new infrastructure will be within the port area.</p>	WSP acknowledges this comment.	20 January 2025
58	E Naidoo	City of uMhlathuze	10 January 2025	<p>The TIA must detail the expected increase in trip generation and assess how the new Berth 604 will affect the external road network leading to and along the John Ross (R34).</p>	<p>A TIA will be undertaken in due course that will address the issues raised by City of uMhlathuze.</p> <p>The TIA will assess a range of modal splits for road vs. rail container traffic. The best-case scenario of 30% vs 70% (road :</p>	

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
					rail) and worse case of 100% : 0% (road : rail).	
59	E Naidoo	City of uMhlathuze	10 January 2025	<p>The new Berth 605 is project to generate additional trips generating external traffic. Transnet needs to improve the truck staging area on site as the current facility has limited capacity and reliance on external truck stops is not always feasible.</p> <p>Trucks are prohibited from waiting along municipal, provincial or national roads to enter the port area. There are concerns about managing container truck movements similar to concerns with coal truck movements. In this regard, access through gate 0 needs clarification. It may be necessary to widen the Harbour Arterial to prevent dangerous traffic conditions due to conflict between various types of cargo deliveries.</p>	<p>A supplementary access road off Urania Road with a security control point to serve the CHF and Berth 605, as well as the greater Port network, has been proposed and approved in principle by TNPA.</p> <p>The widening of Harbour Arterial and West Central Arterial and an additional truck staging area adjacent to West Central Arterial within the Port has been proposed by TNPA and is currently being assessed as part of the Port of Richards Bay Road & Rail prefeasibility study.</p>	20 January 2025
60	E Naidoo	City of uMhlathuze	10 January 2025	It is not acceptable to dismiss trip generation as minor given existing congestion because of port operations and inadequate rail services. Solutions are required given the current situation.	The trip generation figures for the Berth 605 project are below the 50 trip threshold however a TIA will be undertaken in due course which will assess a range of modal splits.	20 January 2025
61	E Naidoo	City of uMhlathuze	10 January 2025	The rail system has proven unreliable therefore development plans must	Regarding the comment on the rail system, the design for truck	20 January 2025

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				account for worst case scenarios where rail operations fail as has been observed in recent years.	access and additional road capacity has been considered to accommodate the movement of containers. Operational philosophy has detailed the rail operation interfaces with the mainline and upgrades needed to ensure efficiency.	
62	E Naidoo	City of uMhlathuze	10 January 2025	Consideration must be given to use dredging material for sand replenishment purposes on Alkanstrand (Northern Beaches) if it is found to be clean and of good quality. It is also proposed to put the material on the northern side of the pier to make the area shallower and to improve the sea floor level to reduce wave action.	Regarding the comment on use of dredged material for sand replenishment purposes, the beneficial use of sand as outlined above (beach replenishment and/or wave protection) was deemed to be unlikely, based on the composition of the material as presently indicated from available information. Geotechnical Investigations will provide clarity. Once these results are available, a re-assessment of the possible beneficial use (discharge to beaches) can be made.	20 January 2025
63	E Naidoo	City of uMhlathuze	10 January 2025	The report references that 3900 trucks entered the port in 2012. This figure raises questions given that in 2024, approximately 1300 trucks entered daily thus over 39000 monthly. Recent figures and numbers have to be used.	The Final Scoping Report has been updated according to recent surveys. 7-day 24-hour traffic surveys were undertaken during October 2024 and will be	20 January 2025

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				<p>The comment under the same section <i>the current road infrastructure of the PoRb cannot provide sufficient and safe access to the facility.</i> this statement confirms that any additional trucks will be a problem and mitigation measures need to be provided.</p> <p>Questions remain regarding truck generation if the rail system fails. It is crucial to assess whether current infrastructure can handle such a scenario.</p>	available in the Draft EIR, initial analysis indicates the following vehicle volumes: 1285 heavy vehicles enter and exits the Port per day, 4406 total vehicles average per day (in and out). The heavy vehicle proportion is approximately 30% of the total vehicle volumes.	
64	E Naidoo	City of uMhlathuze	10 January 2025	<p>4 Spatial Planning</p> <p>The proposal is relevant and aligns with the Richards Bay Port Development Framework Plan and other applicable policies and legislative mandates.</p>	WSP acknowledges that the Municipality considers the project to be aligned with relevant legislation and the Port Development Framework Plan.	20 January 2025
65	E Naidoo	City of uMhlathuze	10 January 2025	<p>5 Fire and Rescue</p> <p>All the proposed fire extinguishing media are required to be illustrated on the fire layout plans for the Municipal Fire Department approval at the time of building plan submissions.</p>	TNPA will illustrate the fire extinguishing media on the fire layout plans that will be submitted to the Municipality prior to the commencement of construction.	20 January 2025
66	E Naidoo	City of uMhlathuze	10 January 2025	<p>6 Environmental Planning</p> <p>The Berth 605 project is included in the short-term plan for the PoRB with</p>	It must be noted that only the disturbance footprint of the CHF has been included in this	20 January 2025

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				a target completion date of 2032. Upon reaching the end of the CHF operational lifespan there are 2 potential paths, i.e. either replacing or decommissioning the CHF. Both alternatives are likely to have negative environmental consequences therefore it is advised that the applicant considers future planning implications when seeking environmental approvals.	current application and S&EIR process. The construction, operation and decommissioning of the CHF do not form part of the Berth 605 project and will obtain the necessary approvals in due course.	
67	Natasha Higgitt	SAHRA	13 January 2025	<p><u>As the proposed development has components below the high-water mark, a separate application is required to be submitted to SAHRA via SAHRIS.</u></p> <p>Please note that all development applications are processed via our online portal, the South African Heritage Resources Information System (SAHRIS) found at the following link: http://sahra.org.za/sahris/. We do not accept emailed, posted, hardcopy, faxed, website links or DropBox links as official submissions.</p> <p>Please create an application on SAHRIS for <u>each EA application</u> and upload all documents pertaining to the Environmental Authorisation Application Process. As per section</p>	WSP acknowledges the comment from SAHRA. Based on the comment, separate applications will be uploaded for the underwater heritage assessment and terrestrial heritage assessments during the EIA Phase once these reports are available.	20 January 2025

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA), an assessment of heritage resources must form part of the process and the assessment must comply with section 38(3) of the NHRA. If a case already exists on SAHRIS regarding the development, please upload the documents to that case using the "Make an additional submission to an existing case" in the application selector wizard https://sahris.org.za/form/application-selector . Please ensure that all documents produced as part of the EA process are submitted as part of the application.		
68	Nokwazi Magubane	SDCEA	13 January 2025	Environmental concerns – berthing operations can contribute to water and air pollution, including emissions of greenhouse gases from idling ships	The potential environmental impacts have been identified during the scoping phase and will be further investigated during the EIA phase.	20 January 2025
69	Nokwazi Magubane	SDCEA	13 January 2025	Climate change – In the report it was mentioned that assessments done previously for other projects is not expectable since the entire project site is an EFZ and CBA. Since the clearing from the previous project may mean	Climate related impacts have been identified for other projects in proximity to the Berth 605 project area as climate assessments can be considered regional. The	20 January 2025

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				few animals could rehabilitate themselves in the proposed site so a report needs to be compiled. An offsetting is not a solution as we are trying to maintain and foster and undisturbed environment.	<p>existing assessments were reviewed to identify potential impacts associated with the Berth 605 project. In addition, a Climate Change Impact Assessment will be conducted for the Berth 605 project.</p> <p>The site is located within the EFZ and a CBA however the site is considered to be transformed and historical imagery presented in the scoping report indicates the level of transformation and disturbance over the years. In additional, there are no bioregional plans that have been adopted by the competent authority in relation to the CBAs. Nonetheless, sensitive environments within the project area will be investigated by the relevant specialists and the findings as well as mitigation measures will be included in the EIR.</p>	
70	Nokwazi Magubane	SDCEA	13 January 2025	Gas leaks – what measures will be taken by the developer in an event of a leak to minimize the negative impacts that a leak may have on health and wellbeing of the	Gas leaks are not anticipated for the proposed project however TNPA has an emergency response plan for unplanned events and	20 January 2025

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				surrounding communities and the natural habitats. Can the developer set aside funding to respond to the disasters as a result of their operations?	incidents and all incidents will be handled according to this plan.	
71	Nokwazi Magubane	SDCEA	13 January 2025	Port is an estuary which is important to marine life for breeding. Subsistence fisher folds and traditional healers who depend on the ocean and estuaries need assurance that their way of life will not be adversely affected, In an event of a spillage does the developer have a facility for marine life affected by the spills?	The impact of the project on the estuary will be further investigated in the EIA phase. TNPA has an emergency response plan in place that will be implemented during any unplanned events or incidents.	20 January 2025
72	Nokwazi Magubane	SDCEA	13 January 2025	Will any of the proposed project areas include traditional fishing areas that will be closed off to fishing. What areas will be closed off that are currently accessible to the public.	TNPA will confirm if there are any areas accessible to the public for fishing, this will be presented in the Draft EIR.	20 January 2025
73	Nokwazi Magubane	SDCEA	13 January 2025	Employment – will the development improve the lives of community members? Based on previous experience local leadership tend to approve such projects as they assume such projects will create jobs for community members which in most cases left for high tertiary qualifications and limited to security guards. If employed then they will also	The project will create job opportunities in the region however the level of skills required for the jobs may vary. Local businesses will also be considered for the supply of materials during the construction phase.	20 January 2025

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				be contract workers in the construction phase		
74	Nokwazi Magubane	SDCEA	13 January 2025	Traffic management – the report is silent/unclear on the additional trucks on our roads delivering or fetching materials. As with recent times, access to the town of Richards Bay have been heavily congested in some instances totally blocked off by trucks hauling various minerals, materials and chemicals into the port so with this development it will be an addition.	Section 6.1.11 of the Final Scoping Report has been updated to reflect recent traffic counts. A TIA will also be undertaken in due course that will address the issues raised by City of uMhlathuze.	20 January 2025
75	Nokwazi Magubane	SDCEA	13 January 2025	Pipelines – with construction for the pipelines indigenous flora will be removed which has the potential to introduce invasive alien flora. What measures will be put in place to ensure this doesn't happen.	A terrestrial biodiversity assessment will be undertaken which will include impacts and related mitigation measures on terrestrial flora and fauna. It must be noted that despite the project being located within the EFZ and CBA, a large extent of the site is developed and transformed by previous port related activities. Mitigation measures including an alien invasive species management plan for the terrestrial biodiversity will be presented in the Draft EIR.	20 January 2025

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
76	Nokwazi Magubane	SDCEA	13 January 2025	Clearing of indigenous vegetation under the NFA all forests are protected and no trees dead or alive may be cut, damaged or removed without license from the DFFE so will the developer be applying for one or has one already?	Preliminary findings from the investigation conducted by the terrestrial biodiversity specialist confirmed that no protected floral species were identified within the project area. However, if these are identified prior to or during construction, the necessary permits will be obtained.	20 January 2025
77	Dominic Wieners	Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife	14 January 2025	It is brought to your attention that the proposed new berth and associated infrastructure development is located in a highly sensitive environment which is considered to be of conservation significance	WSP acknowledges this comment. According to the DFFE Screening Tool the site is very high in sensitivity for the terrestrial biodiversity and aquatic themes due to the CBA and EFZ.	20 January 2025
78	Dominic Wieners	Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife	14 January 2025	While there may be a number of concerns with the proposed application, the Plan of Study is supported in principle in as far as it will potentially provide the required information required to make an informed decision. Furthermore, the specialist studies recommended in the Plan of Study should identify additional fatal flaws not already identified in the baseline studies and initial feasibility studies.	WSP acknowledges the support of the plan of study presented within the Draft Scoping Report. The specialist studies will identify fatal flaws and previous studies in proximity to the project area will also be considered. A baseline estuarine and marine ecology assessment will be undertaken to determine	20 January 2025

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				<p>However, Ezemvelo urges the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to take careful cognisance of other specialist studies, and the concerns flagged there recently for proposals in close proximity to that proposed here. This is in particular related to the:</p> <p>Impacts to the estuarine area, and estuarine fauna (across the size spectrum),</p> <p>Cumulative noise impacts to roosting birds on the nearby sandspit and associated mangrove areas,</p> <p>Potential increased light impacts to the mangrove areas in relation to roosting birds.</p>	<p>the impacts on the estuarine environment.</p> <p>An avifaunal impact assessment will be undertaken and will include any identified impacts and cumulative impacts on roosting birds.</p>	
79	Dominic Wieners	Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife	14 January 2025	Further to the above, the specialist studies related to dredge disposal will need to show that the preferred disposal site will not have any undue impacts to offshore biodiversity, in particular to the resident humpback dolphin population, or impact with any cetacean migration routes, or turtles.	The existing and operational offshore disposal site has been identified for the disposal of dredged material from the Berth 605 project.	20 January 2025
80	Dominic Wieners	Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife	14 January 2025	In addition, the wetland assessment should consider all wetlands which are groundwater driven and derived as being freshwater wetlands,	This comment is noted; all wetlands will be considered in the wetland assessment.	20 January 2025

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				irrespective of their location in the Estuarine Functional Zone. While some wetlands in the area may be as a result of anthropogenic activities during port construction, these areas do contribute to the ecosystem goods and services values, and all freshwater resources ecosystem goods and services should be retained. Should there be residual loss, there will need to be some consideration given to freshwater resource offsets, as part of the specialist study.		
81	Dominic Wieners	Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife	14 January 2025	Ezemvelo look forward to engaging further in this project proposal. Please note that this does not constitute final comment, but that final comment will be submitted upon review of the specialist reports as part of the Draft Environmental Impact Report.	This comment is noted. Ezemvelo will be informed when the EIR and specialist studies are made available for comment.	20 January 2025
82	Luvanya Naidoo	Private	02 June 2025	Thanks for taking my call. Please can you add me to your I&AP database for the above-mentioned project	Thank you for your email You will be added to the database for the project	04 June 2025

Table 3-2 – Comments and Responses on the DEIR

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
1	Dr Andy Blackmore	Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife	09 April 2026	<p>Dear WSP</p> <p>I trust you are aware, but to be clear: sending this or similar notices to me does not relieve you of your obligation to notify and engage directly with Ezemvelo.</p> <p>All correspondence must be sent to iem.app@kznwildlife.com to ensure proper recording of your compliance with the EIA provisions under the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) and its Regulations.</p> <p>Please note that sending information to any other Ezemvelo staff member, unless explicitly requested by a member of the IEM Unit, does not constitute compliance with the above requirements.</p> <p>Kindly ensure that all staff at WSP amend their records accordingly.</p>	<p>Thank you for that.</p> <p>It is noted that iem.app@kznwildlife.com was copied in your response, however, the notification was shared directly with the email address as well.</p>	15 April 2026
2	Dominic Wieners	Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife	14 May 2026	<p>The Draft Biodiversity Compensation Plan (BCP) dated March 2026, for the abovementioned application has been reviewed by Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife (Ezemvelo) IEM staff.</p>	<p>The comments by EKZNW are acknowledged. The responses which follow below are informed by:</p>	15 September 2026

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meetings held with the Biodiversity Offset Group (BOG), which included EKZNW, (Appendix F) in which the proposed biodiversity compensation approach to be followed was presented and discussed, and During these meetings, the incorporation of habitat replacement directly into the Berth 605 design was proposed to ensure that the recreation of functional habitat, which would be reliant upon physical excavation and long-term intertidal connectivity, would be achieved. The approach of developing a compensation plan and not an offset plan was discussed and there was in principle agreement for this approach, in acknowledgement that the national biodiversity offset guidelines apply to terrestrial and not estuarine environments. 	

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				The BCP for the proposed Berth 605 development raises a number of significant concerns from a biodiversity and ecological functioning perspective, particularly when considered in conjunction with the specialist findings and previous comments submitted by Ezemvelo. The concerns outlined below should be addressed comprehensively prior to any finalisation of the Environmental Impact Assessment process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The responses were prepared by the EAP with specialist input where required, thereafter the EIR was finalised on the basis of the revised BCP. 	
2	Dominic Wieners	Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife	14 May 2026	It should be recognised that the proposed development remains located within a highly sensitive biodiversity environment which has already been identified as being of conservation significance. As previously noted by Ezemvelo, specialist studies should continue to interrogate the proposal for potential fatal flaws associated with impacts to estuarine functioning, avifaunal habitat, mangrove systems, freshwater resources and cumulative ecological impacts.	The EIR recognises the sensitivity of the development environment. The final EIR is supported by a suite of ecological specialist studies which respond to the concerns raised by EKZNW (Appendix G of the EIR).	15 September 2026
2	Dominic Wieners	Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife	14 May 2026	Ezemvelo's primary concern relates to the adequacy of the proposed compensation area and the apparent shortfall in achieving the required	The footprint of loss is approximately 11 ha. This constitutes a recovering ecosystem that was completely	15 September 2026

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				<p>compensation targets. The BCP identifies a requirement for approximately 11.01 ha of compensation habitat associated with the loss of mangrove habitat, coastal forest and coastal grassland systems.</p> <p>However, the currently identified compensation area appears capable of accommodating only approximately 7 ha. The report itself acknowledges that the currently available compensation site cannot accommodate the required compensation in its current form and location and indicates that further stakeholder engagement is required regarding the acceptability of the proposed approach.</p>	<p>devoid of vegetation in 2006 when the site had been disturbed during construction. Reshaping following that construction period left a depressed area connected to the berth basin by pipe. This was within the tidal range.</p> <p>Within this footprint both mangrove and terrestrial habitat units have re-established.</p> <p>Initially, a larger compensation area was considered, however following several discussions with TNPA, it was evident that the extended area would severely constrain future development at the port.</p> <p>However, considering the comments from EKZNW, the specialists and EAP in collaboration with TNPA, the BCP has been revised to achieve a 1:1 ratio overall and per habitat unit.</p> <p>The BCP is appended to the final EIR (Appendix G16).</p>	

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
	Dominic Wieners	Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife	14 May 2026	This concern is further compounded by the biodiversity importance of the affected site. The development footprint falls predominantly within areas mapped as CBA 1: Irreplaceable and within a Key Biodiversity Area of international significance. In such instances, reliance on a basic 1:1 compensation ratio appears difficult to justify without explicit and detailed motivation supported by the additional relevant competent biodiversity authorities. Furthermore, the inability to meet even the proposed minimum compensation requirement raises concerns regarding whether the proposal is capable of achieving an acceptable no-net-loss outcome.	The proposed compensation area has been revised to include a combination of affected habitat units. The total combined area now achieves a 1:1 compensation ratio. For further details, refer to the BCP as appended to the final EIR (Appendix G16).	15 September 2026
2	Dominic Wieners	Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife	14 May 2026	Ezemvelo is of the opinion that although this is compensation and not offset, that an equivalent offset ratio for terrestrial environments of similar importance would attract ratios in the order of 30:1. Proposing less than even no-net-loss is not acceptable.	As acknowledged by all members of the BOG, the proposed BCP is not fully adherent to the Biodiversity Offset Guidelines which are applicable to terrestrial habitats. The proposed compensation area has been revised to include a combination of affected habitat units. The total	15 September 2026

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
					combined area now achieves a 1:1 compensation ratio. The BCP is appended to the final EIR (Appendix G16)	
2	Dominic Wieners	Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife	14 May 2026	Concern is also raised regarding the extent to which the proposal adequately addresses impacts to freshwater resources and associated ecosystem services. Ezemvelo previously highlighted that wetlands and freshwater features within the Estuarine Functional Zone, including those resulting from historic anthropogenic disturbance, continue to contribute ecological goods and services and should therefore not be dismissed from an offset and ecological functioning perspective. It is not clear from the current BCP whether these freshwater ecosystem service losses have been fully quantified and incorporated into the compensation calculations and long-term management proposals.	The Freshwater Assessment as contained in Appendix G3 of the EIR. Wetland systems associated with the project have been mapped and presented. There are no freshwater driven wetland systems East of Harbour road where the Berth basin will be excavated. There will be no direct loss of freshwater wetland systems which do exist west of Harbour road. These systems have been identified and appropriately buffered. Excavated material (land-based excavation) will be stockpiled between these wetland systems and harbour road during the construction period. This material will not be left in situ in the long term. The wetland specialist concluded that the proposed activities would result in negligible impact to freshwater driven resources. For this	15 September 2026

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
					reason, such systems do not feature within the compensation plan.	
2	Dominic Wieners	Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife	14 May 2026	<p>The proposed compensation strategy also presents uncertainty regarding the long-term ecological trajectory of the intended habitats. While the proposal seeks to establish shoreline and shallow estuarine habitat intended to support wader habitat and estuarine ecological functioning, the report simultaneously acknowledges that mangroves readily colonise disturbed intertidal areas within the Port of Richards Bay environment and may become dominant over time.</p> <p>This creates uncertainty regarding whether the intended habitat objectives can realistically be maintained in the long term without substantial ongoing intervention and management. This has been raised in meetings held with the specialist, but the outcome remains unclear in the report.</p>	<p>The proposed compensation area has been revised to include a combination of affected habitat units. The total combined area now achieves a 1:1 compensation ratio.</p> <p>The expanded area includes a combination of terrestrial and mangrove habitat. It also provides protection to an extended length of shoreline. A conservation servitude will be registered over the area.</p> <p>The BCP is appended to the Final EIR (Appendix G16)</p>	15 September 2026
2	Dominic Wieners	Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife	14 May 2026	Additional concern is raised regarding the reliance on “trading up” principles and the proposed rehabilitation or re-establishment of estuarine habitat features where there remains	The BCP was formulated based on ongoing site investigations, the nature of the site within a developed port environment, the evident	15 September 2026

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				considerable ecological uncertainty regarding success rates and long-term sustainability. The proposed compensation areas involve significant habitat engineering and re-creation of estuarine ecological function. However, there appears to be limited certainty that these systems will develop the intended ecological characteristics within acceptable timeframes, particularly given the highly modified and dynamic nature of the Port environment. It should be noted that in these higher risk scenarios, risk multipliers on the offset ratio would need to be applied, something which has not been dealt with adequately.	<p>regenerative nature of the site which indicates that this specific site is capable of re-establishing over time.</p> <p>The evidence of this is present on site which includes developing coastal forest areas, grassland and mangroves which have re-established over a 20-year period since 2006.</p> <p>Furthermore, the site proposed for the BCP has, in response to EKZNW comments, been increased to achieve a 1:1 compensation ratio. A conservation servitude will also be registered over this area.</p> <p>Incorporation of a large portion of the land immediately seaward of the 600 series Berth basin was also considered. This would yield an area of approximately 40 hectares but, would constrain the 2052 PoRB Master Plan. Consequently, this area could not be secured. .</p>	
2	Dominic Wieners	Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife	14 May 2026	It is further noted that the project area supports habitat utilised by a range of	The proposed compensation area is immediately adjacent to	15 September 2026

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				faunal Species of Conservation Concern, including estuarine fauna, avifauna and associated mangrove-dependent species. Previous Ezemvelo comments highlighted concerns relating to cumulative noise and lighting impacts on roosting birds associated with nearby sandspits and mangrove habitat. These concerns remain relevant and should be addressed comprehensively in the final impact assessment and associated management measures.	the development footprint. It includes similar habitat types and provides protection to an extended length of shoreline for wading birds. In addition, protection is provided to a larger block of mangrove. These areas will be isolated from the port masterplan and protected through the registration of conservation servitude.	
2	Dominic Wieners	Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife	14 May 2026	Furthermore, wake run up onto the offset recreated habitat will also need to be assessed in terms of long-term persistence of the compensation receiving areas, should these be deemed appropriate.	The revised BCP now includes additional monitoring recommendations associated with the compensation area. For additional details please refer to Appendix G16.	15 September 2026
2	Dominic Wieners	Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife	14 May 2026	Given the above, it is considered necessary that the following matters be addressed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The specialist should provide a revised and fully substantiated compensation proposal capable of meeting the identified compensation requirements in full. 	The revised BCP is included under Appendix G16 of the Final EIR. The CSIR as the independent marine and estuarine specialist proposed the recreation of a similar habitat. The CSIR has extensive experience across all ports in South Africa therefore it	15 September 2026

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ecological feasibility of the proposed estuarine habitat creation and rehabilitation measures should be independently reviewed by a suitably qualified estuarine specialist with demonstrated experience in estuarine restoration and habitat engineering. Long-term ecological monitoring, adaptive management requirements and legally binding protection mechanisms for the compensation area will need to be clearly secured as enforceable conditions of authorisation, once these proposals are further refined and are more acceptable. The duration of protection of compensation areas should be secured for at least the operational life of the project, with appropriate inclusion into the Port Development Framework and associated planning instruments. Freshwater ecosystem functioning and associated ecosystem service losses should be fully assessed and incorporated into the compensation and offset calculations where applicable. 	<p>is recommended that a peer review is not required. However, one can be undertaken upon finalisation of the design prior to construction.</p> <p>The revised BCP includes long term ecological monitoring and management requirements. Furthermore, the site has been excluded from the PoRB Masterplan for further development, and a conservation servitude will be registered.</p> <p>There will be no direct impacts to any freshwater systems as a result of the proposed project.</p> <p>The specialists are of the opinion that the revised BCP is adequate to address the residual impacts as a result of the project.</p> <p>It must be noted that the BCP has been revised on the basis of ongoing engagements with the BOG and the size of the area has increased to achieve a 1:1 compensation area. No other land in proximity to Berth 605 could be secured within the Port environment without</p>	

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				<p>Based on the currently available information, substantial uncertainty remains regarding the adequacy, feasibility and long-term ecological sustainability of the proposed biodiversity compensation measures. As such, the acceptability of the proposed residual biodiversity impacts has not yet been satisfactorily demonstrated.</p> <p>Ezemvelo look forward to engaging further in this project proposal. Please note that this does not constitute final comment, but that final comment will be submitted upon review of the specialist reports as part of the Draft Environmental Impact Report.</p> <p>Should you wish to discuss any of the points raised above or should any further biodiversity issues arise please do not hesitate to contact our offices</p>	constraining the 2052 PoRB Master Plan.	
2	Peter Henderson	Private	10 April 2026	Please can you check the Appendix E document. The downloaded file contains an error and can't be opened.	<p>Thank you for bringing this to our attention.</p> <p>The document has been replaced and is working.</p>	17 April 2026
3	Liesl Jacobs	Department of Transport	10 April 2026	On behalf of the Minister of the Department of Transport, Ms B D Creecy, MP, I acknowledge with	-	-

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				thanks receipt of your correspondence, in the above regard.		
4	Prof D.P Cyrus	Private	11 April 2026	Please will you send or provide me with access to the documents associated with the Draft Environmental Impact Report for TNPA's Berth 605 which was recently advertised as being available.	<p>Thank you for your interest in the project.</p> <p>The documents can be found at the public places below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. https://www.wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents 2. Richards Bay Public Library - Richards Bay Central, Richards Bay, 3900 3. Aquadene Public Library - 4 Via Ammannia, Aquadene, Richards Bay, 3900 	17 April 2026
5	Xola Daniels	KZN - AMAFA	20 April 2026	<p>The application was considered by the Provincial Heritage Authority, the KwaZulu Natal Amafa and Research Institute on 15 April 2026. The documents submitted in support of the application were reviewed. The committee noted that the applicant did not submit adequate proof of public participation as part of the application. The applicant is therefore required to upload all relevant supporting</p> <p>documentation to demonstrate that a compliant public participation process was undertaken.</p>	The required documentation was uploaded to Amafa, WSP is currently awaiting additional feedback.	17 July 2026

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				<p>Furthermore, the committee considered the maritime report submitted and noted that a total of 13 abnormalities were identified during the diving survey. The committee requires that these abnormalities be clearly verified and comprehensively clarified.</p> <p>Written responses/requests for reconsideration of the application or consideration of new information must be loaded to the case on Sahr's (email [REDACTED]) within 30 days of the date of this letter or any requirements/decisions contained herein will be considered final. Extensions of this time frame can be requested upon receipt of motivation.</p> <p>Required additional information or revised plans must be submitted within six months from the date of this letter or the application will lapse, and a new application will be required.</p> <p>THIS LETTER DOES NOT CONSTITUTE FORMAL APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSAL SUBMITTED TO THE INSTITUTE. UNAUTHORISED WORK CARRIED OUT ON THE ABOVE SITE WILL BE IN CONTRAVENTION OF THE</p>		

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				<p>KWAZULU-NATAL AMAFA AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE ACT, Act 5 of 2018.</p> <p>Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.</p>		
6	Estelle Naidoo	E City of uMhlathuze: City Development	08 May 2026	<p>Kindly note our request for an extension to provide our comments on 19 May 2026.</p> <p>Your assistance with the above is appreciated!</p>	The extension as requested was granted.	08 May 2026
7	Mthokozisi Mhlongo	City of uMhlathuze: City Development	19 May 2026	The City of uMhlathuze has reviewed the Draft Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting process for the development of New Berth 605 and associated infrastructure to support the container handling facility, Port of Richards Bay, in respect of the above application. We accordingly submit the following:	-	-
7	Mthokozisi Mhlongo	City of uMhlathuze: City Development	19 May 2026	<p>1. Spatial Planning</p> <p>Spatial Planning has no objections to the proposed project as it aligns with the Port of Richards Bay Development Framework and long-term vision.</p>	This comment is acknowledged, no response required.	15 September 2026

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7	Mthokozisi Mhlongo	City of uMhlathuze: City Development	19 May 2026	<p>2. Environmental Planning</p> <p>i. It is recommended that strict adherence to the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr), no-go areas, dredge management measures, stormwater controls, biodiversity offset measures, and rehabilitation requirements be enforced throughout the lifespan of the proposed project.</p> <p>ii. In terms of the Wave Climate and Shoreline Change Study, it is noted that the proposed development may have adverse impacts on Alkantstrand Beach, particularly within an already strained shoreline system influenced by ongoing anthropogenic activities. The report indicates that where sand nourishment exceeds 800 000 m³ per annum, Alkantstrand Beach may experience a degree of shoreline stability. In this regard, it is emphasised that Transnet National Ports Authority (TNPA) ensures that sand replenishment activities are undertaken in accordance with the recommendations contained in the specialist studies.</p> <p>iii. It is further noted that the dredged material is proposed to be discharged offshore. Considering the current</p>	<p>i. The EMPr will be strictly adhered to and monitored by an Environmental Officer and appointed Environmental Control Officer.</p> <p>ii. With respect to shoreline change the study concluded that altered wave conditions may slightly shift longshore sediment transport, leading to localized erosion or accretion. The most notable erosion (up to 13 m over 40 years) is expected near the south breakwater but is considered manageable. Historical data suggest offshore disposal has minimal long-term shoreline impact, while onshore disposal has been effective for beach stabilization on the northern beaches.</p> <p>In respect to changes in sediment transport, the assessment evaluated how dredge spoil disposal might alter northerly longshore sediment transport along the coastline from the far-southern beach to the northern beach. The impact of dredge spoil disposal on longshore</p>	15 September 2026

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				<p>erosion challenges experienced at Alkantstrand Beach, it is recommended that TNPA explores the option of using the dredged material to replenish the sand at Alkantstrand Beach. This recommendation would, however, remain subject to confirmation of the quality and compatibility of the dredged material.</p> <p>iv. In light of the above, it is requested that Transnet National Ports Authority and City of uMhlathuze engage further on mechanisms to strengthen commitments toward ongoing sand replenishment initiatives and to ensure the continued protection and safety of Alkantstrand Beach for both the surrounding community and the environment.</p>	<p>sediment transport varies along the coastline, with most changes expected to be negligible. The region of the central beach (Mhlathuze Estuary mouth to the south breakwater) could experience detrimental erosion since the beach is currently narrow. However, this risk is mitigated to some extent by the rapid natural redistribution of dredged material, making the model results conservative for the Berth 605 project alone. Cumulative impacts from future projects are expected to be limited if sufficient time separates dredging events.</p> <p>The specialist recommended targeted beach nourishment only if the beach width reduces to 20-30m.</p> <p>iii. the use of dredged material to replenish the sand at Alkanstrand was considered during the EIA process. This option was eliminated as an alternative to the offshore disposal of dredged material. The sand component of the material to be dredged was</p>	

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					considered for nourishment discharge onto the beach. Approximately 654 000 m ³ of sand (< 23% of the material to be dredged) exists with a low percentage of fines and a grain size that would be suitable for beach nourishment (silty/clayey sand is unsuitable for beach nourishment). However, most of this material is situated above existing water-level in the port and the proposed method of dredging is such that this suitable sand gets mixed with unsuitable material. Specifically, the cutter suction dredger will be working below water-level (where layers of material largely are not suitable) and will undercut the slope (sometimes with the aid of water jets) causing the suitable sand to collapse/avalanche into the basin where it will mix with the unsuitable material. The resulting material discharged into the hopper barges will then be sub-optimal for beach placement as it will contain a relatively high percentage of fines. This would result in	

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					significant plumes of fine sediment at the beach discharge, which is visually and ecologically undesirable. Similarly, coarse material (6 mm) generated from dredging of rock by the CSD, if it could be isolated, also is not ideal for placement on the beaches to the north of the port.	
7	Mthokozisi Mhlongo	City of uMhlathuze: City Development	19 May 2026	<p>3. Land Use Management (Development Control)</p> <p>i. Land Use Management (Development Control) has no objections to the proposed project.</p> <p>ii. The site is zoned as Harbour and falls within the jurisdiction of the Port Authority; the harbour zoning allows for such activities.</p> <p>iii. Building Plans must be submitted to the Municipality for approval before the development of any new structures.</p>	This comment is acknowledged. The Building plans will be submitted to the municipality prior to the commencement of the construction phase.	15 September 2026
7	Mthokozisi Mhlongo	City of uMhlathuze: City Development	19 May 2026	<p>4. Air Quality Management</p> <p>i. The application is supported subject to construction activities being monitored to ensure compliance with the National Environmental</p>	Construction related activities will be monitored daily by the Environmental Officer and monthly by an Environmental Control Officer. Air quality impacts will be recorded	15 September 2026

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				<p>Management: Air Quality Act (NEM:AQA).</p> <p>ii. Dust suppression measures such as regular wetting of exposed areas and haul roads must be implemented.</p> <p>iii. The applicant is requested to ensure ongoing monitoring for dust and nuisance complaints during construction activities.</p>	<p>however specific air quality monitoring will not be undertaken for the project.</p> <p>Dust suppression measures will be implemented and monitored during construction when and where required.</p> <p>A complaints register will be maintained for the duration of the construction phase.</p>	
7	Mthokozisi Mhlongo	City of uMhlathuze: City Development	19 May 2026	<p>5. Waste Management</p> <p>i. The applicant is requested to be cognizant of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act 59 of 2008.</p>	<p>The NEM:WA was considered during the EIA process, should registrations under the NEM:WA be required, these will be applied for ahead of the commencement of the construction phase.</p>	15 September 2026
7	Mthokozisi Mhlongo	City of uMhlathuze: City Development	19 May 2026	<p>6. Fire and Rescue Services</p> <p>i. Building plans including a fire layout plan is required for approval by the Fire Department.</p> <p>ii. The existing fire water infrastructure is to be extended to serve the project area as a whole.</p>	<p>Building plans included a fire layout plan will be submitted to the Fire Department for approval prior to construction.</p> <p>The fire water in the PoRB is off the water reticulation network. Allowance for fire- hydrants will be made where there isn't a dedicated firefighting system. This allowance is for normal hydrants outside the CHF boundary along the lengths of</p>	15 September 2026

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					pipelines that will be installed to service the new quay wall extension.	
8	Makwarela Mnwana	DFFE: Coastal Development & Coordination	14 May 2026	<p>The Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment (DFFE), Branch Oceans & Coasts (O&C), appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Reporting (EIR) Process for the Development of New Berth 605 and Associated Infrastructure to Support the Container Handling Facility, Port of Richards Bay, KwaZulu-Natal.</p> <p>This Branch has provided recommendations in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) ("NEMA") and the National Environmental Management: Integrated Coastal Management Act, 2008 (Act No. 24 of 2008) ("ICM Act").</p>	This comment is acknowledged, no response required.	-
8	Makwarela Mnwana	DFFE: Coastal Development & Coordination	14 May 2026	The Branch O&C has the mandate to ensure the holistic management of the coast and estuarine areas as an integrated system and promote coordinated coastal management. It ensures that the ecological integrity, natural character, and economic, social, and aesthetic value of coastal	This comment is acknowledged, no response required.	-

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				zones are maintained to ensure that people, properties, and economic activities are protected against the impacts of dynamic coastal processes.		
8	Makwarela Mnwana	DFFE: Coastal Development & Coordination	14 May 2026	Guided by the principles of integrated coastal management, this Branch promotes developments that promote socially justified sharing of benefits derived from a resource-rich coastal area and strives to ensure that the principles of sustainable development are upheld.	This comment is acknowledged, no response required.	-
8	Makwarela Mnwana	DFFE: Coastal Development & Coordination	14 May 2026	Based on the submitted Draft Environmental Impact Report, the Branch presents the comments stipulated below for consideration. Please note the recommendations for your consideration:	This comment is acknowledged, no response required.	-
8	Makwarela Mnwana	DFFE: Coastal Development & Coordination	14 May 2026	<p>1. It is noted that a CWDP is not needed as the existing infrastructure will be used for sewage disposal. It is noted that the risk of plastic and other litter finding its way into the environment is a concern. There needs to be a plan of action to ensure this risk is minimised and a contingency plan if this does occur.</p> <p>There is also a risk of chemical spills, which can flow into the harbour and</p>	The EMPr details all the mitigation measures for the prevention of pollution of bay including solid waste management and emergency spill response plans. It must further be noted that the recommended distance of materials storage areas etc will be adhered to so that the risk of a spill event is minimised.	15 September 2026

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				therefore have environmental impacts. Again, a contingency plan needs to cover what will be done in the case of a spill.		
8	Makwarela Mnwana	DFFE: Coastal Development & Coordination	14 May 2026	2. Dredging for the Berth 605 Project will resuspend sediment into the water column; however, these effects are expected to be largely localised and decrease with distance from the dredged site. The resuspended sediment eventually will settle and may negatively affect benthic invertebrate and fish communities. The proposed mitigation measure that dredging should preferably be undertaken during winter, when biological productivity and recruitment activity within the system are generally lower, is supported from an ecological perspective. Consideration should also be given to undertaking dredging outside peak fish and invertebrate recruitment periods, where feasible, as this could further reduce potential impacts on larval and juvenile fish and invertebrates associated with elevated suspended-sediment concentrations and turbidity.	The Applicant will attempt to consider the dredging period and the recruitment periods of fish and invertebrates where practical and which can be incorporated into the overall construction schedule for the project.	15 September 2026
8	Makwarela Mnwana	DFFE: Coastal Development & Coordination	14 May 2026	3. The report considers land-based disposal as the primary alternative and identifies the existing authorised	Ms. Feroza was contacted for guidance and confirmation on the appropriateness and	15 September 2026

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				dredged spoil disposal site off Richards Bay as the only offshore disposal option assessed. It is acknowledged that the EAP may have selected the existing authorised offshore disposal site based on regulatory certainty, previous modelling outcomes, and the established suitability of the disposal area. It is therefore recommended that the Directorate: Coastal Pollution Management (Ms Feroza Albertus [REDACTED]) provide guidance and confirmation regarding the appropriateness and suitability of the proposed dredged spoil disposal option.	suitability of the existing offshore disposal site. A response is still pending.	
8	Makwarela Mnwana	DFFE: Coastal Development & Coordination	14 May 2026	4. The report's conclusion that chromium-contaminated sediment may not pose a significant ecological risk appears to be informed by unpublished CSIR research findings. Given that CSIR is also undertaking the specialist studies supporting the assessment, further clarity is requested on whether the unpublished studies and associated methodologies have been subjected to independent scientific review or verification, particularly as these findings materially inform conclusions relating to sediment suitability and disposal	The CSIR specialist team is available to discuss these unpublished research findings with the Department	15 September 2026

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				considerations. Alternatively, it is recommended that the unpublished studies, together with the relevant methodologies applied, be made available for consideration by the competent authority. This would enhance transparency and support a more informed and robust decision-making process.		
8	Makwarela Mnwana	DFFE: Coastal Development & Coordination	14 May 2026	5. The compensation plan indicates that the proposed compensation site will be incorporated into the Port Development Framework Plan as a no-go development area, with development restrictions applicable for a minimum of 30 years or the lifespan of the project, whichever is longer. The inclusion of a Biodiversity Management Plan and binding implementation agreements as conditions of Environmental Authorisation is noted and supported.	This comment is acknowledged, no response required.	-
8	Makwarela Mnwana	DFFE: Coastal Development & Coordination	14 May 2026	6. However, the report appears to present an inconsistency insofar as the proposed tidally influenced pool habitat is recognised as ecologically significant and effectively irreplaceable due to the permanent habitat loss associated with Berth 605 development, while the proposed	The tidally influenced pool under discussion is itself a man-made habitat unit having been shaped post construction activity on the site in 2006. Notwithstanding this, the area has developed functional ecological attributes which are regarded as important.	15 September 2026

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				<p>protection measures are limited to a defined timeframe.</p> <p>7. Clarification is therefore requested on the appropriateness of applying time-bound protection measures where the loss of ecological functionality is acknowledged to be permanent and unlikely to be recoverable elsewhere. Limiting protection to a finite period may inadvertently weaken the long-term intent and effectiveness of the compensation measures and could expose the site to future development pressures.</p> <p>8. It is therefore recommended that, through the proposed binding implementation agreements and conditions of Environmental Authorisation, the compensation site and associated tidally influenced pool habitat be secured as a permanent no-go development area, supported by legally enforceable protection mechanisms and/or formal conservation status.</p> <p>9. In this regard, consideration should also be given to the recommendations contained in the Richards Bay Estuary Management Plan relating to the</p>	<p>Similarly, the fairly rapid recovery and ecological function within this area has informed compensation planning, as proposed.</p> <p>Since the Draft EIR, it has been established that the proposed compensation area will be defined as a conservation servitude and no longer limited to a 30-year period.</p>	

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				<p>formal protection of ecologically important estuarine habitats.</p> <p>10. Further clarity is requested on whether measures to secure formal, long-term legal protection for the compensation site have been considered, including mechanisms aligned with the principles of the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act, 2003, to ensure the compensatory habitat remains protected in perpetuity. Consideration could also be given to an approach similar to that applied in the designation of the eChwebeni Heritage Site to strengthen the conservation status of the area.</p>		
8	Makwarela Mnwana	DFFE: Coastal Development & Coordination	14 May 2026	<p>11. The report notes that several potential biodiversity compensation areas within the Port of Richards Bay were identified and assessed; however, only the area adjacent to the 600 Berth Basin was ultimately considered suitable, largely due to anticipated future port expansion plans and potential biodiversity compensation requirements associated with other developments under the Port of Richards Bay Masterplan. In this context, it appears that the preferred compensation site</p>	<p>The site was selected as a built-in mitigation measure to be used as a compensation area that can be included and implemented in the overall plan for the study area. The BCP contains further information on the selection of the proposed site however it is summarised as follows:</p> <p>The project area is situated within an existing port and within the Estuarine Functional Zone. This suggests that the</p>	

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				<p>may have been influenced significantly by considerations relating to future development compatibility and spatial planning constraints, in addition to ecological factors. Clarity is therefore requested on the criteria and methodology applied in evaluating the ecological suitability and long-term compensation effectiveness of the preferred site, independent of future port development considerations, to ensure that the selected area adequately achieves the intended biodiversity conservation and offset objectives.</p>	<p>Biodiversity Offset Guidelines are not applicable but used as guidance for the BCP. The BCP</p> <p>The site was selected based on its proximity to the project area, this will allow for concurrent mitigation and compensation without the time delay of securing, purchasing and investigating a new site. Similarly, it secures habitat for species of conservation concern currently found within the development footprint. An adjacent compensation area has the advantage that species displaced during construction activities can relocate into the compensation area or be actively moved.</p> <p>There are existing studies as well as the specialist studies by specialists for the Berth 605 area that confirm the suitability of the site for compensation due to its habitat composition and the evidence of the vegetation at the site to re-establish with time.</p> <p>The development of the 600 series basin 20 years ago</p>	

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					resulted in the entire project area being infilled and hard surfaced however within a 20-year period various habitat units have re-established with little to no management measures in place. In addition, the tidal pool was created by a pipe fed to the system. This suggests that the surrounding compensation area boasts similar re-establishment features and will inevitably regenerate.	
8	SDCEA	SDCEA	12 May 2026	<p>Formal objection to the proposed development of Berth 605 and associated infrastructure in support of the Container Handling Facility at the Port of Richards Bay</p> <p>1. Introduction</p> <p>We hereby submit this formal objection to the proposed Development of Berth 605 and associated infrastructure in support of the Container Handling Facility at the Port of Richards Bay (the proposed development). This objection is lodged on the basis that the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process has failed to adequately identify, assess and mitigate the significant</p>	<p>The objection is acknowledged. The Applicant and the EAP believe that the project was adequately assessed to inform the decision-making process.</p> <p>The process was conducted in according to the EIA Regulations and addressed in Table 1-5 of the EIR.</p> <p>Significant impacts to the coastal and marine environments were thoroughly investigated in several specialist studies included in Appendix G of the EIR.</p>	15 September 2026

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				environmental, social and cumulative impacts associated with the proposed activities, as required by the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996, the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMA), the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, and the National Environmental Management: Integrated Coastal Management Act, 2008 (Act 24 of 2008) (ICMA). We submit that the proposed development poses substantial risks to the marine and coastal environment, surrounding communities and existing ecological systems within Richards Bay, and that the current EIA process does not satisfy the legal threshold for informed, lawful and constitutionally compliant environmental decision-making.		
8	SDCEA	SDCEA	12 May 2026	<p>2. Failure to adequately assess environmental impacts</p> <p>The proposed dredging, quay construction, berth expansion and associated marine infrastructure activities will result in significant environmental degradation within the marine and coastal receiving environment. The EIA documentation acknowledges activities that may</p>	<p>According to the Estuarine and Marine Ecology Report (Appendix G4 of the EIR), several impacts were identified and assessed but none were considered to be fatal flaws to the project.</p> <p>Within the context of the project, the proposed Berth 605 is part of a long-term</p>	31 July 2026

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				<p>increase turbidity, disturb potentially contaminated sediments, alter hydrodynamic and sediment transport processes, and negatively impact water quality and marine ecological functioning.</p> <p>These impacts have the potential to adversely affect marine biodiversity, benthic habitats, fish breeding and nursery areas, estuarine functioning and broader coastal ecosystem integrity. Such impacts are particularly concerning given the ecological sensitivity of the Richards Bay coastal and marine environment and the cumulative industrial pressures already affecting the area.</p> <p>Section 2(4)(a)(i), (ii), (vii) and (viii) of NEMA provides that environmental management must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> place people and their needs at the forefront of environmental management; avoid pollution and ecological degradation; apply a risk-averse and precautionary approach; and anticipate and prevent negative environmental impacts wherever possible. 	<p>Masterplan for the PoRB. Its location is within an existing port where there is no public access. Therefore, people and their needs at the forefront of environmental management was considered but the negative impact on people in this instance is negligible therefore was not further assessed.</p> <p>The specialist studies and the EIR demonstrate that mitigation measures alone could not accommodate for the residual impacts of the project therefore avoiding certain impacts was not possible. Therefore, a Biodiversity Compensation Plan was required.</p> <p>The design of the berth and associated infrastructure considered a design with the least environmental impact whilst still fulfilling the purpose of the project which is to construct a new berth and quay wall. The EIR contains sufficient information detailing the alternatives that were considered to satisfy the requirements of NEMA.</p>	

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				We submit that the EIA fails to adequately demonstrate how these principles have been meaningfully applied in the assessment and proposed mitigation measures.	The S&EIR process also identified and assessed several impacts associated with the project so that a holistic approach to the project is formed. it was concluded by the specialists and EAP that there are in fact impacts that cannot be fully mitigated against therefore a BCP is required. This is aligned to the mitigation hierarchy.	
8	SDCEA	SDCEA	12 May 2026	<p>3. Inadequate assessment of cumulative impacts</p> <p>The Port of Richards Bay and its surrounding environment are already subject to extensive industrial development, including other port expansion projects, shipping activities, industrial emissions, habitat transformation and associated pollution burdens. The proposed development cannot lawfully be assessed in isolation from these existing and reasonably foreseeable cumulative impacts.</p> <p>Section 24O(1)(b)(iii) of NEMA expressly requires the competent authority to consider cumulative impacts before granting environmental</p>	<p>Cumulative impacts/effects refer to impacts/effects of past, present, or reasonably foreseeable future projects or activities that could have an incremental impact/effect via the same pathway and could, therefore, result in a change of greater or lesser significance than the significance of impacts/effects assessed for the Berth 605 project in isolation.</p> <p>TNPA has outlined intended infrastructure developments in the Port of Richards Bay in the short- (present- 2032), medium- (2032-2052) and long-term (beyond 2052). The</p>	15 September 2026

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				<p>authorisation. Furthermore, Regulation 31(2)(l) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 requires an assessment of cumulative impacts in relation to the proposed development.</p> <p>Despite these legal obligations, the EIA documentation fails to provide a sufficiently detailed cumulative impact assessment addressing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ cumulative marine ecological degradation; ■ cumulative air quality impacts; ■ cumulative greenhouse gas emissions; ■ increased shipping-related impacts; ■ cumulative noise pollution; ■ impacts on surrounding communities and livelihoods (more the local fisher folks); and ■ long-term ecosystem resilience. <p>The absence of a comprehensive cumulative impact assessment renders the decision-making process procedurally and substantively deficient.</p>	<p>planned infrastructure developments in the short- and medium-term in the most recent iteration of the Port of Richards Masterplan are outlined in the EIR, as are other developments contemplated by other project proponents. The way these developments will alter the physical layout of the port compared to the existing layout is shown Figure 2-3 of the EIR.</p> <p>Cumulative marine impacts have been addressed in the Estuarine and Marine Ecology Assessment (Appendix G4).</p> <p>Cumulative air quality impacts and GHG emissions have been addressed in the Climate Change Impact Assessment (Appendix G12).</p> <p>The new berth is required to meet the need for a CHF at the PoRB. Shipping related impacts are outside the scope of the EIR and have been considered in the overall Masterplan.</p> <p>Given the nature of the site within the existing port, the</p>	

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					<p>cumulative noise impacts have been assessed to be Very Low post mitigation (Refer to the Acoustics Assessment Appendix G13).</p> <p>The port has restricted access therefore the negative impacts to surrounding communities will be negligible.</p> <p>Long term ecosystem resilience has been assessed in the various specialists reports and summarised in the EIA section of the EIR.</p>	
8	SDCEA	SDCEA	12 May 2026	<p>4. Impacts on coastal ecological integrity and climate resilience</p> <p>The proposed development will significantly alter the coastal dynamics, sediment movement and hydrodynamic processes within the harbour and surrounding coastal environment. These impacts will in turn increase erosion risks, destabilise coastal systems and undermine long-term climate resilience in the context of sea-level rise and increasingly severe climate-related events.</p>	<p>The Wave Climate and Shoreline Change Assessment (Appendix G16) assessed the expected changes to the inshore wave climate, resulting alterations in sediment transport, and potential shoreline changes.</p> <p>The projects' vulnerability to climate change and its impact on climate change has been assessed in the Climate Change Impact Assessment (Appendix G12).</p>	15 September 2026

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				<p>Section 63 of ICMA requires that coastal management and development decisions protect coastal public property, coastal ecosystems and the natural functioning of the coastal environment. As, the Port of Richards Bay is classified as an estuarine bay, that is characterised by a strong marine influence due to a permanent tidal connection to the sea and is of National ecological and conservation importance. How will the project then preserve this national importance area? Section 2(4)(r) of NEMA further requires that sensitive, vulnerable and highly dynamic ecosystems receive special attention in management and planning procedures.</p> <p>We submit that the EIA has failed to adequately assess:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ long-term climate change impacts; ■ coastal vulnerability and resilience; ■ the implications of sea-level rise; ■ cumulative impacts on coastal ecological functioning; and ■ whether the proposed mitigation measures are realistically capable of preventing irreversible harm. 	<p>The impacts on the marine aspects of the project have been assessed in the Estuarine and Marine Ecology Assessment (Appendix G4).</p> <p>The compensation site will be registered as a conservation servitude and exempt from further development.</p>	

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8	SDCEA	SDCEA	12 May 2026	<p>5. Air quality, noise and community health impacts</p> <p>The proposed container handling facility and associated increase in shipping and freight activities that will contribute to an increased air pollution, greenhouse gas emissions, dust generation and noise impacts affecting surrounding communities.</p> <p>This is particularly concerning given the existing industrial pollution burden experienced by communities within and around Richards Bay. The report does not adequately assess the cumulative health implications associated with increased industrialisation and transport-related emissions.</p> <p>Section 24 of the Constitution guarantees everyone the right to an environment that is not harmful to their health or well-being. This constitutional right imposes a legal obligation on the competent authority to ensure that environmental authorisation is not granted where significant risks to human health and environmental integrity remain insufficiently assessed or mitigated.</p>	<p>The CHF falls outside the scope of this EIR and will be assessed in a separate S&EIR process.</p> <p>The new berth is located within the port away from sensitive receptors and communities therefore impact on surrounding communities is negligible.</p>	15 September 2026

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8	SDCEA	SDCEA	12 May 2026	<p>6. Impacts on livelihoods and environmental justice</p> <p>The proposed development may very well adversely affect small-scale fishers, local communities and other persons whose livelihoods and cultural practices are dependent on healthy marine and coastal ecosystems.</p> <p>Section 2(4)(c) of NEMA requires environmental justice to be pursued so that adverse environmental impacts are not disproportionately borne by vulnerable and historically disadvantaged communities.</p> <p>We submit that the EIA process has failed to adequately assess:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ impacts on subsistence and small-scale fishing activities; ■ socio-economic vulnerability; ■ environmental justice implications; and ■ the cumulative social impacts associated with continued industrial expansion within Richards Bay. 	<p>The port is a restricted access area therefore small-scale fishers and communities do not have access to the proposed project area or immediately associated waters within the port environment. Refer to Section 6.3.7 of the Estuarine and Marine Ecology Report which describes the investigation undertaken by the CSIR for the Berth 306 which inevitably concluded that dredging activities and offshore dredge disposal did not obviously benefit nor compromise the fishes retained by the offshore line fishery.</p> <p>The port is located alongside the Richards Bay IDZ which is an industrial zone designated for industrial purposes. There are no sensitive receptors within close proximity to the project area therefore socio-economic vulnerability was not assessed in the EIR.</p> <p>The Economics Assessment (Appendix G11) assessed the socio-economic impact of the project and the impacts for the</p>	15 September 2026

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
					local communities were predominantly positive.	
8	SDCEA	SDCEA	12 May 2026	<p>7. Failure to adequately consider feasible alternatives</p> <p>The consideration of feasible and reasonable alternatives is a mandatory requirement under the EIA Regulations, 2014 and forms a fundamental component of lawful environmental decision-making.</p> <p>The EIA documentation fails to demonstrate that genuine consideration has been given to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ less environmentally harmful alternatives; ■ reduced-scale development options; ■ alternative infrastructure configurations; ■ alternatives that minimise dredging impacts; and ■ alternatives that better protect ecological integrity and community interests. ■ The failure to meaningfully assess alternatives undermines the legality and rationality of the EIA process. 	Section 2.3 of the EIR presents a summary of the alternatives considered for the project. This section is supported by a pre-feasibility assessment and a Multi-Criteria Assessment in which several options for layout, configuration, vessel size, throughput, etc were assessed by the engineering and environmental teams before narrowing the alternatives to those presented in the EIR.	15 September 2026

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8	SDCEA	SDCEA	12 May 2026	<p>8. Application of the precautionary principle</p> <p>The precautionary principle is a foundational principle of South African environmental law. Section 2(4)(a)(vii) of NEMA requires a risk-averse and cautious approach to be applied where there is uncertainty regarding environmental consequences.</p> <p>Given:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the ecological sensitivity of the receiving environment; the uncertainty surrounding long-term cumulative impacts; the existing industrial pressures within Richards Bay; and the potentially irreversible nature of marine and coastal degradation, the competent authority cannot lawfully grant environmental authorisation unless it is satisfied that all significant impacts have been comprehensively assessed and can be effectively avoided, minimised or mitigated. 	<p>The S&EIR process aimed to identify and assess all potential impacts of the project thereby eliminating the uncertainty associated with the precautionary principle. Parts of the project area has been deemed sensitive and the proposed measure to make up for the lost sensitive environment, is to compensate for its loss.</p> <p>The Estuarine and Marine Ecology Report presents no findings of permanent impact to the marine environment and recommended compensation of the tidal pool area be investigated. The Biodiversity Compensation Plan is found in Appendix G16 of the EIR.</p> <p>The project forms part of the PoRB Masterplan which is reflected in the city's IDP therefore the city views the project as one that is required for continued economic growth and development.</p>	15 September 2026
8	SDCEA	SDCEA	12 May 2026	9. Language barrier:	The project was announced in English and isiZulu and there	15 September 2026

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				<p>The failure to provide the project reports in isiZulu, the primary language spoken by the majority of communities within the uMhlathuze Local Municipality, constitutes a direct infringement of the principle of informed and meaningful public participation. Technical environmental reports are already complex and difficult for ordinary community members to engage with; restricting these documents exclusively to English creates an additional barrier that effectively excludes and silences those most likely to experience the project's environmental, social and livelihood impacts.</p> <p>In terms of the applicable Public Participation Guidelines, the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) is obligated to ensure that the language used in notices and project information is understandable to the affected persons and communities. The failure to translate, at minimum, the Executive Summary and the Plan of Study for the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) undermine the legitimacy of the participation process and renders it public participation in</p>	<p>were no further requests for the report to be made available in isiZulu.</p> <p>If requested by a registered I&AP, the report would have been made available in isiZulu. However, there was little attention received from local community members following the PPP.</p> <p>Any requests made would have been accommodated for. Due process to meet the minimum requirements of the EIA Regulations were complied with to conclude a lawful PPP.</p>	

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				<p>form rather than substance. Meaningful engagement cannot reasonably occur were fishers, local residents, traditional leaders and other Interested and Affected Parties must first overcome a language barrier merely to understand the nature, extent and implications of the proposed dredging and regasification activities within their area.</p> <p>Accordingly, we submit that the current public participation process cannot be regarded as lawful, fair or compliant until the EAP has taken proactive measures to facilitate genuine community understanding through translated documentation and inclusive engagement processes conducted in the relevant local language(s).</p> <p>Public participation in environmental decision-making is not a discretionary procedural exercise or a mere administrative formality. It is a constitutional and statutory requirement grounded in the principles of transparency, accountability and environmental justice. The applicable legal framework requires far more than the circulation of notices, online publications or technical summaries; it demands a process that is accessible,</p>		

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				inclusive, substantive and meaningful to the lived realities of affected communities. Any environmental authorisation granted on the basis of the current deficient process would therefore be procedurally unfair, inconsistent with constitutional obligations, and susceptible to legal challenge.		
8	SDCEA	SDCEA	12 May 2026	<p>10. Conclusion</p> <p>In light of the above, we submit that the proposed Development of Berth 605 and associated infrastructure in support of the Container Handling Facility at the Port of Richards Bay does not comply with the requirements of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ section 24 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996; ■ the National Environmental Management Act, 1998; ■ the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014; and ■ the National Environmental Management: Integrated Coastal Management Act, 2008. <p>Accordingly, we formally object to the proposed development and submit that environmental authorisation</p>	<p>It is the opinion of the EAP and specialists that all significant impacts were identified and assessed during the EIA process and due process was followed throughout the S&EIR process.</p> <p>We trust that the responses and the Final EIR will provide sufficient information to SDCEA to address the concerns and comments raised.</p>	15 September 2026

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				should not be granted unless and until all identified legal, environmental, cumulative and socio-economic deficiencies have been comprehensively addressed through a lawful, transparent and scientifically robust assessment process.		
9	Amkela Chiya	DFFE: KZN Forestry Resource Protection	19 May 2026	<p>The Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) appreciate 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.</p> <p>The principles of the Act in Section 3 state clearly that "...natural forests must not be destroyed save in exceptional circumstances where, in the opinion of the Minister, a proposed new land use is preferable in terms of its economic, social or environmental benefits". This prescribes that no development affecting forests may be</p>	This comment is acknowledged, no response required	-

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				allowed unless “exceptional circumstances” can be proven, it is the responsibility of the applicant to prove the said principle.		
9	Amkela Chiya	DFFE: KZN Forestry Resource Protection	19 May 2026	<p>Upon review of the document (Draft Environmental Impact Assessment) and the Biodiversity Compensation Plan (BCP), received, the proposed project falls within Critical Biodiversity Area 1 (irreplaceable), which are areas that are crucial for conserving biodiversity and maintaining ecosystem functioning. The proposed development could result in irreversible loss of ecosystems or species. Such impacts are deemed unacceptable and may render the project fatally flawed.</p>	<p>This comment is acknowledged however the DFFE Forestry Officials conducted a site visit with TNPA and WSP on 14 November 2025 amongst other engagements. The DFFE officials present did not express their objection or unacceptability of the project.</p> <p>Following the site visit, the BCP was presented to the BOG in 3 engagement sessions which the DFFE Forestry Department was present and there was no further objection raised.</p> <p>The sessions aimed at stimulating discussion around the BCP and to obtain feedback from the relevant departments ahead of the release of the Draft EIR.</p> <p>The BCP was developed and included as Appendix G16 of the Draft EIR to address the irreversible loss associated with the project. It was also</p>	15 September 2026

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					shared with the BOG prior to the release of the Draft EIR into the public domain in an attempt to obtain preliminary comments.	
9	Amkela Chiya	DFFE: KZN Forestry Resource Protection	19 May 2026	<p>The proposed project site falls within a Key Biodiversity Area, where the following vegetation types will be affected: Mangrove Forests (Endangered), Maputaland Coast Forest (Endangered), and Coastal Forest (Near Threatened). It should be noted that the proposed development is located within a highly sensitive biodiversity environment that is identified as of conservation significance.</p> <p>Approximately a total of 11,01 ha of habitat loss will require compensation (coastal forest 5,17ha, coastal grassland 3,78 and which 2,06ha of tidal pool and mangrove habitat will be lost. Therefore, a compensation plan needs to be developed for the proposed development.</p>	The BCP has been revised to yield a 1:1 compensation ratio. No additional land in proximity to Berth 605 could be secured without further constraining the 2052 PoRB Master Plan. .	15 September 2026
9	Amkela Chiya	DFFE: KZN Forestry Resource Protection	19 May 2026	The Department recommends that, before the finalisation of the Environmental Impact Assessment report:	The BCP has been revised to include a larger area for compensation achieving a 1:1 ratio.. No additional land in proximity to Berth 605 could be	15 September 2026

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				<p>a) A suitable area in size that will compensate for the habitat loss should be identified by the developer, as the BCP identifies a requirement for approximately 11.01 ha of compensation habitat associated with the loss of mangrove habitat, coastal forest and coastal grassland systems. However, the currently identified compensation area appears capable of accommodating only approximately 7 ha.</p> <p>b) A detailed/sufficient ratio of compensation for loss of Mangrove Forest should be explored to account for the loss of 2.06 ha of Mangrove Forest.</p> <p>c) The recommended compensation ratio of 1:1 as per the BCP for all vegetation and habitat types needs to be revised as it would not account for the habitat loss from the proposed development.</p> <p>d) The specialist should provide a revised and fully substantiated compensation proposal capable of meeting the identified compensation requirements in full.</p> <p>e) Further consultation with the relevant stakeholders is required for</p>	secured without further constraining the 2052 PoRB Master Plan.	

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				an agreed compensation plan for the habitat loss for the proposed development.		
10	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: EIA Directorate	8 June 2026	<p>The final Scoping Report (SR) dated January 2025, received by the Department on 20 January 2025, the acceptance of the final SR dated 28 February 2025, your request for extension in terms of Regulation 3(7) of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations, as amended (the EIA Regulations), dated 06 May 2025, approved by the Department on 27 May 2025, your second request for extension in terms of Regulation 3(7) of the EIA Regulations dated 18 July 2025, the Department's letter dated on 13 August 2025 and the draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) received by the Department on 07 May 2026.</p> <p>The submission of the draft EIAR is in terms of Regulation 21(2) of the EIA Regulations, following the lapsing of the final SR (DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2656). The final SR was accepted on 28 February 2025.</p>	This comment is noted, no response required.	-
10	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: EIA Directorate	8 June 2026	1 Application Form	-	-

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				a) The draft EIAR did not address the comments made in the acceptance of the final SR28 dated February 2025, therefore some of the comments on listed activities are repeated below for easy reference.		
10	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: EIA Directorate	8 June 2026	<p>b) It is noted that the construction of the new berth pocket and quay wall will require backfill infill. Where will the infill material be obtained from? Will there be an offshore borrow pit that will require a mining permit in terms of section 27 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002) or renewal thereof. If so, please consider the applicability of Activity 21 of Listing Notice</p> <p>1 of the EIA Regulations. Although the authorisation for the borrow pit will be sought from the Department of Minerals and Energy, background information must be scoped in this EIA.</p>	The excavated landside material will be used to infill therefore no borrow pits will be required and no applications from the DMPR will be sought.	15 September 2026
10	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: EIA Directorate	8 June 2026	c) It is noted that the project will use an existing site for the disposal of dredged materials, therefore a Dumping Permit will not be required for such offsite disposal under the	Please see Appendix I for the existing permit.	15 September 2026

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				National Environmental Management: Integrated Coastal Management Act, 2008 (Act No. 24 of 2008). Please provide proof that the existing site is authorised for disposal of dredged material.		
10	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: EIA Directorate	8 June 2026	d) It is also possible that certain activities may be no longer relevant or necessary after the outcome of specialist studies. Ensure that only listed activities that are triggered by this development are applied for in the EIAR for the proposed project. The EIAR must assess the correct sub-listed activity for each listed activity applied for and include thresholds. The onus is on the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) and applicant to ensure that no other activities are triggered, and the correct activities are applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure (including thresholds) as described in the project description.	The EIR contains only applicable listed activities. Those no longer relevant have been removed.	
10	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: EIA Directorate	8 June 2026	e) If the activities applied for in the application form differ from those mentioned in the final EIAR, an amended application form must be submitted. Please note that the Department's application form	The application form submitted with the Draft EIR has not changed therefore has been resubmitted with the Final EIR	15 September 2026

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				<p>template has been amended recently and can be downloaded from the following link https://www.dffe.gov.za/documents/forms .</p> <p>f) The description of the listed activities must be project specific and include thresholds of the proposed activities where possible.</p>		
10	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: EIA Directorate	8 June 2026	<p>2 Public Participation Process</p> <p>a) Please ensure that comments from all relevant stakeholders are submitted to the Department with the final EIAR. This includes but not limited to the; Provincial Department, South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA), Earthlife Africa, Provincial Heritage Resources Authority; Wildlife and Environment Society of SA (WESSA); Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, Local alliances or environmental bodies; South African Civil Aviation Authority, Birdlife South Africa, as well as the affected district and local municipalities.</p>	Comments from all relevant stakeholders are submitted as part of the Public Participation Report included in Appendix D of the EIR.	15 September 2026
10	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: EIA Directorate	8 June 2026	b) Ensure that the various directorates within this Department are included for comment such as, Air Quality, Climate Change, Oceans and Coast, Water	The relevant departments have been listed as Registered I&APs and comments received	15 September 2026

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				<p>Sources and Wetlands Conservation Directorate, Biodiversity and Conservation and Protected Areas are included as I&APs. The EAP must ensure that written comment is received from all relevant government stakeholders.</p> <p>Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment (DFFE): Biodiversity Planning and Conservation (BCAdmin@dffe.gov.za)</p> <p>Protected Areas Directorate (██████████ for attention Mr Thivhulawi Nethononda),</p> <p>Water Sources and Wetlands Conservation Directorate (██████████ for attention Mr Stanley Tshitwamulomoni)</p> <p>Climate Change Mitigation – Dr Mapula Tshangela - ██████████, Faith Nkohl - ██████████ Air Quality – Dr Patience Gwaze, Chief Director: Air Quality Management: ██████████ Oceans and Coast – Lona Nondaka - ██████████; Jessica Mans - ██████████</p>	<p>have been included in Appendix D of the EIR.</p> <p>It is assumed that the NEAS system allowed for all the DFFE Departments to gain access to the report therefore the report was not physically submitted to some of these departments.</p>	

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10	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: EIA Directorate	8 June 2026	c) Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the final EIAR. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof must be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.	Proof of correspondence and comments received have been included in Appendix D of the EIR	15 September 2026
10	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: EIA Directorate	8 June 2026	d) The EAP must ensure that all documents pertaining to the proposed development are fully accessible and free of technical errors.	All documents required have been submitted in the Final EIR and has been reviewed for technical flaws prior to submission	15 September 2026
10	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: EIA Directorate	8 June 2026	e) The comments and response trail report (C&R) must be submitted with the final EIAR and subsequent documentation. The C&R report must incorporate all comments received for this development, including comments on the draft SR and comments on the acceptance of the final SR. The C&R report must be a separate document from the main report. The comment and responses report must address all comment received and dated chronologically, while allowing the reader to follow how the issues have been addressed and translated into the report findings. The report must include responses to the I&APs.	The CRR is submitted as part of the PPP Report and is included in Appendix D of the Final EIR	15 September 2026

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10	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: EIA Directorate	8 June 2026	f) Please ensure that all issues raised, and comments received during the circulation of the draft EIAR from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction (including this Department's comments) in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed. Comments made by I&APs must be comprehensively captured (copy verbatim if required) and responded to clearly and fully. Please note that a response such as "Noted" is not regarded as an adequate response to I&AP's comments.	It is the opinion of the EAP that all comments raised have been adequately addressed	15 September 2026
10	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: EIA Directorate	8 June 2026	g) The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulations 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations.	Regulations 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations have been adhered to in order to fulfil the minimum requirements for the PPP as set out in the EIA Regulations.	15 September 2026
10	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: EIA Directorate	8 June 2026	3. Layout maps: a) All available biodiversity information must be used in the finalisation of the final layout map. Existing infrastructure must be used as far as possible, e.g. roads.	A final layout map has been included in Appendix E of the Final EIR	15 September 2026

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				b) It must be emphasised that the final EIAR must include a final layout map which adheres to specialist recommendations as well as the identified no-go areas must be included. Failure to provide a final layout map may be a fatal flaw to the decision-making process.		
10	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: EIA Directorate	8 June 2026	<p>4. Offsets</p> <p>a) In the previously lapsed application (DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2656), the EAP requested an extension in terms of Regulation 3(7) of the EIA Regulations, for submission of the final EIAR. The motivation provided was that the draft EIAR identified the need for biodiversity offsets/compensation to address impacts on terrestrial biodiversity, avifauna, and estuarine/marine environments. In refusing the extension request, the Department emphasised that the biodiversity offsetting process requires extensive planning, stakeholder engagement, and sufficient time to demonstrate that all reasonable mitigation measures and project alternatives had been exhausted prior to reliance on biodiversity offsets. The Department anticipated that</p>	The PPP Report in Appendix D of the EIR includes the meetings of minutes and proof of site visits undertaken with members of the BOG.	15 September 2026

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				stakeholder engagements and biodiversity-led alternatives investigations would be undertaken before continuation of this application process. However, the draft EIAR does not adequately demonstrate that this was undertaken.		
10	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: EIA Directorate	8 June 2026	<p>b) The Department notes the statement contained in the Terrestrial Biodiversity Impact Assessment that “all mitigation alternatives have been considered and evaluated” and that “there is no practical way to reduce the loss of this ecosystem given the envisioned layout.” However, upon review of the draft EIAR and specialist studies, the Department is not satisfied that the alternatives assessment adequately considered biodiversity-led avoidance and minimisation measures aimed specifically at reducing impacts on CBA1: Irreplaceable habitat, mangrove systems, coastal forests, estuarine habitats, and associated species of conservation concern.</p> <p>The alternatives identified in the draft EIAR appear to focus predominantly on engineering, infrastructure, operational, and technology-related considerations, including quay wall</p>	<p>Given that the new berth is located within the existing port within an already previously developed footprint, the alternatives for the project were predominantly engineering and design driven.</p> <p>The EAP and ecological specialist team remain of the view that development that is contained within a previously disturbed footprint (even where ecological function has begun to return to that footprint) is preferable to development within Greenfields areas not previously disturbed.</p>	15 September 2026

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				design, scour protection, dredge depth, disposal methods, stormwater, sewerage, rail design, electricity supply, and the location and capacity of the Container Handling Facility (CHF). While these alternatives may influence the technical feasibility and operational efficiency of the project, the Department is not satisfied that they sufficiently constitute biodiversity-driven alternatives in terms of the mitigation hierarchy, particularly the requirement to first avoid impacts before considering offsets.		
10	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: EIA Directorate	8 June 2026	<p>The Department is therefore of the view that the alternatives assessment is insufficiently exhaustive to justify the proposed biodiversity offset. The draft EIAR does not clearly demonstrate that reasonable and feasible alternatives were investigated to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ avoid or reduce impacts on CBA1: Irreplaceable areas and high sensitivity habitats; ■ reduce the extent of dredging and associated infrastructure footprints; ■ redesign or reposition infrastructure to avoid mangrove, estuarine, and coastal forest habitat; 	<p>The EAP and ecological specialist team remain of the view that development that is contained within a previously disturbed footprint (even where ecological function has begun to return to that footprint) is preferable to development within Greenfields areas not previously disturbed.</p> <p>All components of the proposed development footprint have previously been disturbed including the caisson pool (previously excavated / dredged), Berth 605 berth basin (previously cleared of</p>	15 September 2026

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> reduce the footprint of temporary infrastructure and stockpile areas; phase development to minimise habitat disturbance; or investigate reduced-capacity, modified layout, or alternative configuration options that may reduce biodiversity impacts. 	vegetation, subsequently reshaped, naturally revegetated) and landside infrastructure footprint (crossed by multiple roads, contains piles of previous surplus excavated materials / construction materials).	
10	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: EIA Directorate	8 June 2026	<p>Furthermore, the reliance on the “envisioned layout” as justification for unavoidable biodiversity loss raises concern, as it suggests that the project layout may have been treated as a fixed constraint rather than being iteratively informed by environmental sensitivities and the outcomes of specialist studies.</p> <p>The mitigation hierarchy requires that project design be informed by environmental constraints from the outset, particularly where irreplaceable biodiversity areas are affected.</p>	<p>Please see the response immediately above.</p> <p>The pre-feasibility stage included a multi criteria assessment in which all options and alternatives were rated according to various criteria including environmental. Based on the outcome of this assessment, only the most reasonable and feasible alternatives were put forth and assessed in the EIR. The configuration and repositioning of infrastructure was limited to the available space at the site.</p>	15 September 2026
10	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: EIA Directorate	8 June 2026	<p>Accordingly, the EAP and specialist are required to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> provide a detailed motivation demonstrating how biodiversity 	The EAP and ecological specialist team remain of the view that development that is contained within a previously	15 September 2026

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				<p>considerations informed the project layout and design process;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> identify and assess additional layout, footprint, spatial, and configuration alternatives specifically aimed at avoiding or reducing impacts on sensitive terrestrial and estuarine habitats; demonstrate why avoidance of CBA1: Irreplaceable habitat is not feasible; provide comparative analysis of biodiversity impacts associated with each alternative considered; and justify why the proposed offset approach should be regarded as acceptable considering the residual impacts on irreplaceable biodiversity features. <p>Until such information is provided, the Department is not satisfied that the need for biodiversity offsets has been appropriately justified in terms of the mitigation hierarchy and the requirements of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, and the National Biodiversity Offset Guideline, 2023.</p>	<p>disturbed footprint (even where ecological function has begun to return to that footprint) is preferable to development within Greenfields areas not previously disturbed.</p> <p>All components of the proposed development footprint have previously been disturbed including the caisson pool (previously excavated / dredged), Berth 605 berth basin (previously cleared of vegetation, subsequently reshaped, naturally revegetated) and landside infrastructure footprint (crossed by multiple roads and contains piles of previous surplus excavated materials).</p>	
10	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: EIA Directorate	8 June 2026	c) Notwithstanding the requirement for the EAP/Applicant to reassess and	The site is located within an Estuarine Functional Zone and	15 September 2026

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				adequately justify the need for a biodiversity offset through a comprehensive alternatives assessment and application of the mitigation hierarchy, should a biodiversity offset ultimately be confirmed as necessary, a finalised Biodiversity Offset Plan (BOP) must be submitted as part of the final EIAR. d) While the Department acknowledges the Biodiversity Compensation Plan (Appendix G16), the Department is not satisfied that the report adequately demonstrates compliance with the Guideline or provides sufficient certainty regarding the feasibility, adequacy, and implementation of the proposed offset measures.	therefore the Offset Guidelines do not apply. However, guidance from the EKZNW confirmed that a compensation plan is required rather than an offset. A Final Biodiversity Compensation Plan is included in the Final EIR as Appendix G16. The proposed compensation area will be secured through registration of a conservation servitude.	
10	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: EIA Directorate	8 June 2026	e) The Department notes, inter alia, that: ■ the Biodiversity Compensation Plan appears to rely heavily on habitat recreation and ecological compensation measures associated with artificially created estuarine systems, despite the acknowledged ecological significance and sensitivity of the existing habitats;	All components of the proposed development footprint have previously been disturbed including the caisson pool (previously excavated / dredged), Berth 605 berth basin (previously cleared of vegetation, subsequently reshaped, naturally revegetated) and landside infrastructure footprint (crossed by multiple roads and contains	15 September 2026

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> insufficient evidence has been provided to demonstrate that the proposed compensation measures will achieve no net loss or preferably a net gain of biodiversity, particularly in relation to CBA1: Irreplaceable habitat and threatened ecosystems; the plan does not adequately assess the feasibility, long-term ecological sustainability, success criteria, monitoring requirements, implementation responsibilities, and financial provisioning associated with the proposed compensation measures; no clear indication has been provided regarding the legal securing, management, and long-term protection status of proposed offset areas; the proposed compensation approach does not adequately demonstrate ecological equivalence between impacted habitats and proposed offset or compensation areas; there is insufficient detail regarding offset ratios, calculation methodologies, and the scientific basis for determining adequacy of compensation measures; and 	<p>piles of previous surplus excavated materials).</p> <p>The biodiversity compensation plan has been updated to include an extended area thereby achieving a 1:1 compensation ratio.</p> <p>The proposed compensation area will be secured through registration of a conservation servitude.</p>	

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the plan does not provide sufficient evidence of agreement in principle or endorsement from the relevant conservation authorities, including inter-alia, DFFE: Biodiversity Conservation, Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, KZN Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs regarding the acceptability of the proposed offset approach. 		
10	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: EIA Directorate	8 June 2026	<p>f) The Department further notes that the submitted compensation plan appears to rely, in part, on future rehabilitation or habitat creation opportunities that remain conceptual and have not yet been secured, assessed, or approved by the relevant conservation/management authorities. In the absence of identified and secured offset receiving areas, the Biodiversity Compensation Plan (BCP) remains largely conceptual and does not constitute an implementable Biodiversity Offset Plan as contemplated in the National Biodiversity Offset Guideline, 2023.</p>	<p>The compensation area was initially identified as a site for future development but has since been removed from the PDFP and will be protected through registration of a conservation servitude on the area. It has now been sterilised for the purpose of compensation for the Berth 605 project.</p> <p>It was agreed with the RB BOG that a compensation plan would be the appropriate vehicle as the national offset guideline (2023) relates to terrestrial environments, not estuarine environments.</p>	15 September 2026

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
					Guidance was sought from the EKZNW on the compensation plan. After numerous engagements with the BOG and EKZNW, a Final Compensation Plan was compiled and included in the Final EIR. This includes design of the proposed excavated area.	
10	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: EIA Directorate	8 June 2026	g) Furthermore, while the report acknowledges the presence of irreplaceable biodiversity features and threatened ecosystems, it does not adequately assess whether the residual impacts may remain unacceptable notwithstanding proposed offsets. The National Biodiversity Offset Guideline recognises that there are circumstances where impacts on irreplaceable biodiversity features may constitute a fatal flaw and may not be appropriate for offsetting.	<p>The report acknowledges habitat types that are sensitive. As represented within the development footprint all of these habitat types occur on land that was completely cleared during construction on the development site 20 years ago. As such these habitat types are in a state of re-establishment themselves.</p> <p>This is a key driver to the proposed compensation approach. Much of the identified compensation area (the terrestrial ecosystem components) were also disturbed during the construction that took place in 2006. These areas contain little soil and recovering indigenous</p>	15 September 2026

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
					<p>vegetation is in many instances rooted into previously excavated surplus construction materials. This, in our view, contribute strongly to the suitability of the site as a compensation area because there is great opportunity to improve long-term ecological function within these habitats.</p> <p>The following factors contributed to the EAP and specialists confirming that despite the residual impacts and the proposed compensation the project is not considered fatally flawed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The site (berth basin and proposed compensation area) has been completely disturbed during creation of the original port in 1975 . ■ The site has been repeatedly disturbed since original port development including during development of the 600 series basin when a residual borrow pit was reshaped 	

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
					<p>into what is currently referred to as the tidal pool.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The final EIA report and compensation plan present a photographic progression from before original port development through to current date. This clearly shows the disturbance at the site. All of the proposed development areas have previously been disturbed while the majority of the proposed compensation area has also previously been disturbed. ■ The site is not a pristine CBA1 and there is a mixture of alien invasives amongst the grassland, forest and mangroves. ■ Mangroves in the port have become invasive and are establishing exponentially. ■ The Offset Guidelines was used as guidance however strict adherence to it could not be achieved as the site falls within the EFZ and is not a terrestrial site. It is largely influenced by the EFZ. 	

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The development of the 600 series basin was approximately 20 years ago, since then the site has re-established without any outside management measures. This increases the confidence levels of the site's regenerative ability. 	
10	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: EIA Directorate	8 June 2026	<p>h) The Department notes that the BCP places considerable emphasis on the ecological functionality of the existing tidal pool and the possibility of recreating similar habitat elsewhere within the Port.</p> <p>However, the report does not provide sufficient scientific evidence demonstrating that recreated or artificial habitats would achieve ecological equivalence to the existing estuarine and mangrove systems proposed to be lost.</p> <p>Insufficient information is provided regarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the long-term ecological viability and sustainability of proposed compensation areas; measurable no-net-loss or net-gain outcomes; 	<p>The existing tidal pool was created and did not naturally exist prior to the development of the 600 series basin (refer to historic imagery within the EIR).</p> <p>As such, the vegetation around the tidal pool established without any interventions or management measures. This increases the confidence of the site to re-establish even without being managed. Therefore, there is a general high confidence in the long-term ecological viability and sustainability of the compensation areas.</p> <p>The BCP has been revised to achieve an overall 1:1 compensation ratio.</p>	15 September 2026

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ecological equivalence of replacement habitats; how realistic and practical the mitigation measure is and what offset implementation timelines and lag effects; costly commitments and assurances to implement this mitigation measure financial provisioning, long-term management responsibilities; all the risks, gaps, uncertainties and assumptions; monitoring, auditing, adaptive management, and success criteria; and legally secured protection mechanisms for proposed offset areas. 	The BCP has been revised to include further details on the replacement habitats, implementation timelines, commitments, monitoring and management measures and information on protection of the compensation areas.	
10	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: EIA Directorate	8 June 2026	<p>i) Therefore, it is unclear how the applicant endeavours to submit a final Biodiversity Offset Plan with the final EIAR given the shortcomings of the draft Compensation Plan submitted. Please note that providing time constraints as a limitation will not be accepted. It is further emphasised that the final EIAR must include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A detailed finalised Biodiversity Offset Plan and scientifically defensible, detailing all necessary 	<p>This comment raised by the Department is acknowledged and the BCP has been revised accordingly.</p> <p>It must be noted that the changes to the BCP is considered immaterial and therefore the Draft EIR was not released for an additional comment period.</p>	15 September 2026

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				<p>information which meets the requirements of the National Biodiversity Offset Guideline, 23 June 2023, including, inter alia, details on the nature and extent of the offset, the total loss of biodiversity versus the net gain, where the loss will occur and where it will be replaced, be provided in order to able to make an informed decision on the application. Motivation for the offset and proof that the mitigation hierarchy was followed must be provided. Offset Area must have a legal status to ensure area is safe guarded from other development for at least 30 years.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ reassess and justify the need for biodiversity offsets following a comprehensive biodiversity-led alternatives assessment; ■ demonstrate how the mitigation hierarchy has been fully applied, particularly avoidance and minimisation measures; ■ provide detailed offset calculations, ecological equivalence assessments, implementation measures, monitoring commitments, financial provisioning, and long-term governance arrangements; 		

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> demonstrate how the proposed compensation measures will achieve measurable and sustainable biodiversity outcomes consistent with the principles of no net loss or net gain. Legal agreements between the applicant and the management authority that will manage the offset area, indicating that they support the draft agreement in principle, must be signed and submitted together with the final EIAR before a decision can be made on the application. Comments from the DFFE: Biodiversity Conservation, DFFE: Forest Resource Protection, DFFE: IEA, DFFE: Oceans and Coast, Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, KZN Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs, the City of uMhlatuze Local Municipality (Environment Department) commenting specifically on the adequacy and acceptability of the draft Biodiversity Offset Plan for decision making. I&APs must be given an opportunity to comment on the draft Biodiversity Offset Plan and agreements. 		

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The Biodiversity Offset Plan to be submitted including an analysis thereof must be final. Post EA decision making offset requirements/work/studies must be avoided. ■ The EAP must be competent and know the area within which the offset activities are to take place (prior knowledge of the site important) and must provide a reasoned analysis of the adequacy of the final Biodiversity Offset Plan. 		
10	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: EIA Directorate	8 June 2026	<p>5 Specialist studies</p> <p>a) Avifaunal Impact Assessment:</p> <p>The field surveys were undertaken over only four survey days during the summer season between November 2024 and January 2025. The Department is not satisfied that the survey effort is sufficient to comprehensively assess seasonal variability in avifaunal use of the area, particularly in relation to migratory shorebirds, breeding activity, and seasonal abundance patterns. Additional seasonal avifaunal surveys are required to improve confidence in the assessment of migratory, resident, and breeding bird use of the area. The</p>	<p>The avifauna fieldwork was conducted over four field days during the period November 2024-January 2025. The opinion of the specialist is informed by knowledge of the area, fieldwork conducted for other projects (notably bird surveys on the uMhlatuze estuary linked to recent mineral sands mining assessments which included field assessments. The opinion of the specialist is consequently informed by fieldwork effectively conducted over a three-year period, which we consider adequate.</p>	15 September 2026

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				concerns raised above regarding the adequacy, feasibility, and justification of the proposed biodiversity offset approach are reiterated. In particular, the Department notes that insufficient information has been provided regarding avifaunal-specific offset measures, including measurable biodiversity outcomes, and ecological equivalence. Further assessment is also required regarding the implications of habitat transformation on important waterbird habitats and IBA-associated species.		
10	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: EIA Directorate	8 June 2026	<p>b) Freshwater and Aquatic Impact Assessment:</p> <p>The Department notes the following concerns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • no detailed aquatic ecological assessment was undertaken; • the assessment relied partly on desktop delineations due to restricted site access; • the study was undertaken during a single seasonal window only; • the report acknowledges uncertainty regarding freshwater-estuarine boundaries and delineation accuracy; 	<p>There is no freshwater habitat within the project development footprint. Consequently, there are no direct impacts on the freshwater aquatic environment. There is one freshwater wetland located approximately 50m east of Harbour Road which was assessed by a wetland specialist. There is no direct impact to this system.</p> <p>Consequently, no freshwater aquatic assessment was undertaken.</p>	15 September 2026

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the assessment relies substantially on historical datasets and desktop information; and cumulative, indirect, and long-term impacts associated with dredging, infilling, stormwater discharge, sedimentation, and harbour expansion were not adequately assessed. <p>Furthermore, the report does not adequately demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> how the mitigation hierarchy was applied to avoid and minimise impacts on aquatic and estuarine systems; whether less damaging design or layout alternatives were considered; and whether residual impacts on sensitive aquatic ecosystems are considered acceptable, offsetable, or potentially constitute a fatal flaw. <p>Accordingly, the Department requires additional assessment of aquatic and estuarine ecological functioning, cumulative and indirect impacts, seasonal variability, and clearer justification regarding the significance and acceptability of residual impacts before the Department can conclude</p>		

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				that impacts on aquatic ecosystems can be acceptably managed.		
10	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: EIA Directorate	8 June 2026	<p>c) Marine Impact Assessment:</p> <p>The Department notes the following concerns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the proposed development will result in extensive dredging, shoreline modification, infilling, and habitat transformation within sensitive estuarine environments; alternatives considered appear to have been driven primarily by engineering, operational, and cost considerations rather than ecological avoidance; cumulative impacts associated with broader port expansion activities and the Port Masterplan were not sufficiently assessed; the long-term implications for estuarine functioning, connectivity, sediment dynamics, nursery habitats, fisheries support functions, and ecological resilience require further assessment; and insufficient information was provided regarding the feasibility and effectiveness of proposed biodiversity offset or compensation measures. 	<p>The Berth 605 development is the extension of the existing 600 Berth series into an area previously disturbed during higher construction within the port environment and to create a caisson pool at the time that the coal terminal was expanded. The impact of dredging was considered and modelled. The dredge material will be disposed of at an existing authorised offshore dredge disposal site.</p> <p>Cumulative impacts The port masterplan identifies a number of projects for development. Berth 605 is the first of these projects and none of the other projects are scheduled to be constructed at the same time that the current project will be under development.</p> <p>Estuarine nature of the port The PoRB environment is by its very nature an estuarine environment. This is</p>	15 September 2026

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Department is further concerned that the report acknowledges the ecological significance of the tidally influenced pool and associated mangrove habitat adjacent to the Assembly Basin yet does not adequately demonstrate whether impacts to these systems can be acceptably mitigated or offset. Accordingly, the Department requires further biodiversity-led alternatives assessment, clearer demonstration of the application of the mitigation hierarchy, additional cumulative impact assessment, clarification regarding the significance and offset ability of residual impacts, and submission of a scientifically defensible biodiversity offset strategy before the Department can conclude that impacts on estuarine and marine ecosystems can be acceptably managed. 	<p>acknowledged. The Berth 605 development is part of the progressive establishment of the 600 Series Berth and will specifically develop into areas previously disturbed by past construction activity. This is also reported on in the impact assessment. Notwithstanding this, an engineered feature previously created following the construction activity at the site has recovered ecological function because of a piped connection within the intertidal zone allowing the area to fill and spill under tidal influence. This is largely a mangrove habitat and will continue to progress as such on its ecological trajectory. A compensation proposal is included to recreate a similar feature, also connected within the tidal zone to enable similar functionality to develop adjacent to the new Berth development. Given the favourable growth conditions in PoBR evidenced by vegetation community development on</p>	

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
					recovered land parcels since port development	
10	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: EIA Directorate	8 June 2026	<p>d) Wave Climate and Shoreline Change Study:</p> <p>The Department is not satisfied that the assessment adequately assesses the implications of climate change-related risks, including sea level rise, storm surges, increased extreme wave events, and long-term coastal vulnerability, on the proposed development and associated offshore disposal activities.</p> <p>The assessment also appears to rely substantially on historical wave and wind datasets without clearly demonstrating how future climate projections were incorporated into modelling or impact assessment processes. This is a significant concern given the long operational lifespan of port infrastructure and the increasing vulnerability of coastal environments to climate-related impacts. Additional climate resilience and future scenario assessment is therefore required to demonstrate the long-term environmental acceptability and sustainability of the proposed development. A Feasibility Study is</p>	<p>The Climate Change Impact Assessment (Appendix G12) addresses climate change related impacts of the project and on the project.</p> <p>The influence of deposition at the existing authorised site was considered. The existing wave and wind datasets were used as identified in the department's comments. The design extends into the existing Berth 600 series.</p>	15 September 2026

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				required to adequately address how climate change risks such as the sea level rise and costal storm surges will be addressed during the construction and operational phase of the proposed development.		
10	Constance Musemburi	DFFE: EIA Directorate	8 June 2026	<p>6. Environmental Management Programme</p> <p>a) The final EMPr must also include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All recommendations and mitigation measures recorded in the EIAR and the specialist studies conducted. • An environmental sensitivity map indicating environmental sensitive areas and features identified during the assessment process. • Measures to protect hydrological features such as streams, rivers, pans, wetlands, dams and their catchments, and other environmental sensitive areas from construction impacts including the direct or indirect spillage of pollutants. • An alien/invasive plant management report; plant rescue and protection report; and re-vegetation and habitat rehabilitation report and post construction monitoring. 	The Final EMPr addresses these comments adequately.	15 September 2026

#	NAME	ORGANISATION	DATE OF COMMENT	COMMENT/ QUESTION	RESPONSE	DATE OF RESPONSE
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An in-situ search and rescue plan must be developed and implemented for other conservation important species including geophytic species that will be impacted by the construction of the project site. <p>b) In addition to the above, the EMPr must comply with Appendix 4 of the EIA Regulations.</p>		

6

4 WAY FORWARD

The PPP undertaken for the proposed Development of New Berth 605 and Associated Infrastructure was conducted in accordance with the requirements of the NEMA and the EIA Regulations.

The PPP included:

- Identification and registration of relevant Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs);
- Direct notification of stakeholders by email and SMS;
- Publication of advertisements in local newspapers;
- Placement of site notices at publicly accessible locations;
- Placement of project documentation at public venues and online platforms;
- Provision of opportunities for stakeholders to review and comment on the Draft Scoping Report (DSR) and Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR);
- Recording and responding to comments received from stakeholders and organs of state.

The PPP was undertaken throughout both the Scoping Phase and Environmental Impact Reporting Phase and provided stakeholders with a reasonable opportunity to participate in the environmental assessment process.

4.1 CONCLUSION

The PPP undertaken for the proposed project achieved the objectives of stakeholder notification, information sharing and consultation.

All comments received during the public review periods were recorded, considered and responded to by the EAP and relevant specialists where required. Comments received from stakeholders, commenting authorities and organs of state were incorporated into the environmental assessment process and informed the final project documentation where relevant.

Based on the activities undertaken and evidence provided in this report, the EAP is satisfied that the PPP has been conducted in accordance with the applicable legislative requirements and that stakeholders have been afforded a reasonable opportunity to participate in the process.

Following completion of the PPP and finalisation of the environmental assessment documentation, the Final EIR and Final Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) will be submitted to the DFFE for consideration and decision-making.

In accordance with the EIA Regulations, registered stakeholders will be notified of the decision of the Competent Authority and will be informed of their right to appeal the decision within the prescribed timeframes.

Appendix A

DSR - NOTIFICATIONS



Appendix A.1

DSR - REPORT PLACEMENT



TRANSMITTAL

18 November 2024

Reference No. 43102871-

Aquadene Public Library
4 Via Ammannia
Aquadene
Richards Bay
3900

FROM Public Participation Office; WSP Group
Africa (Pty) Ltd
EMAIL gld.pp@wsp.com

SCOPING AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTING PROCESS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW BERTH 605 AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE TO SUPPORT THE CONTAINER HANDLING FACILITY, PORT OF RICHARDS BAY, KWAZULU-NATAL

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☐ Enclosed

☐ Picked Up

☒ Hand Delivered

☐ Other

Quantity	Item	Description
1	Report Richardbay	- Draft Scoping and Environmental Impact Report (SEIR)

Notes

Please advise us if enclosures are not as described.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT REQUIRED:

☒ YES (please sign below) ☐ NO

Zinhle Buthelezi

PM

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central library.docx

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WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd | Registered address: Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City,
Midrand, Gauteng, 1685, South Africa
1999/008928/07



TRANSMITTAL

18 November 2024

Reference No. 43102871-

Umhlatuze Local Municipality Office
Civic Centre Central Business District
5 Mark Strasse
Richards Bay
3900

FROM Public Participation Office; WSP Group
Africa (Pty) Ltd
EMAIL gld.pp@wsp.com

SCOPING AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTING PROCESS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW BERTH 605 AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE TO SUPPORT THE CONTAINER HANDLING FACILITY, PORT OF RICHARDS BAY, KWAZULU-NATAL

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☒ Hand Delivered

☐ Other

Quantity	Item	Description
1	Report Richardbay	- Draft Scoping and Environmental Impact Report (SEIR)

Notes

Please advise us if enclosures are not as described.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT REQUIRED:

☒ YES (please sign below) ☐ NO

PM

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WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd | Registered address: Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City,
Midrand, Gauteng, 1685, South Africa
1999/008928/07



TRANSMITTAL

18 November 2024

Reference No. 43102871-

KZN Department of Economic Development
Tourism and Environmental Affairs
4th Floor Absa Building
Penny Lane
Richards Bay
3900

FROM Public Participation Office; WSP Group
Africa (Pty) Ltd
EMAIL gld.pp@wsp.com

SCOPING AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTING PROCESS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW BERTH 605 AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE TO SUPPORT THE CONTAINER HANDLING FACILITY, PORT OF RICHARDS BAY, KWAZULU-NATAL

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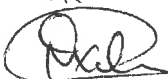
Quantity	Item	Description
1	Report Richardbay	- Draft Scoping and Environmental Impact Report (SEIR)

Notes

Please advise us if enclosures are not as described.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT REQUIRED:

☒ YES (please sign below) ☐ NO

Nokwanda Xulu


PM



TRANSMITTAL

18 November 2024

Reference No. 43102871-

Richards Bay Public Library
Richards Bay Central
Richards Bay
3900

FROM Public Participation Office; WSP Group
Africa (Pty) Ltd
EMAIL gld.pp@wsp.com

SCOPING AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTING PROCESS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW BERTH 605 AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE TO SUPPORT THE CONTAINER HANDLING FACILITY, PORT OF RICHARDS BAY, KWAZULU-NATAL

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☒ Hand Delivered

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Quantity

Item

Description

1	Report Richardbay	- Draft Scoping and Environmental Impact Report (SEIR)
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Notes

Please advise us if enclosures are not as described.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT REQUIRED:

☒ YES (please sign below) ☐ NO

PM

THOBILE SHONGWE

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central library.docx

Appendix A.2

DSR - EMAIL NOTIFICATION



From: ZA - GLD - PPOffice
Sent: Monday, 18 November 2024 16:08
Subject: 43102871 - DEVELOPMENT OF BERTH 605 AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE IN SUPPORT OF THE CONTAINER HANDLING FACILITY AT THE PORT OF RICHARDS BAY – NOTIFICATION OF THE PROJECT AND THE SCOPING AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTING PROCESS
Attachments: Berth 605 Comment Sheet.pdf; Berth 605 Notification of EA Process and Draft Scoping Report.pdf

Dear Stakeholder,

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed by Transnet National Ports Authority (TNPA) for the provision of feasibility studies for the development of Berth 605 and associated infrastructure in support of a Container Handling Facility and associated infrastructure located within the Port of Richards Bay (PoRB), KwaZulu-Natal Province. As part of the overall appointment, WSP has been commissioned to undertake the Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) process as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The TNPA functions in terms of the National Ports Act (No.12 of 2005) in which TNPA is responsible for the provision of port services and facilities within all ports of South Africa. In its role as the master planner, the TNPA also plans to improve, develop and maintain port infrastructure. Various development opportunities were identified by TNPA across three precincts namely South Dunes, Newark and Bayvue and are reflected in the Port Development Framework Plan (PDFP) and the Port of Richards Bay Master Plan 2021 – 2035. The Berth 605 project is reflected in the PDFP and the PoRB Master Plan, 2021-2035 and forms part of the Bayvue Precinct development.

The application for Environmental Authorisation (EA) has been submitted to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment and the Draft Scoping Report has been released for a 30 day comment period.

For further information please refer to the attached letter.

Kind regards,



Public Participation Office

T+ 27 11 361 1300

F+ 27 86 582 1561



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Building 1, Maxwell Office Park
Magwa Crescent West
Waterfall City
Midrand, 1685
P.O. Box 6001
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1685

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WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd, Registered Office: Building C, Knightsbridge, 33 Sloane Street, Bryanston, 2191, South Africa Registered Number:
1999/008928/07 South Africa



18 November 2024

Dear Stakeholder,

DEVELOPMENT OF BERTH 605 AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE IN SUPPORT OF THE CONTAINER HANDLING FACILITY AT THE PORT OF RICHARDS BAY – NOTIFICATION OF THE PROJECT AND THE SCOPING AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTING PROCESS

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed by Transnet National Ports Authority (TNPA) for the provision of feasibility studies for the development of Berth 605 and associated infrastructure in support of a Container Handling Facility and associated infrastructure located within the Port of Richards Bay (PoRB), KwaZulu-Natal Province. As part of the overall appointment, WSP has been commissioned to undertake the Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) process as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP).

This letter serves to:

- Provide a summary of the proposed project;
- Provide details of the S&EIR process;
- Provide stakeholders with the opportunity to register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP); and
- Provide the details of the comment period of the Draft Scoping Report (DSR).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

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Yours sincerely,

Patricia Nathaniel
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DEVELOPMENT OF BERTH 605 AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE IN SUPPORT OF A CONTAINER HANDLING FACILITY, PORT OF RICHARDS BAY, KWAZULU-NATAL

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Mobile Number				
Office Number				
Home Number				
Fax Number				
Email Postal Address				
Postal Address			Postal code	
WSP, will not share personal information with a third party				
LANDOWNERS				
If your property is adjacent to the site, please tell us your, street address, farm name and/or erf/portion number				
WOULD YOU LIKE TO REGISTER AS AN INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTY? (MARK WITH AN X)			YES	NO
Preferred Method of Communication (Mark with an X)		Post	Email	Fax
In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), I disclose below any direct business, financial, personal or other interest that I may have in the approval or refusal of the application:		Date		
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COMMENT(S)

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From: ZA - GLD - PPOffice
Sent: Monday, 18 November 2024 16:03
Subject: 43102871 - DEVELOPMENT OF BERTH 605 AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE IN SUPPORT OF THE CONTAINER HANDLING FACILITY AT THE PORT OF RICHARDS BAY – NOTIFICATION OF THE PROJECT AND THE SCOPING AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTING PROCESS
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Kind regards,



Public Participation Office

T+ 27 11 361 1300

F+ 27 86 582 1561



WSP in Africa
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Magwa Crescent West
Waterfall City
Midrand, 1685
P.O. Box 6001
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WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd, Registered Office: Building C, Knightsbridge, 33 Sloane Street, Bryanston, 2191, South Africa Registered Number:
1999/008928/07 South Africa



18 November 2024

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DEVELOPMENT OF BERTH 605 AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE IN SUPPORT OF THE CONTAINER HANDLING FACILITY AT THE PORT OF RICHARDS BAY – NOTIFICATION OF THE PROJECT AND THE SCOPING AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTING PROCESS

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WS | D

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Sent: Friday, 13 December 2024 09:26
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18 November 2024

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Appendix A.3

DSR - SMS NOTIFICATIONS



Logged in as: **wspe** | Log OutCredits: **3899.81** | Daily Quota Used: **3484 of 40000**[My Account](#)**Message History Detail: Batch 2018842570****Time submitted** 2024-11-18 16:28:00.0**Total messages** 1742**Total credits** 1757.40**Delivery summary**

Delivery to network failed	0.11%
Delivered to mobile	61.31%
Delivery failed	4.13%
Blocked	0.11%
Delivered upstream	34.33%

Recipient	Status	Credits	Completed time	Body	Help
	Delivery failed	2.50	2024-11-18 16:28:00	Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): NOTIFICATION: TNPA - Draft Scoping Report available for comment 19/11/2024 - 13/001/2025. For more information contact WSP: gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800 /	
	Delivery failed	2.50	2024-11-18 16:28:00	Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ or wsp-engage.com/	
	Delivered to mobile	2.50	2024-11-18 16:28:00	Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): NOTIFICATION: TNPA - Draft Scoping Report available for comment 19/11/2024 - 13/001/2025. For more information contact WSP: gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800 /	
	Delivered to mobile	2.50	2024-11-18 16:28:00	Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ or wsp-engage.com/	



Delivery failed	2.50	2024-11-18 16:28:00	Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): NOTIFICATION: TNPA - Draft Scoping Report available for comment 19/11/2024 - 13/001/2025. For more information contact WSP: gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800 /
Delivery failed	2.50	2024-11-18 16:28:00	Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ or wsp-engage.com/
Delivery failed	2.50	2024-11-18 16:28:00	Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): NOTIFICATION: TNPA - Draft Scoping Report available for comment 19/11/2024 - 13/001/2025. For more information contact WSP: gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800 /
Delivery failed	2.50	2024-11-18 16:28:00	Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ or wsp-engage.com/
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Delivery failed	2.50	2024-11-18 16:28:00	Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ or wsp-engage.com/
Delivered upstream	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): NOTIFICATION: TNPA - Draft Scoping Report available for comment 19/11/2024 - 13/001/2025. For more information contact WSP: gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800 /
Delivered upstream	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ or wsp-engage.com/

Delivered to mobile	1.00	2024-11-18 16:28:00	Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): NOTIFICATION: TNPA - Draft Scoping Report available for comment 19/11/2024 - 13/001/2025. For more information contact WSP: gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800 /
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Delivered to mobile	1.00	2024-11-18 16:28:00	Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ or wsp-engage.com/
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Delivered upstream	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ or wsp-engage.com/
Delivered to mobile	1.00	2024-11-18 16:28:00	Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): NOTIFICATION: TNPA - Draft Scoping Report available for comment 19/11/2024 - 13/001/2025. For more information contact WSP: gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800 /
Delivered to mobile	1.00	2024-11-18 16:28:00	Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ or wsp-engage.com/

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Delivered to mobile	1.00	2024-11-18 16:31:00	Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ or wsp-engage.com/
Delivered to mobile	1.00	2024-11-18 16:28:00	Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): NOTIFICATION: TNPA - Draft Scoping Report available for comment 19/11/2024 - 13/001/2025. For more information contact WSP: gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800 /
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<div></div>	Delivered upstream	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): <div>NOTIFICATION: TNPA - Draft Scoping Report available for comment 19/11/2024 - 13/001/2025. For more information contact WSP: gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800 /</div>
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Delivered to mobile	1.00	2024-11-18 16:28:00	Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): <div>wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ or wsp-engage.com/</div>
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Delivered to mobile	1.00	2024-11-18 16:28:00	Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): <div>wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ or wsp-engage.com/</div>
Delivery failed	1.00	2024-11-18 16:28:00	Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): <div>NOTIFICATION: TNPA - Draft Scoping Report available for comment 19/11/2024 - 13/001/2025. For more information contact WSP: gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800 /</div>
Delivery failed	1.00	2024-11-18 16:28:00	Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): <div>wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ or wsp-engage.com/</div>
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<div></div>	Delivered upstream	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): <div>NOTIFICATION: TNPA - Draft Scoping Report available for comment 19/11/2024 - 13/001/2025. For more information contact WSP: gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800 /</div>
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Delivered
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Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2):

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Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2):

wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ or
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Delivered to mobile	1.00	2024-11-18 16:28:00	Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): <div>NOTIFICATION: TNPA - Draft Scoping Report available for comment 19/11/2024 - 13/001/2025. For more information contact WSP: gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800 /</div>
Delivered to mobile	1.00	2024-11-18 16:28:00	Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): <div>wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ or wsp-engage.com/</div>

Records: 1742





My Account



Message History Detail: Batch 2018843979

Time submitted 2024-11-18 16:31:18.0

Total messages 1742

Total credits 1757.40

Delivery summary

Delivery to network failed	0.11%
Delivered to mobile	22.33%
Delivery failed	2.01%
Blocked	0.11%
In progress	23.77%
Delivered upstream	49.89%
Delivered upstream but unacknowledged	1.78%

Recipient	Status	Credits	Completed time	Body	Help
<div></div>	Delivery failed	2.50	2024-11-18 16:31:00	Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): ISAZISO: I-TNPA - Draft Scoping Report iyatholakala ukuze kuzwakaliswe imibono 19/11/2024 - 13/01/2025. Uma ufuna ulwazi olwengeziwe xhumana nabakw a-WSP:	
	Delivery failed	2.50	2024-11-18 16:31:00	Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/	



Delivered to mobile	2.50	2024-11-18 16:31:00	Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): ISAZISO: I-TNPA - Draft Scoping Re port iyatholakala ukuze kuzwakaliswe imibono 19/11/2024 - 13/01/2025. Uma ufuna ulwazi olwengeziwe xhumana nabakw a-WSP:
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Delivered upstream	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp. com/en-za/services/public- documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/
In progress	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): ISAZISO: I-TNPA - Draft Scoping Re port iyatholakala ukuze kuzwakaliswe imibono 19/11/2024 - 13/01/2025. Uma ufuna ulwazi olwengeziwe xhumana nabakw a-WSP:
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In progress	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): ISAZISO: I-TNPA - Draft Scoping Report iyatholakala ukuze kuzwakaliswe imibono 19/11/2024 - 13/01/2025. Uma ufuna ulwazi olwengeziwe xhumana nabakw a-WSP:
In progress	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/
Delivered to mobile	1.00	2024-11-18 16:31:00	Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): ISAZISO: I-TNPA - Draft Scoping Report iyatholakala ukuze kuzwakaliswe imibono 19/11/2024 - 13/01/2025. Uma ufuna ulwazi olwengeziwe xhumana nabakw a-WSP:
Delivered to mobile	1.00	2024-11-18 16:31:00	Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/
Delivered upstream	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): ISAZISO: I-TNPA - Draft Scoping Report iyatholakala ukuze kuzwakaliswe imibono 19/11/2024 - 13/01/2025. Uma ufuna ulwazi olwengeziwe xhumana nabakw a-WSP:



Delivered upstream	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/
Delivered to mobile	1.00	2024-11-18 16:31:00	Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): ISAZISO: I-TNPA - Draft Scoping Report iyatholakala ukuze kuzwakaliswe imibono 19/11/2024 - 13/01/2025. Uma ufuna ulwazi olwengeziwe xhumana nabakw a-WSP:
Delivered to mobile	1.00	2024-11-18 16:31:00	Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/
Delivered upstream	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): ISAZISO: I-TNPA - Draft Scoping Report iyatholakala ukuze kuzwakaliswe imibono 19/11/2024 - 13/01/2025. Uma ufuna ulwazi olwengeziwe xhumana nabakw a-WSP:
Delivered upstream	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/
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Delivered to mobile	1.00	2024-11-18 16:31:00	Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/

Delivered to mobile	1.00	2024-11-18 16:31:00	Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): ISAZISO: I-TNPA - Draft Scoping Re port iyatholakala ukuze kuzwakaliswe imibono 19/11/2024 - 13/01/2025. Uma ufuna ulwazi olwengeziwe xhumana nabakw a-WSP:
Delivered to mobile	1.00	2024-11-18 16:31:00	Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp. com/en-za/services/public- documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/
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Delivered upstream	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp. com/en-za/services/public- documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/
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Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2):

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Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2):

gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp.
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Delivered upstream	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/
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Delivered upstream	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp. com/en-za/services/public- documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/
In progress	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): ISAZISO: I-TNPA - Draft Scoping Re port iyatholakala ukuze kuzwakaliswe imibono 19/11/2024 - 13/01/2025. Uma ufuna ulwazi olwengeziwe xhumana nabakw a-WSP:
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Delivered upstream	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): ISAZISO: I-TNPA - Draft Scoping Re port iyatholakala ukuze kuzwakaliswe imibono 19/11/2024 - 13/01/2025. Uma ufuna ulwazi olwengeziwe xhumana nabakw a-WSP:



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	In progress	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): ISAZISO: I-TNPA - Draft Scoping Re port iyatholakala ukuze kuzwakaliswe imibono 19/11/2024 - 13/01/2025. Uma ufuna ulwazi olwengeziwe xhumana nabakw a-WSP:
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Delivered to mobile	1.00	2024-11-18 16:31:00	Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp. com/en-za/services/public- documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/
Delivered upstream	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): ISAZISO: I-TNPA - Draft Scoping Re port iyatholakala ukuze kuzwakaliswe imibono 19/11/2024 - 13/01/2025. Uma ufuna ulwazi olwengeziwe xhumana nabakw a-WSP:
Delivered upstream	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp. com/en-za/services/public- documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/
Delivery failed	1.00	2024-11-18 16:31:00	Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): ISAZISO: I-TNPA - Draft Scoping Re port iyatholakala ukuze kuzwakaliswe imibono 19/11/2024 - 13/01/2025. Uma ufuna ulwazi olwengeziwe xhumana nabakw a-WSP:
Delivery failed	1.00	2024-11-18 16:31:00	Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp. com/en-za/services/public- documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/
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	In progress	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): ISAZISO: I-TNPA - Draft Scoping Report iyatholakala ukuze kuzwakaliswe imibono 19/11/2024 - 13/01/2025. Uma ufuna ulwazi olwengeziwe xhumana nabakw a-WSP:
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	Delivered to mobile	1.00	2024-11-18 16:31:00	Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): ISAZISO: I-TNPA - Draft Scoping Report iyatholakala ukuze kuzwakaliswe imibono 19/11/2024 - 13/01/2025. Uma ufuna ulwazi olwengeziwe xhumana nabakw a-WSP:
	Delivered to mobile	1.00	2024-11-18 16:31:00	Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/
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	In progress	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/
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In progress	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp. com/en-za/services/public- documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/
Delivered upstream but unacknowledged	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): ISAZISO: I-TNPA - Draft Scoping Re port iyatholakala ukuze kuzwakaliswe imibono 19/11/2024 - 13/01/2025. Uma ufuna ulwazi olwengeziwe xhumana nabakw a-WSP:



Delivered upstream but
unacknowledged

1.00

Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2):

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com/en-za/services/public-
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In progress

1.00

Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2):

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port iyatholakala ukuze
kuzwakaliswe imibono 19/11/2024 -
13/01/2025. Uma ufuna
ulwazi olwengeziwe xhumana nabakw
a-WSP:

Delivered upstream 1.00

Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2):

gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp.
com/en-za/services/public-
documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/

Delivered upstream 1.00

Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2):

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a-WSP:



Delivered upstream 1.00

Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2):

gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp.
com/en-za/services/public-
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Delivered upstream but
unacknowledged 1.00

Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2):

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Delivered upstream but
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Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2):

gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp.
com/en-za/services/public-
documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/

In progress 1.00

Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2):

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a-WSP:

Delivered upstream 1.00

Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2):

gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp.
com/en-za/services/public-
documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/

Delivered to mobile 1.00 2024-11-18
16:31:00

Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2):

ISAZISO: I-TNPA - Draft Scoping Re
port iyatholakala ukuze
kuzwakaliswe imibono 19/11/2024 -
13/01/2025. Uma ufuna
ulwazi olwengeziwe xhumana nabakw
a-WSP:

Delivered upstream 1.00

Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2):

gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp.
com/en-za/services/public-
documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/

In progress 1.00

Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2):

ISAZISO: I-TNPA - Draft Scoping Re
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ulwazi olwengeziwe xhumana nabakw
a-WSP:

In progress 1.00

Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2):

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In progress 1.00

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a-WSP:



	In progress	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/
	In progress	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): ISAZISO: I-TNPA - Draft Scoping Report iyatholakala ukuze kuzwakaliswe imibono 19/11/2024 - 13/01/2025. Uma ufuna ulwazi olwengeziwe xhumana nabakw a-WSP:
	In progress	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/
	Delivery failed	1.00	2024-11-18 16:31:00	Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): ISAZISO: I-TNPA - Draft Scoping Report iyatholakala ukuze kuzwakaliswe imibono 19/11/2024 - 13/01/2025. Uma ufuna ulwazi olwengeziwe xhumana nabakw a-WSP:
	Delivery failed	1.00	2024-11-18 16:31:00	Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/
	In progress	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): ISAZISO: I-TNPA - Draft Scoping Report iyatholakala ukuze kuzwakaliswe imibono 19/11/2024 - 13/01/2025. Uma ufuna ulwazi olwengeziwe xhumana nabakw a-WSP:
	In progress	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/



	In progress	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): ISAZISO: I-TNPA - Draft Scoping Report iyatholakala ukuze kuzwakaliswe imibono 19/11/2024 - 13/01/2025. Uma ufuna ulwazi olwengeziwe xhumana nabakw a-WSP:
	In progress	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/
	Delivered to mobile	1.00	2024-11-18 16:31:00	Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): ISAZISO: I-TNPA - Draft Scoping Report iyatholakala ukuze kuzwakaliswe imibono 19/11/2024 - 13/01/2025. Uma ufuna ulwazi olwengeziwe xhumana nabakw a-WSP:
	Delivered to mobile	1.00	2024-11-18 16:31:00	Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/
	Delivered upstream	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): ISAZISO: I-TNPA - Draft Scoping Report iyatholakala ukuze kuzwakaliswe imibono 19/11/2024 - 13/01/2025. Uma ufuna ulwazi olwengeziwe xhumana nabakw a-WSP:
	Delivered upstream	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/
	Delivered upstream	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): ISAZISO: I-TNPA - Draft Scoping Report iyatholakala ukuze kuzwakaliswe imibono 19/11/2024 - 13/01/2025. Uma ufuna ulwazi olwengeziwe xhumana nabakw a-WSP:



Delivered upstream	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/
Delivered to mobile	1.00	2024-11-18 16:31:00	Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): ISAZISO: I-TNPA - Draft Scoping Report iyatholakala ukuze kuzwakaliswe imibono 19/11/2024 - 13/01/2025. Uma ufuna ulwazi olwengeziwe xhumana nabakw a-WSP:
Delivered to mobile	1.00	2024-11-18 16:31:00	Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/
Delivered to mobile	1.00	2024-11-18 16:31:00	Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): ISAZISO: I-TNPA - Draft Scoping Report iyatholakala ukuze kuzwakaliswe imibono 19/11/2024 - 13/01/2025. Uma ufuna ulwazi olwengeziwe xhumana nabakw a-WSP:
Delivered to mobile	1.00	2024-11-18 16:31:00	Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/
Delivered upstream	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): ISAZISO: I-TNPA - Draft Scoping Report iyatholakala ukuze kuzwakaliswe imibono 19/11/2024 - 13/01/2025. Uma ufuna ulwazi olwengeziwe xhumana nabakw a-WSP:
Delivered upstream	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/

Delivered upstream 1.00

Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2):

ISAZISO: I-TNPA - Draft Scoping Re
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Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2):

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a-WSP:

Delivered upstream 1.00

Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2):

gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp.
com/en-za/services/public-
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In progress 1.00

Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2):

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a-WSP:



Delivered to mobile	1.00	2024-11-18 16:31:00	Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp. com/en-za/services/public- documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/
Delivered upstream	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): ISAZISO: I-TNPA - Draft Scoping Re port iyatholakala ukuze kuzwakaliswe imibono 19/11/2024 - 13/01/2025. Uma ufuna ulwazi olwengeziwe xhumana nabakw a-WSP:
Delivered upstream	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp. com/en-za/services/public- documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/
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Delivered upstream	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp. com/en-za/services/public- documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/
Delivered upstream	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): ISAZISO: I-TNPA - Draft Scoping Re port iyatholakala ukuze kuzwakaliswe imibono 19/11/2024 - 13/01/2025. Uma ufuna ulwazi olwengeziwe xhumana nabakw a-WSP:
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Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2):

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ulwazi olwengeziwe xhumana nabakw
a-WSP:

In progress 1.00

Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2):

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In progress 1.00

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In progress 1.00

Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2):

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	In progress	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): ISAZISO: I-TNPA - Draft Scoping Report iyatholakala ukuze kuzwakaliswe imibono 19/11/2024 - 13/01/2025. Uma ufuna ulwazi olwengeziwe xhumana nabakw a-WSP:
	In progress	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/
	Delivered to mobile	1.00	2024-11-18 16:31:00	Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): ISAZISO: I-TNPA - Draft Scoping Report iyatholakala ukuze kuzwakaliswe imibono 19/11/2024 - 13/01/2025. Uma ufuna ulwazi olwengeziwe xhumana nabakw a-WSP:
	Delivered to mobile	1.00	2024-11-18 16:31:00	Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/
	Delivered upstream	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): ISAZISO: I-TNPA - Draft Scoping Report iyatholakala ukuze kuzwakaliswe imibono 19/11/2024 - 13/01/2025. Uma ufuna ulwazi olwengeziwe xhumana nabakw a-WSP:
	Delivered upstream	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/
	Delivered upstream	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): ISAZISO: I-TNPA - Draft Scoping Report iyatholakala ukuze kuzwakaliswe imibono 19/11/2024 - 13/01/2025. Uma ufuna ulwazi olwengeziwe xhumana nabakw a-WSP:



Delivered upstream	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/
Delivered upstream	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): ISAZISO: I-TNPA - Draft Scoping Report iyatholakala ukuze kuzwakaliswe imibono 19/11/2024 - 13/01/2025. Uma ufuna ulwazi olwengeziwe xhumana nabakwa-WSP:
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Delivered upstream but unacknowledged	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): ISAZISO: I-TNPA - Draft Scoping Report iyatholakala ukuze kuzwakaliswe imibono 19/11/2024 - 13/01/2025. Uma ufuna ulwazi olwengeziwe xhumana nabakwa-WSP:
In progress	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/





In progress

1.00

Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2):

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ulwazi olwengeziwe xhumana nabakw
a-WSP:

In progress

1.00

Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2):

gld.pp@wsp.com / 0112544800/ wsp.
com/en-za/services/public-
documents/ noma wsp-engage.com/

Records: 1742

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Appendix A.4

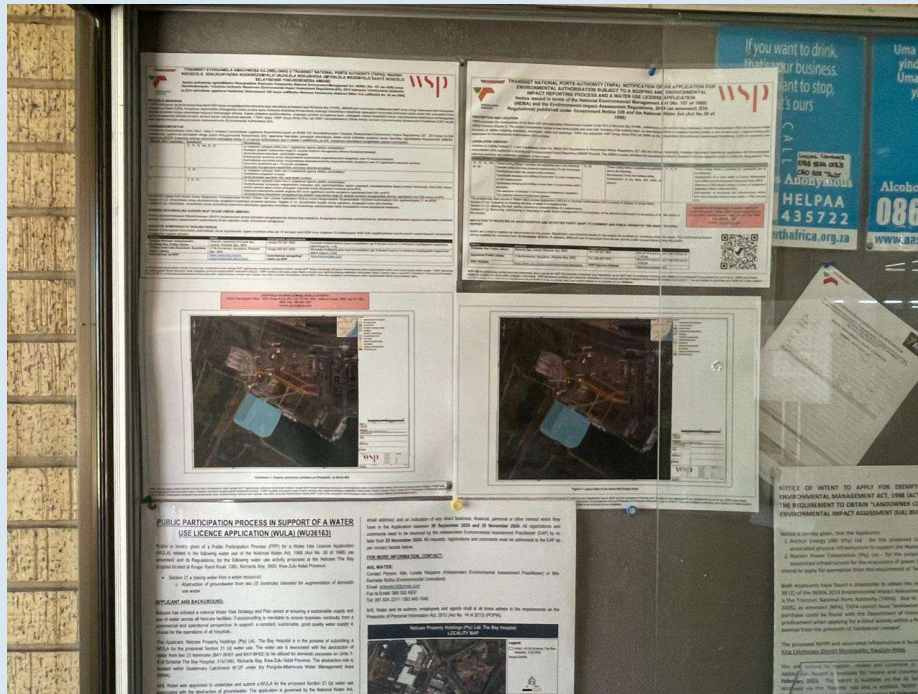
SITE NOTICES



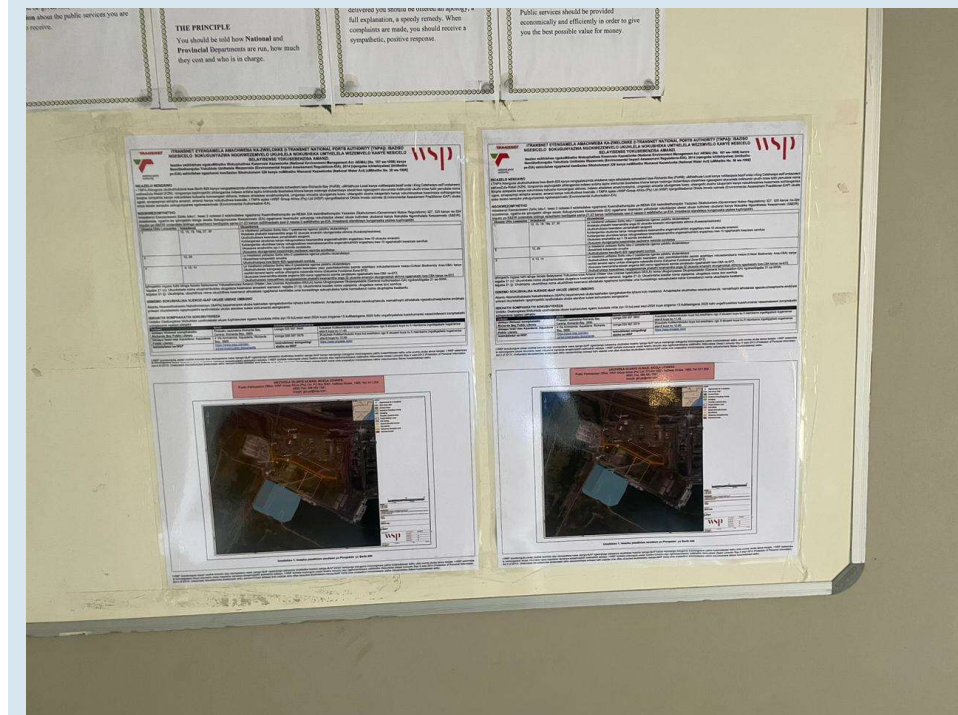
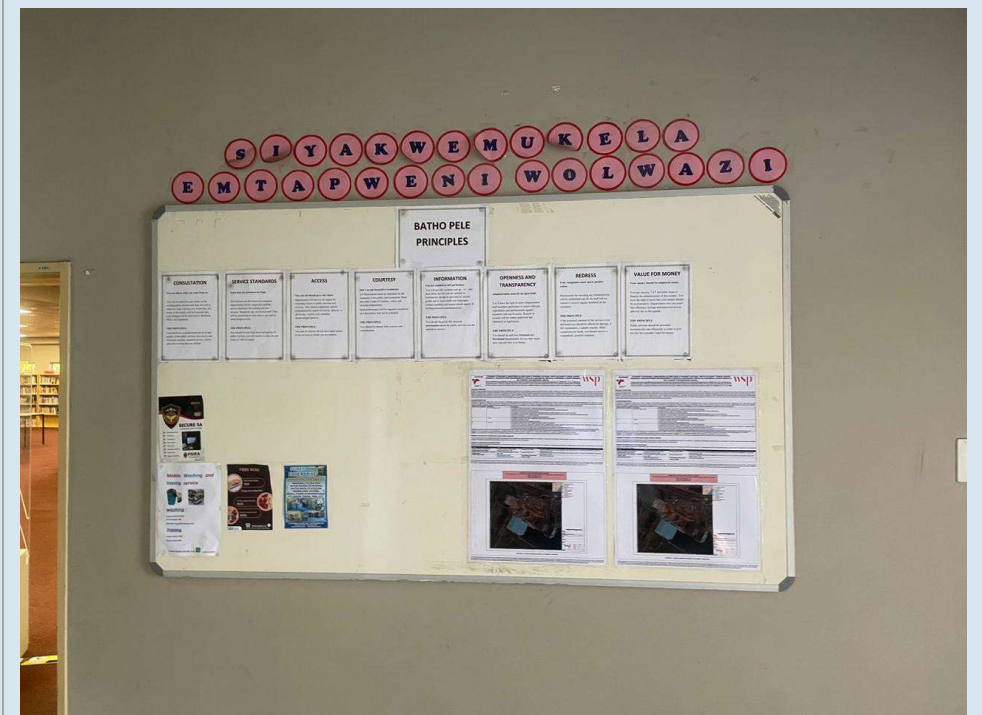


SITE NOTICE

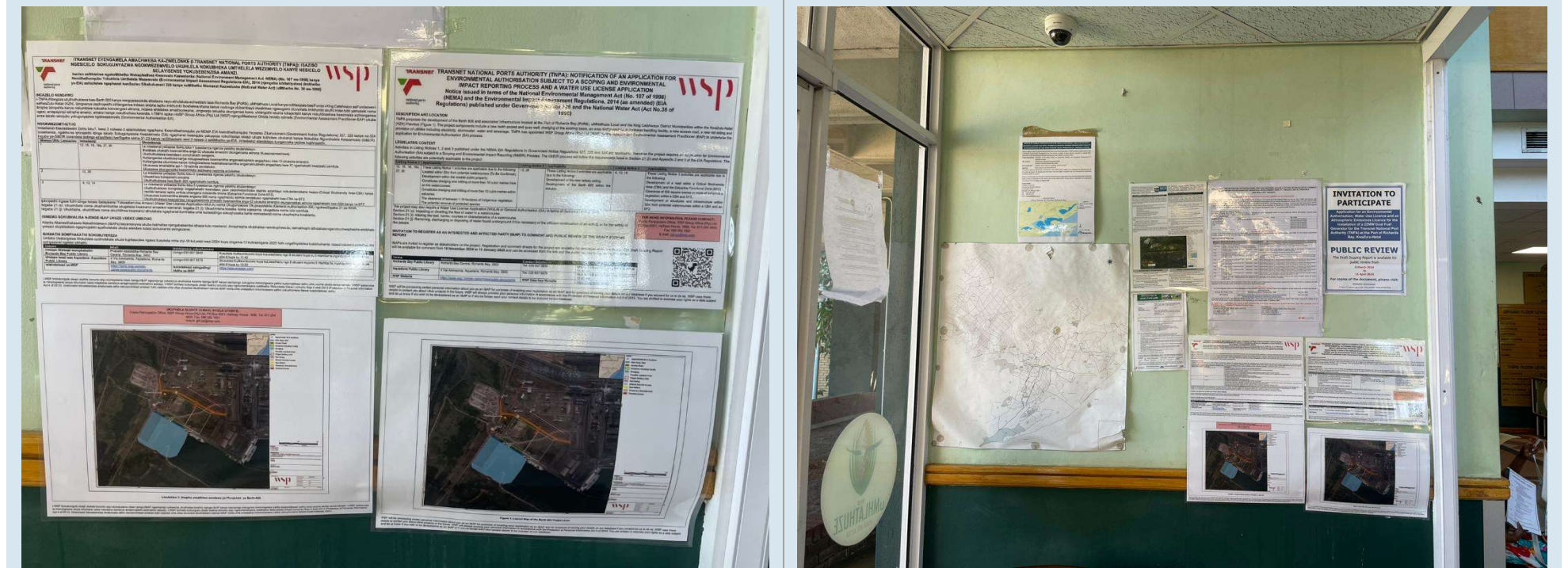
Richards Bay Library



Aquadene Public Library



Umhlathuze Municipality



Richards Bay Seafarers Club



Zululand Yacht Club



Blackwoods



IDZ Entrance



Intersection near the PoRB



Richards Bay Home Affairs



Appendix B

ADVERTISEMENT



Battling residents call for discounts on food

Kaylene Louw

CASH-strapped consumers are pleading with retailers to consider offering discounts on essential items instead of luxuries ahead of this year's Black Friday sale.

With many households having to dig deeper or go into debt to stay afloat, shoppers believe slashing the prices on food, electricity and fuel would be most beneficial.

According to the Essential Food Price Monitoring Report conducted by the Competition Commission South Africa, food prices increased by an alarming 50% from September 2020 to September 2024.

As a result, a nutritional basket of food for a family of four is estimated to be over R3 600 per month, 7.7% more than last year.

The Outlier, an independent publication specialising in using data to create public service stories and visualisations, has tracked the changing consumer prices in South Africa, which reflect the shift in

prices from January 2022 to September 2024.

Despite several decreases in petrol this year, the November price hike and April implementation of an electricity tariff increase of between 12.72 and 12.74%

have many citizens buckling under the ever-increasing financial pressure.

Additionally, an article published by *Business Tech* shared the views of

Professor Ines Meyer from the University of Cape Town, who estimated that the minimum survivable salary is R15 000, significantly higher than the R4 633.44 minimum wage.

Struggling to make ends meet, citizens, including Zululanders, have taken their Black Friday pleas to social media, hopeful that retailers will consider their suggestions before announcing this year's deals.

Zululanders shared their thoughts when asked: "With Black Friday around the corner, many consumers are calling for the prices of groceries and other essentials to be slashed to help off-set the high cost of living. What are your thoughts?"

Consumers call for Black Friday food and grocery price slash

There will be more people who won't be able to fill up their cars than there will be benefitting from this deal. Imagine how many people would fill up their cars. Imagine the long queues at the fuel stations, waiting for hours just to find out they are out of fuel. That would be terrible but an amazing idea. We are going away inland in December, so I would take a few 20L drums to fill up with diesel

- Juan-Pierre Dicks



Six shopping bags three days ago cost R2 300 and I hardly bought any luxury items!

- Gert Engelbrecht



Food Item	January 2022 price	September 2024 price
Full cream milk (2 litre)	R29.89	R35.98
White bread loaf	R15.47	R18.88
Eggs (18 pack)	R50.46	R69.36
Rice (1 kg)	R24.28	R33.49
Potatoes (per kg)	R14.18	R21.56
Tomatoes (per kg)	R24.76	R28.19
White sugar (2.5 kg)	R46.38	R64.94
Maize Meal (per 2.5kg)	R26.65	R38.93
Onions (per kg)	R15.25	R23.12
Peanut butter (per 400g)	R34.64	R46.62
Tea (Ceylon/Black)	R32.62	R59.29
Tea (Rooibos)	R41.23	R53.01
Whole chicken (per kg)	R58.98	R64.99
Beef mince (per kg)	R96.41	R101.46
Instant coffee (250g)	R39.91	R68.41
Spaghetti (500g)	R17.27	R19.59
Macaroni (500g)	R15.59	R18.30
Bananas (per kg)	R17.98	R17.62
Chocolate slab (80g)	R16.18	R23.52
Sanitary pads (per pack)	R22.72	R28.45

Food prices from 2022 to 2024

Source: The Outlier



Praying for a miracle

- Bev Pellow



All we ask for is R20 for 10kg rice, maize meal, and meat just say R5/kg

- Roomz ZN



Local youth have their say in council

Gaddafi Zulu

THE newly-elected leadership of the South African Youth Council (Sayco) in uMkhanyakude District seeks to develop young people in the region.

On Saturday, Sayco hosted its regional assembly in Hluhluwe where the new leadership, chaired by Menzi Qwabe, was elected.

Sayco provincial executive committee member Philani Nhlenyama was deployed to oversee the process and ensure challenges facing the youth - unemployment, poverty, inequality and skills shortages - are tackled.

Nhlenyama said it was resolved that a strategic approach would be employed to address issues, which in uMkhanyakude includes a failure to assist young people in the agricultural sector.

"There is a lot of arable land in uMkhanyakude and many young people

are involved in agricultural projects but there is no assistance to make it economically viable. We need to take the struggle to drive agrarian society reform, to say let us go back to our indigenous ways," said Nhlenyama.

He said it was noted that entities such as iSimangaliso Wetland Park and uMhlosinga Development Agency should also play significant roles in youth development, and that the council's newly-elected regional leadership should meet with the CEOs.

Additionally, there is a need for Council to build strong relations with the public sector, exposing youth to the services available at the various government departments.

"The private sector needs to be integrated with youth development in uMkhanyakude because they make profits through the residents of this district," said Nhlenyama.

Last call for BOZ nominations

Nominations for the ZO's annual Best of Zululand Readers' Choice Awards close on Friday, 15 November.

This is your last chance to tell us which local companies you feel deserve recognition for stellar service.

If you are particularly impressed with the level of service rendered by certain local companies, this is the ideal platform to pay homage to them.

The Best of Zululand (BOZ) is a reader-driven survey that seeks and showcases Zululand's best companies

and organisations.

Readers can nominate their favourite local companies in a wide variety of categories, and in 2025 voting lines will open to the public to choose the best of the best.

Don't miss this chance to include your preferred companies in BOZ! Complete the nomination form (printed in today's ZO) or visit www.citizen.co.za/zululand-observer/best-of-zululand-2024-2025-nominees/ before the end of the day on Friday, 15 November.



TRANSNET NATIONAL PORTS AUTHORITY (TNPA): NOTIFICATION OF AN APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION SUBJECT TO A SCOPING AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTING PROCESS AND A WATER USE LICENSE APPLICATION

Notice issued in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (as amended) (EIA Regulations) published under Government Notice 326 and the National Water Act (Act No. 36 of 1998)

DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION: TNPA proposes the development of the Berth 605 and associated infrastructure located at the Port of Richards Bay (PoRB), uMhlatuze Local and the King Cetshwayo District Municipalities within the KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) Province. The project components include a new berth pocket and quay wall, dredging of the existing basin, an area designated for a container handling facility, a new access road, a new rail siding and provision of utilities including electricity, stormwater, water and sewerage. TNPA has appointed WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to undertake the application for Environmental Authorisation (EA) process.

LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT: Activities in Listing Notices 1, 2 and 3 published under the NEMA EIA Regulations in Government Notice Regulations 327, 325 and 324 are applicable, therefore the project requires an application for Environmental Authorisation (EA) subject to a Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) Process. The S&EIR process will follow the requirements listed in Section 21-23 and Appendix 2 and 3 of the EIA Regulations. The following activities are potentially applicable to the project.

Listing Notice	Activities	Applicability
1	12, 15, 19, 19a, 27, 30	These Listing Notice 1 activities are applicable due to the following: Located within 32m from potential watercourses (To be Confirmed). Development within the coastal public property. Constitutes dredging and infilling of more than 10 cubic metres from or into watercourses. Constitutes dredging and infilling of more than 10 cubic metres within estuaries. The clearance of between 1-19 hectares of indigenous vegetation. The potential removal of protected species.
2	12, 26	These Listing Notice 2 activities are applicable due to the following: Development of the new railway siding. Development of the Berth 605 within the estuary.
3	4, 12, 14	These Listing Notice 3 activities are applicable due to the following: Development of a road within a Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA) and the Estuarine Functional Zone (EFZ). Clearance of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation within a CBA and EFZ. Development of structures and infrastructure within 32m from potential watercourses within a CBA and an EFZ

The project may also require a Water Use License Application (WULA) or General Authorisation (GA) in terms of Section 21 of the NWA:

Section 21 (c): Impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse.

Section 21 (i): Altering the bed, banks, courses or characteristics of a watercourse.

Section 21 (j): Removing, discharging or disposing of water found underground if it is necessary for the efficient continuation of an activity or for the safety of the people.

INVITATION TO REGISTER AS AN I&AP TO COMMENT: Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are invited to register as stakeholders on the project. Registration and comment sheets as well as electronic copies of the background information document for the project are available for download at the link below.

PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD: The Draft Scoping Report will be available for comment from 19 November 2024 to 13 January 2025 and can be accessed from the link and the public venues below during this period:

Venue	Address	Contact Details	Operating Hours
Richards Bay Public Library	Richards Bay Central, Richards Bay, 3900	Tel: 035 907 5840	Mon to Fri 9 am to 5 pm Sat 8:30 am to 11:45 am
Aquadene Public Library	4 Via Ammannia, Aquadene, Richards Bay, 3900	Tel: 035 907 5579	Mon to Fri 9 am to 5 pm Sat 8:00 am to 12:00 pm
WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents	WSP Data-free Website	https://wsp-engage.com/

WSP will be processing certain personal information about you as an I&AP for purposes of enabling your registration as an I&AP and for purposes of storing your details on our database if you consent for us to do so. WSP uses these details to contact you about other projects in the future. WSP will always process your personal information in accordance with the Protection of Personal Information Act 4 of 2013. You are entitled to exercise your rights as a data subject and let us know if you wish to be deregistered as an I&AP or if you no longer want your contact details to be included on our database.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:
Public Participation Office: WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd;
PO Box 6001, Halfway House, 1685; Tel: 011 254 4800;
Fax: 086 582 1561, E-mail: gld.pp@wsp.com



714	PUBLIC NOTICES	714	PUBLIC NOTICES	714	PUBLIC NOTICES	714	PUBLIC NOTICES
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ISAZISO MAYELANA NEZINSIZA KUSEBENZA EZINOBUNGOZI OBUKHULU (MAJOR HAZARD INSTALLATION) EZIKWA-SAFAL STEEL (PTY) LTD

1. Isingeniso

Lesi isaziso sabo bonke ababambe iqhaza esimayelana nezinsiza kusebenza ezinobungozi obukhulu i-Major Hazard Installation (MHI) enkampanini yakwa-Safal Steel. Loku kwenziwa ngokulandela umthetho wangonyaka wezi- 2022 ngaphansi kwesigaba sama-43 soMthetho Wezemvelo Nokuphepha Emsebenzini wangonyaka we-1993 (Umthetho wama- 85 wangonyaka we-1993) omayelana nezinsiza kusebenza ezinobungozi obukhulu futhi ngokuhambisana nezidingo zokuphepha komlilo njengoba kubekiwe nguMasipala waseThekwini.

2. Imininingwane yendawo lapho kukhona izinsinza lezo

- Igama lenkapani lapho kukhona i-MHI. Safal Steel (Pty) Ltd, Old Main Road (R103), Cato Ridge, KwaZulu-Natal GPS- Coordinates: 29° 43' 46.82" S and 30° 36' 14.87" E
- Umuntu okumele kuxhunyanwe naye ne nombolo yakhe yocingo: Mtutuzeli Mnyaka: 082 370 0152 (Inhloko yoMnyango wezoku Sebenza oqokwe ngokwe sigaba se-16.2).
- I-Safal Steel iyakhigiza iphinde yakhe imikhigizo yensimbi, ikakhulukazi ngokukhethekile i- aluminium-zinc coated steel. Ngelikhathi senqubo yokukhigiza, i-Safal Steel isebenzisa izinto ezihlukahlukene ezidala umlilo, lezi zibandakanya i-Hydrogen, i-Nitrogen negesi i-Lower Pressure Gas (LPG) ukubasela amabhodwe noma imishini yokukhigiza. Udizili usetshenziselwa ukusiza izipheli mandla (generators) kanye nama- forklifts, i-Light Fuel Oil (LFO) isetshenziswa kubhayela.

3. Imininingwane mayelana nobungozi

Kusetshenzwa kanje ngaphakathi enkampanini:

- Ukuphekwa kwe nsimbi ngelangabi eliphezulu kakhulu.
- Ukugcinwa kwegesi i-LPG eningi.
- Ukugcinwa kwe- hydrogen eningi.
- Ukugcinwa kuka dizili omningi ngaphakathi emathangini akhelwe ngaphandle.
- Ukugcinwa kwama futha (fuel oil) amaningi emathangini akhelwe ngaphandle.
- Ukugcinwa kwama khemikhali akhuculula upende emiqongweni.

Nazi izinto ezikhona futhi ezibucayi kakhulu ngaphakathi enkampanini:

- Uketshezi olubilayo (BLEVE) olwandisa umusi ethangini eliquethe igesi yohlobo lwe-LPG.
- Uketshezi olubilayo olwandisa umusi (BLEVE) kwi gesi yohlobo lwe-LPG ngenkathi iloli eliyithuthayo lingaphakathi.
- Uketshezi olubilayo olwandisa umusi (BLEVE) ethangini eliquethe i-hydrogen.
- Uketshezi olubilayo olwandisa umusi emiqongweni equkethe amakhemikhali akhuculula upende.
- Indawo egcina udizili uma ulethwa iloli.
- Indawo egcina amafutha (fuel oil) uma elethwa iloli.
- Indawo egcina amakhemikhali akhuculula upende.

3.1 Ithebula elingezansi likhombisa uhlobo kanye nenani lwezinto eziyingozi ezigcinwe ngaphakathi emagcekeni ase-Safal Steel:

T1	Igama	Inombolo ye-United Nations Classification: Inombolo ye-Chemical Abstract Service:	Inombolo ye-South African National Standards 10228	Inani
1	Ithangi eliquethe igesi (LPG -storage tank)	1075 68476-85-7	2.1	Amathangi amabili angamalitha ayizi- 90 000 ithangi ngalinye.
2	Ithangi lokugcina udizili (Diesel storage tank)	1202 68334-30-5	3	Amalitha ayizi-14 0000.
3	Ithangi eliquethe i- Hydrogen (Hydrogen storage tank)	1049 1333-74-0	2.1	Amathani ayisi-7.
4	Ithangi eliquethe amafutha (Fuel oil storage tank)	1202 68334-30-5	3	Amalitha ayizi-23 000.
5	Amakhemikhali akhuculula upende (Paint solvents (methyl ethyl ketone)	1193 78-93-3	3	Amalitha ayizi-75 000.
6	Ithangi eliquethe uketshezi lwe- nitrogen (Liquid nitrogen storage tank)	1066 7727-37-9	2.2	Amathangi amane, lilinye lingama litha ayizi- 21 500.

4. Inhloso yesaziso

- Ngokwazisa umphakathi, inkampani ihlose ukuqinisekisa ukuthi imiphakathi eyakhelene nendawo, kanye nabantu ngabanye bayaziswa ngobungozi obungase bube khona, nokuzokwenza ukuthi bakwazi ukuthatha izinyathelo zokuzivikela uma kwenzeka kuba nesidingo. Le saizo siyindlela yokuxhumana evulelekile, eqinisekisa ukuthi inkampani ibeka phambili ezokuphepha emphakathini futhi ithatha izinyathelo zokuqapha nokukulawula noma yiziphi izingozi ezingase zibe khona.

5. Izinyathelo zokuphepha: E-Safal Steel siqinisekisa ukuthi sihambisana ngokugcwele nemigomo elawula ukuphepha emililweni (Fire Safety) ngokulandela umthetho omayenala nezinsiza kusebenza ezinobungozi obukhulu (i-Major Hazard Installations) wangonyaka wezi-2022.

- Izihlonzamlilo (fire detectors) ezixhumene ne-alamu ekhalayo nathwebula isithombe zifakwe kuzo zonke izindawo lapho kugcinwe khona amagesi kanye noketshezi oludala umlilo.
- Akhona amanzi okucisha umlilo lapho kukhona amathangi aqukethe igesi yohlobo lwe-LPG.
- Kukhona okokucisha umlilo lapho kubekwe khona imigqomo enamakhemikhali akhuculula upende.
- Amanzi okucima umlilo akhona ngaphakathi enkampanini (angama-100 000 zamalitha edamini kanye namalitha ayizi-10 000 ethangini eligcina amanzi) ukwengeza kulawo ahlinzekwa umasipala.
- Amapayipi adonsa amanzi phansi okucisha umlilo (ama- fire hydrants) akhona emathangini amanzi, kanjalo nalapho kulayishela khona amaloli.
- Ikhemikhali eyimpuphu (i-dry chemical powder) noma izicishamlilo ze-carbon dioxide (ezingama- 9 kg) ziyatholakala kuyo yonke indawo ngaphakathi enkampanini.
- Amapayipi okucisha umlilo akhona ndawo zonke lapho kukhona igesi yohlobo lwe- LPG ngaphakathi enkampanini.
- I-Safal Steel inethimba eliqeqeshiwe lokubhekana nezimo eziphuthumayo futhi lenza izivivinyo zokuphepha zokubhekana nezimo eziphuthumayo njalo ukulungiselela noma yisiphi isimo esiphuthumayo esingase sivele.

6. Iqhaza elingabanjwa umphakathi

- Umpahakathi ungabuka ukuhlolwa kwemibhalo emayelana nobungozi obukhulu obukhona (i-Major Hazardous Risk assessment) e-Safal kanye nohlelo olukhona lokubhekana nezimo eziphuthumayo (i-Emergency Response). Izinsuku zokubuka lemibhalo zimi kanje:
 - Usuku:** 25-27 KuLwezi (Novemba) 2024
 - Isikhathi:** 14h00pm -16h00pm
 - Indawo:** Old Main Road (R103), Cato Ridge, KwaZulu-Natal
- I-Safal Steel izoqhubeka nokuxhumana nabo bonke ababambe iqhaza mayelana nokufakwa kwezinsiza kusebenza ezinobungozi obukhulu kuzo zonke izinkundla zokuxhumana.

ACM393140

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JOZINI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO AWARD

Notice is hereby given to all bidders in terms of Regulation 49 of the Local Government Municipal Finance Management Act Supply Chain Management Regulation that Jozini Local Municipality intends to award as follows:

PROJECT NAME: PANEL OF PLANNING PROFESSIONALS (BUILT ENVIRONMENT) FOR THE PERIOD OF 36 MONTHS AS AND WHEN REQUIRED. JMC001/2024/25	
1. Letsopa Consulting Engineers	15. Buchule Engineers (Pty) Ltd
2. SRSQS Quantity Surveyors (Pty) Ltd	16. Pholela Business Advisory ((Pty) Ltd
3. Tshani Consulting Cc	17. Katumelo Holding (Pty) Ltd
4. LDM Quantity DBN (Pty) Ltd	18. Delta Built Environment Consulting (Pty) Ltd
5. Elmon Consulting (Pty) Ltd	19. Complete Lungelo Lami t/a Ilungelo Lami
6. MVE Consulting Engineers	20. MNT Geomatics Professional and Surveyors
7. Bhosibho Development Projects CC	21. Asande Projects Consulting & Engineering
8. Fezeka Business Services	22. ACCRA Group
9. Ubuhlebesu Projects	23. ML Industries (Pty) Ltd t/a Inguquko Development Planning
10. Nkanivo Development Consulting	24. Iqhaya Design Workshop and Projects.
11. TPS Development Projects	25. Undasa Project Partners (Pty) Ltd
12. Etilweni Pioneering Evolution	26. Mnguni Designs
13. Dlamindlovu Consulting Engineering & Project Managers	27. Isibuko Development Planners
14. Mabalengwe Engineers (Pty) Ltd	

NB: This award is subject to no appeal being lodge within 14 days from date of this advertisement.

The unsuccessful Bidders may appeal the decision by giving written notice of appeal and reasons to the Municipal Manager within **14 days** of appeal.

Contact e-mails: BMpontshane@jozini.gov.za and cc tmasinga@jozini.gov.za

MR L.B. MPONTSHANE: ACTING MUNICIPAL MANAGER

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ITRANSNET EYENGAMELA AMACHEWA KA-ZWELONKE (I-TRANSNET NATIONAL PORTS AUTHORITY [TNPA]): ISAZISO NGESICELO SOKUGUNYAZWA NGOKWEZEMVELO UKUHFLELA NOKUBHEKA UMTHELELA WEZEMVELO KANYE NESICELO SELAYISENSE YOKUSEBENZISA AMANZI.

Isaziso esikhishwe ngokoMthetho Wokuphathwa Kwemvelo Kazwelonke (National Environment Management Act - NEMA) (No. 107 we-1998) kanye Nemithethonqubo Yokuhlola Umthelela Wezemvelo (Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations-EIA), 2014 (njengoba ichithshyelwe) (Imithetho ye-EIA) eshicilelwe ngaphansi kweSaziso Sikahulumeni 326 kanye noMthetho Wamanzi Kazwelonke (National Water Act) (uMthetho No. 36 we-1998)

INCAZELO NENDAWO: I-TNPA ihlangoza ukuthuthukiswa kwe-Berth 605 kanye nengqalasizinda ehlobene nayo etholakala echwebeni lase-Richards Bay (PoRB), uMhlathuze Local kanye noMasipala besiFunda i-King Cetshwayo esiFundazweni saKwaZulu-Natali (KZN). Izingxenywe zephrojekthi zihlanganisa indawo entsha lapho imkhumbi iboshelwa khona kanye nodonga olubambayo olwakhiwe ngasogwini oluvumela imikhumbi ukuthi imise futhi yamukele noma ikhiphe izimpahla kanye nokumbiwa kabusha komcengezi okhona, indawo ehlelelwe amakhonteyina, umgwaqo omusha okungenwa kuwo, uhlangothi olusha lukajantshi kanye nokuhlinzekwa kwezinsiza ezihlanganisa ugesi, amapayimpi akhipha amanzi, amanzi kanye nokuthuthwa kwendle. I-TNPA iqoke i-WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) njengoMsebenzi Ohlola Imvelo ozimele (Environmental Assessment Practitioner-EAP) ukuba enze isicelo senqubo yokugunyazwa ngokwezemvelo (Environmental Authorisation-EA).

NGOKWEZOMTHETHO: Imisebenzi Esezazisweni Zohlu luka1, lwesi 2 nolwesi-3 ezishicilelwe ngaphansi Kwemithethonqubo ye-NEMA EIA kwimithethonqubo Yezaziso Zikahulumeni-(Government Notice Regulations) 327, 325 kanye no-324 izosebenza, ngakho-ke iphrojekthi idinga isicelo Sokugunyazwa Kwezemvelo (EA) ngaphansi kwenqubo yokuqoqa nokuhlaziya ulwazi ukuze kutholwe ububanzi kanye Nokubika Ngomthelela Wezemvelo (S&EIR). Inqubo ye-S&EIR izolandela izidingo ezisohlwini lweSigaba sama-21-23 kanye neSithasiselo sesi-2 nesesi-3 seMithetho ye-EIA. Imisebenzi elandelayo kungenzeka yeziwe kuphrojekthi.

Ukweza Uhlu Lwezaziso	Imisebenzi	Ukusebenza
1	12, 15, 19, 27, 30	Le misebenzi yeSaziso Sohlu loku-1 iyasebenza ngenxa yalokhu okulandelayo: Itholakala phakathi kwamamitha anga-32 ukusuka emanzini okungenzeka akhona (Kusazozinisekiswa). Ukuthuthukiswa kwendawo yomphakathi esogwini. Kuhlangukisa ukumba kanye nokugcwalisa ngamamitha angamakhubhikhi angaphezu kwa-10 (>10 cubic metres) ukusuka emanzini. Kuhlangukisa ukumba kanye nokugcwalisa ngamamitha angamakhubhikhi angaphezu kwa-10 (>10 cubic metres) ngaphakathi kwezizalo zemifula Ukususwa amahlekha ayi-1-19 ezimila zendabuko. Ukususwa okungenzeka kwezinhlolo zezilwane nezimila ezivikelwe.
2	12, 26	Le misebenzi yeSaziso Sohlu loku-2 iyasebenza ngenxa yalokhu okulandelayo: Ukwakhiwa kukajantshi omusha Ukuthuthukiswa kwe-Berth 605 ngaphakathi komfula.
3	4, 12, 14	Le misebenzi yeSaziso Sohlu loku-3 iyasebenza ngenxa yalokhu okulandelayo: Ukuthuthukiswa komgwaqo ongaphakathi kwendawo yazo yezinhlobonhlobo zezinto eziphilayo nokusebenzisana kwazo-(Critical Biodiversity Area-CBA) kanye nechibi lamanzi lapho umfula uhlangana nolwandle khona (Estuarine Functional Zone-EFZ). Ukususwa kwamamitha-skwele angama-300 noma ngaphezulu ezimila zendabuko ngaphakathi kwe-CBA ne-EFZ. Ukuthuthukiswa kwezakhiwo nengqalasizinda phakathi kwamamitha anga-32 ukusuka emanzini okungenzekak akhona ngaphakathi kwe-CBA kanye ne-EFZ.

Iphrojekthi ingase futhi idinge Isicelo Selayisensi Yokusebenzisa Amanzi (Water Use License Application-WULA) noma Ukugunyazwa Okujwayelekile (General Authorisation-GA) ngokweSigaba 21 se-NWA. Isigaba 21 (c): Ukuvimbelwa noma ukuphambukisa ukugeleza kwamanzi emseleni wamanzi. Isigaba 21 (i): Ukushintsha kosebe noma uqeqema, ukugeleza noma izici zomfula. Isigaba 21 (j): Ukukhipha, ukuchithwa noma ukuchithwa kwamanzi atholakala ngaphansi komhlaba uma kunesidingo sokuqhubeka kahle komsebenzi noma ukuphepha kwabantu.

ISIMEMO SOKUBHALISA NJENGEJAP UKUZE UBEKE UMBONO: Abantu Abanesithakaselo Nabathintekayo (I&APs) bayamnywa ukuba babhalise njengababambe iqhaza kulo msebenzi. Amaphepha okubhalisa nawokuphawula, namakhophi atholakala ngezobuchwepheshe emibhalo yolwazi oluyisisekelo ngephrojekthi ayatholakala ukuba alandwe kulesi sixhumanisi esingezansi.

ISIKHATHI SOMPHAKATHI SOKUBUYEKEZA: Umbiko Osalungiswa Wokuhlela uzotholakala ukuze kuphawulwe ngawo kusukela mhla ziyi-19 kuLwezi wezi-2024 kuya zingama-13 kuMasingana 2025 futhi ungafinyelelwa kusixhumanisi nasezindaweni zomphakathi ezingezansi ngalesi sikhathi:

Indawo	Ikheli	Iminingwane yokuxhumana	Operating Hours
Umtapo Wolwazi womphakathi-Richards Bay Public Library	Phakathi nedolobha-Richards Bay Central, Richards Bay, 3900	Ucingo: 035 907 5840	Kusukela KuMsombuluko kuya kuLwesihlanungo 9 ekuseni kuya ku 5 ntambama ngoMgqibelo kugamenxe elisi-8 kuya ku 11:45
Umtapo lwazi was Aquadene- Aquadene Public Library	4 Via Ammannia, Aquadene, Richards Bay, 3900	Ucingo: 035 907 5579	Kusukela KuMsombuluko kuya kuLwesihlanu ngo 9 ekuseni kuya ku 5 ntambama ngoMgqibelo kugamenxe elisi-8 kuya ku 12:00
Isizindalwazi se-WSP	https://www.wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents	Isizindalwazi esingadingi idatha se-WSP	https://wsp-engage.com/

I-WSP izocubungula ulwazi oluthile lomuntu siqu olumayelana naye njenge-I&AP ngezinyongo zokwenza ukubhalisa kwakho njenge-I&AP kanyenezinyongo zokugcina imininingwane yakho kusizindalwazi sethu uma uvuma ukuba senze kanjalo. I-WSP isebenzisa le mininingwane ukuze ixhumane naye mayelana namanye amaphrojekthi esikhathini esizayo. I-WSP izohlala icubungula ulwazi lwakho lomuntu siqu ngokuhambisana noMthetho Wokuvikela Ulwazi Lomuntu Siqu 4 wezi-2013 (Protection of Personal Information Act 4 of 2013). Unelungelo lokusebenzisa amalungelo akho njengomnikazi wolwazi futhi usazise uma ufisa ukusulwa ekubhaliseni njenge-I&AP noma uma ungasafuni imininingwane yakho yokuxhumana ifakwe kusizindalwazi sethu.

UKUTHOLA OLUNYE ULWAZI, SICELA UTHINTE: Public Participation Office; WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd; PO Box 6001, Halfway House, 1685; Tel: 011 254 4800; Fax: 086 582 1561, Imeyili: gld.pp@wsp.com



717	TENDERS	717	TENDERS	717	TENDERS	717	TENDERS
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uMSINGA MUNICIPALITY INVITATION TO TENDER

Bids are hereby invited in terms of Section 18(a) of the Msinga Municipality's Supply Chain Management Policy together with Section 83 of the Municipal Systems Act, No. 32 of 2000, as amended and read together with Sections 110, 111 and 112 of the Municipal Finance Management Act No. 56 of 2003 for:

ADVERT FOR ACCREDITED SERVICE PROVIDER TO PROVIDE BRICKLAYING AND SEWING TRAINING

Description of Tender	Duration	Tender Number	Documents Availability Date	Date, Time and place for compulsory briefing	Document Price	Closing Date and Time
BRICKLAYING TRAINING .	6 Months	MS/2024/ 2025/061/ 951/T	No tender documents only TOR from Municipal website: www.umsinga.gov.za	21 November 2024 at 10h00am at Municipal Offices.	None	29 November 2024 at 12h00pm.
SEWING TRAINING.	6 Months	MS/2024/ 2025/062/ 951/T	NO Tender Documents only TOR from Municipal website: www.umsinga.gov.za	21 November 2024 at 10h00am at Municipal Offices.	None	29 November 2024 at 12h00pm.

Tender documents will be obtainable from: The office of SCM Unit, Mr S. Nkala, on tel: (033) 493 8033 during office hours.

All enquiries shall be directed to: Ms. B. Ndlovu, PMU Manager, on tel: (033) 493 8041 during office hours, 07h30 to 15h30 Monday to Friday.

Tenders must be enclosed in a sealed envelope, addressed to: The Municipal Manager, uMsinga Municipality and clearly marked: **TENDER NUMBER AND DESCRIPTION OF TENDER** and the **BIDDERS NAME AND DETAILS**. Tenders must be deposited in the tender box at the office of **uMsinga Municipality on the Main Road (R33) opposite MPCC, Tugela Ferry on or before 12h00** on the closing date and no late or faxed tenders will be considered.

1. EVALUATION CRITERIA a) Administrative Compliance. b) Functionality. c) PPPFA 2022 80/20, ownership specific goals set as follows:

- Race (Black People – CSD Copy) 05 Points
- Gender (Black women – CSD Copy) 10 Points
- Enterprises located in Umzinyathi District area 05 Points

A) ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLIANCE.

1. Invalid or non-submission of the following documents will lead to immediate disqualification.

- Obtaining 80 points on functionality • Attached Valid SARS PIN • Attached Fully CSD Report • Completed form of offer • Proof of attended the briefing meeting • Fully completed MBD Forms • Completed, signed and initial each page of tender offer • Attach proof of company registration • Proof of relevant Professional Body registration Accredited by SETA/SAQA • Municipal rates statement or affidavit for business operating in rural areas • Valid letter of good standing.

uMsinga Municipality does not bind itself to accept the lowest of any tender and reserves the right to accept the whole or any part of the tender.

MR S.L. SOKHELA: MUNICIPAL MANAGER

Appendix C

DSR - COMMENTS AND RE- SPONSES



DEVELOPMENT OF BERTH 605 AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE IN SUPPORT OF A CONTAINER HANDLING FACILITY, PORT OF RICHARDS BAY, KWAZULU-NATAL

Registration and Comment Sheet

Environmental Authorisation Application Commenting Period: Tuesday, 19 November 2024 to Monday, 13 January 2024



Your comments make an important contribution to these permitting processes. We would like to encourage you to register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) so that we can keep you updated and can respond to any questions or concerns that you may have.

PERSONAL DETAILS

Name	Surname	Title	Organisation / Department (If applicable)
Patrick	Nthombeni	MR	Ingede Logistics Manufacturing

CONTACT INFORMATION

Mobile Number	078 573 8823
Office Number	SAME AS ABOVE
Home Number	N/A
Fax Number	N/A
Email Postal Address	bafana@ingedelogistics.co.za
Postal Address	Postal code
	3900

WSP, will not share personal information with a third party

LANDOWNERS

If your property is adjacent to the site, please tell us your, street address, farm name and/or erf/portion number

26 Via Verbena Veldenvlei
Richards Bay

WOULD YOU LIKE TO REGISTER AS AN INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTY? (MARK WITH AN X)

YES
X

NO

Preferred Method of Communication (Mark with an X)

Post

Email
X

Fax

In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), I disclose below any direct business, financial, personal or other interest that I may have in the approval or refusal of the application:

Date

2024/11/19

Signature

COMMENT(S)

You are welcome to use additional pages should you so wish to do so.

I have the following comments to make regarding the project:

I started my business in 2008 as Logistics but never get any opportunities to start as logistics (road freight) due to the fact that I do not have start up capital and no contract that I am getting. I have qualification in this field and an experience from Rio Tinto (RBM) in inbound & outbound logistics. When the project is kicking off can I be considered as a local business from Mambuka Tribal Authority in the area of my birth.

Please ask the following of my colleagues / friends to register as Interested and Affected Parties:

NAME Patrick Sibusiso	CONTACT DETAILS 078 5738823
Mzikayise Mthombeni	082 064 4856
6901255402086	

PLEASE RETURN THE REGISTRATION AND COMMENT SHEET TO:

Public Participation Office
WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd.
PO Box 6001, Halfway House, 1685
Tel: (011) 254 4800; Fax: (086) 582 1561
E-mail: gld.pp@wsp.com



THANK YOU

WSP will be processing certain personal information about you as an interested and affected party (I & AP) for purposes of enabling your registration as an I & AP and for purposes of storing your details on our database, if you consent for us to do so. WSP uses these details to contact you about other projects in the future. WSP will always process your personal information in accordance with the Protection of Personal Information Act 4 of 2013. You are entitled to exercise your rights as a data subject and let us know if you wish to be deregistered as an I & AP or if you no longer want your contact details to be included on our database.

Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: ZA - GLD - PPOffice
Sent: Tuesday, 19 November 2024 12:26
To: [REDACTED] ZA - GLD - PPOffice
Subject: RE: Registration

Good day Bafana,

Thank you for your comment.

Kindly note that they will be captured in the project's comments and responses register.

Kind regards,



Public Participation Office

T+ 27 11 361 1300

F+ 27 86 582 1561



WSP in Africa
Building 1, Maxwell Office Park
Magwa Crescent West
Waterfall City
Midrand, 1685
P.O. Box 6001
Halfway House
1685

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 19 November 2024 09:20
To: ZA - GLD - PPOffice <gld.PP@wsp.com>
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Registration

Good day,

Kindly receive my completed form.

Kind Regards

Bafana Mthombeni
Chief Operating Officer



Unit 4 Oasis Centre Ukhula Street Empangeni
KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

M: [REDACTED]

email: [REDACTED]



Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: Matthew Preiss (Grindrod) [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 22 November 2024 14:48
To: ZA - GLD - PPOffice
Cc: sicebi; Jacob Nare; Paul Leisegang (Grindrod); Peter Henderson
Subject: RE: IAP| TNPA - Berth 605 - Richards Bay

Thank you.

All the best,

Matthew



Matthew Preiss
Project Manager - Business Development
Grindrod Freight Services

108 Margaret Mncadi Avenue, Durban, 4001Durban4000

P + [REDACTED]
E [REDACTED]

www.grindrod.com

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Privacy Notice - <https://www.grindrod.com/privacy-notice>

From: ZA - GLD - PPOffice <gld.PP@wsp.com>

Sent: 22 November 2024 12:59

To: Matthew Preiss (Grindrod) <[REDACTED]>; ZA - GLD - PPOffice <gld.PP@wsp.com>

Cc: sicebi <[REDACTED]>; Jacob Nare <[REDACTED]>; Paul Leisegang (Grindrod) <[REDACTED]>; Peter Henderson <[REDACTED]>

Subject: RE: IAP| TNPA - Berth 605 - Richards Bay

Grindrod IT: This email is from an external source. Please be cautious before clicking any link or attachment.

Good day Matthew,

All in copy have been registered on to the database.

Kind regards,



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F+ 27 86 582 1561



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Waterfall City
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From: Matthew Preiss (Grindrod) [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 15 November 2024 13:37
To: ZA - GLD - PPOffice <gld.PP@wsp.com>
[REDACTED]

Subject: RE: IAP | TNPA - Berth 605 - Richards Bay

Good day,

Yes, please include all those in copy.

All the best,

Matthew



Matthew Preiss
Project Manager - Business Development
Grindrod Freight Services

108 Margaret Mncadi Avenue, Durban, 4001Durban4000
[REDACTED]

www.grindrod.com

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From: ZA - GLD - PPOffice <gld.PP@wsp.com>

Sent: 15 November 2024 13:32

To: Matthew Preiss (Grindrod) [REDACTED]; ZA - GLD - PPOffice <gld.PP@wsp.com>

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: IAP | TNPA - Berth 605 - Richards Bay

Grindrod IT: This email is from an external source. Please be cautious before clicking any link or attachment.

Good day Matthew,

Kindly note that you have been added on to the project database.

Please confirm if those in copy should also be included.

Kind regards,



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F+ 27 86 582 1561



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From: Matthew Preiss (Grindrod) [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, 14 November 2024 14:10

To: ZA - GLD - PPOffice <gld.PP@wsp.com>

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: IAP | TNPA - Berth 605 - Richards Bay

Good afternoon,

We note the advert released this morning regarding the EIA and WULA process for Berth 605 in Richards Bay.

Please note we would like to register as a Interested and Affected Party (IAP) as Grindrod Eyamakhosi (Pty) Ltd were selected by TNPA as the preferred bidder for the development, construction and operation of the Container Handling Facility at berth 605.

All the best,

Matthew



Matthew Preiss
Project Manager - Business Development
Grindrod Freight Services

108 Margaret Mncadi Avenue, Durban, 4001Durban4000



www.grindrod.com

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-LAEmHhHzdJzBITWfa4Hgs7pbKI

DEVELOPMENT OF BERTH 605 AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE IN SUPPORT OF A CONTAINER HANDLING FACILITY, PORT OF RICHARDS BAY, KWAZULU-NATAL

Registration and Comment Sheet



Environmental Authorisation Application Commenting Period: Tuesday, 19 November 2024 to Monday, 13 January 2024

Your comments make an important contribution to these permitting processes. We would like to encourage you to register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) so that we can keep you updated and can respond to any questions or concerns that you may have.

PERSONAL DETAILS			
Name	Surname	Title	Organisation / Department (If applicable)
Louwaine	Swarts	Mrs	IOCO
CONTACT INFORMATION			
Mobile Number	[REDACTED]		
Office Number	[REDACTED]		
Home Number			
Fax Number			
Email Postal Address	[REDACTED]		
Postal Address			Postal code
[REDACTED]			[REDACTED]
golf estate, Richardsbay WSP, will not share personal information with a third party			
LANDOWNERS			
If your property is adjacent to the site, please tell us your, street address, farm name and/or erf/portion number		NO	
WOULD YOU LIKE TO REGISTER AS AN INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTY? (MARK WITH AN X)			YES X
Preferred Method of Communication (Mark with an X)		Post	Email X
		Fax	
In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), I disclose below any direct business, financial, personal or other interest that I may have in the approval or refusal of the application:		Date	19/11/2024
		Signature	[REDACTED]

COMMENT(S)

You are welcome to use additional pages should you so wish to do so.

I have the following comments to make regarding the project:

[illegible]

Please ask the following of my colleagues / friends to register as Interested and Affected Parties:

NAME	CONTACT DETAILS

PLEASE RETURN THE REGISTRATION AND COMMENT SHEET TO:

**Public Participation Office
WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd.
PO Box 6001, Halfway House, 1685
Tel: (011) 254 4800; Fax: (086) 582 1561
E-mail: gld.pp@wsp.com**

WS | D

THANK YOU

WSP will be processing certain personal information about you as an interested and affected party (I & AP) for purposes of enabling your registration as an I & AP and for purposes of storing your details on our database, if you consent for us to do so. WSP uses these details to contact you about other projects in the future. WSP will always process your personal information in accordance with the Protection of Personal Information Act 4 of 2013. You are entitled to exercise your rights as a data subject and let us know if you wish to be deregistered as an I & AP or if you no longer want your contact details to be included on our database.

Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: ZA - GLD - PPOffice
Sent: Tuesday, 19 November 2024 12:34
To: Louwaine Swarts; ZA - GLD - PPOffice
Subject: RE: Berth 605 Comment Sheet.pdf

Good day Louwaine,

Thank you for your comment form.

Kindly note that you have been registered on the project database..

Kind regards,



Public Participation Office

T+ 27 11 361 1300

F+ 27 86 582 1561



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From: Louwaine Swarts <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, 19 November 2024 08:33
To: ZA - GLD - PPOffice <glld.PP@wsp.com>
Subject: Berth 605 Comment Sheet.pdf

Under the Protection of Personal Information Act, 04 of 2013 ("POPIA"), we have a general legal duty to protect information we process. EOH Holdings Ltd and its subsidiaries (collectively "EOH") are committed to ensuring the security and protection of the personal information processed by the organisation, and to provide a compliant and consistent approach to data protection. The information contained in this email and any attachments thereto may be privileged or confidential and are only intended for the exclusive use and attention of the addressed recipient. If you have received this email by mistake, please delete same and advise the sender immediately. Should you have any questions related to our POPIA compliance, please send a mail to privacy@eoh.com or you may refer to [EOH's Privacy Policy](#) and [EOH's Email Disclaimer](#)

Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: ZA - GLD - PPOffice
Sent: Friday, 22 November 2024 12:22
To: Lyndith Waller; ZA - GLD - PPOffice
Cc: Caroline Mangwane
Subject: RE: 43102871 - DEVELOPMENT OF BERTH 605 AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE IN SUPPORT OF THE CONTAINER HANDLING FACILITY AT THE PORT OF RICHARDS BAY – NOTIFICATION OF THE PROJECT AND THE SCOPING AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTING PROCESS

Good day Lyndith,

Thank you for the update. We will await correspondence.

Kind regards,



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T+ 27 11 361 1300

F+ 27 86 582 1561



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Midrand, 1685
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From: Lyndith Waller [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 20 November 2024 21:26
To: ZA - GLD - PPOffice <gld.PP@wsp.com>
Cc: Caroline Mangwane [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: 43102871 - DEVELOPMENT OF BERTH 605 AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE IN SUPPORT OF THE CONTAINER HANDLING FACILITY AT THE PORT OF RICHARDS BAY – NOTIFICATION OF THE PROJECT AND THE SCOPING AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTING PROCESS

Dear Public Participation Office,

Thank you for your email sent to the Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, the Hon. Mr Velenkosini Hlabisa.

Please be advised that your correspondence is being handled by Ms Caroline Mangwane, Deputy Director: Administration in the Ministry. She will be in touch with you to confirm receipt and to direct you to the relevant person to engage with further, as needed.

Please feel free to contact Ms Mangwane on [REDACTED]

Regards,

Ms Lyndith Waller
Private and Appointments Secretary
Office of the Minister



MINISTRY
COOPERATIVE GOVERNANCE
AND TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

From: ZA - GLD - PPOffice <gld.PP@wsp.com>

Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 4:03 PM

Subject: 43102871 - DEVELOPMENT OF BERTH 605 AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE IN SUPPORT OF THE CONTAINER HANDLING FACILITY AT THE PORT OF RICHARDS BAY – NOTIFICATION OF THE PROJECT AND THE SCOPING AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTING PROCESS

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Dear Stakeholder,

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed by Transnet National Ports Authority (TNPA) for the provision of feasibility studies for the development of Berth 605 and associated infrastructure in support of a Container Handling Facility and associated infrastructure located within the Port of Richards Bay (PoRB), KwaZulu-Natal Province. As part of the overall appointment, WSP has been commissioned to undertake the Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) process as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The TNPA functions in terms of the National Ports Act (No.12 of 2005) in which TNPA is responsible for the provision of port services and facilities within all ports of South Africa. In its role as the master planner, the TNPA also plans to improve, develop and maintain port infrastructure. Various development opportunities were identified by TNPA across three precincts namely South Dunes, Newark and Bayvue and are reflected in the Port Development Framework Plan (PDFP) and the Port of Richards Bay Master Plan 2021 – 2035. The Berth 605 project is reflected in the PDFP and the PoRB Master Plan, 2021-2035 and forms part of the Bayvue Precinct development.

The application for Environmental Authorisation (EA) has been submitted to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment and the Draft Scoping Report has been released for a 30 day comment period.

For further information please refer to the attached letter.

Kind regards,



Public Participation Office

T+ 27 11 361 1300

F+ 27 86 582 1561



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Building 1, Maxwell Office Park
Magwa Crescent West
Waterfall City
Midrand, 1685
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-LAEmHhHzdJzBITWfe4Hgs7pbKI

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Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: ZA - GLD - PPOffice
Sent: Friday, 22 November 2024 12:29
To: Thuli Hlongwane TTransnet Port Terminals RCB; ZA - GLD - PPOffice
Subject: RE: Berth 605 EIA I&AP Registration

Good day Thuli,

You have been registered on the project database.

Kind regards,



Public Participation Office

T+ 27 11 361 1300

F+ 27 86 582 1561



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Building 1, Maxwell Office Park
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From: Thuli Hlongwane TTransnet Port Terminals RCB [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 20 November 2024 11:46
To: ZA - GLD - PPOffice <gld.PP@wsp.com>
Subject: RE: Berth 605 EIA I&AP Registration
Importance: High

Good day

Please see attached application for your attention.

Thank you.



Thuli Hlongwane
Environmental Officer
SHEQ
Transnet Port Terminals

www.transnet.net

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DEVELOPMENT OF BERTH 605 AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE IN SUPPORT OF A CONTAINER HANDLING FACILITY, PORT OF RICHARDS BAY, KWAZULU-NATAL

Registration and Comment Sheet

Environmental Authorisation Application Commenting Period: Tuesday, 19 November 2024 to Monday, 13 January 2024



Your comments make an important contribution to these permitting processes. We would like to encourage you to register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) so that we can keep you updated and can respond to any questions or concerns that you may have.

PERSONAL DETAILS				
Name	Surname	Title	Organisation / Department (If applicable)	
Thulisiwe	Hlongwane	Ms	Transnet Port Terminal/SHEQ	
CONTACT INFORMATION				
Mobile Number	072 156 7072			
Office Number	035 905 3521			
Home Number	072 943 7446			
Fax Number	N/A			
Email Postal Address	Thuli.Hlongwane@Transnet.net			
Postal Address			Postal code	
P O Box 1793 Richards Bay			3	9 0 0
WSP, will not share personal information with a third party				
LANDOWNERS				
If your property is adjacent to the site, please tell us your, street address, farm name and/or erf/portion number		Transnet Port Authorities, Port of Richards Bay		
WOULD YOU LIKE TO REGISTER AS AN INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTY? (MARK WITH AN X)			YES X	NO
Preferred Method of Communication (Mark with an X)		Post	Email X	Fax
In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), I disclose below any direct business, financial, personal or other interest that I may have in the approval or refusal of the application:		Date	20 November 2024	
		Signature		

COMMENT(S)

You are welcome to use additional pages should you so wish to do so.

I have the following comments to make regarding the project:

Please ask the following of my colleagues / friends to register as Interested and Affected Parties:

NAME	CONTACT DETAILS

PLEASE RETURN THE REGISTRATION AND COMMENT SHEET TO:

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WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd.
PO Box 6001, Halfway House, 1685
Tel: (011) 254 4800; Fax: (086) 582 1561
E-mail: gld.pp@wsp.com



THANK YOU

WSP will be processing certain personal information about you as an interested and affected party (I & AP) for purposes of enabling your registration as an I & AP and for purposes of storing your details on our database, if you consent for us to do so. WSP uses these details to contact you about other projects in the future. WSP will always process your personal information in accordance with the Protection of Personal Information Act 4 of 2013. You are entitled to exercise your rights as a data subject and let us know if you wish to be deregistered as an I & AP or if you no longer want your contact details to be included on our database.

From: Zandra Lukhele <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, 20 November 2024 07:59
To: ZA - GLD - PPOffice
Subject: Re: 43102871 - DEVELOPMENT OF BERTH 605 AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE IN SUPPORT OF THE CONTAINER HANDLING FACILITY AT THE PORT OF RICHARDS BAY – NOTIFICATION OF THE PROJECT AND THE SCOPING AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTING PROCESS

On Mon, 18 Nov 2024 at 16:08, ZA - GLD - PPOffice <gld.PP@wsp.com> wrote:

Dear Stakeholder,

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed by Transnet National Ports Authority (TNPA) for the provision of feasibility studies for the development of Berth 605 and associated infrastructure in support of a Container Handling Facility and associated infrastructure located within the Port of Richards Bay (PoRB), KwaZulu-Natal Province. As part of the overall appointment, WSP has been commissioned to undertake the Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) process as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The TNPA functions in terms of the National Ports Act (No.12 of 2005) in which TNPA is responsible for the provision of port services and facilities within all ports of South Africa. In its role as the master planner, the TNPA also plans to improve, develop and maintain port infrastructure. Various development opportunities were identified by TNPA across three precincts namely South Dunes, Newark and Bayvue and are reflected in the Port Development Framework Plan (PDFP) and the Port of Richards Bay Master Plan 2021 – 2035. The Berth 605 project is reflected in the PDFP and the PoRB Master Plan, 2021-2035 and forms part of the Bayvue Precinct development.

The application for Environmental Authorisation (EA) has been submitted to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment and the Draft Scoping Report has been released for a 30 day comment period.

For further information please refer to the attached letter.

Kind regards,



Public Participation Office

T+ 27 11 361 1300

F+ 27 86 582 1561



WSP in Africa
Building 1, Maxwell Office Park
Magwa Crescent West
Waterfall City
Midrand, 1685
P.O. Box 6001
Halfway House
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-LAEmHhHzdJzBITWfa4Hgs7pbKI

Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: ZA - GLD - PPOffice
Sent: Friday, 22 November 2024 12:49
To: Cher Lawrence Transnet Port Terminals RCB; ZA - GLD - PPOffice
Cc: Thandeka Nkosi Transnet Port Terminals RCB; Thuli Hlongwane TTransnet Port Terminals RCB
Subject: RE: Berth 605 EIA I&AP Registration

Good day Cher,

Kindly note your details have been updated in our database.

Kindly confirm if those in copy should also be registered.

Kind regards,



Public Participation Office

T+ 27 11 361 1300

F+ 27 86 582 1561



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From: Cher Lawrence Transnet Port Terminals RCB <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, 19 November 2024 13:55
To: ZA - GLD - PPOffice <gld.PP@wsp.com>
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Berth 605 EIA I&AP Registration

Dear WSP,

Kindly register myself as an I&AP for the Berth 605 EIA.

Thank You,

	<p>Cher du Toit Environmental Officer SHEQ Department Transnet Port Terminals ☎ 035 905 3786 ✉ cher.lawrence@transnet.net 🌐 www.transnet.net</p>	<p>📱 060 559 7228 🍏 073 244 1733</p>
"Far and away the bet prize that life offers is the chance to work hard at work worth doing." THEODORE ROOSEVELT		

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Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: Anthony Botha Transnet Port Terminals DBN [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 22 November 2024 13:52
To: ZA - GLD - PPOffice
Subject: RE: BERTH 605 EIA

Hi There.

Many thanks.

Regards
Anthony

TRANSNET CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

From: ZA - GLD - PPOffice <gld.PP@wsp.com>
Sent: Friday, 22 November 2024 12:52
To: Anthony Botha Transnet Port Terminals DBN [REDACTED]; ZA - GLD - PPOffice <gld.PP@wsp.com>
Subject: RE: BERTH 605 EIA

 **CAUTION: EXTERNAL SENDER - Please be careful when opening links and attachments.** 

Please report any suspicious mail to phishing@transnet.net. Transnet Information Security

Good day Anthony,

You have been added on to the project database.

Kind regards,



Public Participation Office

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F+ 27 86 582 1561



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TRANSNET CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

From: Anthony Botha Transnet Port Terminals DBN [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, 19 November 2024 13:36

To: ZA - GLD - PPOffice <gld.PP@wsp.com>

Subject: BERTH 605 EIA

Good Afternoon.

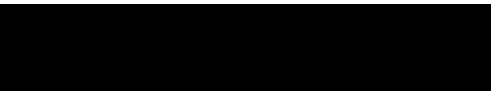
I hope you are well.

Please register me as an I&AP for the above Richards Bay project.

With thanks and regards



Anthony Botha
Transnet Port Terminals
Specialist: Environmental Management
Legal, Risk and Compliance – Head Office



www.transnetportterminals.net

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Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: ZA - GLD - PPOffice
Sent: Monday, 02 December 2024 17:17
To: Lucia Duduzile Cele; ZA - GLD - PPOffice
Subject: RE: 43102871 - DEVELOPMENT OF BERTH 605 AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE IN SUPPORT OF THE CONTAINER HANDLING FACILITY AT THE PORT OF RICHARDS BAY – NOTIFICATION OF THE PROJECT AND THE SCOPING AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTING PROCESS

Good day Lucia

You can go through the report at the following websites:

1. WSP Data Free Website - <https://wsp-engage.com/>
2. WSP Website - <https://www.wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents>

And provide comments by the 13th January 2025.

Kind regards,



Public Participation Office

T+ 27 11 361 1300

F+ 27 86 582 1561



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Waterfall City
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From: Lucia Duduzile Cele [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 27 November 2024 13:22
To: ZA - GLD - PPOffice <gld.PP@wsp.com>
Subject: Re: 43102871 - DEVELOPMENT OF BERTH 605 AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE IN SUPPORT OF THE CONTAINER HANDLING FACILITY AT THE PORT OF RICHARDS BAY – NOTIFICATION OF THE PROJECT AND THE SCOPING AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTING PROCESS

Thank you for the information.

I am keen to partake kindly advise me on how to tackle it

On Fri, Nov 22, 2024 at 12:56 PM ZA - GLD - PPOffice <gld.PP@wsp.com> wrote:

Good day Lucia

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed by Transnet National Ports Authority (TNPA) for the provision of feasibility studies for the development of Berth 605 and associated infrastructure in support of a Container Handling Facility and associated infrastructure located within the Port of Richards Bay (PoRB), KwaZulu-Natal Province. As part of the overall appointment, WSP has been commissioned to undertake the Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) process as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP).

As part of the preapplication phase of the project, WSP has looked for stakeholders that may have an interest or be affected by the project. You have been identified as such.

Kind regards,



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From: Lucia Duduzile Cele [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 18 November 2024 17:30
To: ZA - GLD - PPOffice <gld.PP@wsp.com>

Subject: Re: 43102871 - DEVELOPMENT OF BERTH 605 AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE IN SUPPORT OF THE CONTAINER HANDLING FACILITY AT THE PORT OF RICHARDS BAY – NOTIFICATION OF THE PROJECT AND THE SCOPING AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTING PROCESS

Kindly remind me about this
Am lost
How did you get my email address

On Mon, 18 Nov 2024, 16:08 ZA - GLD - PPOffice, <gld.PP@wsp.com> wrote:

Dear Stakeholder,

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed by Transnet National Ports Authority (TNPA) for the provision of feasibility studies for the development of Berth 605 and associated infrastructure in support of a Container Handling Facility and associated infrastructure located within the Port of Richards Bay (PoRB), KwaZulu-Natal Province. As part of the overall appointment, WSP has been commissioned to undertake the Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) process as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

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The application for Environmental Authorisation (EA) has been submitted to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment and the Draft Scoping Report has been released for a 30 day comment period.

For further information please refer to the attached letter.

Kind regards,

Public Participation Office

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Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: BC Admin <bcadmin@dfpe.gov.za>
Sent: Thursday, 05 December 2024 10:09
To: ZA - GLD - PPOffice
Cc: MMatlala Rabothata; Lindiwe Victoria Dlamini; Nompumeleo Lekalakala
Subject: RE: 41106959 - FDDM-MET-2013-17-P3-R3 - NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR THE VARIATION OF AN ATMOSPHERIC EMISSIONS LICENCE FOR THE NATIONAL PETROLEUM REFINERS OF SOUTH AFRICA "NATREF", SASOLBURG, FREE STATE PROVINCE

Dear Sir/Madam

DFPE Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation hereby acknowledge receipt of the invitation on the 22 November 2024 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@dfpe.gov.za for attention of Mr Seoka Lekota.

Kind regards,

Lindiwe Victoria Dlamini

*Directorate: Biodiversity Mainstreaming and FIA
Branch: Biodiversity and Conservation
473 Steve Biko Road | Private Bag X477 | Pretoria | 001
Cell: [REDACTED]
Website: www.environment.gov.za*

From: ZA - GLD - PPOffice <gld.PP@wsp.com>
Sent: Friday, 22 November 2024 08:02
Subject: 41106959 - FDDM-MET-2013-17-P3-R3 - NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR THE VARIATION OF AN ATMOSPHERIC EMISSIONS LICENCE FOR THE NATIONAL PETROLEUM REFINERS OF SOUTH AFRICA "NATREF", SASOLBURG, FREE STATE PROVINCE

Dear Stakeholder,

Notice is hereby given, in terms of Section 38 read with Section 46 of the National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act (No. 39 of 2004) (NEM: AQA), as amended, of the intent to apply for a variation to an existing Atmospheric Emission Licence (AEL).

INVITATION TO COMMENT:

Natref has appointed WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) to manage the stakeholder engagement process associated with the AEL renewal process. Any person wishing to submit comments with regards to the application may provide them in writing to the contact below during a 30-calendar day commenting period, from **22 November 2024 until 13 January 2025**. A comment form is available on the WSP website:

<https://www.wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents>

Please find attached a notification letter which provides more information about the project.

Should you have any queries/comments, please do not hesitate to contact the WSP Public Participation Office at (011) 254 4800 | Fax 086 582 1561 | Email: gld.pp@wsp.com.

Kind regards,



Public Participation Office

T+ 27 11 361 1300

F+ 27 86 582 1561



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Waterfall City
Midrand, 1685
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1685

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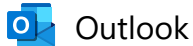
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RE: 43102871 - DEVELOPMENT OF BERTH 605 AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE IN SUPPORT OF THE CONTAINER HANDLING FACILITY AT THE PORT OF RICHARDS BAY – NOTIFICATION OF THE PROJECT AND THE SCOPING AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTING PROCESS

From ZA - GLD - PPOffice <gld.PP@wsp.com>

Date Tue 2024/12/10 15:47

To [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

 1 attachment (32 KB)

43102871 - Berth 605.kmz;

Good day Lindiwe

Please see the kmz file attached.

Kind regards,



Public Participation Office

T+ 27 11 361 1300

F+ 27 86 582 1561



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From: Lindiwe Victoria Dlamini <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Friday, 06 December 2024 09:31

To: ZA - GLD - PPOffice <gld.PP@wsp.com>

Cc: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Subject: FW: 43102871 - DEVELOPMENT OF BERTH 605 AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE IN SUPPORT OF

THE CONTAINER HANDLING FACILITY AT THE PORT OF RICHARDS BAY – NOTIFICATION OF THE PROJECT AND THE SCOPING AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTING PROCESS

Dear Sir/Madam

DFFE Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation hereby acknowledge receipt of the invitation on the 18 November 2024 to review and comment on the project mentioned on the subject line. Kindly note that the project has been allocated to Mrs P Makitla and Ms Nompumelelo Lekalakala (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

Kind regards,

Lindiwe Victoria Dlamini

*Directorate: Biodiversity Mainstreaming and EIA
Branch: Biodiversity and Conservation
473 Steve Biko Road|Private Bag X477|Pretoria|001
Cell: [REDACTED]
Website: www.environment.gov.za*

From: ZA - GLD - PPOffice <gld.PP@wsp.com>

Sent: Monday, 18 November 2024 16:03

Subject: 43102871 - DEVELOPMENT OF BERTH 605 AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE IN SUPPORT OF THE CONTAINER HANDLING FACILITY AT THE PORT OF RICHARDS BAY – NOTIFICATION OF THE PROJECT AND THE SCOPING AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTING PROCESS

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For further information please refer to the attached letter.

Kind regards,



Public Participation Office

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KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE
AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Agricultural Resource Management: Land Use Management,
Private Bag X 9059 Pietermaritzburg, 3201
Park Homes behind Engineering Building, 1 Cedara Road,
Pietermaritzburg, Tel: 033 343 8288

P.O Box 6001

Halfway House

1685

09/12/2024

Dear Sir/Madam

This serves as a notice of receipt and also confirms that your application has been captured in our electronic Land Use Database

Details of your application as captured

Type: DEVELOPMENT

Your reference number:

Property description: PORT OF RICHARDS BAY

Please quote this reference number in all queries:

Land Use Management Reference Number: 2022/11/6033

Yours sincerely,

Ms S. B Thabede

Acting Deputy Director: Land Use Management



RE: PORT OF RICHARDS BAY

From ZA - GLD - PPOffice <gld.PP@wsp.com>

Date Tue 2024/12/10 16:02

To Thandekile Nxumalo <[REDACTED]> ZA - GLD - PPOffice <gld.PP@wsp.com>

Good day Thandekile,

Received, Thank you.

Kind regards,



Public Participation Office

T+ 27 11 361 1300

F+ 27 86 582 1561



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From: Thandekile Nxumalo <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, 09 December 2024 15:38
To: ZA - GLD - PPOffice <gld.PP@wsp.com>
Subject: PORT OF RICHARDS BAY

Kindly find the attached letter confirming the receipt of your application.

Regards

T.V NXUMALO (DATA-CAPTURE)

LAND USE REGULATORY UNIT**TEL : 0** 

Disclaimer All views or opinions in this electronic message and its attachments are the view of the sender and do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the Provincial Government of KwaZulu-Natal ("the PGKZN") and any individual seeking to rely on the accuracy and veracity of any information contained therein does so at his or her own risk. The PGKZN will not accept liability for any actions taken by an individual relying on information contained in this e-mail unless such information is provided by an authorized official of PGKZN acting in their duly authorized capacity and authorized to provide such information. Disclaimer The information contained in this communication from the sender is confidential. It is intended solely for use by the recipient and others authorized to receive it. If you are not the recipient, you are hereby notified that any disclosure, copying, distribution or taking action in relation of the contents of this information is strictly prohibited and may be unlawful.



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X447, Pretoria, 0001, Environment House, 473 Steve Biko Road, Pretoria, 0002 Tel: +27 12 399 9000, Fax: +27 86 625 1042

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2656

Enquiries: Ms Constance Musemburi

Telephone: (012) 399 9416 E-mail: [REDACTED]

Ms Patricia Nathaniel
WSP Group Pty (Ltd)
WSP in Africa
1st Floor, Pharos House
70 Buckingham Terrace
WESTVILLE
3629

Cell Number: [REDACTED]
Email Address: [REDACTED]

PER MAIL / E-MAIL.

Dear Ms Nathaniel

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF NEW BERTH 605 AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE TO SUPPORT THE CONTAINER HANDLING FACILITY, PORT OF RICHARDS BAY, KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE.

The Application for Environmental Authorisation and Draft Scoping Report (SR) dated November and received by the Department on 18 November 2024 and acknowledged on 19 November 2024, refer.

This letter serves to inform you that the following information must be included to the final SR:

1. Application form and Listed Activities

- a) The Application Form indicates that *"Infilling of wetlands potentially identified in the project area and will be confirmed during the specialist investigation"*. It is further noted that there is use of the words *"may, potentially, etc"*, when describing the project activity that triggers the listed activities applied for. Please ensure that you refrain from using words such as, *"it is anticipated, potentially,"* etc. Listed Activities are not based on a precautionary approach. The EAP/Applicant must be certain why listed activities are being triggered to enable the competent authority to apply its mind to all the assessed listed activities during decision making. Only applicable listed activities must be applied for and the project description must be specific on what is being proposed in the final SR.
- b) Please ensure that the relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and that it can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure as described in the project description. As such an amended application form must be submitted together with the final SR.

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Batho pele- putting people first

The processing of personal information by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment is done lawfully and not excessive to the purpose of processing in compliance with the POPI Act, any codes of conduct issued by the Information Regulator in terms of the POPI Act and / or relevant legislation providing appropriate security safeguards for the processing of personal information of others.

- c) Please clarify and confirm the applicability of Listing notice 2, Activity 26. Also highlight sub-listings triggered by this activity. The SR must assess the correct sub-listed activity for each listed activity applied for and include thresholds. Will the proposed development increase the development footprint of the port or harbour?
- d) Please ensure that the relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure as described in the project description. Please provide a full description of how the listed activity is triggered by the proposed development, including the threshold where necessary. Only activities applicable to the development must be applied for and assessed.
- e) Carefully consider the triggers for Listing notice 3 activities. Please ensure that the provincial department confirms that the systematic biodiversity plans/bioregional plan have been adopted by the competent authority and confirms the development is within these areas. This information must be included in the amended application form and final SR to be submitted.
- f) You are required to confirm whether systematic biodiversity plans or bioregional plans are adopted by the competent authority. There are certain activities in Listing Notice 3 that requires that Bioregional Plans to be adopted.
- g) If the activities applied for in the application form differ from those mentioned in the final SR, an amended application form must be submitted for final review and decision making. Please note that the Department's templates can be downloaded from the following link <https://www.dffe.gov.za/forms>.

2. Alternatives

- a) A description of the process followed to reach the preferred alternative within the site as per Appendix 2(1)(g) of the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, must be incorporated into the final SR.
- b) Please note that Appendix 2(2)(1)(g)(x) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, requires that "if no alternatives, including alternative locations for the activity were investigated, the motivation for not considering such" must be included in the SR. You are therefore required to provide motivation should other alternative sites, routes, layouts, and technologies not be considered.
- c) Please ensure that through the description and assessment of alternatives in the final SR, the decision maker must be in a position to follow the argument as to which alternatives will be further evaluated and which alternatives were scoped out of the process. Apart from evaluating the impact of the proposed development against baseline conditions, a clear indication (**i.e. reasoned opinion**) must be provided by the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) on the sustainability of the proposed development and the preferred alternative.

3. Layout & Sensitivity Maps

- a) The final layout map must indicate the following (but not limited to the below):
 - The proposed development area.
 - Final position of all infrastructure e.g., new berth pocket and quay wall, dredging areas, dredge disposal areas, new rail siding, footprint of the Container Handling Facility (CHF) and apron area, access roads, etc.
 - Permanent laydown area footprint.
 - All supporting onsite infrastructure e.g., laydown areas, sewer network, storm water network, electrical infrastructure (existing and proposed).
 - All existing infrastructure on the site.
 - The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g., CBAs, ESAs, visually sensitive areas, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected.
 - Buffer areas recommended by specialists; and
 - All "no-go" areas.

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- b) Please ensure that the above map has a clear legend that communicates with details of the map.
- c) The above map must be overlain with a sensitivity map and a cumulative map.
- d) Images and Google maps will not be accepted for decision-making purposes.
- e) It must be emphasised that the final EIAR must include **a final layout map** which adheres to specialist recommendations as well as the identified no-go areas and buffer zones.
- f) Include a description of the process to determine the finalised layout i.e. specialist considerations, site sensitivities etc.
- g) Please include a separate appendix which contains all relevant mapping information. Ensure that clear, legible maps of high resolution are provided.

4. Specialist Assessments to be conducted in the EIA Phase

- a) Specialist studies to be conducted must provide a detailed description of their methodology, as well as indicate the locations and descriptions of turbines, and all other associated infrastructures that they have assessed and are recommending for authorisations.
- b) The specialist studies must also provide a detailed description of all limitations to their studies. All specialist studies must be conducted in the right season and providing that as a limitation, will not be accepted.
- c) Should the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must clearly indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with defensible reasons; and where necessary, include further expert advice.
- d) 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 note that specialist assessments must be conducted in accordance with these protocols. Please note further that the protocols require the specialists' to be registered with SACNASP in their respective field.**
- e) Please include a table in the report, summarising the specialist studies required by the Department's Screening Tool, a column indicating whether these studies were conducted or not, and a column with motivation for any studies not conducted. Please note that if any of the specialists' studies and requirements/protocols recommended in the Department's Screening Tool are not commissioned, motivation for such must be provided in the report per the requirements of the Protocols.
- f) The screening tool output:
 - The screening tool and the gazetted protocols (GN R320 of 20 March 2020 and GN R 1150 of 30 October 2020) require a site sensitivity verification to be completed to either confirm or dispute the findings and sensitivity ratings of the screening tool.
 - Site sensitivity verifications for all the identified specialist studies (according to the screening tool) must be provided.
 - It is the responsibility of the EAP to confirm the list of specialist assessments provided by the screening tool 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. The site sensitivity verification for each of the recommended studies, as per the protocols, must be compiled and attached. If the findings of the site verification differed from the screening tool and was found to be of a different sensitivity level, then a compliance statement would be acceptable.

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- g) Should the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must clearly indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with defensible reasons; and where necessary, include further expertise advice.
- h) It is the responsibility of the EAP to confirm the list of identified specialist studies 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. The draft SR on page 141 of 152 states that *"The site is considered very high sensitivity due to the very high land capability rating. However, based on the location of the site within the port, the very high sensitivity is refuted. As such a specialist study will not be undertaken"*. In this regard, the site sensitivity verification report and a compliance statement for the Agricultural Theme is required in order to confirm the abovementioned statement. The site sensitivity verification for each of the recommended studies, as per the protocols, must be compiled and submitted together with the final SR.

"An applicant intending to undertake an activity identified in the scope of this protocol, on a site identified on the screening tool as being of "very high sensitivity" for terrestrial biodiversity, must submit a Terrestrial Biodiversity Specialist Assessment." If the findings of the site verification differed from the screening tool and was found to be of a different sensitivity level, then a compliance statement would be accepted.

5. **Public Participation Process**

- a) Please ensure that comments from all relevant stakeholders are submitted to the Department with the final SR. This includes but not limited to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment (DFFE): Biodiversity Planning and Conservation (BCAdmin@dfpe.gov.za); Provincial Departments, South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA), DFFE: Oceans and Coast, DFFE: Water Sources and Wetlands Conservation Directorate (██████████ for attention Mr Stanley Tshitwamulomoni); Department of Water and Sanitation, as well as the affected district and local municipalities.
- b) Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the final SR. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof must be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.
- c) The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulations 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.
- d) The comments and response trail report (C&R) must be submitted with the final SR and subsequent documentation. The C&R report must incorporate all comments for this development. The C&R report must be a separate document from the main report and the format must be in the table format as indicated in Annexure 1 of this comments letter. Where necessary, comment received for specific projects must be clearly depicted.
- e) 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 comments) in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed. Comments made by I&APs must be comprehensively captured (copy verbatim if required) and responded to clearly and fully. Please note that a response such as "Noted" is not regarded as an adequate response to I&AP's comments.

6. **Cumulative Assessment to be conducted in the EIA Phase**

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:

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- 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.
- 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.

7. Environmental Management Programme (EMPr)

- a. The EMPr must include the following:
 - You are required to comply with the content of the EMPr in terms of Appendix 4 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended.
- b. The EMPr must consider the following, and where possible, include:
 - An alien invasive management plan to be implemented during construction and operation of the facility. The plan must include mitigation measures to reduce the invasion of alien species and ensure that the continuous monitoring and removal of alien species is undertaken.
 - A plant rescue and protection plan which allows for the maximum transplant of conservation important species from areas to be transformed. This plan must be compiled by a vegetation specialist familiar with the site and be implemented prior to commencement of the construction phase.
 - A re-vegetation and habitat rehabilitation plan to be implemented during the construction and operation of the facility. Restoration must be undertaken as soon as possible after completion of construction activities to reduce the amount of habitat converted at any one time and to speed up the recovery to natural habitats.
 - An open space management plan to be implemented during the construction and operation of the facility.
 - A transportation plan for the transport of components, main assembly cranes and other large pieces of equipment.
 - A storm water management plan to be implemented during the construction and operation of the facility. The plan must ensure compliance with applicable regulations and prevent off-site migration of contaminated storm water or increased soil erosion. The plan must include the construction of appropriate design measures that allow surface and subsurface movement of water along drainage lines so as not to impede natural surface and subsurface flows. Drainage measures must promote the dissipation of storm water run-off.
 - An erosion management plan for monitoring and rehabilitating erosion events associated with the facility. Appropriate erosion mitigation must form part of this plan to prevent and reduce the risk of any potential erosion.
 - An effective monitoring system to detect any leakage or spillage of all hazardous substances during their transportation, handling, use and storage. This must include precautionary measures to limit the possibility of oil and other toxic liquids from entering the soil or storm water systems.
 - Measures to protect hydrological features such as streams, rivers, pans, wetlands, dams and their catchments, and other environmental sensitive areas from construction impacts including the direct or indirect spillage of pollutants.
- c. The EAP must provide detailed motivation if any of the above requirements is not required by the proposed development and not included in the EMPr.

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General

The EAP is requested to contact the Department to make the necessary arrangements to conduct a site inspection prior to the submission of the final EIARs.

You are 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 SR 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"

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 SRs in accordance with Appendix 2 and Regulation 21(1) of the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.

Further note that in terms of Regulation 45 of the NEMA 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.

Yours sincerely



Dr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Forestry, Fisheries & the Environment

Signed by: Mr Wayne Hector

Designation: Deputy Director: Prioritised Infrastructure Projects

Date: 06/12/2024

cc:	Mr. Thami Sithole	Transnet National Ports Authority (TNPA)	Email:	
		Transnet Environment	Email:	
	Muziwandile Mdamba	KZN EDTEA	Email:	
	Brenda Strachan	City of uMhlatuze Local Municipality	Email:	

Annexure 1

1. Format for Comments and Response Report:

Date of comment, format of comment name of organisation/I&AP,	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
27/03/2021 Email Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment: National Infrastructure Projects (Joe Soap)	Please record C&R trail report in this format Please update the contact details of the provincial environmental authority	EAP: (Noted) The C&R trail report has been updated into the desired format, see Appendix K EAP: Details of provincial authority have been updated, see page 16 of the Application form



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447· PRETORIA 0001· Environment House 473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia· PRETORIA

Enquiries: EIAApplications
E-mail: EIAApplications@environment.gov.za

TO	ALL STAKEHOLDERS
FROM	DR SABELO MALAZA CHIEF DIRECTOR: INTEGRATED ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATIONS
SUBJECT	TIMEFRAMES PRESCRIBED FOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT, SECTION 24G AND INTEGRATED ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATIONS DURING THE PERIOD INCLUDING 15 DECEMBER 2024 TO 05 JANUARY 2025
DATE OF LETTER	27 AUGUST 2024

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

The Chief Directorate: Integrated Environmental Authorisations (CD:IEA) of the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) wishes to inform all stakeholders of the provision in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations 2014, as amended, of the mandatory exclusion from 15 December to 05 January. Regulation 3(2) of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended, states that *"For any action contemplated in terms of these Regulations for which a timeframe is prescribed, the period of 15 December to 5 January must be excluded in the reckoning of days."*

Kindly be informed that the CD:IEA in the DFFE **will not be receiving** applications for Environmental Authorisations (EA) in terms of Chapter 4 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended; applications for amendments to EA's and Environmental Management Programme in terms of Chapter 5 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended; or any other application/approval required in terms of the Regulations during the period of **15 December 2024 until 05 January 2025**. The above also applies in terms of NEMA Section 24G applications.

Decisions/comments on applications and their associated notifications will also not be issued between 15 December 2024 and 05 January 2025.

Any timeframes associated with the public participation process must exclude the period 15 December 2024 to 05 January 2025. The timeframe of 30 days for all Interested and Affected Parties to comment on applications must also exclude this period. In accordance with Regulation 3(3) of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended, only in exceptional circumstances and if agreed to by the Department, may the applicant conduct any public participation during this period.

The following applies to the online system for receiving of EIA applications (OneDrive), as well as the EIA Applications mailbox:

- The mailbox and online system (OneDrive) will be closed from 16h00 on 14 December 2024 till 08h00 on 06 January 2025.
- Stakeholders will not be able to upload documents to the online system (OneDrive), during this period. The system will be closed, and no passwords will be issued.
- The mailbox will not process any emails during this period, and any emails sent during this period will only be considered on 06 January 2025.

- You are therefore requested to only submit emails after the closure period, to ensure that your requests are attended to accordingly. This will prevent emails/requests being unaccounted for during this period.

The CD: IEA of the DFFE will reopen for submission of applications and/or reports and will only consider emails on the EIA Applications mailbox from the 06 January 2025. All emails received after 16:00pm on the 14 of December 2024 and between the 15 December 2024 to 05 January 2025 will not be considered and will be deleted from the EIAApplications mailbox.

Yours faithfully



Dr Sabelo Malaza
Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Date: 14/10/2024

Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: Nosihle Mathe [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 10 January 2025 13:56
To: ZA - GLD - PPOffice
Cc: Nokubonga Khumalo; Estelle Naidoo; Brenda Strachan
Subject: Comments from the City of uMhlathuze: New Berth 605
Attachments: Signed Comment letter for the proposed Draft Scoping and Environmental Impact Report in relation to the application for the development of new Berth 605 and associated infrastructure to support the container handling facility, Port of Richards Bay, KwaZulu-Natal. 10 January 2025SInfrustruc25011013050.pdf

Good day,

Kindly find attached Letter for your attention.
Please notify us once received.

Kind regards!

Nosihle Mathe
Intern: Environmental Planning
Department: City Development

Enquiries: reg@umhlathuze.gov.za
Telephone: 035 907 5000
Fax: 035 907 5444/5/6/7
Toll Free No: 0800 222 827



Physical Address:
5 Mark Strasse Civic Centre
Private Bag X1004
Richards Bay, 3900

Your ref:
Contact: E Naidoo (035-9075174)

Our file ref: 15/1/17/4/2
In response to DMS No.: 1710240
Date: 10 January 2025

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd
1st Floor, Pharos House
70 Buckingham Terrace
Westville,
3629

ATTENTION: Patricia Nathaniel
Email: gld.PP@wsp.com

Dear Sir/Madam

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT IN RELATION TO THE APPLICATION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW BERTH 605 AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE TO SUPPORT THE CONTAINER HANDLING FACILITY, PORT OF RICHARDS BAY, KWAZULU-NATAL.

The City of uMhlathuze has reviewed the draft Scoping and Environmental Impact Report, dated 19 November 2024, in respect of the above application. We accordingly submit the following comments:

1. LAND USE MANAGEMENT

- The site is zoned as Harbour and falls within the jurisdiction of the Port Authority, permitting such activities.
- Building Plans must be submitted to the Municipality for approval before the development of any new structures.

2. AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT

The facility is required to ensure the following is monitored to determine impacts on the environment:

- Dust Fallout monitoring should be conducted in accordance with the National Dust Control Regulations, 2013.
- Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂) as it can have detrimental effects on both human health and the environment.
- Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) due to their potential to contribute to air pollution and pose health risks.

3. TRANSPORT PLANNING

- The City of uMhlathuze notes that the access and new infrastructure will be within the Port area.
- The Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA) must detail the expected increase in trip generation and assess how the New Berth 605 will affect the external road network leading to and along the John Ross (R34).
- The New Berth 605 is projected to generate additional trips, generating external traffic. Transnet needs to improve the truck staging area on-site, as the current facility has limited capacity; and reliance on external truck stops is not always feasible.
- Trucks are prohibited from waiting along municipal, provincial, or national roads to enter the Port area.

All correspondence must be addressed to the City Manager

- There are concerns about managing container truck movements, similar to the concerns with coal truck movements. In this regard, access through Gate 0 needs clarification. It may be necessary to widen the Harbour Arterial to prevent dangerous traffic conditions due to conflict between various types of cargo deliveries.
- It is not acceptable to dismiss trip generation as minor given existing congestion because of port operations and inadequate rail services. Solutions are required given the current situation.
- The rail system has proven unreliable; therefore, development plans must account for worst-case scenarios where rail operations fail, as has been observed in recent years.
- Consideration must be given to use dredging material for sand replenishment purposes on Alkantstrand (Northern Beaches) if it is found to be clean and of a good quality. It is also proposed to put the material on the northern side of the pier to make the area shallower and to improve the sea floor level to reduce wave action.
- The report references (under 6.1.11) that 3,900 trucks entered the port in 2012. This figure raises questions given that in 2024, approximately 1,300 trucks entered daily, thus over 39,000 monthly. Recent figures and numbers have to be used.
- The comment under the same section: *"The current road infrastructure of the PoRB cannot provide sufficient and safe access to the facility."* This statement confirms that any additional trucks will be a problem and mitigating measures therefore need to be provided.
- Questions remain regarding truck generation if the rail system fails. It is crucial to assess whether current infrastructure can handle such an scenario.

4. SPATIAL PLANNING

The proposal is relevant and aligns with the Richards Bay Port Development Framework Plan and other applicable policies and legislative mandates.

5. FIRE AND RESCUE

All the proposed fire extinguishing media are required to be illustrated on fire layout plans for the Municipal Fire Department approval at the time of building plans submissions.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

The Berth 605 project is included in the short-term plan for the Port of Richards Bay, with a target completion date of 2032. Upon reaching the end of the Container Handling Facility's (CHF) operational lifespan, there are two potential paths; i.e. either replacing or decommissioning the CHF. Both alternatives are likely to have negative environmental consequences. Therefore, it is advised that the applicant considers future planning implications when seeking Environmental Approvals.

You are welcome to direct further queries regarding the above to Ms. Estelle Naidoo from the office of the Deputy Municipal Manager: City Development on Tel: 035 9075174; or email: Naidooee@umhlathuze.gov.za

Yours faithfully


NONTSUNDU NDONGA Pr Pln A/080/2008
DEPUTY CITY MANAGER: CITY DEVELOPMENT
DMS 1717619/nk

All correspondence must be addressed to the City Manager



Planning Division: IEM Section

Enquiries: Dominic Wieners

Your Ref: None Provided

Chief Director: Intergrated Environmental Authorisations
C/o Assessing Officer
Department of Environmental Affairs
Private Bag X447
Pretoria
0001

14 January 2025

ATTENTION: WAYNE HECTOR

Dear Mr Hector

**PROPOSED BERTH 605 AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE TO SUPPORT THE CONTAINER HANDLING FACILITY IN THE PORT OF RICHARDS BAY, UMHLATUZE
District Municipality: King Cetshwayo**

The Draft Scoping Report (DSR), dated November 2024, for the abovementioned application has been reviewed by Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife (Ezemvelo) IEM staff.

It is brought to your attention that the proposed new berth and associated infrastructure development is located in a highly sensitive environment which is considered to be of conservation significance.

While there may be a number of concerns with the proposed application, the Plan of Study is supported in principle in as far as it will potentially provide the required information required to make an informed decision. Furthermore, the specialist studies recommended in the Plan of Study should identify additional fatal flaws not already identified in the baseline studies and initial feasibility studies. However, Ezemvelo urges the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to take careful cognisance of other specialist studies and the concerns flagged there recently for proposals in close proximity to that proposed here. This is in particular related to the:

- Impacts to the estuarine area, and estuarine fauna (across the size spectrum),
- Cumulative noise impacts to roosting birds on the nearby sandspit and associated mangrove areas,
- Potential increased light impacts to the mangrove areas in relation to roosting birds

Further to the above, the specialist studies related to dredge disposal will need to show that the preferred disposal site will not have any undue impacts to offshore biodiversity, in particular to the resident humpback dolphin population, or impact with any cetacean migration routes, or turtles.

P O Box 13053, Cascades, 3202 • 1 Peter Brown Drive, Montrose, 3202 • Tel : +27 33 845 1346 Email: iem.app@kznwildlife.com
www.kznwildlife.com

Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife Official Comment	No Ref provided	Proposed Berth 605 and associated infrastructure at the Port of Richards Bay, Umhlatuze	Page 1 of 2
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In addition, the wetland assessment should consider all wetlands which are ground-water driven and derived as being freshwater wetlands, irrespective of their location in the Estuarine Functional Zone. While some wetlands in the area may be as a result of anthropogenic activities during port construction, these areas do contribute to the ecosystem goods and services values, and all freshwater resources ecosystem goods and services should be retained. Should there be residual loss, there will need to be some consideration given to freshwater resource offsets, as part of the specialist study.

Ezemvelo look forward to engaging further in this project proposal. Please note that this does not constitute final comment, but that final comment will be submitted upon review of the specialist reports as part of the Draft Environmental Impact Report.

Should you wish to discuss any of the points raised above or should any further biodiversity issues arise please do not hesitate to contact our offices.

Yours sincerely

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Scientific Manager: Conservation Planning

For CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER: EZEMVELO KZN WILDLIFE

C:\Dom\Harbour Development\14038_Berth605RBay\14038_Berth605RBay_OfficialComment_1401202

cc: Patricia Nathaniel (WSP), Muzi Mdamba (EDTEA – King Cetshwayo)

DEVELOPMENT OF BERTH 605 AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE IN SUPPORT OF A CONTAINER HANDLING FACILITY, PORT OF RICHARDS BAY, KWAZULU-NATAL

Registration and Comment Sheet

Environmental Authorisation Application Commenting Period: Tuesday, 19 November 2024 to Monday, 13 January 2024



Your comments make an important contribution to these permitting processes. We would like to encourage you to register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) so that we can keep you updated and can respond to any questions or concerns that you may have.

PERSONAL DETAILS				
Name	Surname	Title	Organisation / Department (If applicable)	
NOKWAZI	Magubane	Miss	SDCEA	
CONTACT INFORMATION				
Mobile Number	067 112 7344			
Office Number				
Home Number				
Fax Number				
Email Postal Address	nokwazi@sdceango.co.za			
Postal Address			Postal code	
Regus Office, lakeview Terraces, Penny Lane, Richards Bay			3	900
WSP, will not share personal information with a third party				
LANDOWNERS				
If your property is adjacent to the site, please tell us your, street address, farm name and/or erf/portion number				
WOULD YOU LIKE TO REGISTER AS AN INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTY? (MARK WITH AN X)			☒ YES	☐ NO
Preferred Method of Communication (Mark with an X)		Post	☒ Email	Fax
In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), I disclose below any direct business, financial, personal or other interest that I may have in the approval or <u>refusal</u> of the application:		Date	13/01/2025	
		Signature	N. Magubane	

COMMENT(S)

You are welcome to use additional pages should you so wish to do so.

I have the following comments to make regarding the project:

Environmental concerns - Berthing operations can contribute to water & air pollution, including emissions of green house gases from idling ships

Climate change - With the weather being irregular because of climate change, ~~How~~ strong winds/rough sea, which will affect the berthing operations and cause a delay in docking & undocking. Which will increase incidents/leakages, what is the Emergency Evacuation Plan, for the neighbouring communities, in light of a danger/risk associated with Berthing/ Dry/Liquid chemicals. Within the Port.

Sensitivity area - In the report it was mentioned that assessments done previously for other projects is not expectable, since the entire project site is on a Estuarine Functional Zone, + Critical Biodiversity Area. Since the clearing from the previous project, may mean the few animals could rehabilitated themselves in this proposed site. So a report needs to beeh. And offsetting is not a solutions, as we are trying to maintain and foster an undisturbed environment.

Please ask the following of my colleagues / friends to register as Interested and Affected Parties:

NAME	CONTACT DETAILS
Shanice Firmin	0817990971
Desmond D'sa	083 982 6939

PLEASE RETURN THE REGISTRATION AND COMMENT SHEET TO:

Public Participation Office
WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd.
PO Box 6001, Halfway House, 1685
Tel: (011) 254 4800; Fax: (086) 582 1561
E-mail: gld.pp@wsp.com



THANK YOU

WSP will be processing certain personal information about you as an interested and affected party (I & AP) for purposes of enabling your registration as an I & AP and for purposes of storing your details on our database, if you consent for us to do so. WSP uses these details to contact you about other projects in the future. WSP will always process your personal information in accordance with the Protection of Personal Information Act 4 of 2013. You are entitled to exercise your rights as a data subject and let us know if you wish to be deregistered as an I & AP or if you no longer want your contact details to be included on our database.

COMMENT(S)

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I have the following comments to make regarding the project:

Gas leaks → What measures will be taken by the developer, in an event of leak, to minimize the negative impacts that a leak may have on health and well being of the surrounding communities and the natural habitats. Can the developer set aside funding to respond to the disasters as result of their operations?

Port → is an estuary which is important to marine life for breeding. Subsistence fisherfolks & traditional healers who dependant on the ocean and estuaries need assurances that their way of life will not be adversely affected. In an event of a spillage, does the developer have a facility for marine life affected by the spills?

→ Will any of the proposed project area include traditional fishing areas and will be closed off to fishing? What areas will be closed off that are currently as accessible to the public.

→ Employment → Will the development improve the lives of community members, based previous experiences, local leadership tend to approve such projects as they are advised that such projects will create jobs for community members, which in most cases left for high tertiary

Please ask the following of my colleagues / friends to register as Interested and Affected Parties: *Qualification*

NAME	CONTACT DETAILS
Zothile Mthombo	076 608 0403
Celokuhle Zondi	079 175 3088

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COMMENT(S)

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I have the following comments to make regarding the project:

And limited to security guards. If employed then they will also be contract workers for In the construction Phase.

Traffic Management → The report is silent / unclear on the additional trucks on our roads delivering ~~go~~ or fetching the materials. As with recent times access to the town of Richards Bay has been heavily congested, in some instances, totally blocked off by trucks hauling various minerals, materials and chemicals into the port, so with this development it will be an addition.

Pipelines → With construction for the Pipelines, indigenous flora will be removed which has the potential to introduce invasive alien flora, what measures will be put in place to ensure that this doesn't happen?

Clearing of indigenous vegetation, under the NFA all forests are protected and no trees (dead or alive) may be cut, damaged or removed without a licence from DFFE. So will the developer be applying for one or has one already.

Please ask the following of my colleagues / friends to register as Interested and Affected Parties:

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