

NOTIFICATION SHEET

FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF THE
ROCARBAR ACCESS ROADS AS PART OF THE N2
INTERCHANGE PROJECT IN KOKSTAD,
KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE



Terratest Ref No. 41819

September 2022

1. INTRODUCTION

Terratest (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by JG Afrika (Pty) Ltd on behalf of the South African National Roads Agency SOC Limited (SANRAL) to undertake the environmental studies for the proposed construction of the Rocabar access roads (to the tradeport and future motor city) as part of the N2 Interchange Project in Kokstad, KwaZulu-Natal Province. This Notification Sheet aims to inform the Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) of the Basic assessment (BA) and Water Use Authorisation (WUA) application processes that are being conducted for the aforementioned project. All issues and comments raised by the I&APs during this process will be documented in the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) and within the WUA process. This will assist in the identification of environmental issues that could have negative and/or positive impacts on the environment.

It is important to highlight that this Notification Letter was initially circulated in December 2021 and is being recirculated as the Competent Authority for the application is not the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Economic Development, Tourism & Environmental Affairs (EDTEA) but the National Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE). There are no changes to any other project details on terms of the proposed location and infrastructure.

According to the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA): Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (EIA), 2014, as amended, it is necessary for the Applicant to appoint an independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) who will adhere to the Environmental Regulations and complete the applicable environmental processes on behalf of the Applicant. Terratest (Pty) Ltd is the appointed EAP in this regard. The relevant role-players for both processes are detailed in Table 1:

Table 1: Key role-players on the processes

	Basic Assessment	Water Use Authorisation
Applicant	South African National Roads Agency SOC Limited (SANRAL)	South African National Roads Agency SOC Limited (SANRAL)
Environmental Assessment Practitioner	Terratest (Pty) Ltd	Terratest (Pty) Ltd
Competent Authority	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)	Department of Water and Sanitation

2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND LOCALITY

The project site for the proposed for the construction of Rocabar access roads is located south of the Kokstad town and east of the R56 provincial road within the jurisdiction of the Greater Kokstad Local

Municipality, KwaZulu Natal Province. The site is undeveloped and was used for agricultural purposes, presumed to be the production of maize in the past. However, that activity ceased prior to 2003 although some areas to the north of the site continued to be mowed for hay production. The Mzintlava River, a tributary of the Mzimvubu River, transverses the site proposed for the access road.

The surrounding land uses consist of an industrial complex development immediate north-east which was initially developed as a plywood production plant, but it is now a bulk wholesaler catering largely to trade from the Eastern Cape Province. On the south side of Road R56 are a number of light industrial sites and fuel filling stations with convenience shopping. A chicken farm is located nearby. To the immediate west of the roads is a light industrial site catering primarily to the motor parts trade and to servicing of agricultural implements. Elsewhere around the site, livestock is kept for sale, either in pens, or free grazing on the rough veld. The proposed construction of the access roads will include the following:

- New road section of approximately 370m with an initial maximum road width of 18.5m (4m x 3.5m wide lanes, with a 1.5m shoulder on either sides and a 1.5m wide sidewalk on one side). Phase 1 of the construction the road will taper from 4 lanes (18.5m) to 2 lanes (11.5m) including shoulders and sidewalk.
- Second new access road approximately 310m x 10m wide (2 x 3.5m wide lanes, with a 1.5 m shoulder on either sides).
- Stream/wetland crossings on a 2 lane (11.5m) culvert. The culvert will be widened in the future to accommodate 4 lanes (18.5m).

SECTION	INFRASTRUCTURE	SOUTH	EAST
Road 1	Road Start at R56	30°33'54.28"S	27°25'57.41"E
	Road End at culvert	30°33'46.01"S	27°26'05.37"E
Road 2	Road Start at roundabout	30°33'50.15"S	27°25'59.45"E
	Road End	30°33'58.61"S	27°26'04.99"E

Please refer to Figure 1 for the location of the site in relation to the town and Figure 2 for the Google Earth image of the proposed Rocabar access roads.

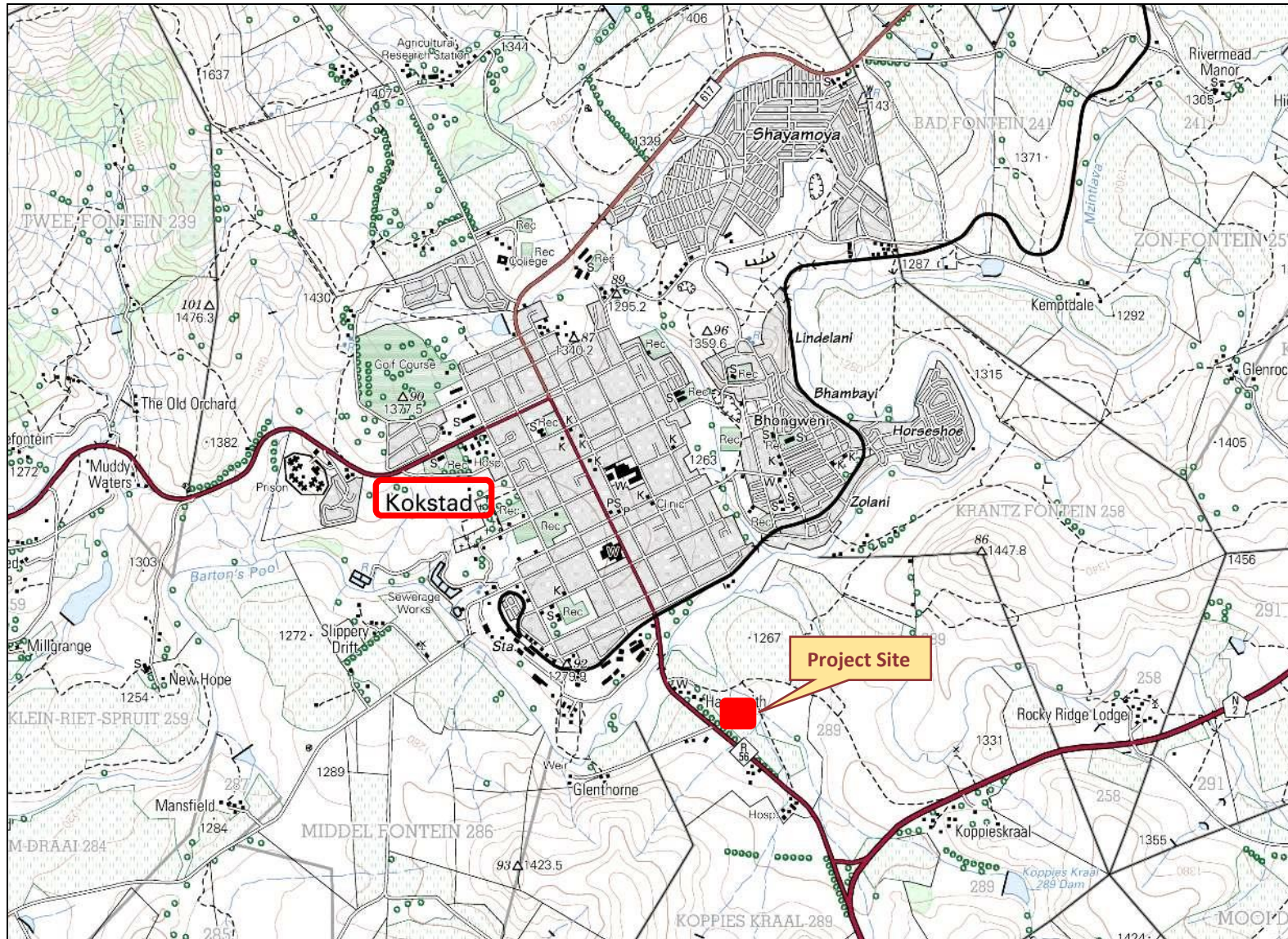


Figure 1: Location of the project site in relation to the town of Kokstad



Figure 2: Site Layout Image of the proposed Rocabar access roads.

3. THE ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

3.1. NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended

In accordance with the National Environmental Management Act (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, the below Listed Activity is triggered as a culvert will need to be constructed in order for one of the access roads to cross a watercourse

Listing Notice 1

Activity 19: The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 10 cubic meters into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock of more than 10 cubic meters from—

- (i) a watercourse

3.2 National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998)

The proposed construction of Rocabar access roads will also require approval in terms of Section 22 of National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) (NWA). This Act will be applicable as the proposed project will trigger water uses as set out in Section 21, given that a culvert will be constructed within a regulated area of watercourses (100m as determined by the NWA). The following water uses are triggered –

- Section 21 (c) - Impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse; and / or
- Section 21 (i) - Altering the bed, banks, course or characteristics of a watercourse.

It must be highlighted that the Basic Assessment and the Water Use Authorisation Application processes will be undertaken concurrently.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

The Public Participation Process (PPP), as promulgated in terms of Chapter 6 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, is a fundamental process whereby the proponent, technical team, government authorities, key stakeholders and I&APs can engage in an informed decision-making process.

Key activities to be undertaken as part of PPP include:

- Identification of key stakeholders, authorities and municipalities, environmental groups and members of the public who may be interested in, or may be affected by the proposed development;
- Compilation of a Notification Letter for distribution to I&APs (this document);
- Placement of an advertisement in a newspaper applicable to the region notifying the public of the proposed activity;
- Placement of on-site posters detailing the activity and contact details of the Environmental Assessment Practitioner;

- Recording all I&AP comments and presenting such comments, as well as responses provided by the Environmental Assessment Practitioner, in a full Comment and Response Report which will accompany the Draft Basic Assessment Report,
- Circulating the Draft Basic Assessment Report to all registered I&APs for a 30-day review and comment period; and
- Submitting the final Draft Basic Assessment Report to the EDTEA for a decision and issuing of an Environmental Authorisation.


Concerning the WUA, Regulation 17 (2) of Government Notice R.267 in Government Gazette 40713 dated 24 March 2017 of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) notes that any PPP undertaken in support of an EIA (either Scoping and EIA or a Basic assessment as is the case with the proposed Rocabar Access Roads project) may be submitted to meet the requirements for an application for a WUA, as long as the PPP undertaken contains and covers all issues pertaining to water use activities. The current PPP covers both the WUA and the BA.

5. HOW DO I PARTICIPATE

I&APs are invited to participate by providing comments and raising issues of concern regarding the proposed project. To register in the BA Process and to be kept informed of progress, please complete the Registration Form attached as **Appendix A** and forward onto Terratest (Pty) Ltd via email, post, fax or telephone, using the details in the Registration form.

All key stakeholders and I&APs registered in this Application are hereby informed of Section 3(4) of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) which states, *“When a State Department is requested to comment in terms of these regulations, such State Department must submit its comment in writing within 30 days from the date on which it was requested to submit comment, and if such State Department has no comments”*. This regulation will be enforced when the Draft Basic Assessment Report is submitted to State Departments and I&APs for comment. Further, all I&APs are notified of Section 3(8) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states, *“any public participation process must be conducted for a period of at least 30 days.”* In this regard, all registered I&APs will be afforded the opportunity to comment on the Draft Basic Assessment Report for a minimum period of 30 days.

APPENDIX A: I&AP REGISTRATION FORM

<p>THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF THE ROCABAR ACCESS ROADS AS PART OF THE N2 INTERCHANGE PROJECT IN KOKSTAD, KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE</p>			
<p>COMPLETE AND RETURN TO THE DESIGNATED EAP:</p>		<p>Ms. Ntsebo Mkhize Terratest (Pty) Ltd PO Box 794, Hilton, 3245 Fax: (033) 343 6788 Email: mkhizen@terratest.co.za</p>	
<p>NAME OF I&AP:</p>			
<p>CONTACT NUMBER:</p>			
<p>FAX NUMBER:</p>			
<p>EMAIL ADDRESS:</p>			
<p>POSTAL ADDRESS:</p>			
<p>Reason for interest in the proposed project:</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>			
<p>OTHER I&APs THAT SHOULD BE CONTACTED WITH REGARDS TO THIS PROJECT:</p>			
<p>Name:</p>		<p>Name:</p>	
<p>Contact Number:</p>		<p>Contact Number:</p>	
<p>Email Address:</p>		<p>Email Address:</p>	