

NOTICE OF A BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED RE-ALIGNMENT OF THE P608 AND D604, GREATER KOKSTAD LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, HARRY GWALA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, KWAZULU-NATAL



Terratest Ref No. 41870
April 2023

NOTIFICATION SHEET

1. INTRODUCTION

Terratest (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by JG Afrika (Pty) Ltd, on behalf the KwaZulu- Natal Department of Transport, to render the environmental services required for the proposed re-alignment of the P608 and D604. The location of the proposed project is approximately 15km East of the Kokstad CBD in the direction of Port Shepstone and about 200m north of Pink Church, within Ward 6 of the Greater Kokstad Local Municipality

Based on the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (2014), as amended, an independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) who will adhere to the Environmental Regulations and undertake the applicable environmental applications for the project had to be appointed. Terratest (Pty) Ltd is the appointed EAP in this regard. Terratest (Pty) Ltd will be undertaking the Basic Assessment (BA) process in order to obtain an Environmental Authorisation for the proposed project. The key role-players for the application are summarised in **Table 1**.

Table 1: Key role-players for proposed development

ROLE-PLAYERS	
APPLICANT	<p>KwaZulu- Natal Department of Transport</p>
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER	<p>Terratest (Pty) Ltd</p>
COMPETENT AUTHORITY	<p>KwaZulu-Natal Department of Economic Development, Tourism & Environmental Affairs (EDTEA)</p>

An Environmental Authorisation for the above-mentioned project was previously received (EDTEA Ref: DC43/0005/2017) but lapsed in June 2022 as construction activities had not

commenced. Furthermore, the current application includes new sections of the D604 that did not form part of the initial application.

2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND MOTIVATION

The proposed development entails the construction of gravel roads as follows:

- ❖ closure of the current access points of the P608 and D604 to the N2 and a single intersection on the N2 (30°31'47.99"S; 29°32'10.33"E);
- ❖ sections of the P608 and D604 to be decommissioned; and
- ❖ supporting infrastructure for realigned sections of the roads.

Figure 1 presents the locality map and layout for the proposed development.

The motivation for the project is to ensure the safety of motorists as the current intersection of the D604 with the N2 has poor sight distances, owing to a steep slope at a curve. This has resulted in numerous vehicle collisions.



Figure 1: Locality map and layout for the proposed development

3. THE ENVIRONMENTAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK

The BA process required for the project stems from legislative requirements for activities that are triggered based on Chapter 5 of the NEMA, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), as amended, and the associated EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. The process will include the undertaking of various specialist studies.

In accordance with the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, the triggered Listed Activities and reasons thereof are presented in Table 2.

Table 2: Listed Activities and reasons

LISTED ACTIVITY	REASON
Listing Notice 1, Activity 12	The combined area of watercourse crossings and road surface within a watercourse or within 32m of watercourse will exceed 100 square meters.
Listing Notice 1, Activity 19	The road will cross a watercourse, through means of a culvert, and construction activities will result in the movement or deposition of 10m ³ or more of material into or out of the watercourse.
Listing Notice 1, Activity 24	The proposed development is a road of approximately 3.6km and has a road reserve of approximately 30m and is proposed outside the urban edge.

Additional triggered activities may be identified as the project progresses and will be indicated in the Application for Environmental Authorisation which will be submitted to the EDTEA.

The Basic Assessment process, illustrated in **Figure 2**, will take a total of 197 days (i.e., 6.5 months) to complete and includes the current initial Public Participation phase as well as the review periods of the Draft and Final Basic Assessment Reports.

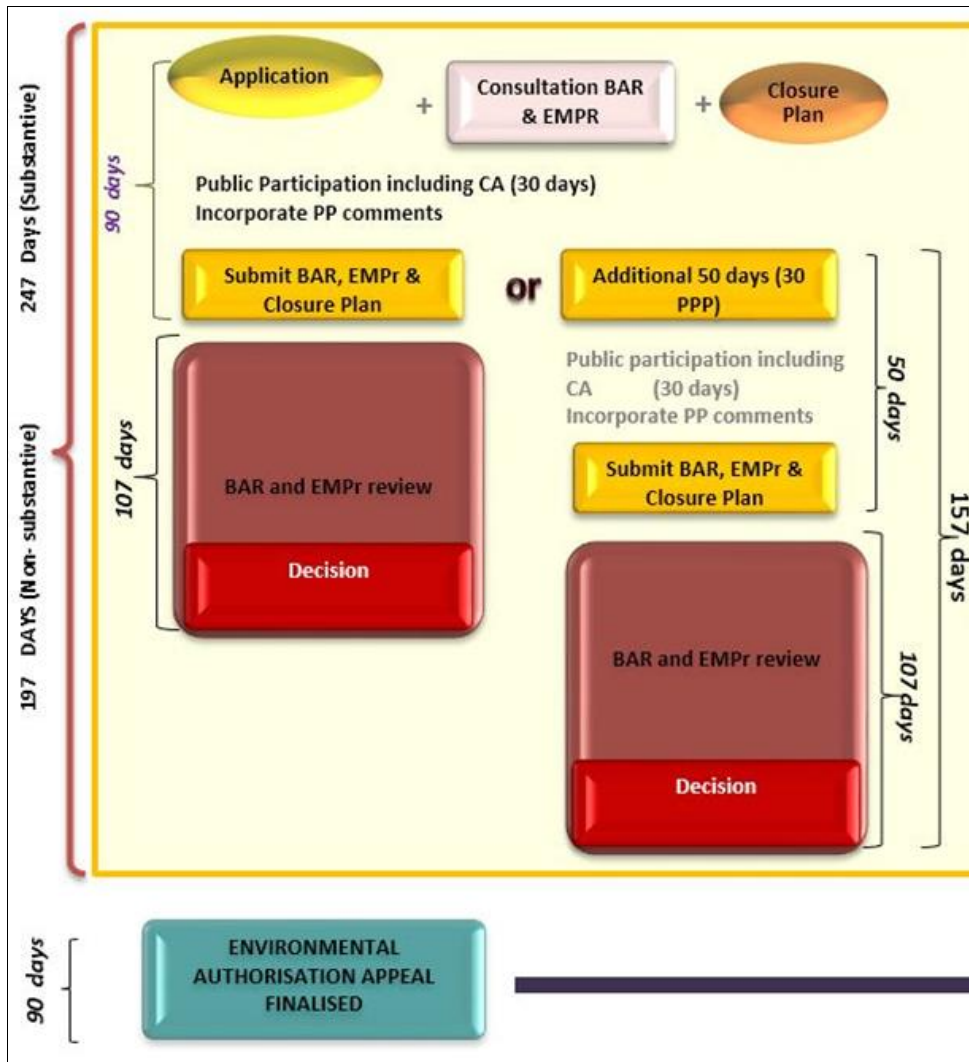


Figure 2: Basic Assessment process

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

The Public Participation Process (PPP), as promulgated in terms of Chapter 6 of the EIA Regulations, as amended, is a fundamental process whereby the project developer, technical team, government authorities, Interested and Affected Parties (IAPs) can engage in an informed decision-making process.

Key activities to be undertaken as part of Public Participation Process 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 IAPs (**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 IAP comments and presenting such comments, as well as responses provided by the EAP, in a full Comment and Response Report;

- ❖ Circulating the Draft Basic Assessment Report to all registered IAPs for a 30-day review and comment period; and
- Submitting the Final Basic Assessment Report to the EDTEA for a decision on Environmental Authorisation.

5. HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROCESSES

Should you wish to register as an IAP in this application to: provide comments, queries, and comments; be kept informed of progress, including the availability of reports for your review; and notified of the decisions of authorities, please complete the Registration Form attached as **Appendix 1** and forward onto Terratest (Pty) Ltd as per the details provided. You can also provide your comments in any other written format or verbal method you prefer.

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APPENDIX 1: IAP REGISTRATION FORM

APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOR THE PROPOSED RE-ALIGNMENT OF THE P608 AND D604, GREATER KOKSTAD LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, HARRY GWALA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, KWAZULU-NATAL			
COMPLETE AND RETURN TO THE DESIGNATED EAP:		Ntsebo Mkhize Terratest (Pty) Ltd PO Box 794, Hilton, 3245 Fax: (033) 343 6788 Email: mkhizen@terratest.co.za s	
NAME OF IAP:			
CONTACT NUMBER:			
FAX NUMBER:			
EMAIL ADDRESS:			
POSTAL ADDRESS:			
POSTAL ADDRESS:			
POSTAL ADDRESS:			
Reason for interest in the proposed project:			
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.....			
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OTHER IAP'S THAT SHOULD BE CONTACTED WITH REGARDS TO THIS PROJECT:			
Name:		Name:	
Contact Number:		Contact Number:	
Email Address:		Email Address:	