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30 August 2012

«Title» «First_Name» «Last_Name»
«Organisation»
«Address_1»
«Address_2»
«Address_3»
«Town»
«Code»

Dear «Title» «Last_Name»

Re: Notice of Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment: Proposed Ethembeni Human Settlement Project, Grahamstown, Makana Local Municipality

In terms of the National Environmental Management Act (Act no 107 of 1998), as amended and the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2010 published in Government Notice R 543, 544, 545 and 546 on the 18 June 2010 in Government Gazette 33306, notice is hereby given that a Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment Process is required for the project described hereunder. In terms of the regulations you have been identified as an interested and/ or affected party (I&AP) for the above project and have been included on the project I&AP database.

The applicant, the Makana Local Municipality, is proposing the formalisation and extension of an existing informal residential area known as Ethembeni in Grahamstown, Makana Local Municipality. The affected erven are Remainder Portion 8 (Portion of Portion 3) of the Farm Tempe No 240 (395.78 ha) and erf 3336 Rini (32.95 ha), which measure approximately 428.73 ha in combined extent and are currently zoned agriculture and based undetermined (based on current available information) and will require rezoning to residential and other appropriate zones. The area proposed for development, subject to the outcome of the specialist studies, is approximately 90 ha in extent and will entail the construction of approximately 1 900 to 2 000 residential units and associated bulk services infrastructure (roads and access, water, sanitation, electricity and stormwater management). Proposed for inclusion in the development are areas to be set aside for business use, a clinic, a community centre, a crèche and school, as well as public open space, subject to further detailed specialist assessment.

In terms NEMA EIA regulations, 2010, the project requires Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) because it includes, amongst others, the following listed activity in GN R 545:

15. The physical alteration of undeveloped, vacant or derelict land for residential, retail, commercial, recreational, industrial or institutional use where the total area to be transformed is 20 hectares or more.

In addition to the above, the project also triggers the following listed activities which will be assessed as part of the Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment Process:

- GN R544 Activity 9. (i) and (ii); 11. (vi) and (xi); 18. (i); 22. (i) or (ii) and 23. (ii)
- GN R546 Activity 2 (a) iii (dd); 4. (a) ii (ee); 13. (a) ; 14. (a) (i); and 16. (iv) (a) (ii) (ff).

The listed activities required authorisation from the Provincial Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEDEAT). Public Process Consultants has been appointed by the applicant as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to undertake the Scoping and EIA process for this project.

In order to ensure that any issues and or concerns you may have are included in the **Draft Scoping Report**, you are kindly requested to submit any comments you may have to the environmental assessment practitioner indicated above, within 30 days of this notification (by no later than **1 October 2012**). To assist you in the submission of your comments we have enclosed with this correspondence a **Background Information Document and Locality Map** as well as a **Comment Form**. Further project information can be accessed on the website: **www.publicprocess.co.za**

We look forward to your input and participation in this process. Should you have any queries contact Sandy Wren, Wandile Junundu or Marisa Jacoby using the contact details provided above.

Yours sincerely

SANDY WREN (EIA PROJECT LEADER)