

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND AND PROJECT OVERVIEW

The project proponent, Umgcambo Trading (Pty) Ltd, proposes to develop a portion of Portion 525 of Farm Strathsomers Estate No. 42 (~154.28ha in extent and hereafter known as **Umgcambo**), in the Sundays River Valley Municipality (SRVM), for the establishment of citrus orchards and associated infrastructure (i.e. new dam, internal roads, internal irrigation pipes, logistical services area). Irrigation water for the development is proposed to be supplied from the Lower Sundays River Water Users Association (LSRWUA) canal system, via a pipeline with an internal diameter of $\varnothing 500\text{mm}$ and a length of ~1,5km, to be installed on an adjacent property, Portion 523 of Farm Strathsomers Estate No. 42, which is owned by the same landowner. The area which will form part of this assessment process thus measures ~155ha in extent. Umgcambo is currently zoned Agriculture I and the area to be cultivated, including associated infrastructure, will be determined by the outcome of the various specialist assessments forming part of this Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (Scoping and EIA) Process.

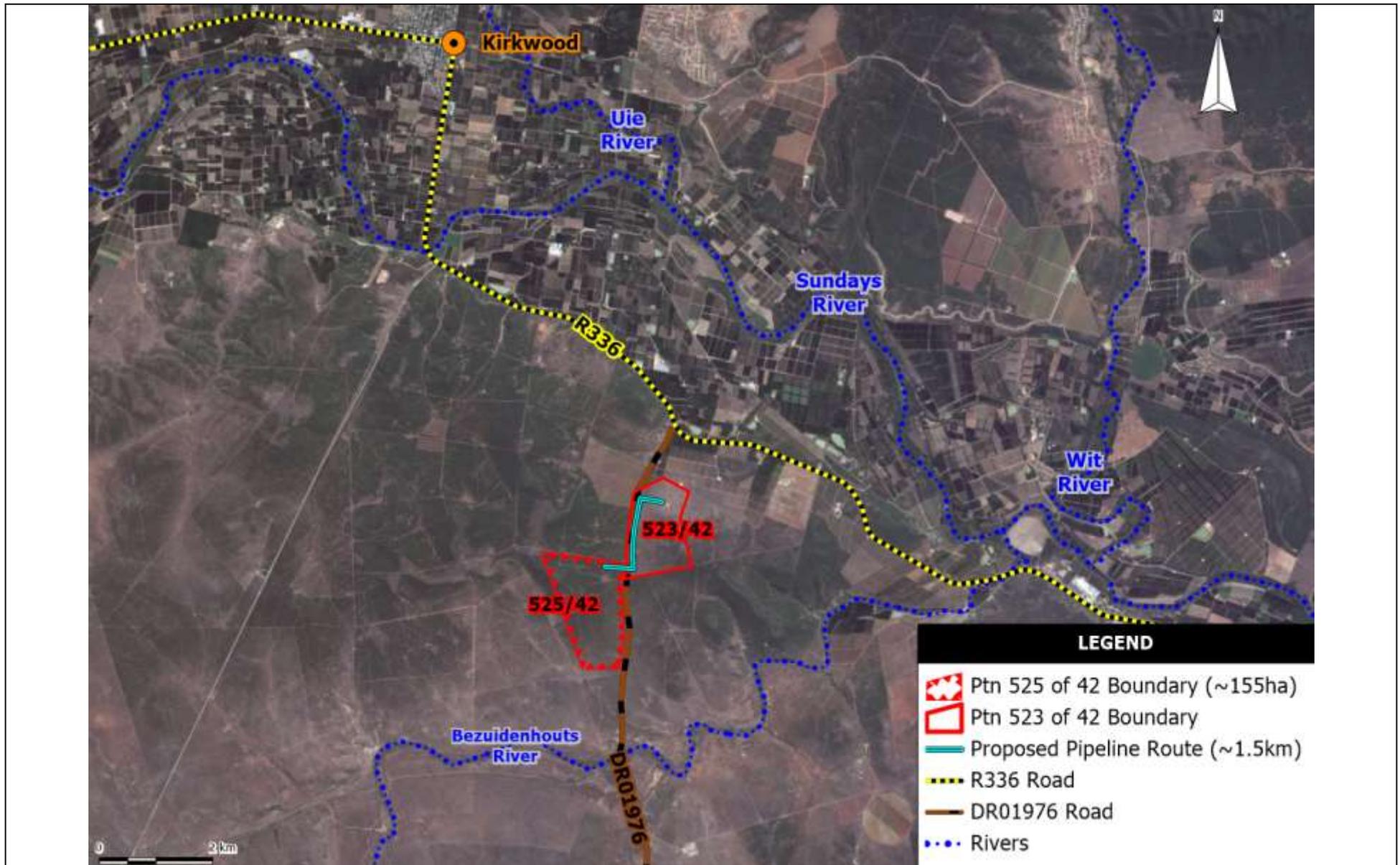
The proponent has obtained a Water Use Licence from The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) for the taking of water from a water resource in terms of Section 21(a) of the National Water Act, which entitles them to utilise 100ha (900 000m³ per annum) of water from the LSRWUA canal system. In order to irrigate the proposed agricultural development, a new dam will have to be constructed on Umgcambo. Additionally, the proposed development will require the installation of irrigation pipelines of various diameters. The water storage capacity of the new dam, as well as the length and diameters of the irrigation pipelines, will be determined through the assessment process. In addition, and in order to provide logistical support to the development it is proposed that a logistical/ administration area of ~2ha is constructed. This logistical services area is proposed to include offices and a storage area; mess area and ablution facilities; loading and collection zone and a new access road around the facility, as well as a manager's house and other future buildings.

In terms of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), published in GN R326, 327, 325 and 324, promulgated under Chapter Five of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMAA), and published in Government Gazette 40772 on the 7 April 2017, the project requires full Scoping and EIA, prior to the commencement of any activities on the site due to, amongst others, activities listed in GN R325, namely:

“15. The clearance of an area of 20 hectares or more of indigenous vegetation, excluding where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for -...”

Chapter Four of this report provides details of the listed activities which require Environmental Authorisation. The project proponent has appointed Public Process Consultants as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to undertake the Scoping and EIA for the project. The competent authority who must consider and decide upon this application is the Provincial Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEDEAT), Sarah Baartman Region.

Notice of Intention to commence with Scoping and EIA was submitted to the competent authority on 22 May 2018 and sent to all identified Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) and Organs of State on 23 May 2018.



Map 1.1: The location of Portion 525, in relation to the nearest town, Kirkwood, Sundays River Valley Municipality.

1.1.1 About the Project Proponent

The following information on the project has been provided by the project proponent:

During 2015, Mr Christo Meiring of the farm Armadale, Kirkwood, acquired Portion 525 of Farm Strathsomers Estate No. 42 (~154.28ha, known as Umgcambo), in the SRVM, with the intention of establishing a sustainable future for 31 of his permanent employees, as well as seasonal workers, which are employed on his existing farming operations, and are represented by the Umgcambo Empowerment Trust. Umgcambo Trading (Pty) Ltd was registered as a joint venture between the Umgcambo Empowerment Trust and the JC Meiring Family Trust (represented by Christo Meiring). Mr Meiring and the Umgcambo Empowerment Trust engaged JSR Consulting & Investments as a Strategic Partner to the project.

The JC Meiring Family Trust provides the farming expertise for the business and has funded the acquisition of Umgcambo, as well as the mother irrigation pipeline, two holding dams and pump station on an adjacent farm, also owned by the JC Meiring Family Trust (Portion 523). It is proposed, that the title deed for the property is transferred to Umgcambo Trading (Pty) Ltd once funds have successfully been raised to establish and farm Umgcambo. Christo Meiring currently provides employment to 200 permanent and seasonal workers. His farm has consistently performed within the top 20% of more than 50 benchmark participants (Frudata) within his region.

JSR Consulting & Investments, represented by Mr Scott Dowle, has links to international markets and has secured registered citrus varieties for the farming operation and sponsored the costs for securing the water rights allocation.

The business model revolves around maximising the human capital and intellectual property (IP), vested within the project role-players, with best farming practice and selecting the best plant material for the soil and climate.

The Umgcambo Empowerment Trust is made up of four trustees, 31 HDI beneficiaries and the Umgcambo Workers and Community Trust (NGO). As part of the vision for this project the intention is to empower not only the 31 permanent employees but also the 60 returning seasonal workers. In order to achieve this, an NGO has been created which will serve as a vehicle for accumulating a portion of the Umgcambo Empowerment Trust profits. These funds are proposed to be used for the local community for projects such as housing, schools, crèche, library, and football fields, as decided annually by the beneficiaries of the Trust and executed by the Trustees.

The BEE project requires funding to capitalise the project, in order to convert the farm into the planned empowerment project. Upon receipt of the necessary funding, the JC Meiring Family Trust will transfer the capital invested into the BEE project (title deed and water rights). The final equity breakdown for the project is proposed as follows:

- Umgcambo Empowerment Trust – 31.01%
- BEE Investment (e.g. Land Bank) – 19.99%
- JC Meiring Family Trust – 40.80%
- JSR Consulting & Investment (Pty) Ltd – 8.20%

Over and above the BEE component of the project, the project itself will create additional direct permanent, as well as seasonal employment opportunities. In addition, a number of indirect, employment opportunities associated with the fruit packing industry, transportation and logistical companies, purchasing, as well as hiring of various products (chemicals, pallets, cartons), are anticipated to be created.

Upon completion of construction and during the operational phase of the development, it is estimated that 11 new permanent employment opportunities will be created at a value of ~R422 400 annually, and 96 seasonal opportunities at an annual value of ~R1.6 million. Labour will be sourced locally from communities in the SRVM and Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality (NMBM).

1.2 PROJECT NEED AND DESIRABILITY

As per the Guideline on Need and Desirability, published by The Department of Environmental Affairs (2017), Pretoria, South Africa, ISBN: 978-0-9802694-4-4: *“The need for and the desirability of a proposed development forms a key component of any EIA application.”* Therefore, an important objective of the Scoping Process is to, through a consultative process, *“motivate the need and desirability of the proposed activity, including the need and desirability of the activity in the context of the preferred location.”*

The following extract from The Guideline on Need and Desirability (2017), has reference:

“The National Strategy for Sustainable Development and Action Plan 2011 – 2014 (NSSD 1) (2011) states the following:

Although the concept of sustainable development has been on the international agenda since the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment in Stockholm in 1972, the terms ‘sustainability’ and ‘sustainable development’ have been used and interpreted in widely different ways. In developing this strategy for sustainable development, a fixed definition of these terms has been accepted in a South African context.

Sustainability (or a sustainable society) is seen as the overall goal of the NSSD 1. Sustainability in this context implies **ecological sustainability**. In the first instance, it recognises that the maintenance of healthy ecosystems and natural resources are preconditions for human wellbeing. In the second instance, it recognises that there are limits to the goods and services that can be provided. In other words, ecological sustainability acknowledges that human beings are part of nature and not a separate entity.

Sustainable development is the process that is followed to achieve the goal of sustainability. Sustainable development implies the selection and implementation of a development option, which allows for appropriate and justifiable social and economic goals to be achieved, based on the meeting of basic needs and equity, without compromising the natural system on which it is based.”

As per the DEA Guideline on Need and Desirability (2017), the relevant questions to be engaged with when considering need and desirability will be taken into account by the various specialist studies to be undertaken for this assessment.

South Africa’s National Development Plan (NDP, 2030), has as one of its focal points, the expansion of agriculture in order to facilitate job creation. Figure 1.1 below is an extract from the NDP (2030; page 219). The NDP (2030; page 222), further notes the following:

“Expanding commercial agriculture has the potential to create 250 000 direct jobs and a further 130 000 indirect jobs. This can be achieved by picking winning agricultural sub-sectors where the expansion in production and further value-adding processes are sustainable over the long term. Expansion is not only driven by higher levels of productivity, but also supported by foreign and domestic demand. Without boosted demand, increased production will depress domestic price, which is bad for employment creation in the sector.”

With regards to citrus as a subsector of labour-intensive agriculture, The NDP (2030; Page 222), states the following:

“There are about 60 000 hectares of citrus trees in South Africa. The employment requirement to produce citrus fruit is estimated at one worker per hectare, about 60 000 workers are employed on citrus farms. Direct downstream labour requirements for citrus are estimated at one labourer per 2 500 cartons packed: with about 100 million cartons packed per year, some 40 000 jobs are created in packing plants for a period of six months, or 20 000 full-time equivalents. In addition, there are labour requirements for transportation, warehousing, port handling, research and development, and processing. From 2000 to 2010, the citrus-farming area increased by 28 percent, from 47 000 to 60 000 hectares.”

- that the 1.5 million hectares under irrigation (which produce virtually all South Africa's horticultural harvest and some field crops) can be expanded by at least 500 000 hectares through the better use of existing water resources and developing new water schemes.
- Use some underused land in communal areas and land-reform projects for commercial production.
- Pick and support commercial agriculture sectors and regions that have the highest potential for growth and employment.
- Support job creation in the upstream and downstream industries. Potential employment will come from the growth in output resulting from the first three strategies.
- Find creative combinations between opportunities. For example, emphasis should be placed on land that has the potential to benefit from irrigation infrastructure; priority should be given to successful farmers in communal areas, which would support further improvement of the area; and industries and areas with high potential to create jobs should receive the most support. All these will increase collaboration between existing farmers and the beneficiaries of land reform.
- Develop strategies that give new entrants access to product value chains and support from better-resourced players.

Figure 1.1: Extract from the National Development Plan (2030; Page 219).

Umgcambo measures ~154.28ha in extent and is currently zoned Agriculture I. The area to be developed, including associated infrastructure, will be informed by the various specialist assessments, consultation process and technical input forming part of this Scoping and EIA Process.

The vegetation on the properties surrounding Umgcambo to the north, west and east appears to be largely near-natural, although some modification (cut lines and vehicle tracks) is evident. In addition, these properties show various levels of degradation, presumably associated with domestic livestock grazing and game grazing. Portion 523, owned by the same landowner, is directly adjacent to the north eastern boundary of Umgcambo, and is currently engaged in commercial agricultural activities including citrus orchards, and vegetable production. Portion 523, upon which the irrigation pipe is proposed to be installed, is bound on its western, northern and eastern boundaries by cultivation. The “Sundays River Valley” area is located ~2.1km north of Umgcambo and is predominantly under intensive cultivation.

Based on the experience of the EAP, land available for cultivation, which is situated adjacent to existing agricultural areas, is zoned for agricultural use, has existing water use rights, suitable soils, and is near the LSRWUA canal system, is becoming scarce in the Sundays River Valley.

Chapter Three of this report provides further detail of the surrounding land use activities.

The Final Integrated Development Plan for the SRVM (SRVM IDP 2015/ 2016), indicates that the current unemployment rate in the municipal area may be as high as 38.54%. The Agricultural sector provides room for growth in terms of employment opportunities, as it currently represents ~11% of the employment for the SRVM area (Final SRVM IDP 2015/ 2016). Additionally, the SRVM IDP (2015/ 2016; Page 36) states that: *“The municipality can boast its ecotourism and agricultural potential.”* Finally, the following statement is given by the SRVM Spatial Development Framework (SRVM SDF 2013; Page 8): *“The agricultural sector is one of the key economic drivers of the Sundays River Valley Municipality.”*

It is the proponent’s intention to build on this economic base in the SRVM, by making optimum use of the available resources in the area, i.e. the availability of a sustainable supply of irrigation water from the LSRWUA canal system, the suitability/ fertility of the soils, as well as the available work force from local communities. By making use of this labour market, the proposed development would also support the vision of the Sundays River Valley Local Economic Strategy as outlined in the SRVM SDF (2013) which indicates agriculture, as a Local Economic Development Priority and identifies the need to *“...expand the agricultural section in the region.”*, as an Economic Development Objective.

1.3 REQUIREMENTS FOR SCOPING AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

In terms of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), published in GN R326, 327, 325 and 324, promulgated under Chapter Five of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMAA), and published in Government Gazette 40772 on the 7 April 2017, the project requires full Scoping and EIA, prior to the commencement of any activities on the site due to amongst others, activities listed in GN R325, namely:

“15. The clearance of an area of 20 hectares or more of indigenous vegetation, excluding where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for -...”

Chapter Four of this report includes a list of the activities contained in GN R327, 325 and 324, which may be triggered by the project components and thus, form part of this Scoping and EIA process. These listed activities require authorisation from the competent authority, DEDEAT Sarah Baartman Region, prior to the commencement of any activities on site.

The purpose of the Scoping and EIA process is to identify, assess and report on the impact project activities may have of the receiving environment, if implemented. An important element of this process is to identify potential impacts, both positive and negative, and make recommendations for the mitigation of impacts, to reduce potentially negative impacts and enhance potentially positive impacts. The EIA needs to show the competent authority, I&APs and the project proponent what the consequences of their choices will be in terms of impacts on the social, economic and biophysical environments.

In compliance with the above legislation and regulations, this Scoping and EIA process is being implemented in four phases, the details of which are outlined in Chapter Four of this report:

- Pre-Application Scoping Phase (**CURRENT STAGE**)
- Application and Scoping Phase
- Environmental Impact Assessment Phase
- Decision Making and Appeal Period

As part of the Pre-Application phase, notice of intention to commence with a Scoping and EIA process was submitted to the competent authority, DEDEAT, Sarah Baartman Region, on 22 May 2018. Copies of correspondence sent to DEDEAT are included in Appendix B of this report. An Application Form for Environmental Authorisation, in order to commence with the legislated portion of the Scoping and EIA Process in terms of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), is being prepared and will be submitted to the competent authority prior to the release of the Consultation Scoping Report (CSR) and the legislated 30-day consultation period.

1.4 EIA TEAM

This section of the report provides an overview of the EIA project team under the management of Public Process Consultants.

Table 1.1: EIA Team and Specialists.

| EIA PROJECT TEAM | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Team Member | Company | Role |
| Sandy Wren | Public Process Consultants | EIA Team Leader |
| Marisa Jacoby | Public Process Consultants | Environmental Assessment Practitioner |
| Zandri Grobbelaar | Public Process Consultants | Environmental Assessment Practitioner |
| Wandile Junundu | Public Process Consultants | Community Consultation |
| Deborah Vromans | Private | Vegetation and Aquatic Specialist Assessment |
| Dr Johan Binneman | Eastern Cape Heritage Consultants | Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment |
| Dr John Almond | Natura Viva cc | Phase 1 Palaeontological Impact Assessment |
| Danie Kritzinger | Agrimotion | Soil Suitability Assessment |
| Cary Hastie | Engineering Advice and Services | Traffic Impact Assessment |
| Jaco Spies | JJ Spies Consulting Engineers | Roads and Wet Services Report |

| TECHNICAL TEAM | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Jaco Kruger | | Dam and Irrigation Infrastructure Design |
| Christo Meiring | Umgcambo Trading (Pty) Ltd | Proponent / Applicant |
| Scott Dowle | JSR & Consulting & Investments | Proponent representative |

1.5 DETAILS AND EXPERTISE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER AND EXPERTISE TO CARRY OUT SCOPING AND EIA

Public Process Consultants was established in 1997 by Sandy Wren. Initially the company was established to focus on the overarching management and integration of the public participation component for Scoping Reports, EIAs and Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEAs). Under this role, Sandy was actively involved in projects such as the SEA for the expansion of Addo Elephant National Park, SEA for the Coega Industrial Development Zone and Port of Ngqura, the EIA for the Boardwalk Casino and development of a Sustainable Coastal Development Policy for SA. This management and integration role expanded through years of experience to include the management of Basic Assessments, Scoping and EIA Reports. Sandy has over 20 years of experience in the management of Scoping and EIA's, as well as Basic Assessment reports for numerous projects within the Nelson Mandela Bay Metropolitan Area and beyond, for both public and private clients.

Sandy Wren, is a graduate from the University of Port Elizabeth, majoring in Political Science, Sociology and Industrial and Organisational Psychology. Sandy obtained a BA Honours Degree in Development Studies in 2003 for which she obtained distinctions in courses in Environmental Management. Sandy is a former Regional Director of Idasa (Institute for Democracy in SA). Sandy's EIA project management experience includes, proposed new housing and "estate" type developments, expansion of agricultural related activities (broiler house facilities and citrus production), bulk infrastructure related projects (sewer, stormwater, sewage reticulation works and pump stations), as well as industrial type developments (SA Breweries IBhayi Biogas facility, NiRoVe Paint Stripping and increase in LNG for Umicore). Sandy continues to play a key role in the management of various public participation processes associated with the Coega Project (Proposed Regional Hazardous Waste Site Facility; Proposed Bulk Liquid Storage and Handling Facility in the Coega IDZ: Marine Servitude and Pipelines in the Coega IDZ), as well as various renewable energy projects (wind and solar). See Appendix A for curriculum vitae.

The application for the project EIA team is being led by Sandy Wren who will be supported by Marisa Jacoby and Zandri Grobbelaar.

Marisa Jacoby, EAP, obtained a has a BSc Honours in Botany (*cum laude*) from the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University. Marisa has worked as an EAP, as well as a biophysical specialist (fauna and flora) on various Basic Assessments, Scoping and EIA Processes for new residential developments, expansion of agricultural activities, broiler production facilities, and bulk infrastructure projects. See Appendix A for curriculum vitae.

Zandri Grobbelaar, EAP, obtained a BSc Honours in Botany (Aquatic Botany and Environmental Management) from the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University. In partial fulfilment of the requirements for this degree she completed a treatise entitled: "Determining the effect of a macroalgal bloom on salt marsh and *Zostera capensis* cover abundance in the Knysna Estuary". Zandri has worked as an EAP, on various Scoping and EIA Processes for agricultural developments.

1.6 OBJECTIVES OF THE SCOPING PROCESS

This Draft Consultation Scoping Report (Draft CSR) forms part of a series of reports and information documents that will be prepared during the Scoping and EIA Process for the proposed agricultural development.

The Scoping phase of the EIA refers to the process of determining the spatial and temporal (extent) boundaries for the EIA, as well as the key issues to be addressed in the EIA phase. This is done through a parallel process of consultation with I&APs, the competent authority, affected Organs of State and specialist input. This includes a review of relevant background literature on the development (Local and Regional Planning Frameworks including, the Eastern Cape Biodiversity Conservation Plan (ECBCP), the Sundays River Valley Municipality Biodiversity Sector Plan (SRVM BSP) and the Subtropical Thicket Ecosystem Plan (STEP)). As per Appendix 2 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), the objectives of the Scoping Process are to –

- identify relevant policies and legislation relevant to the activity;
- motivate the need and desirability of the proposed activity in the context of the preferred location
- identify and confirm the preferred activity, technology alternative and/ or site alternative; or if no alternatives, including location alternatives were investigated, the motivation for such;
- identify the key issues to be addressed in the assessment phase;
- confirm the level of assessment, methodology and expertise required as well as the extent of further consultation to be undertaken to determine the impacts and risks the activity will impose on the preferred site to inform the location of the development footprint within the preferred site; and
- identify suitable measures to avoid, manage or mitigate identified impacts and to determine the extent of the residual risks that need to be managed and monitored.

The primary objective of the Draft CSR is to present (to key stakeholders and affected Organs of State) an overview of the project, including key issues, as well as confirm the preferred site alternative that requires assessment in the EIA Phase. As noted in section 1.3 above, the Scoping and EIA Process is being implemented in four phases.

The Scoping process is designed to, amongst others, satisfy the requirements of Chapter Six (Regulations 39-44) of GN R326 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), which relates to the public participation process and the registration of I&APs and the acknowledgment of their comments on the proposed project. Issues raised during the Scoping process have been included in a Comments and Responses Trail as part of Chapter Four of this report. Copies of comments received from I&APs and requests to register interest on the project database are included in Appendix F of this report. Regulation 43. (1) states the following:

43. (1) *“A registered interested and affected party is entitled to comment, in writing, on all reports or plans submitted to such party during the public participation process contemplated in these Regulations **and to bring to the attention of the proponent or applicant any issues which that party believes may be of significance to the consideration of the application, provided that the interested and affected party discloses any direct business, financial, personal or other interest which that party may have in the approval or refusal of the application.**”*

In terms of legal requirements, a crucial objective of the Scoping process is to satisfy the requirements of Appendix 2 of GN R326 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended). This

section regulates and prescribes the content of Scoping Reports and specifies the type of supporting information that must accompany the submission of the Scoping Report to the competent authority. Table 1.2 below indicates how the requirements of these regulations are met by the different sections of this Scoping Report.

Table 1.2: Summary of where requirements for a Scoping Report (in terms of GN R326, Section 2 in Appendix 2 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, (as amended)) are provided for in this report.

| Section 2 in Appendix 2 | Requirement for Scoping Report | Where this is provided in this Draft CSR |
|--------------------------------|---|---|
| (1) (a) (i) | details of the EAP who prepared the report | Appendix A |
| (1) (a) (ii) | the expertise of the EAP, including curriculum vitae; | Appendix A |
| (1) (b) | the location of the activity, including- | Chapter 2 |
| (1) (b) (i) | the 21-digit Surveyor General code of each cadastral land parcel; | Chapter 2 |
| (1) (b) (ii) | where available, the physical address and farm name; | Chapter 2 |
| (1) (b) (iii) | where the required information in items (i) and (ii) is not available, the coordinates of the boundary of the property or properties; | Chapter 2 |
| (1) (c) | a plan which locates the proposed activity or activities applied for at an appropriate scale, or, if it is- | Appendix H |
| (1) (c) (i) | a linear activity, a description and coordinates of the corridor in which the proposed activity or activities is to be undertaken; or | Chapter 2 for the coordinates of the pipeline corridor and Chapter 3 for the description of the corridor. |
| (1) (c) (ii) | on land where the property has not been defined, the coordinates within which the activity is to be undertaken; | The property boundary has been defined. |
| (1) (d) | a description of the scope of the proposed activity, including- | Chapter 2 |
| (1) (d) (i) | all listed and specified activities triggered; | Chapter 4 |
| (1) (d) (ii) | a description of the activities to be undertaken, including associated structures and infrastructure; | Chapter 2 |
| (1) (e) | a description of the policy and legislative context within which the development is proposed including an identification of all legislation, policies, plans, guidelines, spatial tools, municipal development planning frameworks and instruments that are applicable to this activity and are to be considered in the assessment process; | Chapter 1 for Need and Desirability, Chapter 3 for Ecological and Chapter 4 for the policy and legislative context. |
| (1) (f) | a motivation for the need and desirability for the proposed development including the need and desirability of the activity in the context of the preferred location; | Chapter 1 |
| (1) (g) | a full description of the process followed to reach the proposed preferred activity, site and location of the development footprint within the site, including - | Chapter 4 for the process followed and Chapter 5 for an assessment of alternatives and preferred activity. |
| (1) (g) (i) | details of all the alternatives considered; | Chapter 5 |
| (1) (g) (ii) | details of the public participation process undertaken in terms of regulation 41 of the Regulations, including copies of the supporting documents and inputs; | Chapter 4 and Appendix C, D, E and F. |
| (1) (g) (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; | Chapter 4 for the Comments and Responses Trail. |

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| (1) (g) (iv) | the environmental attributes associated with the alternatives focusing on the geographical, physical, biological, social, economic, heritage and cultural aspects; | Chapter 3 and 5. |
| (1) (g) (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- (aa) can be reversed; (bb) may cause irreplaceable loss of resources; and (cc) can be avoided, managed or mitigated; | Alternatives are discussed in Chapter 5. A detailed assessment of impacts will be provided in the EIA Phase of the assessment. |
| (1) (g) (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; | Alternatives are discussed in Chapter 5. The methodology to be used for the rating of impacts in the EIA Phase of the Assessment is provided in Chapter 6. |
| (1) (g) (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; | Alternatives are discussed in Chapter 5. A detailed assessment of impacts will be provided during the EIA Phase of the Assessment. |
| (1) (g) (viii) | the possible mitigation measures that could be applied and level of residual risk; | Specialist Terms of Reference are included in Chapter 6 and include the requirement to provide suitable mitigation measures. |
| (1) (g) (ix) | the outcome of the site selection matrix; | Site alternatives have not been assessed, but have been considered as part of this assessment, reasoning is provided in Chapter 5. |
| (1) (g) (x) | if no alternatives, including alternative locations for the activity were investigated, the motivation for not considering such and | Chapter 5 for assessment of alternatives. |
| (1) (g) (xi) | a concluding statement indicating the preferred alternatives, including preferred location of the activity; | Chapter 5 |
| (1) (h) | a plan of study for undertaking the environmental impact assessment process to be undertaken, including- | Chapter 6 |
| (1) (h) (i) | a description of the alternatives to be considered and assessed within the preferred site, including the option of not proceeding with the activity; | Chapter 5 |
| (1) (h) (ii) | a description of the aspects to be assessed as part of the environmental impact assessment process; | Chapter 6 |
| (1) (h) (iii) | aspects to be assessed by specialists; | Chapter 6 |
| (1) (h) (iv) | a description of the proposed method of assessing the environmental aspects, including aspects to be assessed by specialists; | Chapter 6 |
| (1) (h) (v) | A description of the proposed method of assessing duration and significance; | Chapter 6 |
| (1) (h) (vi) | an indication of the stages at which the competent authority will be consulted; | Chapter 4 and 6 |
| (1) (h) (vii) | particulars of the public participation process that will be conducted during the environmental impact assessment process; and | Chapter 4 and 6 |
| (1) (h) (viii) | a description of the tasks that will be undertaken as part of the environmental impact assessment process; | Chapter 6 |

| | | |
|--------------|--|---|
| (1) (h) (ix) | identify suitable measures to avoid, reverse, mitigate or manage identified impacts and to determine the extent of the residual risks that need to be managed and monitored. | Chapter 6 |
| (1) (i) | an undertaking under oath or affirmation by the EAP in relation to- (i) the correctness of the information provided in the report; (ii) the inclusion of comments and inputs from stakeholders and interested and affected parties; and (iii) any information provided by the EAP to interested and affected parties and any responses by the EAP to comments or inputs made by interested or affected parties; | To be included in the Application Form for submission to DEDEAT. Comments raised to date are included in the Comments and Responses Trail in Chapter 4 and correspondence with I&APs to date in Appendix E and received from I&APs in Appendix F. |
| (1) (j) | an undertaking under oath or affirmation by the EAP in relation to the level of agreement between the EAP and interested and affected parties on the plan of study for undertaking the environmental impact assessment; | To be included in the Application form and Final Scoping Report. |
| (1) (k) | where applicable, any specific information required by the competent authority; and | None requested to date |
| (1) (l) | any other matter required in terms of section 24(4)(a) and (b) of the Act. | The Scoping and EIA process takes into consideration IEM principles as contained in NEMA. |
| (2) | Where a government notice <i>gazetted</i> by the Minister provides for any protocol or minimum information requirement to be applied to a scoping report, the requirements as indicated | This report. |