



agriculture, forestry & fisheries

Department:
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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DAFF

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Forestry Regulations & Support

17 August 2018

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Attention: Mareike Straeuli

COMMENTS FOR THE BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT (BID) FOR THE PROPOSED CAPACITY IMPROVEMENTS TO NATIONAL ROUTE (N3) FROM HAMMARSDALE TO PIETERMARITZBURG

The Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) appreciates the opportunity to register as an interested and affected party for the above-mentioned project. DAFF through the sub-directorate Forestry Regulations and Support is the authority mandated to implement the National Forest Act, (Act No. 84 of 1998) by regulating the use of natural forests¹ and protected tree species in terms of the said Act.

With regards to the BID received on the 01st August 2018, the proposed capacity upgrades will result in clearance of vegetation during the site preparation phase. The Department therefore requests that the necessary specialist studies be undertaken and incorporated into the Draft Basic Assessment report. The studies will assist the Department in determining the impact of the

¹ "Natural forest" means a group of indigenous trees-

- (a) whose crowns are largely contiguous; or
- (b) which have been declared by the Minister to be a natural forest under section 7(2); (xxviii)

development on natural forests or protected trees as per the National Forest Act provisions. The department will further comment upon the receipt and review of the DBAR.

Should any further information be required, please do not hesitate to contact this office. This letter does not exempt you from considering other legislations.

Yours faithfully

K.Moodley

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Moodley', written over a horizontal dotted line.

Senior Forester: KZN Forestry Management