

10 August 2016

ACER (Africa) Environmental Consultants
Suites 5 & 6, Golden Penny Centre
26 Hely Hutchinson Road
PO Box 503, Mtunzini, 3867, South Africa

Tel: +27 (0) 35 340 2715
+27 (0) 35 340 2245
Fax: +27 (0) 35 340 2232
Email: info@acerafrica.co.za

www.acerafrica.co.za

Dear Sir/Madam

**INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS (BASIC ASSESSMENTS) AND WATER USE LICENCE
APPLICATION FOR THE PROPOSED CAPACITY IMPROVEMENTS TO NATIONAL ROUTE 2 (N2)
AND NATIONAL ROUTE 3 (N3) WITHIN THE ETHEKWINI METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY,
KWAZULU-NATAL**

The South African National Roads Agency SOC Limited (SANRAL) is responsible for improving, managing and maintaining the network of national roads in South Africa. Sections of the N2 and N3 are operating at full capacity and traffic studies indicate a need to upgrade them to accommodate future growth and improve road safety. SANRAL (Eastern Region) thus plans to provide additional lanes and upgraded interchanges along a section of the N2 in Durban and along the N3 between Durban and Pietermaritzburg. This forms part of the suite of Strategic Infrastructure Projects (SIPs) as described in the National Development Plan, 2011.

The project requires environmental authorisation from the national Department of Environmental Affairs in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, published under National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) (Act No. 107 of 1998) (as amended).

SANRAL has appointed ACER (Africa) Environmental Consultants to undertake the applications for environmental authorization for the following Basic Assessments:

- ❑ **Basic Assessment 1.** Capacity Upgrades to the N2 (Solomon Mahlangu to south of Umgeni Road Interchange (I/C)), including expansion of EB Cloete and Solomon Mahlangu Interchanges, and the N3 (EB Cloete to Paradise Valley) including provision of temporary access for construction below Westville and Paradise Valley viaducts.
- ❑ **Basic Assessment 2.** Capacity Upgrades to the N3 (Paradise Valley to Key Ridge) including provision of temporary access for construction below the Umhlatuzana Viaduct.

ACER, on behalf of SANRAL, will also submit a Water Use Licence Application(s) to the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), in accordance with Section 21 of the National Water Act (Act No. 36 of 1998), as amended.

Please refer to the enclosed/attached Background Information Document (BID) for more detailed information.

A Public Open Day will be held at the Westville Country Club on 16 August 2016. Interested members of the public are invited to attend and view the display of project information any time between 3 pm and 7 pm. Members of the project team will be present to discuss issues of concern and answer queries.

If you would like to participate as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) for this project, please fill in the attached comment sheet and return to the ACER Public Participation Office by 25 August 2016:

Charlene Weber or Nolwandle Nkwanyana

Tel: 035 340 2715

Fax: 035 340 2232

E-mail: N3batch1@acerafrica.co.za

P O Box 503, Mtunzini, 3867

On the comment sheet, please indicate which Basic Assessment you are specifically interested in, or alert ACER if you would prefer not to receive any further information for this project.

Yours sincerely,



ACER (Africa) Environmental Consultants

Ashleigh McKenzie (Pr. Sci. Nat)

Senior Environmental Consultant

Agricultural, Community, Environmental and Rural Development Consultants (Pty) Ltd trading as ACER (Africa) Environmental Consultants
Directors: Dr R-D Heinsohn (Managing), D R Schnetler (Financial), G J Churchill, Associates: A McKenzie
Reg No.: 95/05854/07 Vat Reg No.: 4820230409

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