UXWEBHU LOLWAZI LWEMVELAPHI *(Background Information Document)*

Uhlaziyo olucetywayo lwe-≈10 km lwe-DR08026 Mbotyi Access Road, Ward 23, uMasipala wasekuhlaleni waseNgquza Hill, uMasipala we-OR Tambo District, Kwa-Mpuma Kapa

(Proposed upgrading of approximately 10 Km of DR08026 Mbotyi Access Road, Ward 23, Ngquza Hill Local Municipality, OR Tambo District Municipality, Eastern Cape)

Isaziso senjongo yokungenisa:

Isicelo soGunyaziso lweNdalo (Environmental Authorisation – EA) ngokwe-Mthetho kaZwelonke woLawulo lweNdalo (National Environmental Management Act – NEMA, uMthetho 107 ka-1998).

Isicelo semvume yeManzi (Section 21 Water Uses) ngokwe-Mthetho kaZwelonke waManzi (National Water Act – NWA, uMthetho 36 ka-1998).

Bhalisa njengomntu onomdla okanye ochaphazelekayo (IAP): Ukusukela 31 Oktobha ukuya ku-1 Disemba 2025.

Notice of intention to submit:

Application for environmental authorisation in terms the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998)

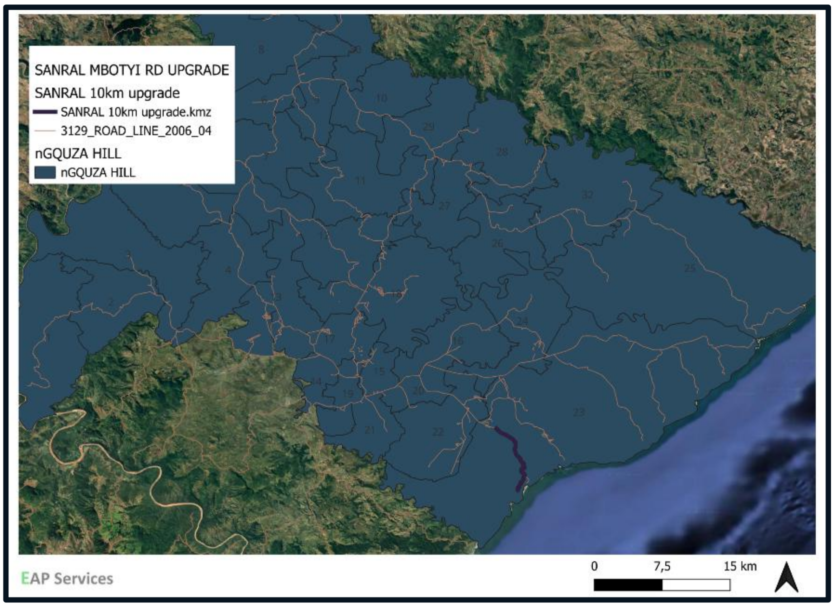
Application for Section 21 water uses as required in terms of the National Water Act (Act 36 of 1998)

Register as an interested and affected party: 31 October to 1 December 2025

Uhlaziyo lwentsebenziswano (Overview of development)

I-SANRAL SOC Ltd iceba ukuhlaziya indlela emalunga ne-10 km ye-DR08026 eMbotyi, ukusuka kwindlela yegrabile iye kwinqanaba elingaphezulu (surfaced standard), njengenxalenye yesicwangciso se-Access Management Plans sokuphucula iNdlela yeZizwe i-N2 Isiqendu 20 (ukusuka km 4.90 ukuya km 15.40).

(SANRAL SOC Ltd is proposing to upgrade approximately 10km of the DR08026 access road leading to Mbotyi, from gravel to surface standards, as part of the implementation of the Access Management Plans for the upgrade of National Road N2 Section 20 from km 4.90 to km 15.40.)



Isixeko esikufutshane: *Lusikisiki* (≈ 17 km). **Indawo yeprojekthi:** Ngaphakathi kwe-Ngquza Hill Local Municipality kunye ne-OR Tambo District Municipality, Kwa-Mpuma Kapa. *(The nearest major town is Lusikisiki (approximately 17.0km to/from CBD); the entire project is located within the Ingquza Hill Local and OR Tambo District Municipalities in the Eastern Cape province)*

Iikhowudi *(Approximate Coordinates):*

Ukuqala (emantla) *Starting (north)*: 31°24'32.45"S; 29°42'28.15"E

Ukuphela (emazantsi) *End (south):* 31°28'11.69"S; 29°43'44.70"E

Iingcali zobuNjineli: GG&G Consulting Engineers (Pty) Ltd – Uyilo lokuphucula nokwandisa indlela.

Unjiniyela weprojekthi: Akhona Juba.

(Engineer appointed for design of resurfacing and road widening: GG&G Consulting Engineers (Pty) Ltd; Project Engineer: Akhona Juba)

Uhlalutyo lweNdawo ngokwendalo (Overview of environmental sensitivities)

Le ndawo ikufuphi neendawo ezininzi ezibalulekileyo ngokwendalo:

- Ikwangaphakathi kwe-10 km ukusuka kwindawo ekhuselekileyo yaselwandle (Marine Protected Area – Pondoland MPA).
- Inxalenye yendlela idlula kwindawo echongiweyo kwi-Pondoland NPAES (National Protected Area Expansion Strategy).
- Le ndawo ikwi-Pondoland Centre of Endemism – indawo enentlobo zezityalo nezilwanyana ezingafumanekiyo kwenye indawo.
- Indlela idlula kwimigca yomlambo, kwaye inqamleza i-Mbotyi estuary, echongwe njenge-NFEPA wetland.

*(The site falls within 10 km of a formal marine protected area – Pondoloand marine protected area. A section of the road will traverse area identified as part of the Pondoland NPAES. The area falls within the Pondoland Centre of Endemism (**Figure 1**). The road upgrade traverses drainage lines, and the road crosses the Mbotyi estuary (mapped as a NFEPA wetland) (**Figure 2**))*

Ngokwe-National Vegetation Map (2024):

Indlela idlula kwiindidi ezintathu zezityalo zendalo:

1. **Pondoland-Ugu Sandstone Coastal Sourveld** – *imeko: Vulnerable*
2. **Scarp Forest** – *imeko: Least Concern*
3. **Transkei Coastal Belt** – *imeko: Endangered*

*In terms of the National Vegetation Map, 2024; the road traverses through several vegetation types; From the northern to southern section the route traverses: Pondoland-Ugu Sandstone coastal sourveld (Ecosystems status: Vulnerable); Scarp Forest (Ecosystems Status: Least concern); Transkei Coastal Belt (Ecosystems status: Endangered). (Status as per National Biodiversity Assessment, 2022). (**Figure 3**) With regards to remnant ecosystems, Transkei costal belt is excluded from the southern area the road traverses; the majority of Sandstone coastal sourveld is excluded from the majority of the northern area the road traverses (**Figure 4**).*

Ngokwe-Eastern Cape Biodiversity Conservation Plan (2019):

- Iindawo ezichaphazelekayo ziquka Terrestrial ESA1, CBA1, kunye ne-CBA2.
- Indawo yomlambo iquka Freshwater CBA1 kunye ne-ESA1.

*In terms of the Eastern Cape Biodiversity Conservation Plan (ECBCP), 2019, sections of the proposed upgrade will traverse terrestrial ESA1, CBA2 and CBA1 (**Figure 5**); sections traverse freshwater ecological support areas (ESA) 1 and aquatic critical biodiversity areas (CBA) 1 (**Figure 6**).*

Map of the Pondoland Centre (shown in yellow) on the eastern coast of South Africa. Note that the narrow, developed coastal strip from north of Port Edward to Port Shepstone is excluded (Van Wyk & Smith 2001).

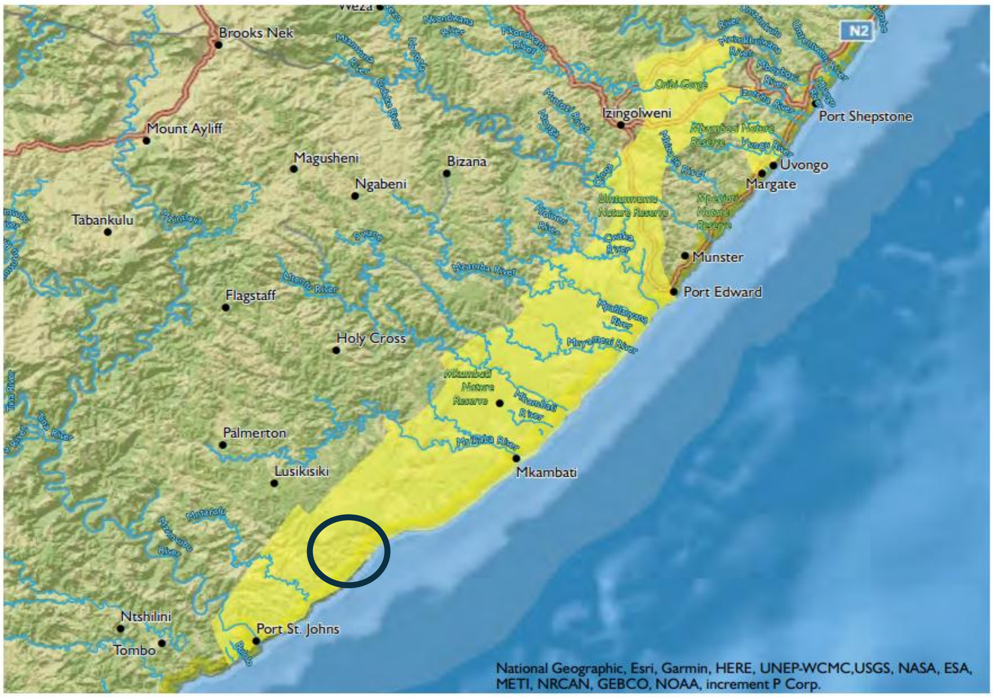


Figure 1: Map of Pondoland centre with indication of area of road upgrade (GRIEVE, K., GRIEVE, G. & BELLSTEDT, D. 2024. Botanical bounty of the Pondoland Centre of Endemism. Strelitzia 47. South African National Biodiversity Institute, Pretoria)

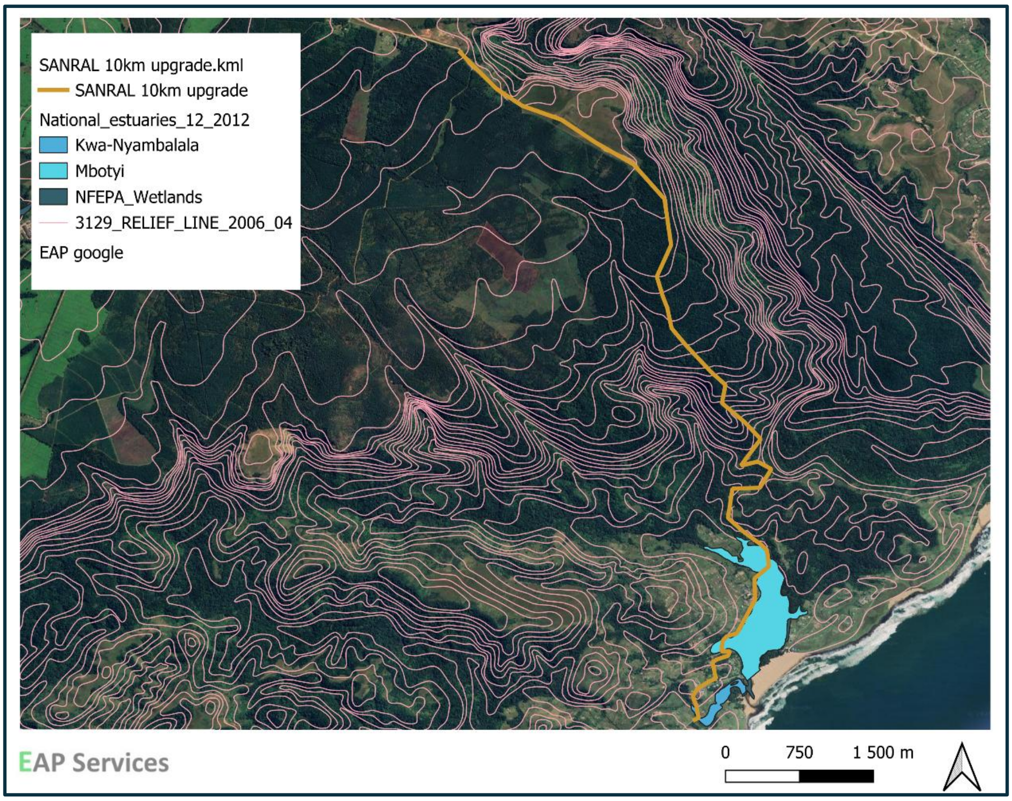


Figure 2: Road upgrade traversing Mbotyi Estuary / NFEPA wetland

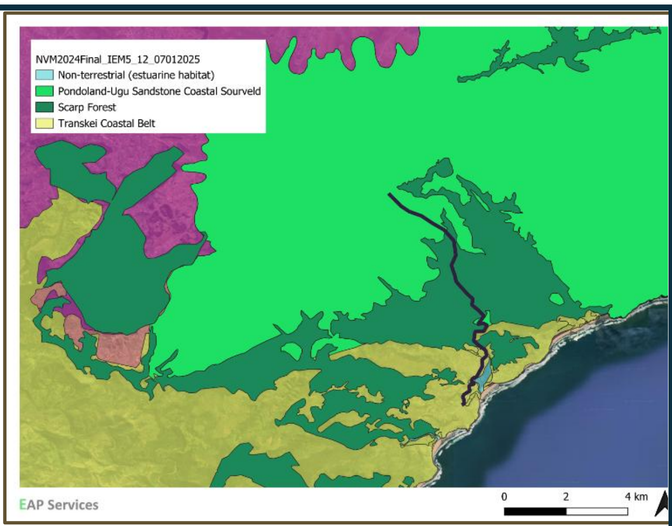


Figure 3: Route traverses Pondoland-Ugu Sandstone coastal sourveld; Scarp Forest; Transkei Coastal Belt (NatVeg Map, 2024)

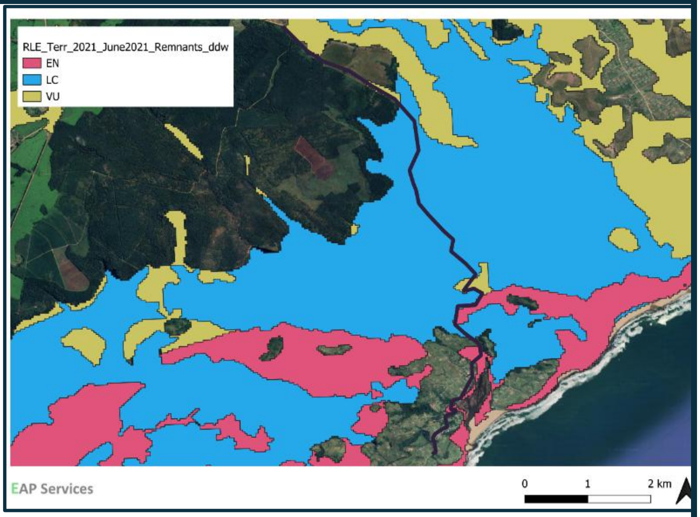


Figure 4: Remnant ecosystems; Note - Transkei Coastal Belt no longer mapped in southern section

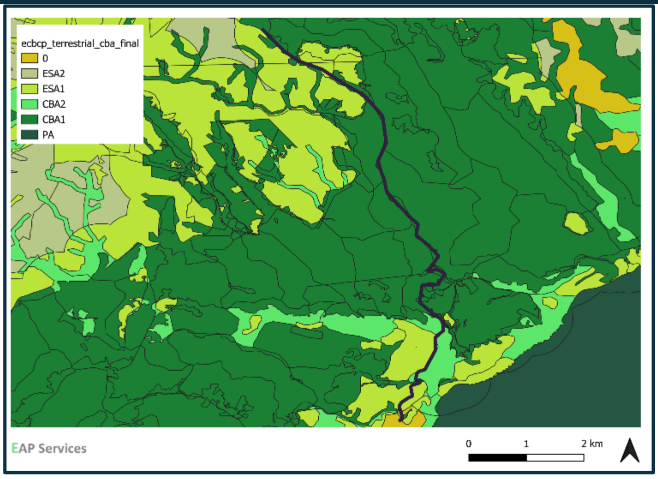


Figure 5: Route traverses Terrestrial CBA1, ESA1 and ESA 2 (ECBCP, 2019)

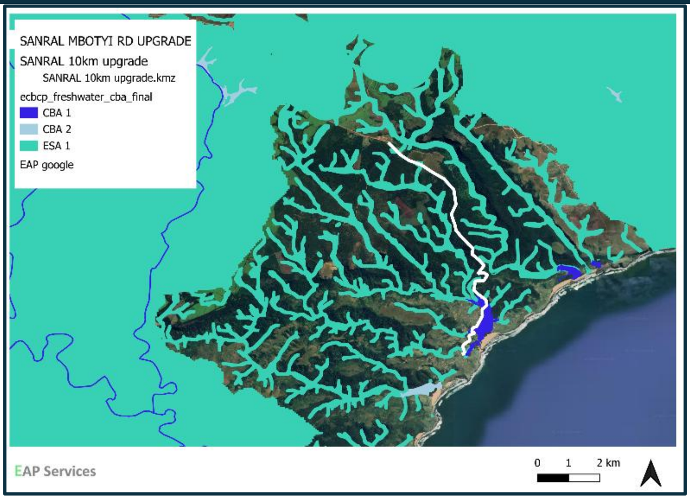


Figure 6: Route traverses Freshwater CBA1, ESA1 (ECBCP, 2019)

Ingxelo ye-DFFE Screening Tool ibonise ezi ndawo ziphambili:

- Ezolimo – *Very High*
- Izilwanyana – *High*
- Amanzi / Aquatic – *Very High*
- Iilifa nembali – *Low*
- Uthutho lomoya / Civil Aviation – *High*
- Uloyiso / Defense – *Low*
- I-Paleontology – *Very High*
- Izityalo – *Medium*
- Ubutyebi bendalo bomhlaba / Terrestrial Biodiversity – *Very High*

The National DFFE screening tool report for the site indicates the following sensitives:

- *Agricultural – Very High*
- *Animal – High*
- *Aquatic – Very High*

- *Archaeology and heritage – Low*
- *Civil aviation – High*
- *Defense - Low*
- *Paleontology – Very high*
- *Plant – Medium*
- *Terrestrial biodiversity – Very High*

Uphononongo lweNgcali *(The following specialist studies will be completed for the proposed road upgrade)*

	Specialist Assessment	EAP Comment
1	Uphononongo lweMpembelelo kwezoLimo *Agricultural Impact Assessment*	Akubalwa njengolufunekayo ngenxa yomda kunye nobungakanani bomsebenzi oza kwenziwa. *Not deemed necessary for proposed scope of work*
2	Uphononongo lweMbonakalo / iNdawo *Landscape/Visual Impact Assessment*	I-EAP icacisile ukuba akukho mfuneko yesifundo esikhethekileyo; akubalulekanga ngenxa yobungakanani beprojekthi. *Motivated that no specialist study required; Not deemed necessary for proposed scope of work*
3	Uphononongo lweLifa nembali kunye neNkcubeko *Archaeological And Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment*	Isaziso senjongo yokuphuhlisa (NID) siya kuhanjiswa ku ECHRPA / SAHRA. Ukuba kukho iimfuno, uphononongo luya kwenziwa. *Notice of intention to develop (NID) to be submitted to ECHPRA / SAHRA.*
4	Uphononongo lwePaleontology *Palaeontology Impact Assessment*	I-NID iya kuhanjiswa ku-ECHRPA / SAHRA. Uvavanyo kufuneka lwenziwe. *NID to be submitted to ECHPRA / SAHRA. An assessment to be carried out.*
5	Uphononongo lweBiodiversity yoMhlaba *Terrestrial Biodiversity Impact Assessment*	Uqinisekiso lwezityalo nezilwanyana eziphila emhlabeni luya kwenziwa kuze kuqulunqwe ingxelo/uvavanyo lokuthotyelwa. Izifundo ezongezelelweyo zinokufuneka ngokuxhomekeke kwisiphumo soqinisekiso lwesiza. *A terrestrial biodiversity verification will be carried out and a compliance statement / assessment compiled. Additional studies may be required dependant on outcome of site verification.*
6	Uphononongo lweBiodiversity yaManzi *Aquatic Biodiversity Impact Assessment*	Uqinisekiso lwasemanzini luya kwenziwa kuze kuqulunqwe ingxelo/uvavanyo lokuthotyelwa. *An aquatic verification will be carried out and a compliance statement / assessment compiled.*
7	Uphononongo lweNgxolo *Noise Impact assessment*	I-EAP icacisile ukuba asifuneki; akukho miphumo ebalulekileyo kulindelekileyo. *Motivated that no specialist study required; Not deemed necessary for proposed scope of work*
8	Uphononongo lweZithuthi *Traffic Impact assessment*	Akufuneki; i-EAP ichaza ukuba iindlela zikhoyo zanele kwaye azibangeli mpembelelo enkulu. *Motivated that no specialist study required; Not deemed necessary for proposed scope of work*
9	Uphononongo lweGeotechnica *Geotechnical assessment*	Uphononongo luya kwenziwa ziinjineli ezonyuliweyo xa kufunwa, njengoko kukho imfuno yokuqinisekisa umgangatho womhlaba. *Geotechnical surveys will be carried out, as required, by the appointed engineers for the proposed upgrade*
10	Uphononongo lwezoQoqosho *Socio-Economic Assessment*	Akufuneki; akukho miphumo emikhulu kuqoqosho lwengingqi kulindelekileyo ngenxa yomda weprojekthi. *Motivated that no specialist study required; Not deemed necessary for proposed scope of work*

11	Uphononongo lomgangatho womoya *Ambient Air Quality Impact Assessment*	Akufuneki; akukho miphumo emikhulu kuqoqosho lwengingqi kulindelekileyo ngenxa yomda weprojekthi. *Motivated that no specialist study required; Not deemed necessary for proposed scope of work*
12	Uphononongo lweentlobo zeZityalo *Plant Species Assessment*	Kuya kwenziwa uqinisekiso lwezityalo kwaye kuqulunqwe ingxelo/uvavanyo lokuthotyelwa. Uphononongo olongezelelweyo lwezityalo lunokufuneka ngokuxhomekeke kwisiphumo soqinisekiso lwesiza. *A flora verification will be carried out and a compliance statement / assessment compiled. Additional flora studies may be required dependant on outcome of site verification.*
13	Uphononongo lweentlobo zeZilwanyana *Animal Species Assessment*	Uqinisekiso lwezilwanyana luya kwenziwa kwaye ingxelo/uvavanyo lothotyelo luqulunqwe. Uphononongo olongezelelweyo lwefauna lunokufuneka ngokuxhomekeke kwisiphumo soqinisekiso lwesiza. *A fauna verification will be carried out and a compliance statement / assessment compiled. Additional fauna studies may be required dependant on outcome of site verification.*

Iimfuno zomthetho ezinxulumene nokusingqongileyo *(Overview of legal environmental requirements)*

National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMA)

UMthetho kaZwelonke woLawulo lweNdalo (NEMA) kunye neMimiselo ye-EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations) zibeka uluhlu lwemisebenzi engakwazi ukuqala ngaphandle koGunyaziso lweNdalo (Environmental Authorisation – EA) oluvela kwigunya eligunyazisiweyo.

Imisebenzi echongwe phantsi kwe **Listing Notice 1** kunye ne **Listing Notice 3** efuna isicelo soGunyaziso lweNdalo ifakwe ngezantsi.

Listing Notice 1

Activity 12 / 48: Ukuphuhliswa okanye ukwandiswa kwezixhobo / izakhiwo ezinendawo yomzimba engaphezu kwe-100m², apho loo misebenzi yenzeka:

ngaphakathi okanye kufuphi nemijelo yamanzi (watercourse), okanye ngaphakathi kwe-32m ukusuka emanzini, ngaphandle kwemisebenzi ekhankanywe kwi-Listing Notice 2 okanye 3.

okanye apho ukuphuhliswa kwenzeka ngaphakathi kweendlela ezikhoyo / i-road reserves.

Activity 17 / 54: Ukuphuhliswa okanye ukwandiswa kwezixhobo ngaphakathi kwe-estuary okanye ngaphakathi kwe-100m ukusuka emanzini aphezulu (high-water mark) xa kungekho mda wokuphuhlisa (setback line).

Activity 19: Ukuzalisa okanye ukutshintshela izinto ezingaphezu kwe-10 cubic metres kwi-watercourse, okanye ukumba okanye ukususa isanti, amatye, njl. kwindawo enamanzi.

Activity 19A: Ukuzalisa okanye ukutshintshela izinto ezingaphezu kwe-5 cubic metres kufuphi nolwandle okanye kwi-estuary, okanye ngaphakathi kwe-100m ukusuka emanzini aphezulu.

Activity 56: Ukwandiswa kwendlela ngaphezulu kwe-6 metres, okanye ukwandiswa ngobude ngaphezu kwe-1 km, apho i-road reserve ikhoyo ngaphezu kwe-13.5 metres, okanye indlela ikhoyo ingaphezu kwe-8 metres.

Listing Notice 3

Activity 12: Ukucocwa kwendawo engaphezu kwe-300m² yezityalo zendalo ngaphakathi kwe:

i-ecosystem echongwe njenge-critically endangered okanye endangered, okanye

indawo echongwe njenge-Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA), okanye

ngaphakathi kwe-100m ukusuka kwi-estuarine functional zone ngaphandle kweendawo zasedolophini.

Activity 14 / 23: Ukuphuhliswa kwezixhobo ezinendawo yomzimba engaphezulu kwe-10m² ngaphakathi kwe-watercourse okanye ngaphakathi kwe-32m ukusuka kuyo.

Activity 18: Ukwandiswa kwendlela ngaphezulu kwe-4m okanye ngobude ngaphezulu kwe-1 km.

Iziganeko (activities) ezifunekayo ziya kuqinisekiswa negunya eliphambili (National Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment – DFFE) phambi kokungenisa isicelo.
Kucwangcisiwe intlanganiso yangaphambi kwesicelo (pre-application meeting) no-DFFE.

The NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations sets out a list of activities that may not commence without environmental authorisation (EA) from the competent authority. The identified NEMA EIA listed activities which require authorisation:
Relevant Basic Assessment Activity(ies) as set out in Listing Notice 1
Activity 12 / 48 Development / expansion -(ii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more; where such development / expansion occurs— (a) within a watercourse; (c) … within 32 metres of a watercourse, — excluding— (cc) activities listed in activity 14 in Listing Notice 2 of 2014 or activity 14 in Listing Notice 3 of 2014… (ee) where such development / expansion occurs within existing roads / road reserves, railway line reserves.
Activity 17 / 54 Development / expansion— (ii) in an estuary;— (e) infrastructure/structures with a development footprint of 50 square metres or more — v) if no development setback exists, within a distance of 100 metres inland of the high-water mark of the sea / estuary, whichever is the greater;
Activity 19 The infilling / depositing of any material of more than 10 cubic metres into, / dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock of more than 10 cubic metres from a watercourse;
Activity 19A The infilling / depositing of any material of more than 5 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock of more than 5 cubic metres from— (ii) the littoral active zone, an estuary or a distance of 100 metres inland of the highwater mark of the sea or an estuary, whichever distance is the greater
Activity 56 The widening of a road by more than 6 metres, or the lengthening of a road by more than 1 kilometre— (i) where the existing reserve is wider than 13,5 meters; or (ii) where no reserve exists, where the existing road is wider than 8 metres;

Relevant Basic Assessment Activity(ies) as set out in Listing Notice 3
Activity 12 The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation ... a. Eastern Cape i. Within any critically endangered or endangered ecosystem listed in terms of section 52 of the NEMBA or prior to the publication of such a list, within an area that has been identified as critically endangered in the National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment 2004; ii. Within critical biodiversity areas identified in bioregional plans; iv. Outside urban areas, within 100 metres inland from an estuarine functional zone;
Activity 14 / 23 The development / expansion of— (ii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 10 square metres or more; where such development occurs— (a) within a watercourse; (c) if no development setback has been adopted, within 32m of a watercourse …
Activity 18 The widening of a road by more than 4 metres, or the lengthening of a road by more than 1 kilometre…

NEMA listed activities requiring authorisation will be confirmed with the competent authority prior to application submission. The competent authority identified is the National Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE). A preapplication meeting with DFFE will be requested.

National Water Act (Act 36 of 1998)(NWA)

Isicelo siya kuhanjiswa kuMphathiswa weSebe leManzi kunye noCociso (Department of Water and Sanitation – DWS) kwizinto ezifunekayo phantsi kweCandelo 21 (Section 21 water uses) ze-NWA.
Izinto ezinokufuna imvume (Water Use Licence / General Authorisation):
Section 21(a): Ukutsalwa kwamanzi (amanzi aya kusetyenziswa ngexesha lokwakha – ukuqinisekiswa kuyafuneka).
Section 21(c): Ukuthintela okanye ukuguqula ukuhamba kwamanzi ngaphakathi kwe-watercourse (indlela idlula imijelo yamanzi, ngaphakathi kwe-100m okanye kufuphi ne-Mbotyi Estuary).
Section 21(i): Ukutshintsha ibhedi, imida, okanye indlela yamanzi.

Qaphela: Akukho misebenzi iya kwenziwa ngaphakathi kwe-Mbotyi Estuary crossing, kodwa kuya kubakho ukupeyinta kwakhona nokwandiswa kwendlela kumacala omabini.
Dr. Anton Bok uya kwenza uhlalutyo lweengozi (risk assessment) ngokusekelwe kwindlela eza kusetyenziswa. Iziphumo ziya kuthi zichaze ukuba kuyimfuneko na i-General Authorisation (GA) okanye Water Use Licence (WUL).

An application will be submitted to the Department of Water and Sanitation for any Section 21 water uses listed in the National Water Act (Act 36 of 1998) that may require authorisation as identified during the assessment process. The following Sections 21 water uses may require general authorisation / water use license:

Section 21 a – abstraction of water (water required for construction phase; to be confirmed)

Section 21 c – impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse; road will traverse watercourses; within 100 m drainage lines and / or 500m Mbotyi estuary
Section 21 i - altering the bed, banks, course, or characteristics of a watercourse; road will traverse watercourses; within 100 m drainage lines and / or 500m Mbotyi estuary

Note:
Work will not be done on the crossing at Mbotyi Estuary, however resurfacing and widening will be carried out on either side of this crossing.
An aquatic specialist (Dr Anton Bok) will carry out an assessment and then do a risk assessment matrix based on the proposed method and construction requirements; the outcome of this will determine whether a GA / Wul may be required.
Dr Anton Bok has been appointed to carry out the required water use license / general authorisation on behalf of SANRAL SOC Ltd. A preapplication meeting with DWS will be requested.

National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) (NHRA)

NgokweCandelo 38(1) loMthetho, nawuphi na umphuhliso odlula kwi-5000m² unokufuna uphononongo lwezinto zembali kunye nelifa.
Isaziso senjongo yokuphuhlisa (NID) siya kuhanjiswa ku ECHRPA kunye ne SAHRA.
Uphononongo luya kwenziwa ukuba kukho izinto zembali ezichongiweyo okanye amathuba aphezulu okuba zikhona kule ndawo.

In terms of Section 38(1) of the NHRA any development exceeding 5000m² can trigger the need for assessment. A NID will therefore be submitted to the Eastern Cape Heritage Resources protection Agency (ECHRPA) and the South African Heritage Resources Association (SAHRA) and the required assessments will be carried out to inform the sensitivities and required actions for any identified resources identified / high likelihood of occurring within the project area.

National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004 (Act No.10 Of 2004) , Nature Conservation Ordinance No. 19 of 1974 and National Forest Act (Act 84 of 1998)

Kule projekthi kuya kuchongwa naziphi iintlobo zezityalo okanye izilwanyana ezikhuselweyo (TOPS species), okanye imithi ekhankanywe njengekhuselweyo (Protected Trees) phantsi kwe-National Forest Act.
An indication will be provided of any NEMBA threatened or protected species (TOPS) / species listed in the Nature Conservation Ordinance No. 19 of 1974 / protected trees listed in terms of the National forest Act.

Inkqubo yoThatho-nxaxheba loLuntu (Public Participation)

Kuyaziswa ukuba i-SANRAL SOC Ltd iceba ukufaka isicelo soGunyaziso lweNdalo (EA) ngokweMimiselo ye-EIA (2014, njengoko ilungisiwe ngo-2017).

Izicelo ezinxulumene nazo:

- Kuya kuhanjiswa isicelo se-Water Use Licence (WUL) okanye General Authorisation (GA) ku-DWS.
- Kuya kuhanjiswa isicelo se-Permit ku ECHRPA kunye SAHRA njengoko kufunwa.

***Notice is hereby given** that the applicant (SANRAL SOC Ltd) intends to apply for an environmental authorisation to commence with activities listed in the 2014 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) regulations (as amended, 2017) published in terms of the NEMA.Related applications:*

- *An application will be submitted to the Department of Water and Sanitation for a WUL / GA as required.*
- *An application will be submitted to the Eastern Cape Heritage Resources protection Agency (ECHRPA) and the South African Heritage Resources Association (SAHRA) for permits as required.*

Inkqubo yoThatho-nxaxheba loLuntu (Regulation 41 of EIA Regulations)

Intlanganiso yokuqala yabahlali kunye neenkokeli zoluntu yabanjwa ngo-16 Oktobha 2025, ngenjongo yokwazisa i-EAP kunye neNjineli yeprojekthi.

Bonke abantu abanomdla okanye abachaphazelekayo (Interested and Affected Parties – IAPs) bayakhuthazwa ukuba babhalise baze banike izimvo zabo.

Ixesha lokubhalisa: 31 Oktobha 2025 – 1 Disemba 2025.

Kuya kubakho ithuba leentsuku ezingama-30 lokujonga nokunika izimvo kwi-Draft Basic Assessment Report (BAR) kunye nezinye izincoko ezifana nezifundo zeengcali, izicwangciso zobunjineli, i-EMPr, kunye nengxelo yeempendulo zezimvo.

Ukuba kufunwa i-WUL epheleleyo, kuya kubakho ithuba leentsuku ezingama-60 lokunika izimvo kubo bonke abathathi-nxaxheba abarejistreyithiweyo.

A public participation process will be conducted according to Regulation 41 of the NEMA 2014 EIA Regulations (as amended, 2017). An initial meeting with the community leaders was held on 16 October 2025 to facilitate introduction of the EAP and Engineer to the community.

All interested and affected parties (IAPs) are encouraged to participate in the process.

Register and / or submit initial comments as an IAP within 30 days of this notice to the contact details provided below.

<u>Registration dates: 31 October 2025 to 1 December 2025</u>

A 30-day review and comment period will be provided on the draft basic assessment report and supporting appendices including, inter alia, engineering designs, specialist studies, impact assessment, draft environmental management plan report and the public participation and comments and response report.

Should a full water use license be found to be required a 60-day comment and review period will be provided on relevant information to all registered IAPs.

Application Process for NEMA EA authorisation EA Process
Proposed Public Participation

Inqanaba (Schedule)	Phase	Target Date
In progress	Ukuchonga ii-IAPs ezinokubakho *Identify potential IAPs*	Oktobha – Disemba 2025 *October – December 2025*
Completed	Utyelelo lwesite lokuqala yi-EAP *Initial site visit by EAP*	Oktobha 2025 *October 2025*
Commenced	Uphononongo lweengcali luqala *Initial specialist investigations and planning reports*	Oktobha – Disemba 2025 *October – December 2025*
Completed	Ukungenisa Isaziso sokuba kuza kufakwa isicelo ku-DFFE *Submit preapplication meeting request and Notice of intent to submit application for NEMA EA to the DFFE*	Oktobha 2025 *October 2025*
We are here in the process	Ukusasazwa kweBID kunye nenkqubo yokubhalisa ii-IAPs Ukufakwa kwee-notice boards kunye nentengiso ephepheni lendawo Ukufakwa kwezimvo zokuqala Ukugcina iRekhodi yeezimvo kunye neempendulo *Submit Notice of intent to submit application for NEMA EA to potential registered and interested parties and provided for a 30-day registration of interested and affected parties (IAPs); Distribute background information document to all registered IAPs;* *Note, relevant organs of state, parastatals, NGOs and site landowners and adjacent landowners will be automatically registered for the assessment process;*	Oktobha – Disemba 2025 October – December 2025
	Placement of Site Notices at the sites to encourage registration of interested / affected parties *Advertising the intent to apply for an application for EA in a local newspaper to encourage registration of interested / affected parties.* *A registration period of 30 days will be provided.*	*October – December 2025*

Application Process for NEMA EA authorisation EA Process Proposed Public Participation		
Inqanaba (Schedule)	**Phase**	**Target Date**
	Submit initial comments and provide any relevant information / aspects / potential impacts you feel should be included in the assessment.	*October – December 2025*
	Keep record of all registrations and initial comments in comments and response report	*October – December 2025*
	NEMA EA application and supporting appendices	
Upon completion of verification, details of road upgrade, assessment and EMPr as required	Ukungenisa isicelo soGunyaziso lweNdalo ku-DFFE *Submit NEMA EA application and supporting appendices to DFFE*	Disemba 2025 *December 2025*
	Draft Basic Assessment Report	
Upon receipt of NEMA EA reference number	Ukusasazwa kwe-Draft BAR (30-day review) *Submit Draft Basic Report and supporting appendices for a 30-day review and comment period by IAPS*	Disemba 2025 – Januwari 2026 *December 2025 – January 2026*
	Final Basic Assessment Report	
Upon completion of responses to all relevant comments and ensuring final BAR addresses all comments	Ukungenisa i-Final BAR *Update draft and supporting appendices with all comments and responses and submit Final BAR to DFFE for consideration*	Februwari 2026 *February 2026*
	Decision making phase	
DEDEAT decision making	Ukuthatha isigqibo (Decision Phase) *NEMA application; decision making process is 107 days for proposed NEMA LN1,2, 3 activities*	Matshi – Juni 2026 *March - June 2026*
	Ukwazisa ii-IAPs ngesigqibo Notify IAPs of authority's decision (**within 14 days** of receiving decision)	Juni 2026 June 2026
	Appeal Phase	
Decision will be distributed to all IAPs and 20 days provided to submit an appeal on the decision	**Isigaba seSiBheno (Appeal Phase)** – 20 iintsuku zokubhenela *Submit appeals **within 20 days** of receiving decision as and if required*	Julayi 2026 *July 2026*

Iinkcukacha zoQhagamshelwano (Contact Details)

Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP): Claire De Jongh EAPASA Reg. No: 2021/3519

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Ulwazi oluhlobene neprojekthi luya kufumaneka kwiwebhusayithi: www.eapservices.co.za

The Environmental Assessment Practitioner appointed for the NEMA EA application process:

Claire De Jongh (EAPASA registration: 2021/3519)

Register to participate in this process by contacting the details provided below.

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Email: claire@eapservices.co.za | admin@eapservices.co.za
Address: 17 High St, Mount Pleasant, Gqeberha, 6070

Project related information will be made available on the following website: www.eapservices.co.za