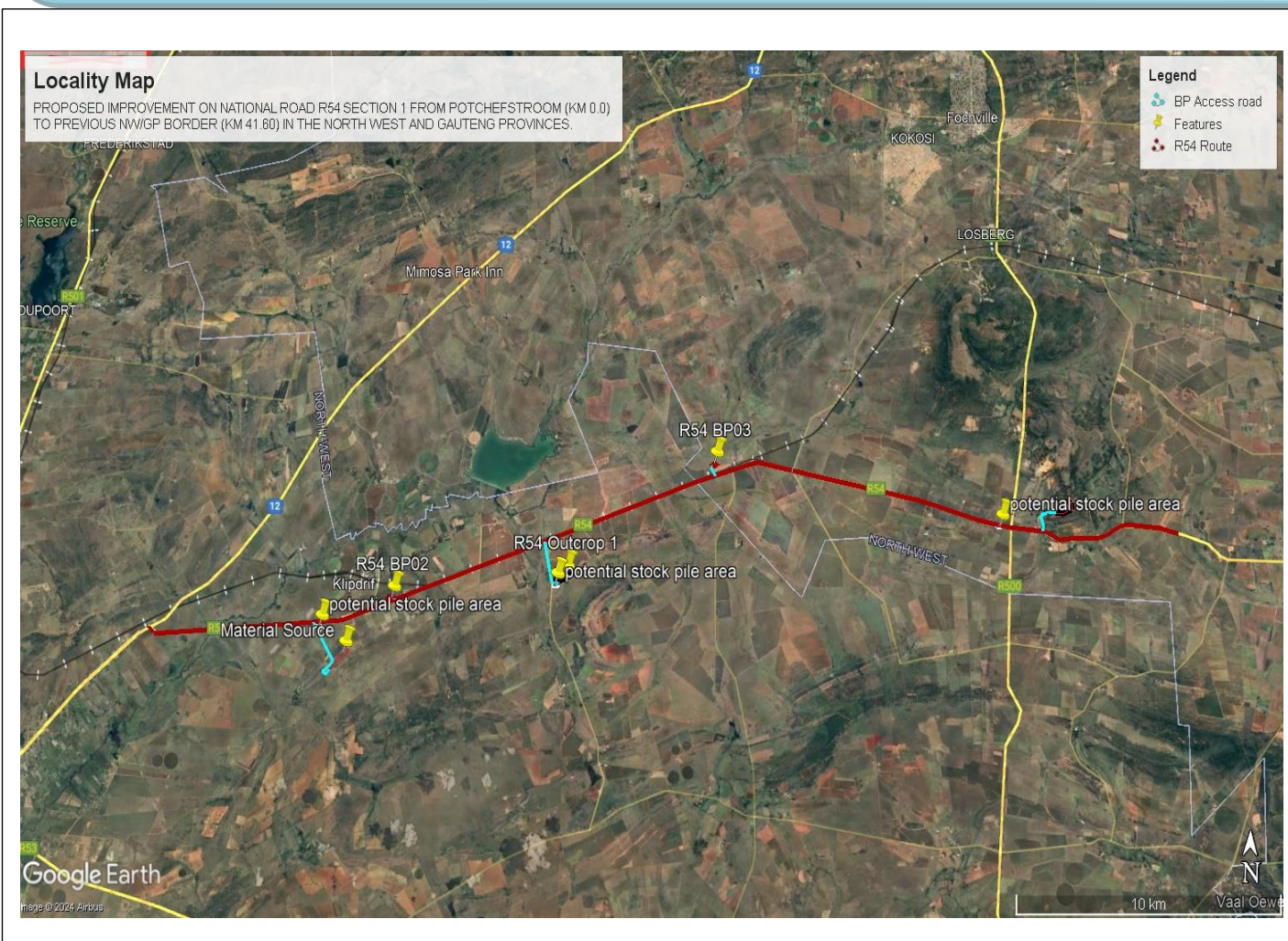


Notification of Application for Environmental Authorisation and Water Use Authorisation (WUA) Processes for the proposed Improvement on National Road R54 Section 1 From Potchefstroom (Km 0.0) To Previous Nw/Gp Border (Km 41.60), North West and Gauteng Provinces.



PUBLIC COMMENT ENCOURAGED

Please submit your comments on the BAR by no later than 09 December 2024 to the contact persons/details as listed below. Information regarding the above processes can also be requested from the Public Participation Office at the contact details provided herein.

All stakeholders that wish to provide comments on the BAR and WUA processes and stay informed throughout the process are urged to register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) by submitting your contact details and interest on the project to the Public Participation Process (PPP) desk at the contact details provided. Alternatively, SMS the word "R54 Road Upgrade BA" to 45776. Further communication relating to the project will only be undertaken with registered I&APs. The PPP desk can be contacted as follows:

Zitholele Consulting (Pty) Ltd
 Contact Person: Ms Londolani Sitsula
 P O Box 6002, Halfway House, 1685
 Tel: (011) 207 2060, Fax: 086 674 6121
 or Email: R54roadupgradeBA@zitholele.co.za

Notice is hereby given that South African National Roads Agency Limited (SANRAL) (the Applicant) has applied for Environmental Authorisation (EA) for the above project. An EA is required by way of a Basic Assessment (BA) process, from the Competent Authorities, i.e. Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) and the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE) in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014 (as amended), promulgated in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMA). Zitholele Consulting (Pty) Ltd has been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to undertake the BA process.

Nature of Proposed Activity

The South African National Roads Agency SOC Limited plans to upgrade National Road R54, Section 1, from Potchefstroom to the former NW/GP border, focusing on incorporating Non-Motorized Transport (NMT) and enhancing public transit services. This project aims to improve safety for vehicles and pedestrians, support community development, and modernize infrastructure. Key upgrades include widening the road, installing new pavement, enhancing drainage systems, and improving intersection safety. The project will also replace and upgrade approximately 112 minor culverts, four major culverts and five bridges to meet hydraulic requirements and accommodate the new road width. A total of five (5) borrow pits have been identified with the anticipated materials quantities include 480,000 m³ of G6-G8 from 5 sources, 500,000 m³ of G5 from 3 sources, and 600,000 m³ of G1 from 3 sources.

Legislative requirements

In terms of Listing Notice 1 (GNR No. 983) of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) the proposed road upgrade will trigger listed activities 12, 19 and 56 and listed activities 12, 14, 18 and 23 of Listing Notice 3 (GNR No. 985) The proposed road upgrade occurs within the 500m regulated area of the wetland. Therefore, a General Authorisation (GA) will be required in terms of Section 21 (c) and 21 (i) of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998).

A Basic Assessment and Water Use Authorisation process will therefore be undertaken to authorise the proposed activities associated with the proposed development.

Draft Basic Assessment Report for Public Review

A Basic Assessment and Water Use Authorisation process will therefore be undertaken to authorise the proposed road upgrade and the borrow pits. The Draft Basic Assessment Report (BAR) provides more details of the above project and is available for public review and comment from 08 November 2024 to 09 December 2024 at the Potchefstroom Public Library- 44 sol plaatjie, st, Potchefstroom, 2531, Vereeniging Library: leslie st vereeniging, 1930, Vanderbilpark/ Sharpville library: Seeiso st, sharpeville, vereeniging, 1928 and on the Zitholele Consulting's website: www.zitholele.co.za/environmental/ under the heading R54 Road Upgrade.