

**Zitholele Consulting (Pty) Ltd**

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**Our Ref: 24014-83-let-001****09 November 2024****Dear Interested and affected party**

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Proposed Road upgrade of the R54, Border of Gauteng and Northwest Province.**

- **NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION (EA) – BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT**

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 above-mentioned applications and the associated Public Participation Processes.

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 m<sup>3</sup> of G6-G8 from 5 sources, 500,000 m<sup>3</sup> of G5 from 3 sources, and 600,000 m<sup>3</sup> of G1 from 3 sources.

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, 56 and 21E for the borrow pits, 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 and within the Klein Nyl River.

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).

The Draft Basic assessment will be available for public review from **09 November 2024 to 09 December 2024**.

- **AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT**

The Draft Basic assessment and associated documentation are available at the following public venues and virtual locations to peruse and download:

1. • Hard copy at the Porchefstroom Public Library- 44 sol plaatjie, st, Portchefstroom, 2531, Vereeniging Library: leslie st vereeniging , 1930, Welda Public library: Hawk st, Welda, Caeletonville, Vanderbilpark/ Sharpville library: Seeiso st, sharpeville, vereeniging, 1928.
2. Download Documents from Zitholele Consulting's website: [www.zitholele.co.za/environmental/](http://www.zitholele.co.za/environmental/), under heading "R54 Road Upgrade".
3. Request an electronic copy of the documents from [R54roadupgrade@zitholele.co.za](mailto:R54roadupgrade@zitholele.co.za) .

- **SUBMIT YOUR COMMENTS**

All Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are urged to review the amended EA and site specific EMPr by no later than 05 December 2024, by submitting your comments via email to [R54roadupgradeBA@zitholele.co.za](mailto:R54roadupgradeBA@zitholele.co.za) . All comments received will be considered and responded to. Comments and Responses will furthermore be captured in the Comments and Responses Report (CRR) that will be submitted with the Final Basic Assessment report to the Competent Authority, DFFE.

- **DETAILS OF THE PPP DESK**

I&APs may contact the PPP desk at the details below:

Ms. Londolani Sitsula

Zitholele Consulting (Pty) Ltd

Tel: (011) 207 2060

Fax: 086 674 6121

Email: [R54roadupgradeBA@zitholele.co.za](mailto:R54roadupgradeBA@zitholele.co.za)

Yours faithfully,

**Project Manager**



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Ms Londolani Sitsula

**ZITHOLELE CONSULTING (PTY) LTD**

**Project Reviewer**



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Ms. Natasha Lalie

Attachments : None

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