

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT**  
**PROPOSED DURBAN HEIGHTS BOOSTER PUMP STATION CONSTRUCTION AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE**

**PURPOSE OF BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT**

The purpose of this document is to provide background information on the proposed project, and obtain comments and contributions from interested and affected parties and stakeholders with regards to environmental issues of the proposed development.

**BACKGROUND ON PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT**

The Northern Aqueduct is a key trunk water main in the eThekweni Water Services supply system, being supplied from Reservoir 3 at Umgeni Water's Durban Heights Waterworks. It is the primary supply main to the northern areas of eThekweni viz. Newlands, KwaMashu, Ntuzuma, Phoenix, Durban North and Umhlanga.

Rapid demand growth within the supply area of the Northern Aqueduct has resulted in higher flow in the main supply pipelines and this has affected the supply of water to the furthest points in the aqueduct supply system

In conjunction with eThekweni Water Services Umgeni water has identified that a booster pump station needs to be installed at the Durban Heights Water treatment Plant in order to optimise the operation of the Northern Aqueduct.

Umgeni Water will undertake the necessary environmental investigations for the proposed development, while Khanyisa Projects have been tasked with the stakeholder engagement and public participation process.

**PROJECT LOCATION**

The proposed Pump station will be constructed at the Durban Heights water treatment works, which is located in the Reservoir Hills Area. No new land will be required, as the proposed project will be conducted on existing Umgeni Water property.

The Record of Decision (RoD) as to whether the proposed project should proceed will be based on information provided in the Basic Assessment

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

Umgeni Water proposes the construction of a new pumping station at Durban Heights water treatment works and associated infrastructure may include the installation of a sub station to augment the supply of electricity to the pumps.

**APPLICABLE LEGISLATION**

The new booster pump station will be installed within the boundary of Umgeni Water's Durban Heights Waterworks. Under new regulations (GNR 385, 386, 387), published under the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) now in effect, the project is scheduled activity, and Umgeni Water will be required to register this project with the Department of Agriculture and Environmental Affairs (DAEA), who will have to provide final authorization (Record of Decision or ROD) for the project to proceed.

A Basic Assessment and Scoping Study will be required in terms of NEMA (Act 107 of 1998) and Government Notice: GNR 385 and GNR 386.

**PROJECT PROCESS**

Umgeni Water is responsible for compiling the Basic Assessment Report, which will be reviewed by the Department of Agriculture and Environmental Affairs. The objective of the Basic Assessment Report is to ensure that the environmental impacts are taken into consideration, to ensure stakeholder engagement and to provide decision makers with sufficient information to make informed decision on the proposed activities. Khanyisa Projects have been tasked with the stakeholder engagement and public participation process, which will form part of the Basic Assessment Report.

**HOW CAN YOU BECOME INVOLVED**

Every proposed development has the potential to significantly affect the natural and social environments, both on the proposed site as well as surrounding environment. It is therefore important that you as an interested and/or affected party comment on the proposed development and raise issues or concerns that you feel need to be considered during the proposed planning and implementation process.

This can be done by:

Report.

**DESCRIPTION OF TASK TO BE PERFORMED**

- Project has been registered with the Department of Agriculture and Environmental Affairs with the reference number: DM/EX/0126/07;
- Stakeholders including affected land owners will be consulted;
- An advertisement will be placed under the classified section of The Mercury and The Post on the 20 September 2007
- Notice boards advertising the application will be placed at visible locations at the Durban Heights water works.

**PRESUMED ISSUES**

Most of the environmental impacts will be the primary impacts directly associated with the construction phase of the project

These include:

- Vegetation loss;
- Noise due to construction;
- Traffic impact and
- Impact on the ecosystem

These impacts can be successfully mitigated and methods and specifications will be included in the Environmental Management Plan

- Registering yourself and/or your organisation as an interested and affected party (I&AP) so that you are informed of public meetings.
- Sending us any comments you may have on the proposed project (form provided).
- In addition, we will be organizing public meetings with various groups over the next few weeks at which information will be presented and issues and concerns to be addressed will be solicited.

Khanyisa Projects (stakeholder participation):

Mr Lawrence Ngubane

E-mail address: [lawrence@khanyisapr.co.za](mailto:lawrence@khanyisapr.co.za)

P O Box 1318, Westville, 3630

Tel: 031 – 208 3636

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Locality map





**REGISTRATION FORM FOR  
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**Durban Heights Booster Pump Station**

**DAEA Reference No. DM/EX/0126/07**



Title:..... Name: ..... Surname:.....

Company Name / Interested Group.....

Postal or Residential Address .....

Area: ..... Postal Code:.....

Tel: (        ) ..... Mobile:.....

Fax: (        ) ..... e-mail address:.....

**Comments on the proposed development (You are welcome to use separate sheets)**

How will the proposed project impact on you?.....

If the proposed project would impact on you negatively, how do you suggest such an impact should be mitigated?.....

Socio-economic issues (e.g. crime/job creation).....

Any other issues / comments.....

How would you like to be further involved?.....

**Details of other I & APS to be consulted, if any**

Title:..... Name: ..... Surname:.....

Company Name .....

Tel: (        ) ..... Fax: (        ).....

**Please return this registration sheet by any of the following communication methods by 4 October 2007 Attention to:**  
**Khanyisa Projects**  
**Lawrence Ngubane**  
**Fax: 031 207 2647 - Tel: 031 208 3636**  
**e-mail: [mercia@khanvisapr.co.za](mailto:mercia@khanvisapr.co.za)**  
**Post: P O Box 1318; Westville; 3630**

**Signature:..... ID Number: .....**

**Date: .....**

**Your comments are highly appreciated, and they will form part of the final document to be submitted to the decision-making authority.**

**Thank You**