

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES

NO. 836

31 JULY 2020

**NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998
(ACT NO. 107 OF 1998)****CONSULTATION ON THE INTENTION TO IDENTIFY THE PROCEDURES TO BE FOLLOWED IN APPLYING FOR OR DECIDING ON AN ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OR EXPANSION OF GAS TRANSMISSION PIPELINE INFRASTRUCTURE WHEN OCCURRING IN STRATEGIC GAS PIPELINE CORRIDORS**

I, Barbara Dallas Creecy, Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment hereby give notice of the intention to identify, in terms of sections 24(5)(a) and (b) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and regulation 15(2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, procedures to be followed when applying for or deciding on an environmental authorisation for the development or expansion of underground gas transmission pipeline infrastructure when occurring in *Strategic Gas Pipeline Corridors* published in the *Government Gazette*.

Members of the public are invited to submit written comments or input within 30 days after the publication of this Notice in the *Gazette*, to the following address:

By post to: The Director-General
 Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries
 Attention: Dr D Fischer
 Private Bag X447
 PRETORIA
 0001

By hand at: 473 Steve Biko Road
 ARCADIA
 0083

By e-mail: dfischer@environment.gov.za

Comments or input received after the closing date may not be considered.



BARBARA DALLAS CREECY
MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

SCHEDULE

1. The Strategic Environmental Assessment for the Development of a Phased Gas Pipeline Network in South Africa, 2019 identified 9 *Strategic Gas Pipeline Corridors* related to the phased development of a gas pipeline network. These *Strategic Gas Pipeline Corridors* were published under Government Notice No. 788 published under Government Gazette No. 43528 of 17 July 2020. The corridors are included on the map provided as Appendix 1 and are as follows:
 - 1.1 Phase 1: Saldanha to Ankerlig and Saldanha to Mossel Bay
 - 1.2 Phase 2: Mossel Bay to Coega
 - 1.3 Phase 3: Richards Bay to Secunda and Gauteng
 - 1.4 Phase 4: Mozambique (Southern Border) to Richards Bay
 - 1.5 Phase 5: Abraham Villiers Bay (Northern Cape) to Saldanha and Ankerlig
 - 1.6 Phase 6: Abraham Villiers Bay (Northern Cape) to Oranjemund
 - 1.7 Phase 7: Coega to Richards Bay
 - 1.8 Phase 8: Rompco Pipeline Corridor
 - 1.9 Phase 9: Shale Gas Corridor and Inland Corridor from Saldanha to Coega
2. The scope of this Notice applies to an application for environmental authorisation or an application for an amendment to an environmental authorisation contemplated in Part 2 of Chapter 5 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended (the Regulations) for the following activities where the activity is constructed underground and above-ground for the purpose of connecting to above-ground infrastructure such as pigging stations or compressor stations, including any associated activities necessary for the realisation of such infrastructure, where the greater part of the activity (90% or more) is undertaken within a *Strategic Gas Pipeline Corridor* contemplated in paragraph (1):
 - 2.1 Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations Listing Notice 1 of 2014, as amended:
 - 2.1.1. Activity 60(i) and (ii); and
 - 2.2 Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations Listing Notice 2 of 2014, as amended:
 - 2.2.1. Activity 7(i) and (ii).
3. Where the application is for an environmental authorisation for an activity contemplated in paragraph 2.1 and 2.2 of this Notice, the applicant must:
 - 3.1 follow the basic assessment process contemplated in regulations 19 and 20 of the Regulations;
 - 3.2 negotiate a route with all landowners; and
 - 3.3 submit the route negotiated in accordance with paragraph 3.2 as part of the environmental authorisation application.
4. The draft *Generic Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) for Gas Pipelines* published This, applies to an application that triggers any of the activities contemplated in paragraph 2.1 and 2.2 where these activities are associated with underground pipelines.
5. The timeframe for decision-making on an application contemplated in paragraph 2 of this Notice is 57 days.

6. If a part greater than 10% of the infrastructure contemplated in this Notice falls outside of a *Strategic Gas Pipeline Corridor* as contemplated in paragraph (1), the requirements as prescribed in the Regulations, apply.
7. All applications submitted prior to the coming into effect of these procedures for implementation must be dealt with in accordance with the requirements prescribed in the Regulations.
7. The boundaries of the *Strategic Gas Pipeline Corridors* referred to in this Schedule are available from the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries at <http://egis.environment.gov.za> – *Geographical Areas*, and hardcopies of the zones can be obtained from:

PLACE	CONTACT PERSON/S	CONTACT DETAILS
Head office of the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries	Directorate Enterprise Geospatial Information Management	GazetteMapping@environment.gov.za
	Ms Marlanie Moodley Ms Lisa Pretorius	Direct Line: +27 12 399 8916/ 9301 Call Centre Number: +27 86 111 2468

8. The Strategic Environmental Assessment for the Development of a Phased Gas Pipeline Network in South Africa, 2019 can be accessed at <https://gasnetwork.csir.co.za/final-sea-reports/> and <https://egis.environment.gov.za/gasnetwork>.

APPENDIX 1

MAP OF THE STRATEGIC GAS PIPELINE CORRIDORS

