



BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

PROPOSED REPLACEMENT OF ABOVEGROUND TANKS WITH AN INCREASE IN STORAGE CAPACITY FOR PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AT VOPAK FAREWELL SITE, ISLAND VIEW COMPLEX

Purpose of the Background Information Document

The purpose of this document is to provide Interested and Affected Parties with information concerning the project proposal, the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process to be undertaken and to obtain initial comments on any concerns and/or issues related to this project.

Project Description

Vopak Terminal Durban (Pty) Ltd (Vopak) specialises in the import, storage and distribution of various chemicals and petroleum products at four (4) operating sites situated within and adjacent to the Island View Complex. Vopak intends expanding on current activities at their Farewell site for the 1) import and storage of Aviation Fuel (Jet-A1 Fuel), and 2) increase current diesel storage volumes, which will contribute to the security of fuel supply in South Africa.

The project proposal will involve removing seven (7) aboveground tanks and replacing with seven (7) larger sized tanks for the storage of Diesel and Jet-A1 Fuel. The new tanks will be installed in the same development footprint as the existing tanks. The storage capacity of petroleum goods at the Farewell site will therefore be increased by an additional 51 556m³.

A new pump manifold and transfer pipelines will be installed to import, store and distribute Jet-A1 Fuel inland via the Coastal National Multi Product Pipeline Terminal. Existing infrastructure will be used for the import, storage and distribution of Diesel.

Project Location

Vopak intends undertaking the expansion activities at their Farewell site, which is situated on TNPA¹ leased property within the Island View Complex, Port of Durban (see Figure 1). The property details are tabulated below:

Table 1: Farewell Site Property Details

Land Zoning:	Harbour (permits use for bulk storage, handling and distribution of goods)
Cadastral Detail:	Kings Flats No. 16344
Physical Address:	113 Trinidad Road, Island View Complex, Bayhead
Co-ordinates (mid-point):	29° 53' 35.46" S; 31° 1' 14.83" E
Local and District Municipality:	eThekweni Municipality
Ward No.:	32

¹ TNPA:

Transnet National Port Authority.



Figure 1: Image indicating the location of the Farewell Terminal site in the Island View Complex, and the area on-site to be redeveloped (delineated in red).

Motivation for the Project

South Africa's dependence on imported refined petroleum products has increased significantly in consequence to the recent closure of prominent refineries in the country. Due to the shortage of liquid bulk storage and handling capacity in the Port of Durban, Vopak intends expanding on current activities to efficiently import and export refined petroleum products (i.e. Diesel and Jet-A1 Fuel) into South Africa. The expansion will therefore contribute towards maintaining a stable import and export flow of these products by providing additional storage capacity, which will ensure security of fuel supply in South Africa.

Legal Requirements

The National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) EIA Regulations lists specific activities that could potentially have a significant impact on the environment, and which may not commence without Environmental Authorisation from the Competent Authority. Furthermore, the Regulations outline the assessment process applicable to the specific activity for the Competent Authority to make an informed decision concerning the proposed activity.

Activities 34 and 51 listed under Listing Notice 1 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended, 2017), are the identified listed activities applicable to the proposed expansion activities (i.e. increased tankage volume and throughput capacity) and requirement for a variation to the existing Atmospheric Emission Licence for Farewell site.

A Basic Assessment process will thus be followed to obtain an Environmental Authorisation from the Competent Authority, in this regard, the Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs: eThekweni Region.

Vopak has therefore appointed Kantey and Templer (Pty) Ltd to undertake the Basic Assessment process for the replacement of aboveground tanks with an increase in storage capacity for petroleum products at Vopak Farewell site, Island View Complex.

Public Participation Process

The aim of the public participation process is to inform a wide range of interested and affected parties of the EIA application process for the proposed development and to enable those who are interested and/or affected to express their concerns and issues related to the project.

Furthermore, and most importantly, the public participation process assists the project team in identifying any potential concerns and issues that may have been overlooked during the screening phase and/or require further assessment.

The EIA process will be open and transparent to the public through this process with **registered interested and affected parties** kept up to date on the availability of documents for comment and progress on the EIA process. All comments obtained from the interested and affected parties will be captured and responded to in a Comments and Responses Report, which forms part of the Basic Assessment Report.

How to Register as an Interested and Affected Party?

To register as an interested and/or affected party, or to obtain more information about the project, please submit your name, contact information and interest in the matter within 30 (calendar) days to:

Kantey and Templer (Pty) Ltd; Email: oliviab@dbn.kanteys.co.za; Tel: 031 266 6535.